

Presenting the 2023-24 Season!

PLAYBILL

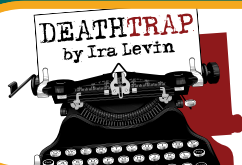


ONE TWO
MAN, GUNNORS
BY RICHARD BEAN

OCT
2023



APR
2024



JUN
2024

Celebrating Our 90th Year



Who We Are?

UU of East Aurora is the spiritual home for people of varied religions and belief systems, including atheists and agnostics.

Our Shared Values:

Boldness

Striving for social justice and embracing different beliefs.

Compassion

Extending warmth and welcome no matter who you are, whom you love, or where you are on your journey.

Reverence

Uniting people in spirit through communities of meaning and learning how to better live our values each day.

Different Beliefs. Shared Values.



www.UUEA.org



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-------|
| Participation | 3 |
| Purpose | 3 |
| Aurora Players Online..... | 3 |
| Donations | 3 |
| Gift Opportunities | 5 |
| Why Get Involved? | 7 |
| Partners in Success | 9 |
| Hey Gang! Let's Put on a Season!..... | 10 |
| Keep the Footlights Glowing | 13 |
| Theatre in Hamlin Park | 14-15 |
| Advertising and Sponsorship..... | 17 |
| ProjectSTAGE 2023 | 20-21 |
| Support our Advertisers | 22 |
| You Can Be a Player Too!..... | 22 |
| AP Life Members | 23 |
| 2023/24 Season Lineup | 25-27 |
| In Memoriam | 29 |
| Accepting the Award..... | 31 |
| AP Celebrates the 2022-23 Season | 31 |
| Index of Advertisers | 36 |

Aurora Players • PO Box 206 • East Aurora, NY 14052

RESERVATIONS/INFORMATION:

auroraplayers.org • (716) 687-6727



Aurora Players is a member of the Greater East Aurora Chamber of Commerce (GEACC), American Association of Community Theatre (AACT), Theatre Association of New York State (TANYS), Western New York Alliance of Community Theaters (WNY ACTS!), and The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP).



discoverlife.

We all know our favorite
teachers can name the classics;
on stage or in the library

Fox Run Community Members
Anne Floyd & Irene Zinter
in the Fox Run library

716.662.5001
foxrunorchardpark.com



livelife.

PARTICIPATION

Aurora Players is a non-profit organization and all work (technical support, actors, administration) is performed entirely by volunteers. Auditions for every production are open to members and non-members alike. Aurora Players encourages anyone interested to get involved, either on-stage or backstage. It's a great opportunity for families, no experience is necessary, and all are welcome! Visit our website for more information on membership, shows, and events: auroraplayers.org.



PURPOSE

The purpose of the organization is to create interest in and foster enthusiasm for the dramatic arts; to provide a medium of expression for those who love the theatre; and to be the means of bringing together in organized activities all those whose interest centers around drama.

DONATIONS

Our Pavilion is over 100 years old and anyone who has lived in an older home knows the project list never ends, but available funds, labor, and time usually do. If you – or someone you know – have resources, talents, or ideas that could help Aurora Players, please contact us at info@auroraplayers.org.

Your help will be greatly appreciated!

AP ONLINE

Looking for an easy way to purchase tickets securely and find out more about Aurora Players? Our website, auroraplayers.org, contains information on this season's shows, including photos and videos, auditions, volunteer opportunities (both for shows and to work on committees) and much more. Be sure to bookmark the site and stop back often to stay informed about new opportunities and events.

Our website is managed by Ian and Gina Ronan. Questions, comments and suggestions should be sent to info@auroraplayers.org.

Be sure to follow Aurora Players on **Facebook and Instagram**.



AuroraPlayers.org



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
11:30 AM - 10:00 PM

(716) 652-7959

ORDER ONLINE AT **www.barbill.com**

BB Takeout

191 Main Street (rear) | East Aurora, NY

WHISKEY • BURGERS • CRAFT COCKTAILS

FOR CURRENT HOURS OF OPERATION & INFO VISIT:

WWW.189BURGER.COM

**189
BURGER**

189 MAIN STREET EAST AURORA, NY 14052

(716) 652-8189



*Thank you
pit, cast
and crew!*

Your work and talents
enrich our community.



East Aurora Co-op Market

591 Main St, East Aurora, NY • 716-655-2667 • eastaurora.coop

OPEN TO EVERYONE • NO MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

Grab n' go foods, groceries, fresh produce & more.



Deal directly
with the
Roycroft
Artisans!



The School House Gallery

Exclusively featuring the work of
ROYCROFT RENAISSANCE ARTISANS



GALLERY HOURS
10 am to 4 pm
Monday thru Saturday

Browse through the Gallery and Tour Two
Complete Workshops See works in progress.

1054 Olean Road (Rte. 16)

2 MILES SOUTH OF MAIN STREET, IN HISTORIC EAST AURORA, NEW YORK



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 716-655-3229

GIFT OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for a distinctive gift idea? Aurora Players Gift Cards, starting at \$20 and valid for one year from the date of issue, are available on our website at auroraplayers.org. Perfect for birthdays, holidays, "thank yous" or any occasion, our gift cards will give someone you care about a memorable experience at Aurora Players.



VIDLER'S 5&10

"Vidler On The Roof" Playing Over 90 Consecutive Years!

Open 7 Days A Week • Open Since 1930

676-694 Main Street • East Aurora, NY 14052-2487

PHONE: 716-652-0481 • TOLL FREE: 1-877-843-5377 • FAX: 716-655-0631

EMAIL: info@vidlers5and10.com • WEBSITE: www.vidlers5and10.com

Aurora Audiology & Speech Associates Inc.

97 Hamburg Street • East Aurora



Solutions to help you live your life to the fullest!

716-652-6464



• Diagnostic Hearing Evaluations • Hearing aids to fit your lifestyle

**STAY
HANDSOME
EA!**

**Andrews'
Barber Parlor**

191 Main Street | East Aurora, NY 14052

716-714-9811

Find us on

HRC Hall Ricketts Gurbacki PC **Attorneys At Law**

Estates, Wills, Elder Law • Medicaid & Nursing Home Planning
Personal Injury and Accident • Business & Corporate Law
Criminal & DWI, Vehicle and Traffic Matters
General and Trial Practice • Real Estate

WE'VE MOVED!

121 Hamburg Street
East Aurora, NY 14052
(716) 652-0828

Website:

www.ealawyers.com

E-mail:

info@ealawyers.com

Robert H. Gurbacki

WHY GET INVOLVED?

by Laurie Oravec

Historical records suggest that Benjamin Franklin organized our emerging nation's first unpaid fire company in Philadelphia in 1736 after a ship fire burned down the wharf, warehouses and neighboring houses. Since that time, volunteering has been a mainstay of American life, whether it be for large organizations, such as the American Red Cross, or local school bake sales.

Without volunteers, this theater would be dark and silent. I can't even imagine it. For me, stepping into the world of community theater as a volunteer has given me a strong sense of community and led to much personal growth. Practically speaking, the experience has also honed my organizational skills, time management (yes, the ultimate deadline is a show opening!), adaptability and teamwork, all of which are valuable in any walk of life, even for a retiree like me. Consider adaptability: in the world of theater, unexpected challenges are par for the course, be it a set door that won't open during a performance, a sudden glitch with tickets or a costume malfunction (no, not that kind). We quickly learn to think on our feet and find creative solutions. Then we laugh about it later – a lot.

