



# WELCOME MOVIE & ARTS LOVERS

Starlite Theater Group is an independent non-profit organization formed in January 2022 and dedicated to cultivating the arts in the Sylvania and NW Ohio/SE Michigan areas, immediately through the presentation of film events, and by encouraging the shared experience and *fun* of watching movies together.

Each of our events considers age, background, and walks of life including classic

film, children’s film, independent film, documentaries, foreign works, avant-garde film and works of local filmmakers, none of which are readily available in our area on a regular basis. We are self-contained, so we can “take our show on the road” and present events at suitable venues throughout our area.

Our long-term goal is to establish a permanent multi-use arts theater and workspace

in the Sylvania community and to expand into arts education for both children and adults — not only showcasing musical, theatrical, or cinematic productions, but offering high-level instruction as well. We believe such a facility will be a much-needed cultural hub that our community has lacked. Community support is vital in reaching this goal.

We hope you enjoy our first edition of **the REEL SCOOP!**

## COMING SOON

OCTOBER 27, 2022

Nederhouseer Community Hall  
partnering with TOPS  
A Spooky Ole’ 50s Halloween  
7 p.m. Mixing • Music • Dancing  
8 p.m. Movie –  
House on Haunted Hill  
Come costumed if you dare!  
Three Spooktacular prizes awarded

DECEMBER 3, 2022

Sylvania STEM  
Holiday Movie Event &  
Open House

DECEMBER, 2022

Family Holiday Movie Event  
partnering with TOPS  
to be announced

Check out our website at  
[starlitetheatergroup.org](http://starlitetheatergroup.org)  
for other winter events as  
announced.



## THE MAKING OF THE MODERN MAN IN PRE-CODE CINEMA

from REEL CINEMA by Jennifer Kellow-Fiorini

Although societal shifts for women from the teens through the 1920s and ’30s were monumental in every sense of the word, there were changes for men too, and those changes played out across movie screens in the pre-Code era.

### The Old Guard

Social changes for men started in the early 1900s. Economically, America moved

from small business to bigger conglomerates. Men in the early part of the century were optimistic, self-made, and rigid. They believed that self-denial was a key component of ideal manhood. As strange as it sounds, they believed abstaining from sex outside of having children meant they could harness that energy and channel it into work. Their

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ANN ARBOR  
MICHIGAN THEATER  
Hocus Pocus, 10/23  
Rocky Horror Picture Show, 10/27  
Nosferato, 10/30

STATE THEATER  
The Devil’s Light, 10/26  
Creature from the Black Lagoon, 10/29  
Spirited Away, 10/30 (animated)

DETROIT  
CINEMA DETROIT  
Sidney - thru Oct. 6  
Decision to Leave, 10/28, 10/29

MAUMEE  
MAUMEE THEATER  
Classic Movie Nights -10/18, 11/29  
Halloween Kills, 10/31 Screening Event  
Q&A with Anthony Michael Hall

ADRIAN  
THE CROSSWELL THEATER  
Peter & the Starcatcher, 10/14-10/23

## THE MAKING OF THE MODERN MAN IN PRE-CODE CINEMA (cont'd)

social and work lives gave them strong bonds with other men, but their lives didn't intersect much their wives who existed primarily to work in the home and care for children.

This masculine ideal changed post World War I. Young men felt the war was the fault of the previous generation and wanted nothing to do with them. They figured they couldn't do any worse by completely changing social norms. Their attitudes were further cemented by two more events that left them cynical and jaded — the Flu Epidemic of 1918 and The Great Depression. They distrusted institutions and valued individuality. Women were in the workplace, and young men had camaraderie with them. Interactions between men and women were completely new in ways their fathers couldn't fathom.

A live-life-to-the-fullest attitude that came from surviving the great war and all that followed, lead to a fetishism of youth. Forget about waiting all your life for success, youth was rebranded as "intuitive wisdom." The new young men were individualistic anti-heroes who broke the rules to win the game of life. The system had sent them to war to die and crashed the banks — you had to beat the system, and the system was rigged. Rules were for schmucks. In pre-Code films you will often hear men saying, "What am I, a chump? A sap?"

Pre-Code films looked at these new men and explored subjects of crime, business, politics, sex, and war. This new generation had to improvise, think on their feet, and chart their own course in life.



**James Cagney with Ed Doyle in "The Public Enemy," 1931**

The **Gangster** is the most iconic film genre to come out pre-Code. In the 1930s, the gangster wasn't born so much out of The Depression as out of Prohibition. Prohibition made a criminal of anyone who took a drink. In 1920 the 18th amendment banned the sale, manufacture, and transportation of any intoxicating liquors. Prohibition resulted in the contempt of law and the Constitution. Crime rates skyrocketed and respect for the law plummeted. People thought Prohibition would never end, and they were outraged. To a degree, Americans were sympathetic with the gangster because of Prohibition, so it's not hard to see why gangster films became so popular.

**Crooked Businessmen** represented both the desire to have money and to see crooked guys lose it all, if only in the movies.

**Newspapermen**, the guys with all the angles, with their quick thinking and used car salesman instincts for survival, flourished in the 1930s. In pre-Code movies, men bared more of their emotional selves than they would in the films of the '40s and '50s. Sometimes it was over love affairs or the emotional scars of the First World War that showed empathy for soldiers who survived on both sides, and a decidedly pacifist attitude towards war in general.



**Lee Tracy in "The Blessed Event," 1932**

For more Reel Cinema articles, resources, and photos, check out our Reel Cin blog at <https://www.jenfior.com/blog-1>

Visit our website at [starlitetheatergroup.org](http://starlitetheatergroup.org) or catch the Reel Cinema articles monthly in *Sylvania Advantage*.

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**STARLITE**  
theater group



Sylvania had its own movie theater from 1938 - 1958

Are you a movie lover?

Your support can help bring more of our movie events here and a multi-use theater space to Sylvania.

**IMAGINE**  
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[starlitetheatergroup.org](http://starlitetheatergroup.org)

