



COMMUNITY PLAYERS *of Salisbury*

October
2025

Back Stage



Hello Everyone

As we enjoy October with its pleasant fall temperatures and a myriad of pumpkin-spiced beverages, our hard-working players are in full swing with **Annie** rehearsals. Nearly 80 people auditioned for this production providing Director Sherri Trader-Hynes with plenty of talent. Get your tickets now for what I guarantee will be a phenomenal production.

Players will soon be preparing for a special fundraising production of **A Gift to Remember**, directed by Pete Cuesta, in December. The play tells the story of a group of strangers stranded in a train station as weather interrupts their holiday travel plans. What starts as frustration soon makes way for human connections and a memorable holiday. Don't miss this heartwarming show!

I'd like to give my monthly pitch to ask members to come get involved with us. We are always looking for help getting an upcoming production ready to open. We meet most Saturdays to work on set construction (all skill levels are welcome). We also have a number of committees that can use help. Please feel free to reach out to me at dgmullins58@gmail.com if you are interested.

Kind Regards,

Darrell Mullins

President



Players' next meetings will be **October 1 (6:00 PM) and November 12 (7:00 PM)**. Please note the time and date changes so that we don't conflict with **Annie** rehearsals. Join us as we plan for next season.

BACK STAGE SUBMISSIONS

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 Mumford

Corresponding Secretary

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Ticket Chair Rusty Mumford is looking for two or three (or more) volunteers who would like to work in the box office for our shows. Volunteers would be responsible for ticket sales at the door, helping ticket holders find their tickets, and printing tickets (when necessary). Training will be provided and is not difficult to master. If you would like to help, please contact Rusty at 410-546-0099 or popirusty@comcast.net.



We are also looking for a few people to help man the beer/wine bar for our shows at Players' Theater. These people would work with a trained bartender/server. Minimal training would be necessary. If you would like to help man the bar at players' shows, please contact Rusty at 410-546-0099 or popirusty@comcast.net.





Annie Cast List

Orphans

Molly

Tessie

Pepper

July

Kate

Duffy

Annie

Mary Violet Dyer

Ellie Morris

Sarah Wagner

Audrey Salmon

Dottie Twining

Ruby Twining

Anna Marie Perkowski

Ruby Ludwick, Olive O'Hare, Izzy Dzimiera, Dakota Brown, DD Pope, Nathalie Winters,

Mathilda Winters

Miss Hannigan

Bundles

Lt Ward

Dog Catcher

Asst. Dog Catcher

Apple Seller

Grace

Rooster

Lily St. Regis

Drake

Oliver Warbucks

Mrs. Pugh

Mrs. Greer

Cecile

Annette

Star To Be (NYC)

Radio Show

Bert Healy

Fred McCracken

Jimmy Johnson

Boylan Sisters

Sound Effects Guy

President Roosevelt

Cabinet

Francis Perkins

Ickes

Hull

Morganthau

Howe

Marine

Katie Parsons

Brian Tully

Dan O'Hare

Ben Hamilton

Alex Ilczuk

Bobbie Calloway

Kate Dyer

David Ospital

Leslie Twining

Tommy Demetrio

Pete Cuesta

Lillian Hoffman

Kate Pfeiffer

Liz Wilcox

Lilly Wilcox

Laura Hyde

Brian Tully

Steve Culver

Ben Hamilton

Liz Wilcox, Lilly Wilcox, Madelyn Shockley

Jonah Twining

Tom Robinson

Susan Upton

Steve Culver

Brian Tully

Ben Hamilton

Rusty Mumford

Jonah Twining

Annie Cast List Continued...

Hooverville

Man 1

Man 2

Woman 1

Eddie

Woman 2

Man 3

Man 4

Sophie

Woman 3

Woman 4

Apple Seller

Steve Culver

Lester Huss

Susan Upton

Brian Tully

Kate Pfeiffer

Ben Hamilton

Alex Ilczuk

Lillian Hoffman

Emma Limbeck

Britni Ilczuk

Bobbie Calloway

Jonah Twining, Eliza Parker, Isabelle Ilczuk, Skye Mumford, Rusty Mumford, Nia Bubas, Sharona Jedlicka, Liz Wilcox, Lilly Wilcox, Summer Friel, Capri Harrison, Bekah McKelvey, Chrissy Troup, Laura Hyde, Madelyn Shockley

Warbucks Staff

Maids

Shockley, Bekah McKelvey, Capri Harrison, Summer Friel, Kate Pfeiffer, Emma

Limbeck, Susan Upton, Chrissy Troup, Bobbie Calloway

Butlers

Alex Ilczuk

NYC

to be determined....

