



COMMUNITY PLAYERS *of Salisbury*

August
2025

Back Stage



Hello and Happy August!

We've got some exciting events coming up that I'm sure you won't want to miss:

--**"The Broadway Juke Box: A Music Revue"** August 15 and 16 at 7:30 pm and August 17 at 2:00 pm. Director Rusty Mumford has assembled a talented cast to share some of our favorite music hits that have made the transition from our radios and music players to the Broadway stage.

--Auditions for **"Annie."** This endearing musical classic about America's favorite orphan will take the stage in November. Audition information follows in this newsletter.

Come Get Involved: I am personally inviting all members of Community Players to get involved with us. In addition to performing, directing, being on stage crew, props crew and costume team, I invite you to volunteer to serve on one of our many committees. Below is just a handful of current committees that could use your help.

·Facilities Management (Help Keep our Performance, Warehouse, Props and Costume spaces in tip-top shape)

·Box Office (Learn our online ticket system and help audience members get checked in during performances)

·Publicity, Social Media, Marketing (Help spread the word about what we do)

·House (Help usher during performances)

·Grant Writing, Fundraising and Patrons (Help us raise the funds we need)

·Membership (Help recruit and welcome new members)

·Nominating (Help recruit members to run for Officers/Board Members)

Please feel free to reach out to me at dgmullins58@mail.com if you are interested or would like more information.

Looking forward to sharing an exciting season of mainstage and special productions in our upcoming 2025/2026 season.

Kind Regards,

Darrell Mullins

President

Players' next meetings will be **August 6 (7:00 PM) and September 3 (7:00 PM)**. Join us as we begin planning for next season.

BACK STAGE SUBMISSIONS

Articles, photos, etc. for publication in Back Stage should be emailed to me (popirusty@comcast.net) by the 15th of each month. Also, if you have ideas for the improvement of our newsletter, please let me know!

Rusty Mumford

Corresponding Secretary

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS WHO WILL LEAD PLAYERS IN 2025-2026

President: Darrell Mullins
Vice-President: Kyle Hayes
Recording Secretary: Melissa Dasher
Corresponding Secretary: Rusty Mumford
Treasurer: Charlie Linton
Immediate Past-President: Matt Bogdan

Board Members

Lynne Bratten, Ken Johnson, Shelbie Thompson - Term Expires 2026
David Allen, Kim Cuesta, Charlie Szentesi-Thomas - Term Expires 2027
Pete Cuesta, Betsy Metzger, Tom Robinson - Term Expires 2028

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

A Guest Bartending fundraiser was held at Brew River on Thursday July 10. Many friends came out to support Players, and we raised more than \$500.

A Music Revue will be held in August. Details follow in this newsletter.

A fundraising committee meeting will be held Tuesday, August 5, at 7 p.m. All are welcome to attend.





Audition Information for ANNIE

Dates:

Saturday 8/23 – 10am – noon – CHILDREN ONLY

Sunday 8/24 – 2pm – 4pm open audition

Monday 8/25 7pm – 9pm open audition

Tuesday 8/26 7pm – 9pm open audition

Callbacks only if needed – Wednesday 8/27 7pm

- EVERYONE MUST COME PREPARED TO SING A SONG (not from ANNIE), only 16 measures please, we will have an accompanist, or you may use a device.
- You will be asked to learn a short dance sequence.
- You will be asked to read selections from the script.

Please be advised that this is a NINE (9) week commitment – rehearsals start 8/31 and the show is November 7 – 9. Everyone is expected to attend their rehearsals. Rehearsals will be scheduled Sunday afternoons at 2, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings at 7 and additional dates and time as needed.

Additional rehearsals may be added as needed. Tech Week (11/2 - SHOW) will be required rehearsals for everyone.

We are looking for singers, dancers, and actors who have a strong stage presence and who can take and follow directions.

For more information, please contact the director, Sherri Hynes, at sherri.hynes@yahoo.com

Cast of characters

Orphans –

They are all gritty, neglected, tough, but comical and lovable. Strong singers, dancers, and stage presence. Ages range from 7 to 13.

