

# Back Stage

May 2020



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Supporters of Community Players:

Here at Community Players, we have been holding out hope that we could somehow finish the 2019-2020 season. As I'm sure you are aware, we were unable to produce *Senior Follies* in April, and we will also be unable to bring *Kiss Me Kate* to the stage in June.

We are grateful for your continued support of our efforts in bringing the magic of live theatre to our area. Your support in the form of buying tickets to our productions goes a long way in enabling us to present high-quality productions. For those of you who purchased tickets to our cancelled productions, we are offering three options:

1. In lieu of a refund, consider the ticket costs as a donation to Community Players. We will be happy to send a letter to you documenting the cost as a tax-deductible contribution.
2. In lieu of a refund, we can offer a discount on a future production.
3. Request a full refund by emailing us at [Tickets@cposmd.com](mailto:Tickets@cposmd.com) or by telephone at 410-546-0099.

Please reach out to us to clarify which of the options above is your preference.

On a related note, you should soon be hearing of tentative plans for our next season. Those plans are, of course, dependent on the process of dealing with the Covid-19 Pandemic. We will keep you posted.

Thank you again for your on-going support. I hope you have been able to stay safe and healthy during these challenging times.

Kind Regards

Darrell Mullins, President

## Shows have been selected for the 2020-2021 Season

Shelbie Thompson, Production Committee Chairperson

This year, we had a number of great shows submitted for the 2020 – 2021 Season. Any of the shows submitted would have been incredible for Community Players to produce. The Production Committee narrowed the submissions to create a four-show season, which was voted on and approved by the Board.

### November 2020 - Cabaret

**Directed by Matt Hatfield**

Book by Joe Masteroff  
Music and Lyrics by Kander and Ebb

### February 2021 - Leading Ladies

**Directed by Matt Bogdan**

Book by Ken Ludwig

### April 2021 - A Streetcar Named Desire

**Directed by Rusty Mumford**

Book by Tennessee Williams

### June 2021 - Jesus Christ Superstar

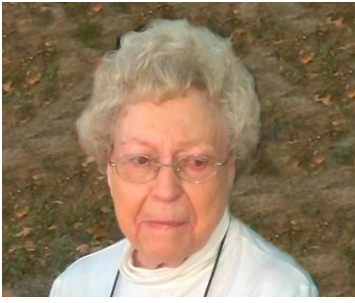
**Directed by Sharon Benchoff**

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber  
Lyrics by Tim Rice

Due to current Covid-19 restrictions, we hope to perform all shows as scheduled. However, we will continue to monitor the current state and local conditions and re-evaluate as needed to ensure the safety of all involved.

Thank you, as always, for supporting Community Players. We look forward to getting back on stage soon!

**We're on the Web:  
[www.SBYplayers.com](http://www.SBYplayers.com)**



**Let's wish  
Miss Joanne Little  
a very Happy Birthday**

By Rusty Mumford

Many of you know Joanne Little, who was a very active member of Community Players for lots of years.

She played for more rehearsals than any of us can remember and was in the orchestra pit for many many musicals. Joanne is now a resident of Lakeside at Mallard Landing and is doing very well.

She will be celebrating her birthday on May 30. Because of the COVID-19 shutdown, she has not been able to have any visitors for several weeks. I talk with her daily and see her through the glass doors when I deliver necessities to her.

I would like to brighten her birthday and you can help. First, send her a birthday card. I know that she would really appreciate hearing from you. Her address is Joanne Little, Lakeside at Mallard Landing, 1109 S. Schumaker Drive, Apt 319, Salisbury, MD 21804.

Second, I would like to organize a group of us to attend a virtual meeting to sing *Happy Birthday* to her and wish her well. If you are available on Saturday, May 30, at 2 PM, email me at [popirusty@comcast.net](mailto:popirusty@comcast.net) and I will send you an email invitation for the session.



