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Box Office Hours

Our Box Office is open Thursday nights
from 7:00pm – 8:30pm.

Due to the ancient thespian practices of
Onemus Restimus, the box office will not be
open on the following dates:

January 28
March 24

*If these are your favorite dates to order tickets,
leave your message at (313) 561-8587.*

Wrapping Up 2015...The Guild Gives



-photo by Diane Kaplan

The "General" and his lovely *White Christmas* cast members after a very successful "Toys for Tots" weekend. You and audience members donated over 60 wonderful toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Foundation. They were very grateful, as donation numbers had been down this year. Thank you for your generosity! Special thanks to **Diane Kaplan** who spearheaded this project and got those donations to the right place.

A warm welcome to our newest cast members debuting in *Cheaper by the Dozen*

Alexandria Antonelli, who plays Martha
Daniel Bartrum, who plays Frank Jr.
Susan Campitelle, mother of Julian who plays Larry
Scott Carscadden, father of Calum who plays Bob

Kelley Donnelly, who was Susan in our production of *Here's Love* and Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*. She is Ernestine in *Cheaper by the Dozen*.

Bobbie Justice is the Costume Chair for *Cheaper by the Dozen*.

Stay tuned for a complete list of our new 2015-2016 members next News&Cues

Lillian Moller Gilbreth: The Original SuperMom



Written by Valerie Haas, who plays Lillian Gilbreth in *Cheaper by the Dozen*

The fact that Lillian Gilbreth was a psychologist as well as the mother of twelve children makes her sort of a super-woman to me. She was a pioneer in industrial psychology and was dubbed "the mother of modern management". I read the book, written by Ernestine Gilbreth Carey and Frank Gilbreth, Jr., when I was about 12, and I was amazed at what she and her husband, Frank Bunker Gilbreth, accomplished.

The Gilbreths taught their kids a lot of things—new methods for learning math and how to type using the touch system, how to use the Morse code...but what they really taught them was a love of learning. They also taught them that life was an adventure and it was all out there, available to them, and all they had to do was want to learn about it...to be curious enough about something to learn about it.

Cheaper by the Dozen is a true story; it is a story about a family that loves and respects each other, despite any petty squabbles. They each have a positive outlook and a good dose of humor in looking at most situations. And, as they

said in *Shakespeare in Love*—to succeed you have to have love and a bit with a dog—and this show has both.

I feel a connection to Lillian Gilbreth partly because I read the book. Also, because really big families fascinate me. I am the third of four children, and our family was considered average...but I knew people—cousins and friends—who were one of six or seven or more, and one thing I recognized about most of them was that they never seemed lonely, and they never seemed spoiled. That seems to have been true about the Gilbreths as well.

That the Gilbreth children all graduated from college in the '20's and '30's is a remarkable feat. Especially since their father died before most of them were through high school. But, as is shown in the play, the most pressing thing for him to impress upon them was the importance of their education. They didn't disappoint him or their mother, who was left to not only raise their 11 children (Mary died from diphtheria at 5), but she also continued Frank's legacy of efficiency and organization.

Our producers, Stan Guarnelo and Tim Carney, along with director Phil Booth, held a little contest for the kids: they were to do some research about their character and do a report on him or her. Jamie Paschke, who plays Lillian, won. Mainly, I think, because she was so enthusiastic in her presentation, and that it was something she really knew, not had just written down. The kids in our show found out that their characters had gone on to be engineers, teachers, writers, businessmen, homemakers, and community service organization volunteers. I did a bit of research about Lillian Gilbreth, Sr., myself and found out that she did have a flaw—she couldn't cook. Her kids referred to one of her attempts as "dog vomit on toast." Erf. Just as well she was able to afford to hire a cook!

It has been great fun rehearsing for this show. Playing any character is fun, but playing a real person has a bit of added responsibility. We hope we've done the Gilbreth family proud, and I know I'm proud of the temporary great big family we have for *Cheaper by the Dozen*.



