



5TH ANNUAL OMIES AWARDS

The 5th annual OMies Awards ceremony was held at Duke’s Riverside on January 10, 2016. Over 85 people attended the gala celebration of the Oyster Mill Playhouse 2015 Season and cheered the award of OMie statuettes for Best Set, Best Costumes, Best Sound, Best Lighting, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Play and Best Musical.



Oyster Mill members, patrons, actors and supporters enjoy the OMies Award festivities at Duke’s Riverside (photo by Chandra Yoder)

Adding to the festivities were a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction of donated items which included an autographed poster from the Broadway hit *Wicked*, an autographed program from the *King Charles III* production at the Music Box Theatre in NYC, a

getaway weekend at a cabin in Mt. Gretna, a gift certificate from The Vineyard at Hershey 8 people to attend a *Vineyard VIP Tour & Tasting Package* which includes private tasting with gourmet cheese, crackers, chocolates, souvenir wine glass and 10% off wine purchased. Other silent auction donors included Giant Foods, Trindle Bowl, ABC West Lanes, Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire, and Blue Mountain Outfitters among others. There was even a \$100 gift certificate from Old Media Tattoo.

To determine the winners of the OMie Awards, there were over eight hundred evaluation forms (web and paper) submitted by show attendees over the course of the 2015 Season. The evaluations of all eight 2015 productions were tallied and the top three finalists in the categories of Best Costumes, Best Set, Best Sound, and Best Lighting, were named in the special edition of *Encore* issued in December. Those finalists were:

BEST COSTUMES

- THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WM. SHAKESPEARE** – Joyce O’Donnell & Norine Bahnweg
- THE CAT’S MEOW** – Linda-Louise Bush & Joyce O’Donnell
- FIRST BAPTIST OF IVY GAP** – Samantha Tierney-Weaver

BEST SET

- THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WM. SHAKESPEARE** – Brian Moore & Dave Lutz
- BUS STOP** – Annie Sorge
- NEXT TO NORMAL** – Stephen F. J. Martin

BEST SOUND

- THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WM. SHAKESPEARE** – Schreiber Screiberson
- BUS STOP** – Lew Silverman
- FIRST BAPTIST OF IVY GAP** – Megan McClain

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BEST LIGHTING
THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED)
Madeline Barber
FIRST BAPTIST OF IVY GAP
Amanda Gregory
NEXT TO NORMAL
Stephen F. J. Martin & Lois E. Heagy

In addition, a Best Actor, and a Best Actress nomination from each production was determined:

BEST ACTOR
AN INSPECTOR CALLS – Nick Hughes
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR – Miguel Gonzales
THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WM. SHAKESPEARE – Sam Eisenhuth
BUS STOP – Jeremy Burkett
THE CAT'S MEOW – Sam Eisenhuth
NEXT TO NORMAL – Michael Zorger
HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES – Craig Copas

BEST ACTRESS
AN INSPECTOR CALLS – Mary McCleary
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR – Sarah Pugh
BUS STOP – Miranda Baldys
THE CAT'S MEOW – Lois E. Heagy
FIRST BAPTIST OF IVY GAP – Marcie Warner
NEXT TO NORMAL – Alyssa Dienner
HOW THE OTHER HALF LOVES – Kathleen Tancelosky

These nominations were combined with a list of all six Season 2015 non-musical productions as well as the two Season 2015 musicals on a ballot sent to the OMP season ticket holders for final voting.

The winners announced at the OMies Awards ceremony were as follows:

BEST COSTUMES
FIRST BAPTIST OF IVY GAP – Samantha Tierney-Weaver

BEST SET
NEXT TO NORMAL – Stephen F. J. Martin

BEST SOUND
BUS STOP – Lew Silverman

BEST LIGHTING
NEXT TO NORMAL – Stephen F. J. Martin & Lois E. Heagy

BEST ACTOR
NEXT TO NORMAL – Michael Zorger

BEST ACTRESS
FIRST BAPTIST OF IVY GAP – Marcie Warner

BEST PLAY
THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WM. SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) – Bob Zaccano

BEST MUSICAL
NEXT TO NORMAL – S. F. J. Martin

An additional highlight of the evening was the presentation of the DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD to Mike Stubbs. Mike is well known for his numerous appearances in Oyster Mill productions. His range includes both comedies and dramas and he has also been known to grace the stage in musicals.