I think that one of the most remarkable aspects of volunteering with Aurora Players is the sheer satisfaction and excitement it brings. I won't lie, there are times I've been bored writing press release number 20, but then I remember what it's all for. It's the thrill of being part of a live production in some way. Sure, I'm not part of making the production happen, but we have to get the word out in order to fill those seats. In

that way, each and every volunteer is key to the secret sauce that makes Aurora Players such a sparkling gem in this community. Of course, being integrally involved in a live production, whether it's helping with set design, costumes, performing or backstage management, is marvelous. It's also fun to be part of a committee to flex one's creativity and problem-solving skills, and the lasting camaraderie that is cultivated on a committee is really quite special and rewarding. As it turns out, even the business side of theater is fascinating, especially knowing that what you do keeps Aurora Players strong and makes the productions possible. Ultimately, witnessing the audience's reactions and knowing you played a role in creating that magic is a deeply satisfying experience.

I've been in shows and I love that aspect, but volunteering with AP goes beyond the thrill of live performances. The roles to play here are truly endless. If you are looking for a place to belong, make friends, serve, learn, find new passion and give back to your community, Aurora Players is looking for you! It is a warm and welcoming place for growth, learning, and joy that ripples into various aspects of life. Memories made, skills learned and relationships forged are invaluable rewards that will continue to enrich my life long after the final curtain call of any show. That's magical; that's my answer to the "why."



elma press

Complete Printing Service



FULL COLOR

Offset & Digital Printing

BROCHURES • LETTERHEADS • ENVELOPES
BUSINESS CARDS • TICKETS • INVITATIONS • FLYERS
PROGRAMS • NOTEPADS • INSTRUCTION SHEETS



5751 Clinton Street
Elma, New York 14059
716 / 683-6812
Fax 716 / 683-5037
email: printing@elmapress.com

PARTNERS IN SUCCESS

Aurora Players established the Community Partner Award in 2000 to recognize the contributions made on our behalf by local companies and organizations, and to demonstrate our appreciation for their enduring efforts and continued participation in our activities. The award has been conferred upon the following partners:

2000 Elma Press

2001 Aurora Answering Service

2002 East Aurora Advertiser

2003 Village of East Aurora

2004 Fisher-Price

2005 The Roycrofters-At-Large Association

2006 Fontanese Folts Aubrecht Ernst, Architects

2007 Aurora Paint Pot

2008 Warning & Robel - Keith Warning, Matt Robel

2010 Five Star Bank

2011 Roycroft Campus Corporation

2012 Allstate Insurance

2013 Visual Impact Signs

2014 Warning Electrical Services

2015 Robert Sowyrda
– “*The Piano Man*”

2017 Elma Press

2018 East Aurora Cooperative Market

2019 Nativity Lutheran Church

2023 Andrews’ Barber Parlor



**AURORA
DENTAL
CARE**

Dr. Michael G. Moore, DDS

92 Grey Street

East Aurora | NY | 14052

Phone: (716) 652-0190

Fax: (716) 652-2829

E-mail: info@auroradentalcare.com

www.AuroraDentalCare.com

Hey, Gang! Let's Put on a Season!

by Christie Koester Welsby

How are Aurora Players shows chosen? Choreographer Martha Graham once said, "Theater is a verb before it is a noun, an act before it is a place." Before the final product is performed for you here at the Roycroft Pavilion, our shows are first a verb through the hard work of our Play Reading Committee.

The Play Reading Committee, or PRC, can be considered one of the most important committees within Aurora Players. This committee recommends our three shows for mainstage productions in a single season, as well as shows for special engagements including Theatre in Hamlin Park and a holiday show.

The PRC consists of five to seven Aurora Players members or volunteers who may have directed for Aurora Players and understand the production and technical process. The committee works under the guidance of a committee chairperson. The members have technical knowledge and/or expertise in production, limitations for production, acting, costumes, lighting, music, technical support, set design, etc. Members serve on the PRC for no longer than five years, volunteer for at least two shows per season in any capacity and understand the production and technical limits of the Aurora Players.

This committee solicits submissions of the show proposals from the general membership, past and present directors,

previously unselected directors, and the WNY theater community. They read and evaluate all submissions based on the complexity of the production in relation to our capabilities. Finally and importantly, since not every show is right for our organization, the PRC must consider the balance between directors' show submissions and the best interest of Aurora Players and its mission.

It is perhaps the art of selecting a balanced season that can be the biggest challenge. Play Reading Committee member Mary Eckstein shares her personal experience with the PRC. "When reviewing submissions, the group takes great care to consider which submissions would appeal to the AP audiences, actors and the overall good of the organization. This process can prove to be a challenge if multiple submissions are viewed as a good choice to build a season, when only three will be selected. The PRC wants prospective directors to know that just because their submission was not selected for a particular season that it does not imply that their submission was a poor choice."

Once decisions on the submissions are finalized, two possible season selections are drafted and submitted to the AP Board for final consideration and decision making. Not long after the selections are submitted, the PRC begins the process again for our next season. We certainly would not be able to present the

caliber of shows at AP without the hard-working members of our Play Reading Committee!

Do you have a play or musical you'd like to direct for Aurora Players? If so, we invite volunteer directors to submit a musical or play for the 2024-25 season. Prospective directors may submit up to three plays. Please visit our website at www.auroraplayers.org or email the PRC at scripts@auroraplayers.org for more information.

This season's performances are the culmination of the Play Reading Committee's vision, and we are continually grateful for being able to share that vision with you. So on with the show and on with the season! ■

Casual Dining in an Area Museum



THE DOG BAR

Casual Fine Dining

6 miles south of Orchard Park on Route 240
West Falls, NY 14170

The Schenne Family

Steak :: Chicken :: Lamb :: Seafood

Thursday 5 - 9 pm

Friday 5 - 10 pm

Saturday 5 - 10 pm

Dine in or Carry Out

Reservations Appreciated
(716) 652-5550

EMBRACE THE LOCAL STAGE:

Discover Excellence in Community Theater



auroraplayers.org



INCLUSIVE THEATER OF WNY

Diversity Inclusion Respect



inclusivetheaterofwny.com



rockinghorseproductions.net

WESTERN|NY ACTS!

WNY ALLIANCE OF COMMUNITY THEATERS

Fontanese Folts Aubrecht Ernst

A R C H I T E C T S

*"Bringing New Life to the
Old Fire Hall"*



AURORA MUNICIPAL CENTER



ARCHITECTURE • PLANNING

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

6395 West Quaker Street Orchard Park, NY 14127
(716) 662-2200 www.ffae.biz

KEEP THE FOOTLIGHTS GLOWING

For over 90 years, Aurora Players has been a significant part of the cultural wealth of East Aurora and Western New York communities. Our patrons tell us they return again and again because Players' productions offer opportunities to share the many worlds of theatre and enjoy the characters that inhabit those worlds. To many of our members, the historic Roycroft Pavilion is the place to support artistic creativity and be creative.

You can help to keep the footlights of our beloved theater glowing and assist members of our community to continue the mission of Aurora Players:

"To create interest in, and foster enthusiasm for, the study of the dramatic arts."



Please consider remembering
AURORA PLAYERS
in your will or estate plans.

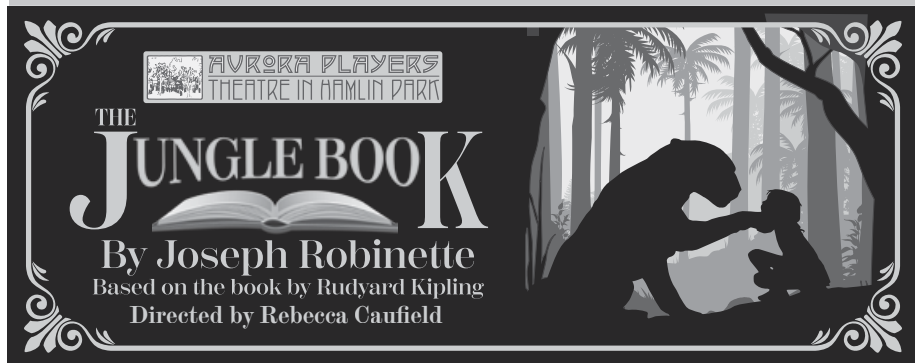
Planning for your future can be a very personal and private decision. Many of our friends and patrons share the desire to guarantee our future as a vital part of the community and have already made this decision to continue their generosity to Aurora Players beyond their lifetime.

