



Staff Report

Agenda Item: **Approval Of Waiver Of Town Fees For Missoula Children's Theater** – To approve a request for a waiver of Town Fees for use of the Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium by Missoula Children's Theater June 14th through June 19th, 2010.

Staff Contact: Janet Perry, Assistant Town Manager

Meeting Date: April 13, 2010

Background:

The Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) is a not-for-profit organization funded in part by Montana's Cultural Trust, State of Montana and the National Endowment for the Arts. It is the largest touring children's theatre in the United States. MCT is preparing for their 25th annual production in Clarkdale on June 19, 2010.

The tour is presented free to Clarkdale children ages K-12. The children participate at all levels of the theater production. The production is organized by a tour team who provide a set, lights, costumes, props and make-up for the play. The MCT holds an open audition, ultimately casting 50-60 Clarkdale students to perform in the production. The show is rehearsed throughout the week and two public performances are presented on Saturday.

MCT promotes social skills, goal achievement, communication skills, confidence and self-esteem through participation in this unique, educational project. It is a wonderful opportunity for children to experience the performing arts. MCT's mission is "the development of life skills in children through participation in the performing arts".

In the past, the local production was held at the Clarkdale-Jerome school at no cost to MCT. Due to scheduling conflicts now, the school is unable to provide a venue for the 2010 production. MCT is requesting the use of the Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium as a venue for their 2010 local event which will run for five (5), ½ days and one (1) full day. MCT is also requesting a waiver of fees for that use which would normally total \$700.00.

Attached is the letter of request from Betsy K. Williams, MCT Chairman, a general press release describing the event, and the Missoula Children's Theatre brochure.

Below is a chart of standard fees for use of the Clark Memorial Clubhouse.

Facility	Fee	Use	Total
Auditorium	\$ 100/1/2 day	5 Days	\$ 500
	\$ 200/day	1 Day	\$ 200
Grand Total			\$ 700

Recommendations: Staff recommends that Council approve a waiver of Facility Use Fees for use of the Clark Memorial Clubhouse Auditorium by the Missoula Children's Theater 2010.

Betsy K. Williams
Verde Valley Concert Association
MCT Chairman
P.O. Box 557
Clarkdale, AZ 86324
March 29, 2010

Doug Von Gausig
Mayor and the Town Council
Town of Clarkdale
39 N. Ninth St.
Clarkdale, AZ 86324

Dear Mayor Doug Von Gausig and the Clarkdale Town Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Verde Valley Concert Association in regard to the 25th annual production of Missoula Children's Theatre here in Clarkdale. We are requesting to use the Clark Memorial Clubhouse for this event June 14th through the 19th, 2010. Because of a date change, our usual location, the Clarkdale Jerome School is unavailable this year.

This is the 25th year of Missoula Children's Theatre in the Verde Valley sponsored by Verde Valley Concert Association a non-profit. The tour is presented free to area children ages K-12. It is a wonderful opportunity for children of all ages to experience performing arts. It takes them from auditions to make-up to costumes to line memorization to 2 full scale productions in just 1 week.

Our request is that the Clark Memorial Clubhouse fees of \$700: \$100 a day for 5 days for the auditorium plus \$200 for all day Saturday.

We would like to be on the agenda for the April 13th meeting of the Town Council to have the idea of a fee reduction considered.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter and for your support.

Sincerely,

Betsy K. Williams

MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE

GENERAL PRESS RELEASE

To: [Station]
For Release: [Date]
Re: MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE
Contact: [Name, Organization, Phone, E-mail]

The Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT), the nation's largest touring children's theatre, has been touring extensively for 37 years now from Montana to Japan, and will visit nearly 1,300 communities this year with up to 45 teams of Tour Actor/Directors. A tour team arrives in a given town with a set, lights, costumes, props and make-up, everything it takes to put on a play...except the cast. The team holds an open audition and casts 50-60 local students to perform in the production. The show is rehearsed throughout the week and two public performances are presented on Saturday. All MCT shows are original adaptations of classic children's stories and fairytales . . . a *twist* on the classic stories that you know and love. Also included in the residency are three enrichment workshops presented by the Tour Actor/Directors. Creativity, social skills, goal achievement, communication skills and self-esteem are all characteristics that are attained through the participation in this unique, educational project. MCT's mission is *the development of lifeskills in children through participation in the performing arts.*

The Missoula Children's Theatre is based in Missoula, Montana, and also runs many local programs. These include musical theatre day camps and performing arts classes for local children, a summer residency Performing Arts Camp for students from around the world and the MCT Community Theatre which creates an arena for local talent of all ages to participate in large-scale productions and attracts audiences from western Montana. For students interested in a career in the performing arts, MCT has developed Next Step Prep—The Academy for Musical Theatre—providing high school students an affordable opportunity to train and study with well-known professionals in the field of music, dance and acting to prepare for college. For information, email nextstep@mctinc.org.

