

BRAVO!

The Magazine of Hershey Area Playhouse

SEASON 2015

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 3// SUMMER 2015



OLIVER TAKES OVER



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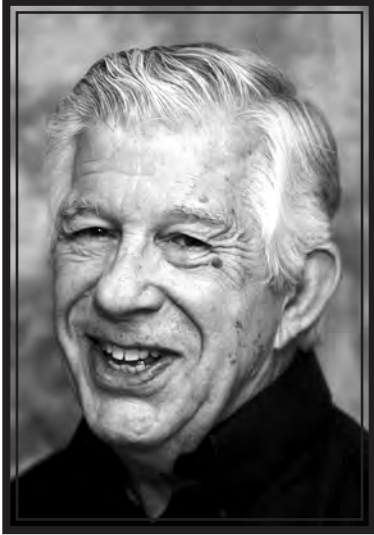
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Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows is located on Sand Hill Road at Cherry Drive. Visit us online at HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com. Contact us at 717.533.8525, P.O. Box 703, Hershey, PA 17033 or INFO at HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com. For more information on volunteering, contact us at volunteer@HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com, or for marketing/communications, contact us at marketing@HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com. The Magazine of Hershey Area Playhouse is published quarterly and is a benefit of membership in Hershey Area Playhouse. Special thanks to ChocolateCovers for the design and printing.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



Anthony Pingitore

SUMMER 2015

Well, another summer is upon us and all is well with Hershey Area Playhouse. Since our last issue, we have re-financed our loan as our previous loan reached its end and the good news is that our agreement with Fulton Bank was reached quickly and efficiently. Thank you to Alex Roca who spearheaded our negotiations with Fulton. Our monthly loan payments continue to be covered by our operating funds but your increased contributions are a necessary and important ingredient in reducing our principle so we can begin to make significant improvements to your wonderful building. Please continue your wonderful support by contributing to our 2015 annual appeal which you will hear about in the coming months.

It is good to note that with our excellent winter and spring productions coupled with special events has resulted in continued increase in attendance over last year. Thanks again. It is your attendance which helps us sustain the high level of our productions.

Our major topic in this issue of is "OLIVER." From the cover and throughout this issue, we will report first person stories from the cast and crew of the upcoming production.

Our director, Cory Wilkerson, has put together an outstanding team of actors, stage crew and sound and light designers that are second to none. Please mark your calendars to attend this outstanding musical.

For our fans of William Shakespeare, we will be conducting another special event in August by producing Shakespeare's "The Winter's Tale" on August 14-16, 2015. Please plan to support this effort.

I wanted to share that we our Theatre Academy kids will be participating for the third consecutive year in the Hershey Garden's summer program with a production of "Robin Hood." Our program continues to provide terrific opportunities for our children and we thank The Hershey Company for the sponsorship of the 2015 program.

We certainly wish you all a very active and enjoyable summer as your families plan summer activities and vacations. Please include us in your plans by your continued attendance, financial contributions or volunteer participation during our productions. Thanks for all you have contributed to our efforts to provide the best of the best in community theatre productions in central PA.

A J Pingitore
Chair, Hershey Area Playhouse

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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME ALL OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS! WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING YOU BECOME PART OF OUR FAMILY AND COMMUNITY.

The Board would also like to say a big THANK YOU to Tom Curry. Tom has served on the board for many years and has been our go-to Operations manager. His endless duties ranged from overseeing inspections to making sure there was toilet paper. We wish him the very best as he moves into his next act and know that his role at our Playhouse will be difficult to re-cast!

BOX OFFICE CHANGES UPDATE

by Lisa Greene

PRINT FROM HOME!

You can now print tickets and gift certificates purchased through our website (www.HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com) from the convenience of your own home. No more waiting in line at the 'will call' window!



REDUCED HOURS

The box office will no longer be open on Wednesday afternoons nor Thursday evenings due to minimal activity. The box office will continue to be staffed 90 minutes before each show. Box office volunteers will retrieve telephone messages three times per week, so please call us with any questions or issues at 717.533.8525 and we will get back to you quickly.

EDUCATIONAL REPORTS

BY: JEN FELDSER,
CO-TEACHER



Our summer session has just concluded in the form of another wonderful showcase! Our campers developed some great characters into entertainment that delighted a packed house!