Leaving a gift to Aurora Players in your will or estate plan is very simple. We encourage you to speak with your own attorney or financial advisor during your planning if you are interested. It can be as easy as stating the following:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to the Aurora Players, Inc. - federal tax identification number 16-6052466, a non-profit organization having an office at P.O. Box 206, East Aurora, New York 14052, the following..."

Your support makes our work possible today and for years to come.
Thank you for your generosity.

THEATRE IN HAMLIN PARK



Theatre In Hamlin Park's 4th Production: **THE JUNGLE BOOK**

by Rebecca Caufield

The trees of Hamlin Park were turned into a jungle for Theatre in Hamlin Park's fourth production, *The Jungle Book*. The story, by Joseph Robinette, is based on the 1894 collection of stories by Rudyard Kipling and intertwines the beloved tale of a lost boy Mowgli, a menagerie of jungle animals, and the red flower (fire) with scenes of 16-year-old Rudyard Kipling as he fights through his own jungle attempting to win the school writing contest by writing *Mowgli's Brothers*.

Director Rebecca J. Caufield brought together a cast of 15 talented actors from across the WNY region. Actors ranged in ages from 11 to 70 with each playing 2-4 characters. Wolves and monkeys dashed from one side of the stage to the other and actors often had a mere 60 seconds (or less) to change costumes before their next entrance.

Caufield says: "This cast is like a family to me and *The Jungle Book* is a show with family at its heart. Whether that family is given or chosen, we are all on a mission of self-discovery to find where we fit in this jungle we call life, all while enjoying the adventure to get there."

While the park was the ideal setting for this show, it did not come without obstacles, the biggest being the weather. Rehearsals were held longer at the Nativity Lutheran church due to the



cold nights of early summer. Once in the park, the Jungle team was often forced to either perform confined to the small stage outside or move the entire rehearsal inside. Once in public production, all show weekends were marked with threats of rain. Every Saturday saw at least one downpour either in the hours preceding or right during set-up time, pausing all activity. However, the clouds eventually cleared and the show went on. Fortunately, only one show was moved to the Sunday rain date. Social media was used to keep any potential audience informed and despite the often soggy park, over 1700 people attended the four-weekend run. We thank audience members for their generous donations

each year, which serve to keep this free program alive.

Theatre in Hamlin Park would like to acknowledge, with great thanks, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Brunson and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Stillman for their generous contributions toward the purchase of the new sound equipment used during this year's production. We are so very grateful to have this improvement to the Theatre in Hamlin Park experience as we continue to bring families together with an accessible theater experience for all ages. ■



Allen A. Ott, Jr. and Jim Dusel's

Reed's Liquors

163 Main Street • East Aurora, NY 14052

Mon-Thurs 9-9; Fri & Sat 9-10; Sun 12-5

716-652-1090



EAST AURORA'S OLDEST LIQUOR STORE

Celebrating 151 Years of Local News!

East Aurora Advertiser

AWARD WINNING JOURNALISM

The Only Locally Owned Newspaper

We have been documenting, publishing and distributing the first draft of local history since August 9, 1872. Our first publication was titled the Erie County Advertiser, so named because we were the first regional publication in the region. Shortly after launching, we consolidated our coverage area and became the East Aurora Advertiser.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

1 Year (52 issues) - \$69

Includes Print, Digital Access, and eEdition

Visit Us Online www.eastauratorany.com



710 Main Street, East Aurora, NY 14052 • 716-652-0320

ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP



Aurora Players offers Sponsorship Packages that provide your business with increased exposure in the community through multiple marketing opportunities.

Becoming a Sponsor and/or Playbill advertiser is a great way to show your support for the arts in East Aurora and to reach our theater patrons — not only within East Aurora, but from the surrounding towns as well. Our thousands of patrons include theater lovers from all of Erie County and beyond. When audience members see your ad in the Playbill, it creates a positive impression of your business. It demonstrates that you're an involved and supportive member of the community!

Besides promoting your business, a sponsorship or Playbill advertisement provides many other benefits to you and the community:

- It enhances your image by connecting with people when they are enjoying a theatrical experience that truly engages them..
- Many of our patrons explore the Village of East Aurora as part of their visit, often shopping and dining either before or after a performance. A sponsorship or advertisement will keep your organization top-of-mind.
- Your support helps to fund our youth programs, including the Annual Youth Scholarship and our ProjectSTAGE summer education and mentoring program.
- Through your support, Aurora Players productions attract visitors to East Aurora and enhance the image of our community's charming, artistic and creative heritage.

Please e-mail Kelly Campbell, Fundraising Chair, at **kannccampbell@gmail.com** or call us at **(716) 687-6727** to discuss your sponsorship options today! More information is also available at www.auroraplayers.org

Thank you for your continued support!



AURORA LIQUOR

*Best selection of wine
and spirits in town!*

Aurora Village Shopping Center
123 Grey Street, East Aurora, NY 14052

Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:30 am – 8:00 pm

Friday – Saturday 9:30 am – 9:00 pm

Sunday 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

716-652-6734

Check us out on Facebook!

AVRORA PLAYERS



PROUDLY PRESENTS

DEATHTRAP

by Ira Levin



Directed by **Christine Estabrook**

DEATHTRAP is presented by special arrangement with
Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection.
www.dramatists.com

JUNE 7-9 | 14-16 | 21-23 | 2024

Roycroft Pavilion :: 166 South Grove Street :: EA|NY

A Message from AP's President



Tim Musial

“The mission of the theatre, after all, is to change, to raise the consciousness of people to their human possibilities.”

— Arthur Miller

Welcome, *Aurora Players members, patrons and theater guests, to another season of live theater in the heart of East Aurora; a season of laughter, drama, and mystery. We gather here in the friendly confines of this historic Roycroft building to experience the shows brought to the stage through the hard work and dedication of the directors, actors, and production crews – and we do so in seasons of change: summer moving into fall, winter into spring, and lastly, spring back to summer.*

So, too, are changes evident within the organization. *New volunteers take on challenges and roles they are learning from seasoned hands, while the veterans embrace expanded opportunities themselves. Directors new to the AP stage are leading our fall and summer offerings, while production crews also have fresh recruits in critical positions, all lending their expertise and experience to ensure that our shows continue to entertain and delight with the quality that is Aurora Players’ hallmark.*

Changes don't stop there, though. *Many of the committees crucial to Aurora Players’ continued success also have fresh contributors: keeping the group and its activities visible to the community and to AP members; working to secure our financial stability; and handling the requests for season tickets, patron donations, and membership. Without the energies of these volunteers to do the “behind-the-scenes” work, this group would not exist. This truly is a theater based on community effort and dedication.*

One thing seems changeless, though: *the tremendous support of our season ticket holders, patrons and members, and the community. These vital partners make what we do at Aurora Players worth all the time and labor invested; along with, of course, the applause with which you grace us at the end of every performance.*

We hope that the plays you enjoy this season *give you a laugh-filled respite from your day-to-day routine, make you think about something differently, and intrigue you enough to unravel a mystery. Live theater is a unique experience: one that puts both the actors onstage and the audience in the seats into a shared realm, where that connection affects both groups in significant ways. There’s nothing else quite like it. We are excited and honored to share that distinctive bond with you.*



Sincerely,

Tim Musial

President, Aurora Players Board of Directors

The Cast (In Order of Appearance)

Sidney BruhlLES BAILEY

Myra BruhlLAURIE ORAVEC

Clifford AndersonTALON POWELL

Helga ten Dorp MARY ECKSTEIN

Porter Milgrim MARK ECKSTEIN

Director's Note

A Director's Note:

How often have you jokingly said:

"I'd like to put masking tape over so-and-so's mouth!" at a presentation.

or ... *"I wish so-and-so would get a great job offer – on the moon!"*

or ... *"I wish so-and-so would take a long walk off a short pier."*

What would *you* do to be successful ... again?