-photo courtesy of Sue Suchyta



OUR MISSION

It shall be the purpose of the Guild to promote and foster community interest in good drama and all its forms; through group endeavors in the training of persons interested in theatrical arts — acting, directing, play production, scenery and costume design, and playwriting in apprentice workshops, youth productions, and actual presentation of plays by novices and experienced persons.

CALF SIGHTING



White Christmas was the first time the Viscomi calves graced the Guild stage. The stage was up to the challenge and the deck held up nicely. The rumor that the calves had their own moon was unfounded.



-special thanks to John Sczomak for reporting this finding

Who Was Your First?



"I would have to say I have two:

"The first person I met from the Guild was Debbie Pletzer at the Dearborn Homecoming Guild tent in 2006. Debbie Pletzer was so sweet as she encouraged my husband to audition at the Guild. I encouraged him to listen to Debbie and he did. Pat and I became members in 2007 after he was cast in *Breaking the Code*. I ushered a few shows and was getting to know everyone.

"The person whom I remember most was Mike Moseley, who kept trying to get me involved with the properties committee. At the time he was the Properties Governor and was looking for people to chair shows. Everyone knows how persistent Mike can be ☺ I finally said yes to his offer and chaired my first show in 2008 for *The Importance of Being Earnest*, directed by Paul Bruce. It is a small world; Paul and I were talking at a cast party and come to find out that we [both] graduated from Edsel Ford High School in 1977.

"There have been so many people who have touched my life at the Guild. I'm grateful for their friendship over the years."

- Mary Ann Denyer

Have a juicy story to tell? Email yours to Anna Dewey at ahnatiuk@gmail.com subject line "Who Was Your First?" and it may appear in the next News&Cues!

YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

JANUARY

Lynn Ostrowski	January 3
Scott Rider	January 4
Colleen Meade-Ripper	January 5
Lonnie Valentini	January 6
Dave Kanclerz	January 7
Lisa Nancoff	January 7
Catherine Long	January 10
Sara Williams	January 10
Matt Ripper	January 11
Nancy Valentini	January 11
Annette Ripper	January 14
Lindel Salow	January 15
Lucinda Chavez	January 16
Michael O'Hehir	January 16
Jeff Ostrowski	January 22
Karen Drugacz	January 23
Dianne Bernick	January 26
Cole Haas	January 27
Clara Kanclerz	January 27
Lily Kanclerz	January 30

FEBRUARY

Melissa Foster	February 1
Paul Bruce	February 4
John Donovan	February 4
Katie Suchyta	February 7
Timothy Carney	February 14
Ian Haas	February 15
Ron Williams, Jr.	February 26
Marni Mayne	February 29

My apologies to anyone I may have missed! We are working on updating our database. Let me know if you'd like to help!

MEMBER VOICES MATTER

Is there something or *someone* you'd like to see in the next edition of *News & Cues*? Contact Editor Anna Dewey at ahnatiuk@gmail.com with your suggestions or submissions by Mon. February 22, 2016.

Cheaper by the Dozen Postcard Mailing Party

The *Cheaper by the Dozen* Postcard Mailing Party was held on December 21 at the Guild. The following people participated: Victor Hydel, Garrett Hermen, Jana Smith, Barbie Wilson and her daughter Lucee, Lois Sczomak, Vida Chatila, Lisa Paschke, Bruce and Cheryl Hack, Katie Suchyta, Mike Moseley, and Tom Sparrow.

They labeled about 3200 cards in about an hour's time. Our mail list is down about 4000 names due to the effort of a group of who removed the names of individuals who were entered into the database in 2013 and who haven't had any Guild activity since that time. New names and addresses are collected by our ticket agent, Vendini, when new patrons purchase tickets online or at our box office.

A *Mousetrap* Postcard Mailing Party will be held about two weeks prior to opening night for that show. Watch for its announcement and come on down and join the fun.

