

NEWS & CUES

a publication for and about the players guild of dearborn

Anna Dewey, Editor

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Everybody Cut Loose

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**Cast for Season Opener
Announced!**

Footloose the musical

Who's ready to kick off his Sunday shoes? The Guildlings are certainly ready! In just several hours *Footloose the Musical* will premiere on the Guild stage. For one weekend only, **July 21-24**, you can see the teen cast in all its '80s glory, dancing and singing to some of the most famous '80s songs of all time.

Speaking of the 1980s (get ready to feel old, fellow members), almost the entire cast came together on a Friday night in June to watch the original movie version because most of them had never seen it. Yes, you read that right—these poor kids had been missing out on Kevin Bacon's famous warehouse dance and didn't even know it. Never fear! Producers **Chris and Tracey Boudreau** suggested the movie/bonding night, and all is well—the cast now knows the true meaning of cutting loose. The cast even filmed an homage to the original movie that you'll see when you come to the show—but that's all we're spilling for now!

The cast members have been working hard but enjoying themselves under the direction of **Marc Walentowicz**. Music Director **Mary Melonio**, new to the Guild this summer, has been making the kids laugh all the way through their music rehearsals, and choreographer **Emma Garber** is bringing out the best in these kids—you'll be wowed, especially by the first act finale, which includes the entire cast. Let's just say there are push-ups, then dancing—and they ROCK. IT.

On behalf of the entire directing and producing team, we invite you to see the show to cheer on our fabulous Guildlings. The talent and hard work these kids bring each night of rehearsal is truly inspiring, and this is a show not to be missed!

Join us **July 21-24** as we bring dancing back to Bomont!

Written by Kori Bielaniec, Assistant Director

SHOW TIMES for *Footloose the Musical*

Thursday, July 21	7:30pm
Friday, July 22	7:30pm
Saturday, July 23	7:30pm
Sunday, July 24	2:30pm

Tickets \$12

(313) 561-TKTS or
www.playersguildofdearborn.org



MOVIE NIGHT

Pictured left: (front) Katie Garber, Grace Bertucci, Quinn Higgins; (back) Lily Kanclerz, Adam Chatila, Alia Elhajj

Below left: Nate Hermen, Matt Apostle, Kyle Polidori

Below right: Katie Garber, Ryan Chatila, Grace Bertucci

Pictures by Diane Kaplan



EMMY AWARD NOMINEE!

Guild member Mike Mayne was recently honored with an Emmy nomination for his documentary, "Detroit Resilience." CONGRATULATIONS, MIKE!

The story follows a group of formerly homeless men who form a soccer team to compete in The Homeless World Cup of Soccer in New York. Most have never played an organized sport, let alone soccer. The documentary follows their life-changing journey as they learn to believe in themselves and each other again.

You can see more of Mike's work on our website. He has been creating the promotional videos for each show for the past three years.

Pictured: Shari and Mike Mayne



the SUPER HERO OLYMPICS!

Superman, Wonder Woman, the Joker, Catwoman, Ms. Marvel, Spider-Woman and a host of other heroes and villains (some of whom you may never have heard!) have been hard at work at the Guild. But they haven't been wreaking havoc or saving citizens in the nick of time — they've been preparing for the Guildlings' production of *The Super Herolympics!*

Our young Guildlings, ages 5 to 12, have been belting their music, going off-book (some of them literally the day after blocking a scene) and learning some high-energy dances. The show features a range of musical styles, from Broadway to pop hits from the '80s, and this cast knows how to belt them out.

In addition to the song and dance, our actors have been busy developing characters both known and unknown, adding new facets to the Man of Steel, the Crown Prince of Crime and the sensational She-Hulk, among others. They've even been bringing to life a whole new set of heroes and villains — these Apprentices are still learning the ropes of crime fighting and plotting, but it may not be long before you start hearing of the adventures of The Fantastic Flex, the devious Nurse Squid, Peanut Butter Boy and Jelly Girl, Captain Outburst, the Evil Frowner and The Condiment Queen (yes, you heard that right).

