

PEACHCRAFT

ACTORS STUDIO

For Immediate Release

Chatham talent to shine in production of 'Children of Eden'

7.25.09

Three local young actors have roles in the PeachCraft Studios of Summit production of Stephen Schwartz's 1986 musical play "Children of Eden," loosely based on the first nine and one-half chapters of the Book of Genesis.

The staging of "Children of Eden" features a cast of 21 talented young performers from across the state, directed by Peach-Craft Vocal Conservatory faculty members Kenneth Bryson and Jody Mullen, choreographed by Lauren Humm Fakete, and produced by Kate Kennedy, founder and artistic director of PeachCraft Studios.

Performances are 7 p.m. Friday, July 31, and 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 1, in the Morristown-Beard School's Wilkie Hall, located at 70 Whippany Road in Morristown.

Tickets are available by calling PeachCraft Studios at (908) 673-1485.

The producers noted that while Schwartz derived the plot for "Children of Eden" from Judeo-Christian tradition, many of the musical's themes are secular and universal. The Father's relationship with his many children – beginning with Adam and Eve – has more to do with the human family than with the Book of Genesis. Like any other parent, the Father struggles with conflicting emotions about his beloved children before he is able to let them decide their own fates.

Andrew MacMaster of Madison has the role of the Father in the production.

Portraying both Abel and Ham in the play is Matthew Fertakos of Chatham.

Sarah Shannon of Chatham has the roles of the Snake, a featured dancer, and the dance captain.

In keeping with the play's emphasis on future generations and the restoration of a lost paradise, PeachCraft's environmentally responsible production features sets, props, and costumes made from recycled materials.

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