

## WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

## This week's theatre

■ **Breaking Legs** - The worlds of the Mafia and the Theatre collide in an Italian restaurant with this expertly crafted comic masterpiece. **"Breaking Legs"** is on stage at the **Florida Repertory Theatre** through April 20. The meatballs hit the fan when a college professor turned playwright has his play produced by a Mafia don. Prepare yourselves for a madcap entrée of murder and menace with a heaping side of pasta and laughter. This is Theatre - Tony Soprano style! Performances are Tues. - Sat. at 8 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees on Wed., Sun. and selected Saturdays. Florida Repertory Theatre is located on Bay Street between Jackson and Hendry in the Historic Arcade Theatre in the Fort Myers River District. Subscriptions and single tickets are available through the Box Office (239) 332-4488, or visit Florida Rep online at [www.floridarep.org](http://www.floridarep.org).

■ **Humble Boy** - **"Humble Boy,"** a dramatic comedy by British playwright Charlotte Jones, runs at the **Sugden Community Theatre** in downtown Naples through April 19. Directed by Paul Graffy, **"Humble Boy"** tells the story of a widowed mother and her theoretical astrophysicist son. Performances run Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students, and can be purchased at [www.naplesplayers.org](http://www.naplesplayers.org), by phone at (239) 263-7990 or at The Naples Players Box Office, 701 5th Avenue South in downtown Naples.

■ **Cabaret** - **"Cabaret,"** the hit Broadway musical hits the stage at the **Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre** April 10 - May 31. The love story of a young novelist and an eccentric singer captures the spirit of pre-war Germany. Willkommen! The words beckon you for some lively entertainment by the magnetic Emcee who welcomes you to Berlin. "Come to the Cabaret, old chum!" Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$52. Group discounts are available for parties of 20 or more. Tickets can be reserved by calling (239) 278-4422, by visiting [www.BroadwayPalm.com](http://www.BroadwayPalm.com), or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

■ **Lend Me a Tenor** - The **Off Broadway Palm Theatre** presents the award-winning comedy **"Lend Me a Tenor,"** playing through May 3. This clever and wildly entertaining farce mixes mistaken identities, competing opera stars and a symphony of slamming doors. **Lend Me a Tenor** is set in 1934 at the Cleveland Grand Opera on its biggest night in history. World famous tenor, Tito Merelli, known to his fans as "Il Stupendo" is scheduled to sing the lead in *Otello*, produced as a gala fundraiser that is set to raise \$50,000 for the company. Before the star even leaves his hotel room, things begin to unravel. Tickets can be reserved by calling (239) 278-4422, by visiting [www.BroadwayPalm.com](http://www.BroadwayPalm.com), or by stopping by the box office at 1380 Colonial Boulevard in Fort Myers.

■ **The Bible** - **"The Bible: The Complete Word of God (abridged)"** runs through April 19 at **Theatre Conspiracy's** new home located at 2711 Park Windsor Dr #302, in Fort Myers. In this fun and irreverent comedy, three actors perform the entire Bible, Old and New Testaments in less than two hours. From Eve to Exodus through the epistles, the apostles and the gospels via fig leaves and final judgement and exploring deep meaningful theological topics such as: Was Jesus a good carpenter? Did Adam and Eve have navels? Did Moses really look like Charlton Heston? Performances are Wednesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m. with select Saturday matinees at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 or \$10 for students with proper I.D. For tickets, complete directions or more information call (239) 936-3239.

## This week's symphony

■ **Mancini Magic** - The Naples Philharmonic Orchestra presents **Mancini Magic**, a special pops concert tribute to the legendary composer, on Friday and Saturday, April 11-12 at 8 p.m. at the Philharmonic Center for the Arts in Naples. The music of Henry Mancini lives on in this acclaimed program that was performed by Mancini with virtually every major orchestra in the country. Led by pops conductor Michael Berkowitz, a percussionist with Mancini for many years, and featuring musicians who traveled with Mancini on the road, the orchestra will perform such classics as "The Pink Panther," "Days of Wine and Roses," "Two for the Road," "Moon River," "Peter Gunn" and more. Tickets are \$56 for adults and \$23 for students. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900 or visit [www.thephil.org](http://www.thephil.org). The Philharmonic Center for the Arts is at 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd. in Naples.

