

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND MUSIC LECTURE SERIES ESTABLISHED AT NORTHPORT MUSIC THEATER

Northport Music Theater, has announced the establishment of an Educational Scholarship Fund and Music Lecture Series. The scholarship fund is being established through the generosity of Lincolnville resident, Michael Paul Lund, an accomplished writer of music criticism. He will be conducting a 90-minute illustrated music lecture entitled: *Paul Robeson (1898-1976) The Musical Life and Times of a Great Artist* at NMT during the summer of 2008 with proceeds going to the new fund. Ruth and John Gelsinger, producers, owners and artistic directors of the Northport Music Theater, are thrilled to welcome Mr. Lund as the first lecturer of the new series. Ruth says, "Education, entertainment, and inspiration are core values of our company. With the establishment of the Musical Theater Camp here this summer we are even more grateful to Mr. Lund in helping us help students participate in our programs. All donated funds will be earmarked for the scholarship program. We can't wait to hear his lecture on the life and music of the great American singer, Paul Robeson."

Born in London, England, Michael Paul Lund came to America at an early age with his British parents. As a young man, he began serious vocal studies for an operatic career and studied at the New York Light Opera Guild under Ruth Hand. He was a baritone soloist with the world-renowned Russian Don Cossack Choir. Mr. Lund is the founder and first president of the Massenet Society, an organization devoted to the music of the famous French operatic composer, Jules Massenet. As a businessman, he has been successful in the fields of advertising (newspaper, magazine and radio), public relations (domestic and international catalog sales) and worldwide mail order marketing. Mr. Lund has also regularly written, produced and recorded radio commercials for many companies including his own; the commercials have been broadcast in all fifty states and in Canada. Customer relations, promotion and company visibility are specialties. His syndicated newspaper

column, entitled *The Serendipity Nostalgia Report*, focuses on legendary entertainers and great American music. Mr. Lund's lifelong study and fascination with American popular song and the music industry has established him as a leading authority on the subjects. In 1977, Lund founded *Serendipity Recordings*, an international mail order company devoted to music of the 30's, 40's and 50's. He has a radio program entitled, *Music and Entertainment News with Michael Paul Lund*. Mr. Lund is a regular on-air guest on public radio, including WGBH radio in Boston, where his two-hour programs with Ron Della Chiesa on Great American Music are tremendously popular.

Northport Music Theater is a for-profit arts venue committed to providing jobs for Maine artists to bringing professional musical theater to the midcoast area. NMT specializes in contemporary American musical theater that is hilarious, upbeat, and innovative. Located on US Route 1 six miles north of Lincolnville Beach and six miles south of Belfast, NMT has plenty of parking and is handicapped accessible. It seats 128 people. NMT will be presenting three musicals during the summer of 2008. They are ***Fame Takes a Holiday*** by Cassandra Danz, Mary Fulham, and Warren Leight from July 2 through July 20, ***Closer Than Ever*** by David Shire and Richard Maltby, Jr., from July 30 – August 17, and ***Five Course Love*** by Greg Coffin from August 27 – September 14. Show times are Wednesday through Saturday evenings at 7:30 and Sunday matinees at 3:30. Regular ticket prices are \$26 for evenings and \$21 for matinees.

Three weeks of musical theater camps will be offered this summer for ages 8 -12 and 12 - 16 under the direction of Kim Murphy, Choral and Musical Theater Director of the Camden Hills Regional High School. Performances by the campers of ***101 Dalmations*** and ***A Broadway Review*** will be held on the Saturdays at the end of each camp week.

For more information about the lecture series or musical theater camp call 338-8383. Scholarship Fund donations may be made to The NMT Scholarship Fund at northportmusictheater.com using PayPal or by mailing to: NMT Scholarship Fund at 851 Atlantic Hwy., Northport, ME 04849. Proposals for the music lecture series are also being accepted at this time.