



# *The Summit Playhouse*

The following program is from our 2006-2007 season.

For information on our current production,  
and on 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 Summit Playhouse



Presents

**THE**

**CHILDREN'S**

**HOUR**



Fall 2006



**Lillian Hellman (1905–1984)**

### **Director's Notes**

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*The Children's Hour* is a cautionary, grownup tale. A lie told by a child is spread by an adult. An adult, so quick to believe the lie and so sure, so righteous in destroying the livelihood of the so called perpetrators; Karen Wright and Martha Dobie. Within this childish lie is a grownup truth: A lie creates its own life and consequences, clearly not only for the person who is lied about, but perhaps even more for the lie's repeater. Both lose and both suffer. But a strong person can not only withstand such an injustice but also gather strength from such an onslaught.

Kate Schelsinger

The Summit Playhouse Association presents its  
Two Hundred Eighty Sixth Production

# **THE CHILDREN'S HOUR**

**By LILLIAN HELLMAN**

***Set Design & Painting***  
Rhoda Roper

***Stage Managers***  
George Doherty  
& Frank Hawrusik

***Costumes***  
Lyn Mackie

***Set Construction***  
J. Guerdon Mayfield

***Assistant Director***  
Betty Kaus

***Properties***  
Marina Donahue

***Produced by***  
Joann Scanlon & Betty Kaus

***Directed by***  
Kate Schlesinger

November 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 at 8:00pm  
Sunday Matinee, November 12 at 2:00pm

The matinee is also an audio-described, signed, assistive-listening performance

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

# Cast

(In order of speaking)

<b><i>Peggy Rogers</i></b> .....	Hallie Bowen
<b><i>Catherine</i></b> .....	Katherine Claypoole
<b><i>Lois Fisher</i></b> .....	Ellie Terrett
<b><i>Mrs. Lily Mortar</i></b> .....	Linda Correll
<b><i>Evelyn Munn</i></b> .....	Paulina Casey
<b><i>Helen Burton</i></b> .....	Shay Strelzik
<b><i>Rosalie Wells</i></b> .....	Audrey Atencio
<b><i>Mary Tilford</i></b> .....	Rachel Donahue
<b><i>Karen Wright</i></b> .....	Kristin Barber
<b><i>Martha Dobie</i></b> .....	Liza Harris
<b><i>Dr. Joseph Cardin</i></b> .....	John Correll
<b><i>Agatha</i></b> .....	Isabel Zeoli
<b><i>Mrs. Amelia Tilford</i></b> .....	Jean Kuras
<b><i>A Grocery Boy</i></b> .....	Loring Bowen

# Scenes

**Act I** Living room of the Wright-Dobie School.  
Late afternoon in April, 1953.

**Act II** Scene 1: Living room at Mrs. Tilford's. A few hours later.  
Scene 2: The same. Later that evening.

**Act III** The same as Act I. November.

There will be two ten minute intermissions, during which  
juice will be served in the lounge downstairs



As a courtesy to the cast and the other patrons, please

**Turn off your cell phone**

**No photography or recording**



## Production Staff

Director .....	Kate Schlesinger
Producers .....	Joann Scanlon & Betty Kaus
Assistant Director .....	Betty Kaus
Stage Managers .....	George Doherty & Frank Hawrusik
Set Design .....	Rhoda Roper
Set Construction .....	J. Guerdon Mayfield
Assisted by .....	Brent Baab, Frank Hawrusik, David Hoffman, Ed Johnson, Mike Middleton, Michael Schlesinger & Mike Tatlow
Set Painting .....	Rhoda Roper
Assisted by .....	Ann Houpt, Morrene Jacobs, Betty Kaus & Kathy Tatlow
Set Décor .....	Jamie Claypoole
Costumes .....	Lyn Mackie
Assisted by .....	Tina Casey & Vince Esoldi
Properties .....	Marina Donahue
Assisted by .....	Tina Casey, Pam Heller & Devon Moore
Lighting & Sound .....	Bill Roome
Assisted by .....	David Hoffman
Signing .....	Simon V. Martinez, Jr.
Audio-Description .....	Michael T. Mooney
Publicity .....	Joann Scanlon
Assisted by .....	Devon Moore
Poster & Playbill .....	Bill Roome
Photography .....	Anita Choubey
Tickets .....	Stephanie Fisk
Usher Coordinator .....	Betty Kaus

## Acknowledgments

John McEwen, New Jersey Theatre Alliance  
 Neuman & Schindler, Opticians  
 Chatham Players  
 Westfield Community Players  
 Bergen County Players

**The Access Matinee for this production has been  
 underwritten by the Summit Lions Club**

# Who's Who

**Audrey Atencio (Rosalie Wells)** is a ninth grader at Oak Knoll in Summit. She has acted in school and camp productions, as well as in *The Miracle Worker* here at the Summit Playhouse. She is very happy to be acting at the Playhouse again and wants to thank all the people who made this production possible. She also wants to thank her family for supporting her and driving her to rehearsal!

