



Battle Creek Rotary Club RotoScoop

March 20, 2023

Teri Noaeill, Executive Director What-A-Do Theatre



Teri Noaeill grew up in Battle and found her love of theater and the arts when she participated in the BC Junior Theater. She remembers that Mary McQuiston, founder and major funder of that program, made her and every single participant feel important and special. Along with acting Noaeill, played the horn and participated in Lakeview High School and WMU's marching band. After earning a teaching degree, she taught Kindergarten until a child with medical issues changed her priorities. The itch to participate in the arts was strong, however, and she found her way to What A Do Theatre about 10 years ago when she acted in a production. She found she enjoyed it, and it filled the need she had to participate in the Arts.

What A Do Theatre Company, provides the experience of professional, live theatre that is thought provoking and life affirming. Originally it was just for adults but in 2014, Noaeill started a youth theater program with What A Do Theatre, to combine her passion for the arts and early childhood education. The youth programming survived Covid and now works with schools around the area in creative ways to serve about 1000 youth a year. Summer camps are available through What A Do for students ages 6 -18 years old. These are good introductory programs for kids, but for kids with all levels of experience are welcome. The younger campers will stage Frog and Toad and the older students will stage Sponge Bob the Musical.

Noaeill has found that theater is a very emotional way to participate in the arts, and she has witnessed many students who are not thriving in the standard school setting come alive. She encouraged the students present to pursue their passion even though it may take some work and detours.

The time of Covid was a challenge for What A Do, but they are slowly building back their capacity. They hope to reintroduce adult theater productions soon. They are located in downtown Battle Creek but mainly utilize the many theaters available at KCC and local school systems.

Noaeill also serves as the Artistic Director for the Community Music School and acts as an assistant to her husband, who directs the Lakeview High School Marching Band. You can access What A Do Theatre Company's website [HERE](#).

Student of the Month

At our Monday's meeting, members of the Rotary Club of Battle Creek honored Students of the Month for March 2023. The students of the month are selected from their respective high schools and joined members of the club at their weekly luncheon meeting.



Left to right: Veronice Aye, St. Philip Catholic Central High School; Kaijehl Williams, Battle Creek Central High School; Carmen Knickerbocker, Calhoun Christian High School; Marcus Peevers, Lakeview High School; Taren Todd, Pennfield High School and Faith Fontes, Calhoun Community High School. Not pictured Ryan Dull, Harper Creek High School

OTHER NEWS....

Peter Vogel from the SW MI Foodbank attended Monday's meeting as a guest of District Governor Kathy Gallagher.

The Benton Harbor Interact Club is seeking donations of school supplies to take on their upcoming trip to the Dominican Republic. There will be a box at our meetings for at least one more week for your donations. You may also donate money, care of Kathy Gallagher, who will buy supplies with your donation.

District 6360 Conference May 5th and 6th, 2023



The last speaker for the District Conference is booked, and it promises to be an inspiring weekend. [Click here to access conference information!](#)

Many Hands Make Light Work The **Community Service Projects Committee's** role is to develop local service projects that address our community's needs. Committee members are responsible to coordinate scheduling and staffing of service projects. Examples of service projects already underway are serving at the Food Bank, Salvation Army bell-ringing, volunteering at the Charitable Union clothing distribution events. Contact Committee Chair Teresa Allen if you are interested in lending a hand.

Our meeting for Monday the 27 is scheduled for the Food Bank. We will eat a quick lunch then hit the packing floor to fill boxes with for food distribution. If you missed the sign-up sheet at Monday's meeting let Donna know you are going to attend, so she can order a lunch for you. Click here: [Yes, Donna I would like a lunch at the Food Bank.](#)

5:01 p.m. at **TORTI TACO!** No noon meeting on April 3, 2023. We will meet at the Torti Taco Restaurant on Michigan Avenue at 5:01 pm. Appetizers provided. Cash bar. Sign-up at next week's meeting or email Donna at: [Donna, I plan on attending the 5:01pm Happy Hour on April 3.](#)



If you want to support the **Uwezo Swahili Community** financially you can donate through the USC [Go Fund Me page](#) .

Zoom No More After numerous discussions the board decided to discontinue Zoom participation at our weekly meetings. A few of the reasons why include very low use of the service, frequent technical difficulties, and poor quality transmission of meeting sound. Also, it is so much nicer to see everyone in person. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Upcoming Programs and Events

03 27 2023 Community Service at the Food Bank
04 03 2023 Torti Taco 5:01 pm Special Event -No Noon Meeting
04 10 2023 To be confirmed
04 17 2023 John MacFarlane
Battle Creek White Water

Contact Jill Anderson if you have any ideas: jillandersongrants@gmail.com

Board of Directors July 2022- 2023

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