**2020 Community Players  
\$500 Scholarship Winners**

By Lynne Bratten, Chairperson

Each year, Community Players awards two high school seniors a \$500 Scholarship. The two graduating seniors who received a \$500 Scholarship this year are Lindsay Gabbard (University of Maryland, Baltimore County, with a major in Music Education) and Alana Troxell (Marymount Manhattan College, with a major in Musical Theater). Congratulations to both of them.

**Lindsay Gabbard** graduated from Parkside High School.

She will be attending University of Maryland, Baltimore County, in September with a major in Music Education.

With Community Players she appeared in *South Pacific*.

With other theatrical groups she has appeared in *Seussical*, *Mamma Mia*, *The Addams Family*, *Cooking Can be Murder*, *Dracula*, *Charlotte's Web*, *A Voice in the Dark*, and *Snow White*.

She was the president of the Parkside High School Drama Club, performed in All Shore Senior Chorus for three years, was Honors Concert Choir Student Director, a member of the International Thespian Society, and participated in the Wicomico County Visual and Performing Arts Program.

**Alana Troxell** graduated from Pocomoke High School.

She will be attending Marymount Manhattan College, with a major in Musical Theater.

With Community Players she appeared in *Into the Woods*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *South Pacific*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and *Matilda*.

With other theatrical groups she has appeared in *High School Musical*, *Grease*, *Pippin*, *Christmas Carol*, *Breathing Under Dirt*, *Murder on the Nile*, *Showboat*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Legally Blonde*.

She qualified for WeXL honors (Worcester County High Academic Honors).

## You can help Community Players by making a tax-free charitable donation

Owners of individual retirement accounts who are at least age 70 1/2 can contribute from their IRAs to charity.

If you have a traditional IRA, you must begin taking required minimum distributions when you reach age 70 1/2, even if you neither need nor want the money at that point in time. When you take these distributions, they're taxable at ordinary income rates — whatever tax bracket you're in that particular year.

If you fail to take them, it's worse. In most cases, the tax rate skyrockets to 50 percent of the amount you were supposed to take but didn't, even though you didn't have the use of that money.

### Qualified Charitable Distributions

A qualified charitable distribution is a distribution from an IRA directly to an eligible charity, bypassing the owner of the account so he's not taxed on it. This rule applies only to traditional IRAs, not Roth IRAs.

The key benefit of a qualified charitable distribution is that the distribution amount is not included on your Form 1040 as income. Because income from a charitable distribution "bypasses" the 1040, it can be used to help keep your adjusted gross income and taxable income within a desired range.



### Qualifying Rules for Qualified Charitable Distribution

You must be at least 70 1/2 years old at the time of the qualified charitable distribution. The funds must be directly transferred from the

IRA custodian to the charity (like Community Players). The maximum amount that can be donated through a qualified charitable distribution is \$100,000 per year per IRA owner.

For more information on qualified charitable distribution, please contact your tax advisor.



### Become a member of Community Players

Please consider becoming a member of Community Players. If you are not sure if your dues are paid for the current year, September 1, 2019-August 31, 2020, please check the mailing label on this newsletter. If it doesn't show 2019-20 or NO, your dues are not up to date.

In this newsletter is a membership form. Please consider becoming a member.



### Election of Officers & Board of Directors

Sharon Benchhoff, Nominating Committee

It is time for elections at Community Players. We will have elections for four officers and three members of the Board of Directors.

The election will only be held by mail or email this year.

There is a ballot on page 7 of this newsletter. You can fill it out, sign it, and mail it to Community Players, P. O. Box 2431, Salisbury, MD 21802 or email it to me at fresnelop@gmail.com. All ballots must be received on or before June 1.

All newly elected officers will take office on July 1.

Reminder: You have to be a member of Community Players to vote. Please make sure your dues are paid for 2019-20. Check the label on the next page to make sure your dues are current.





# Proposed changes to the

## The following changes to the Constitution and the By-Laws will be voted

By Melissa Dash

### Proposed Change to the Constitution

#### Article III - Membership

Section A - There shall be ~~three (3)~~ four (4) classes of membership: (1) Individual (2) Student (2) (3) Family (couples or families) and ~~(3)~~ (4) Lifetime. The definition, rights, and obligations of each type of membership are outlined in the By-Laws.

