

# Updated Cinderella story at Desert Stages

**Place:** Scottsdale Desert Stages Theatre, 4720 N. Scottsdale Rd., at the southwest corner of E. Highland Avenue and N. Scottsdale Road.

**Production:** *Cinderella - A Ragtime Musical*.

**Plot:** Desert Stages Theatre Creator, Gerry Cullity put a ragtime spin on the timeless story of a long-suffering step-sister, a choosy prince and a glass slipper. Set in turn-of-last-century New York City during the height of immigration, Cullity's delightful characters are those coming from the New World, with the Cinderella-type challenges of starting a new life in a foreign land.

Themes of love and achieving our heart's desire against all odds are woven through this charming rags-to-riches tale that features memorable Cullity songs like *Smile Check* and *This Place Is Magic*.

**Players:** The musical features young actors from throughout the Valley.

**Particulars:** The show runs now to June 15. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and 1 and 3 p.m. matinee shows Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and \$ 12 for children. Tickets in advance cost \$12. Call the box office at (480) 480-1664 or visit [www.desertstages.com](http://www.desertstages.com).



Cinderella - A Ragtime Musical features Kimberly Rose of Phoenix as Cinderella and A.J. Costa of Scottsdale as Brandon Charming.  
*Photo by Lisa Gates*

## Actors Café inside Desert Stages Theatre

**Place:** Actor's Café inside Scottsdale Desert Stages Theatre, 4720 N. Scottsdale Rd., at the southwest corner of E. Highland Avenue and N. Scottsdale Road.

**Production:** *Barefoot in the Park* by Neil Simon, presented in Scottsdale Desert Stages Actor's Café.

**Plot:** After their whirl-wind courtship, Paul and Corie begin their new life together in an old fifth floor walk-up apartment, which Corie has picked out and Paul sees for the first time on their return from the honeymoon.

She is a free-spirited young wife and he is a serious young lawyer. Add her somewhat prudish mother and the charming-yet-strange, up-

stairs neighbor and you get a delightful comedy.

The laughs are non-stop as these two complete opposites try to adjust to life as husband and wife. The trials and tribulations of the couple's marital bliss come to a comic explosion when Paul refuses to join Corie for a barefoot walk through a snowy park.

**Particulars:** Performances run now to July 6. Show times are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$22. Advanced student and senior tickets cost \$20. Day-of-show student and senior tickets cost \$25. Call the box office at (480) 483-1664 or visit [www.desertstages.com](http://www.desertstages.com). This show is suitable for all ages.

## In-home piano concert in FH May 25

A special In-Home Concert on Sunday May 25, will feature Anna Han, Junior Division first place winner of this year's Fountain Hills Piano Competition, and Carolyn Cong, 2007 Junior Division finalist in the 2007 competition.

Both pianists are students

of Mr. Fei Xu at the New Century Conservatory in Chandler.

The concert will be at 4 p.m. at the home of Jerry and Jackie Miles. Tickets are \$15, with all proceeds going to help fund the 2009 Piano Competition.

Han, who began piano lessons at age 5, is a seventh grader in the gifted program at Santan Junior High in Chandler.

Cong, who began studying piano at age 4, attends the Arizona School for the Arts. She has won numerous awards for

piano competitions in Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Arizona.

This year's Fountain Hills Piano Competition, co-sponsored by Steinway of Phoenix, awarded a total of \$5,000 to the six finalists.

The Piano Competition is produced by a committee of the Fountain Hills Cultural and Civic Association.

Tickets can be obtained by calling Jean Linzer at (480) 837-0762, or Carol Coates at (480) 837-1063. Young piano students are encouraged to attend with their parents.

## North Valley Playhouse

**Place:** North Valley Playhouse, 13043 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, in the Pollack Tower Center.

**Production:** *La Cage Aux Folles* by Jerry Herman, directed by Jeana Whitaker.

**Plot:** Albin and Georges are popular female impersonators starring in the drag queen show, *Les Cagelles*. Problems arise when Georges' 25-year-old son, Jean-Michel, a result from a brief encounter years back, announces that he is engaged to Anne Dindon, the daughter of a well-known politician, Edouard Dindon.

Anne's parents want to come and meet Jean-Michel's mother and father.

Little do they know that Albin, a man, has essentially been Jean-Michel's mother figure his whole life.

**Particulars:** Plays May 15 - June 7. Performances are Thursdays - Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 for evening performances and \$15 for matinees.

Call the box office at (602) 765-1581 or visit [www.nvplayhouse.com](http://www.nvplayhouse.com).

## Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre

**Place:** Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre, 5247 E. Brown Road, in Mesa. The theater is accessible from the Loop 202 (Red Mountain Freeway) or the US 60 (Superstition Freeway) via the Higley Road exits.

**Production:** *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* directed and choreographed by Rob Watson.

**Plot:** Charting the meteoric rise and career of the legendary singer songwriter, this sensational rock musical features over 20 of Holly's greatest hits.

**Players:** The show stars Todd Meredith as the rock icon.

**Particulars:** Performances run through June 7. Show times are Wednesday through Saturday with dinner at 6 p.m., and show at 8 p.m.; Wednesday or Thursday and Saturday or Sunday matinees with lunch buffet at 11:45 a.m. and show at 1:15 p.m. Sunday Twilights: Dinner



begins at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. Adult ticket prices range from \$45 to \$54. Tickets for children 12 and under are \$22. Show-only seats are available for \$25. Purchase tickets online at [broadwaypalmwest.com](http://broadwaypalmwest.com) or by calling the Box Office at (480) 325-6700.

**Note:** On select Saturday evenings the cast presents an intimate concert of rock 'n' roll. Admission is free and all ages are welcome to attend. Concerts begin 20 minutes after the show on May 24, 31 and June 7.



Roger Pregner as Victor Velasco and Angela Kriese as Corie are featured in *Barefoot in the Park* at Scottsdale Desert Stages Theatre.

*Photo by Lisa Gates*