While the schedule has been full, theme nights have been installed in the calendar, giving the kids a chance to root for their favorite sports team, to wear their pajamas, and to rehearse as a pirate or a princess. In all areas, they are learning the basics of theater, of working on a new play, of improvising and developing their character. And they are, according to directors Samantha York and Brian Townsend, "simply rock stars."

Tickets are available for *The Super Herolympics*, playing August 4–7 at the Players Guild. Better place your order today, True Believers!

Written by Brian Townsend, Director



Photos courtesy of Sara Williams



The Villains



The Superheroes

THE APPRENTICES



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.

YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

JUNE

Angela Pelc	June 3
Gordon Mosley	June 4
Jane Pfeifer	June 10
Bob Jones	June 21
Lindsey Brenz	June 29
Blake Williams	June 29

JULY

Valerie Mangrum Haas	July 7
Becky Byars	July 9
Mary Beth Oravec	July 21
Mike Moseley	July 24
Kori Bielaniec	July 25
Blake Deckert	July 27
Brady Deckert	July 27

AUGUST

Mark Byars	August 10
Max Williams	August 10
Andrew Brown	August 14
Jake Dombrowski	August 16
Michael Parks	August 18
Erin Ostrowski	August 26

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

Who Was Your First?



The first person I met from the Players Guild of Dearborn was **Tim Carney**. My brother **Kevin Rider** was a member of the Guild for a couple of years before he convinced me to join and I met Tim Carney through him. Tim showed me that there were many important behind-the-scenes aspects to theater that often go unnoticed, but are still essential to a show's success.

The first show that I worked on was *The Importance of Being Earnest*, which was directed by **Paul Bruce** in 2008. I was part of the amazing stage crew on this show and have been able to work with Paul and help out with many of his other shows since then.

Scott Rider

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

2016 – 2017 Board of Governors

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A Standing Ovation

Many thanks to our Governors who served on the Board last season. We appreciate all you have done to keep the Guild running smoothly and effectively, and for the countless hours you put in “behind-the-scenes” for us. We couldn’t have done it without you!

Bob Jones – Casting

Tim Carney – House & Hospitality

Lindel Salow – Make-up

Richard Moore – Programs & Advertising

Megan Lizbinski – Tickets

Tracey Boudreau – Treasurer

Dave Wood – Building Committee

John Szomak – Stage Committee

Welcome A-Board!

(Get it? You know, like “welcome aboard” a boat - but since we’re referring to our “Board” of Governors it makes it pretty funny and clever, right? Ok I guess I need more sleep...)

The gavels have been passed (or let’s say *oars* and paddle forward with this nautical theme), your crew is ready, the life preservers stowed, and the ship has already set sail to navigate through an exciting 2016-2017 season.

Role call: We welcome to the helm President **John Szomak** and his first mate, Vice President **Chris Boudreau**. Protecting our plunder is new purser **Julie Ballantyne Brown**. *Casting* off from the docks is **Ron Williams, Jr.**, and *powdering* up the cannons is **Jeff Bartos**. Our vessel’s *hospitable* chief steward is **Denise Kowalewski-Tucker** and our resident cartographer and on-shore merchant liaison is **Nancy Valentini**. Our officer granting permission up the gangway is **Tracey Boudreau**. Upkeep of the main cabin is **Dave Wood** and general ship maintenance and repairs will be led by **Pat Denyer**. Our new logbook keeper is **Tim Carney** and our latitudinal mariner mediator is **Lois Szomak**.

If you feel seasick while reading this, steer over to the port side of this page for a land lubber’s translation. Anchor’s aweigh fellow sailors!

