

Children's Olympic arts festival starts Saturday

SARANAC LAKE — While Lake Placid hosts the world's finest amateur athletes, Saranac Lake will be hosting a showcase of children's art.

Beginning with opening day festivities this Saturday, the National Fine Arts Committee, part of the Lake Placid Olympic Organizing Committee, is sponsoring a children's Olympic Art Festival, with the cooperation of local, national and international groups.

The New York Education Department, International Society of Education Through Art (INSEA) and UNICEF have prepared ex-

hibits. Through the cooperation of the Saranac Lake Free Library, these art pieces will be displayed in downtown churches and in the library.

The opening day celebration also features an 8 p.m. performance by the Norwalk Youth Symphony.

Also scheduled on opening day are dedications of the children's art exhibit, the Olympic banners project, and the children's art show. Roni the Raccoon will also be present to welcome exhibit visitors of all ages.

This festival is one of many ways the National Fine Arts Committee has planned to celebrate the visual

and performing arts as part of the 1980 Winter Games.

The Saturday festival will start efforts to actively involve Saranac Lake area children in the cultural aspects of the Olympics. Throughout the Olympic period, minstrels, story tellers, magicians and other innovative artists will be

performing in Saranac Lake.

Children ages seven to 13 will have the opportunity to create their own artwork during the Olympics. Area artists have donated time to teach macrame, dance, weaving, and basic printing. More details on the innovative artists and children's art program will be announced later.

The Norwalk Youth Symphony, which will be performing Saturday night in St. Bernard's Church, is made up of young musicians selected from 200 who are involved in youth symphony programs in Fairfield County, Conn. John Huxler will conduct the program, which includes selections by Souza, Handel, Tchaikovsky, and the New York State Olympic theme, "The Highest Goal," by Daddis. Also on the program are selections from "Man of LaMancha."

The following is a schedule of events for Saturday:
1 p.m. at the First Methodist Church opening of the New York

State Exhibit, Part 1, and a performance by the St. Regis String Band, and hanging of youth banners.

2:30 p.m., hanging of selected banners and opening of the New York State Exhibit, Part 2, at St. Luke's Episcopal Church.

4:30 p.m. at Saranac Lake Free Library, opening of INSEA exhibit, followed by serving of free refreshments, prepared by The Saranac.

8 p.m. at St. Bernard's Church, concert by the Norwalk Youth Symphony, followed by the hanging of Olympic banners and opening of the UNICEF exhibit.

Old summer school topic of program

PLATTSBURGH — The historic "Catholic Summer School of America," (now Cliff Haven), will be discussed at programs Jan. 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 23 at 1 p.m. in the Clinton Community College Auditorium.

Frank DeSorbo and Mrs. Eileen Brewer, both of CCC, will be addressing members of the Home Demonstration Group of Cliff Haven and the public.

The summer institute, founded in 1891, evolved into a renowned vacation and learning center. Professionals from all over the country came to stay at the "cottages," immense, fine mansions, to study history, philosophy, education, and religion. It became a social center in the Northeast.

Mrs. Georgina Fernandez of the CCC library will show samples of the collection housed in the CCC library archives. Mrs. Brewer will give a slide presentation to complement a display of her husband's private collection on the subject.

Plans for the revival of the concept of a place where people can have vacation and education in the summer are under way at Clinton Community College. Summer session plans are for a curriculum that addresses the needs of all members of the family, in a format that allows for the recreation so important to all in the summer time. Further information may be obtained from Dean Michael Schwartz.

McMasters writing contest deadline Feb. 1

PLATTSBURGH — The deadline for submitting papers for the McMasters Prize for the writing of history is Feb. 1.

The Clinton County Historical Association is offering a prize of \$150 for good writing about the North Country, in honor of Miss Emily McMasters.

Miss McMasters, who died in 1972, was the last of three generations of her family to live in the Plattsburgh area. She was an active member of the Clinton County Historical Association and served as its curator for many years.

The McMasters Prize, the fifth to be offered in as many years, is given for historical writing on a theme, based in Clinton, Franklin or Essex Counties. But, entries are not limited to residents of these counties.

The paper should be at least 3,000 words long and of high literary quality. Original, and

soundly researched. It may even be historical fiction.

The manuscript must be completed, not merely in progress.

The McMasters Committee of the historical association may refuse to make an award in a year when no paper reaches minimum standards. Members of the committee are Margaret Engelhart, editor of Tundra Press of Northern New York; Allan Everest, professor of history at Plattsburgh State University College; James Dynko, editor of the Press-Republican; and John Ross, historian of the village of Rouses Point.

Manuscripts should be sent to Mrs. Helen Allan, Clinton County Historical Association, P.O. Box 332, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901. Papers submitted should not include the name of the writer, but a cover letter should do so.

Lively Arts



To teach dance

Mimi Slifstein, ballet instructor at Plattsburgh State University College, does an attitude turn. She will be teaching classes for children and adults, through continuing education. (P-R staff photo by Steve Frazier)

Ballet classes offered

PLATTSBURGH — Ballet classes for children and adults will be offered, starting Jan. 15, through the office of Continuing Education at Plattsburgh State University College.

Mimi Slifstein, a former student of Ruth Mesavage at Plattsburgh State University and now a student at Les Ballets Jazz in Montreal, will be the instructor.

All classes will meet in the dance

studio in Memorial Hall on Rugar Street, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Children's classes will be from 4 to 5 p.m. and beginners and advanced beginners, adults and teens, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m.

The cost is \$72 for adults and \$48 for children for the 12 weeks. Those interested in taking part should register by calling 564-2050.

Arts festival tickets on sale

PLATTSBURGH — Single tickets are now on sale for all eight performances in the Plattsburgh Olympic Arts Festival.