-submitted by Tom Sparrow

Need plans for a Thursday Night?



Gordie Mosley and Jeff Flannery hard at work on the set of *Cheaper by the Dozen*. Lend a hand on Stage Nights. You'll not only make sets, but also good friends.

-photo submitted by John Sczomak

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Nathaniel Booth



ABOUT YOU:

First off, let's clear up the mystery: is it Nathaniel or Nathan? What do you prefer? Actually, it doesn't matter to me at all! I will respond to both, as well as "Nate" and "Nat".

Where are you from/where do you live? The answer to both is Dearborn, Michigan.

Introduce us to your family:

I've got two younger sisters named Abby and Jennifer, and two older brothers named Brian and Justin. My father is Philip Booth, my step-mother is Theresa, and my mother's name is Patty.

What are 5 things about you that you'd like our members to know?

1. I study History and Business at Henry Ford College.
2. I work at the Henry Ford in the Guest Services Department.
3. I am a complete Trekkie.
4. I aspire to one day be able to play Billy Joel's "Root Beer Rag" on piano. (ETA 29 years from now)

What are your hobbies/interests/what you like to do - when you're not at the Guild? I enjoy reading books about the European Renaissance, practicing my piano playing (which, believe you me, needs it desperately), and catching up on Star Trek episodes in between the release of the Star Wars films.

How/when did you first get interested in theater? Have you been involved with other theater groups? I originally was introduced to theatre as a member of the Guildlings in the production of *Little Red* in 1999. Since then I have been involved with the Edsel Ford High School Performing Arts Department as well as the Players Guild. *Eh hem...he played Peter Pan(!) in "Peter Pan" his senior year at Edsel.*

What kind of shows do you prefer: musicals, straight shows, comedy, drama...? You had great comedic timing in *Spamalot*. Have you always been known for your sense of humor? To compare all the types of theatre would be to compare asparagus with grapefruit, and bratwurst with polish sausage. Just like my taste in food, I am not picky when it comes to my favorites in theatre. However, in a pinch, I prefer straight comedic plays, because I love to tell jokes. I can't say that I'm known for my sense of humor, but that sure is something I'd like to be known for!

Tell us about your singing experience. We'd love to hear you more! I've been involved with school choral groups since I was in elementary school. I have taken singing lessons, and participated in a few singing competitions while in high school. I have sung in musicals and I don't think I'm terrible at karaoke, either!



Nathaniel as Peter Pan in Edsel Ford's production of "Peter Pan"
Photo by Mary Timpf

ABOUT YOUR INVOLVEMENT AT THE GUILD:

When did you join the Guild and what/who got you involved?

I joined the Guild as a Guildling in 1999 at the age of four. I was a cast member in the production of *Little Red*. My father was the one who got me involved.



Nathaniel and Philip Booth with PAGE awards together in 2012

Tell us about how you've been involved at the Guild? What shows have you worked on?

I was a cast member in *Little Red*, *That 70s Cindy*, *Damn Yankees*, *Once Upon a Broadway Show*, *Honk Jr.*, *Seussical Jr.*, *Inspecting Carol*, *Free to be... You and Me*, *Willy Wonka Jr.*, *Born in a Trunk*, *Into the Woods, Jr.*, *Spamalot*, and now *Cheaper by the Dozen*.

I am currently the Stage Manager and Assistant Director for *Cheaper by the Dozen* as well.

You're in a show directed by your dad right now; how has that experience been for you? Any different than with another director?

I definitely have a bit more pressure to learn my lines!

What was it like being cast in *Spamalot* alongside your dad? Was that a first?

It was a hoot and a half to do *Spamalot* with my dad! We had been wanting to do another show together last season, and it was the perfect opportunity. We had tons of laughs, and it was a great show. It was a first as an adult. We were both in *Damn Yankees* back in 2002 but I was six at the time, so it was a bit different this time!

What keeps you coming back to the Guild to work on shows?

