

Bay City Players Newsletter

April-May-June 2011

Volume 93—Issue 4

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2nd Vice President

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BCP Board Meetings

Second Monday

April 11, 2011

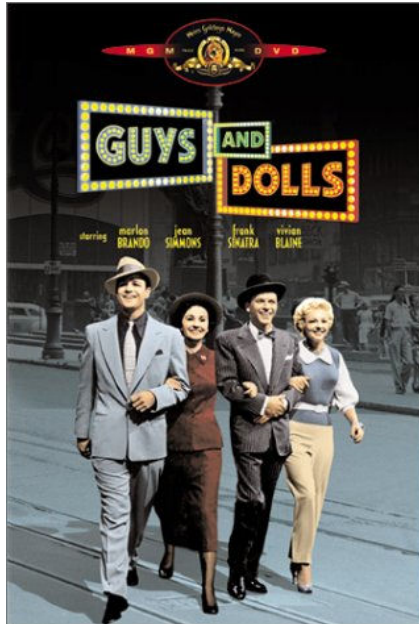
May 9, 2011

June 13, 2011

7 PM



Michigan's Oldest Continuously Operating Community Theatre



Bay City Players will present *Guys and Dolls*, a Musical Fable of Broadway based on a Story and Characters of Damon Runyon with Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser and Book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, April 28-May 1 and May 5-8, 2011 at the Bay City Players, 1214 Columbus Avenue, in Bay City. Performance times are 8:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 3:00 p.m. on Sunday. *Guys and Dolls* is directed by Mike Wisniewski assisted by Susan Lindow and music directors Kunio Ouelette & Eileen Harrigan.

Based on Damon Runyon's short story "The Idyll of Miss Sarah Brown," *Guys and Dolls* revolves around Nathan Detroit, the organizer of the oldest established permanent floating crap game in New York, who bets fellow gambler Sky Masterson that he can't make the next girl he sees fall in love with him. The next girl he sees happens to be Miss Sarah Brown, a pure-at-heart Salvation Army-type reformer, and the stage is set for a hilarious evening of complications. Guys—taking a chance on the dice. Dolls—taking a chance on the guys. You—taking no chance on this All-American musical GUYS AND DOLLS, a Broadway favorite with crooks, chorus girls and the Salvation Army all making nice with each other. Sensational music. Snappy dancing. Sassy comedy. Sheer delight from Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows, and Jo Swerling.



Volunteer Recognition to be held May 15th

Calling all volunteers! Mark your calendar! You will be receiving an invitation to our really special Volunteer Recognition event. Please RSVP the office at 893-5555

Guys and Dolls

April 28-May 1 & May 5- 8, 2011

Special Benefit Performance for the United Way of Bay County on April 28

Directed by Mike Wisniewski, Musical Direction by Kunio Ouellette & Eileen Harrigan

Box Office Opens Thursday, April 25, 2011

See what's coming up in our 94th season in 2011/2012!

► Opening Musical: *"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee"*,

This charming **musical** recently left Broadway and is hot stuff all over the country. Take six precocious kids (played by young adults), put them into the finals of a big-deal spelling bee run by slightly off-center adults, invite four audience members to join in the spelling, add **songs** and laughs one after the other, and you have a **musical comedy** spelled A-W-E-S-O-M-E. Whether it's the boy who can only spell if he writes the word out with his foot or the girl who is happy to brag "I speak six languages," you'll pick your personal winner; but the real winner will be spelled Y-O-U. Not really for children under 12. *Winner of Two Tony Awards, 2005*

► Comedy/Mystery: *"A Little Murder Never Hurt Anybody"*, by Ron Bernas

Matthew vows to kill off Julia before the end of the year. But Julia will have none of that nonsense and remains alive at all costs. However, their friends start dropping like flies. A dim-witted detective suspects it is Julia who wants to knock off Matthew while the audience suspects its in for an evening of screwball murder-mystery comedy. A brand new play from a Michigan playwright, *A Little Murder* is a lot of fun for everyone. Winner Best New Play Contest Community Theatre Association of Michigan Winter Romance:

► *"Almost, Maine"*, by John Cariani

On a cold, clear, winter night in the remote town of Almost, Maine, nothing is quite what it seems. As the northern lights glow in the star-filled sky, the folks of Almost keep finding themselves falling in and falling out of love in the most unexpected and often hilarious ways imaginable. A sense of magic embraces this midwinter night's dream as it breathes smiles and romance into the brisk night air. Have a hot chocolate with your sweetie after you see this one. New Playwrights: Best Plays of 2006

► Winter Drama: *"All My Sons"*, by Arthur Miller

Arthur Miller's great American drama set after WWII still touches the very soul of Americans at war. When is it OK for people to profit from their country at war? How long do you wait for those who are missing in action? How does an American family faced with these questions find the right answers? So, good it has been made into two movies and had a big Broadway revival, 2008. *All My Sons* shows full force why Miller is one of America's finest playwrights. You'll be fascinated. *Tony Award Winner for Best Play, 1947.*

