WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

This week's theater

■ **Indian Blood -** Florida Repertory Theatre presents "Indian Blood," by A.R. Gurney, through Sunday, Dec. 21. "Indian Blood," a play the New York Times called a "snow globe for the stage," is a touchingly funny family portrait, and a perfect comedy for the holiday season. Call 332-4488 or go to www.floridarep.org.

■ **White Christmas -** The Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre presents "Irving Berlin's White Christmas," through Dec. 27. "White Christmas" is based on the movie classic made popular by Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney. It's 1954 and two Army buddies turned show biz partners follow a duo of singing sisters to Vermont where the girls are scheduled to perform over Christmas. The Irving Berlin score includes "Happy Holidays," "Sisters," "Blue Skies," and the title song, "White Christmas." For reservations and show information, visit www.BroadwayPalm.com, call 278-4422 or stop by the box office at 1380 Colonial Blvd.

■ **Forbidden Broadway -** "Forbidden Broadway" is on stage at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theater – Off Broadway, through Dec. 20. "Forbidden Broadway" is the hysterical musical comedy that pokes fun at Broadway productions. For reservations and show information, visit www.BroadwayPalm.com, call 278-4422 or stop by the box office at 1380 Colonial Blvd.

■ **Musical Comedy -** "Musical Comedy Murders of 1940" plays at the Sugden Community Theatre through Saturday, Dec. 20. This play happily spoofs the dramatically staged mystery thrillers of the 1940s. The show contains slapstick comedy, satire, mystery, murder and romance, in a lively tribute to the golden age of movies. For information and tickets, call The Naples Players Box Office at (239) 263-7990 or online at www.naplesplayers.org

■ **Holiday Follies –** "The Holly Jolly Follies" opens Dec. 16 and runs through Dec. 31 at The Schoolhouse Theater on Sanibel. Songs like "Santa Baby," "Blue Christmas" and others are sure to put you in that holiday spirit. "The Holly Jolly Follies" stars island favorites Chloe Sabin, Samantha Rotella, Madison Mitchell and Victor Legarreta. Also, on Dec. 31 there will be a special New Year's Eve performance of "The Holly Jolly Follies" with guest pianist Jon Weber. This world-renowned jazz artist will entertain, hors d'oeuvres will be had and, champagne will be toasted. Tickets are $30 with student tickets $20. The special New Year's Eve show and event with Jon Weber are only $75. For tickets or information, call the box office at 472-6862. The Schoolhouse Theater is located at 2200 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel.

COURTESY PHOTO

"The Other Shepherds Play," opening at Theatre Conspiracy Wednesday, Dec. 17, is a parody in the tradition of the best British comedies.

■ **The Other Shepherds Play –** Theatre Conspiracy presents "The Other Shepherds Play" Dec. 17 through 20 at 8 p.m. In the tradition of "Spamalot," this parody, penned by local playwright John Repa, sends up both modern and historic assumptions about the Nativity and also questions what happened and who knew what when. Based on the historic "Second Shepherds Play" (from the 14th century) this retelling incorporates what British comedy has become over the last 700 years: classic songs with parody lyrics, men in drag roles, women in scanty outfits, and lots of innuendo. Tickets are $15 or $10 for students. For reservations or more information, call Theatre Conspiracy's box office at 936-3239 or visit www.theatreconspiracy.org. Theatre Conspiracy is located at 2711 Park Windsor Dr. off of Evans Avenue, one-quarter of a mile North of Southwest Regional Medical Center.

This week's symphony

■ **Holiday pops –** "A Very Merry Pops" is featured at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall at 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20 and 7 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21. Conducted by Joseph Caulkins, this heartwarming holiday concert is a family favorite – a time to relax, enjoy great music and celebrate the season with family and friends. This year it has a Celtic flair. For tickets, contact the box office at 418-1500.