That's the quandary that Sidney Bruhl finds himself contemplating.

Hang on for a ride that starts at the very top of this "dark comedy" and ends in a most unusual conflict ... all in the name of success!

– Christine Estabrook

Intermission and Recording Policy

There will be one 15-minute intermission between Act One and Act Two.

As a courtesy to the actors and audience members, and in compliance with Aurora Players policy and its contractual obligations, we ask that you do not use [flash] cameras, audio recording, and video recording devices during the performance.

VIDEO RECORDING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS OR STREAMS IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED, A VIOLATION OF THE AUTHOR'S RIGHTS, AND ACTIONABLE UNDER UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT LAW. **THANK YOU.**

Production Crews

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Producers | Rebecca J. Caufield and Randy West |
| Director | Christine Estabrook |
| Assistant to the Director | Chris Estabrook |
| Stage Manager | Erin Francis |
| Assistant Stage Manager | Neal Bachman |
| Stage Crew | George Lambert, Darlene Schmigiel, Amanda Weber |
| Costumes | Kim Hicks |
| Props | Erin Francis, Mike Wier |
| Set Design | Charlie Carter |
| Set Construction Chief | Randy West |
| Set Crew | Matt Bohlen, Julie Dana, John Dana, Chris Estabrook, Lindsay Harris, Robert Krolczyk, Ben Petryszak, Mike McGreevy, Amanda Firefly Weber, Mike Wier |
| Set Decoration | Julie Dana |
| Painting Crew | Matt Bohlen, John Dana, Mark Eckstein, Mary Eckstein, Beth Francis, Erin Francis, Lindsay Harris, Julie Hoth, Chris Liberti, Laurie Oravec, Rachel Wach, Amanda Firefly Weber |
| Lights and Sound Design | Lowell Sylwester |
| Light and Sound Board Op | Quinn Galuski |
| Music composed and performed by | John Hanks |
| Fight Coordinator | Daniel Barone |
| Marketing | Laurie Oravec, Patricia Hoefler, George Lambert Mary Loliger, Tim Musial, Ian Ronan, Johnny Woods |
| Photography | Dori Shear-McGowan |
| Front of House Manager | Mark Eckstein |
| Box Office | Gail Ruth Arthurs, Matt Bohlen, Rebecca Caufield, Kimberly Hicks, Patricia Hoefler, Cher Mackiewicz, Carine Mardorossian, Jessica K Rasp, Roger Stephenson, SaraBeth Williams |
| House Managers..... | Catherine Burkhart, Patricia Hoefler, Jeff Maris, Tim Musial |
| Ushers | Jennifer Brayman, Brenda Cunningham, Marilynn Cunningham, Lynn Fischer, Rachelle Francis, Patricia Hoefler, Johanna Kull, Ben Little, Cher Mackiewicz, Jeff Maris, Lydia Pikul, Rebecca Popiel, Sarah Prictor, Mary Ann Reisdorf, Roger Stephenson, Melissa Willey, John Woods. |

OUR 91ST SEASON OF LIVE THEATRE IN EAST AURORA

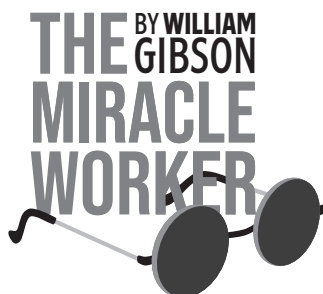


AURORA PLAYERS PRESENTS OUR 2024-25 SEASON



Directed by
Rebecca Caufield
Music Direction
Bob Sowyrda
Choreography
Rebecca Runge

Onstage: **October 11-13, 18-20, and 25-27, 2024**



Directed by
Don Wesley

Onstage: **March 28-30, April 4-6, and 11-13, 2025**



Directed by
Mark Eckstein

Onstage: **June 6-8, 13-15, and 20-22, 2025**

For more information:
auroraplayers.org or 716.687.6727

Cast Who's Who



Christine Estabrook - Director - has starred in hit Broadway shows, won accolades and acting awards for off-Broadway performances, and earned a Master of Fine Arts degree from Yale Drama School. After graduation, Christine spent four years performing at the Eugene O'Neill Playwrights Conference. She tread the boards in Durangs' ***Baby With the Bathwater, Blue Window*** and won a coveted Obie Award for Pastoral. She starred in numerous Broadway and off-Broadway plays earning Drama Desk nominations for ***North Shore Fish, Win/Lose/Draw*** and winning one for ***The Boy's Next Door***. Christine played all the Adult Women (5 roles) in the original Broadway production of the Tony Award winning musical ***Spring Awakening***, from 2007-2009. She has taught acting courses and workshops at the ART Institute at Harvard University, in the MFA program at the University of California in San Diego, in the BA program at the University of Southern California, as a guest lecturer at Niagara University, at AMDA Los Angeles, and SUNY Oswego. Ms Estabrook has had memorable roles in film, and television. You can see her work in ***Mad Men, American Horror Story, Designated Survivor, Desperate Housewives*** and ***Penny Dreadful: City of Angels*** among many others. In 2024 Ms. Estabrook was honored to be inducted into the East Aurora High School Distinguished Alumni, Hall of Fame. Personally, "I want to look back and say I contributed of my soul with the time I was given and spark a creative spirit in people,"



Les Baily - Sidney Bruhl - is a native of Niagara Falls, Les now resides in Cheektowaga with his lovely wife Carol, without whose support he would not be successful. Les has appeared in or directed over 100 plays and musicals. He is a past president of the Board of Trustees for the Niagara Regional Theater Guild (Niagara Falls Little Theatre), one of the oldest community theater groups in New York. Les has performed in ***Sleuth, I Do, I Do, The Crucible***, and ***The Odd Couple*** among many other productions. He directed such shows as ***Camelot, Man of LaMancha, Fiddler on the Roof, Tuesdays With Morrie***, and ***Steel Magnolias***. Les has also performed in ***The Little Foxes*** (Amherst Players), ***And Then There Were None*** and ***Bus Stop*** (Aurora Players), ***Last of the Red Hot Lovers*** (Champagne Dinner Theatre), ***Deathtrap*** (Hamburg Little Theatre), as Sherlock Holmes in ***Hound of The Baskervilles*** and in ***Witness for the Prosecution*** (Lancaster Opera House), the national premiere of ***Ripper*** (an original local play) at the Lockport Palace Theater, ***Love Letters*** (Silver Lining Productions at the Niagara Arts and Cultural Center). Other roles include John Dickenson in ***1776***, the Governor/Innkeeper in ***Man of LaMancha***, and Inspector Kemp in ***Young Frankenstein*** (all Niagara Regional Theater Guild). Les also directed ***The Mousetrap*** and ***Arsenic and Old Lace***, at the Lancaster Opera House for The Mystery Company, for whom Les also performs in dinner theatre murder mysteries. Les most recently directed ***The Crucible, 12 Angry Men, The Miracle Worker*** and ***Witness for the Prosecution*** for the Niagara Regional Theatre Guild. You may have seen Les in more than a dozen TV commercials. Les, now retired, managed three customer service departments for FedEx Trade Networks a subsidiary of Federal Express. He enjoys golf, gardening, and reading on his patio in the nice weather, and plays tennis all year.