(photo by Chandra Yoder)

Recently, Mike expanded his repertoire of skills to include directing, taking the helm of *First Baptist of Ivy Gap* in the 2015 season. Mike has also served on the Oyster Mill Board and on the Play Selection Committee. And he does all of these things commuting from his home way up in Mt. Pleasant Mills, Snyder County.

Outgoing OMies Chair Megan Grasso reports that this year's OMies Awards evening was the best attended in the 5 years that OMP has been holding the event and that the fundraiser raised approximately \$1,400.

Spotlight on the OMies with Meg and Mary by Mellissa Hurwitz

Megan Grasso came up with the idea for the OMies Awards five years ago and presented it to Mary McGill, who at the time was the Oyster Mill Playhouse Board President. Mary agreed that such an event sounded like a good idea and, with the Board's concurrence, told Meg to run with it. Meg personally selected six committee members, one of whom was

Mary, believing that the small size of the group, and the expertise of each person (whether it be audio/visual, fundraising, or planning) would help the OMies to be successful. Meg has enjoyed leading the committee and is thankful to the Board of Directors for allowing her to chair this fun event which brings people together for camaraderie and competition, as well as raising some funds for the theater. Meg observed that casts from several plays have been

using the OMies as an opportunity to have a reunion and catch up with what each of them is doing. She



Meg Grasso and Mary McGill
photo by Chandra Yoder

feels this is a good way to promote the event to actors, as many casts want to get together again once a show is over but simply never find the right time or occasion. Meg believes that the OMies have really come together and become a well-attended event since we have found the right venue (Duke's Riverside). Even though Meg will continue to be involved with the OMies, after five years, she is stepping down as head of the committee and turning over the reins to Mary McGill.

Mary was involved with the planning and creating of the OMies with Meg from the beginning. She has served as the Silent Auction chairperson, soliciting many wonderful items from local businesses, Broadway theater shows, and individuals for the attendees to bid on. She has also served as a presenter during the awards ceremony. Mary looks forward to the new challenge and hopes to "fill Meg's shoes" in this new capacity. Mary does not plan to make any major changes, but she hopes to promote the event even more to patrons and season ticket holders, as she feels this would be a good way to get even more people involved, give the patrons an opportunity to socialize with the actors and volunteers, and to hear about the upcoming season.

AUDITIONS ANNOUNCED FOR

I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE!

Book and Lyrics by Joe DiPietro, Music by Jimmy Roberts

Auditions for the first musical of the Oyster Mill Playhouse 2016 Season, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!*, will be held the evenings of Sunday, January 31, 2016 and Monday, February 1, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Playhouse, which is located at 1001 Oyster Mill Rd, Camp Hill, PA. Callbacks will also be Monday, February 1 at 8 pm.



Director Michael Zorger is seeking to cast 3 men and 3 women ages 18 and older to play three couples – one couple in their 20s, one couple in their 30s, and one couple in their 40s.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change! is presented in the form of

a series of musical vignettes connected by the central theme of love and relationships. This celebration of the mating game takes on the truths and myths behind that contemporary conundrum known as "the relationship." Beginning with the journey of dating and waiting, love and marriage and traveling through the agonies and triumphs of in-laws, newborns, trips in the family car and the golden years. This hilarious revue pays tribute to those who have loved and lost, to those who have fallen on their face at the portal of romance, to those who have dared to ask, 'Say, what are you doing Saturday night?'

The show will run for three weekends starting on April 15, 2016, with public performances the evenings of April 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, and 30, Sunday matinee performances on April 24 and 25, and private/benefit performances on April 17 (matinee) and April 19 and 26 (evening).

