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Contact: The Cheboygan Opera House 231-627-5432

[kathy@theoperahouse.org](mailto:kathy@theoperahouse.org)

Swan Lake Wows the Crowd at the Opera House

Kathy King Johnson

Interlochen Arts Academy Ballet brought 42 dancers to the Cheboygan Opera House to perform Tschaikovsky's "Swan Lake." Directed by Joseph Morrissey, whose intricately choreographed dances are performed world-wide, "Swan Lake" featured elaborate sets and exquisite historical costumes from Russia.

High School students from Interlochen performed their first ever tour at the Opera House last year with "The Nutcracker." This year Cheboygan is the first leg in a three stop tour with shows at Bay Harbor and Midland. This exposure to touring is part of their training to become professional dancers when they graduate.

"It is an honor for us to give dancers of this quality a place to practice and present. It's a Christmas treat for us hosting so many gracious and grateful young people. They bring so much joy," said Cheboygan Opera House director, Kathy Johnson.

Explosive leaps, spins and fast paced choreography kept patrons on the edge of their seats. Fantastic lighting, beautiful backdrops and Morrissey's magic in moving large groups of dancers across the stage brought Tschaikovsky's score to life.

"It is the best show I've seen at the Opera House," said one long time Opera House volunteer.

This was the first ballet for 88 year old Cheboygan resident Louis King. He said, "I've never been a fan of the ballet but now I've become one after seeing Swan Lake."

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Photo 1: Marlee Harrison and Jonathon Hughes

Photo 2: Ariana Dickerson

Photo 3: Dancers from Interlochen Arts Academy Ballet light up the stage.

Photo credit: Tony Johnson