Cast Who's Who



Laurie Oravec - Myra Bruhl - last appeared onstage in Aurora Players's 2022 spring production of *Amateurs* as Irene Chilmark. During *Hair*, 2021's fall musical, she loved the challenge of wearing a mustache as one of the fathers. Prior to that, she played Raynelle Turpin in *Dearly Departed*, was one of the waiters in *She Loves Me*, and Lady Clementina in *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime*. She has also performed with Lancaster Opera House and Springville Center for the Arts. Laurie was a member of the Aurora Players Board of Directors through 2023, serving as its president for one year. She is the chair of the marketing committee and co-chair of the volunteer committee. A lifelong lover of theatre and dance, Laurie is grateful to have discovered Aurora Players seven years ago and for the good friends she has made there. She retired from Fisher-Price long ago and is most thankful for her best friend and husband, who runs lines with her, is patient with her many evening meetings, and even deals with her obsessive gardening habits, which result in haphazard dinners at 8:00. Bruce, you are truly one in a million.



Talon Powell - Clifford Anderson - is thrilled to be making his Aurora Players debut in *Deathtrap*. Being an only child, Talon would often fantasize about the different worlds and realities he wished he could escape into; he found himself pantomiming the behaviors of his favorite video game characters or putting himself into the worlds of his beloved childhood movies or TV shows. Every time family gatherings would happen he would force everyone to watch a full play that he wrote, directed and starred in, and would even involve some audience members to play a part. Talon studied the behaviors of those around him and adopted them. At the age of 13, Talon founded his desire for the craft of acting and immediately began taking classes. He has been blessed to work with and learn from Frank Rossi, Kate Laconti, Lorna Hill, Darleen-Pickering Hummert, and more. Talon's love for the craft and his focus on the integrity of the art form are what drive him forward.



Mary Eckstein - Helga ten Dorp - is a veteran of community theater, and *Deathtrap* marks Mary's sixth production with Aurora Players. Some of her more memorable roles include Ensign Nellie Forbush (*South Pacific*), the Witch (*Into the Woods*), Mable (*The Pajama Game*), Fraulein Schneider (*Cabaret*), Amanda Wingfield (*The Glass Menagerie*), and Polly Wyeth (*Other Desert Cities*). Yet, her all-time favorite role in her life repertoire is that she plays the wife of her beloved husband, Mark Eckstein.



Mark Eckstein - Porterr Milgrim - After appearing in four musicals and a Readers Theater with Aurora Players, Mark is in his first drama. He has directed, produced, stage managed, and designed and run sound for various Aurora Players shows; served five years on the Board of Directors; served on various committees; and coordinates the "front of house" volunteers for performances – house managers, box office, refreshment stand, and ushers (including his 91-year-old mother). His favorite roles include Fagin in *Oliver!*, Pontius Pilate in *Jesus Christ, Superstar*, Alfred P. Dolittle in *My Fair Lady*, and John Adams in *1776* – none of which he has ever performed. He thanks his wife Mary, "who knows me and loves me anyway."

2023-2024 Board of Directors

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| President..... | Tim Musial |
| Vice President | Patricia Hoefler |
| Recording Secretary | Rebecca Caufield |
| Members-at-Large | Catherine Burkhart, Geortge Lambert, Gail Stengel, Roger Stephenson |
| Treasurer..... | Lowell Sylwester |

Aurora Players Board meetings are held monthly.

All are welcome to attend general membership meetings:
November 14, 2024 (7:00pm at the historic Roycroft Pavilion).

Aurora Players is a member of American Association of Community Theatre (AACT),
The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP),
Greater East Aurora Chamber of Commerce (GEACC),
Theatre Association of New York State (TANYS), and
Western New York Association of Community Theaters (WNY ACTS!).

Special Thanks

Julie and John Dana, Jon Weiss, Dori Shear-McGowan,
Aurora Theatre, Bee Newspapers, East Aurora Advertiser/Elma Review,
Greater East Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Pizza Del Aureo's,
Elma Press, UPS Store #5490 (East Aurora), Village of East Aurora

Please Support Western New York Community Theatre

Alden Christian Theatre Society, The Ghostlight Theatre,
Inclusive Theater of Western New York, Niagara Regional Theatre Guild,
Rocking Horse Productions, Springville Players, Towne Players



**AURORA
PLAYERS
THEATRE IN
HAMLIN PARK
7:30 PM
FREE**

MADELEINE L'ENGLE'S

**A WRINKLE
IN TIME**

ADAPTED BY 
MORGAN GOULD

AUGUST

02-04, 09-11, & 16-18

ROYCROFT PAVILION OUTDOOR STAGE

Bring your blankets and lawnchairs

HAMLIN PARK :: S. GROVE & PROSPECT

**DIRECTED BY
PAIGE BATT**

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
JOEL MURPHY**

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



Committee Chairs

STANDING COMMITTEES

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Costume Loft | Kim Hicks, Nancy Johnson |
| Facility | Lowell Sylwester |
| Finance | Gail Stengel |
| Front of House | Mark Eckstein |
| Fundraising | Board |
| Historian | Dori Shear-McGowan, Kim Hicks |
| Marketing | Laurie Oravec |
| Membership | Jason Gonser, Christie Koester-Welsby |
| Nominating | Pat Hoefler |
| Playbill | Kelly Campbell, Tim Musial |
| Play Reading | Nancy Johnson |
| Props and Set Furnishings | Tara Potzler, Reneé Ronan |
| Publicity and Public Relations | Laurie Oravec, Patricia Hoefler |
| Readers Theater | Catherine Burkhart, Jeff Maris, Karen Phillips Maris |
| Scholarship Program | Rebecca Caufield |
| SRO Editor | Alli Pelletreau, Pat Hoefler |
| Volunteerism | Tim Musial, Laurie Oravec |
| Web Master | Ian and Gina Ronan |

EVENTS

| | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Banquet 2024..... | Catherine Burkhart, Rebecca Caufield |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|

AD HOC COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS

| | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| GEACC Business & Tourism Council | Laurie Oravec |
| Graphics | Tim Musial |
| ProjectSTAGE | Erin Francis |
| Script Library..... | Kimberly Hicks, Rebecca Caufield |
| Strategic Planning..... | Board |
| Theatre in Hamlin Park | Justyne Harris |

2023-24 PRODUCERS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>One Man, Two Guvnors</i> | Christie Koester-Welsby, Sofia Kull |
| <i>Proof</i> | Mark Eckstein |
| <i>Deathtrap</i> | Rebecca Caufield, Randy West |
| <i>Wrinkle in Time</i> | Justyne Harris |
| <i>Project Stage</i> | Erin Francis |

We would like to thank all of these members for their volunteerism, their continued efforts, and their never-ending support of Aurora Players.

