

THE INLANDER'S

ANNUAL MANUAL

2013-2014

ANNUAL Manual

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE INLANDER

INLANDER

2013-2014

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ANNUAL Manual

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Arts



THEATER | DANCE | MUSEUMS | GALLERIES | LECTURES

Are
You
An

Inlander?



Inlanders are as diverse as their surroundings, but they have one thing in common: A passion for this particular place

Local actress and award-winning singer
Abbey Crawford YOUNG KWAK PHOTO

IS A PLACE DEFINED BY ITS PEOPLE, OR ARE PEOPLE DEFINED BY A PLACE?

That, of course, is a chicken-and-egg scenario; the likely answer is that both are true. During some undocumented point in the past, the Salish Indians settled here in the Inland Northwest because they found reasons worth staying, and over millennia they developed customs that were defined by the rivers and mountains. In the 1880s, the pockets of precious metals that had long lain deep beneath the soil of the Idaho Panhandle lured a certain type of person: prospectors, adventurers, entrepreneurs, do-gooders, con artists. The aggregate impact of their individual personalities would forge the environmental and economic legacy of the region.

Today, that flow chart of causes and effects is as untidy as ever. There has been a consistent population in this region long enough to have developed behaviors and mind-sets that we might recognize as typical of an Inlander, but even those are in flux as non-natives move to the Inland Northwest for its recreation, for its religious communities, for family, for retirement. And even that term "Inlander" is a tricky one to begin with. Residents of Spokane, Spokane Valley, Coeur d'Alene, Post Falls, Sandpoint and Colville — all of them are Inlanders, but convenient generalizations about common mannerisms or mind-sets aren't easy to make. Say one thing about the lot, and chances are the opposite is equally as valid.

Zoom in on the map and the discrepancies persist. There are traits we'd say are stereotypical of Seattleites, of New Yorkers, of Bostonians, all from much larger and more diverse cities; but in Spokane such commonalities can vary wildly from neighborhood to neighborhood. The South Hill and Hillyard shape and are shaped by their residents in very different ways. Is either one really more representative of Spokane than the other?

"Spokane is a backlot," says Rich Cowan — and he's not referring to a patch of cracked blacktop littered with weeds and broken glass. Cowan co-founded the local film production company North by Northwest in 1990, and though his sights are now set on public service in politics, he naturally tends to view things through a director's viewfinder. To him, the backlot means the space behind the studio that houses sets and backdrops for virtually any scenery. With its distant mountains, decrepit duplexes, luxurious hotels, historic Craftsman homes, modern office blocks, and rust-colored rail lines, Spokane can double for just about anywhere.

"We filmed a Chuck Norris movie in the Sinai desert — outside of Sprague," says Cowan. "We've done seven films set in New York City. We can shoot in front of the clubs, in front of the Paulsen Building, the Davenport, the Masonic Temple. Check out a movie called *Falling Up*. It's a romantic comedy set in New York City, but it's all shot in Spokane." When he directed *Shadow of Fear* (2004), Cowan found his entire breadth of local locations in the work of just one man: Kirtland Cutter, famed architect of the Davenport Hotel. "Kirtland Cutter really shines in that movie," he chuckles.

Just as Spokane has an inherent visual variety, Cowan says an Inlander is neither one absolute thing nor another. "We have this rugged individualism, but we also have this shared sense of community. Which is an interesting combination. We're not stereotypical," he says. "We're nuanced people."

Local actress and award-winning singer Abbey Crawford wonders if those

"We've done seven films set in New York City. We can shoot in front of the clubs, in front of the Paulsen Building, the Davenport, the Masonic Temple."

hidden personal depths aren't part of the reason why the region has such a thriving community theater scene. "That's what community theater is about — finding those people who in their everyday lives work at a radio station or a hotel, regular run-of-the-mill jobs, but when they get on stage they're these amazing, beautiful, talented people," she says. As a result, the Inland Northwest has an unusual theater makeup, with a huge number of high school and volunteer-driven theater organizations existing on par with the quality of the mere handful of all-professional ones.