This includes Pilobolus Dance Theater on Feb. 8, 9, and 10; Champlain Trio, Feb. 13 and 20; Omaha Magic Theater Feb. 14, 15 and 16; Cantilena Chamber Ensemble, Feb. 15 in Hawkins Hall; Los Angeles Orchestra, Feb. 17; Jazzmobile, Feb. 21 and 22; and Michael, McCreech and Campbell, Feb. 23. Except for Cantilena, all are at 8 p.m. in Hartman

Theater at Plattsburgh State University College.

Single tickets are \$10 for Pilobolus and \$7.50 for all others. Season tickets for five performances are still available for \$27.50.

There are also student tickets for all children, first grade through college level, for \$3. These can be purchased at the Pride Office, City Hall, or at the College Center Desk.

For further information, call 563-0473.

About music

Petty fights back

By JAMES KINSELLA
Staff Writer

PLATTSBURGH — Tom Petty is backed by a group called the Heartbreakers, and heartbreak is the driving force behind Petty's new album, *Damn the Torpedoes*. But rather than lie down and moan and groan, Petty fights back with exhilarating rock that's both serious and fun.

Petty works in a mode that has many pretenders but few artists — slashing power-chord rock with high harmonies, boy-girl lyrics and a full-steam 4/4 beat. If there is such a thing as "pure rock," melted down to where the music's roots are unrecognizable and "rock and roll" remains present more in spirit than musical construction, this is it.

The Who probably pioneered "pure rock," but even that band stands partly outside the definition, as leader Pete Townshend was more concerned with the workings of the mind in a hostile world than the particular frustration of your girlfriend giving you a hard time.

The Byrds, on the other hand, had the harmonies, but that group built cathedrals of sound rather than surging, hopped-up-car rock. What Petty does on this album, in its finest moments, is to bring it all together, to create the rock we've heard only in our dreams.

Damn the Torpedoes is a very good album, but not a great one. There are uneven stretches, lesser songs and even lesser parts of songs that hold the album back. "Here Comes My Girl," echoing Them's "Here Comes the Night," uses a spoken verse that's plodding and almost ugly before moving into a gorgeous, Byrd-like chorus that brings the romance back in. The bridge in "Don't Do Me Like That" is jarring at first, especially when coming off the bright, bouncy verses that could make the song an AM hit.

Still, even there the lyrics shore up a possible wreck, and when Petty turns it on full blast, there's no denying his power. "Even the Losers" is a killer, a rock song that fulfills the yearnings of all the kids



Tom Petty

who have "smoked cigarettes and stared at the moon," wanting the girl/guy beside them and the excitement this music can bring. "Even the losers get lucky sometimes." Petty reminds the listener before the band flies into some exuberant rocking.

Other outstanding songs include the half-hurting, half-strong stance of "Shadow of a Doubt (A Complex Kid)," an anthem for every person who's tried to grasp another with only mixed success. The rocking never brakes, though, and opens up another notch on "Century City."

Cheap Trick plays tongue-in-cheek—the Cars pay more attention to melody than drive, but Petty and the Heartbreakers are easily the choice to cap off any concert bill of the new American rock. Petty plays and sings like he means it, and his band has the clean locomotive drive that's marked some of the best of this music. *Damn the Torpedoes* is strongly recommended.

TOM PETTY AND THE HEARTBREAKERS: *Damn the Torpedoes*, MCA-5105.

Arts weekly

This calendar of cultural events for the North Country is compiled by the Council on the Arts for Clinton County. Mail announcements of events and activities to COACC, P.O. Box 451, Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901.

Theater

"A Lesson From Aloys," by Athol Fugard at the Center Theater in Old Montreal, through Jan. 27. Tickets: 514-288-1229. This is the world premier of this play outside of South Africa. Fugard himself directs.

"Go Ask Alice," MAI Drama Club presentation Jan. 12 at 8 p.m. in Hawkins Hall Auditorium, PSUC. Tickets at the door.

Art galleries, exhibits

William Klock and Michelle Lester, ceramics and tapestry, Myers Fine Arts Gallery, PSUC, through Jan. 27.

Susan and Rick Mikkelsen paintings and drawings, Chateaugay Arts Council's Arts Emporium, 29 E. Main St., Chateaugay, through February.

Sandra Groothand watercolors and Gordon LeClair oil paintings at The Galleria, Photo Royale Studios, 246 Margaret St., Plattsburgh, through Jan. 12.

Christmas Cards by Rockwell Kent at the Rockwell Kent Gallery, Feinberg Library, PSUC, through Jan. 25.

"Winter Expressions," 25 North Country artists displaying a

Christmas or Winter theme, Keeseville National Bank Operations Center in Peru, through March. Weekdays, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Alice T. Miner Colonial Collection in Chazy will remain open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays in January.

Music

Chamber Orchestra of Vienna featuring works by Mozart and Strauss. Salle Wilfrid-Pelletier, Place des Arts, Montreal, Jan. 14, 8:30 p.m. Information: 514-842-2112.

Norwalk Youth Symphony, Jan. 12 at 8 p.m. in St. Bernard's Church, Saranac Lake. This is the first in a series of events to celebrate the visual and performing arts as part of the Olympic Winter Games. It will include the dedication of the Children's Art Exhibit, the Olympic Banners Project, and the UNICEF International Children's Art Show.

Special Events

Adirondack Photography Exhibition awards presentation and reception, Jan. 19, 5 to 7 p.m. at the Clinton County Government Center, open to the public. Sponsored by the Council on the Arts for Clinton County.

Olympic Arts Festival tickets are now on sale. Events include Pilobolus Dance Theater, Omaha Magic Theater, Jazzmobile and Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. For tickets and information, call 563-0473.

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