## Wednesday, April 9

■ **FGCU** - An evening of art, music, food, a pottery sale and a theatre production will kick off **Florida Gulf Coast University's 2008 Celebration of the Arts** at 4 p.m. The festivities, which will take place at The Art Gallery located inside the **Arts Complex on FGCU's main campus**, will continue until 8 p.m. Then, FGCU's theatre lab will perform its opening production of "Omnium Gatherum." The annual showcase, which celebrates FGCU's fine art and theatre students in the Department of Visual and Performing Arts, will also feature exhibitions and performances that go on throughout April. More detailed directions and other information is available at 590-7199.

## Thursday, April 10

■ **Rent** - **"Rent,"** Broadway's Smash-Hit Musical! Now in its 10th Season comes to the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** at 7:30 p.m. for one showing. Set in the East Village of New York City, **"Rent"** is about being young and learning to survive in NYC. It's about falling in love, finding your voice and living for today. Winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize, **"Rent"** has made a lasting mark on Broadway with songs that rock and a story that really resonates. Tickets are on sale at the box office, by calling (239) 481-4849 or at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com).

■ **Marc Salem** - **Marc Salem**, a world-renowned mentalist, will appear at the **Naples Philharmonic Center for the Arts** at 8 p.m. Recently featured on 60 Minutes, Salem has performed around the world. In past shows, he called out the serial numbers on a dollar bill in an audience member's wallet, accurately described an item while blindfolded and changed the time on a person's watch while standing several feet away. Tickets are \$33. For more information or to order tickets, call (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900. The Philharmonic Center for the Arts is at 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd. in Naples.

## Friday, April 11

■ **Freda Payne** - Jazz singer **Freda Payne** pays tribute to the legendary Ella Fitzgerald as part of the **Naples Philharmonic Center's "Cabaret at the Phil"** series at 6 and 8:30 p.m. Known for her No. 1 hit song "Band of Gold," Payne will perform such favorites as "A Tisket, A Tasket," "Sweet Georgia Brown," "It Don't Mean a Thing," "Lady Be Good" and "Mack the Knife." Tickets for Freda Payne are \$39. For more information or to order tickets, visit [www.thephil.org](http://www.thephil.org) or call Customer Service at 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900.

## Saturday, April 12

■ **Ms. Courageous** - The children's play **"Ms. Courageous,"** presented by the **Florida Repertory Theatre**, is on stage at 11 a.m. at the Brick Bar in downtown Fort Myers. It's a collage of scenes from the lives of Elizabeth Blackwell and Marie Curie. Blackwell was the first woman in the United States to become a doctor with a medical degree, and Curie won two Nobel prizes for her work in physics and chemistry. Written by Joanna Halpert Kraus, **Ms. Courageous** explores the difficulties and challenges these two remarkable women faced and overcame. For tickets and more information, contact Florida Rep's box office at (239) 332-4488. Please do not call the Brick Bar for ticket information.

■ **Writing** - Award winning Sanibel author **Charles Sobczak** will be giving a free seminar on **"Writing, Printing and Marketing"** on Saturday, April 12 at the **Coconut Point Barnes & Noble bookstore**. The seminar will get underway at 2:00 p.m. and the writing as well as the reading public are invited to attend. The Barnes & Noble bookstore is located at 23130 Fashion Drive in Estero. The seminar will focus on the importance of good writing as well as excellent editing, then discuss how best to handle the printing of your work - from small order print on demand publishing to larger runs of up to 5,000 books.