For more information regarding the Missoula Children's Theatre, please contact us:
Missoula Children's Theatre · 200 North Adams · Missoula, MT 59802
406.728.1911 · www.mctinc.org · tour@mctinc.org

MISSOULA
CHILDREN'S
THEATRE

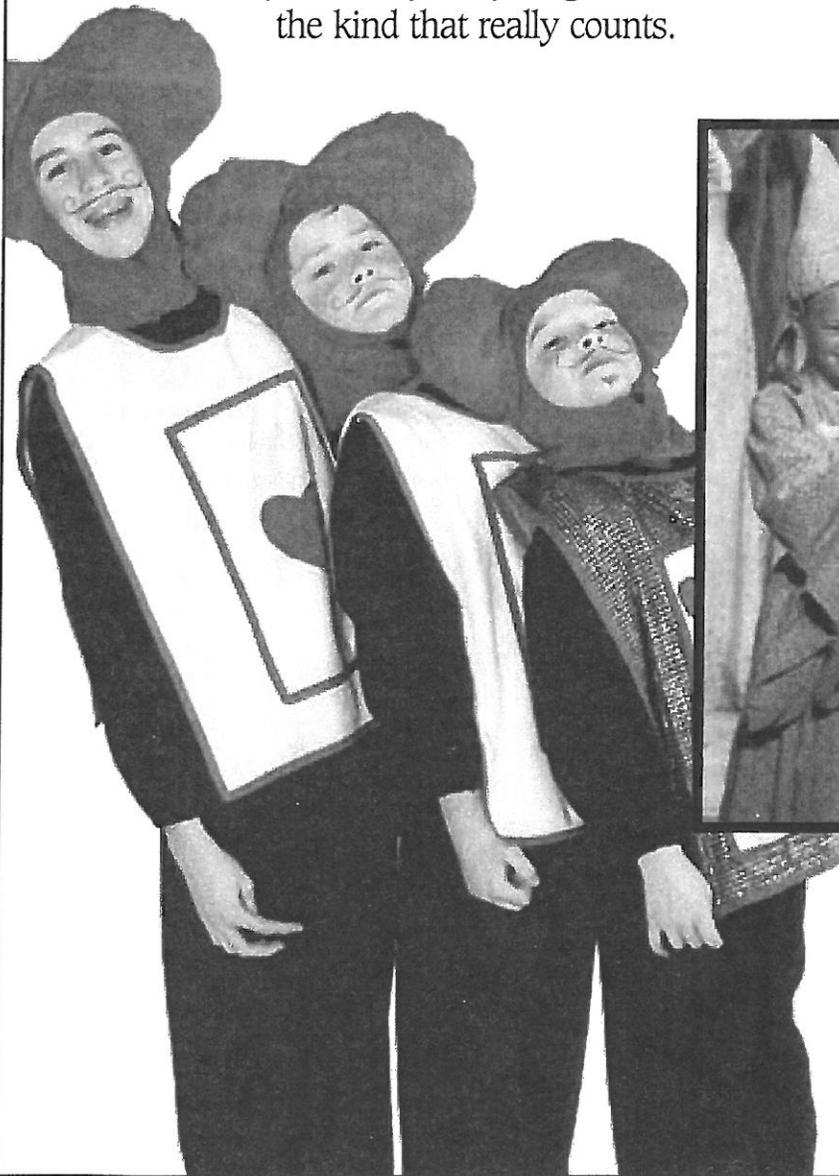
mct *International Tours*

A little red truck pulls into your town
with everything it takes to mount a full-scale musical
production...except the cast.

That's where the children of your community come in.

On Monday, they're cast as characters.

By Saturday, they've *gained* character—
the kind that really counts.





Throughout MCT's residency week, your kids will have fun learning lines, songs and dances. And they'll learn that if they work hard...if they push themselves... they can create something wonderful!



REVIEWS

"MCT dependably provides clever scripts, delightful scores, creative costumes, imaginative sets, and most importantly—well-trained, excellent personnel, which inevitably results in an exciting and successful experience for all involved."

Greenville, Ohio

"Thanks for all of the great work that you do boosting our morale and providing top-notch entertainment for and from our kids!"

Seoul, Korea

"Bravo to you and your staff for truly making a positive impact on the lives of children!"

Oconto Falls, Wisconsin

fun

MISSION

In each MCT cast, girls and boys are equal, the disabled become able, the shy experiment with bravery and the gifted become part of the whole. The lesson they learn is that all of them are necessary for the show to go on.



enrichment

Touring since 1973, MCT visits nearly 1,100 communities annually—in all fifty states, four Canadian provinces, the Canadian Arctic, Cuba, Europe, Asia and the Pacific Rim.



RESIDENCY WEEK BASICS

Together...helping kids reach a new stage!

What we provide:

Presenter Materials: All materials needed to help you plan and promote your residency week—including posters, graphics, a photo and pre-written press releases—are sent approximately 90 days in advance.

Open Audition: Two professional MCT Tour Actor/Directors audition and cast 50-60 local school-age children in a full-length original musical production.

Focused Rehearsals: Lines, staging, songs and movement are learned in four-and-a-half hours each day, Monday through Friday (two 2-hour sessions with a short snack break in between). Not all cast members attend all sessions.

Three Enrichment Workshops: Our Tour Actor/Directors present interactive workshops to school or community groups on a variety of theatrical topics.

Two Public Performances: The residency week culminates in two public performances starring your local children, complete with professionally designed scenery and costumes.

What we ask of you:

Housing: Provide private (one person per room), clean, comfortable, and safe accommodations for the two Tour Actor/Directors for seven nights, Sunday to Sunday.

Audition Space: Reserve a large space; a gym is ideal.

Two Rehearsal Spaces: Reserve two separate spaces to be used the entire week; ideally, one should be the performance space and the other at least classroom size.

Performance Space: Reserve a space that is at least 28 feet wide, 16 feet deep and 10 feet high and is accessible from both sides.

Piano and Accompanist: Provide both—Wednesday through Saturday of the residency week.

Publicity: Publicize the audition and performances utilizing the provided Presenter Materials.

Profits: Keep all proceeds from ticket sales—they belong to you!

Booking information:

Please contact us to learn more about bringing MCT to your community.

MCT International Tours
Tour Marketing Department
200 North Adams
Missoula, Montana 59802
Phone: (406) 728-1911
Fax: (406) 721-0637
E-mail: tour@mctinc.org
Web site: www.mctinc.org

education

