



Children enjoy a performance by the Playhouse Theater.

Theater returns to Orchard Mall

Laughter, colorful balloons and an awestruck young audience are a bit of what to expect when Playhouse Theater returns to the Orchard Mall this fall.

Playhouse Theater will be staged at the Orchard Mall at 11 a.m. Sept. 26 and Nov. 21. The event is open to the public and free of charge.

The Playhouse Theater was created by Imagination Theatre Etc! specifically for the Orchard Mall.

It began six years ago as an attempt to welcome families into the mall and provide programming to entertain children and adults alike.

"The performance is primarily for children up to age 8 and their parents and caregivers," says m'Arch McCarty, artistic director and founder of Imagination Theatre. "Everything is audience-inter-

active. Our performers do a lot to keep the audience involved."

The September Playhouse Theater will feature Paula Doak, the merry musicmaker.

In November, the event will include Ron Coden and Friends, a longtime local favorite who specializes in sing-along folk and popular music.

Located at Maple and Orchard Lake Roads — "Main and Main" — Orchard Mall is an anchor of West Bloomfield. Orchard Mall hosts frequent promotions and events to connect consumers and retailers.

"I simply love when the mall fills up with happy children and the sounds of families connecting with others and relaxing into laughter," said Kelly Taylor, Orchard Mall manager. "We do so much at the Orchard Mall that is of value to the community — my favorite event is Playhouse Theater because it speaks to the child in everyone."

— From staff reports

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