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Little Shop of Horrors Opens at the Ansonia Friday

The Award-Winning Ansonia Theatre is preparing for its first musical of the season. The classic *Little Shop of Horrors* opens this Friday, March 13, and runs through Sunday, March 22. This hilarious campy 50's style mega hit got its start Off Broadway in 1982 and was soon turned into a hit movie starring Rick Moranis, Steve Martin and Ellen Greene. The show has had several revivals off Broadway, including the current production starring Tammy Blanchard and Jeremy Jordan.

The Ansonia is coming fresh off its win from the Metrolina Theatre Association Award for Theatre Company of the Year, and Director Tommy Wooten is eager for audiences to see what the hype is all about. He has assembled an outstanding cast from four surrounding counties. MTA Award winner Jennifer Boswell stars as Audrey, the sweet pretty girl with low self esteem, who works days at Mushnik's Florist along side Seymour, played by Matthew Thompson, and Mushnik, played by Chipper Long. The play takes place in the fictional town of Skid Row where people dream of a better life.

When Seymour finds a new breed of Venus Fly Trap after a total eclipse of the sun, which he lovingly names "Audrey 2," Seymour discovers that the plant only grows when fed human blood. His life and those in Skid Row are bound to change forever.

The narrators of the show are a trio doo wop girl group played by Kianna Ellerbe, Nekeisha Lindsey and Taniqua Lindsey. The voice of Audrey 2 will be provided by Wooten, while Josh Bricker, Greyson Helms and Donnie Lewis are the puppeteers. Victoria Utley rounds out the cast as a homeless woman. Gail Litaker is Musical Director and Terra Medlock is Choreographer.

The show runs Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. Get your tickets now at ansoniatheatre.com. Information is available at 704-694-4950.



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Governor Cooper Proclaims March Women's History Month 2020

On Wednesday, March 4 Governor Roy Cooper proclaimed the month of March to be Women's History Month to honor the legacy of women whose visionary leadership has shaped the state of North Carolina and the nation. "This month we take the time to celebrate strong women who have made our state stronger by their contributions," said Governor Cooper.

The North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and Department of Administration have created various opportunities around the state to explore the contributions of extraordinary women and the impact on the state. Here are a few ways you can celebrate:

- March 7- 21. Reed Gold Mine, Midland. More than a Woman
- March 14. Mountain Gateway Museum, Old Fort. Mighty Mountain Women
- March 14. Museum of the Cape Fear, Fayetteville. Hoop Skirts and Gunpowder: A Woman of the Fayetteville Arsenal.
- March 17. CFW's Annual Women's History Month Celebration
- March 21. Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum, Sedalia. Charlotte Hawkins Brown Book Club. "Their Eyes Were Watching God."
- The month of March. She Changed the World Traveling Exhibit (various locations)
- The month of March. Historic Stagville, Durham. Stories of Stagville Women Tours.

This year celebrates the 57th year of the North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement. The Council reports to both the governor and the General Assembly to discuss issues impacting North Carolina women. This vital council works to improve the lives of women, advocating for women's equality and improving women's quality of life statewide.

Additionally, the United States celebrates the centennial anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment, guaranteeing women's voting rights.

A Women's History Month celebration will be held later this month to acknowledge to accomplishments of past and present women in North Carolina. Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, appointed by Governor Cooper as the first black woman to serve as on the North Carolina Supreme Court, will be the keynote speaker at the Women's History Month celebration.

For more information on Women's history month and statewide programming and the Traveling Women's History Exhibit visit www.ncdcr.gov.

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Women's History Month Reading List

March is Women's History Month. In recognition of that, here is a reading list of books on that subject.

- *50 Fearless Women Who Made American History: An American History Book for Kids* by Jenifer Bazzit
- *A Computer Called Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Helped Put America on the Moon* by Suzanne Slade
- *A Is for Awesome!: 23 Iconic Women Who Changed the World* by Eva Chen
- *Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World* by Kate Pankhurst
- *Gloria Takes a Stand* by Jess Rinker
- *Here Come the Girl Scouts!: The Amazing All-True Story of Juliette 'Daisy' Gordon Low and Her Great Adventure* by Shana Corey
- *Hidden Figures Young Readers' Edition* by Margot Lee Shetterly
- *I am Sonia Sotomayor (Ordinary People Change the World)* by Brad Meltzer
- *Lady Legends Alphabet Book* by Beck Feiner
- *Little Dreamers: Visionary Women Around the World* by Vashti Harrison
- *North Carolina Women: Making History* by Margaret Supplee Smith and Emily Herring Wilson
- *North Carolina Women: Their Lives and Times, Volumes 1 and 2* by Michele Gillespie, et al.
- *Rad American Women A-Z: Rebels, Trailblazers, and Visionaries who Shaped Our History...and Our Future!* by Kate Schatz
- *Secret Engineer: How Emily Roebling Built the Brooklyn Bridge* by Rachel Dougherty
- *She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World* by Chelsea Clinton
- *Six Notable Women of North Carolina (Notable People of North Carolina) (Volume 2)* by Jack J. Prather and Christopher Condrey
- *Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer: The Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement* by Carole Boston Weatherford
- *What Is the Women's Rights Movement? (What Was?)* by Deborah Hopkinson
- *Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World* by Rachel Ignotofsky
- *Women Who Changed the World (Baby's Big World)* by Alex Fabrizio

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The Ansonia Theatre Proudly Presents

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Music by Gail Litaker
Choreography by Terra Medlock
Directed by Tommy Wooten

ansoniatheatre.com March 13-22
Friday & Saturday 7:30pm • Sunday 3pm Info 704-694-4950

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