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Clyatt House Christmas Program brings holiday cheer



The Early Head Start class performers are (from left) Kaihle and Kinliegh Rix, Aurora Beck, Colton Duey, James Williams, Weston Bernier, Baylee Cannon, Taylor Suber, Rosie Watkins, Zoey Horton, Alan Ruiz, Trinity Williams, Trinity Cobb, Jayda Doctor, Joshua Simpson and Nicole Cobb.

Story And Photos By Terry Witt, Senior Staff Writer © Dec. 16, 2017 at 8:47 p.m.

CHIEFLAND -- A standing-room only crowd of star-struck mammas and daddies watched in awe Thursday night (Dec. 14) as their youngest family members performed at the Chiefland Middle High School auditorium.

The occasion was the Third Annual Christmas Program for Clyatt House Learning Center. The partisan crowd wasn't disappointed by the performances of the young entertainers.

The children ranged in age from toddlers to elementary age children. All were dressed in Christmas costumes and had been taught to sing or dance or both.

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The Toddler 1 class performs. Seen here (from left) are teacher Hailey Barson, Ayden Gufford, Brantley Tompkins, Julianne Light and Brantley Layfield.



Toddler 2 students Emma Tate is seen in front, and behind her Liam Irby perform with their classmates.

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VPK Alena Ruark, Layton Williams, Kelby Adkins and Joshua Schrader stand motionless as Christmas trees.



Head Start B students Zayden Tomkins, Janiyah Bradley, Carlton Hill and Aniyah Hays perform as reindeer.

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Portraying the Nativity are Head Start A students Major McGee, Keian Bruce, Caitlyn Watson, Colt Suber as Joseph, Skylar Moore, Corbin Dwees as Baby Jesus and Leah Pitts as Mary.

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After School students Kyndal Miller, Harmony Sinkhorn, Kaylyn Rix, Emily Pitts and Grace Pitts cradle teddy bears as they sing When Christmas Comes to Town.

Some of the kids hammed it up more than others. All but one seemed comfortable on stage. One little fella was apparently overwhelmed by the vastness of the crowd spread out in front of him.

Parents who were close enough rushed up to the stage like a small army of do-gooders armed with cell phones to capture the special moment on video or in still photographs.

Clyatt House was established in 1993 in a historic home in Chiefland, but has since moved out of the more residential part of town to operate in two modern facilities off of U.S. Highway 129, at 3690 N.W. 120th St. (east Levy County Road 320), in what is affectionately called the big school and the little school.

The family atmosphere among the teachers and children was obvious. The children were confident as they were gently herded on stage to perform with teachers stand with them. It was apparent the children had rehearsed their special roles.

The students could do no wrong. No matter what happened on stage, parents were smiling. The children who ventured away from the script to do their own thing became instant celebrities. In many cases, parents were watching their little ones dance and sing for the first time. It doesn't get any better.

Among the Christmas songs performed as a backdrop for mini-theatrical performs were Santa Claus is Coming to Town, Rocking Around the Christmas Tree and Up on the Rooftop to name a few.

The host for the evening was Vickie Pitts, who introduced the children by their age group and by the name of their performance and the songs that would accompany them. Pitts and her husband Frank are well-known members of the Chiefland community.

For more information about Clyatt House Learning Center, please visit their website at <http://www.chlc.us/>.