#### Article VII - Meetings

Section A - Regular meetings of Players Board of Directors shall be held monthly or at the discretion of the Board of Directors to formulate policy and procedures for Players. Members are welcome to be in attendance at these meetings, however will not be allowed to vote on the matters being discussed, unless approved by the Board of Directors. Any change of meeting date, or any special meeting may be called, upon approval of the Board of Directors, by written notice to the membership at least seven (7) days in advance of said meeting. A General Membership meeting will be scheduled for the first Wednesday of ~~May~~ June for the purpose of election of Officers of Players as outlined in Article VI above outlining the manner under which an election should be held.

### Proposed Change to the By-Laws

#### Number 3

Section A - Definition of the ~~three (3)~~ four (4) categories of membership:

1. (A) An Individual Member shall be a membership available to an individual who is eighteen (18) years old or older, who shall be entitled to all rights and privileges and subject to all obligations which membership in Players requires. Without limiting such rights and obligations, such rights will include: the right to vote on business matters and officers, the right to seek and hold a position on the Board of Directors, and the right to borrow costumes, props, or set pieces without a deposit. ~~and all of the benefits by the tier level an Individual Member purchases as outlined in Section C.~~ The obligations of an active member include: attendance at member-

ship meetings, participation in productions during the season, and prompt payment of annual dues.

(B) Patrons shall have the rights and obligations of an Individual/Family Member at no additional cost.

2. A Student Member shall be a membership available to an individual who is under the age of twenty-two (22) and is a fulltime student. A Student Member age eighteen (18) and over will have the rights and responsibilities of an Individual Member. Those under eighteen (18) shall include all rights and obligations of an individual member with the exception of eligibility to seek office and the right to vote.

~~2. 3.~~ A Family Member, shall be a membership available to couples or parents (or legal guardians) ~~of~~ and their children who are under the age of eighteen (18), twenty-two (22) if a fulltime student or on active duty in the military. Those eighteen (18) and over will have the rights and responsibilities of an Individual Member. ~~and all of the benefits by the tier level a Family Member purchases as outlined in Section C.~~ Those under eighteen (18) will have the rights and responsibilities of an Individual Member with the exception of eligibility to seek office and the right to vote.

~~3. 4.~~ A Lifetime Membership may be granted by the Board of Directors and all rights of Individual Membership will be given with dues payment waved. To be eligible for Lifetime Membership, a person must be at least 60 years old and have been a member for at least 20 years. A letter of recommendation from a member must be submitted to the Board of Directors by the August meeting. A nomination must be made by a Board of Directors member based on that letter of recommendation. Voting will take place based upon these nominations. No more than two Lifetime Memberships shall be awarded in any year.

# Constitution and By Laws

on at the June meeting (deletions strike through — additions underline).

r, Board Member

Section C – Membership ~~Tiers~~ Benefits

~~1. Membership tiers shall be available for Individual and/or Family Membership purchase. Tier pricing shall not exceed that of Patron level pricing at any given time. The cost of tier pricing is directly related to that of member dues and shall be set annually per Section B.~~

~~2. Tier levels shall be assigned as follows:~~

~~a. Mezzanine Membership (Tier 1)~~

~~b. Orchestra Membership (Tier 2)~~

~~c. Center Stage Membership (Tier 3)~~

~~3.~~ 1. The benefits associated with ~~each tier membership~~ shall be reviewed, with changes proposed, by the Membership Committee annually.

~~4.~~ 2. Any changes in the benefits, obligations, and/or responsibilities associated with membership, ~~regardless of tier level~~, shall be communicated to the general public no later than 30 days prior to implementation. Those members who hold a standing membership (those who have purchased several years of membership) shall not be affected by any changes unless it is in the favor of the member.

~~5.~~ 3. Changes in benefits, obligations, and/or responsibilities associated with membership shall take effect in coordination with the organization's fiscal year per Article IV, Section B of the Constitution, unless it is in the favor of the member.