Molly – the youngest

Kate – next to youngest

Tessie – Crybaby

Annie – streetwise, tough, yet vulnerable, independent, hopeful, maternal Vocally a belter, alto to mezzo

Pepper – toughest

July – quiet one

Duffy – oldest

Females -

Grace Farrell - 30's (depending on Warbucks), mature, classy, calm and beautiful, businesslike yet maternal, mezzo
Miss Hannigan - 40's or older, hateful, mean, comedic timing, strong alto
Lily St. Regis - 20's +, distracted bubblehead, comedic timing
Cecille & Annette - Warbucks maids
Mrs. Greer - Housekeeper
Mrs. Puch - chef
Boylan Sisters - Radio show performers
Star to be - solo in NYC, mezzo, belter

Males -

Daddy Warbuck - 40's +, powerful, dynamic, gruff, but has a kind heart, **MUST BE WILLING TO SHAVE HEAD....** Strong baritone or second tenor
Rooster Hannigan - 30's, despicable, sly, good comedic timing, baritone or second tenor
Drake - English butler
FDR - 50'+, resemble the former president, strong delivery, baritone or bass
Bert Healy - ultimate radio personality
Jimmy Johnson - radio personality
Fred McCracken and Wacky - ventriloquist and dummy
Ensemble - Warbucks staff, FDR's cabinet, Bundles, Lt Ward, Dog Catcher, etc....



The Broadway Jukebox
A Music Revue

Friday, August 15 at 7 PM
Saturday, August 16 at 7 PM
Sunday, August 17 at 2 PM

Players' Theater
Nutters Cross Road
Salisbury, MD.

Tickets will be \$10 per person and can be purchased at the door.

Join us as this ensemble of Players' singers celebrates the American jukebox musical with a sampling of shows produced from 1976 to today.

For further information or to make reservations, contact director Rusty Mumford, popirusty@comcast.net or 410-546-0099.



THEATRE TEASERS
Trivia by Sharon Benchhoff
August - Colors

1. What color is the “haze on the meadow” in *Oklahoma*?
2. “Green Filch and Linnet Bird” is from what musical?
3. What color is the cow in *Into the Woods*?
4. What color is Elphaba in *Wicked*?
5. This musical, from a novel, spotlights Celie's journey of personal awakening.
6. What color is the flag of the rebels in *Les Misérables*?
7. This group wrote the musical *American Idiot*.
8. This musical turned “The Black Death” into a catchy song.
9. “Somewhere That’s Green” is from what musical?
10. “Song of Purple Summer” is from this musical.

Answers found on page 6

Our inaugural season in our new theater was a blazing success. We had a great group of ushers who handled any challenges handed to them with confidence and a welcoming smile. Our big thanks to all who sailed smoothly through *Guys & Dolls*, *A Few Good Men*, *I Hate Hamlet* and *The Importance of Being Ernest*. They are: Becky Mumford, Ted Demetriou, Maria Demetriou, Tammy Taylor, Holly Bruce, Jason Bruce, Trish Long, Lou Elin Sheller, Bettie Messick, Jody Tyler, Mark Tyler, Bonnie Nay, Maddie Cook, Natalie Cook, Deb Nagel, Julie Bellamy, Melissa Dasher, Sammy Barnes, Bobbie Calloway, Emma Klein, Henry Immanuel, Lester Huss, Mary Cathell, Sherrie Trader-Hynes, Carol Willette, Ray Ndirangu, Julia Limbeck, Hema Bhaskaran, Kyle Hayes, Padma Manohar, Bev Yurek, Skye Mumford, Steve Culver, Jason Plaskon, Rachel Lynch, Ken Dasher, Heather Oland, Beth Williams, Katie Fowlkes, Skye Osborne, Shelbie Thompson, Mary Cahill.

I’d also like to thank Brenda Allen, head of the concessions area, and Rusty Mumford, in charge of ticketing along with serving as bartender throughout the season.

You are the best and we appreciate all that you do!

--- A very grateful Betsy Metzger, House Manager

Lifetime Achievement Award Nomination Submission Slip

What is it?

An annual award to a member of Community Players for years and degree of service.