The Guild is such a rich environment. A good friend once said to me in reference to the Guild, "it is refreshing to be in a place dedicated solely to theatre." The Guild has always been like a second home to me, and even when I wasn't participating in shows, I felt comfortable here. Not to mention all of the wonderful people you run into every time you step through the doors. The true "magic" of live theatre isn't the show that gets put on, it's the people who act in it, who direct it, who manage it that make it magical. The people who spend countless hours building sets that could be houses if only there were a fourth wall. The people who drive 30 miles one-way to hang lights, to sell tickets, to usher, or to sell concessions. The custodians, costumers, make-up technicians, musicians, conductors, choreographers, and chaperones are what make theatre so great. To be a member of the Guild is to be a member of a dysfunctional and very extended family. That is why I keep coming back. That is why so many people continue to do so, as well.

TRIVIA:

Favorite show you've worked on at the Guild and why:

Cheaper by the Dozen! The crew we've got behind the scenes and onstage is outrageous and amazing.

What show would you love to do?

Arsenic and Old Lace, it's such a wonderful show.

Prefer to be onstage or behind the scenes?

To me, there isn't anything that can beat the thrill of walking on stage for a performance.

What's your "I wish I could do that" job at the Guild? (ex. Lighting, directing, costumes, etc.)

Most definitely I'd like to learn more about lighting.



2015 – 2016 Board of Governors

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Thanks in advance for your participation in this effort. The new socks you donate will be distributed to the Detroit-area homeless by various organizations. Look for the “sock box” when you come to see the show.

Special thanks to **Ashley Sword** for leading this project, and to **Stan Guarnelo** for his flyer design. Flyer is available on Facebook so you can spread the word!

DO YOU HAVE OLD SHOW PHOTOS?

Our website has albums of show photos from most of the Guild productions since 2000. We have almost 5,000 show photos accessible via the website. If you haven't ever visited the past show pages, go to www.playersguildofdearborn.org/about-us/past-show. Many first-time visitors are amazed by the beauty of our productions.

We would like to begin to add information and photos of shows that were on our stage prior to the 2000-2001 season. If you have digital copies of old show photos, please consider sending them to webmaster@playersguildofdearborn.org along with information about the production such as show name, director, actors, etc.

If you don't have digital copies of your photos, please consider loaning the photographs to the Webmaster for scanning and digitizing. We want to build a digital archives of our 88 seasons and get as much of it in place as possible for the celebration we're planning for our 90th birthday.

Please direct questions, comments, offers to help, etc. to Tom Sparrow at webmaster@playersguildofdearborn.org.

WANT ADS

WAYS AND MEANS: Would you like to participate in something at the Guild that does NOT require a large commitment and can be done at YOUR convenience? Something that is easy to do with a minimum of instruction? Well, I have the job for you! I am always looking for helpers for intermission and 50/50 during season productions. Don't want to give the intermission presentation? Never fear, we can get someone to do it for you. Please call 734-752-3774 or email me at waysandmeans@playersguildofdearborn.org if you are interested or just if you have questions. I will be happy to go over it with you. Thank you. Frann Stempel

COMPUTER HELP WANTED: There are over 7,000 names in our Vendini Database. We're estimating that half of those aren't any good and never result in ticket sales. We are looking for individuals who have a computer at home, internet access, and two to four hours of times to donate in our DCE (Database Culling Effort). If you qualify, please contact our Webmaster Tom Sparrow at sparrow.thomas@gmail.com, and volunteer to help. Many fingers make light work.

QUALIFIED LEAD: Many of you work or know the business manager of a business that may be interested in advertising with us to promote their business to be recognized for supporting the arts. Your role is simple. Provide Richard Moore with the business name and individual to contact. Richard will follow through. Let him know if he should mention you during his interview.

