

The Summit Playhouse Association

The following program is from our 2002-2003 season.

For information on our current production,
or other shows we have presented,
please visit our web site at

<http://SummitPlayhouse.org>

The Summit Playhouse Association
Established 1918
10 New England Ave
Summit, NJ 07974
908-273-2192

The Playhouse Association
presents



Eighty-Fifth Season

Director's Note

"Is There Life After High School?" Yes, but that life is shaped in part by our lives as they were in high school. This show is a memory piece, a reminiscence. It is a reflection of how the high school student's future is governed by the nature of our country at the time of graduation. High school students tend to do one of three things upon graduation: they a) go to college and continue their education; b) get a job, get married, settle down and raise a family; or c) join the armed forces. All of this is determined by the economic and political climate of the country at the time. And not only is their future affected according to the decade, but their heroes change as well.

Drama is created by conflict, but there is no single conflict in this show. Instead, there are individual conflicts within each character's monologue and within each musical number. The characters view their past lives in high school in three different ways: 1) by commenting on life in high school, 2) by standing back and observing those times past, or 3) by going back in time and re-living those precious days. The author and composer of this musical had an objective: to stimulate our memories of the "good old days," the times when we were far more innocent — when we didn't know what we know now, when we were virginal and lacking in sexual experience, when we weren't so jaded by the pressures of getting ahead, making more money, buying more things, owning a bigger house and driving a bigger car. But were those times really more innocent?

In the 40's, we fought World War II.

In the 50's, a time of great prosperity, we faced the Korean War, "fought" the Cold War, and lived in fear of the atom and hydrogen bombs.

In the 60's, we watched race riots during the struggle for civil rights, and we saw assassinations and the beginning of the Vietnam War.

In the 70's, we felt the upheaval of the continuation of the Vietnam War and stood aside as the morals of the country declined in sexual freedom and drugs.

In the 80's, we began to live in the era of AIDS and felt the strain as the national economy began to fall apart and has yet to bounce back to the prosperity of the 50's.

All of which begs the question: What is innocence? Perhaps we were not so innocent but *felt* more innocent. "Is There Life After High School?" — this production — speaks to the innocence amidst the chaos of each decade, the innocence within all of us — as it once was and, hopefully, still is.

John Vicich

The Playhouse Association
presents its
Two Hundred Seventy-Sixth Production

Is There Life After High School?

Book by
Jeffrey Kindley

Music and Lyrics by
Craig Carnelia

Suggested by the book by Ralph Keyes

Set Construction
Ed Johnson

Costumes
Lyn Mackie

Set Concept
John Vicich

Stage Manager
Linn Smith

Lighting
Bill Roome

Properties
Geraldine Zocolli

Producer
Frank Hawrusik

Musical Direction by
Bill Hought

Directed by
John Vicich

May 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 16, 17 at 8:00pm
Sunday Matinees, May 4 & 18, at 2:00pm

Produced on the Broadway Stage by
Clive Davis, Francois de Menil, Harris Maslansky
and Twentieth Century Fox-Theatre Productions, Inc.
Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

The Playhouse Association
10 New England Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901
(908) 273-2192 www.SummitPlayhouse.org

The Ensemble

The Girls

Moggie Davis
Margareth de Jesus
Stephanie Fisk
Jeslyn Wheelless

The Boys

TJ Balady
David Claypoole
Joe LaFalce
Kyle SanGiovanni
Bobby Weitzenhofer

Musical Numbers

ACT I

The Kid Inside Ensemble
Things I Learned in High School Bobby
Second Thoughts Moggie, Jeslyn, TJ, Kyle, Bobby
Nothing Really Happened Stephanie and the Girls
Beer TJ and the Boys
For Them David and Ensemble
Diary of a Homecoming Queen Moggie

ACT II

Thousands of Trumpets Joe and Ensemble
Reunion Ensemble
High School All Over Again Kyle and Ensemble
Fran and Janie Moggie and Jeslyn
I'm Glad You Didn't Know Me Margareth and David
Reunion: Conclusion Ensemble

Orchestra

Keyboard Bill Houpt
Percussion Steve Weber
Bass Andrew Roscyewski

There will be one 15 minute intermission, during which refreshments will be served in the lounge downstairs. Currently on display in the lounge are cast pictures of many of our productions since our founding in 1918.