**Kristin Barber (Karen Wright)** has worked at many area theaters including Chatham Playhouse, Circle Playhouse, Villagers, Playhouse 22, Nutley Little Theater, Old Library Theatre, and BBM. Favorite credits include *Jersey Voices 04 and 05*, *Proof*, *Come Back to the 5 & Dime Jimmy Dean*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *Gemini*, *Extremities*, and *Steel Magnolias*. By day, Kristin is a high school science teacher for Newark Public Schools.

**Hallie Bowen (Peggy Rogers)** is new to the Summit Community Playhouse stage and is thrilled to be making her debut in this fantastic show. She previously appeared as Alice Blake in *Up the Down Staircase* at Summit High School. She would like to thank her wonderful castmates and crew members for being so lovely and amazing. Break a leg!

**Loring Bowen (Grocery Boy)** is a seventh grader at Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School. He is appearing in his first Summit Playhouse production. He is the younger brother of Hallie Bowen, who is playing the role of Peggy in tonight's production. Except for a brief appearance as Davey Crockett in a second grade play, this performance marks Loring's acting debut.

**Paulina Casey (Evelyn Munn)** is a seventh grader at the Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School and she is happy to be back at the Summit Playhouse. In addition to appearing in school plays at Jefferson Elementary School in Summit, Paulina has performed at the Playhouse twice before. She played the dual roles of Becky the Cheerleader and the Queen of Boola-Boola in our Kaleidoscope production of *Dear Edwina, Jr.* Her performance as Helen Keller in our fall 2005 production of *The Miracle Worker* earned her a Perry Award from NJACT (New Jersey Association of Community Theaters), an honor that she is proud to share with the cast, crew and especially her director, Kate Schlesinger. In her spare time Paulina enjoys spending time with her friends and playing her guitar.

**Katherine Claypoole (Catherine)** makes her Summit Playhouse debut in *Children's Hour*. Katt is no stranger to the stage having appeared as Melina in *Wicked*, the Red Queen in *Alice in Wonderland* and a bird girl in *Suessical*, all at Camp Lindemere. Katt made her stage debut at the age of 5 months as the infant in *The Way*, which was directed by her father, Summit Playhouse regular, David Claypoole. Katt would like to thank her parents (all four of them, you figure it out), her sister and her friends for their support.

**John Correll (Dr. Joseph Cardin)** is happy to be back at Summit Playhouse and working with Kate again. He has appeared and directed at many local theatres over many, many years. John would like to thank Kate for giving him the opportunity to be in this wonderful show with such a talented cast including his lovely and talented wife Linda ("With God all things are possible, but with out you, Linda, nothing would be worth

having.”). John can be seen in the soon to be released movie, *Sea of Dust*. Thanks to the cast & crew and to God for everything.

**Linda Correll (Mrs. Lily Mortar)** has been acting since sixth grade (only now she acts like an adult). Linda has performed in many area theaters. Some favorite roles include: Myra in *Deathtrap* (Westfield Community Players), Billy Dawn in *Born Yesterday* (Bergen County Players), Carla in *Nine* (TNT) and Carlotta in *Phantom* (Union County Arts Center). She also designs and builds sets: *Sweeney Todd*, *Accomplice*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *The Heiress* (Perry Award), *Last of the Red Hot Lovers* and many others. By day (when not acting, directing or designing specialty makeup), Linda is a professional Industrial Property Manager. All my love, all my life to John who makes the world a better place.

**Rachel Donahue (Mary Tilford)**, age twelve, is a seventh-grader at Morristown-Beard. Rachel has performed in numerous plays and musicals, including two of our Kaleidoscope productions: *Dear Edwina, Jr.*, and *Once on This Island, Jr.* Her career highlights include voicing the role of Lou Costello in *Who's on First* for the *Anything Goes with Lise Avery* radio program, and acting opposite Broadway actor Fred Inkley at the Pulse Ensemble Theatre in New York. Her loves are dancing, acting, and singing and she dreams of being in the movies someday. She is thrilled to be working with Director Kate Schlesinger and thanks Kate for this wickedly fun role.