Look for information on our Fall session.

Up next is our SOLD OUT 2-week camp held at the Hershey Gardens where our students will be putting together an original production of ROBIN HOOD. Come out on Friday, August 7th at noon, admission to the show is included in the daily Gardens' fee.

A Winter's Tale

BY KIM GREENAWALT, DIRECTOR

Synopsis:

From nightmarish to idyllic, yet incredibly modern, *The Winter's Tale* takes its audience on a journey with the royal families of Sicilia and Bohemia as jealousy and suspicion tear them apart. Yet the passage of time, grace, and love bring these long separated, fractured families together again in the most unlikely of circumstances. The play chronicles the fallout caused by Leontes' suspicion that his wife, Hermione, is having an affair with his best friend, Polixenes, the king of Bohemia. After a harrowing course of events leaves those left in Sicilia devastated, the play skips ahead fifteen years to see the unlikely romance form between Florizel, the son of Polixenes, and Perdita, a changeling shepherdess whose birthright is the throne of Sicilia.

Cast list (in alphabetical order):

Duffy Batzer: Dion, Autolycus

Lindsay Brahl: Lady 1, Emilia, Mopsa, Servant, Gentleman 1

Bobby Calloway: Jailer, Servant to Leontes, Florizel

Eddie Costik: Antigonus, Servant, Gentleman 3

Eileen Daub: Paulina

Sarah Fieger: Lady 2, Dorcas, Gentleman 2

Rachel Koppenhaver: Cleomenes, Clown

Sam McQuillen: Polixenes

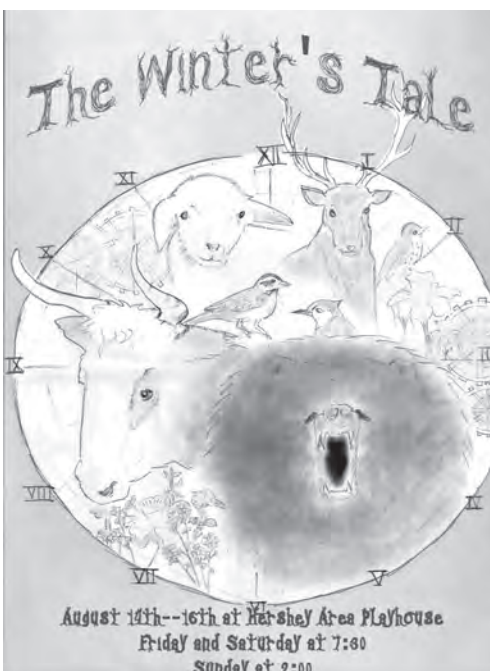
Haley Plott: Mamilus, Perdita

Jess Schladebeck: Hermione

Rita Smith: Camillo, Mariner, Officer

Jen Trehwella: Archidamus, Lord, Shepherd

Daniel Walton: Leontes



PAST PRODUCTION

OLIVER TAKES OVER



BACK ROW: Ira Rappaport, Patti Uhrich, Rob Allison, Claire Leedy, Allison Hoke, Larissa Curcio, Anthony Ariano, Anne Ariano, John Mallonee, and Jeff Miller
ON THE BENCHES: Laurie Miller Petersen, Renee Howard, Wendy Lubell, Zoey Bright, Erin Kelly, and Phil Jurus
ON THE STAGE: Josh Rappaport, Sean Varner, and Mark Douglas Cuddy
FRONT ROW: Caitlyn Chavis, Colleen Mullikin, Cameron Ebright, and Kyla Blazer
NOT PICTURED: Danielle Santiago

WE ASKED OUR ADULT CAST MEMBERS TO TELL US WHY THEY WANTED TO BE A PART OF OLIVER HERE AT THE PLAYHOUSE...

ANN ARIANO

Oliver is a wonderful show with great songs that are so much fun to sing. Also, I love comedic roles and look forward to bringing Mrs. Sowerberry to life on the Playhouse stage.

ANTHONY ARIANO

This was one of those musicals I watched as a child. I always loved the music and the story. I'm excited to be part of this cast, look forward to rehearsals and the shows.

ZOEY BRIGHT

I wanted to be in the show because when I was younger, I loved watching the movie and very much enjoyed singing along to all of the songs. I wanted to be in a show this summer because I love having many opportunities to perform as much as I can.