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE CHAIRS ARE KEY TO AP's SUCCESS

Leading Friend

Dan and Margaret Brunson
Ferguson-Stillman Charitable Fund
The Moglia-Cannons

Supporting Friend

Michael and Dana Wymer

Friend of Aurora Players

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Thomas R. Alcamo | Betsy & Kimberly Hicks | Jay M. Rimes & |
| William J. & | Tricia & Peter Hughes | Juliana M. Consoli |
| Mary K. Barren | Alison Hyde | Bill & Nan Ronan |
| Rebecca & Karen Caufield | Karen Kellogg | Gary & Judy Smith |
| Jim and Judi Coder | Sofia Kull | Susan Sudlik & |
| William & Barbara Dadey | Irene Lockwood | William J. Falkner III |
| Mark & Mary Eckstein | David & Claudia Miller | Lowell Sylwester |
| Stephanie T. Garvey | Dr. Martin & Lynn Nowak | Jeffrey J. Thompson |
| Lee & Joanne Gearhart | Susan Z. Ott | Tom & Peggy Uhteg |
| Judith Geer | Pelletreau Family | Don & Penny Wesley |
| Susan Haskell & | Pat & Tina Pierce | Evaleen M. Ziemba |
| John Golan | Parker & Vicky Reed | |

Donors

*We gratefully acknowledge the following donors
for their additional support of Aurora Players.*

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Thomas R. Alcamo | Martin Hess | Ferguson-Stillman |
| Therese Cich | Richard Holstein | Charitable Fund |
| Paul Dugas | Stephen Jakiel | Jason Tillman |
| Melissa Cumming | The Musial Family | Patrick Walh |
| Ruthie Consiglio | Jeanne Navagh | Carolyn Walters |
| Michael Casacci | Laurie Oravec | Jerry Yeates |
| Rebecca and Karen | Paula Penepent | Kathy Youngs |
| Caufield | Mary Schopper | Sally Zelasko |
| Lynn Fischer | Deborah Simon | |
| Bernard Calkins | Donna Skobjak | |

In Appreciation

We gratefully acknowledge our Patrons, Members, Season Ticket holders, and Donors and sincerely thank them for their continued support. For information on becoming a Patron, joining Aurora Players, purchasing season tickets and gift cards, or donating to Aurora Players, please visit our Box Office during intermission or pick up a brochure in the lobby.

Season Tickets :: Patron Packages :: Membership

FLEXIBLE SEASON TICKET PACKAGES

Aurora Players season tickets packages are available for sale through October 31, 2024.

Season tickets holders enjoy the following benefits:

SAVE OVER 15% – A season ticket package of three tickets costs just \$50 – that's a savings of \$10 for three adult tickets.

FLEXIBILITY – Use your tickets how you choose. Use all three for one show for multiple people or use one ticket per show for an individual—the choice is yours!

EARLY ACCESS – Secure your seats before ticket sales open to the general public.

NO LIMIT ON SAVINGS – Buy unlimited season ticket packages through October 31, 2024 — enjoy multiple shows throughout the season with friends and family!

BECOME AN AURORA PLAYERS PATRON

Revenue from ticket sales and concessions covers just the cost to produce shows, pay utilities, insurance and other ongoing expenses. Patron donations enable us to upgrade equipment, pay for special projects, offer community programs, and improve our beautiful space here at the historic Roycroft Pavilion Theater.

Patrons receive at least three season ticket packages, additional discounted tickets, and grateful acknowledgements on our patron plaques in the theater lobby and all programs.

Recent patron donations have allowed us to purchase a new sound system for Theatre in Hamlin Park, a laptop for the box office, and new copier. Our current wish list includes painting the outside of the building and completing renovations behind the stage.

Perhaps you can help us reach this year's goals!

Patron Packages start at \$250 and are partially tax-deductible (net of season ticket value). More information at www.auroraplayers.org or please call our box office at **716-687-6727**. We'd love to hear from you!

AURORA PLAYERS MEMBERSHIP

Members of Aurora Players elect our Board of Directors and vote on important matters such as changes in the corporate Bylaws and Financial Policy. You can become a member with an annual donation of as little as \$20.00 for a single membership (\$15 for students) or \$30 for families. ***Members enjoy the following benefits:***

EARLY ACCESS – Secure your seats before ticket sales open to the general public.

QUARTERLY E-NEWSLETTER – Stay in the loop on the latest Aurora Players news and special events.

DIRECT NOTICE – Be among the first to know about auditions, shows, special meetings and other important information via email.

SOCIALIZE! – Join fellow members for at least two membership meetings per year and the annual banquet in September.

Annual memberships expire on September 30th of each year.

Autographs



Deathtrap



SAKOWSKI & MARKELLO, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**6861 SENECA STREET
ELMA, NEW YORK 14059
716-655-0102**

**JOSEPH SAKOWSKI
JEFFREY MARKELLO**

WWW.ELMALAW.COM

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Rolling with the 716! ProjectSTAGE 2023 was a huge success!

Theater is a passion ... for some people. When people who are passionate about theater get a chance to work together, two things happen: the magical and the unexpected. It was my pleasure over two weeks to be with these talented, young, creative theater people. They are a family. For the most part they have been together for years in ProjectSTAGE Act I, Act II and now Act III. There were some “newbies,” who were in short order adopted by the “veterans.” I don’t think the audience could tell in the final production who was new and who were old-hands!

I challenged them to not only act in the plays but also to try directing plays written by local writers (the 716) and they embraced the challenge.



I was able to get plays from local playwrights through my Buffalo/WNY theater connections. The students read over 20 plays and decided on nine ten-minute plays.

The plays ranged from silly comedies to pretty heavy dramatic pieces with some strong language. All the kids were/are mature enough to recognize that strong language is real and realistic and they were also firm in their artistic selves to stand by the playwright’s vision and truth. This commitment and their acting and directing talent gives me great hope for the future of theater!

Thanks to all the parents and families of these amazing children for their support and encouragement. A very special thanks to: Erin Francis for all of her help with



production and for stage managing, and Lowell Sylwester for lighting and sound design. The ProjectSTAGE program doesn't happen without Erin Francis! She is the indispensable person!

The kids were all wonderful! Thanks Timothy, Amelia, Kaitlin, Cate, Eve, Avary, Zech, Elijah, Kanen, Elias, Maddie and Beth!

And finally, a special thanks to the playwrights! It ALL starts with the words on the page. That is where the magic starts! This year's 716 playwrights: Donna Hoke, Matt Boyle, The Medaille Summer Theatre Ensembles Playwrights of the 2018 and 2019 classes (their directors—Bella Poynton and Jon Elston), Jenn Dlugos, Charlie Hatton, Madison Sedlor, Gigi McCann, T.L. Sherwood, and Noah Stoddard! ■

*Thank you to all who supported
ProjectSTAGE 2023!*

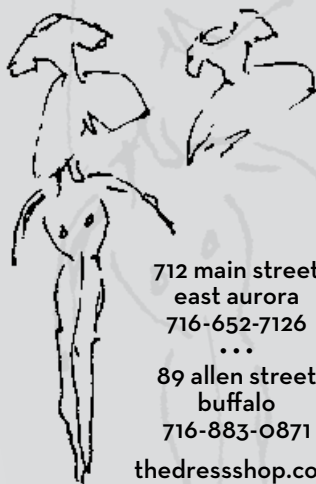
—Matt Boyle, Director
2023 ProjectSTAGE, Act III
Summer Program



the dress shop

&

WallflowerVintage.com



712 main street
east aurora
716-652-7126

...

89 allen street
buffalo
716-883-0871

thedressshop.com

Call AOG for all your Vision Care Needs

Designer Optical Department
State-of-the-Art Equipment
Friendly, Efficient Check-In & Check-Out
Large, Comfortable Waiting Area



980 West Maple Court • Elma, NY 14059
716-652-0870 • Fax 716-652-2071

aogpc.com

Restoring Confidence In Your Car Since 1956



BRUCE'S
AUTOMOTIVE

Free Wi-Fi

VISA  DISCOVER

We Specialize in Import Vehicles

**Come
Check
Us Out
and
Enjoy**

\$15⁰⁰ OFF

**Any Service
Over \$100.00**

One Coupon Per Customer

brucesautomotive.net | 716-652-2940

518 Main Street | East Aurora, New York
MON-FRI: 8:30 AM – 5:30 PM

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Aurora Players is pleased to have so many sponsors and advertisers who support us both financially, to underwrite a portion of our productions, as well as through in-kind services, which help defray out-of-pocket expenses. Please take a few minutes to review the ads in our Playbill and, as you have a need or an opportunity, patronize the many businesses that support your local theater. When you do stop in, please mention you saw their ad in the Aurora Players Playbill.

