

# READING COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Pennsylvania's Third Oldest Community Theater ... Founded in 1920



**THE CALLBOY ▪ NEWSLETTER FOR READING COMMUNITY PLAYERS ▪ March 2011 ISSUE**

## **What do you do when you're not sure?**

That is the question Father Flynn asks in the homily that opens DOUBT, the first show of our 91st season. Whether March roars like a lion or is gentle as a lamb, Doubt will open on Friday, March 11 at 8PM and YOU should make every effort to be there on opening night. DOUBT is set in a Bronx parochial school in 1964. School principal, Sister Aloysius and parish priest, Father Flynn, face off when suspicions are raised about Flynn's relationship with a young boy at the school. Aloysius' certainty of Flynn's impropriety is equally matched by scant evidence to support the charge and the play leaves much for the audience to decide. Members of the original Broadway production claimed the play's "second act" is the debate over Flynn's innocence or guilt as the audience makes its way out of the theatre. In addition to its literary honors, DOUBT was adapted for the big screen in 2008 and earned Oscar nominations for Shanley and its entire cast, Meryl Streep, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams and Viola Davis.

A multi-talented veteran of the local stage, McLean takes the helm for the first area production of the play. The most recent of his many directing credits is the 2009 production of "The Heiress" for RCP. Sneeringer, Lawrence and Parsons are also theatre veterans. Ms. Griffith makes her stage debut in this production.

Our play selection committee has applied for the rights to this show for years; we finally were able to secure them for this season! Our production is the first in our immediate area; we all need to celebrate that fact by making this show a resounding success. See you at the theatre!

## **A Work Day At The Theatre**

Starting at 9am this Saturday, March 5, board members, family and friends will descend on the theatre to complete the painting, rearranging and decorating just in time for the opening of DOUBT. We'll need help painting, hanging mirrors and art work, pulling up the rug (yes, we're getting a new one!) relocating the concession area and putting down tile in the ladies' room. The Board wishes to thank the ten Alvernia students and professor Mike Nerino who got this project going when they volunteered at the theatre for the MLK day of service. As well, we acknowledge the Holleran Center for Community Engagement for funding this activity. Since there wasn't enough time for the Alvernia crew to complete the work, the Board jumped in to help the project along and we are now in the final stages. Any and all additional help will be appreciated. Won't you join us?

## **Great News To Share**

As a direct result of the Alvernia students visit to RCP, the theatre became part of a project in Dr. Jodi Radosh's advertising class. Twenty six students will be divided into small groups whose assignment will be the creation of advertising campaigns for the theatre. A visit to the class by President Ruth Martelli on Tuesday, March 1, provided the opportunity for students to ask questions about the theatre and our needs. Each student was provided a copy of our history that was prepared by Pat Perfect for our 87<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. By early May, the student projects will be completed and presented to the board of directors and any interested members of RCP. As a way to show our appreciation, the students in the advertising class, Dr. Radosh, the MLK service day volunteers, Mike Nerino, the Hollerans and Ginny Hand, director of the Center, have been given complimentary tickets for DOUBT.

AND

## **We received this letter from Reading Pride**

Hi Ruth,

I believe I have spoken to you about our fundraising event at The Stirling Guest Hotel. It tends to be our major fundraising event of the year. An event that consistently has had a 100 plus attendance. This year it will be held on Sunday May 15, 2011 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

The theme is a Celebration of Pride and Diversity, there is entertainment, hot and cold hors' d'oeuvres, a carving station, assorted beverages including beer and wine and we finish the evening with assorted desserts and coffee.

Each year at this event we highlight an LGBT or LGBT friendly organization and invite them to speak and bring brochures or literature about their organization. We also ask them to submit an item to our very popular silent auction, with the proceeds going to that organization.

Because of the friendship forged this past year between RPC and RCP we would like to extend an invitation to Reading Community Players to be that organization.

I thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you.

Rich Spangler  
President  
Reading Pride Celebration

**Naturally, and with great pleasure, we accepted the invitation!!**

## **Check the Website!**

- For Doubt tickets
- Audition notice for DUTCH BLUE directed by Marjory Ewald

## **Please Star April 1 On Your Calendars!**

The Rainbow Review is holding a drag show fundraiser for SPECTRUM that night. RCP has donated the use of our theatre for this worthy cause. SPECTRUM is a local group that offers support to gay, lesbian, transgender and questioning teens. Funding cuts will limit the services SPECTRUM is able to provide to the kids, so we're all stepping up to the plate to help. Will you?

## **ATTEND the Membership Meeting!**

March 8 at 7PM in the Hendel House, 940 Centre Avenue in the Centre Park Historic District.

## **Member Activities**

Member Diann Stewart will appear in Fleetwood Community Theatre's production of LEND ME A TENOR playing the last weekend of March and the first weekend of April.

Several of our members will also appear in this year's production of The Vagina Monologues being held at Genesius Theater the weekend of April 1-3.

## **Condolences**

Condolences to the Wolf-Brosey family on the death of Karon and Robin's father.

# **READING COMMUNITY PLAYERS 2011 SEASON**

## **HATS**

Directed by Ruth Martelli  
February 19 & 20

## **DUTCH BLUE**

Directed by Marjory Ewald  
May 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15

## **FAME**

Directed by Hope O'Pake  
July 29, 30, 31, August 5, 6, 7

## **DOUBT**

Directed by Bruce McLean  
March 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

## **A LITTLE PRINCESS**

Directed by Debbi Silas  
June 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26

## **TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD**

Directed by Bruce McLean  
September 23, 24, 25, 30, October 1, 2

## **HOUSE OF YES**

Directed by Ray Rhoads  
November 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

[www.rcptheatre.org](http://www.rcptheatre.org)



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