

# DeSoto News Flash

For the Week of July 8th  
through July 15, 2011

DeSoto Arts Commission presents:

## Free Family Movies In The Park

In the Outdoor Amphitheater at Town Center 8:30 p.m.



Friday, July 8th



Friday, August 11th

Bring the kids and your lawn chairs and enjoy these great family movies shown on a 16 foot inflatable screen. We'll have snow cones and other goodies for sale. For more info call 972.230.9648.

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## Are You Looking for Some “Cool” Entertainment this Weekend? See Beehive, the 60’s Musical at the Air Conditioned DeSoto Corner Theatre

If you remember the 1960’s and all the great “girl group” music, you’ll love the show that opens at the Corner Theatre on July 8th for a full run through July 31st. The stage, all decked out in “psychedelic” colors, is the perfect backdrop for the cast of five women who take you on a look back at the 60’s through the eyes of a high school girl. Done in the style of a musical revue, Beehive begins in 1960 and takes us on a chronological journey through the end of the decade with songs like “My Boyfriend’s Back”, “Proud Mary”, “Respect” and more. You’ll hear your favorites from Brenda Lee, Janis Joplin, Aretha Franklin, Tina Turner, and such groups as, The Supremes, The Chiffons, The Shag-i-las and more. A full band accompanies the singers.

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30pm and Saturdays and Sundays at 2:30 pm through July 31st. Go to [http://www.desotoartscommission.com/?page\\_id=4](http://www.desotoartscommission.com/?page_id=4). Tickets are \$20 for evening performances and \$15 for matinees. There is a special \$5 Senior Citizen performance on Sunday, July 10th at 2:30 pm. For more information call 972.230.9648. You don’t want to miss this show!!



CrossOver  
theatre company  
Inaugural Season  
PRESENTATION  
BEEHIVE  
THE 60'S MUSICAL

JULY 8<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>  
DeSoto Corner Theater  
[www.desotoartscommission.com](http://www.desotoartscommission.com)

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## **The DeSoto Civic Academy Starts a New Session on August 18th**

The DeSoto Civic Academy has 10 openings for its next class which begins August 18th. This program is designed to give citizens a behind-the-scenes look at the City of DeSoto. There are 11 weekly sessions each hosted by a different city department or group. Each class is designed to allow participants to experience hands-on how our city operates.

The first session is hosted by the staff of the City Manager's office who serve a catered dinner to participants. During this class you'll meet the City Manager and his staff and learn about their responsibilities. Next, the class goes behind-the-scenes at the Police Department to tour the facilities including the jail. They operate a radar gun, and walk through shoot/don't shoot scenarios. Development Services hosts their class at the Service Center and shows them the equipment used by our Street Department. Class participants even gets the opportunity to drive the street sweeper and other equipment. There's a tour of the city's Pump Station and class members see what it takes for us to have water every time we turn on a faucet. DeSoto Fire Rescue hosts the class at Central Fire Station and serves some of their famous Fire House Burgers as they discuss all aspects of fire protection and emergency medical services. Staff from Information Technology, the Library, and Community Relations take class members on a scavenger hunt using the city's website. Human Resources, Planning & Zoning and Building Inspections also make presentations.

The Finance Department guides the class through the world of municipal accounting and budgeting by giving class members a fictional amount of money to run their imaginary city. The DeSoto Economic Development Corporation discusses how they attract commercial development to our city and Parks & Leisure Services discusses the city's beautification program and the wide spectrum of recreation opportunities available to DeSoto residents. The class also goes behind the scenes at Southwest Regional Communications, the 911 emergency dispatch center for DeSoto, Duncanville and Cedar Hill. Participants see dispatchers work a 911 call from start to finish. They can also get extra credit for taking "ride-alongs" with both our Police and Fire Departments.

At the final class, the City Secretary's office casts class members in the roll of Mayor, City Councilmembers, City Staff and citizens and walks them through a "mock" city council meeting. The meeting is accurately scripted to the smallest detail, however, the subject matter is so ludicrous that your sides will ache from laughter.

"Participating in the Civic Academy is a significant time commitment but we have had 14 classes graduate from the program and participants always say the experience was positive and well worth their time," said Tracie Hlavinka, Civic Academy coordinator. The next Civic Academy begins August 18th and the first ten citizens who call will be registered for the class. There is no cost to participate and dinner is provided for each class. To register, please call Tracie Hlavinka at 972.230.9689.

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## **Now is the Time to Apply for an Arts Grant From the DeSoto Art Commission**

If you have enjoyed a performance presented by the African American Repertory Theater in the Corner Theatre, or one of the Juried Visual Arts Shows sponsored by the DeSoto Art League on display in the City Hall Lobby, you have enjoyed programs funded by DeSoto's Cultural Arts Grants Program. These are just a few of the arts opportunities made available to DeSoto residents by this program. We are currently accepting applications for projects scheduled for the 2012 fiscal year which is October 1, 2011 through September 30, 2012.

The Cultural Arts Grant Program is coordinated by the DeSoto Arts Commission. Each summer, they put out the call for projects seeking funding. To be eligible, you must be an active nonprofit arts organization who can demonstrate sound artistic direction and financial management. Community involvement is also strongly considered. Funded activities must take place within the city limits of DeSoto. Examples of previously funded projects include professional and community theater, art shows, gospel concerts, dance performances and jazz concerts. Applications are accepted from June 15th through August 15th each year. Qualifying nonprofit arts organizations can request funding for their projects as well as an in-kind grant for use of the Corner Theatre.

Application forms are available at [www.desotoartscommission.com](http://www.desotoartscommission.com) or by calling the DeSoto Arts Commission liaison at 972.230.9648.