Judge Brandeis

Finale

Eliza Parker, Laura Hyde, Britni Ilczuk, Madelyn

Shockley, Bekah McKelvey, Capri Harrison, Summer Friel, Kate Pfeiffer, Emma

Limbeck, Susan Upton, Chrissy Troup, Bobbie Calloway

Steve Culver, Brian Tully, Ben Hamilton, Jonah Twining,

Full Ensemble, EXCEPT ORPHANS, characters

Full Ensemble (New Deal for Christmas)





THEATRE TEASERS
Trivia by Sharon Benchhoff
October - Spooky Stuff

1. In *Little Shop of Horrors*, what does Audrey II need to thrive?
2. To ward off bad spirits in the theater, what do you do when the stage is not in use?
3. Who lives beneath the stage of the Paris Opera House?
4. Mrs. Lovett uses questionable ingredients in her meat pies in this musical.
5. What is the name of the daughter in *The Addams Family* musical?
6. This musical is based on the Tim Burton film.
7. What is the name of the ghost, who was a former friend of Macbeth's?
8. What is the name of the Wicked Witch of the West in *Wicked*?
9. This Tony-winning musical, intertwines the story of Orpheus and Eurydice.
10. We just lost this esteemed actor, director and environmentalist who made his Broadway debut in *Barefoot in the Park*.

Answers found on page 6

CHANGE IN THE 2025-26 SEASON

Due to an unforeseen issue with the American rights to ***The Welken***, Players finds it necessary to remove it from our upcoming season. As the third production of the season, we will be offering ***To Kill A Mockingbird***. We apologize to our patrons for any confusion which this change may cause.



A GIFT TO REMEMBER

(A Holiday Play)

This is a full length play which will not be "readers theater". It is a good lighthearted Christmas story.

Train Passengers:

CATHY NORRIS: 50s - 60s

MATTHEW (MATT) MCHUGH: 30s - 40s.

ELISE JONES: 20s.

KATE JONES: 5-8.

LEN DAWBER: 20s.

NICK BERRY: Late-20s - 30s.

KELLY BERRY: Late-20s - 30s.

SAM LARSEN: 50s - 70s.

LOUISE LARSEN: 50s - 70s.

Telephone Call Recipients**:

AMY: 20s - 30s

MADELINE: 30s - 40s.

PAM: Late-30s - 40s

Others:

CLAYTON KEMPER: Station master, 50s - 70s

DEAN OWEN: Choir director, 50s - 70s

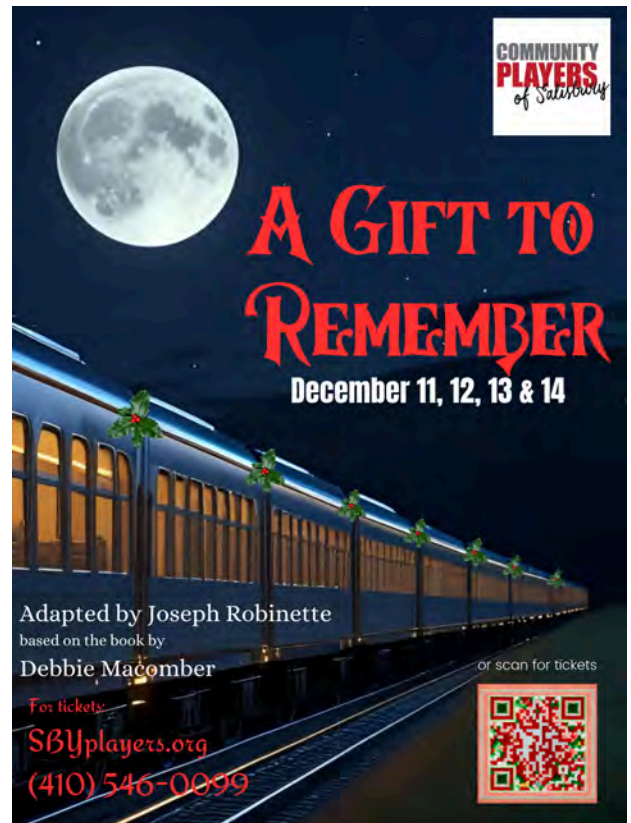
(Also TRAIN CONDUCTOR'S VOICE)