In addition, we would like to recognize the businesses that participate with Aurora Players in other ways — as patrons, members, and even by bringing their professional skills to our productions.

We owe our success to these special supporters of Aurora Players — *Thank You!*

YES, YOU CAN BE A PLAYER TOO!

***Join the Fun and Excitement of Creating Live Theatre
With Any of These Activities:***



Photo: Dori Shear-McGowan

- Learning to Produce a Show
- Serving as a Stage Manager
- Being in a Show
- Helping with Show Marketing
- Working on Props or Set Decoration
- Designing Sets
- Building Sets
- Performing as a Musician
(Musicals)
- Sewing or Altering Costumes
- Serving on the Playbill Committee
- Lighting and Sound Technician
and/or Designer

***For More Information, Please Email Us at Volunteer@auroraplayers.org
or Leave a Message on the Box Office Phone at 716-687-6727***

AP LIFE MEMBERS

| | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|---|
| 1964 | Betty Ford Jim Ford | 2002 | Rosemary Barney Elizabeth McCuen |
| 1978 | Glo Gallagher Roberta Rathbun Gary Troust | 2005 | Michael W. Breen |
| 1979 | Charles Merla Delores Merla | 2006 | Mary Moebius Kathleen Murray Peter G. Taylor |
| 1980 | John Spooner Marybeth Spooner | 2009 | Ben Little Karen Little Tim Musial Don Seel Nancy Seel |
| 1981 | Roger Stowell Harriet Woodworth | 2011 | Gail Ruth Arthurs Lynn Fischer Kathleen Frost Susan Musial |
| 1982 | Monna Rose | 2012 | Jessica K. Rasp |
| 1987 | Julie Shed Walter Shed | 2015 | Michael Nowicki |
| 1994 | Dan Brunson Carl Burgwardt Pat Durham Tom Durham Pat Lefort Billie Lucas Jan McKellar | 2016 | Mike Starzynski |
| 1995 | Becky Pfohl | 2017 | Kimberly Hicks |
| 1998 | Melanie Desiderio Audrey Dillon Bill Erdley Bill Estabrook Ann Mosner Jim Mosner Richard Rathbun Bob Steck Carol Steck Sylvia Troust | 2018 | Margaret Brunson |
| 1999 | Chuck McCormick Jane McCormick Tina Nowicki | 2019 | Rebecca Popiel |
| 2000 | Julia Ciesinski Gary Cunningham | 2023 | Catherine Burkhart Alli Pelletreau |
| 2001 | Bill Murphy Al Sleeper Glenda Sleeper | | |

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

Life membership in the organization may be awarded in recognition and appreciation for long, outstanding contribution and dedication to the organization. **Qualifications for Life Membership** are as follows:

- Member in good standing for 20 years or more.
- Distinguished service to the organization in varied areas of its activities.
- Consistent record of encouraging and furthering the aims of The Aurora Players, Inc.





Award-Winning Menu

72 Beers on Tap

200 Liquors

Amazing Wine List

Legendary Service



**LET US EXCEED
YOUR EXPECTATIONS**

Griffon Gastropub

634 Main Street
East Aurora, NY 14052

716.714.9301

www.GriffonGastropub.com

One Man, Two Guvnors

by Richard Bean

Brighton, England. 1963. Change is in the air and Francis Henshall is looking to make his mark. Fired from a skiffle band and in search of work, he finds himself employed by small-time gangster Roscoe Crabbe, who is in town to collect a fee from his fiancée's gangster father. But Roscoe is really Rachel, posing as her own dead brother, herself in love with Stanley Stubbers (her brother's killer) who, in turn, becomes our hero's other 'guvnor'. Fighting a mounting sense of confusion, Francis goes out of his way to serve both bosses. But with the distractions of a pneumatic book keeper, a self-important actor and select members of the criminal fraternity (not to mention his own mammoth appetite) to contend with, how long can he keep them apart? Richard Bean's hilarious comedy received 5-star reviews from every London newspaper and was the hit of the 2012 Broadway season. ■



Based on *The Servant of Two Masters* by Carlo Goldoni
with songs by Grant Olding

(courtesy of Dramatists Play Service)

Philipps & Brooks

Accounting and Income Tax Services

76 Riley Street, East Aurora

716-652-9373

Proof

by David Auburn



On the eve of her twenty-fifth birthday, Catherine, a troubled young woman, has spent years caring for her brilliant but unstable father, a famous mathematician. Now, following his death, she must deal with her own volatile emotions; the arrival of her estranged sister, Claire; and the attentions of Hal, a former student of her father's who hopes to find valuable work in the 103 notebooks that her father left behind. Over the long weekend that follows, a burgeoning romance and the discovery of a mysterious notebook draw Catherine into the most difficult problem of all: How much of her father's madness—or genius—will she inherit? ■

(courtesy of Dramatists Play Service)



Arts & Crafts Show 2024

FREE admission and a BASKET RAFFLE
to benefit arts & crafts in our community

September 7th & 8th

10am - 4pm



Scan to
view our
Facebook

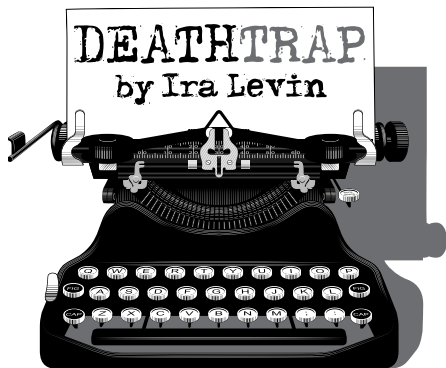
Clarence Town Park
Clubhouse & Large Pavilion
10405 Main Street Clarence NY

For more information contact
Clarencearts@gmail.com

Deathtrap

by *Ira Levin*

Comfortably ensconced in his charming Connecticut home, Sidney Bruhl, a successful writer of Broadway thrillers, is struggling to overcome a dry spell which has resulted in a string of failures and a shortage of funds. A possible break in his fortunes occurs when he receives a script from a student in the seminar he has been conducting at a nearby college—a thriller that Sidney recognizes immediately as a potential Broadway smash. Sidney's plan, devised with his wife's help, is to offer collaboration to the student for co-credit. Or is it? *Deathtrap* provides twists and turns of devilish cleverness, and offers hilariously sudden shocks in such abundance that audiences will be spellbound until the very last moment. ■



(courtesy of Dramatists Play Service)

A black and white photograph of a spotlight shining on a large, stylized letter 'L' inside a circle. Below the circle, the text "PROUD TO SUPPORT AURORA PLAYERS" is written in bold, capital letters. At the bottom, the website "lawleyinsurance.com" is displayed in a large, bold font.

PROUD TO SUPPORT
**AURORA
PLAYERS**

lawleyinsurance.com

Lawley

INSURANCE | EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Break a Leg!

**just be sure that
you're covered.**



EXPERIENCE ROYCROFT

A National Historic Landmark
in the Heart of East Aurora, NY



Visit our website to learn more about our classes and events

2023 EVENTS

 FALL
FEST 

SEPT. 30TH & OCT. 1ST

 Holiday
Show

DEC. 2ND & 3RD

2024 EVENTS

FOUNDER'S
JUN. 1ST

Day

ART & ANTIQUE
SHOW

JUN. 29TH & 30TH

TOURS  CLASSES  SHOPPING

31 SOUTH GROVE STREET | EAST AURORA | NEW YORK
(716) 655-0261 | ROYCROFTCAMPUSCORP.COM

IN MEMORIAM

*Happy Times When We Were Together
Hold Memories That Will Last Forever*

Clarice R. Burgwardt

Robert Corp

Barry Darin

Alvin Fontanese

Carla Frio

Paul George

Henry Koningisor

Carl Kopp

Phyllis Loersch Starch Gardner

Carol Musial

Elizabeth Ann Wechter

Jeff Wichtowski



**GET REWARDED.
BE HAPPY.**



DOWNLOAD THE APP
REGISTER THE APP
ORDER FOOD ON THE APP
EARN POINTS ON THE APP
REDEEM POINTS ON THE APP



ACCEPTING THE AWARD...