Those who audition should be prepared to sing music **from the show**. An accompanist will be provided or

you may bring your own backing track on CD. A cappella auditions are discouraged.

Questions should be directed to the production staff at perfect@oystermill.com.

**CAST OF ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS
ANNOUNCED**



Director Craig Copas has announced the cast for the upcoming production of *One Man, Two Guvnors* the second show of the 2016 Season, which will run from March 4, 2016 through March 20, 2016.

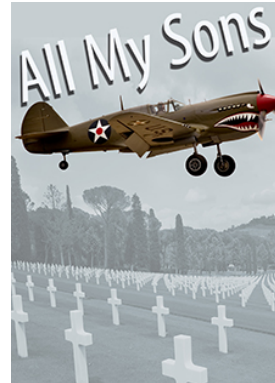
Congratulations to the talented actors chosen for the following roles:

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| FRANCIS HENSHALL | Stephen Orr |
| STANLEY STUBBERS | Josh Lebo |
| RACHEL CRABBE | Rebecca lease |
| ALFIE | Mark Scott |
| HARRY DANGLE | Mike Lazorcik |
| LLOYD BOATENG | Joel Persing |
| PAULINE CLENCH | Samantha Rhodes |
| CHARLIE CLENCH | Mike Stubbs |
| ALAN DANGLE | Stephen Hensel |
| DOLLY | Nicki Boyer Swatski |
| GARETH | Geoffrey Ottens |

One Man, Two Guvnors Show Dates – March, 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Thursday, Friday and Saturday shows are at **8:00 PM**
Sunday matinees are at **2:00 PM**

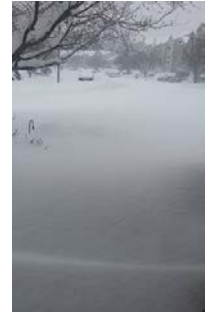
**ALL MY SONS
OPENING WEEKEND STYMIED BY
MOTHER NATURE**



The first production of the 2016 Oyster Mill Season, Arthur Miller’s *All My Sons*, was scheduled to open on January 22. Mother Nature had a different plan. The heavy snowfall that hit the entire east coast of the US dumped somewhere in the range of 2 feet on

Central Pennsylvania. Beginning earlier than expected on Friday afternoon, the snow and wind prompted government officials to urge that everyone stay off the roads. Events and programs throughout the area were cancelled, including the *All My Sons* opening night performance and reception. The continued snowfall and drifting that accompanied the storm’s high winds all day Saturday made it also impossible to go forward with Saturday evening’s scheduled performance.

One opening night patron applauded the “mature and responsible” action of the Board cancelling the opening night performance. We hope that all our patrons would agree.



(photo courtesy of Gina D’Alfonso)

Those who had tickets for the Friday, January 22, and Saturday, January 23 performances will be asked to reschedule to another performance date. An additional performance is contemplated for Tuesday, January 26. Check the Oyster Mill Playhouse website www.oystermill.com and/or the Oyster Mill Playhouse Facebook page for details.

All My Sons Remaining Show Dates Jan/Feb 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12	13

Thursday, Friday and Saturday shows are at **8:00 PM**
Sunday matinees are at **2:00 PM**

DIRECTORS ANNOUNCED FOR REMAINDER OF THE OYSTER MILL 2016 SEASON

The OMP Board of Directors has approved following show directors for the remainder of the 2016 Season:

THE BURNING MAN

Kevin Curtis Durkin

(multiple directorial credits at York College of PA and technical credentials at York College, Theatre Harrisburg and elsewhere)

BLITHE SPIRIT

Robert Zaccano

(directed 2015 OMie Best Play – *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*)

VANYA and SONJA and MASHA and SPIKE

Lois Heagy

(directed *Spiders Web* and *Jeeves in Bloom* in 2014 Season)

AN ACT OF THE IMAGINATION

Candilee Cain and Brian Stewart

(Cain directed *Harvey* in the 2006 OMP Season before relocating to Georgia; now she's back home; Stewart designed the set for *Pajama Game* in the 2008 OMP Season)