Respond to:

Programs@Playersguildofdearborn.org

WRITERS, INTERVIEWERS & PROOFREADERS: Spot an error in this issue? I want you on my team for future publications of *News & Cues*. Team wanted to gather content for articles, interview members, and proofread written copy before print. Can commit for one or several issues. If interested in any of these jobs contact *News & Cues* Editor, Anna Dewey at ahnatiuk@gmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars for 2016



- Thursday, Jan. 7 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open
- Friday, Jan. 8 8pm Opening Night *Cheaper by the Dozen*
- Saturday, Jan. 9 8pm *Cheaper by the Dozen*
- Sunday, Jan. 10 2:30pm *Cheaper by the Dozen*

- Monday, Jan. 11 6:30pm AUDITIONS *Mousetrap*
- Tuesday, Jan. 12 6:30pm AUDITIONS *Mousetrap*
- Thursday, Jan. 14 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open
- Friday, Jan. 15 8pm *Cheaper by the Dozen*
- Saturday, Jan. 16 8pm *Cheaper by the Dozen*
- Sunday, Jan. 17 2:30pm *Cheaper by the Dozen*

- Thursday, Jan. 21 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open
- Friday, Jan. 22 8pm *Cheaper by the Dozen*
- Saturday, Jan. 23 8pm *Cheaper by the Dozen*
- Sunday, Jan. 24 2:30pm *Cheaper by the Dozen* closes

- Thursday, Jan. 28 7pm Stage Night / **Box Office CLOSED**



- Thursday, Feb. 4 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open

- Thursday, Feb. 11 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open

- Thursday, Feb. 18 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open

- Thursday, Feb. 25 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open

BEHIND THE SCENES WITH OUR BOARD:

FRANN STEMPEK WAYS & MEANS GOVERNOR



ABOUT FRANN:

I first met Frann in our 2007 production of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. She had this comedic timing that cracked me up every time she made a particular entrance. I watched for it from right wing every night. Though it was only her first show, I had this feeling that Frann was here to stay. And we're so glad she has.

Frann hasn't been too far from the Guild her whole life. She was born in Detroit and went to St. Suzanne's. She moved to Dearborn when she was in the 6th grade and went to Haigh for a few months before switching to Divine Child, where she stayed until she graduated high school. After that she attended Mr. Arnold's Beauty School in

Dearborn (where she acquired a skill and talent that many of us have benefitted from down in the hair and makeup room). Frann raised her family in Garden City, and is now a hop, skip and a jump down Telegraph in Taylor.

If you've chatted her up before, you know that Frann loves family. She was the 3rd oldest of 8 children – 4 boys and 4 girls. She is the mother of 4 of her own children: Eric, Nathan, Amanda and Justin. She is the grandmother of 10, the aunt of 14 nieces and nephews and the great aunt of 6.

Frann's favorite thing to do is attend her grandchildren's sporting events – especially kids' football. Her life basically stops from mid-September to mid-November, and you can guarantee you'll find her cheering on her grandchildren on the Woodhaven Warrior City League team. As she freely admits, "I am usually the loudest grandma there, and have been asked NOT to bring my noisemaker because no one around me can talk because it's so loud." It was a very exciting year for her 9 year-old grandson, Drew, whose team went 10-0, scrimmaged at halftime during a Lions' pre-season game, played at the Big House against an Ann Arbor team, and captured the final win at the Super Peanut Bowl. For Frann, her family is "the most important part of [her] life" and she loves being able to be very involved in theirs.

When not at sporting events, her day job at the Livonia branch of the Michigan Educational Credit Union, or at the Guild, Frann works as a sales consultant for Thirty-One Gifts. She has been with the company for three years - selling bags, purses, totes and home organizational containers either at home parties or ladies night out parties. *(I am exercising my right as Editor to just take a moment to say... I...love...Thirty-One...ohmygoshIamobsessedwiththatstuff...And I don't even like to shop...or spend money...#musthave5000bags)*

Moving on. Frann loves scrapbooking, card making and crafts. She loves to sing and even recorded a Christmas album with some friends a few years ago. She still keeps in touch with her high school friends from Divine Child, and goes out once a month with them to have dinner, catch up and reminisce.