Wednesday, Dec. 17

■ **An Evening With –** The Art League of Bonita Springs hosts "An Evening With..." - "Suncoast Brass Quintet: Sensational Selections" at the ALBS Campus - Outdoor Stage from 7-9 p.m. Join Jamie Marshall, Al Mitchell, Thomas Kracmer, Alan Klispie and Cindy Scaruffi-Klispie for a selection of their favorite musical arrangements. These five accomplished musicians will entertain with favorites, both holiday and classics. For information, call 495-8989.

Thursday, Dec. 18

■ **Christmas Concert –** Opera Naples presents a Christmas Concert at 7 p.m. at Moorings Presbyterian Church, 791 Harbor Dr., Naples. Call 287-8694 or e-mail info@operanaples.org. Suggested donation: $20 to benefit the Opera Naples Educational Outreach Program.

Ongoing events

■ **Al Oerter Exhibit –** "Al Oerter: Artist and Athlete," an exhibit featuring paintings by the late Olympian Al Oerter, is on display through Jan. 3 at the Alliance for the Arts, 10091 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers. Call 939-2787 or go to artinlee.org.

■ **Holly Jolly Follies -** The Schoolhouse Theater presents "The Holly Jolly Follies" through Dec. 31 at 2200 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel. Performances are at 8 pm. Call 472-6862.

■ **Juried exhibition -** The Naples Art Association at The von Liebig Art Center is having its 47th Founders Juried Awards Exhibition through Jan. 18 at the art center, 585 Park St. in Naples. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Suggested donation is $5 for adults and $2 for children 10 and older. The public may call 239-262-6517 or visit naplesart.org for more information.

■ **Winners Exhibitions -** Florida West Arts in the International Design Center presents the 2008 Artscape Florida West Award Winners Exhibitions through Dec. 27. Featured are acrylic and oil paintings by Carol McArdle; watercolor paintings by Christine Scott; fine art photography by Cynthia Walpole and Lynn Berreitter; digital imagery by Arthur Gerstein; pigmented ink on canvas by Pam Brodersen; and acrylic on silk mosaics by Christina Thompson. Contact info@floridawestarts.com or call (239) 948-4427.

■ **Scott Causey -** BIG ARTS hosts black & White with the Color of Scott Causey through Jan. 3 in the Founders Gallery. Mr. Causey's ceramics are surrounded by an array of back and white artwork. BIG ARTS is at 900 Dunlop Road, Sanibel. Visit www. BIGARTS.com.

■ **Biennial Exhibit –** BIG ARTS features work from artists who have won major awards in juried and juried shows held within the past two years by 10 member leagues from the tri-county area. The exhibit is in the Phillips Gallery through Jan. 3. BIG ARTS is at 900 Dunlop Road, Sanibel. Visit www.BIGARTS.com.

■ **Holiday Exhibition -** Florida West Arts in Estero's International Design Center presents the Holiday Members Exhibition including two- and three-dimensional artworks by Florida West Arts artist members through Dec. 27. A variety of styles, media and subject matter is featured. Contact info@floridawestarts.com or call (239) 948-4427.

■ **NASA Art -** "NASA Art: 50 Years of Exploration" is on display at the Art League of Bonita Springs through Jan. 24. The show is a Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition. More than 200 NASA-commissioned artists experienced a behind-the-scenes look at the agency - the scientists, astronauts, and other personnel who shaped the missions and programs. This fascinating look at our nation's space program will appeal to all ages. For information, call 495-8989.

■ **New exhibit -** The new daas Gallery is having a juried collective exhibition of small format pieces through Dec. 31. Veron Ennis, the curator of the Ferrari Gallery in Cape Coral, will jury this "tiny" collection. The gallery is open from Tuesday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit www.daasgallery.com for more information.

■ **Call for artists -** The Fort Myers Art Fair at the Bell Tower announces a call to artists for its juried fine art fair Jan. 3 and 4. The two-day festival is open to all styles and mediums of artwork, including paintings, sculptures, photography, glass, ceramics, and mixed media. Interested artists should contact Howard Alan Events at (954) 472-3755. Applications are also available online at www.artfestival.com