Welcome Village Players Family,

At the end of August, my partner and I had the opportunity to see Wicked at the Stranahan Theatre. As I sat in the audience watching the show for the third time in my life, it struck me how different yet completely perfect this cast’s rendition of the show was from my previous experiences. After the performance my phone rang. It was a friend who was working backstage at the show and she was practically bursting at the seams to tell me that Steven Schwartz was actually in the audience that evening. He came to Toledo, of all places, to see the tour perform his work.

I felt a great deal of pride that we in northwest Ohio have such a vibrant and diverse theatrical community; from the national tours at Stranahan and the Valentine, to the community theatres like The Rep and The Village. What’s more, we’ve had no less than three other community theatre troupes form in the past few years; each one doing great work, and providing actors and techs a place to hone their craft.

In July of 2013 we launched The Upton Players — a summer theatre program for young people. They had a blast, and if you saw Anything Goes then you know just how much work they put into it. I was blown away by the talent of the young actors but it occurred to me that in addition to the Toledo School for the Arts, the theatre programs at Whitmer, Bowsher, Sylvania Northview, Saint Francis, Notre Dame, and many other high schools in the area are top notch. Seriously! The next time a friend tells you that their high school child is doing a play or musical, you should really go and see. You’ll be amazed at skills and knowledge that our local drama teachers possess and impart.

It thrills me to know that our region enjoys and respects the theatrical arts enough to foster it in our schools, attract it in national companies, and support it in our community theatre. And it challenges me as an actor, a director, and a board member to bring the best quality theatre to you, our audience, as I possibly can.

So I want to thank you. Thank you for being a part of theatre and keeping it alive. And thank you for challenging us to do and be better. But now, we have a show to put on! So I will quote the man who inspired this letter, Steven Schwartz, from his show, Pippin ...

Join us ... We’ve got magic to do!

Jake Gordy
President
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Brad Riker ................................................................. Props Manager

A BRIEF HISTORY OF
THE VILLAGE PLAYERS THEATRE

The Village Players Theatre presented its first play, The Great Sebastians, starring Rosemary Kahle and Edward C. Ames in 1957, in the Ottawa Hills High School. The original group performed in schools, churches and even in tents. The first musical, The Village Player's fifth production was Plain and Fancy, which opened on February 25, 1958, in the Lincoln Hall at Collingwood Presbyterian Church. The show was directed by Arthur Lithgow, father of the television and movie star John Lithgow, and starred a whole cast of who's who in Toledo.

The Theatre stopped moving from site to site in 1960. We put down roots when we purchased this building and converted it from a church to a theater. That Theatre Board took a leap of faith when they agreed to pay $45,000 for the church. However, because of their faith in the future of the theatre and the city of Toledo, literally hundreds of plays and thousands of actors have crossed these boards.

In thankful recognition of the continuing support of our members and volunteers, The Village Players Theatre culminated its 50th season celebration with the successful Rhinestone Ball held at the Toledo Botanical Gardens on June 29, 2007. In the 51st season, the Board was pleased to provide new seating for our patrons. In our 52nd season we installed a new stage for our actors. This summer we have renovated our light and sound booths, redecorated our lobby, and gone digital with our ticketing system. These projects are the direct result of responsible management of monies earned through Sold Houses and special donations over the years.

The Village Players Theatre has no paid year-round staff — volunteers keep it running. We take great pride in this and invite you to join us as we continue to add to the history of an organization making a significant cultural difference to our community.
Looking to DECLUTTER?

The Village Players Theatre is always accepting donations of unwanted:
- Home Décor
- Framed Paintings
- Period Clothing
- Costume Jewelry
- Men’s & Women’s Coats
- Furniture
- Lamps

If you have items you wish to donate, please contact us at 419-472-6817
Or www.thevillageplayers.org

All donations are tax deductible. Donation receipts will be provided upon request.

Can’t Get Enough of The Village Players?

Keep up with everything going on at The Village! You can follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see all of the upcoming productions and auditions, and behind-the-scenes pictures.

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Standing: Kari Kapszukiewicz, Jean Mills, Sara Speelman, Chris Jagodzinski, Jeffrey Albright, Brad Riker, Jake Gordy, Patrick Drummond
Seated: Ann Veasey, Diana West, Debbie Marinik
Inset: Andrew Todd, Joe Capucini, Laura Hansen, Marissa Rex
There is one 15-minute intermission.

**Note:** Please set all mobile devices to “off” or “vibrate.”
CONTRIBUTIONS
Please be sure to let us know if your name has been omitted and we will correct future programs.