LARISSA CURCIO

I love the musical *Oliver* when I heard the Hershey Area Playhouse was doing it, I immediately began to rehearse for auditions. I have also heard nothing but great things about the Playhouse and their productions. That sealed the deal!

CAMERON EBRIGHT

I have always enjoyed theater, being in shows, and have always wished to be in a community theater production.

RENEE HOWARD

I really wanted to share the theater experience with my daughter.

ERIN KELLY

I have always enjoyed community theater. I used to be a BFA musical theater student. After switching my career focus to speech pathology, I've found it essential to stay connected to theater. I wanted to be in *Oliver* specifically because I've always loved the show and I was in it at HAP the last time they did it.

CLAIRE LEEDY

I became interested last summer when I was cast in *The Wizard of Oz* at Lebanon Community Theater. I love the show of *Oliver* and I wanted to be part of the Hershey Area Playhouse onstage. I worked backstage for *A Christmas Carol* and *The Fantasticks*. Watching those shows come together really made me want to act again.

WENDY LUBELL

Why do we let the comments of others stop us in our tracks? Growing up, people teased me about my singing. I started voice lessons to tackle my fear. I am doing this musical for all of you that want to stretch your comfort zone. Kids, especially, never let others stop you from dreaming, believing and doing!

COLLEEN MULLIKIN

Many moons ago when I was a mere child in Little Rock, Arkansas, the movie *Oliver* was released. I cannot tell you how many times I saw that movie. It wasn't the story or the wonderful music. I had a full-blown crush on Mark Lester who portrayed the title character. I didn't even have to Google his name because it is indelibly printed on my brain. Fast forward several decades and I audition for *Oliver* here at HAP. Miraculously, even though I have a five note vocal range which starts low and goes even lower, I got one of the most fun parts I have ever had, Widow Corney. I enjoyed the rehearsals and performances greatly that summer. Fast forward one decade and I read that HAP is reprising *Oliver*. I decided to audition again because of the fond memories I had of that summer, not to mention the fact that I now have a much larger vocal range of eight notes. I am sure this summer's production will provide me with yet another terrific experience.

LAURIE MILLER PETERSEN (fight choreographer)

There are lots of fights and kids in this show. It was a great opportunity for Jude (my son) and me to work together. I thought it would be fun to be onstage again.

IRA RAPPAPORT

I love *Oliver*! It was the first Broadway show I ever saw and it is another great chance to work with my son.

JOSH RAPPAPORT

I'm here because I love music theater and that this will be a great experience for me. *Oliver* is one of the great classics and I am happy to be a part of this production.

DANIELLE SANTIAGO

The reason I auditioned is because I love musical theater and wish to be involved as much as possible. I chose Hershey Area Playhouse based on the recommendations of friends.

PATTI UHRICH

I've always loved the music from this show and the opportunity to meet new people who so willingly share their talent is like icing on a Chocolatetown cake.

Audition Announcements for Upcoming Shows

We are happy to announce auditions for Hershey Area Playhouse's production of "The 39 Steps"



Auditions will be held on Monday, August 10 and Tuesday August 11th from 6:00-9:00 pm for all auditioners. Callbacks will be held on Wednesday, August 12 at times to be determined.

Auditioners may come with a short monologue; but scenes from the play will be provided. You will also be asked to do a British accent. The play is fast paced with 4 actors playing 150 characters- sometimes changing back and forth right in front of the audience.

The production will take place October 8-18, 2015.

Roles: 3 men, 1 woman

- RICHARD HANNAY
-LATE 20's/40's
- ANNABELLE/ PAMELA/MARGARET
-LATE 20's/30's
- CLOWN 1 AND CLOWN 2
-20's/50's

Synopsis: "The 39 Steps" is a two-time Tony Award-winning comedic spoof of the classic 1935 Hitchcock film, with only 4 actors portraying more than 150 characters, sometimes changing roles faster than the blink of an eye. The brilliantly madcap story follows our dashing hero Richard Hannay as he races to solve the mystery of The 39 Steps, all the while trying to clear his name!

For more information about the show, check out it's Broadway website:

<http://www.39stepsny.com/about.html>

Charlie Brown CHRISTMAS

CALLING ALL KIDS!