We shook things up with the 2023 Aurora Players Banquet in September! It was a well-attended brunch at stunning Suncliff On The Lake in Derby. Lake Erie and sunshine provided a gorgeous backdrop to celebrate the 2022-2023 season, recognize our volunteers and actors with awards and catch up with friends, old and new. All enjoyed the chance to visit, laugh together and get a little preview of the upcoming season.



NEWCOMER AWARD

SaraBeth Williams

WORKING AWARD

Patti Best

Ian Ronan

Dori Shear-McGowan

Michael Wier

JOHN C. BRIGGS SERVICE AWARD

Mark Eckstein

Erin Francis

FEATURED ACTRESS

Isabella Ruof

(Cassie Cooper, *Rumors*)

FEATURED ACTOR

Anthony Wizner

(Glenn Cooper, *Rumors*)

LEAD ACTRESS

Maryna Seufert

(Jill Tanner, *Butterflies Are Free*)

LEAD ACTOR

Joel Murphy (Lenny Ganz, *Rumors*)

AP CELEBRATES THE 2022-23 SEASON

THANK YOU, 2022-23 DIRECTORS

Joel Murphy, Paul Blackwell, Dr. Madeline Harts, Gina Schuster – *Into the Woods*

John Szablewski – *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*

Reneé M. Ronan – *Rumors*

David Hall – *Butterflies Are Free*

Matt Boyle – *Project STAGE*

Rebecca Caufield – *The Jungle Book*

THANK YOU, 2022-23 PRODUCTION CREWS

Deep appreciation is extended to our producers, costumers, stage managers, actors, musicians, set designers, builders, painters, furnishers and decorators, prop masters, lighting and sound technicians, hair and makeup stylists and production crews for their dedication and efforts to ensure the artistic and financial success of our productions. **They are all stars of Aurora Players.**

Chris Barusic

Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker

Setting the Benchmark for Excellence in Real Estate!

MILLIONS SOLD

BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY...

**HUNDREDS OF FAMILIES SERVED
AND COUNTING...**

**THESE HAPPY SELLERS & BUYERS
ALL HAD CHOICES.**

BUYING OR SELLING YOUR HOME IS A BIG DECISION.
LET ME PUT MY EXPERIENCE TO WORK FOR YOU,
AND HELP YOU GET THE RESULTS YOU WANT.

CHOOSE WISELY. CHOOSE CHRIS.

*In today's market, it's never been
more important to work with a
local professional*



Real Estate Services

FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE & PROVEN RESULTS CONTACT:



Chris Barusic

Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker

C: (716) 863.2110

ChrisBarusic@HowardHanna.com

6505 E Quaker Street • Orchard Park, NY 14127



615 Oakwood Ave :: EA, NY 14052
716.655.3345

Gourmet Pizzas
Traditional Pizzas
Wings :: Salads
Grandwiches
Wraps :: Sides
Open Daily
Take Out & Delivery

Mon-Thurs: 10AM-10PM :: Fri & Sat: 10AM-11PM :: Sun: 11AM-10PM

Aurora Women's Club

Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

Volunteers Dedicated to Community Service

*Opportunities for fellowship and making a difference
that come with community volunteer service.*

*Together we will meet the challenges of today
as we build a better tomorrow.*

*For more information or membership
please call Becky at 716-857-0054.*



ARB

Heating & Cooling

- Heating
- Cooling
- Plumbing
- Electrical

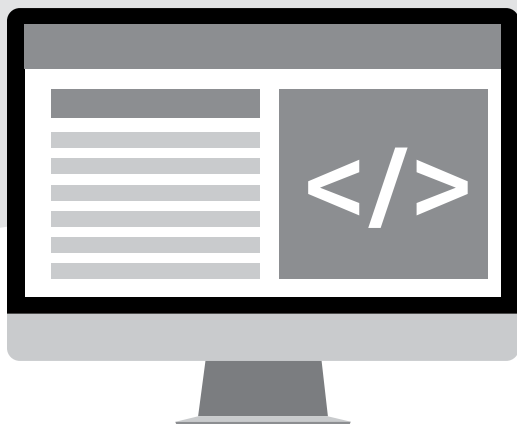
Call for Free Estimate

RICK BOROWSKI

1522 Underhill Road
East Aurora, New York 14052

PHONE 716.805.0122

EMAIL rick.borowski@arbheatingandcooling.com



- ▶ **WordPress Website Design**
- ▼ **Maintenance & Support**
- ◀ **Development**
- ▼ **Hosting**
- ▶ **SEO & Optimization**
- ◀ **Logo Design & Branding**



Set up a consultation!
graphiclux.com



SCAN ME



We'll never wish you good luck.

But we *do* hope you break a leg this season.

gelia 
MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

ADULT CARE SERVICES

Fox Run Orchard Park 2

ARTS / ENTERTAINMENT

Schoolhouse Gallery 5

WNY ACTS! 11

AUTOMOTIVE

Bruce's Automotive 22

BEAUTY

Andrews' Barber Parlor 6

BUILDING / CONSTRUCTION

Fontanese, Folts, Aubrecht,
Ernst Architects 12

CHURCHES /

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Unitarian Universalist Church of
East Aurora INSIDE FRONT COVER

COMMUNICATIONS / MARKETING

East Aurora Advertiser 16

Gelia Marcom + Martech 35

Graphic Lux 34

CLUBS

Aurora Women's Club 33

Clarence Arts & Crafts Society... 26

DENTAL

Aurora Dental Care 9

FINANCIAL

Philipps & Brooks 25

HEALTH / MEDICAL

Aurora Audiology & Speech 6

Aurora Optometric Group 21

PLUMBING & ELECTRIC

ARB Heating & Cooling 33

INSURANCE

Weed Ross BACK COVER

Lawley 27

LEGAL

Hall Ricketts Gurbacki 6

Sakowski & Markello, LLP 19

PRINTING

Elma Press 8

REAL ESTATE

Chris Barusic, Howard Hanna 32

RESTAURANTS

Arriba Tortilla INSIDE BACK COVER

189 Burger 4

Bar-Bill 4

Dog Bar 11

Griffon Gastropub 24

Mighty Taco, Inc. 30

Pizza Del Aureo's 33

SHOPPING

Aurora Liquor 18

East Aurora Co-op Market 4

Reed's Liquors 16

Roycroft Campus 28

The Dress Shop 21

Vidler's 5 & 10 5

Thank you for your support!

ARRIBA

TORTILLA

40 RILEY ST, EAST AURORA

716~714~9176



DINE IN TAKE OUT CATERING

MARGARITA MONDAYS

TACO TUESDAYS



E-GIFT CARDS & LOYALTY PROGRAM
@ARRIBATORTILLA.COM



Local

Simple. Straightforward. **Insurance.**



Insurance For



Home



Recreation



Auto



Business

At Weed Ross, we offer clients the highest quality insurance plans, a personal relationship, and the best prices available. As we continue to build upon decades of expertise, we specialize in coverage for auto, home, or business. Our dedicated team of local insurance agents helps ensure optimal coverage at the lowest rate possible.

📞 (716) 652-4203 📍 450 Olean Road, East Aurora, NY

Visit us at WeedRoss.com