► Spring Musical: *"The Drowsy Chaperone"*, Music & Lyrics by: Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison and Book by: Bob Martin and Don McKellar

"The Man in the Chair" is a bit sad tonight; and, in order to lift his spirits, he puts on a recording of his favorite musical: *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Lo and behold, the **charming musical** comes to life before his eyes: chorus girls come dancing out of his refrigerator, scoundrels make plans to seduce the bride on this, her wedding day; the groom goes roller skating, blindfolded, in the park and falls in love with a French girl; gangsters disguise themselves as pastry chefs; and her fourth martini makes the drowsy chaperone even more drowsy—and all of this in song and dance. **This brand new Broadway musical is a tribute to musicals of the Jazz Age.** *Winner of Two Tony Awards: Best Book and Best Score, 2006*

Message from the President

As we come to the close of our 93rd season, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers for your hard work this season. Maybe you performed on-stage or helped with one of our mailings: you deserve a pat on the back!

Season 94 is very exciting, bringing you 2 new musicals, 2 new plays and a great classic. We will be selling Season Memberships during the run of *Guys and Dolls*. Please visit our website for more information.

Again, I am so grateful for our many volunteers. You are certainly the backbone of Bay City Players.

Michael Wisniewski

President, Board of Directors



Celebrating
93 years!

Final Show of Season 93

"Guys & Dolls"
April 28-May 1 & May 5-8,
2011

Preview of Season 94!

**The 25th Annual Putnam
County Spelling Bee**
September 22-25 & 29-30;
October 1-2

A Little Murder Never Hurt Anybody

November 11-13 & 17-20

Almost Maine

January 13-15 & 19-22

All My Sons

March 2-4 & 8-11

The Drowsy Chaperone

May 3-6 & 10-13



2011-2012 Season Membership

(includes five admissions: 2 musicals and 3 for any other show or shows)

Please fill out this form and return it to Bay City Players.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Mail with Check or Money Order or bring in to:

**Bay City Players
1214 Columbus Ave
Bay City, MI 48708**

Email your comments:

info@baycityplayers.com

For more information, call
(989) 893-5555 M-F, 9am-1pm

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:

____ Visa ____ Master Card ____ Discover

Acct #: _____ exp: M ____ Y ____

Security code: _____

Email: _____

**Regular Membership(s) *Early Bird Prices until June 15*
(After June 15, price jumps to **\$80**)**

@ \$70 each \$ _____

**Regular Senior/Student(s) *Early Bird Prices until June 15*
(After June 15, price jumps to **\$70**)**

@ \$60 each \$ _____

Total for Memberships \$ _____

Contribution to Building Fund \$ _____

Did You Know?

Although *Guys and Dolls* eventually became the fifth longest-running Broadway musical of the Fifties, it was a long and difficult road getting it to the stage at all. Producers Cy Feuer and Ernest Martin originally envisioned the musical as a serious romantic story along the lines of *South Pacific*. After hiring composer and lyricist Frank Loesser, they eventually went through 11 librettists before finally deciding to make the project a comedy and settling on Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, a radio and television writer with no theatrical experience.

Guys and Dolls opened at the 46th Street Theatre on November 24, 1950 and enjoyed a run of 1,200 performances. The original cast included Robert Alda, Vivian Blaine, Sam Levene and Isabel Bigley. The 1955 film version featured Marlon Brando, Vivian Blaine, Frank Sinatra and Jean Simmons. In 1976, a Broadway revival was staged with an all-black cast.

This is the 1st time that “Guys & Dolls” has been performed at Bay City Players!

Help Support Bay City Players

Bay City Players has, to quote Blanche Du-bois, “always depended on the kindness of strangers”. The support of the advertisers in our programs is important to us and we look forward to continuing our relationship with them.

In one season more than 13,000 patrons view the ads in our programs. Our advertisers are not only supporting our organization but are promoting the arts in the Bay Area. We are proud that in our 94 year history we have continually brought quality performances to our stage.

We also partner with our local businesses through sponsorship of our shows. The budget for a show can run anywhere from 9,000 dollars to 25,000 for our some of our musicals. In the past we have received help through underwriting.

We are now planning for our 2011 – 12 season. If you would like to be a part of and exciting season by advertising with us please contact our office at 893-5555.

Return Service Requested



A Needful Knowing!

The 38th season of Youtheatre is off to a great start, with over 65 High School students serving as directors, and over 150 cast members coming to us from Bay, Saginaw, and Midland counties. We are looking forward to performing eight fantastic one act plays in June. Come see what Youtheatre is all about! Delightful plays, you'll want to see them all! June 16-18, call the box office for more details, at (989) 893-5555. Our Adult Chairpersons for Youtheatre are Bob London, Pam Kelly & Nora Paquette.

Dates to Remember:

- ★ **Guys and Dolls: April 22-25 & April 29-May 2, 2010**
- ★ **The “Recyclables” at Bay Valley June 17th**
- ★ **Volunteer Appreciation Souper Event, May 15th**
- ★ **Youtheatre performances, June 17, 18 & 19**
- ★ **BCP Annual Meeting, July 11 at 7 p.m.**