

FALL 2019



President's Message

Last year President Sharon Walker made a compelling observation about our company's ongoing challenge to get "BITS" (butts-in-the seats).

We asked and you listened. I am thrilled to tell you that our

spring show and summer Readers Theatre each had the highest attendance as well as generated the highest profit since coming to our new theatre space at the Boys & Girls Club.

Our attendance on opening night equaled that of closing night, which has traditionally been a challenge for us. Speaking for myself having been in both productions, it is so gratifying to sit on stage and look out to a full audience on opening night. The 4-days prior to a show's opening is called "tech week". Many exhausting hours are put in by the technical crews, set builders, director and actors during those final days. To be rewarded on opening night with a full house is priceless. We have a great season lined up for you with our fall show opening in a few weeks, followed by our spring show in April. In addition, there will be a special presentation at Christ Church by Peter Morrison. So let's keep the momentum going and *Let us Entertain You*

 *Amelia Chiamonte*

READERS THEATER



As noted in the President's Message above, our attendance for this summer's Readers Theatre was the best we've had in years! The accolades for this production and its cast are still coming in. Special thanks go out to our Director John Simpson for his sensitive vision and

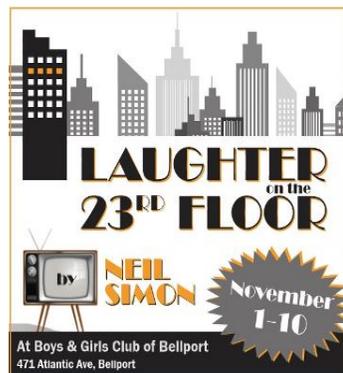
casting; his skilled cast in telling their stories - sometimes poignantly - sometimes hysterically; and our first time Producer, Jane Hayes, for putting it all together with ease. And a big thank you to Flo Federman for graciously recreating the images on the "Clothesline." Bravo!



Pictured L-R – Pat Becker, Flo Federman, Jane Love, Laurie Atlas, Amelia Chiamonte, Clare-Parrella Curran, Jean Rico, Christina Fink, Marianne Schmidt and Stacey Portmore-Davis

NEXT UP - LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD. FLOOR,

by Neil Simon



From America's favorite playwright (*Plaza Suite, The Odd Couple, and Lost in Yonkers*), comes a "screamingly funny" play about a team of comedy writers in television's Golden Era. *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* is a comedy about comedy writers.

All comedy television shows, particularly the late night ones, are staffed with lots of writers. These writers' rooms are always pressure-packed with each writer trying to contribute and outdo each other to get their gags in the show.

In the early 1950's, during the infancy of commercial television, there was a wildly popular show called *Your Show of Shows* starring Sid Caesar. His staff of writers became legendary. They were the best and included Mel Brooks, Neil Simon, Woody Allen, Carl Reiner, Selma Diamond and Mel Tolkin. The fiercely talented Sid Caesar was their leader and inspiration who became famous for his quick wit, his ability to do accents and create characters. Sadly, he was also famous for his manic behavior backstage as well as his drinking and pill taking. Neil Simon brought together his personal knowledge and his comedic talent to produce this fast-paced hilarious show.

Director Bob Kaplan has brought together some of Long Islands top comic actors to portray the madcap behind-the-scenes antics of the writers of the fictional *Max Prince Show*. The cast consists of Matt O'Connor, Dan Love, Bryan McGowan, Rick Peters, John Simpson, Dan Roehrig, Chrissy Cavagnet, Jessica Howard, and introducing Christian Leigh.

ED. NOTE – I LMBO during the first read through – this is a MUST SEE!

SHOW DATES AND TICKET INFORMATION

Fridays & Saturdays November 1st 2nd, 8th, 9th at
8:00 PM

Sunday Matinee: November 3rd and 10th at **3:00 PM**

Please Visit our web-site to purchase tickets
thru **Brown Paper Tickets**
www.bellport-playcrafters.com

BELLPORT DAY – 2019

2019 FUND DRIVE



Board Members Laurie Atlas, Catherine Clyne, and Amelia Chiaramonte

We had great weather for this year's Bellport day and a more than enthusiastic crowd of visitors to our table on Main Street. The Bell Brothers conducted their annual trolley tour of Bellport's historic points of interest with lots of

very funny improv along the way. Thank you Bell Brothers, Kevin Clyne, Dan Love, Vincent Rasulo and Joe Skelly for a job well done, and Kathy Loizides for making the Bell Brothers look so authentic! Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to help and kudos to John Hannon for being awarded an engraved bell from the Chamber for his excellent work in scheduling the performances for the event.

Our raffle ticket winners were Linda DiPierro and Virginia Waterman for *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, and Catherine DeVito and Richard Schindler for *Fox on the Fairway*.

SAVE THE DATES

Our Annual Meeting will be held on January 19th at our theatre space at the Boys & Girls Club of the Bellport Area.

"*The World of Rogers and Hammerstein*," produced and conducted by Peter Morrison, featuring Greg Sixt, Kathleen Gubitosi, and Kathy Ljungqvist will be held at **Christ Church** on Sunday, February 9th at 3:00 PM

More details will follow

Theatre Folk

Our members are involved in regional productions. Let's come out and support them.

James Carey, Director – *Becky's New Car* – Clare Rose Playhouse, Sept. 27 – Oct. 13th. Featuring **Jill Linden** and **Kevin Clyne**.

Laurie Atlas – Writer/ Director – *Occupied* – Township Theater Group's Fall Library tour. Check website for more information: **townshiptheatregroup.org**

Please Consider Donating to Playcrafters



Playcrafters is grateful for your past support. Whether it is renewing your membership, attending our shows, or participating on or behind the stage, **YOU** are the reason we have thrived for nearly 60 years!

Another way to support what we do is to make a donation. We are a tax exempt not-for-profit 501(c)(3) entity and all donations are tax deductible.

We have donation levels from \$50 - \$2,500 -- no donation is too small and all donations help support our mission.

All donors are listed on our website and in the program for every one of our shows.

Please consider donating to Playcrafters during this year's donation drive by filling in and sending the donation form below to: Playcrafters, PO Box 452, Bellport, NY 11713. You will be helping us continue our near 60 year tradition of promoting theatrical arts in the community and building "a proper home to call our own"

*

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all who have donated to Playcrafters Theatre Company in the past, and who are generously responding to our current 2019/20 Fund Drive. Thank You!

*Sincerely,
Amelia Chiaramonte
President*

Date _____
 Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____

- ___ Diamond \$2,500+
- ___ Platinum \$1,000+
- ___ Gold \$500+
- ___ Silver \$250+
- ___ Bronze \$100+
- ___ Copper \$50+

Please make checks payable to:
 Playcrafters
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 Bellport, NY 11713

PLEASE CHECK IF APPLICABLE:

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