

Theatre in the Park opens Thursday, new ticket options offered

DISPATCH STAFF REPORT

Theatre in the Park kicks off its 2011 season this week at Shawnee Mission Park, and patrons can purchase tickets to productions online.

Anytime tickets, Star Packages, Reserved Chairs and Reserved Premium Parking Passes can be purchased at theatreinthepark.org/ticket-options.

Anytime tickets are new to Theatre in the Park this season. The tickets — \$8 for adults, \$6 for children ages 4 to 10 and

free for ages 3 and under — are good for any night of any of the theater's four productions this season.

Box office ticket sales begin at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

Theatre in the Park's 2011 season begins Thursday with "The Sound of Music," which runs Thursday through Saturday and June 16-19. Sign language interpretation is offered for the June 18 performance.

"Les Misérables: School Addition" fol-

lows with performances June 24-30 and July 1-3 with sign language interpretation offered July 2.

"AIDA" will run from July 8-10 and July 14-17 with sign language interpretation July 16.

Finally, "Seussical" rounds out the season with performances July 22-24 and July 28-31 with sign language interpretation offered July 30.

The theater is also offering free admission for volunteer workers on the night

they volunteer. According to the theater, more than 450 volunteers aged 14 and above annually contribute each season.

RENNER ROAD CLOSINGS

Renner Road north of 87th Street near the park will be closed until late summer.

Those traveling northbound along Interstate 435 may follow a detour by exiting at 87th, going east to Lackman Road, north to 79th Street and back to the open section of Renner Road.

Theatre in the Park

June 10–July 31

Shawnee Mission Park

7710 Renner Road, in Shawnee

913-236-1237, theatreinthepark.org

Way on the other side of town from the Starlight's Swope Park, the homegrown Theatre in the Park (one of the **continued on page 30**)

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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

Theater detour

Theatre in the Park patrons are advised that Renner Road is closed north of 87th Street. To get to the theater at Shawnee Mission Park from Interstate 435, the suggested detour is to take 87th Street east to Lackman Road, then Lackman north to 79th Street, and 79th west to Renner.

Opens July 8!

Don't stand IN line Buy ON-line! Anytime!

New... ANYTIME TICKETS See ANY show ANY night!

www.theatreinthepark.org

July 8-10 & 14-17, 2011

www.theatreinthepark.org

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country's largest community theaters) is tucked into the 1,250 acres that make up Shawnee Mission Park, the metro area's other gigantic, half-wild municipal playground. With picnicking and blanket sitting, and Frisbee on the sidelines — plus low admission prices (\$8 for adults, \$6 for kids aged 4–10 and free for those under 3) — Theatre in the Park is a casual, democratic scene. Bring your own blanket or lawn chair, or reserve a chair for \$20. The season is packed with crowd-pleasers, and all shows are suitable for the entire family: *The Sound of Music* (June 10–12 and June 16–19); *Les Misérables* — School Edition (June 24–26 and June 30–July 3); Elton John & Tim Rice's *Aida* (July 8–10 and July 14–17); and *Seussical* (July 22–24 and July 28–31).