

Redbud Players report Dec. 9, 2024

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The Redbud Players performed “The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe” six times – Sept. 20, 21, 22, 27, 28 and 29 – at the Columbus Middle School.

Total paid-ticket attendance at the performances was 385. That does not count unpaid children, cast, volunteers and crew – best guess is that more than 500 attended, not counting the cast. For both our Sunday matinees we needed to add more chairs. (100 were set up in advance).

Most attendees were from the Columbia-Dodge-counties area. But we also had attendees from Osceola, Wautoma, Horicon, Oxford, Black Creek, Milwaukee, Sun Prairie, Madison, Neshkoro, Superior, Mayville, Middleton, Appleton and Cottage Grove, Wisconsin.

And we had attendees from New York, Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Texas, Florida, Tennessee and Kansas – total of 29 tickets purchased from out of state. (That does not include kids, who attended free). Of those, about 8 stayed overnight at local lodging. Others stayed with family and friends. About 29 ate at local restaurants before or after the show.

The Redbud Players performed “Udderly Terrifying Tales” two times – Oct. 19 and 26. There were 92 attendees. Many attendees were from the Columbia-Dodge-counties area. But we also had attendees from Madison, Sun Prairie, Oconomowoc and Marshfield, Wisconsin – including a busload from Oconomowoc. And we had attendees from North Carolina and Missouri. There were about 30 tickets purchased from out of town. Of those, two were staying overnight at local lodging. Many ate at the Columbus American Legion and Little Sister’s Cookies vendors on-site.

The Redbud Players promoted the shows through a wide variety of means – on the city’s website, flyers distributed at the 4th of July Parade and to businesses in Columbia, Dodge, Dane and Sauk counties, as well as via social media – sharing to 48 Facebook groups among other efforts. We ran numerous ads in Agri-View as well as in all the Capital Newspapers publications. We handed out almost 1,300 flyers in total. And we placed 80 yard signs across the four counties.