Production Staff

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Director | John Vicich |
| Musical Director | Bill Houpt |
| Assistant Directors | Nina Deutz and Nancy Gurley |
| Producer | Frank Hawrusik |
| Assistant Producer | Janet Maulbeck |
| Stage Manager | Linn Smith |
| Assisted by..... | George Doherty |
| Set Concept | John Vicich |
| Set Construction | Ed Johnson |
| Assisted by..... | Ted Deutz, George Doherty, John Gurley, Deryk Harrison, Frank Hawrusik, Roy Pancirov, and Mike Tatlow |
| Set Painting | Dave Maulbeck |
| Assisted by..... | Catherine Hawrusik, Frank Hawrusik, Tom Hawrusik, Ann Houpt, and Janet Maulbeck |
| Lighting & Sound | Bill Roome |
| Assisted by..... | Brent Baab and Frank Hawrusik |
| Costumes | Lyn Mackie |
| Assisted by..... | Vince Esoldi, Nancy Gurley, Fran Harrison, and Lee Ryden |
| Properties | Geraldine Zocolli |
| Assisted by..... | Catherine Hawrusik |
| Make-up | Alice Kosowski |
| Publicity | Lori Balzano |
| Tickets | Ann Houpt |
| Flyer & Program | Bill Roome |
| Entertainment | Nancy Gurley |
| Usher Coordinator | Betty Kaus |

Acknowledgments

The Playhouse wishes to thank the following for their assistance:

Stony Hill Players
The Central Intelligence Agency

The Thursday benefit performance is for
The Kiwanis Club of the Chatham.

Who's Who

TJ Balady is making his initial appearance before Summit Playhouse audiences. His favorite performances include Jack in *Into the Woods*, Danny in *Baby*, Buddy Baker in *Come Blow Your Horn*, Peter Van Daan in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, and Danny Zuko in *Grease*. He is employed as a Recruiting Manager for a staffing company in Clifton, NJ. TJ dedicates his performance to his friends (especially the guys from Syracuse, NY) and his co-workers at the Assurance Group ... "This ones for you..."

David Claypoole recently moved to Summit from Staten Island where he was a mainstay of the island theatre scene for 15 years appearing in roles ranging from Amos Hart in *Chicago* to Frank Butler in *Annie Get Your Gun*. Some of his favorite roles include Pilate in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Buddy in *Follies*, Man #1 in *Jacque Brel...*, Lancelot in *Camelot* and El Gallo in *The Fantasticks*. In real life, David is a husband, father, legal recruiter and Elvis impersonator. *Is There Life After High School?* marks his debut with the Summit Playhouse.

Moggie Davis is thrilled to make her Summit Playhouse debut. No stranger to theatre here in NJ, Moggie is one of the founding partners and the original Managing Director of the Forum Theatre Company in Metuchen, NJ, now enjoying its 20th season. Over the past 20 years, Moggie has assumed many roles both on and off-stage, having most recently been seen as Domina in this season's production of *Funny Thing ... Forum*. Other favorite shows include *Nine*, *Mr. Cinders*, *Company*, *Pump Boys and Dinettes*, *Nonsense*, and *Merrily We Roll Along*. Moggie also enjoys directing and has recently been at the helm of KIDS' Forum productions of *Babes in Toyland* and *Schoolhouse Rock — LIVE! Jr.* Moggie serves on the Somerset County Cultural and Heritage Commission and can often be found running theatre workshops for kids or consulting for area arts organizations. Love to Steve, Mallory and Logan — the true stars in her life!

