

## **Nonprofit Chamber of Service Nonprofit of the Month**

*This series has been established with the intent of increasing awareness of the many causes and efforts taken on by our nonprofit brethren. If your nonprofit has a particular event taking place during the course of a month, an anniversary for example, please make this known and we will do all possible to accommodate a spotlight that coincides. On behalf of our membership, we wish to say "thank you" for taking a few moments from your busy schedule to learn a bit more about our community of nonprofits.*

Want to enjoy the hilarious high jinks of cats while avoiding the fleas so prevalent during this wet summer? Our answer is to attend this weekends production of Cat's presented by the Music Theatre of Wichita. The music is dazzling, the dancing is incredible and the story is spell-binding. And instead of going home with pesky insects, you will leave with a tune in your heart.

So take a moment this weekend to relax, avoid the rain and enjoy Music Theatre of Wichita's very own production of T.S. Eliot's amazing and magical musical, Cat's. This astonishing show will run in Wichita for five full days beginning at 8:00 PM on Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> and running through 7:00 PM on Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> with shows everyday in between. Show times for Cat's and other summer performances can be found at their website <http://www.musictheatreofwichita.org/>

The Music Theatre of Wichita is one of the few theatres left in Kansas that prides itself on mounting all of its own shows instead of bringing in traveling tours. It has been referred to as one of the top ten theatres to visit in Kansas and has earned an international reputation of excellence. It is the largest subscribed nonprofit arts organization in the entire state and produces five Broadway-scaled musicals each season. This season, which runs from June-August, in addition to producing Cat's, you will also be able to enjoy musicals such as White Christmas, Damn Yankees, and Hairspray.

The Music Theatre of Wichita employs and trains 200-300 aspiring actors every year and conducts specialized training programs to help young people prepare for their professional career in the theatre. On top of the 200-300 actors who travel to Wichita each year to perform in shows produced by the Music Theatre of Wichita, an additional 250 people are employed each season and hundreds of loyal volunteers commit their time to help in all areas ranging from administrative tasks to ushering guests.

The Music Theatre of Wichita is also unique in their funding sources. 70% of costs are covered through ticket sales and the rest comes from corporate or private foundations or fundraisers such as Performers Cards and Standing Ovation Gala. The Music Theatre of Wichita receives no funding from the city or county and privately raises over two million dollars a year, 60%-70% of which is spent directly back into the Wichita economy.