Producer's Circle - $500
Rich & Becky Chesko
Jean & Norb Mills

Director's Circle - $250
Zac Gilley

Sponsors - $125
Curtis & Marilyn Black
Marlene & Ray Brinker
Marge Dembowski
Russ & Vicky Griggs
Laura Hanzi
Earnest & Nancy Hatfield
Herb Hoskins & Deb Rasmusson
Madge Levinson
Carol Matthews
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Charles D. Schrader
Ray & Kathreen Simon
Cheryl Stough
Christopher & Laurie Towles

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Harvard Armus
Marlene Bable
John & Nancy Burton
Thomas & Gisela Cain
Dariane & Robert Cook
Ryan McCarthy & Elizabeth Cottle
The Drotar Family
John & Carole Forte
Alvenia Crawford & Jack Wallington
Barbara Sayers & Paul Epstien
Wanda Foster
Duane "Dewey" Hall
David & Shelly Hopson

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Ted & Janice Lang
Sam & Anna Lovalenti
John & Joan Malak
Betty McKimm
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John J. & Virginia Myers
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Ron & Mary Schneider
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Bob & Marian Smith
Ralph & Susan Smith
Claus & Suzanne Stang
Jim & Barb Sullivan
Rev. James Van Brussel
Larry Von Kuster & Teresa Roth
Brigette Wagener
David & Carol Zenk

Friends - $25
Marie Adkins
Marilyn Agee
Brenda Blackshear
George & Kayrl Boos
Ron Brennan
Cheryl & Dwight Bryan
Charles & Jane Case
Lisa & Michael Clark
Terry & Barbara Cooper
Ted & Billie Dennison
Richard and Liliane Dockett
Sally Ferguson
James Garbers
Nancy Ibarra
Mary Jane Johnlin
Edward & Nancy Kelley
Charlotte Lauer
Maryruth Mabbitt
Ila Maurer
Philip & Rebecca Miller
Jane Miller
Barb Myers

CAST
Dorante ............................................................................ Jon Masters
Geronte ............................................................................ David Engel
Cliton ............................................................................. Evan James Copeland
Clarice ........................................................................... Megan Guidry
Lucrece ............................................................................. Debbie Altman
Alcippe ........................................................................... Nathaniel Naugle
Philiste ............................................................................ Matthew Johnston
Isabelle ........................................................................... Sarah Hammye
Sabine ............................................................................. Jamie Ramlawi

Setting
Time: 1643
Place: Paris

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Director: .................................................................Barbara Barkan
Producer: ............................................................... Christopher Jagodzinski
Stage Manager: ....................................................Debbie Marinik
Lighting Design: .................................................... Andrew C. Todd
Light Crew: ............................................................ Alan Wilkinson
Spot Operator: .......................................................Christopher Jagodzinski
Sound Design: ..........................................................Laura Crawford
Sound Crew: ............................................................ Judy Meeks
Costume Design: .................................................... Elizabeth Piel Black & Kari Kapszukiewicz
Pros Gatherer: ........................................................Christopher Jagodzinski
Stage Crew: ...........................................................Chris Cleland, Jake Gordy, & Christopher Jagodzinski
Set Design: ..............................................................Wes Skinner
Set Dressing: ...........................................................Jake Gordy & Christopher Jagodzinski
Set Construction: ...................................................Brad Ray & Wes Skinner
Painting: .................................................................Christopher Jagodzinski
Scenic Art: ..............................................................Denise Coyle
Fight Scene Instructor: ..............................................J. Heath Huber
House Manager: .....................................................Ann Veasey
Box Office Manager: ...............................................Ann Veasey
Box Office Staff: ......................................................Kimberley Bruggemann, Pam Engle, Dan Finkel, Sandy Fry,
Jake Gordy, Darlene Hatfield, Sue Holliger, Patty Hoover,
Christopher Jagodzinski, Debbie Marinik,
Jean Mills, Susan Rice, Sara Speelman
Publicity: .................................................................Christopher Jagodzinski
Program: ...............................................................Jake Gordy
Program Art & Cover Design: ....................................Christopher Jagodzinski
Production Logo: ....................................................Christopher Jagodzinski
Program Printing: ....................................................AIM Specialists
Marquee Sign: ........................................................Jake Gordy & Christopher Jagodzinski
Housekeeping: ........................................................Jason Neymeiyer & Joshua Sowell
Theatre Photographer: ...............................................Frank Venda

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Production Logo: ....................................................Christopher Jagodzinski
Program Printing: ....................................................AIM Specialists
Marquee Sign: ........................................................Jake Gordy & Christopher Jagodzinski
Housekeeping: ........................................................Jason Neymeiyer & Joshua Sowell
Theatre Photographer: ...............................................Frank Venda
The Director