**Liza Harris (Martha Dobie)** is pleased to return to Summit and work with this outstanding cast and crew. A resident of Mountain Lakes, Liza is a graduate of the Neighborhood Playhouse as well as a Screen Actors Guild member. Favorite stage roles include Dr. Vivian Bearing in *Wit*, Blanche DuBois in *Streetcar Named Desire*, Ruth in *Blithe Spirit*, Desiree Armfeldt in *A Little Night Music*, Bella Mannigham in *Angel Street*, Meg in *Crimes of the Heart*, Dr. Livingstone in *Agnes of God* and Mrs. Robinson in *The Graduate*. Many thanks to my family and friends for their endless support!

**Jean Kuras (Mrs. Amelia Tilford)** is making her fifth appearance at the Summit Playhouse, having played Elizabeth Almond in *The Heiress*, Evelyn Ashford in *Wit*, Rebecca Nurse in *The Crucible*, and Edna in *A Delicate Balance*. Jean thanks Betty Kaus, the wonderful cast and the remarkable stage crew of this beautiful theater and the special artistry of Kate Schlesinger for making the “Hour” pass like seconds.

**Shay Strelzik (Helen Burton)** is a native New Yorker. She developed her passion for the arts when she moved to Summit with her family. She has performed in plays such as *Lord I Want To Have Sex, But I Am Not Married*, *Half A Kingdom*, *Star Trek*, *The Chest of Dreams*, *Pippin* and *Big*. She is currently in rehearsals for *Wind in the Willows* at the Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School. Shay enjoys playing her drums, dancing and relaxing with her friends when she is not on stage. She continues to train and enhance her skills and hopes to be on the “big screen” one day.

**Ellie Terrett (Lois Fisher)** is extremely excited to be performing in her second show at the Summit Playhouse. She has previously appeared in our Kaleidoscope production of *How To Eat Like A Child*, four plays at the Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, and two plays at Washington School. Along with her passion to act and sing, she loves to dance, to spend almost every second with her best friends, and to talk on the phone and on AIM. When she's not doing everything else, she's in the gym four days a week, training as a level seven in gymnastics. She recently made it to the State Championships, which will take place in January, 2007. She would like to thank all the



## Who's Who (continued)

cast for being so great and always making her laugh at rehearsals. She would also like to thank her parents for driving her to rehearsals and supporting her throughout everything. She would lastly like to thank all her best friends for being absolutely awesome and helping her with everything in her busy schedule.

**Isabel Zeoli (Agatha)** is jazzed to be working again with Kate Schlesinger at the Summit Playhouse. She first performed here as Lavinia Penniman in *The Heiress*. At the Bickford Theatre in Morristown, she has appeared as the maid in *Sly Fox*, Gwen in *The Odd Couple*, and in several one acts. At the Warwick Winery, Isabel played Agatha in *Dancing At Lughnasa*. She has also performed various roles at The Growing Stage in children's theatre. After attending Emerson College, and living in NYC, Isabel performed at the Manhattan Theatre Club and Direct Theatre, did some television and commercial work, and trained with Roy London.

### PRODUCTION STAFF

**Kate Schlesinger (Director)** has an MA in Theatre Education from New York University. She has directed twelve other plays at The Playhouse: *The Miracle Worker*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Prelude to a Kiss*, *The Heiress*, *The Waverly Gallery*, *Inspecting Carol*, *Dinner With Friends*, among others. Kate has also directed numerous plays at Twelve Miles West in Montclair, two one acts in Jersey Voices at Chatham Players, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* at The Alliance Theatre in Bloomfield and two plays at The Bickford in Morristown: *On Golden Pond* and *Our Town*, for which she was nominated Best Director in New Jersey at The Star Ledger. I am very grateful to be a member of this wonderful theatre and I hope so much that if you enjoy and appreciate our work, you will involve yourself in helping to mount our shows. We need your help. Thank you!

**Betty Kaus (Assistant Director & Co-Producer)** is Vice President of the Playhouse, and has been a member since 1950, President three times, directed fifteen plays, appeared in several, and is on the House and Grounds Committee.

**Joann Scanlon (Producer)** has directed at such theatres as The Bickford Theatre, and the Chatham and Westfield Community Players. Some favorite shows for Summit are: *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, *The Boys Next Door*, *Man of La Mancha* and last season's *The Lion in Winter*.

