

SPRING NEWSLETTER



What's Up At ETA...

By Breanna Gollihur

Or should I say Empowered University? That's right! All You Need Is Love is back in full swing NEXT THURSDAY, APRIL 10th at 11am on the TheaterWorks stage in Peoria! I know I'm excited! The Cabaret is not the only thing to be excited for though. Soon we will also start filming THE OTHERS which is coming along magnificently! [The Others is a new digital series. Prepare to laugh as this witty cast of unsung heroes challenge their social status in Fairytale Land.] There is so much sass, drama, and depth to this story. Bill Zimmerman really deserves a pat on the back for writing the script, as well as our actors for putting in the work... as we always do! Don't miss your opportunity to celebrate this incredible cast and ETA.

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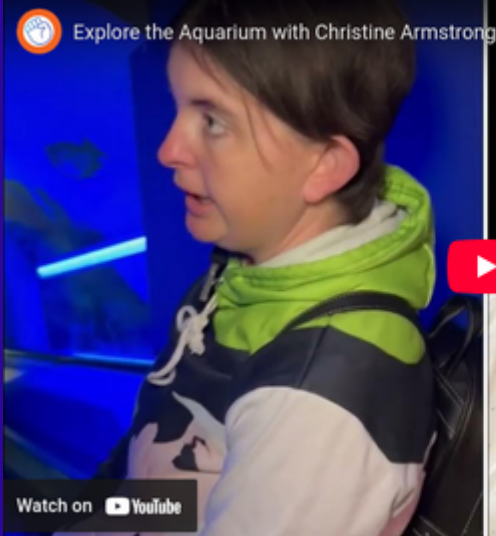


Meet Christina Blair!

An artist at ETA, Christina brings endless joy and laughter to everyone she meets. Most recently playing a love obsessed college student in the All You Need Is Love Cabaret, she's committed to learning and growing her skills. Loving mother, Rita Blair, OFS shares, "Empowered has helped my daughter grow in many ways. She's learning to read better, follow instructions, working on paying attention and what it means to tell a story. The sense of community has helped her forge friendships. And has helped me as a parent; to not feel alone in the challenges we face. Thank you to the Empowered leadership for your dedication and love to this community."

Watch the Latest Empowered TV

Explore the diversity of the aquarium with Christine Armstrong!



Two Truths and A Lie

By Breanna Gollihur

1) People with autism are sensory avoidant.

2) You should always ask before touching someone's mobility aid (wheelchair, cane, crutches, etc).

3) The record for the highest ramp jump via monster truck is 33 feet and 9.6 inches.



1) Although many autistic people are sensory avoidant, that is not true for everyone. In fact, many people are sensory seekers which can display itself in the form of spinning, jumping, climbing, rocking, listening to loud music, and so on and so forth.

However, it's not all or nothing. Many autistic people can be both avoidant and seeking, depending on what they need in the moment.

2) Yes, you should absolutely ask before touching or moving someone's mobility aid. Look at it like an extension of their body. You wouldn't just pick someone up and move them because they're in your way. You would politely ask them if I could get by. So, why wouldn't we treat someone in a wheelchair with the same dignity and respect?

3) Yes, the world record for the highest monster truck ramp jump is 33 feet and 9.6 inches. (*This fact was included because someone keeps texting me random facts about monster trucks... vroom vroom Paul*).

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