Join director Jill Panyard in finding the true meaning of Christmas, through the never-before-released show, A Charlie Brown Christmas. Children ages 8-18 are welcomed to audition for the iconic roles of Charlie Brown, Linus, Lucy, Snoopy and seven others in this stage show that is just like the animated television show.

The Playhouse is pleased to offer this Christmas show as a BONUS to our 2015 season. Four performances will be offered December 17-20 at the super price of just \$10.

What an opportunity for students to get involved with community theatre. The auditions will be at the end of September, at the Playhouse, with details to be determined. Parents, the rehearsal schedule for this show will be manageable for your busy lives! Plus it will offer your children the wonderful opportunity of performing a well-beloved Christmas show with familiar characters and touching themes.



**IT'S A
WONDERFUL
Life**

AUDITIONS:

September 18th, 7pm; 19th 11am

FOR CHILDREN: 12 noon

ANY ADDITIONAL CAST REQUIREMENTS:
12M, 10W, 2-4 BOYS; 2 GIRLS

As always, ages are approximate and depend on who auditions. Some characters may be used as Townspersons in various scenes. Note: While many of the cast have limited lines and support the main character of George, this is an 'ensemble piece' where everyone will be needed for their flexibility, enthusiasm and team work.

In our American culture It's a Wonderful Life has become almost as familiar as Dickens' A Christmas Carol. The story is the saga of George Bailey, the Everyman from the small town of Bedford Falls, whose dreams of escape and adventure have been quashed by family obligation and civic duty, whose guardian angel has to descent on Christmas Eve to save him from despair and to remind him, by showing him what the world would have been like had he never been born, that his has been, after all, a wonderful life. This fine dramatization not only celebrates the faith of the season, it also celebrates the American philosophy of life: hard work, fair play and the love and support of one's family and community will be rewarded.

(From http://www.dramaticpublishing.com/product_info.php?products_id=735)

ROLE		AGE
GEORGE BAILEY	GOOD 'EVERYMAN' OF ABOUT 38 (PLAYS YOUNGER IN FLASHBACKS; RARELY OFF STAGE)	9-13
CLARENCE ODBODY	'ANGEL 2ND CLASS' APPEARS AS 'LITTLE OLD MAN'	50-70
MR. GOWER	DRUG STORE OWNER	50+
HARRY BAILEY:	GEORGE'S YOUNGER BROTHER OF ABOUT (PLAYS YOUNGER IN FLASHBACKS)	ABOUT 35
MOTHER BAILEY	GEORGE'S KIND & UNDERSTANDING MOTHER	60ISH
MARY BAILEY:	GEORGE'S LOVING WIFE (PLAYS YOUNGER IN FLASHBACKS)	MID-30S
AUNT TILLY:	GEORGE'S AUNT, UNCLE BILLY'S WIFE (PLAYS YOUNGER IN FLASHBACKS)	50+
UNCLE BILLY:	GEORGE'S UNCLE & BUSINESS PARTNER (PLAYS YOUNGER IN FLASHBACKS)	50+
HENRY POTTER:	'PRACTICALLY OWNS THE TOWN' STORY'S VILLAIN; MEAN, DOMINEERING	60-70S
VIOLET PETERSON	BEAUTY SHOP OWNER, FLIRTY BUT SWEET FRIEND OF THE BAILEYS	MID 30S
BERT	PATROL OFFICER	40+
ERNE	MAIL CARRIER	40+
MRS HATCH	MARY'S MOTHER	MID 50S - 60ISH
MR. MARTINI	BAR OWNER	40+
MRS. MARTINI	HIS WIFE	40+
SAM WAINWRIGHT	FRIEND OF GEORGE AND MARY	MID 30S
MISS CARTER	BANK EXAMINER	30+
MISS ANDREWS	TOWNSPERSON	20-50S
MISS THOMPSON	TOWNSPERSON	20-50S
MR. WELCH	ZUZU'S TEACHER'S HOT-HEADED HUSBAND	30-50S
MR. POTTER'S GOON	EVER-PRESENT, WHEELS POTTER AROUND (NON-SPEAKING)	25+
MR. POTTER'S SECRETARY:	EVER-FAITHFUL TO HER BOSS	20-50S
BAILEY CHILDREN	(APPEAR AS BAILEY CHILDREN ONLY IN ACT II)	
PETE	(MAY DOUBLE AS YOUNG GEORGE)	10
TOM	(MAY DOUBLE AS NEWSBOY)	12
JANIE		9
ZUZU		7



