



DRAG TAKES THE STAGE

AT ST. SCHOLASTICA

By Teri Cadeau
Duluth News Tribune

An hour before the doors opened for the College of St. Scholastica's first ever on-campus drag show, organizer and host Tom Henry, also known as Princess Buttercream, took a moment to reflect on the long history that led up to this performance. Buttercream and her fellow drag queens were hastily preparing to take the stage of the St. Scholastica theater Monday evening in the "Drag Invasion" show put on in conjunction with Zenith City Horror.

"This is a very momentous occasion for the Twin Ports queer community because St. Scholastica has definitely had their run-ins with us over the years," Henry said. "The Main Club, where most of us do our shows, was started by a gay man who was fired from St. Scholastica. So we have that history."

Henry, a nursing major in their final semester on campus, has been trying to get a drag show on the campus for two years.



Photos by Teri Cadeau / Duluth News Tribune

Above: Performer Jamie Monroe checks out her wig in the mirror backstage before the Queer Invasion drag show. Monroe performed "Piece of my Heart" by Janis Joplin for her first lip sync number. **Top:** Princess Buttercream, also known as Tom Henry, reacts to a comment from the audience before her live performance of "A Wig in a Box" from "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" at the "Queer Invasion" drag show at St. Scholastica on Monday.

Henry said the main issue has been getting support from faculty, not because they objected to the content, but because the show would be a big undertaking. With support from Zenith City Horror, the Queer Student Union

and Bret Amundsen, the dean of arts and letters, "Drag Invasion" was finally allowed to move forward this spring.

Fellow drag queen Jamie Monroe was excited to do a college show and be part of the first show at

Scholastica.

"I get really excited about college shows because the energy is different," Monroe said. "People are hungry for a new experience and we're

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MUSIC REVIEW

DSSO celebrates violinist's virtuosity

By Sheryl Jensen

For the Duluth News Tribune

The Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra often features both young artists and seasoned performers as their guest artists each season. For their Saturday night "To Celebrate" concert at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center, it was one of their own who took center stage. Erin Aldridge, the DSSO's concertmaster since

IF YOU GO

What: DSSO concert "To Celebrate"
When: Streaming now —Virtual tickets for this concert are \$15
Tickets: For future concerts, in-person tickets are \$20-\$58
Information: dssso.com and at 218-623-3776
Next Concert: "To Persevere" March 19 at 7:00 pm at the DECC

2005, dazzled with her performance of three of the program's pieces. Aldridge attended Indi-

ana University where she received her bachelor's degree in violin performance. She went on to receive her master's degree and performer's certificate in chamber music performance from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and later her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in violin performance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She has won numerous

awards as both a soloist and chamber musician and has been featured throughout Europe, South America and the United States as a guest artist. At the University of Wisconsin-Superior, she currently serves as professor of violin and director of orchestras. Aldridge said she took this opportunity to choose three of her favorite pieces to create her own "concerto."

Thrilling the audience and showing her incredible technique, she began with Camille Saint-Saëns "Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso in A minor." The composer dedicated this piece to his friend, Spanish violinist Pablo de Sarasate.

Saint-Saëns wrote, "If my violin music was so successful, I owe it to him, because he was for

him, because he was for

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READINGS & WRITERS

Duluth News Tribune

Events

Storytimes, 10:15 a.m. Wednesdays at the Duluth Main Library and West Duluth branch as well as 10:15 a.m. Thursdays at the Mount Royal branch. Go to duluthlibrary.evanced.info/signup/calendar.

The **Duluth Public Library** is offering in-person book clubs at the main Duluth Public Library, 520 W. Superior St. To see the four book clubs, what book they are reading and a list a questions for each book, go to the calendar at duluthlibrary.org.

Join authors **Rob Greenfield**, of Ashland, Wisconsin, and **April Hepokoski**, of Esko, 5:30-8 p.m. Friday, March 4, Cloquet Public Library, 320 14th St., Cloquet, for the release of their new book, "Zero Waste Kids," a solutions-oriented book that teaches through activities how to reduce, reuse and recycle at home, at school, and in the community. The focus of the talk will be on zero waste and sustainable living.

Lake Superior Writers presents **Superior Shares**, a free virtual open mic for writers to read their work, and for anyone else who wants to listen, 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, March 9. Event is free; membership is not required. Graphic content is prohibited. There will be 10 five-minute slots available on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants will be notified ahead of time if they have been selected to read. To register, email writers@lakesuperiorwriters.org. Please indicate if you'd like to read. A Zoom link will be sent the day of the event.

It's Murder, Don'tcha Know!, a virtual workshop about how to write a mystery with mystery writer Jeanne Cooney, 9-11 a.m. March 12. She will discuss the various types of mysteries and the mechanics of writing them. She will review the steps commonly followed in mysteries: establishing the protagonist's wishes, hooking the reader, scattering clues, and tying up loose ends. To register: lakesuperiorwriters.org/mystery-writing-workshop.

Lake Superior Writers presents **Virtual Book Club for Writers**, 6:30-8 p.m. March 29. **Brian Malloy** will talk about his book, "The Year of Ice," and host a Q & A about the book and his journey writing it. Free. For more info: lakesuperiorwriters.org/events/book-club-for-writers.

Contest

Lake Superior Writers' 2022 Writing Contest is open. This year's theme is "Full Circle." Categories are poetry, short fiction, short-short fiction and creative nonfiction.

For more information: lakesuperiorwriters.org/2022-writing-contest. Deadline: April 11.

Seeking nominations

Join a **Northeastern Minnesota Book Awards Reading Team** and help choose a winning book that captures

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