



CALLBOARD

February 2011

All My Sons

- February 18-19 & 24-26 at 8 PM
- February 20 at 2PM
- Tickets are \$14 & \$11
- Grand Haven Community Center
- Box office is now open: 616-971-1329

Central Park Players
All My Sons
 by Arthur Miller
 February
 18-20 & 24-26
 Grand Haven
 Community Center
 616-971-1329
 www.centralparkplayers.org

Miller Classic Opens This Week

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Arthur Miller wrote *All My Sons* after his first play *The Man Who Had All the Luck* had been a complete failure on Broadway lasting only four performances. Miller wrote *All My Sons* as a final attempt at writing a commercially successful play - if the play failed to find an audience Miller had vowed to "find some other line of work."

All My Sons is based upon a true story, which Arthur Miller's then mother-in-law pointed out in an Ohio newspaper. The story described how a woman informed on her father who had sold faulty parts

to the U.S. military during World War II. Henrik Ibsen's influence on Miller is evidenced from the Ibsen play *The Wild Duck*, where Miller took the idea of two partners in a business where one is forced to take moral and legal responsibility for the other. This is mirrored in *All My Sons*. He also borrowed the idea of a character's idealism being the source of a problem.

The criticism of the American Dream, which lies at the heart of *All My Sons*, was one reason why Arthur Miller was called to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee during the 1950s, when America was gripped by

anti-communist hysteria. Miller sent a copy of the play to Elia Kazan who directed the original stage version of *All My Sons*. Kazan was a former member of the Communist Party who shared Miller's left-wing views. However, their relationship was destroyed when Kazan gave names of suspected Communists to the House Un-American Activities Committee during the Red Scare.

CPP's production is directed by Justin Sternburgh and produced by Shaylynn Chalupa. Bruce Baker serves as assistant director and stage manager.

The includes Remington Sprague, Natalie Carmolli, Chad Hoop, Robin Willi, Brian Reeds, Dave Riegler, Trudi Kerkstra, Andrew Kitcka, Sarah Sternburgh, and



Auditions for George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*, directed by Sarah Sternburgh, are set for February 21st & 22nd at 7 PM with callbacks on the 23rd. Callbacks are invitation-only.

Auditions will be cold readings from the script and will occur at CPP offices at 1433 Fulton Ave. in Grand Haven.

One of Shaw's finest plays, *Pygmalion* won acclaim in Gabriel Pascal's 1938 motion picture adaptation and achieved further notice in 1956, adapted into the musical *My Fair Lady*, also later a successful film. In this seminal comedy of class distinctions, a fussy British phonetics professor, Henry Higgins wagers that he can transform guttersnipe cockney flower girl, Eliza Doolittle into a lady of breeding, voice and manners in London's society with surprising results.

The cast includes (ages are based on the script):

Henry Higgins: about 40. A linguistic scientist. A "robust, vital, appetizing sort of man." Violently enthusiastic about anything scientific, but uncivilized in his relations with people. Firmly believes himself to be

kindhearted and considerate, but is a bad-tempered and profane (though still likeable) bully. Speaks with an impeccable Received Pronunciation (RP) English accent, with great purity of tone and diction.

Eliza Doolittle: 18-20. A flower girl who wants to "talk more genteel" to improve her life, "Liza" starts out with a very strong lower-class Cockney accent which changes to RP. She is a very intelligent girl who transforms from a sassy wench to a regal lady. Requires a very gifted actress who excels at verbal comedy and dialects.

Colonel Pickering: 50s-60s. A colleague of Higgins' who bets him he can't pass Eliza off as a lady. Pickering is older than Higgins and takes an avuncular interest in Eliza's welfare. In contrast to Higgins, he is amiable and a gentleman in every sense. RP accent.

Alfred Doolittle: 40s-60s. Eliza's father, a "dustman" (garbage collector) who prides himself on being one of the "undeserving poor." A likeable scoundrel who speaks with a lower class accent, Cockney with perhaps hints of Welsh.

Mrs. Pierce: 30s-50s. Higgins' very correct and somewhat disapproving

housekeeper. RP accent.

Mrs. Higgins: 60s. Higgins' mother, an intelligent and discerning person who dislikes his experiment with Eliza. The only person who does not put up with Higgins' eccentricities, and hence is able to somewhat control him. RP accent.