Criteria for Consideration:

1. At least 60 years of age and/or posthumous
2. At least 25 years of service (service as defined below)
 - a. Service: Something other than just showing up: (2 of 3)
 - A1 - acting
 - A2 - directing/stage crew/tech
 - A3 - administrative - board, committee, something!
 - b. Special circumstances: on case by case basis (sudden death / missed the timeline by a narrow margin but is felt deserving by board vote / someone who gets to Broadway)
3. Posthumous - a second award given the following evening to a past member who is gone. Consideration must be evaluated by the committee but after 2 years of waiting.

Your Nomination:

Living Recipient (Two Nominations Max)
Posthumous Recipient (Two Nominations Max)

Are you a member of Community Players in good standing? Y / N (Circle One)

What are your reasons for nominating this person(s)?

ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUESTIONS:



1. Bright golden
2. Sweny Todd
3. Milky White
4. Green
5. The Color Purple
6. Red
7. Green Day
8. Something Rotten
9. Little Shop of Horrors
10. Spring Awakening

Answers:

The 2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE has begun!

Our season begins September 1 which means all current memberships expire on August 31. Yearly Membership dues help us to purchase the rights and materials for our four Main Season shows and maintain our facilities.

Benefits of membership include:

- The ability to serve on a committee
- The ability to serve as an elected Officer or Director on Player's Board of Directors (members age 18 and over)
- The right to vote for Officers & Directors (members age 18 and over)
- A monthly newsletter with information about auditions, productions, events, and member happenings
- A free ticket to all Player's Nights (the night prior to Opening Night)
- The right to borrow costumes, props, or set pieces without a deposit (pending Committee Chairman approval)
- Discounted admission to summer drama camp or workshops
- Patrons also receive main show tickets with special seating and a listing in the show programs.

Your support of Community Players is invaluable! Membership forms and dues may be mailed to the address on the form or left in the Players' office.

-Melissa Dasher



Community Players is committed to celebrating an inclusive culture of creativity by welcoming actors, technicians, designers, musicians, and production team members from varied backgrounds, race, gender identity, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

Membership Application

(Valid September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026)

Check one:

- \$2,000 and Up : LEGACY CLUB PATRON MEMBERSHIP**
You will receive 8 season tickets
- \$1,500 - \$1,999 : ANGEL PATRON MEMBERSHIP**
You will receive 6 season tickets
- \$1,000 - \$1,499 : BENEFACTOR PATRON MEMBERSHIP**
You will receive 5 season tickets
- \$750 - \$999 : GUARDIAN CLUB PATRON MEMBERSHIP**
You will receive 4 season tickets
- \$500 - \$749 : SPONSOR PATRON MEMBERSHIP**
You will receive 3 season tickets
- \$250 - \$499 : DONOR PATRON MEMBERSHIP**
You will receive 2 season tickets
- \$125 - \$249 : FRIEND PATRON MEMBERSHIP**
You will receive 1 season ticket
- \$50 : FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**

One household - up to 2 adults and all children who are under the age of eighteen (18) or twenty-two (22) if a full-time student or on active duty in the military

\$25 : INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP **

An individual who is eighteen (18) years old or older

\$10 : STUDENT MEMBERSHIP **

An individual who is under the age of twenty-two (22) and is a full-time student

** Any individual who has never been a member of CPOS is eligible for a FREE membership for this season. If you wish to waive the fee (\$25 or \$10) please initial here _____

Last Name:		Zip Code:	
E-mail Address:			
Mailing Address:			
City:	State:		
Last Name:		Age(s)	
E-mail Address:			
Last Name(s):			
First Name(s):			

Remit Form and Payment to: **Community Players PO Box 2431 Salisbury, MD 21802**

Questions? E-mail us at:

membership@cposmd.com

Players' Use Only: Finance _____ Mailing _____ Membership _____

Community Players of Salisbury
P. O. Box 2431
Salisbury, MD 21802

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SALISBURY, MD 21801
PERMIT 186

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Please consider becoming a member of Community Players. If you are not sure if your dues are paid for the current year, please check the mailing label on this newsletter. If it does not show 2024-25, your dues are not up-to-date.



Back Stage is funded, in part by a grant from the Salisbury Wicomico Arts Council (SWAC). Players would like to thank SWAC for their continued support.

Next Meetings - Wednesday, August 6 (7:00 PM) and September 3 (7:00 PM).

Community Players Officers & Board of Directors
July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

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Recording Secretary: Melissa Dasher
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