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LAKE CONROE SPLASH



The Addams Family

Stage Right's
Kooky, Spooky Musical

The Crighton Theatre
October 21 - November 6



**MONTGOMERY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT HONORS
OUR VETERANS FOR THE 20TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Arts & Entertainment

by Brenda Storseth / photos by Steven Wong

Kookiness & Spookiness Comes to the Crichton Stage - Stage Right presents *The Addams Family Musical*

Stage Right of Texas, the resident theatre company at the historic Crichton Theatre, presents *The Addams Family Musical* with lyrics and music by Andrew Lipp and book by Marshall Brickman. This deliciously dark musical comedy is based on the work of the cartoonist Charles Addams, who was known for his ghoulishly humorous and macabre characters. In this kooky and spooky world of the Addams Family, to be sad is to be happy, to feel pain is to feel joy and death and suffering are something to be desired. Even though the members of this strange, peculiar family appear to the world as “not normal”, they face the same problems that any normal family experiences. But as Grandma Addams profoundly says to Wednesday, “define normal.” As the story unfolds, we find the Addams children are growing up, and Wednesday Addams has found love with a surprisingly sweet boy named Lucas who comes from a normal, respectable Ohio family (to the chagrin of her parents Morticia and Gomez). To make matters worse, Wednesday has invited Lucas and his parents to dinner! Gomez must struggle with the “secret” as we are entertained by a hilarious night when “The Game” reveals covert schemes, relationships are tested and the Addams family must face the one thing they have managed to avoid for generations - change! If you love spine-tingling humor, eye-popping special effects and hair-raising antics, *The Addams Family Musical* will not disappoint!

Director Brenda Storseth, who directed *Arsenic and Old Lace* for Stage Right in 2013, is not new to directing dark comedies. She has put together an all-star cast of extremely talented actors, singers and dancers who will entertain and thrill you from start to finish. Returning to the Crichton stage as the lead is Katt Gilcrease who completely embodies the role of

Gomez Addams by keeping the audience laughing hysterically one minute and moved to tears the next. He was recently nominated for a Montie Award for his portrayal of Franz Liebkind in *The Producers* and also played the role of Professor Callahan in *Legally Blonde*. Also returning to the stage is Jennifer Marshall who expertly plays the stern, aloof matriarch Morticia Addams. This past year she was Twink in *Christmas Belles* and the phone operator in *On Golden Pond*. A very familiar face returning to the Crichton is the multi-talented, award-winning Sara Priesler starring as Wednesday Addams, “that little bundle of malice that would set her own brother on fire just for a ride in the ambulance.” Sara is a Montie Award winner for her portrayal of Kathy Selden in *Singing in the Rain*. She has recently appeared in *Legally Blonde* as Brooke Windham and also in *The Producers* as Ulla, in which she was also nominated. Other familiar faces you will enjoy are Marilyn Moore, who plays the role of the weed-smoking, trash-talking Grandma; Cristy Campobella as the demure, poem-reciting Alice Beineke, who undergoes quite the dramatic transformation; Todd Brady as the pessimistic, close-minded Mal Beineke; and Bill Shafer as the grunting zombie butler, Lurch. Recently new to the stage is Austin Colburn who many will remember as the golden voice of Emmet from *Legally Blonde*. Austin plays the part of Lucas Beinke, the very “normal” love interest of Wednesday. Austin’s real-life father, James Colburn, plays the role of the irresistible, fun-loving Fester who is the narrator of this tale and who has been away from the stage for over 25 years! Also new to a Stage Right production is Ara Hollyday, who plays the role of the devious young genius, Pugsley. A musical is not complete without an incredible ensemble of phenomenal dancers and



Experience the zany life of *The Addams Family* when the musical comes to the Crichton Theatre October 21 through November 6.

singers who play the Addams’s dead ancestors choreographed by Cricket Pepper and musically directed by Layne Roberts with assistance from Ana Guirola-Ladd.

Show dates for *The Addams Family Musical* are October 21 thru November 6 with Friday and Saturday performances at 8:00 p.m. and three Sunday performances at 2:00 p.m. Performances will be held at the historic Crichton Theatre at 234 North Main in downtown Conroe. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Crichton Theatre box office at 936-441-SHOW (7469), or online at www.stage-right.org. Ticket-holders are encouraged to come dressed in costume to all shows as there will be ample opportunities for fun photos with characters and backdrops. Season tickets are still available in addition to *The Addams Family Musical*. Stage Right will present *Miracle on 34th Street* in December, *My*

Fair Lady in February, the hilarious Jones, Hope and Wooten comedy, *Farce of Nature* in April and will close the season in July with Disney’s *Mary Poppins*. Season tickets for the remaining 5 shows are only \$87.50.

As with every Stage Right show, we highlight a need in the community and spotlight an organization helping with that need. The Assistance League is a national nonprofit organization that turns caring and commitment into action through community-based philanthropic programs. Attendees to *The Addams Family* are encouraged to bring an article of clothing, blankets or books to place in the donation box for distribution in our community.

We hope you’ll join us for something mysterious and spooky and altogether ookie!



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