Margareth de Jesus is honored to be returning to the Summit Playhouse where she played Leah in *Two by Two*. She first appeared on stage as Maria in *The Sound of Music* at the Rising Star Theater Co. in Elizabeth, NJ. She has also performed in the *King & I* at Plays-in-the-Park in Edison, NJ. As a member of the New Jersey State Opera, Ms. de Jesus has performed in *Don Carlo*, *Turandot*, *Andrea Chenier*, *Carmen*, *Aida*, *Tosca*, *Madama Butterfly* (Butterfly's mother), *Cavalleria Rusticana*, and *Pagliacci*. She made her operatic debut as the Lady in Waiting in *Macbeth* at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, NJ and has performed at various clubs in New Jersey and Florida. Ms. de Jesus dedicates her performance to her late voice coach, Theresa Minocci, who was coach, mentor and friend. She would like to thank her friends for their support and her family for their understanding, patience and strength. Thank you & xoxo to all!

Stephanie Fisk is happy to return to the Playhouse stage after an eight-year hiatus. She has acted and sung in the Playhouse productions of *She Loves Me*, *Tribute*, *Play On* and *Light Up The Sky*. In addition to her almost 20 year membership at the Playhouse, she has worked at the Bickford Theater as an assistant Director for *On Golden Pond*. Steph says she'll "always remember" her high school and will "never forget" her loving family and friends.

Joseph LaFalce has sung with various groups in the New Jersey area including La Bella Voce, The Mel-O-Chords, The Dapper Dan's of Harmony, The Bloomfield Civic Chorus, and The All Saints Church Choir of Orange. He has also sung backup for big band singer Keaton Douglas with the Somers's Dream Orchestra at functions all around the tri-state area. Most recently Joseph participated in a "Salute to Sinatra" at the Al Di La Restaurant in Montclair, NJ and is a co-founder of the Magnum Opus Musicals in Concert Series. He has also appeared in seven NYU student films, three of which included singing roles. Joseph studies voice with Dr. Stephen Oosting of Upper Montclair, NJ.

Kyle D. SanGiovanni recently performed the roles of Frank in *Mack & Mabel* and Alan in *Baby* with Magnum Opus in Livingston, NJ. He originated the role of Dad in The Who's *Quadrophenia* with Theatre Under the Stars, West Orange, NJ. Other roles include Nanki Poo in *The Mikado* and Taddeo in *Italian Girl in Algiers* with La Bella Voce, West Caldwell, NJ; Julio in *Paint Your Wagon*, Tom Marlowe in *Good News*, Dexter in *High Society*, and Ladislav in *Roberta* with Retro Music Theatre, Montclair, NJ; Daddy Warbucks in *Annie* and Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast* with After School Musical Theatre, Midland Park, NJ. He has also performed with the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and Pro Arte Choral at NJPAC, Newark, NJ; Philomusica, Brooklyn, NY; The Mel-O-Chords, Montclair, NJ and The Oratorio Society of New Jersey.

Bobby Weitzenhofer is thrilled to perform onstage at the Summit Playhouse. Some of his favorite roles have included Roger in *Grease* and Milton in *Laughter On The 23rd Floor* at Theatre Under The Stars, and ensemble roles at 4th Wall Musical Theatre in shows such as *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Violet*, and *Is There Life After High School?* His reoccurring role as "Daddy" has produced Jennie, 22 months, and Amanda, one month. Bobby is hoping Jennie, who is already singing "Tomorrow" from *Annie*, will follow in his theatrical footsteps. Bobby thanks the cast and crew of "Life" as well as his wife, Ellen, who just happens to be attending her 20th high school reunion this month.

Jeslyn Wheeless is delighted to be twirling her baton once again in her Summit Playhouse debut. She thanks John, Nina, and Bill for the opportunity, and the talented cast for making her laugh. In addition to singing for the Larks and the Calvary Chorale, Jeslyn is a storyteller and folksinger with an award-winning CD, "Hoot Owl Blues," recorded with her son Ben on guitar. Special thanks goes to her sister Alice who taught her to twirl in high school.

Production Staff

John Vicich (Director) has directed several productions off-off Broadway and throughout New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and New York. He has staged nightclub revues for resort hotels, cruise ship lines, and the USO in Vietnam. As an actor he has toured in England and Paris and has appeared in several productions in NYC. Last year he was one of the Russian soldiers in *War and Peace* at the Metropolitan Opera. He has been a member of the Summit Playhouse since playing Shem in *Two by Two*.