Freddy Eynsford-Hill: 20. An eager, gallant but weak-minded young man who falls instantly in love with the mysterious Miss Doolittle. RP accent.

Clara Eynsford-Hill: late teens to early 20s. Wants to be as sophisticated and up-to-date as possible, and is entranced by Eliza and her "new small talk." RP accent, affected-sounding.

Mrs. Eynsford-Hill: 40s-50s. Freddy and Clara's mother. A society woman now reduced to living in genteel poverty. Well-bred and quiet, old-fashioned. RP accent.

Bystander: any age, male. Defends Liza from Higgins. Sussex accent.

A Sarcastic Bystander: any age, male. A witty Cockney determined to take Higgins down a peg. Lower-class accent, can't pronounce H's.

Parlormaid: A young woman who works for Mrs. Higgins. Accent not too lower-class. Doubles as Londoner in first scene.

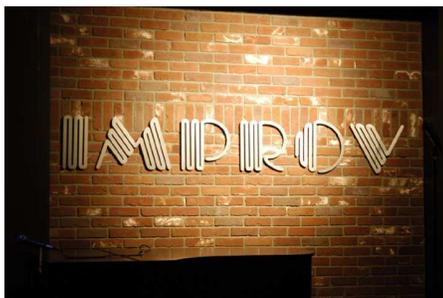
Other info:

Accents are of CRUCIAL importance in this play: after all, the whole story revolves around phonetics! Although we will be working accents somewhat during rehearsal, actors will be expected to work on them on their own time, just as they would practice

And Go...

Due to the success of last month's improvisational workshops, CPP's educational development committee has decided to host another round.

Chris Chalupa and Justin Sternburgh will lead the workshops. Chris has taken improv classes with Grand Rapids Civic Theatre,



and Justin completed an intensive improvisational workshop with Chicago's Second City, the famed comedy troupe that has cultivated numerous Saturday Night Live stars.

The first event, March 4th, is open to teens aged 13-18. The March 11 session is open to anyone 18 years of age or older.

These workshops are free to current CPP members and cost \$7 (teen) and \$10 (adult) for non-members.

Improv Workshops

- March 4 - Ages 13-18
- March 11 - Ages 18+
- 7-9 PM
- 1433 Fulton
- Free to members
- \$7 - Teen
- \$10 - Adult

...Oh Where, Oh Where Could You Be?

In the too-distant past, one of our resident costume experts, Lisa Hilliard, spent numerous hours rearranging and organizing CPP's costume rooms. While undertaking this laborious and thankless task, she noticed some of our costumes seem to have been led astray.

This upon occasion happens with an all-volunteer organization. People

borrow costumes for other shows or events, and forget to return them. Following is a list of missing items, if any are in your possession, please contact e-mail the board (centralparkplayers@gmail.com) so we can arrange their safe return.

Have you seen me?

- Long white sleeveless dress
- Paisley-print renaissance shirt
- Sleeveless burgandy dress with black print
- Long purple dress with bell sleeves
- Light blue satin riding habit
- Long blue cape

Reader's Theatre to Hold Auditions

Voice Activated, a local readers' theatre company, will hold auditions for readers on Wednesday, March 16, at 1 p.m. in the Local History Room at Spring Lake District Library.

Theater experience is not required, but readers must:

- Be available some weekday mornings and afternoons,
- Have access to and use a computer and e-mail, and

- Attend a Voice Activated workshop.

Voice Activated performs throughout the Tri-Cities primarily for children in non-classroom settings as well as for older adults in retirement communities, assisted-living centers, nursing homes, adult daycare facilities, and activities centers. Volunteer readers also perform in local libraries and the museum and for service and civic groups.

Performances are only during the day weekdays. The troupe generally gives about 40 performances a year.

Voice Activated is a Michigan non-profit corporation and operates solely on donations.

For more information, call 616-842-8704 or send an e-mail to voiceactivated@att.net.

Family Theatre Director Needed



Anyone interested in directing Family Theatre must be 18 years of age or older and submit a letter of intent to Shaylynn Chalupa via email to CPPFamilyTheatre@gmail.com.

Any questions can be directed to the same email, or by calling the office at 616-971-1329.

