



The View from Row G By Sharon Benchoff, President (fresnelop@gmail.com)

In some ways, it is difficult to believe that this is my last article as president, my final "View From Row G". I will continue to share information with "Did You Know" articles as well as "Theatre Trivia". We have accomplished quite a lot over the past twelve months, considering. All the way through, I could count on your support of Players. My hope, along with all of you I'm sure, is that we will have a wonderful full 85th season of productions, in an auditorium, with full seating.

But, don't forget, on June 25th, 26th & 27th, we will be performing "A Streetcar Named Desire" at Bennett Auditorium. Yes a full production in front of a live audience, albeit at greatly reduced capacity.

A word about the ticket prices for "Streetcar" and next season. We have raised our ticket prices and I want to explain why. We (as do all performing arts groups) must rent the high school auditoriums from the Board of Education for our set up, rehearsals and performances. In 2019 that rental averaged \$6440.00. For "Streetcar" it is \$7900.00 which includes sanitizing the auditorium after every performance. We have to pay royalties, the fee charged by the publishing company on behalf of the playwright, to perform the play.

The View From Row G cont...

For musicals that usually runs \$5500.00 for three performances. For nonmusicals, the royalties are \$120.00 per performance. The cost for our sets, costumes, props, make-up, publicity, orchestra and programs averages \$11,400 for musicals and \$4500.00 for non-musicals. And nothing is going down in cost. Those of you that have visited our space (I invite all of you to) will see that we have a vast inventory of set pieces, furniture, props and costumes that we use over and over for our productions. Thank goodness we have the space to store all of our treasures or as Tom Robinson calls it our "stuff". Because of our wonderful audiences, we sell enough tickets to continue bringing what I hope are high quality shows. We don't throw money away, believe me. Just ask any of the directors, they will tell you I am known for saying "no, you can't buy that". The Board of Directors sincerely hopes that you understand why we have to charge the amount that we do for tickets.

The Board, and especially I, thanks you for your continued support whether on stage, backstage or in the audience, we literally couldn't do it without you. And I don't know what I would do without theatre.

Sincerely, *Sharon*



Articles, photos, etc. for publication in Back Stage should be emailed to me (popirusty@comcast.net) by the 15th of each month. Also, if you have ideas for the improvement of our newsletter, please let me know!

Rusty Corresponding Secretary



Next meeting is June 2, 2021

Players' next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, **June 2 at 7:00 PM**. This meeting will be an **IN PERSON** meeting! Please bring a mask and we will be socially distanced

If you would like to ZOOM in, please email Darrell Mullins at dgmullins@salisbury.edu. Invitations will be emailed the day before the meeting.

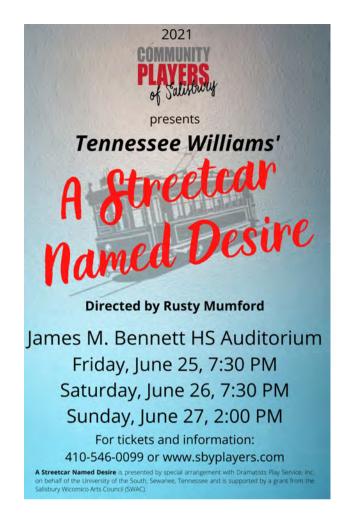
How Many of These Classic Musicals Do You Know?

We're all obsessed with the newest slew of shows to hit the Broadway stage, but can you keep up with this Golden Age of musical theatre quiz? (Answers on page 6e.)

- "There's no business like show business" is a line from what classic musical? Annie Get Your Gun On the Town Oklahoma
- This musical's name comes from the mysterious Scottish village that only appears for one day every 100 years. Oklahoma South Pacific Brigadoon
- "If I Loved You," "June Is Bustin' Out All Over" and "You'll Never Walk Alone" are all songs from _____. Carousel Kismet Once Upon a Mattress
- In this musical, there is a sneezing nightclub singer, a trip to Cuba and a crap game. Paint Your Wagon West Side Story Guys and Dolls
- 5. "Small World," "You Gotta Get a Gimmick" and "Let Me Entertain You" are all from the musical