Barbara Barkan (Director) Actress & director, Barbara, has been very busy this last season or two. She appeared onstage in The Village’s productions; Impossible Marriage, The Dinner Party, and Lettice and Lovage. She took an acting award at a regional community theater competition for her role in The Dinner Party. Barbara directed School for Husbands and Born Yesterday at The Village. Born Yesterday was a most memorable experience for Barbara as she played the role of Billie at the Rep in 1975 and directed her daughter Thea in the same role at The Village. A member of Actors’ Collaborative Toledo, Barbara has directed many staged readings including a production at the Toledo Museum of Art of the play RED. She will direct ART for the Collaborative at the Museum in May. When asked what her favorite production is Barkan replies “Whatever show I am doing at the moment.” Barkan’s most favorite production of all time though, she states, is her daughter, Thea Catherine. To the cast and crew of The Liar, Barbara says “Bien, you’re beautiful.”

The Cast

Jon Masters (Dorante) has performed in the Toledo area for the past five years and The Liar is his second performance at The Village Players. Some of his past performances include And The Winner Is, Bordertown Café, Chekhov Shorts, and Impossible Marriage. He is thrilled to be part of this production of The Liar and is thankful to have worked with such a fantastic cast and crew! À votre santé!

David Engel (Geronte) is a local chiropractor who has been enjoying taking the stage in Toledo since 2009. His favorite roles have been Hucklebee in The Fantastiks at The Village Players, and Senator Wingwoah in The Best Little Whoerhouse in Texas at The Rep. David has really enjoyed working with this young and very talented cast of terrific characters and thanks Barbara Barkan for entrusting him with the part of Geronte and to Phebe for enduring absences for rehearsals.
Evan James Copeland (Cliton) is excited to be making his debut with The Village Players! He had the pleasure of eight seasons with the Orange County Players in Southern Indiana. Recent credits include Curly in Oklahoma!, Doody in Grease, Jeffery in Godspell, and Mister Mushnik in Little Shop of Horrors. He has a Bachelor of Science in Mass Communication from the University of Evansville and is an Academic Auditor for the University of Michigan. Evan and his fiancé, Kristopher, currently reside in Toledo. Evan would like to thank director, Barbara Barkan, and the wonderful cast and crew for this opportunity.

Megan Guidry (Clarice) This is Megan’s first show with The Village, but her second time on The Village stage, having first appeared in Anything Goes last summer. Megan is currently earning her Bachelor’s Degree at BGSU in Theatre for Acting and Directing. She is very excited to be a part of The Liar and would like to thank The Village, cast, and crew for making this a great experience. She would also like to thank her friends and her mother for always believing and supporting her!

Debbie Altman (Lucrece) is delighted to be making her debut with The Village Players. She loves to sing and has taken voice classes and has also been in Singing in the Rain and The Wizard of Oz with The Black Swamp Players. She is currently attending John Casablancas modeling and career center. She is also an Infant Caregiver at the International American School for Women and Children and a math tutor.

Nathaniel Naugle (Alcippe) is a senior at Bowling Green State University studying Theatre. This is his first show with The Village Players but he is not a newcomer to the stage. Past shows include The Pajama Game (Prez), Cinderella (King), State Fair (Abel), Once Upon a Mattress (Minstrel), Jesus Christ Superstar, Cotton Patch Gospel, Seussical, Oklahoma!, and How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying. When he is not doing shows or in school, Nathaniel enjoys spending time with his friends and family. Nathaniel would like to thank his family for believing in him and The Village Players for giving him this opportunity.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES AT THE VILLAGE PLAYERS

Would you like information on Sold-House opportunities at The Village Players Theatre? How your group, church, or other organization can purchase a performance and raise money through ticket sales?

Musical Sold-Houses are $800.00 per show; standard plays are $700.00 per show. The theater seats 165 patrons. You determine the ticket price for your show and how much profit you make! A punch reception is provided at no additional cost. Show dates are limited.

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Matthew Johnston (Philiste) is thrilled to be making his Village Players debut in The Liar! He has previously appeared in Les Misérables with Oregon Community Theatre, as well Noises Off and Picasso at the Lapin Agile at Owens Community College. “Thank you to the wonderful cast and crew, to Barbara and Chris for their guidance, and my family for their endless support. Never say lie!”