Annual Meeting Highlights

June 11, 2016

Do you ever lay awake at night dying to know what happened at the latest monthly Board Meeting? Do you ever find yourself sitting at a red light wondering, “just what are those tricky governors UP to?” Are you at the point where you can’t wait any longer to know just how these awesome people have donated their time and talent to *make stuff happen* at the Guild? If as a member you’ve ever considered attending our Annual Meeting each summer, I encourage you to take that thought one step further, and come. It is a fantastic wrap-up of all the good that is going on at the Guild, and it is enough to make any member proud to be a part of this fine volunteer organization. The governor reports are telling of all the hard work that each committee does – and likewise show that there are so many different ways of getting involved, with various levels of commitment. John Sczomak’s report alone is worth coming for. There is respectful discussion about the future of the Guild, where member voices are heard and validated. There is laughter, appreciation and a lengthy talk about numbers by somebody smart who is good with money. It is an evening that makes you feel good and grateful to be a member of something this special. And there’s also food. Take a look below at just *some* of the noteworthy news at the Guild:

- The Guild currently has 294 members.
- There were 42 members at this year’s annual meeting.
- Our total revenue this season was higher than budget by \$24K.
- We took in \$170,084 in season and guest tickets for our five show regular season. That was \$5,364 over budget. It was a good year!
- The fundraising brought in \$36,150.06 this year.
- **John Sczomak** did a great job on procuring the MCACA grant, NSO contributed almost \$4K, and the summer productions exceeded budget by over \$8K.

The following Building Projects/Repairs were completed:

- Marquee and front steps removed
- New concrete porch and ramp installed
- Railings fabricated and installed
- Front doors stripped and refinished
- New entrance light installed above doors
- Trees along Madison Street trimmed
- Shop hot water replaced
- Clubroom fireplace repaired
- Auditorium work lights replaced with LEDs
- Roof over back hallway repaired
- First Aid wall cabinets fabricated and installed in kitchen, shop and greenroom
- Northcoast replaced/upgraded 7 flys
- Light pole in west parking lot repaired
- West parking lot slated to be replaced (finance & building committees reviewing bids)
- New trash enclosure fabricated and installed in clubroom

Annual Meeting Highlights continued...

Next season we are going to raise season ticket prices to the following:

- Standard Season Ticket Package: \$75
 - Patron Season Ticket Package: \$95
 - Benefactor Season Ticket Package: \$125
 - Non-Musicals: \$18 (increase of \$1)
 - Musicals: \$20 (no change)
- A group of Eagle Scouts will be working to build a new address sign for the Guild.
 - **Mike Mayne** has put together promotional videos for our shows this season. They have made their way around social media and are posted on our website. Thank you!
 - Special thanks to **Mary Ann Denyer** for filming our shows for archival purposes.
 - Thanks to **James** and **Marni Mayne** for updating and taking cast headshots.
 - According to **Tom Sparrow**, approximately 20,000 postcards were mailed to patrons of the Guild this season. Thanks to all who came to the mailing parties.
 - Next year will be the Guild's 90th season. The Script Committee will host an open meeting for show suggestions. Stay tuned or contact **Angela Pelc** if interested.

Special thanks to Patti Martin for the compilation of minute highlights

“Four Years of Stage Lessons” - by John Sczomak, former Stage Governor

- When approached by a designer or a director, always nod knowingly, especially if you don't have a clue as to what they are talking about.
- Learn to stall until you get a chance to ask Gordie what they are talking about or what you are looking at. Driving a screw into your hand is a good way, or ask people for drawings.
- Stall while you figure out what Gordie was talking about. Asking him to put it on the computer is a good way.
- Have no fear of any power tool that violently rotates, spins, hammers, or pulsates and requires putting an inanimate object in its way. Nothing can ever go wrong.
- Be encouraging of shop camaraderie. Every minute they are interacting with each other is one less minute they are criticizing you. Flames, smoke, and flying are really good ways to make that vein in your temple start pulsing.
- Hearing people say “more” or “higher” to the above is also a good way.
- Watching Richard Moore plunge through several bookcase shelves, a swinging paint can at the brain of Dave Wood, Chris and Dave getting their eyebrows singed off or a hammer falling off a ladder and hitting me on top of my head never fails to get a laugh.
- While clearly no one ever tires of “that's what she said,” being a response to virtually everything stated, not everyone's spouse shares in the merriment of seeing others fart or burp.
- The 1/16 rule is really important for accurate building. It means you have to remember to account for the width of the cutting blade by subtracting 1/16 of an inch from your measurement. Or is it add 1/16? Shit.
- You will spend ten times the amount of time looking for a tool as you do using it.
- You will also spend ten times the amount of time fitting the power tool back in its case that you spend using it.
- Never write down how to do something, especially if it is new to you. Writing stuff down is for babies, and you're not going to forget anyway.
- “Screw,” “Thrust,” “Nuts On,” “Wood,” “Stroke,” “Stud,” “Header,” “riser,” “mounted,” “tool” and “double hung” are stage or building terms and have nothing to do with sex. Everything else said in the shop does.