Show Boat Gypsy The Sound of Music

- Jeannie and Joe are two of the main characters in the musical _____. Annie Get Your Gun Allegro On the Town
- This musical is a version of William Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew." Babes in Arms Peter Pan Kiss Me, Kate
- This classic musical was also based on a Shakespeare hit, "Romeo and Juliet." West Side Story Gentlemen Prefer Blondes The Music Man
- This classic is the fourth longest-running Broadway musical history, and the show revolves around a British schoolteacher in Bangkok, Siam.
 Porgy and Bess The Sound of Music The King and I
- "Some Enchanted Evening" is a hit song from the classic musical _____. Pajama Game South Pacific The Music Man



A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE

A huge thanks to the cast and crew of A Streetcar Named Desire!! Everyone is working very hard to bring this show to the Bennett stage, making Players' live stage comeback a huge success. The cast is rehearsing tirelessly, getting lines and blocking learned so that they are no longer Players but New Orleans residents in the late 1940s. These actors are amazing to watch as they finetune their characterizations for our audiences in June.

The technical crews are hard at it too. The set will son be finished except for final touches which will be made at the auditorium. Lester Huss and his crew have done a great job of recreating basement apartment in the French Quarter of New Orleans. When you see it, you'll be able to hear the jazz music from Bourbon Street!

To round out this top-notch technical crew, Rusty has wife Becky Mumford as producer, son Jeremy as Assistant Director, Cass Dasher as Stage Manager, Tom Robinson as Sound Coordinator, Sharon Benchoff as Lighting Designer, Lynne Bratten as Costume Coordinator, and Jodi Drehmer as Props Mistress.

If you are interested in ushering for the show, please contact Kel Nagel at kelnagel@yahoo.com.

Tickets should go on sale within the next week so please check out our website (www.sbyplayers.com) often to purchase yours for this special Players' return to the stage.

Streetcar Rehearsal Photos



In is down, Down is front Out is up, up is back Off is out, on is in And of course— Left is right and right is left A drop shouldn't and a Block and fall does neither A prop doesn't and A cove has no water Tripping is OK A running crew rarely gets anywhere A purchase line buys you nothing A trap will not catch anything A gridiron has nothing to do with football Strike is work (in fact a lot of work) And a green room, thankfully, usually isn't

> So break a leg! (Just not really)

10. South Pacific I bue guil and .e West Side Story .8 Kiss Me Kate Ľ 9 '9 Allegro رsd۸ sllog bne syud 't Carousel 3. 2. Brigadoon 1. Annie Get Your Gun **CLASSIC MUSICALS TRIVIA:**

ANSWERS TO

COMMUNITY PLAYERS OF SALISBURY - 2021 BALLOT

<u>NOMINEE FOR VICE PRESIDENT</u>: □ Kel Nagel

NOMINEE FOR RECORDING SECRETARY:

Darrell Mullins

NOMINEE FOR CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

D Rusty Mumford (continuing)

NOMINEE FOR TREASURER:

□ Charlie Linton (continuing)

NOMINEES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	(you may vote for no more than 3)
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Kate Adkins

□ Bobbie Calloway

□ Cass Dasher

Robin Finley
Matt Hatfield

Your Name _____ OR Membership number _____ (Please Print)

All adult members (18 and over) whose dues are paid for 2020-21 may vote. (Individual, Family, Patrons) This ballot may be copied so that all adult members may vote. Bring this ballot to the June General Membership Meeting or mail it to: Community Players - P. O. Box 2431 - Salisbury, MD 21802 or drop off (in sealed envelope) at Community Players' front porch at 5109 Nutters Cross Road between May 26th and June 2nd All mailed ballots must be received by June 1, 2021

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

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 2020-21, your dues are not up-to-date.

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Next Monthly Membership Meeting Wednesday, June 2 at 7:00PM. 5109 Nutters Cross Road



<u>Community Players Officers & Board of Directors</u> July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021

President: Sharon Benchoff - fresnelop@gmail.com Vice-President: Melissa Dasher - bizemomx5@comcast.net Recording Secretary: Kel Nagel - kelnagel@yahoo.com Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford - popirusty@comcast.net Treasurer: Charlie Linton - charliecamtransport@yahoo.com Immediate Past-President: Darrell Mullins - dmullins@salisbury.edu

Board Members

Bobbie Calloway, Pete Cuesta, Matt Hatfield - Term Expires 2021 Sammy Barnes, Nate Drehmer, Tom Robinson - Term Expires 2022 David Allen, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2023 We're on the Web: www.SBYplayers.com