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

(yet to be decided)



ALL MY SONS POSTCARD CREW

Thanks to the following who labeled the postcards advertising the run of *All My Sons*:

Rob Allison	Aliza Bardfield
Lorraine Barringer	Dane Bowerman
Keith Bowerman	Candilee Cain
Eddie Costik	Adam Dunlap
Cheryl Goldman	Tom Moore
Carole Olmstead	Kristen Ottens
Elizabeth Peters	Charles Smith
Dave Solares	Jim Stickney
Nick Webb	

BROADWAYWORLD CENTRAL PA AWARDS

The 2015 BroadwayWorld Central PA Regional Awards, honoring productions which opened between October 2014 and September 2015 in community and semi-professional theatres throughout central Pennsylvania, are a feature of the BroadwayWorld Central PA blog of critic Marakay Rogers and part of a nationwide blog network devoted to theatre and the arts. The awards are an annual feature of the blog, written by Rogers since 2012. Nominations were reader-submitted and, after the nomination period ended, BroadwayWorld's local editors proofed the list for eligibility and errors. There are only 6 nominees selected for each category.

This year 64 shows from 28 theatres in the region were nominated for awards in 24 categories. Oyster Mill Playhouse received nominations in 7 of those categories. The Oyster Mill nominations were for:

Best Musical	-
	<i>Next to Normal</i>
Best Director for a Musical	Stephen Martin (<i>Next to Normal</i>)
Best Actor in a Musical	Michael Zorger (<i>Next to Normal</i>)

Best Featured Actress in a Musical
Alyssa Rhodes (*Next to Normal*)
Best Actor under 25
Nik Olsen (*Next to Normal*)
Best Ensemble Performance in a Play
*The Complete Works of
William Shakespeare (Abridged)*
Best Featured Actor in a Play
Nick Hughes (*An Inspector Calls*)

Although the OMP nominees were not among the ultimate winners announced, the Oyster Mill productions fared well against nominees from the Fulton Theatre, York Little Theatre, Allenberry Playhouse, Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, the Ephrata Performing Arts Center, Carlisle Theatre Company, Open Stage, Gamut and Hershey Area Playhouse.

AND, OH BY THE WAY...



Oyster Mill Playhouse is one of only five Pennsylvania community theatres nominated for 'Best Community Theatre' as part of PA Theatre Guide's Best of 2015 Readers' Choice Awards!

The awards are designed to honor local performing arts, entertainment and education organizations for their creativity, talents, and contributions across Pennsylvania.

The Other theatres nominated on the PA Theatre Guide's website are: Ephrata Performing Arts Center Erie Playhouse, Methacton Community Theater and Town and Country Players. Readers can visit the website – patheatreguide.com – and vote. Voting closes January 31, 2016.



OMP to Require Box Office and House Staff Training by Aliza Bardfield

At Oyster Mill Playhouse we strive to make the live theatre experience as enjoyable as possible for every patron who walks in our door. To better ensure that this happens, we are undertaking a program to enhance our training for all House Staff positions.

Effective with the 3rd show of our 2016 Season, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!*, every House Staff volunteer will have had to complete a 45 minute basic training session to work as either House Manager and/or Usher. Those volunteering to serve as Box Office Manager must have completed more than one session of hands-on training with a current member of our Box Office Management team. For some, this will be refresher training, but **ALL** volunteers will be required to have training before being scheduled to serve as House Staff.

The training is necessary to ensure knowledge base and skill set consistency and uniformity among all House Staff members so that they can best assist patrons, can quickly and seamlessly mitigate issues that may arise, and can provide our patrons with the best overall experience and impression of our theatre. We greatly appreciate our volunteers and we want them to shine and impress our patrons with their professionalism.

If you'd like to volunteer as House Staff, stay posted to your email and to the Oyster Mill Playhouse Facebook page for more information on the upcoming training taking place in the very near future.