Sarah Hammye (Isabelle) is excited to perform for the first time with The Village Players. A member of the theatre community in the northwest Ohio area since the age of nine, Sarah has performed many times with The Toledo Rep (A Christmas Carol, Midsummer Night’s Dream), the Toledo Opera (Candide, Cavelleria Rusticana), and most recently, Bowling Green’s Lion Face Productions (The Merchant of Venice). A big thank you to all the support from friends and family over the years, and here’s to a great cast, crew, and show!

Jamie Ramlawi (Sabine) is delighted to be making her debut with The Village Players! She has previously appeared in American Salvage and Noises Off at Owens Community College. In her spare time she enjoys horseback riding and volunteering at the Humane Society. “Thanks to the awesome cast and crew for making this show such a pleasure to work on; break a leg everyone!”

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**Proposals** (Comedy)
by Neil Simon
Directed by: Wes Skinner
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Auditions: Sat., Feb. 22 ,2014 4pm-8pm & Sun., Feb. 23 ,2014 4pm-8pm
Samuel French

This elegiac memory play delightfully recalls the last time the Hines family gathered at their retreat in the Poconos. The summer of 1953 brings romantic entanglements that coalesce one idyllic afternoon; Burt Hines, mid-50's and convalescing from a second heart attack, eagerly anticipates the arrival of the ex-wife he still loves. Daughter Josie has just broken her engagement to a Harvard law student and pines for his buddy Ray, an aspiring writer with whom she once had a brief fling. Clemma, the black housekeeper at the center of the action casts a astute eye on the complications while facing with her own unresolved past.

**Quartet** (Comedy)
by Ronald Harwood
Samuel French, Inc.

Cecily, Reggie and Wilfred reside in a home for retired opera singers in Kent, England. Each year, on the tenth of October, there is a concert to celebrate Verdi's birthday. Jean, who used to be married to Reggie, arrives at the home and disrupts their equilibrium. She still acts like a diva and refuses to sing. But the show must go on in this funny and poignant play by the author of Another Time, The Dresser and Interperters that premiered at the Albery Theatre, London.

**The Heiress** (Drama)
Ruth Goetz and Augustus Goetz
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

The background of the play is New York in the 1850s and the basic story tells of a shy and plain young girl, Catherine Sloper, who falls desperately in love with a delightful young fortune hunter. Catherine's lack of worldliness prevents her from realizing that the young man proposing to her is not entirely drawn to her by her charm. Catherine's father, a successful doctor, sees through the fortune hunter and forbids the marriage, but his daughter proposes an elopement that fails to materialize because the young man knows most of her expected fortune will go elsewhere if he marries her. Catherine retires into a little world of her own. But the fortune hunter turns up once more and again proposes to her. For a moment, Catherine leads him to believe that she will accept him, but when he calls by appointment, she locks the door, blows out all the lights and allows him to realize that she will not be fooled for the second time.

**Good People** (Dramedy)
by David Lindsay-Abaire
Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Welcome to Southie, a Boston neighborhood where a night on the town means a few rounds of bingo, where this month's paycheck covers last month's bills, and where Margie Walsh has just been let go from yet another job. Facing eviction and scrambling to catch a break, Margie thinks an old fling who's made it out of Southie might be her ticket to a fresh new start. But is this apparently self-made man secure enough to face his humble beginnings? Margie is about to risk what little she has left to find out. With his signature humorous glow, Lindsay-Abaire explores the struggles, shifting loyalties and unshakeable hopes that come with having next to nothing in America.

**Looking** (Comedy)
Norm Foster
Samuel French, Inc.

From one of Canada's most popular playwrights comes this hilarious comedy. Val is an O.R. nurse, Andy is in the storage business, Nina is a police officer and Matt is the host of a morning radio show. They're middle-aged, single and looking. Val agrees to meet Andy after answering his personal ad in the newspaper and Nina and Matt are coaxed into joining their friends for support. What follows is hilarious, touching and so very true to life.

**Clue: The Musical** (Musical)
Book by Peter DePietro
Music by Galen Blum, Wayne Barker, and Vinnie Martucci
Lyrics by Tom Chiodo
Based on the Parker Brothers’ Board Game
Samuel French, Inc.

The internationally popular game is now a fun filled musical which brings the world's best know suspects to life and invites the audience to help solve the mystery: who killed Mr. Boddy, in what room and with what weapon. The audience receives forms to help them deduce the solution from clues given throughout the fun filled evening. Three audience members choose from cards representing the potential murderers, weapons and rooms; there are 216 possible solutions! Only one hard nosed female detective is qualified to unravel the merry mayhem. Comic antics, witty lyrics and a beguiling score carry the investigation from room to room. Even after the culprit confesses, a surprise twist delights the audience. This colorful crowd pleaser was devised by the authors of Murder at Rutherford House and other popular interactive entertainments.