INVOLVEMENT AT THE GUILD:

Frann first started coming to the Guild to see her brother Robb Stempek, and niece Margaret Kinnell perform, and she always thought it looked like fun. She auditioned and got up onstage herself in *How to Succeed...* Frann has also performed in *The Wizard of Oz*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *The Full Monty* – her all-time favorite. Both Robb and Margaret were in the show with her, and she had so much fun she never wanted it to close. In addition to onstage work, Frann has assistant directed and produced another 9 shows, as well as done hair and makeup for even more. One year she confesses getting totally burned out being the only hairdresser to work every show the entire season. *Now that's dedication.*

You've seen Frann as a board member on and off for quite a few years. She was Hair and Makeup Governor two years, House and Hospitality Governor two years, and Ways and Means Governor two years so far. She has served on the casting committee and helps out with tickets and marketing when she can.



ON THE BOARD:

Frann gives us the low-down as to what her position entails, what her committee does, and how easy it is to help:

"My primary responsibility as Ways and Means Governor is to purchase for and oversee 50/50 and intermission at all of the Guild's productions, as well as coordinating fundraising promotions at the Guild. My committee sells 50/50 tickets both before each show and during intermission, [and also gives] a little presentation before the winner is announced. Those who help with intermission, set up the concessions before intermission and break it down after it is concluded. It is a fun job that I wish more people would be interested in volunteering for. The time spent is minimal and it is something you can do whenever you would like. You are not committed for a long period of time or for the full run of the show."

Additionally, there are other important and meaningful ways you, as a member, can help out on Frann's committee.

Perhaps assisting with fundraising is your kind of gig:

"Fundraising has always been a challenge here at the Guild and of course a challenge for participation in them as well. I think fundraising is one of the most important things we do here. Selling tickets brings in a good chunk of revenue for us, but fundraising is the key to keeping the Guild going as well as the generous donations given by our patrons and members. Our seat sponsorship has brought in a tremendous amount of revenue. Additionally, so has the Swell Night fundraiser, Lotto Raffle, Euchre Tournament to name a few." Frann also appreciates how instrumental John Sczomak and others have been in securing MCACA (Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs) grants for us, which has helped us upgrade our fly system onstage and will aid in our sound system. Behind the scenes work like this is being done, and can continue to be done with your help.

Fundraising is always something we can do to help keep shows happening onstage. As members, let's show we "care about keeping the Guild a vital and vibrant organization", not just for ourselves but for the Guild's future members. If you have any suggestions for new, interesting and moneymaking fundraisers, Frann is ready to hear your ideas!

THANKS FRANN:

Whether we see Frann onstage next, directing a show, selling 50/50 or leading up the next big fundraiser, we sure are glad to have her as such an instrumental part of the Guild. Just as family is important to Frann, our members are important to us. We thank Frann for all her contributions, time and commitment to "the Guild family".

TRIVIA:

Favorite show the Guild has done: *The Full Monty*

Favorite shows the Guild should do? *Showboat* and *West Side Story*

Prefer to be onstage or behind the scenes?

"I would love to be in more shows here at the Guild. I really enjoy being behind the scenes but there is so much fun to be had being in a production. The camaraderie and memories are so much fun."

What's your "I wish I could do that" job at the Guild?
(ex. Lighting, directing, costumes, etc.)

"I am fascinated by everything associated with directing a production. There are so many aspects of a production to take into consideration: sets, blocking, and getting what you want out of the actors, just to name a few."



TAKE A BOW!

OLDER NEWS IS STILL GOOD NEWS...

Lark Haunert ran her first marathon!

★★★

Eileen Donovan Lopez was the recipient of *EuroPeds 2015 Pacesetter Award* for “exemplary services benefitting children with special needs.”

