

## Benefit auction set for Project Gettysburg-Leon

Project Gettysburg-Leon's Annual Fundraising Auction and Chili Dinner will take place on Saturday, January 24 in Hauser Field House on the Gettysburg College campus. Doors open at 5 p.m. for an auction preview, and dinner will be served starting at 5:15 p.m. The live auction will begin promptly at 6 p.m.

For more than twenty-five years, PGL has supported small-scale development projects in Nicaragua and sponsored citizen delegations both to and from that Central American nation. Monies raised by the auction go to support the work of PGL throughout the year including development projects in Nicaragua and special events — such as the recent Salsa Dance in the Square — here in the Gettysburg area.



Colby Wagaman, of Littlestown, looks in on a class being taught at an art school in Leon, Nicaragua, during a recent Project Gettysburg-Leon delegation to the Latin American country. Project Gettysburg-Leon is a supporter of the school.

Currently, PGL is helping to install a water system at a rural coffee cooperative but also supports a community art school for young people in Leon and a variety of efforts focused on education and women's health.

Recently, a delegation of Adams County residents journeyed to the country to observe the progress being made.

Last year, Project Gettysburg-Leon, which is an officially recognized sister city project of the Borough of Gettysburg, raised \$35,000 at its auction which was attended by more than 600 people.

General admission for the auction and dinner is \$15.00/per-

son. Students (grades K-college) are \$10/person. Children under five will be admitted free, and free child care will be provided beginning at 5:45 p.m. According to Gretchen Natter, chair of the Auction



Kathy Trostle of Gettysburg learns to make tortillas.

Committee, donated items are still being sought and can be accepted until Jan. 18. "We especially like items that are unique, adventurous, and unusual," she commented. "Past donations that were especially popular have included unique experiences like sailing, golf lessons, and sports tickets but also getaways to mountain cabins and beach locations, themed dinners for groups, and gift baskets of various kinds."

To donate an item or purchase tickets for the event —

which includes a chili dinner and live music — simply visit the project's Web site at [www.gettysburg-leon.org/auction2009/auction.htm](http://www.gettysburg-leon.org/auction2009/auction.htm).

To follow the progress of the current PGL delegation now in Nicaragua go to <http://cpl-pgl.blogspot.com/> Gettysburg resident Courtney Wege and thirteen students left on Sunday, January 4, to live with families and visit the projects PGL supports in and around the city of Leon.



Members of a recent delegation of local citizens serenade their Nicaraguan hosts during a trip to Nicaragua. The group traveled to the Latin American country as a part of the ongoing work of Project Gettysburg-Leon.



Dan Mangan, of Fairfield, was part of the delegation from Project Gettysburg-Leon that recently traveled to Leon, Nicaragua. Above, he takes pictures of children in Santa Rosa, near Leon.



A member of El Porvenir Coffee Cooperative explains how organic methods have strengthened young plants.



Anne Lane of Biglerville, shares a laugh with her adopted Nicaraguan family.

## New musical theatre school finds home in Gettysburg

A newly incorporated youth musical theatre organization — Adams County School of Musical Theatre — has found a home in Gettysburg. The organization is now moving into 49 York Street, within the first block of the Gettysburg town circle, in what was formally known as the old Elks building.

The organization looked at many different spaces in Gettysburg and when Carr saw this building he fell in love with it. He immediately started working on remodeling ideas to transform its main floor banquet room into an intimate 150 seat children's studio theatre. Additionally, plans for the large main floor of the building will have the organization's offices, coat check room, costume room, restrooms, box office, patron lounge, backstage dressing areas, tech booth, and a student/parent waiting room called "the green room."

Open auditions for the Adams County School of Musical Theatre's premiere productions of the all-new stage version of



"Disney's High School Musical 2" and "Disney's Sleeping Beauty," will be held Jan. 17 and 24 at 2 p.m. for ages 6 to 20 at their building. There is no experience required and everyone is accepted and cast into the productions. At the audition students will be taught a song and dance from the show together in a group in a relaxed, fun atmosphere. Musical theatre classes will begin Feb. 2 for students ages 6 to 20 who like to sing, dance and act on stage. Their premiere "Once Upon A Dream" 2009 Season includes all youth productions of the musicals "Disney's High School Musical 2," "Disney's Sleeping Beauty," "Pippin," "School House Rock



Volunteer youth and Founding Executive/Artistic Director Chad-Alan Carr painting at the newly found home of the Adams County School of Musical Theatre located at 49 York Street in Gettysburg, shown above left.

Live Jr.," "Santa's Winter Wonderland" and "Seussical Jr." "What makes us different from other area arts organizations is that we are strictly youth musical theatre. The students are the leading characters, the ensemble and even the backstage crew. Adams County is growing

and we are thrilled to join its arts community and bring an organization like this to the very talented youth here," Carr says. "We accept everyone who auditions and we look forward to a rewarding future with all who would like to be our student performers!"

## Community invited to join in 2009 Gettysburg Fringe Festival

Calling all Gettysburg-area artists, performers, authors, business owners, community clubs and non-profit organizations: You are welcome to join the second annual Gettysburg Fringe Festival, June 18-28.

The Gettysburg Fringe Festival is open to anyone with an idea and a venue to share with a vast audience. Participants are invited to be creative in planning events. Examples include events that showcase artistic talents, events designed to drive traffic to businesses, or events designed as fundraisers for nonprofits. The only criteria are that events have artistic, cultural, entertaining or historic merit.

The mission of The Gettysburg Fringe Festival is to provide an opportunity for the community to produce and present events during the exciting ten-day Gettysburg Festival, June 18-28, 2009. Both Festivals debuted simultaneously in 2008, with a documented audience of nearly 16,000 festival-goers attending Gettysburg Festival events. About 20 community events took place in and around Gettysburg as part of the Fringe Festival in 2008, with many participants receiving extra foot traffic, visitors

and sales. The Gettysburg Festival, a cultural and multi-faceted arts festival, is being called "One of the top 100 events in North America for 2009" by the American Bus Association. The projected 2009 attendance is 25,000. Just as "fringe" is a decorative finishing touch, The Gettysburg Fringe Festival enhances The Gettysburg Festival to incorporate a comprehensive offering of community events taking place during the Festival time period, June 18-28. This provides alternate programming and a showcasing of the community, to visitors and residents alike.

Applications for The Gettysburg Fringe Festival are available through The Gettysburg Festival, 113 Carlisle Street, Gettysburg PA 17325. Application materials are also available on The Gettysburg Festival Web site, [www.GettysburgFestival.org](http://www.GettysburgFestival.org). There is a non-refundable application fee of \$75 (\$50 for nonprofits). Questions can be directed to Fringe Festival Coordinator Phyllis Netherland at 334-0853 or via e-mail at [fringe@gettysburgfestival.org](mailto:fringe@gettysburgfestival.org). The application deadline is March 15.

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