## Community Players

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www.SBYplayers.org

# Community Players of Salisbury

Remit Form and Payment to:

Community Players

P.O. Box 2431

Salisbury, MD 21802

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Membership Tier: Select One (Valid September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2020)**

<u>Mezzanine</u>	<u>Orchestra</u>	<u>Center Stage</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Individual <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Family*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Individual <input type="checkbox"/> \$60 Family*
Membership Card	Membership Card	Membership Card
Newsletter	Newsletter	Newsletter
Email Blast	Email Blast	Email Blast
	Gift	Gift
	Players Night – Fall Musical Only**	Players Night – All Shows**
		Free Admission to workshops/classes
		10% off Players Merchandise

\*Family memberships are good for 2 adults and all children under the age of 18 living in the same home. All family members, including children, must be registered and will receive a membership card

\*\*Members must present membership card at Players Night to be admitted

### **Membership Information: Fill out (Address where Membership Card will be sent)**

First Name:		Last Name:	
Home Address:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Phone:		E-mail Address:	
Family Member Names (Family Memberships ONLY):			

### **Interests (Circle All That Apply):**

Performance	Lighting	Props	Advertising/Publicity	Stage Crew	Box Office
Hair	Make-Up	Set Construction	Painting	Costumes	Marketing
Design	Directing	Membership	Sound	Ushering	Maintenance
Other (Specify):					

**I am paying for 2 Years (September 1, 2019 - August 31, 2021)**

**Questions? Email us at: [membership@cposmd.com](mailto:membership@cposmd.com)**

## COMMUNITY PLAYERS OF SALISBURY - 2020 BALLOT

Nominees For Vice President:

- Melissa Dasher

Nominee For Recording Secretary:

- Kel Nagel (continuing)

Nominee For Corresponding Secretary:

- Rusty Mumford

Nominee For Treasurer:

- Charlie Linton (continuing)

Nominees For Board Of Directors — Vote for no more than three (3):

- |                                      |  |   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kate Adkins | <input type="checkbox"/> Robin Finley  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ken Johnson      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> David Allen | <input type="checkbox"/> Judy Hearn    | <input type="checkbox"/> Shelbie Thompson |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cass Dasher | <input type="checkbox"/> Britni Ilczuk |   |

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ or Membership number \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

All adult members (18 and over) whose dues are paid for 2019-20 may vote.  
(Individual, Family, Patrons)

This ballot may be copied so that all adult members may vote.

You may email your completed ballot to: [fresnelop@gmail.com](mailto:fresnelop@gmail.com)  
Or mail to: Community Players – PO Box 2431 – Salisbury, MD 21802

**All ballots must be received by June 1, 2020**

Community Players of Salisbury  
P. O. Box 2431  
Salisbury, MD 21802

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please consider becoming a member of Community Players. If you are not sure if your dues are paid for the current year, please check the mailing label on this newsletter. If it does not show 2019-20, your dues are not up-to-date.

**Next Monthly Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, June 3, at 7:00 PM**  
**at 5109 Nutters Cross Road (maybe)**



**Community Players Officers & Board of Directors**  
**July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020**

President: Darrell Mullins - dmullins@salisbury.edu  
Vice President: Sharon Benchoff - fresnelop@gmail.com  
Recording Secretary: Kel Nagel - kelnagel@yahoo.com  
Corresponding Secretary: Robin Finley - robinfinley@comcast.net  
Treasurer: Charlie Linton - charliecamtransport@yahoo.com  
Immediate Past President: Ken Johnson - kjohnson71063@gmail.com

**Board Members**

Kate Adkins, Melissa Dasher, Judy Hearn - Term Expires 2020  
Bobbie Calloway, Pete Cuesta, Matt Hatfield - Term Expires 2021  
Sammy Barnes, Nate Drehmer, Tom Robinson - Term Expires 2022

**We're on the Web: [www.SBYplayers.com](http://www.SBYplayers.com)**