

News Release

March 1, 2010

'Raising the Roof' musical Launches Shelter House campaign fund 'Keeping the Doors Open'

IOWA CITY – A community musical performance will launch the Shelter House Endowment Campaign, *Keeping the Doors Open*.

The community-wide variety show, "Raising the Roof for the Shelter House: A Musical Extravaganza," will be performed Saturday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, March 28, at 2 p.m. at the Johnson County Fairgrounds in Building C.

Tickets for the performance are available at J Frahm Music and West Bank's Iowa City and Coralville locations. Tickets are also available at the door. Admission is \$12.

The show's director June Braverman has assembled an ensemble cast of local performers who are dedicating their performance to benefit the Shelter House. Braverman says audiences will enjoy some of their favorite actors, vocalists and dancers. "The show is an exciting and entertaining medley of Broadway, Hollywood and Hit Parade tunes. The audience will want to sing-along."

Braverman chose the show's theme, "Raising the Roof," which describes the Shelter House efforts to provide a new shelter for homeless persons. Now retired, Braverman has produced and directed numerous musical variety shows that have benefited local charities including Ronald McDonald House and Iowa City Hospice. In addition, Braverman has directed and produced musical shows at Regina High School and for local theaters.

The musical revue will feature local performing groups including City Circle Acting Company, Iowa City Community Theatre, Dreamwell Theatre, Young Footlites, Spontaneous Combustion, Old Capitol Chorus, Metro Mix, Nolte Academy of Dance, Best Buddies of City High School, Acoustic Mayhem, The Quire and the 1970 Regina Rockettes along with well known Iowa City soloists.

Katherine Burford, Shelter House capital campaign manager, said, "'Raising the Roof' is a gift to a community that is well-known for its commitment to arts and cultural activities and its dedication to charitable causes to benefit those less fortunate. We're grateful June stepped forward with this wonderful contribution to the community."

All proceeds from the musical will benefit the Shelter House Endowment Campaign, "Keeping the Doors Open." The Shelter House campaign will endow operating costs of the new shelter. Donations and pledges may be made to the Shelter House Endowment Fund at the Community Foundation of Johnson County. And, contributions may be eligible for a 25 percent Endow Iowa Tax Credit.

The Shelter House met its \$4 million goal when it received a \$2.66 million grant from the Iowa Finance Authority which helped match donations, pledges, and grants from individuals, faith communities, local businesses, and foundations. Meeting this goal has allowed Shelter House to begin building the new facility at 429 Southgate Avenue in Iowa City. The facility, which broke ground in July 2009, will open in October 2010.

Shelter House has provided shelter and services for the homeless of Johnson County since 1983. The mission of Shelter House is to provide shelter, basic, and transitional resources, while encouraging self-sufficiency, to any person in our community who is homeless.

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