

# playcrafters



*Bellport's OTHER live theater*

PO Box 452, Bellport, NY 11713, 631-748-7863 [www.bellport-playcrafters.com](http://www.bellport-playcrafters.com)  
WINTER 2015



## **A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AMELIA CHIARAMONTE**

The holidays are behind us, and Playcrafters has many plans under way that promise to bring you a very exciting

season of theatre and entertainment. Looking back for a moment, the addition of a Sunday matinee for our two fall offerings -- the fundraiser Cabaret and "How the Other Half Loves," proved to be a good move. One third of our total attendance came from the matinee and 55% of the matinee attendees were seniors. I am happy to report that our Cabaret fundraiser for the purchase of a storage trailer was a huge success! Along with the proceeds from the Cabaret, Playcrafters received a very generous donation from Peg and Al Rand. Their donation enabled us to go ahead with our trailer purchase (pictured here installed behind the Boys and Girls Club).



**The Peg and Al Rand Trailer**

Thank you Peg and Al and all those who came out to support this effort. Before closing, I would like to announce that our Annual meeting is, Sunday February 8th (invitation enclosed). In 2014 Playcrafters, began brainstorming ways to improve our brand within the theatre community. The results of those sessions will be introduced at this meeting. Come to the meeting and be in the loop from the beginning. This is also our annual membership renewal meeting where we ask everyone to renew their membership as well as encourage the non-members on our mail list to get on board. Our current total membership is close to our high numbers from a decade ago (100+). We have 93 to date. I am making it my personal mission to reach 100(+) by this meeting. Hope to see you all there!  
Amelia

## **SOMETHING NEW IN 2015**

We are pleased to announce an addition to our upcoming season. Playcrafters and The Boys and Girls Club of Bellport are currently collaborating on a production of The Wiz to be staged in March. We are inviting the participation of club members and other

local youth as both performers and members of the production crew. Our two organizations have applied for a Long Island Creative Communities grant through the Huntington Arts Council to help fund this project. We are committed to going forward whether or not the grant is received, and feel we have an excellent chance of being approved for an award. Wish us luck! A flyer announcing an informational meeting and audition dates for The Wiz has been produced and distributed to club members and local middle and high school students. It is our plan to present our vision for the production at an informational meeting on Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00 PM at the club. Auditions would then be held on the following two nights, and rehearsals would begin the following week. Performances are scheduled for March 13-15, 2015. Your Playcrafters Wiz Committee members Annette Maillard, Christopher Fretto, Vicki Fleming, and Michael Mullaney, are working with Tracie Romandetti, Jason Neal, and others from the club to get this project going. We are delighted to announce that Martha Campanile has agreed to be our Musical Director for this production! Thank you in advance to the talented Playcrafters who have already signaled their willingness to help out, and we invite all other interested volunteers to share their skills with us. Want to help? Get in touch or come to the meeting.

## **CALLING ALL DIRECTORS!**

As of January 1, 2015 our play reading committee will be accepting submissions from any director who would like to direct a show during the 2015-2016 season which runs from September 2015-June 2016. Our main stage performances usually run in the fall and spring. You can submit up to 3 plays that you would either want to direct or would be good for us to produce. If you submitted something last year, you will need to resubmit it. Each year starts a new list. Please submit your play choices and availability and send your submission by March 1, 2015 to the attention of Bob Kaplan c/o Playcrafters, PO Box 452, Bellport, NY 11713

## **2015 NOMINEES TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

This year the nominating committee is pleased to announce the following candidates for board service. We welcome back Chisa Burke, who recently finished out Des' term, and will now serve a term of her own. Veteran Joe Skelly and newcomer Jenna Wolf round out the slate. Thank you to outgoing board members Vicki Fleming, Des Burke and Kathy Loizides for your service and dedication.

**SPRING PRODUCTION**

Coming this spring, the hilarious yet touching comedy, *Born Yesterday* by Garson Kanin. You may have seen the movie but there is nothing like the immediacy of a live theater performance.

The play tells the story of a millionaire junk dealer with designs on Washington politics. He hires a sophisticated writer to educate his less-than-sophisticated girlfriend, Billie Dawn, who ends up falling for the writer and turning the tables on her boyfriend's shady business deals.

The show will open on April 24th and run for two weeks, including Sunday matinees. Auditions are set for February 23, 24 at 7:00 and callbacks on the 26th at 7:30 pm at the Boys & Girls Club, 471 Atlantic Ave., Bellport, NY.. Check our website for character breakdown and audition times.

**FALL PRODUCTION**

Our fall production of *How the Other Half Loves* was a resounding success as well as a visual masterpiece. Production quality has always been a top priority on Playcrafters list and this production did not disappoint. A 4' extension to our stage was required for this set which challenged Matt Palace's time restrictions to the max! Great teamwork on everyone's part! Thank you to our fine Director, Jim Parise for his brilliance in directing and assembling the talented cast skillfully stage managed by Annette Maillard: Thank you to producers, Matt Palace, John Hannon and Amelia Chiaramonte for assembling such an accomplished production staff. Our success could not have been achieved without the fine teamwork evidenced during this production.

And last, but certainly not least, we would like to applaud our Playcrafter members for your increasing participation and support in coming out to our presentations. It is always a pleasure to see you. In fact, several members from our original 1977 production of this hysterical show were spotted in the audience as well; Jane Love (Producer), and Ellie Mahoney & Bob Kinsey (actors)! Hope it was as much fun the second time around.

**THEATRE FOLK**

Playcrafters is very saddened by the passing of Ellie Mahoney, who died peacefully on January 1, 2015. Ellie was a dedicated Playcrafter; producing, directing, and acting in many of our main stage productions notably "Brigadoon" 1973 - Producer; "Mame" 1976 - Director; "How the Other Half Loves" 1977 - Actor; "Hello Dolly" 1981- Director. Ellie served on our Board of Directors for 5 terms including four as President; she had remained a loyal Playcrafter throughout the many years since her service on the board. Her smiling face and cheerful disposition will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. Our sincere condolences go to her entire family.



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**THE ANNUAL MEETING IS COMING. PLEASE PLAN TO RENEW!**

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Support your favorite theatre group and become a member, or renew today!

**Playcrafters Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single, \$15         | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron, \$100 and up        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple, \$25         | <input type="checkbox"/> Always notify me by US mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor, \$35 and up | <input type="checkbox"/> Email is good enough        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Angel, \$50 and up   |  |

Please make checks payable to PLAYCRAFTERS and mail to: Playcrafters, Box 452, Bellport, NY 11713