For Crawford, the interior world of Inlanders holds a particular fascination. She sees parallels between an acting career and that of Spokane's trajectory as a city — namely, the rush of pride and ego that came when Spokane put on a world-class show for Expo '74, followed by the slow loss of self-esteem as the limelight and fanfare

...continued on next page



Pop Quiz

1. What public sculpture did the Catholic nun Sister Paula Turnbull create for downtown Spokane?

- a. Garbage Goat
- b. The Childhood Express
- c. The Joy of Running Together
- d. The Places Where Ghosts of Salmon Jump

2. What two-time Oscar-winning actress lived in Spokane for a period of her childhood?

- a. Hilary Swank
- b. Jodie Foster
- c. Sally Field
- d. Jane Fonda

3. Stephen Karam wrote *Speech & Debate*, a play inspired by which local event?

- A. The Aryan Nations' lawsuit against the Bonner County Human Rights Task Force
- B. Widespread corruption during Expo '74
- C. The founding of *The Inlander* in 1993
- D. The sex scandal surrounding Mayor Jim West

4. Which Inland Northwest university did famed recording artist Bing Crosby attend?

- a. Gonzaga University
- b. University of Idaho
- c. Eastern Washington University
- d. Whitworth University



5. Which local radio station started in Seattle, but moved to Spokane and started broadcasting from the top of the Davenport Hotel in 1925?

- a. KXLY
- b. KHQ
- c. KYRS
- d. KPBX

6. Which film written by Spokane-Coeur d'Alene Indian, poet, filmmaker and author Sherman Alexie won two awards at the Sundance Film Festival?

- a. *The Business of Fancydancing*
- b. *Red Dawn*
- c. *Dance Me Outside*
- d. *Smoke Signals*

Answers on page 243



faded. “Spokane is all these dichotomies thrown together. We’re trying to fool ourselves that we’re bigger than we are, and yet there’s a level of talent here that could make us big if only we would recognize it.”

Both Crawford and Cowan came to Spokane as young adults – Crawford from Iowa, Cowan (returning) from Seattle. Between them, they’ve had more than five decades to start families, foster friendships and establish deep roots in the region. In a mid-sized city that still nurtures small-town habits, neither of them would have their credentials as Inlanders questioned.

Eckart Preu, however, would seem to make a far less likely candidate. Born in Erfurt, Germany, at a time when the country was still divided into East and West, Preu arrived in Spokane only nine years ago to serve as music director for the Spokane Symphony. And yet, with his lightly accented English and international background, he’s come to be regarded even by lifelong residents as a bona fide Inlander. Which would seem to suggest that Inlander-ness isn’t about being provincial or culturally deficient – favorite pejoratives of Spokane’s *soi-disant* sophisticates. Instead it has to do with a spirit of dedication to this place, a thread that perhaps unites the area’s 21st-century inhabitants with the ancient Salish.

Inlanders’ indiscriminate standing ovations? They’re an expression of that very same quality. “It has to do with being proud of what’s happening artistically in the city,” says Preu. “If you compare it with other cities of our size, it’s very rare that you have professional acting companies, a symphony orchestra, a museum, et cetera. You could probably argue that not every performance of every artistic company in town deserves a standing ovation, but I think it’s as much for the performers as it is for themselves. They are happy with what they hear and see, but they are aware of the fact that they made it happen, that it’s not something you can take for granted.”

Preu likens the Inland Northwest not to a bombastic symphony or intimate sonata, but to a tone poem, an “open form” where “you can describe feelings, situations” along with all the diverse scenery on this 3,000-square-mile backlot.

“What you call home is an emotional statement,” he says. “It’s like in music – you have to come back to the tonic, and if you don’t, then the music has the impression of being diffused or unsatisfying. You have to come back to the main chord. You have to come back to the home tonality. And Spokane is my home tonality.”

– E.J. IANNELLI



Essential Experiences

This year, you’ll find local actress and singer Abbey Crawford belting out big band favorites with the Spokane Symphony and headlining cabaret shows. Offstage, she’s passionate about all the Inland Northwest has to offer. Here’s her list of the six essential experiences every Inlander must try.