Kids' CORNER

THE ORPHANS OF OLIVER

CARSON SMITH, ADA HOWARD, NICOLETTA ARIANO, LEVI SNYDER, FLETCHER SMITH, JUDE PETERSEN, GRACE MILLER, SAMANTHA KOEGLER, JOHN LEEDY, ABIGAIL BRIDGEMAN, JOJO GURIAN, DYLAN BYRD, LIBBY HARDESTY, MATTHEW PETERSEN, BRANDON LAVENTURE, SANDY MCINERNEY, AND JACOB PEGHER
NOT PICTURED: JACOB PORTER, KACY HARTMAN, MAX HEITMANN

CRIME NEVER LOOKED SO CUTE! HERE ARE THE MINI-MEMBERS OF OUR OLIVER ENSEMBLE, TELLING YOU WHY THEY WANTED TO PICK-A-POCKET OR TWO!

ABIGAIL BRIDGEMAN - I wanted to be in this show so I could experience the Playhouse again. So I could act and sing and so I could make new friends.

DYLAN BYRD - I wanted to be in Oliver because I love acting and the people at the the Hershey Area Playhouse. They've become like a second family to me over all the years I've been here performing. I also thought this would be a great learning experience and something fun to do over the summer.

JOANDRA (JOJO) GURIAN - The reason I did Oliver is so I could more shows on my resume, since I want to pursue a career in theater. Also, theater is something I absolutely adore doing in my free time, and I want to get every glimpse of different plays and musicals and grow as an actress.

LIBBY HARDESTY - I love to do plays and I thought that this one would give me a chance to show a darker side to my acting.

KACY HARTMAN - Oliver is a great production!

MAX HEITMANN I wanted to be in this production because I love musicals and plays. I've been in many and it's fun, and an amazing experience. Being in musicals is my passion and I'm glad that I'm able to take this career path. So being in this is fun, and great experience. I'm really excited to be in this show!

ADA HOWARD - My mom has been in three plays [here] and encouraged me to be in one.

SAMANTHA KOEGLER - I love a challenge. Since I usually have a happy disposition and I've played a boy before (A Christmas Carol), I wanted something new. I have a real passion for theater, music, and dance. I have taken eight years of ballet, two years of tap, and one year of jazz. One day I hope to be in the school musical. I look forward to working on future plays.

BRANDON LAVENTURE - The reason I wanted to perform in Oliver in a community theater is because I had done a performance of High School Musical and the director presented us with the option of auditioning for Oliver. I wanted to get more into acting so I thought community theater was a good start.

JOHN LEEDY - I thought it would be fun and my sister (Claire) was urging me!

SANDY MCINERNEY - I was interested in being in Oliver because I wanted to be in a show over the summer. Also, I watched the musical and instantly fell in love with the characters and the story. I had never been in a community theater production before and I thought it was the perfect show to start with. I am over the moon excited to be in this production and I thank the people who considered me in this role.

GRACE MILLER - Why I wanted to be in Oliver... because my previous experience in A Christmas Carol was so enjoyable- I just want to experience that same fun again. I can't wait to learn more and meet more amazing people.

JACOB PEGHER - I like theater!

JUDE PETERSEN - Because everyone gets together and works together. We put our differences behind us and have fun!

JACOB PORTER - I wanted to be part of Oliver because I loved the book and theater. I not only love acting and music but performing in general. I also love the HAP community.

CARSON SMITH - I just wanted to be in the musical because I liked the story and I wanted to be a pickpocket.

FLETCHER SMITH - I was getting bored around the house and it's very enjoyable and I know a lot of people.

LEVI SNYDER - I thought it would be cool



P.O. Box 703
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CALENDAR

- Oliver July 16-19, 23-26, 2015
- Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale August 14-16, 2015
- The 39 Steps October 8-18, 2015
- It's a Wonderful Life December 3-6, 10-13, 2015
- Charlie Brown Christmas December 17-20, 2015
- Winter Cabaret January 2016

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