Bill Houpt (Musical Director) teaches piano lessons in the Summit area and has been Musical Director for many musicals performed in theaters in New Jersey and Staten Island. Recent productions include *Into the Woods* and *Fal-*

Who's Who (cont'd)

settos at Drew University and *Nonsense* at Florham Park. His productions at the Summit Playhouse include *A Grand Night for Singing*, *Gypsy*, *Side by Side by Sondheim*, and *Two By Two*. Bill helps with the music program at the Summit Speech School and is Musical Director for The Larks, a women's singing group sponsored by the Junior League of Summit.

Frank M. Hawrusik (Producer) usually contributes backstage as stage manager but has developed a taste for the glamour of producing. Besides producing *Two by Two* and *Labor Day*, Frank's backstage credits include *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *The Heiress*, and *Moon Over Buffalo*.

Nina Deutz (Assistant Director) is the treasurer at the Playhouse and has assisted directors on several Playhouse productions, most recently *Two by Two*. She served as assistant to John Stringer at the Bickford Theatre on several shows, including *Ah! Wilderness* and the award-winning *She Loves Me*. Among her favorite onstage roles are Ouiser in *Steel Magnolias* and Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof*. An active choral singer, Nina sings with the Concord Singers and the Calvary Chorale.

Nancy Gurley (Assistant Director) has previously lent her talents as co-producer of *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *A Grand Night for Singing*, and *Two By Two*. Nancy assisted the director for *Moon Over Buffalo* and *Labor Day*. She has also assisted on costumes and props for various shows. A Playhouse board member, Nancy is our entertainment chairperson.

Ed Johnson (Set Construction) is an indispensable member of the rotating set construction crew at the Playhouse, and leads the crew for this production. One of Ed's favorite sets was *I Hate Hamlet* where he got to work with his son and made the NY Times. Ed serves on the Playhouse board as Business Manager.

Lyn Mackie (Costumes) has been involved in costuming at the Playhouse for over twenty years — about the same length of time she's volunteered at the Summit Junior League Costume Rental Shop. This production was something of a challenge, since it required clothing from five decades. She'd never have been able to do it without the help of her outstanding committee.

Dave Maulbeck (Set Concept & Set Painting) is a member of the Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre and recently performed in their production of *The Laramie Project*. At Dreamcatcher, Dave has taught classes, sung in cabarets, improvised comedy, and acted on stage. For the Theater Project at Union County Community College, Dave has performed in *All in the Timing* and *It's A Wonderful Life*. Dave is also a member of the Summit Playhouse, where he has appeared in a number of Kaleidoscope Theater productions, and directed *Free To Be ... You And Me*.

Geraldine Zoccoli (Props) is the "Queen of Props" as some people call her. She has been doing props for a long time and finds the challenge beyond compare. Some of the other hats she has worn are set decorator, usher, costumer, and producer of *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She made her stage debut in *Charlotte's Web* as one of the town's people. Gerry would like to thank Maureen, John, Dawn, and her grandsons for all their support.

Active Members

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Brent Baab | Ann Houpt | Anne Poyner |
| Lori Balzano | Bill Houpt | David Rappaport |
| Vincent J. Balzano | Morrene Jacobs | Josephine Ray |
| John Bauer | Ed Johnson | Mark Reilly |
| John Becker | Betty Kaus | Dee Robertson |
| Debra Bernstein | Patricia Kenworthy | Sandy Robertson |
| Nancy Boucher | Anne King | Bill Roome |
| Mary Jo Boyd | Michael King | Rhoda Roper |
| Robbi Curtis | Joyce Kitson | Robert Roper |
| Maya Daniels | Malcom Kitson | Sandra Rudnitsky |
| Nina Deutz | Chris Kolmodin | Nancy Lee Ryan |
| Ted Deutz | Alice Kosowski | Paul Sacks |
| George Doherty | Stow Lovejoy | Kate Schlesinger |
| Sandy Fornuff | Joan Ludwig | Candace Selwyn |
| Judy Fraser | Tom Lyttle | Moo Shaffer |
| Scott Goldman | Lyn Mackie | Ken Smith |
| James Gomez | Dave Maulbeck | Linn Smith |
| John Gurley | Janet Maulbeck | Sue Smith |
| Nancy Gurley | Caitlin Mehner | Sherri Strauss-Williams |
| Lois Hageman | Joan Mehner | Kathy Tatlow |
| Megumi Haggerty | Roger Mehner | Michael Tatlow |
| Deryk Harrison | Chris Messineo | Chris Tolles |
| Frances Harrison | Elizabeth Messineo | Harriett Trangucci |
| Art Hausker | Kelly Mott-Sacks | John Vichic |
| Beverley Hausker | Tamara Nedjar | Joe Vierno |
| Cathy Hawrusik | Barbara Neff | Christopher Williams |
| Frank Hawrusik | Beth Painter | Joanne Wilson |
| Rebecca Hawrusik | Rose Pancirov | Marguerite Wurtz |
| Pam Heller | Roy Pancirov | Geraldine Zoccoli |