ATTEND A PLAY AT LAKE CITY PLAYHOUSE

“Lake City is a small but mighty community theater, intimate and stirring. It’s a perfect example of how a community of volunteers can create magic,” says Crawford.

VISIT MANIC MOON & MORE

Crawford says this art gallery (1007 W. Augusta St.) consistently carries some of the most beautiful and eclectic art you’ll find in Spokane, and “is run by some of the strongest and most creative women I’ve met.”

GEEK OUT

SpoCon and Spokane Comicon are both great reasons to geek out and see how creative some people can be with costumes (pictured), art, battle gear and gaming. “These people take their craft very seriously,” Crawford explains. “It’s always raucous fun, and you may get to meet great authors and artists from the Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Comic worlds.”

SPEND SUNDAY NIGHTS AT ARBOR CREST

“Not only do you always get to hear great local music at Arbor Crest’s Sunday night concerts, but you also can bring a picnic, buy a bottle of Arbor Crest’s glorious wine and enjoy your summer evenings sitting on top of a bluff overlooking all of Spokane,” says Crawford, who calls it “beautiful, powerful and soul-cleansing.”

SING SATURDAY NIGHTS AT CHARLEY’S

Located at Broadway and Monroe, Charley’s is Spokane’s version of “Cheers.” This is where the theatre crowd heads on Saturday nights to sing their brains out. “Wanna see a performance with no holds barred? Come to Chuck’s on a Saturday night,” urges Crawford.

VISIT THE TEKOA EMPIRE THEATRE

This beautifully restored 1940s Art Deco theater is a must-see, according to Crawford. “The people who keep this little gem going have so much love and dedication to the arts, their hometown and the history of the theater. To see a show here is to be a part of history.”



Get bottomless popcorn for \$3 at the Magic Lantern. JENNIFER RAUDEBAUGH PHOTO

Beyond the Big Box Big Screen

"This is where you can sip local beer and recite lines to the kitschy comedies you know by heart."

Some movies simply shouldn't be seen unless they're in 3-D, eye-popping detail and accompanied by such an onslaught of sound that it makes your ears bleed and your teeth rattle — as a rule of thumb, anything involving superheroes, spies or sci-fi. And for those movies, you should make a beeline to your nearest megaplex.

For a completely different moviegoing experience, instead check out the region's art house theaters, festivals and "social cinema" events. Not only do they offer different fare — genres like foreign, classic, sports and indie, which are all but absent from the big-box listings — they bring their own unique vibe. These are the kinds of venues where you get a personal introduction to each film. Or where you can sip local artisan brews and recite lines to the kitschy comedies you know by heart.

THE MAGIC LANTERN (25 W. Main Ave., magiclanterspokane.com) should be your first stop for alternative cinema. This is where the under-the-radar award winners, festival hits and experimental flicks get their due screen time. "We try to bring a mix of quality, American-made independent films, foreign films, and documentaries that you wouldn't be able to see anywhere else," says Jonathan Abramson, who manages and co-owns

the cinema. Plus a bottomless popcorn is only \$3.

The listings at **THE PANIDA THEATER** (300 N. 1st Ave., Sandpoint, Idaho, panida.org) are similar to what you'll find at the Magic Lantern, except the films play one at a time and are usually limited to two-day runs. From a purely aesthetic standpoint, the building itself has a unique historic charm that enhances whatever you're watching. Beer has that power, too, which is why *The Inlander* helped launch the **SUDS AND CINEMA** series at **THE BING** (901 W. Sprague Ave., bingcrosbytheater.com). Each movie — the more absurd, the better — is chosen in advance by public poll and then paired with \$4 pints of a handpicked local microbrew.

Armchair extreme athletes will find nonstop entertainment at the **BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL** (901 W. Sprague Ave., banffcentre.ca/mountainfestival). The best part? The festival comes to us. The 38th annual lineup of films on climbing, expeditions and high-altitude adventures will run at The Bing from Nov. 15-17. New this year is the festival's **RADICAL REELS** program (radicalreels.com), which features "shorter, punchier, high-adrenaline, Banff-quality" action sport films. That takes place on Oct. 12, also at The Bing.