It's the 1950s, hula-hoops are in high demand, and so is Little Red Riding Hood! Wise Prince Jason (winner of the Math Olympics and the Nobel Prize), Strong Prince Justin (who can bench press his own mother) and ordinary Loud Prince Frank all want to woo Red Riding Hood. So the king and queen hire the Fairy Godmother to set three tasks for the princes. Only the prince who can find the missing girl, defeat the dragon and awaken a castle visitor from her slumber earns the right to woo Wed Widing Hood... that is, Red Riding Hood! Alas, Little Red's couch-potato

parents don't want to lose their little girl. How else will they get their cookies delivered to Grandmother? So they hire the evil queen to thwart the Fairy Godmother's contest. Luckily, Little Red Riding Hood's two sisters — Big Green Riding Hood and Medium Purple Riding Hood — help balance out the situation. Complete with the big bad wolf and a sock-hopping '50s score, this easy-to-produce adventure is guaranteed to end in happily-ever-after laughter for audiences and performers of all ages!

Directors Needed for 2011-2012 Season

Central Park Players is now accepting letters of intent to direct any of the 2011-2012 productions.

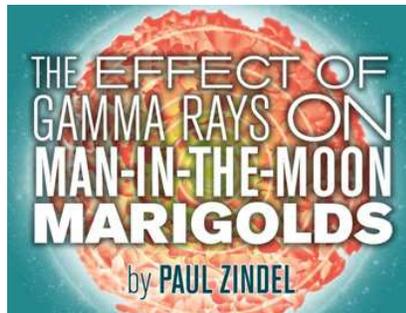
If you are interested in directing next season, please submit a letter-of-intent, including previous theatrical experience, to The Board of Directors at either centralparkplayers@gmail.com, or PO Box 564 - Grand Haven, MI - 49417.



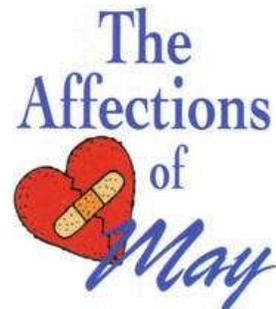
Winter 2011



Fall 2011



Winter 2012



BY NORM FOSTER

Spring 2012

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Board Meeting	14	15	16	17	18 All My Sons	19 All My Sons
20 All My Sons	21 Auditions	22 Auditions	23 Callbacks	24 All My Sons	25 All My Sons	26 All My Sons
27	28					

December Events

- **February 13** - Board of Directors Meeting - 1:00 PM - Lakeshore Middle School
- **February 18-19** - All My Sons - Grand Haven Community Center - 8PM
- **February 20** - All My Sons - Grand Haven Community Center - 2PM
- **February 21-22** - Pygmalion Auditions - CPP offices - 7PM
- **February 23** - Pygmalion Callbacks - CPP Offices - 7PM
- **February 24-26** - All My Sons - Grand Haven Community Center - 8PM

March 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Teen Improv	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Adult Improv	12
13 Board Meeting	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January Events

- **March 4** - Teen Improv Workshop - 7-9 PM - CPP Headquarters
- **March 11** - Adult Improv Workshop - 7-9PM - CPP Headquarters
- **March 13** - Board of Directors Meeting - 1 PM - CPP Headquarters

CENTRAL PARK PLAYERS

P.O. Box 564
Grand Haven, MI 49417

Phone: 616-971-1329
Email: centralparkplayers@gmail.com
Website: www.centralparkplayers.org



We're on the web!
www.centralparkplayers.org

The average Central Park Players production takes over 900 man-hours, and thousands of dollars to reach fruition. If interested in volunteering for CPP shows, please send an e-mail to centralparkplayers@gmail.com.

Central Park Players is a not-for-profit organization and donations are tax-deductible. Please consult your tax professional concerning the fiscal advantages of charitable giving. Please visit our website for more information on becoming a donor: www.centralparkplayers.org.

Do You Remember?



Red, Hot & Cole. - 1995

Happenings

All My Sons

Who: Central Park Players
Where: Grand Haven Community Center
When: Feb. 18-20 & 24-26
More Info:
www.centralparkplayers.org

Pygmalion Auditions

Who: Central Park Players
Where: CPP Headquarters
When: Feb. 21-22
More Info:
www.centralparkplayers.org

Working

Who: Holland Civic Theatre
Where: Holland Civic Theatre
When: Feb. 3-5, 10-12, & 17-19
More Info:
www.hollandcivictheatre.org

If you have something you would like published in next month's *Callboard* please e-mail it to centralparkplayers@gmail.com. The deadline for the *Callboard* is the end of the month.