Retired Active Members

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Jeanne Brinkmann | Lee Franklin | Robert W. Parsons Jr. |
| Arnold Buchiane | Bill Garmany | Kay Poole |
| Marjorie Bultman | Maggi Kelly | Joann Scanlon |
| Bill Campbell | Joe Kizzia | Joan Rose Thomas ** |
| Bud Dawson | P. T. Kizzia | Lovey Trucksess |
| Liz Dawson | John Luckstone | Liz Van Deusen |
| Tom Dwyer | Sondra Luckstone | Rosalie Cox Volkening |
| Conover English ** | Ed Mahler | |
| Vince Esoldi | Norma McGough | |
| Stephanie Fisk | Rose Pach | ** Honorary Member |

In Memorium

We will all miss Ali Campbell, who died on April 17. She founded our Kaleidoscope Theatre for Youth in 1993, and was its first director. Our sympathy to her family.

Playhouse Board of Governors, 2002-2003

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| President..... | Vincent J. Balzano |
| Vice-President..... | Frank Hawrusik |
| Secretary..... | Jo Ray |
| Treasurer..... | Nina Deutz |
| Business Manager..... | Ed Johnson |
| Tickets..... | Nancy Boucher |
| Production Committee..... | Frank Hawrusik, Lori Balzano, Fran Harrison |
| House and Grounds..... | Brent Baab |
| Technical Director..... | Bill Roome |
| Development..... | John Bauer |
| Grants and Donations..... | Nancy Boucher |
| Gifts and Benefits..... | Joan Mehner |
| Playreading Committee Chair..... | David Rappaport |
| Newsletter..... | Geraldine Zocolli |
| Entertainment..... | Nancy Gurley |
| Historian..... | P. T. Kizzia |
| Legal Advisor..... | Gilbert E. Owen |

Playhouse Information

If you are interested in active membership, subscriptions, or additional tickets, call (908) 273-2192 and leave a message. We will respond accordingly. If you would like to be on our mailing list, please sign our guest book in the lobby. For more information about The Playhouse, including a complete list of all our productions and pictures of the recent ones, please visit our web site, www.SummitPlayhouse.org.

We will announce next season's plays in June, and we will post them on our web site at that time.

Playhouse Accessibility Project

The Playhouse is committed to making our theater handicapped accessible. In preparation, the beautiful Jack Manley Rosé mural in our lobby has been moved to make way for a lift and a new rest room. Some of the \$165,000 cost has been covered by grants from foundations, but we still need to raise at least \$40,000. Private donations are extremely important, because they demonstrate our commitment to this project. Contributions are tax deductible, and may be sent to

The Playhouse Association
10 New England Ave
Summit, NJ 07901

You may also "Buy A Brick for the Playhouse Path to Accessibility." Details are available in the lobby, or can be obtained by calling (973) 377-9058.

Contributors

Angels (\$1000 and above)

Union County Community Development Block Grant
The Summit Area Public Foundation
The Estate of W. J. and Maryanne Pyle
Pfaltz & Woller PA Charitable Fund
The Hyde and Watson Foundation
Manley-Winser Foundation
Nancy Boucher
Bill Roome

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Kathy & Michael Tatlow
Donna & Jack Walcott

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