■ **Addy** - Addy Walker's journey to freedom leaps off the page and onto the stage in **"Addy: An American Girl Story,"** at the **Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall** Saturday, April 12 at noon and 4 p.m. The live theatrical performance produced by Kids Entertainment, Inc. Adapted from Connie Porter's books by celebrated playwright Cheryl L. West, the play follows Addy and her family on their dangerous quest to escape slavery and take their freedom in the North. Recommended for ages 8 and older. Tickets are on sale at the box office, by calling (239) 481-4849 or at [www.bbmannpah.com](http://www.bbmannpah.com).

■ **Art workshop** - **Edison's Caretaker's House** and the adjacent **Edison Moonlight Garden** will be the site for a full-day acrylic painting workshop, from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Edison & Ford Winter Estates. The workshop welcomes all levels of expertise. Local artist **Leoma Lovegrove's** workshop will focus on the beautiful expressionist palette which is captured in the historic garden area originally designed by Ellen Biddle Shipman in 1929. The workshop includes instruction in the Edison Caretaker's House and then painting in the adjacent Edison Moonlight Garden. Cost for the workshop is \$135 for Estates Members; \$150 non members and includes free admission into the historic Homes, Gardens, Laboratory and Museum. Participants are encouraged to bring a bag lunch or enjoy the Estates Banyan Café. A supply list will be provided upon registration. To register, call 334-7419. Class size is limited to 20.

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## Sunday, April 13



■ **Do Jump!** - **Do Jump!** is turning the world upside down, one person at a time. The innovative dance troupe performs at the **Philharmonic Center** in Naples at 8 p.m. For 30 years, Founder and Artistic Director Robin Lane has led the **Do Jump!** acrobats in creating a unique blend of theater, dance, aerial work, acrobatics, dynamic visuals and live music that defies categorization. Tickets for **Do Jump!** are \$39. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900. Tickets are also available online at [www.thephil.org](http://www.thephil.org).

## Monday, April 14

■ **Jazz** - The internationally acclaimed **U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors Band** will be offering a performance at **Shell Point Retirement Community** at 7:15 pm. The U.S. Army Jazz Ambassadors Band travels around the country, as well as across the world, playing a variety of musical selections. Many types of music will be included in this concert such as Big Band, Latin, Swing, contemporary, Dixieland, and other popular tunes. Many patriotic songs will be performed as well to show support for the many who serve our country on a daily basis. This performance is a free event, but seating is limited and tickets must be reserved in advance. Due to the high demand for this concert, you may only reserve two tickets. Reserved tickets must be picked up in person from the Woodlands Service Desk at 14441 Woodsong Lane. Call (239) 454-2067 for additional information.

■ **Ballet** - **The Russian National Ballet Theatre and Orchestra**, one of the most acclaimed international ballet companies, is coming to Naples for one performance at 8 p.m. at the **Philharmonic Center for the Arts**. Tickets for Russian National Ballet Theatre are \$50. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900. Tickets are also available online at [www.thephil.org](http://www.thephil.org).

## Tuesday, April 15

■ **Bowzer** - Jon "Bowzer" Bauman, former star of *Sha Na Na*, brings his celebrated all-star **Rock 'n' Roll Party** to the **Philharmonic Center for the Arts** at 8 p.m. The show features: Freddie "Boom Boom" Cannon, whose hits include "Tallahassee Lassie," "Palisades Park," "Where the Action Is" and "Way Down Yonder in New Orleans;" Shirley Alston Reeves, former lead singer of the Shirelles ("Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?," "Soldier Boy"); The Tokens, featuring original lead singer Jay Siegel, known for such hits as "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" and "Tonight I Fell In Love"; Bowzer and the Stingrays, one of the most exciting, acclaimed performers of 1950s and '60s music anywhere. Tickets for **Bowzer's Rock 'n' Roll Party** are \$49. For more information or to order tickets, contact Customer Service at (239) 597-1900 or toll-free at (800) 597-1900. Tickets may also be ordered online at [www.thephil.org](http://www.thephil.org).