THREE WOMEN: Choir members.

TIME: Mid-1990s.

PLACE: A train depot in New Hampshire.

If you would like a PDF of the script, email Pete Cuesta at snarkyfrankie@icloud.com or text him at 443-614-7423. Auditions for A Gift To Remember will be 9/25 (7 pm), 9/26 (7 pm) and 9/27 (2 pm) at Players' Theater.



ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUESTIONS:



1. Blood
2. Light a Ghost Light
3. Phantom of the Opera
4. Sweeny Todd
5. Wednesday
6. Beetlejuice
7. Banquo
8. Elphaba
9. HadesTown
10. Robert Redford

Answers:

GRANTS UPDATE

Players received a \$1000 grant from the RD and LA Goldsborough Family Foundation Fund. We thank them for their generous support.

An application has been submitted to the Maryland State Arts Council for the FY2026 Arts Capital Grant.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The Craft and Vendor Event which was to be held Saturday, October 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. has been cancelled.

Edgar Allan Poe: Master of the Macabre will be performed on the following dates and times at the following venues: Friday, October 17, at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Players Theater on Nutters Cross Road in Salisbury; Saturday, October 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Brick Room in Downtown Salisbury; Friday, October 24, at 7:30 p.m. at The Groove in Delmar; and Saturday, October 25, at 7:30 p.m. at Poplar Hill Mansion in Salisbury. \$10 admission, cash or check. Reservations are suggested since seating is limited at all venues. For reservations, call 443-235-3272. Tickets can also be purchased at the door. Under the direction of Matt Bogdan, the show features memorized, word-for-word tellings of The Tell-Tale Heart, The Raven, The Masque of the Red Death, The Black Cat, and other Poe's stories and poems. Get into the Halloween spirit and come see this fifth annual performance.

WWII: Heroes of the Eastern Shore will be held at the Delmar VFW on Sunday, November 9, at 12:30 p.m. The production highlights the sacrifices made by the men and women of the Eastern Shore during the war. Free admission. For more information, call 443-235-3272.

3. A radio play performed by Possum Point Players will be held at the Community Players Theater on Nutters Cross Road in Salisbury on Sunday, November 23, at 2 p.m. The theme of the radio play will be Thanksgiving. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door. Seating is limited. For reservations, call 443-235-3272.

A Gift to Remember will be performed December 11-14 at the Community Players Theater. Directed by Pete Cuesta, the show focuses on strangers who become friends during Christmas Eve. With understanding and humor, they realized the memory of this night will be a gift to remember. More details about tickets will be available in the next newsletter.



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

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*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
2025-26, your dues
are not up-to-date.*



Back Stage is funded, in part by a grant from the Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council (SWAC). Players would like to thank SWAC for their continued support.

Next Meetings - Wednesday, October 1 (6:00 PM) and November 12 (7:00 PM).

Community Players Officers & Board of Directors
July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

*President: Darrell Mullins
Vice-President: Kyle Hayes
Recording Secretary: Melissa Dasher
Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford
Treasurer: Charlie Linton
Immediate Past-President: Matt Bogdan*

Board Members

*Lynne Bratten, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2026
David Allen, Kim Cuesta, Charlie Szentesi-Thomas - Term Expires 2027
Pete Cuesta, Betsy Metzger, Tom Robinson - Term Expires 2028*

Community Players is committed to celebrating an inclusive culture of creativity by welcoming actors, technicians, designers, musicians, and production team members from varied backgrounds with regards to race, ethnicity, national origin, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, physical & mental ability, and religious & political beliefs.