



PRESS PACKET

THE BOSTON TEA PARTY

An American Musical Comedy Melodrama

By Ric Averill

Press Article:

The Seem-To-Be Players are coming to town with The Boston Tea Party. This original musical is a cross between School House Rock Live and 1776. The entire history of the American Revolution is told with songs and 'plays' in less than an hour. Actors play multiple characters as comedy, history and melodrama collide. Guaranteed to be fun for the whole family.

Playwright Ric Averill and his wife, Jeanne, co-founders of the company, also ran a summer Melodrama theatre company in a converted barn for 20+ years. "That barn theatre style kept the audience very involved. Several times I've based children's theatre pieces based on that formula of entertainment and theatricality. The Boston Tea Party really comes from that American tent show style."

Averill's most recent composition, an opera for children based on Andersen's The Emperor's New Clothes was commissioned and toured nationally by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Averill has headed up the Seem-To-Be Players for more than 30 years and has published many of the plays developed by that company. Based in Lawrence, Kansas, the company tours the entire nation from Florida to Washington State. Actors are drawn from not only the greater Kansas City area but from across the country. Former actors from the company have appeared on television and in movies and can be found on both coasts.

The Seem-To-Be Players receive support from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Heartland Arts Fund, Hallmark Cards and US Bank.