

Summers @ Seerley Blvd.
Keep your mind sharp and your spirit refreshed.
Regular gatherings at Lampost:

Mondays

Women's Bible Study 6:30pm
Knitter's Group 6:30pm

Tuesdays

Book Study 7pm
Mothers Prayer/Support
starts June 10 @ 6pm

Wednesdays

Film/Discussion 7pm
new film each week, ranging from
documentaries to feature films

Thursdays

20's Bible Study 8pm
BASIC @ Lampost 8pm

Fridays

Misc. Events & Fellowship
Come hang out with us!

Saturdays

Truth Dialogue 10am
Torah Study Group 1pm

contact us for more info on any of the above groups - watch lampost.com for special events this summer



THANKS for your donations and prayers! We could not carry on without your support.
Lampost is a 501(c)3 organization. All gifts are tax-deductible.

THE LAMPPOST
THE EVERY-SO-OFTEN NEWSLETTER OF LAMPOST THEATRE & COFFEE CO.

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THE LAMPPOST

THE EVERY-SO-OFTEN NEWSLETTER OF LAMPOST THEATRE & COFFEE CO.

Cutting Her Teeth Onstage

She appeared in her first Lampost play at the age of six months. She had everyone else's lines memorized before she was five. She's played a wider variety of ages than any other member of Lampost, since she literally "grew" into new parts over the years. Her 20 years under our roof were capped-off playing key roles in *Frankincense*, *Myrrh*, & *Fool's Gold*, as well as *The Wedding*.



Despite all this involvement over the past two decades, Myka Hanson has had very little attention as an integral part of Lampost Theatre Co. Now that she has turned twenty and is leaving home to pursue her education and ministry training elsewhere, we thought it would be appropriate in our newsletter to highlight this lifetime troupe member.

When she was born to directors Jeff and Marsha Hanson, she entered immediately into the discipleship community and touring lifestyle of Lampost. But life on the road as an infant had its challenges. Jeff and Marsha remember when infant Myka wouldn't go to strangers during a performance. She was only content to be backstage in a wind-up swing. In between scenes, the actors would quickly re-wind the swing so it would keep swinging through another sketch. Colic episodes during travel would result a whole van full of troupe members singing a lullaby to soothe the baby to sleep.

But Myka quickly learned to cooperate with the unique situation of life on the

road. Each stop became an opportunity for new discoveries and the road became a living classroom. She also gained a brother in Nathan Stanley, as the Hansons and Stanleys criss-crossed the country with Lampost productions.

As Myka developed her own individual vision, she continued to be drawn to creative and artistic ways of expressing her faith. She also gained a critical eye and became a natural in-house consultant as new material was developed. She gained a passion for moving beyond cliché in ministry, and explored performance art by cross-registering for college courses during high school.

Now entering her sophomore year of college, she has sought out a school where she can combine biblical studies with creative ministry. She is excited about enrolling at a small inner-city school where she can get involved in ministry off-campus as well. She will be missed not only as family, but as part of the larger Lampost community.

For Myka it was never strange being born into a creative ministry. Her vision of life sees both creativity and ministry as a natural part of every believer's calling. In other words, we are all born into creative ministry in Christ.



The Wedding

Lampost revives a favorite “semi-musical, pseudo-theatrical, quasi-interactive fiasco.”

Lampost presented *The Wedding* to sold-out crowds in April and May. Open auditions drew a cast of over 20 from around the local community as well as several students from the University of Northern Iowa. These kind of productions allow us not only to outreach through performances, but to develop a discipleship atmosphere within the cast. Through two months of rehearsals the diverse group grew together as they prayerfully developed a creative vision for ministry.



The play itself is an uproarious comedy centered around a simple premise. There is a wedding afoot, and the audience is on the guest list. But this is a ceremony destined for disaster. Overbearing relatives, mischievous groomsmen, and a broad palette of zany characters combine to cause one mishap after another. All the while the groom is noticeable missing.

Through the gradual demise of the bride's hopes and beauty, we see ourselves in her desperate attempts to hold her world together. In the end, we discover along with her that the only thing lasting is the faithful love of a groom, who takes us in spite of our stains.

In memory of Verlyn Schrage...

He was a humble farmer with keen sense of humour and an insatiable curiosity about the world. He enjoyed the way Lampost combined theatrics, teaching, and ministry. And he always had good questions.

When he passed away this year, his family designated part of his memorial to Lampost, enabling us to purchase a new piano. We think Verlyn would be pleased with how that piano helped spread joy and truth in *The Wedding*.



February: Marsha in Guatemala...

What started as support for a medical mission to Guatemala turned into a creative adventure in communications. After seeing the hundreds of villagers daily awaiting treatment for ailments related to simple hygiene and water issues, Marsha set to work. She devised a series of comic scenarios using physical theatre to simultaneously entertain the waiting crowds while also teaching them hygiene and water purification practices that could break the cycle of their ailments. Marsha traveled to Guatemala with Janice Ephraim, a member of our board.

STAFF & SUMMER

New resident ensemble completes training and heads to the swamp.

Meet our new staff team. Krystal (center) and Sarah (right) have renewed their commitment for another year at lampost. They have been joined by Allie (standing) and Noreen (seated, left).

Allie Heemstra is with us as a summer intern. A student at UNI, she has been part of the BASIC drama/discipleship team we sponsor on campus. She was also part of the cast of *The Wedding*.

Noreen Hughes comes to us as a recent graduate in musical theatre from Catholic University in Washington, DC. She wanted to find a place to do service ministry for a year following college, and was excited to discover Lampost where she can combine service, ministry, and theatre.

The four began an intensive training period June 1, which included team building, repertoire development, ministry preparation, and plenty of hard work. This initial training culminated in their departure for Teen Missions boot camp in Florida. There they will train teams of students for overseas outreach to almost a dozen different countries. Their time in Florida will close with a performance of their new production for the 1500-member boot camp.



Since 1980, Lampost has sent staff to Teen Missions boot camp.

Nestled in the swamp adjacent to Cape Kennedy, thousands of students come here each year, giving up TV, electricity, cell phones, and junk food to prepare for a summer of hard work serving overseas. Lampost team members train them for cross-cultural ministry using mime and street theatre. In addition, Lampost performs for an evening rally, challenging students to continue a missionary lifestyle at home as well as abroad.

Taking the adventure home... Spreading the word through lampost.com

More Lampost productions are becoming available on DVD. Already *Pyrates!* can be ordered from the website in both DVD video and an original cast album CD that includes full orchestrations. *Racing The Train* is also available, and *The Wedding* is on its way.

Also on the website is a wide variety of resources from scripts to mime make-up to training videos, all geared to help churches and schools develop “ministry with a dramatic impact.” Watch this fall as we launch a whole new site.