**Jamie Claypoole (Set Décor)** served as the same capacity on Playhouse production of *The Imaginary Invalid*. An experienced designer, she has previously only shared her talents with clients of her interior design business. Jamie recently relocated from Mountain Home, Arkansas where she owned and operated a home décor/interior design store. As you might have guessed, Jamie is the step mother of Katherine Claypoole, one of this evening's performers. They live in Summit with their husband/father David and their children/siblings, Emily and Chafen.

**George Doherty (Co-Stage Manager)** has been Stage Manager for *Dinner With Friends*, *The Heiress*, *The Waverly Gallery* and *Wit*, and has worked on many other productions at the Summit Playhouse. He lives in Chatham with his wife, Robbi Curtis.

**Marina Donahue (Properties)** says a special thank you to Tina Casey and Devon Moore for your invaluable help accumulating and organizing the props. I couldn't have done it without you. To Rachel: I'm incredibly proud to be your Mom. And to Kate – you're an inspiration and a wonder. Thank you for this fun experience.

**Simon V. Martinez, Jr. (Signer)** is the fourth youngest of five children of Deaf parents (CODA), a Viet Nam Veteran and has worked as a freelance Interpreter Consultant nationally since 1977. He interprets International Travel Tours for the Deaf by the Deaf specializing in Western Civilization and World War II History as well as Religion/Art of the Renaissance Period.

**Frank Hawrusik (Co-Stage Manager)** returns to his usual backstage role of Stage Manager. Frank's other backstage credits include *Lion In Winter*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Moon Over Buffalo*, *The Crucible* and *Dinner With Friends*.

**J. Guerdon Mayfield (Set Construction)** has built sets for our last season and for Kaleidoscope, and is now into his second season with the Playhouse. In addition to activities here he continues to help with UHSPAC and occasionally at Wilkins Theatre at Kean University. He continues his assistance to the deaf and hard of hearing community and is looking to obtaining an ACCESS and LOOP system for the Playhouse. He thanks the crew for their assistance and guidance.

**Lyn Mackie (Costumes)** is a Playhouse veteran. She's worked on forty four costume committees over the past twenty five years – chairing many of them. She's also a regular volunteer at the Jr. League Costume Rental Shop. She has enjoyed working with this cast very much.

**Michael T. Mooney (Audio Describer)** has provided descriptions at McCarter Theatre, Morristown's Community Theatre, Edison's Plays-in-the-Park, The Bickford Theatre, EIES Radio Reading Service, and Paper Mill Playhouse where he is Manager of Outreach and Access Programs. A founding member of L.E.A.D. (Leadership and Education in Arts and Disability) in Washington DC, Michael serves on the boards of Audio-Description International, Fund for the New Jersey Blind, and The New Jersey Arts Access Task Force. He received the 2003 Ann Klein Award. ([www.michaeltmooney.com](http://www.michaeltmooney.com))

**Bill Roome (Lighting & Sound)** was last seen on-stage as Anagnos in last November's production of *The Miracle Worker*. Off-stage, he is the Playhouse's Technical Director and Webmaster, and has worked on lighting and/or sound for many of our recent productions.

**Rhoda Roper (Set Design & Painting)** has designed over twenty sets for the Playhouse, beginning with *Foxfire* in 1992. She has also designed for The Bronx Opera Company, Bickford Theater, Savory Singers G & S Company and other theaters around the area. Her favorite sets are *Marriage Of Figaro*, *Later Life*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *The Lion In Winter* and her all time favorite, *The Enchanted April*. She is looking forward to tackling *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*.



As a courtesy to the cast and the other patrons, please

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## Next Production

# Living Out

By Lisa Loomer

Directed by Michael Driscoll

February 23—March 10, 2007

Auditions: Dec. 5 & 6

*Living Out* is an absorbing and thought-provoking play about motherhood and the American Dream seen through the eyes of three immigrant nannies and the “privileged” mommies they work for. The struggles of illegal immigrants for papers, of spouses to understand each other and the affluent and non-affluent to co-exist are all here in this biting funny and deeply poignant play.

# Playhouse Contributors

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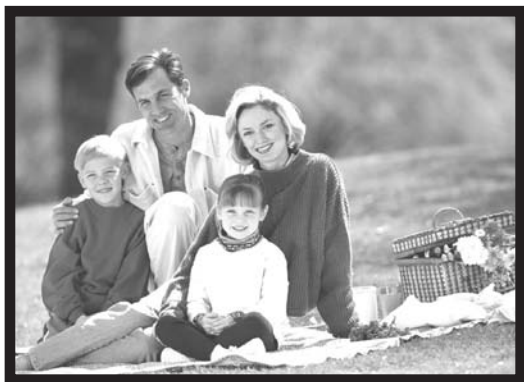
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