— E.J. IANNELLI



The witches of *Wicked* return to Spokane. JOAN MARCUS PHOTO

From Nuns to Witches

"I think we have one of the most well-balanced seasons in a long time."

Twenty-six years ago, **BEST OF BROADWAY** began life in Spokane as a week-long run of *Cats*. For the 2013-14 season, the popular parade of nationally touring productions will bring together a far more diverse program that includes everything from nuns to witches — not to mention the wildly divergent music of Cole Porter, Elvis and Green Day — for what Jack Lucas, president of TicketsWest & WestCoast Entertainment, is calling "one of the most well-balanced seasons in a long time."

A one-off concert by political satirists The Capitol Steps ("We put the *mock* in democracy") will kick off the season on Oct. 6. Over the past three decades the musical troupe has released nearly 40 albums, including *Obama Mia!* and *Between Iraq and a Hard Place*. That's followed just four days later by the classic Cole Porter musical *Anything Goes* (Oct. 10-13), which features romance and hijinks aboard a transatlantic ocean liner.

On Nov. 22-23 is Green Day's *American Idiot*, a (not surprisingly) sociopolitically themed musical loosely based on the band's 2004 concept album of the same name. Mannheim Steamroller Christmas — the group is named for an 18th-century musical technique, incidentally,

not a German construction vehicle — arrives on Nov. 20 for a concert of modernized favorites to get you in the mood for the Yuletide season. Slightly closer to Christmas is *Million Dollar Quartet* (Dec. 12-15), a jukebox musical that recounts the legendary 1956 jam session between Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Johnny Cash. It's a chance to be a time-traveling fly on the wall at one of music's coolest summit meetings.

The post-New Year portion begins with *Hello, Dolly!* from Jan. 30 to Feb. 2. Sally Struthers, who was most recently in Spokane as *Annie's* Miss Hannigan in 1999, will star as the dilettante matchmaker. The Ten Tenors croon on Feb. 15 as a warmup to *Bring It On: The Musical* (March 4), a high-energy tale of competitive cheerleading from the creator of *In the Heights*. Then comes the record-breaking comedy musical *Sister Act* (March 27-30) and an extended reprise of the insanely popular *Wicked* (May 7-25).

"It's all great family entertainment, and from the reception we've had so far... it has grabbed the interest of the Spokane community and the entire region," says Lucas. "It has a mix of a little bit of everything."

— E.J. IANNELLI



Art for rent at the MAC. SAMUEL SARGENT PHOTO

Art for All

Art @ Work puts regional artists' work in your home or office — short- or long-term

For buyers, art can be a serious financial investment. And for unknown artists, it's not always easy to find buyers who are prepared to make that spontaneous leap of faith. That's why the **NORTHWEST MUSEUM OF ARTS AND CULTURE** (2316 W. First Ave.) devised Art @ Work, which addresses the traditional shortcomings of the buyer/artist relationship by applying the try-before-you-buy approach to fine art.

"It's a three-month rental program for businesses and residences," says Tammy Gabbert, who oversees the Art @ Work program. "What's great about it is that people in the office can always get a fresh look at new art. It gets everybody talking. At home, a lot of people rent before they decide if they want to make the investment. It's great for artists because it gets them a lot of exposure. It's kind of a win-win for everybody."

Prices start at \$90 with free transportation and installation. And Art @ Work isn't just for collectors, Gabbert says. "I had someone [rent artwork] at their lake place. I've had people that did it just before they put their house up for sale, or when they were having an open house, or just for the Christmas season." Should you find the perfect piece, the rental cost counts toward the purchase price.