★★★

Jade Reynolds pursues her singing career and shot her first music video in California!
(check her out by searching “Kimberly Jade Reynolds” on YouTube)

★★★

Mike Mayne won the People’s Choice Award for his documentary “Detroit Resilience” about a group of formerly homeless men and women living at the Neighborhood Service Organization as they put together a soccer team to compete in the Homeless World Cup Soccer Tournament, in New York City.

★★★

Maddie Kaplan rocked her auditions for America’s Got Talent, going strong for 2 rounds!

★★★

Marni Mayne - whose birthday is on Leap Day, February 29th - actually gets to celebrate her birthday this year.
She turns 8.

Tell us your big news so we can celebrate you!

FUTURE THESPIAN

Meet: **Juliet Ahern Goodman**

Born: January 4th, 2016 at 9:26pm

Costume Measurements: 8lbs 1oz, 19.5”

Proud Stage Parents: Andrew and Meg Goodman

Doting Grandparents: Sally “Sammie” Goodman

Fan club: Rhys Goodman (big brother), Alex and Becky Goodman (uncle and aunt)



Curtain Call: On other stages

Kori Bielaniec as Angela Butler/Natalie Simpson in *The Butler Did It*
Rosedale Community Players (performing in Southfield)
Show dates: Jan. 29, 30, Feb. 5, 6, 12, 13 at 8pm; Jan. 31, Feb. 7, at 2pm
www.rosedalecommunityplayers.com

★★★

Lindel Salow as Rudolf Bauer in *Bauer*
Open Book Theatre Company (performing in Southgate)
Show dates: Jan. 22, 23, 29, 30, Feb. 4, 5, 6 at 8pm; Jan. 31 at 2pm
www.openbooktheatrecompany.net

★★★

Peter Moore and **Isabella Valentini** in *Big Fish*
Directed by **Nancy Valentini**
The University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy (performing at Thurston High School, Redford)
Show dates: February 25-27 at 7:30 pm, February 28 at 2:00 pm
www.uofdjesuit.org/spring-musical

See next page for a full write-up about this wonderful new show!

CREDITS & SPECIAL THANKS
for this edition of *News & Cues*

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My sincere apologies to anyone I may have omitted. I appreciate all contributions great and small, which help make News & Cues possible.

Follow us on Facebook for insider news, announcements and continued drama...

Join "Players Guild of Dearborn" (closed group) for our members only



The University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy proudly presents the newly released musical—*Big Fish!* Directed by Guild member, Nancy Valentini, *Big Fish* features the talents of Guild members Peter Moore and Isabella Valentini.

Performance dates of *Big Fish* are Thursday-Saturday, February 25-27 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, February 28 at 2:00 pm at Thurston High School in Redford. A presale ticket price of \$13 is available until January 31. A discounted ticket price of \$10 is available for the Thursday and Sunday performances for groups of 10 or more. Email Nancy Valentini at Nancy.Valentini@uofdjesuit.org for more information on group sales or to order tickets at the presale ticket price. Tickets may also be purchased online starting January 15 or at the door for \$15. For more information visit the U of D website at www.uofdjesuit.org/spring-musical. If you have any questions about ticket sales you may email musicaltickets@uofdjesuit.org or call (313) 862-5400, ext. 2673.

Based on the celebrated novel by Daniel Wallace and the acclaimed film directed by Tim Burton, *Big Fish* centers on Edward Bloom, a traveling salesman who lives life to its fullest... and then some! Edward's incredible, larger-than-life stories thrill everyone around him—most of all, his devoted wife, Sandra. But their son, Will (who is about to have a child of his own), remains frustrated with his father's stories of meeting witches, kissing mermaids, and joining the circus. When his father receives a terminal diagnosis, Will must decide whether to accept his father's wild stories as fact or find the truth behind the tales. *Big Fish* is about a father and a son, a husband and his wife, a hero's imaginative journey through the world. It is about family, mortality, love, and the power of dreams. Overflowing with heart, humor, and spectacular staging, *Big Fish* is an extraordinary musical that reminds us to dream, love, and live....bigger.

