

# Stage Right, Class Act open new productions

By **Tori Brock**  
Contributing writer

A night of comedy won't be hard to find in Montgomery County during the coming week as two plays opening are sure to bring laughs to young and old.

Stage Right will present "Lend Me a Tenor," full of comic relief for the older crowd and for the young and young-at-heart, "Aladdin, Jr." is being brought to the stage by Class Act Productions.

As the director of "Lend Me a Tenor," Manny Cafeo may be a little biased, but he says his show is a sure crowd pleaser.

"It's a farce of mistaken identity," he explained. "There are two people running around and everyone thinks they're the same person."

"The play takes place in 1934," he added. "There's a lot of hollering and screaming and innuendo - it's not a play for little ones."

The action takes place at the Cleveland Grand Opera Company where Italian Opera star, Tito Morelli, is set to perform Otello.

The general manager of the Opera house hopes this performance will put his theater on the map. When the star is late, then through a series of mishaps is believed to be dead, another man steps up to fill his shoes.

"Rehearsals are going great. We have got such a talented cast," he explained. "The gentleman playing the lead is just excellent and everybody else is so wonderful. Stage Right has been so gracious to work with. I've been at the Crighton for a long time and I did a lot of stuff there in the past."

"This show is hilarious. I think everyone is going to love it," he added. "The show is just uproariously funny. The writer is known for doing great farcical, funny pieces. There are a lot of doors slamming -



From left, Frankie Sun, Stefani Evans, Devin Cherry and Sidney Sirdashney are seen rehearsing "Aladdin Jr." for Class Act Productions.

it's almost British. It's not, but it's close."

Stage Right will present "Lend Me a Tenor," Feb. 19, 20, 26 and 27 and March 5 and 6 at 7 p.m. and matinee performances will be held at 2 p.m. on Feb. 28 and March 7 at the historic downtown Crighton Theatre, 234 N. Main Street.

Tickets are \$17 for adults or \$12 for students and can be purchased online at [www.stage-right.org](http://www.stage-right.org) or by calling the Crighton box office at (936) 441-SHOW (7469).

If a whole new world is what you're looking for, "Aladdin, Jr.," may be just the ticket.

Director Tina Kraft said if you liked the original Disney classic, you're sure to love the play version of the tale set in Agrabah.

"It is the Disney version, just a little shorter," she explained. "Our cast is wonderful. We have 46 children ages 8 to 16, so we have a broad range."

"They're having a great time and it's been fun for everyone," she added. "Visually, it's going to be beautiful. I



Katherine Anderson is Maria and Harold Wood is Tito Morelli in Stage Right of Texas' "Lend Me a Tenor."

think this will be a great show for kids."

In telling the tale of Aladdin, Jasmine and the Genie, the musical contains many popular songs which the audience will be familiar with, including "A Whole New World," and "Friend Like Me."

"We're going to be coming down the aisles and interacting with the audience," Kraft explained. "There's a lot of comedy and it should be a laugh-out-loud musical."

"It's very interactive and we

have some great talent who are well prepared," she added. "They're going to put on a really good show."

Performances of Disney's "Aladdin, Jr." will be held Feb. 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Nancy Bock Center for the Performing Arts, 3800 S. Panther Creek Drive in The Woodlands.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children and students and can be purchased online at [www.classactproductions.org](http://www.classactproductions.org) or by calling (281) 292-6779.



Casey Hale stars in "Aladdin Jr." by Class Act Productions.



Courtesy photo  
Carolyn Wong and Giny Mendez have roles in Stage Right of Texas' "Lend Me a Tenor" which opens tonight.

Photo by Eric S. Swist

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