— E.J. IANNELLI

MUSEUMS

JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER With the goal of promoting global friendship and peace, the Japanese Cultural Center is a museum and resource center for educating the community on all things Japanese. Cooking classes, family festivals and books and newspapers in Japanese are all part of the center's offerings. 4000 W. Randolph Rd., Spokane, Wash. • 328-2971 • mfwi.edu/JCC

to the city's most comprehensive set of archived photos and documents. The MAC also runs the Campbell House, one of the city's most famous historic homes. 2316 W. First Ave., Spokane, Wash. • 456-3931 • northwestmuseum.org

SPOKANE LAW ENFORCEMENT MUSEUM More than 3,000 items — including uniforms, patches and badges — showcase past and present Spokane law enforcement agencies as well as foreign agencies. The museum preserves these



Mobius Kids Children's Museum

JUNDT ART MUSEUM AT GONZAGA UNIVERSITY As well as being a space to display some of the region's best paintings, photographs, sculptures and glasswork, the Jundt is Gonzaga's art research center. Students can access works that are not on display and search historical information about each piece on an electronic catalog. 502 E. Boone Ave., Spokane, Wash. • 313-6611 • gonzaga.edu/jundt

MOBIUS SCIENCE CENTER This center, which opened in 2012, has plenty of exhibits — from biology to flight engineering to human anatomy — to make learning fun for all ages. You can shoot water rockets, take a look at the reptile tank, and experiment with a high-speed digital camera. 811 W. Main Ave., Spokane, Wash. • 443-5669 • mobiusspokane.org

MOBIUS KIDS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM At this partner organization of Mobius Science Center, kids can wander through an enchanted forest, tour a miniature city to learn traffic safety, or check out live insects. Whether it's a single family or a whole classroom, the museum has something to keep everyone excited about science. River Park Square, 808 W. Main Ave., Lower Level, Spokane, Wash. • 624-5437 • mobiusspokane.org

artifacts to provide public historical education and a library of records showing police growth in the community. 1201 W. First Ave., Spokane, Wash. • 625-3352 • spokanepolice.org/volunteers/museum

SPOKANE VALLEY HERITAGE MUSEUM Preserving the Spokane Valley's history and heritage to help create a central community identity is this center's mission. One recent exhibit explored the contribution of railroads to the growth of the Valley and another exhibit honored veterans of WWII. 12114 E. Sprague, Spokane Valley, Wash. • 922-4570 • valleyheritagecenter.org

WSU MUSEUM OF ART The exhibits this museum brings in are exceptional, including past installments of photography by Andy Warhol. But the real gems come in spring during MFA thesis season when graduate students showcase art they've been working on for two or more years, which varies widely in medium and subject matter. Wilson Road and Stadium Way, Pullman, Wash. • 335-1910 • museum.wsu.edu/

MUSIC AND DANCE

ALLEGRO BAROQUE & BEYOND Allegro prides itself on authentic performances of period music. Among the group's greatest hits are the Music in Historic Homes series, in which musicians perform in old houses



NORTHWEST MUSEUM OF ARTS & CULTURE Spokane's most renowned museum, the MAC features exhibits that focus on the culture and history of the region and is also home



Mateusz Wolski, principal violinist for the Spokane Symphony. STEPHEN SCHLANGE PHOTO

Dive Right In

For those who like their classical more contemporary

The **SYMPHONY WITH A SPLASH** (Martin Woldson Theater at the Fox, 1001 W. Sprague Ave.) concert series is tailored for people who don't see themselves as the stuffy, classical type but are looking to expand the breadth of their entertainment.

"We want to attract people who usually don't have time for these things," says Eckart Preu, the Spokane Symphony's music director. "It's an alternative format to the regular concerts, which deals with the fears people have about classical concerts." To that end, the affordable Splash series features "shorter, fun" pieces by modern composers. Often they're "too new or too edgy" for the symphony to perform during its regular program.

The first series concert on Nov. 1 will see Preu conducting the Spokane Symphony in John Adams' "Scratchband" and Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring." On Jan. 17, guest conductor Morihiko Nakahara will oversee Michael Torke's "Adjustable Wrench" and the second movement from Philip Glass' "Symphony No. 3." The third and final series concert on March 21 features pieces by Javier Álvarez and Enrico Chapela, plus some Mozart for good measure.

