



SPRING 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



They say Spring is a time for renewal, growth, and expansion. And that's never been more true for Playcrafters!

As you may know, Playcrafters is entering into a new phase now that we are no longer doing productions at the Boys & Girls Club. As I mentioned in an email, there are some who have expressed doubt about the future of Playcrafters, but I am pleased to have heard from a majority of people who are as excited as I am about a future for Playcrafters filled with innovation, talent, and community.

Here are our top priorities:

#1 – Find a new theater space. I am happy to report that we are pursuing many potential locations to suit our needs. More info to come. *If you have a suggestion for a location in Bellport or the surrounding communities, please [EMAIL ME](#).*

#2 – Identify new people to get involved in our productions. One of the concerns about the future of Playcrafters is that the same group of technicians help mount each of our productions. As our core group of volunteers gets older, it is imperative that we identify others who can help in the future.

If you have an interest in getting involved, we have opportunities for you – as producer, stage manager, set design/construction, lighting, sound, costumes, props, and more. Even if you don't have experience, we can help you learn. *To find out more, please [EMAIL ME](#).*

#3 – Plan our next theater offerings. As we pinpoint WHERE we will be located, we want to plan WHAT we will feature. This year we are committed to presenting our annual radio show, a staged reading, and perhaps an Evening of Comedy. ***You can help us decide what to feature. Look for more information in this newsletter.***

And there's more! As a thank you for your commitment to Playcrafters, we are planning a Summer Celebration and other fun gatherings. More information to come!

I'd like to thank the Playcrafters board (see page 2 of this newsletter), which is buzzing with new ideas. And I want to express my deep gratitude to outgoing president **Kathy Loizides**, who ably led our group for the past two years and left some big shoes to fill.

I hope you are as excited about the future of Playcrafters as I am. The key word is optimism — stick with us as good things are to come.

Let's break some legs!

– Flo Federman

JOIN US THIS SPRING/SUMMER!

Memorial Day Parade – May 27

We are happy to announce that Playcrafters will be marching in Bellport's Memorial Day parade for the first time since the pandemic. Bring your friends and family and plan to join us as we walk down the parade route representing Playcrafters. To volunteer, contact John Hannon at vermeerhere@aol.com.

Bellport Day – July 29

We are also making plans to exhibit at the annual Bellport Day Festival. You're invited to help represent Playcrafters in the community as we take part in the day of food, fun, and live music in Bellport Village. More details to come!

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE – APRIL 21

Attention all teens – and parents of teens in Bellport!

Playcrafters awards two scholarships of at least \$500 to graduating seniors of Bellport High School who have participated in the performing arts – the **Margaret W. Smith Scholarship** and the **Desmond W. Burke Scholarship**.

Eligible students include those involved in on stage performance and backstage in any

phase of a production in school and/or community theatre groups. Also eligible: participation in a dance school, chorus, band, orchestra, wind/jazz ensemble, etc.

Our scholarship deadline is **APRIL 21, 2023**. Applications available at www.bellport-playcrafters.com.

Interested in donating to our scholarship fund? Donations of any size accepted [HERE](#).



Staged Reading Submissions

Though no full-scale productions are planned for the year, we are planning to stay active with our theater offerings.

We are pleased to bring back our Readers' Theater — a staged reading with talented actors. Our history with staged readings is rich, dating back to 1998 with a dramatic reading of *All My Sons*. Since then we've done 13 staged readings, including *Love, Loss, & What I Wore*, *Murder on the Nile*, *Harvey*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *12 Angry Jurors*, *Our Town*, *The Crucible*, and *Pygmalion*, among others.

What should we perform this year? **We are now taking suggestions for plays that we can do as a staged reading!** Please send your suggestion to Geri Skelly at gerigem@optonline.net by April 30.

Directors: Let Geri know if you'd like to direct a staged reading this year.

Meet the Board

ANNOUNCING OUR 2023 BOARD

PRESIDENT
Flo Federman*

VICE PRESIDENT
Geri Skelly

SECRETARY
Vicki Fleming

TREASURER
John Hannon*

BOARD MEMBERS
Laurie Atlas*
Carl DiModugno
Jim Hazard
Alice Quinn
Jack Walker

**new board member*

Thanks

OUR THANKS AND APPRECIATION

to our outgoing board members **Kathy Loizides**, **Jane Love**, and **Jean Rico**.

We appreciate all you did for the benefit of Playcrafters through the years!

And thanks to **Carl DiModugno** for leading the effort to empty our storage containers. We donated old set pieces and props to several local theater companies!



SUPPORTING FRIENDS OF PLAYCRAFTERS

Please join us in supporting Playcrafters friends who are involved in regional productions...

Laurie Atlas is appearing in *Lifespan of a Fact* at Hampton Theater Company through April 2, in a production directed by **George Loizides**.

Carl DiModugno is rehearsing *Making God Laugh*, opening at Clare Rose on April 28.

Flo Federman just completed a run of *California Suite* at Star Playhouse in Commack.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Thanks to our members who renewed their membership at our Annual Meeting in January. To date a little more than half our members have renewed. It would be a thrill to see us back to our pre-COVID numbers with 100% renewal by June. Please help us make that happen.

Let's Play... Find Your Name!

To the right is our current renewed 2023 member listing. **Look for your name! If it's not there, please go online [HERE](#) to find a list of members who have yet to renew.** Here you can also find the online renewal/new member application form. Or you can print the renewal form below and mail it in today.

As always, thank you all for your past *and* continued support and loyalty to our very special theatre company!

Jill Linden will be appearing at Modern Classic Theatre (MCT) in Lindenhurst in an original show, *Capriccio Radio*, beginning in April.

Kevin Clyne will be in *The Laramie Project* for MCT in May and *A Time to Kill* for Studio Theater in Lindenhurst in June, alongside **Emily Vaeth**, who also appears at South Shore Theater Experience in *The Shape of Things*.



What did we miss? If you're involved in an upcoming production, we'll be happy to spread the news! Let us know at info@bellport-playcrafters.com.

Patrons

Gloria Cummings
Claire & Jay Curran
Michele & Nick DePalo
Catherine & William DeVito
Carl Di Modugno
Flo Federman & Joe Landolfi
Cheryl A. Felice & Lorraine Kuehn
Phil & Debbie Grucci
Steve & Betty Gundlach
John Hannon & Marcel Paul
Jane Hayes
Joel Hershey & Roy Eddey
Kathy & George Loizides
Jane Love
Milton & Jean Rico
Marianne & Frank Schmidt
Karen W. Smith
Joan A. Tschersich-Cioffi

Angels

Kent & Connie Adee
Catherine & Kevin Clyne
Alice Quinn
Germaine & Joseph Skelly

Sponsors

Barbara Allen
Laurie Atlas
Amelia Chiaramonte
Linda & Dennis Hart Conroy
Richard & Kathleen Dallin
Vicki Fleming
Laurie Fosmire
Linda & Bob Knight
Judy Perfido
Sharon, Emma & Lexi Walker
Richard Westhoff

Members

Ted Fleissgarten
The Hillman Family
Bettina Kakaria
Jill Linden
Richard Schindler
Jack Walker

MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL APPLICATION – We are a 501(c)3 entity. All membership dues are tax deductible.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

- PATRON \$100 & up
 ANGEL \$75 to \$99
 SPONSOR \$50 to \$74
 MEMBER \$25 to \$49

Check one:
 Notify me by email (*highly recommended*)
 Notify me by US mail only

Today's Date: _____

Please pay online [HERE](#). Or make check payable to Playcrafters and mail to: P.O. Box 452, Bellport, NY 11713