-submitted by Nancy Valentini

Performances:

March 4–6, 11–13,
and 18–20, 2016

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.
Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Audition Dates:

Monday, January 11 and
Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Auditions will be held at the Players Guild
of Dearborn, 21730 Madison, Dearborn,
Michigan 48124.

Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Auditions will begin at 7:30 p.m.

You must be registered to audition.

You only need to attend one night of
auditions. You may come both nights,
but may not be asked to read on the
second night.

Audition Forms and Conflict Calendars are
available on the website for downloading.
Visit www.playersguildofdearborn.org

direction by

Karen Pritchard

produced by

Tracey Boudreau and
Colleen Meade Ripper



by Agatha Christie

produced in cooperation with Samuel French Inc.

The world's longest running play, now celebrating its Diamond Anniversary in its 60th year! A group of strangers is stranded in a boarding house during a snow storm, one of whom is a murderer. The suspects include the newly married couple who run the house, and the suspicions in their minds nearly wreck their perfect marriage. Others are a spinster with a curious background, an architect who seems better equipped to be a chef, a retired Army major, a strange little man who claims his car has overturned in a drift, and a jurist who makes life miserable for everyone. Into their midst comes a policeman, traveling on skis. He no sooner arrives, when the jurist is killed. Two down, and one to go. To get to the rationale of the murderer's pattern, the policeman probes the background of everyone present, and rattles a lot of skeletons. Another famous Agatha Christie switch finish! Chalk up another superb intrigue for the foremost mystery writer of her time.

**For character descriptions and additional
audition information, please see side 2**

Audition Notice

PLEASE NOTE: The ages listed are the characters' ages, not necessarily the required age of the actor.

Owners and Innkeepers of Monkswell Manor Guesthouse

MOLLY RALSTON – Enthusiastic and optimistic, yet apprehensive of being capable of running the Manor; very much in love with Giles; gives the impression of being young and innocent but does not have to actually be like a 20-year-old. Must be able to scream loudly.

GILES RALSTON – Described as a rather arrogant, attractive man in his 20's he looks older than Christopher Wren; at times seems uncertain or apprehensive, and is certainly suspicious of Christopher's motives to the point of being jealous of the attention given to Molly. Yet, he does love Molly, and is protective of her.

The Guests

MRS. BOYLES – This character only appears in Act I. She is imposing, angry, temperamental — a real stickler for manners and the proper way to behave. Acts like royalty with majestic (perhaps Queen-like) moves. She was a magistrate in her early years, and is quite pessimistic.

CHRISTOPHER WREN – He is an architect who has knowledge of the history of furnishings and art. Very flamboyant with his voice and gestures, he is flirty with Molly, effusive in his joy of life — almost to the point of being hyper. His hair is always in disarray, he loves to help Molly with the cooking, giggles at times. Christopher tends to be able to whistle a tune.

MISS CASEWELL – Described as 24, she looks older. She has a deep, almost manly alto voice. Her moves and mannerisms are not lady like. She has a strident laugh; shakes hands vigorously; dances; lives abroad.

MAJOR METCALF – Middle aged man who makes his face up to appear younger (which fools no one). Very militaristic in walk, he carries himself with square shoulders and is eager to help by exploring the basement areas, or dashing up the stairs. Very likable.

MR. PARAVICINI – Described as dark, foreign and elderly, with a flamboyant mustache, one gets the sense he is Italian because of the way he fills the room. He is self described as being in high good humor.

SGT. TROTTER – Somewhat athletic (as he skis into the resort in the snow) he seems like a commoner as he has a trace of a cockney accent. Pretty cheerful at first, but is all business and official when it comes to interrogating the guests. When he gets a bit uncertain or upset, he twirls his hair with his fingers.