The Guild's Friendliest Neighbor



*Written by Mary Calder
Picture provided by John Sczomak*

This is Hope. She is 97 years old and the sweetest neighbor of the Guild. Hope came to this country from northern Italy in 1936 and married. She has lived here for 80 years. Hope's husband was a builder and they built the house she lives in 55 years ago. Hope has three children (two boys and a girl), 7 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Hope loves to work outside and have a garden. When her garden was thriving, her tomatoes were huge and she loved to share them with everyone. She also grew cucumbers and other vegetables. Hope also loved to plant flowers. You could always find her outside pulling weeds, thinning her flowers and giving them away to whoever wanted some.

One of Hope's favorite pastimes is visiting with members of the Guild. When you drove up and parked, she would always wave and say "hi" and of course you just had to stop and visit with her. I came to know Hope from the Guild, only to find out that my husband John worked with Hope's son-in-law at Ford. Hope is the kind of person that you can talk about anything with, always wanting to invite you in for coffee and a bite of dessert.

When I first joined the Guild, the back side of Hope's property bordered the Guild and it was full of flowers. She would keep that area looking so beautiful. But like all of us she is growing older and it is too hard for her to bend over and tend to that slope. Hope and her daughter have come to some of our productions and marveled at what we put together. Hope is one of our biggest supporters and never minded when we were outside building something or just talking. It is too bad more people could not be like her. She is a wonderful and strong woman, and it is my pleasure to know her.

Governors' Notes

Membership:

Membership dues were due June 30th. If you haven't turned in your form and payment, please mail them in as soon as possible. Remember – you must pay member dues to stay active *and* get your free tickets for the season.

-Shari Mayne

Programs & Advertising:

Do you work for a business that would consider placing an ad in our programs - either to promote their own products and services, or to stand out in the community and be recognized for supporting the arts? Or perhaps you are a regular customer at a business that you think might be interested in advertising with us this season. There are advertising options ranging from business card sizes to full-page ads, which can be purchased for the duration of one show or the entire season. We'd love to hear from you if you have suggestions for advertisers. We can either supply you with the packet of information to pass along, or our committee will be happy to contact the business to make the sale. Please contact me at Programs@Playersguildofdearborn.org with any leads you're willing to share!

-Nancy Valentini

Props:

We are always grateful to get donations of props and furniture from those who'd like to pass them on. We just ask that you please contact me about them before dropping them off in the basement or in the clubroom. If you run it by me first, we can make sure it's a donation that the Guild can actually use (instead of adding to storage), and then I also know to whom we can send the tax write-off form! Thanks!

-Diane Cliff

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.

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.

Follow us on **Facebook** for insider news, announcements and continued drama...
Join "**Players Guild of Dearborn**" (closed group) for our members only

Cast Announced!

two by two

A MUSICAL

Noah:	Mike Moseley
Esther:	Sue DeLosier
Shem:	Brian Townsend
Leah:	Julie Ballantyne Brown
Ham:	Tom Varitek
Rachel:	Kathleen Duffy
Japeth:	Mark Wagner
Goldie:	Leah Cooley

Production Team

Director:	Mary Jane Towne
Assistant Director:	Richard Towne
Music Director:	Richard Alder, Jr.
Co-Producers:	Jeff Bartos and Diane Kaplan