The 60-minute concerts are always preceded by a come-as-you-are cocktails and socialization session, and they're accompanied by descriptions of the works. "Music might be a medium that needs explanation," says Preu, "so we find a format that uses words to explain music so people can appreciate it."

— E.J. IANNELLI

MUSIC AND DANCE

SPOKANE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Some 150,000 people come to hear this 70-piece professional orchestra each season. A few of the performance series in the 2013 and 2014 are "Classics," "Superpops," "Symphony with a Splash" and *The Nutcracker*. Box Office, Martin Woldson Theater at the Fox, 1001 W. Sprague, Spokane, Wash. • 624-1200 • spokanesymphony.org

SPOKANE YOUTH BALLET

Spokane Youth Ballet is a nonprofit, pre-professional ballet company that focuses on teaching dancers self-discipline, focus, persistence and confidence. Look for the group's big annual performance, typically a fully produced ballet, each summer and check its website for enrollment information. 14214 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane Valley, Wash. • 922-3023 • spokaneacademyofdance.com

BALLET ARTS ACADEMY OF SPOKANE

Spokane's oldest ballet company, Ballet Arts Academy is best known for its ever-popular *Ballet and Bubbly*. The academy produces high quality dancers that go on to some of the nation's best dance companies. 109 W. Pacific Ave., Spokane, Wash. • 838-5705 • balletartsacademy.com

THEATER

BLUE DOOR THEATRE

The Blue Door Theatre is Spokane's center for improv, both classes for all ages and shows. Most shows run a little over an hour, and the topics vary — some are suitable for kids, some aren't. If you're looking for a family-friendly show, go on a Friday night. 815 W. Garland Ave., Spokane, Wash. • 747-7045 • bluedoortheatre.com

CHRISTIAN YOUTH THEATER

A branch of a San Diego-based national theater, CYT Spokane offers classes and camps for kids focused on drama, music, dance and musical theater. The theater also puts on family-friendly shows throughout the season. 6205 E. Mansfield Ave., Suite A, Spokane Valley, Wash. • 487-6540 • cytpokane.com

CHRISTIAN YOUTH THEATER

The North Idaho chapter of Christian Youth Theater focuses on training students to perform theater with a Christian worldview. Along with the classes, camps and shows the North Idaho branch also uses its website as a resource for helping schools book field trips to theaters. 2775 Howard Street, Suite 7, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho • 208-765-8600 • cynorthidaho.org

COEUR D'ALENE SUMMER THEATER

Coeur d'Alene Summer Theatre is Idaho's oldest performing arts organization and

one of the few groups to bring Broadway musicals to the panhandle. The 2013 season brought *Big River*, *Mary Poppins* and *Romance Romance*, and the next season is sure to bring the same level of entertainment. North Idaho College, 808 W. Garden Ave., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho • 208-769-7780 • cdsummertheatre.com

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY THEATER

DEPARTMENT Student dancers, actors and designers find their home in Gonzaga's theater department. Their performances include Broadway productions, student-directed one-act plays and holiday classics. 502 E. Boone Ave., Spokane, Wash. • 800-986-9585, ext. 6657 • gonzaga.edu

IGNITE! COMMUNITY THEATER

Ignite! was developed to provide more options for local actors, directors and audiences. The 2013-14 season brings the likes of fully-staged productions including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Rainmaker* and Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*. Spokane, Wash. • 795-0004 • ignitetheatre.net

INTERPLAYERS PROFESSIONAL THEATER

One of Spokane's edgier theaters, Interplayers looks to provide "challenging, diverse and inspiring productions." But the best part of many Interplayers shows



Blue Door Theatre

happens after the final curtain. Some shows include an after-performance discussion with the director and cast. 174 S. Howard St., Spokane, Wash. • 455-7529 • interplayers.com

LAKE CITY PLAYHOUSE

The 2013-2014 season at Coeur d'Alene's biggest little theater will bring shows such as *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Wit*, and *Christmas Belles* as well as musicals like *Damn Yankees*, *Little Women*, and *Guys And Dolls*. 1320 E. Garden Ave., Coeur d'Alene, Idaho • 208-667-1323 • lakecityplayhouse.org