

Do you know what the Colonial Players were up to during their 64th Season?

- ★ Over **300** volunteers donated their time and talents to produce our 64th Season! Over **25** people volunteered for each production—and a whopping **65** people assisted with **1776** alone! And we can't forget about our ushers, box office volunteers, and many team members that keep our theater running smoothly every single day!
- ★ Over **17,200** tickets were sold during our 64th Season—over **80%**!
- ★ Colonial Players maintains a loyal subscriber base of over **1,300** people!
- ★ To determine our 64th season lineup, our Play Selection Committee considered over **130** plays, reading about **75** of them prior to narrowing it down to the **7** that we presented!
- ★ Colonial Players received a total of **15 WATCH nominations** in 2013 across four of our 64th season productions: *Cinderella Waltz*, *Chapter Two*, *Going to St. Ives*, and *Moonlight & Magnolias*!
- ★ *Going to St. Ives* won three 2013 WATCH awards: **Outstanding Direction of a Play**, **Outstanding Lead Actress in a Play**, and **Outstanding Play**!
- ★ *Shipwrecked! The Amazing Adventures of Louis de Rougement (as told by himself)* was the recipient of the 2013 Ruby Griffith Award for **Outstanding Achievement in a Play**!
- ★ John Fiorillo's play *Dancing Backwards* was chosen from over 200 submissions during the **2012 Promising Playwright Contest**. Mr. Fiorillo joined Colonial Players in July for a weekend workshop of his play, and he let us know that **"the experience at Colonial will remain in [his] heart and mind forever."**
- ★ Colonial Players was able to assist Anne Arundel County with their annual **Angel Tree Program** during *A Christmas Carol*. Patrons provided gifts for **100** underprivileged children in Anne Arundel County. The cast of *A Christmas Carol* also collected a total of **\$854** in monetary donations for the program.
- ★ With the proceeds from *A Christmas Carol*, Colonial Players was able to donate funds or equipment to four worthy organizations: the **Annapolis Film Festival**, **Dignity Players**, **Tasty Monster Productions**, and **Unity Gardens**.
- ★ Our 2013 scholarship recipient was **Hannah Sturm**! Hannah attends St. Mary's College of Maryland, where she is majoring in Theater Studies. She began volunteering with Colonial Players through an internship in May 2012, and is still always willing to lend us a helping hand when she's home from school on a break!
- ★ Our Production Team spent countless hours revising and updating the **Production Manual**. The manual was approved by our Board in June 2013 and is available for download on our website!
- ★ A new partnership with **eCruisers, LLC** allows for free shuttle service to and from our theatre in the downtown Annapolis area.
- ★ A new integrated **phone system** was installed at our theatre to better serve our patrons, volunteers, and members.
- ★ A **new sign** was installed on our theater building in December 2012 to draw attention to our building from both ends of East Street.
- ★ **Flower pots** were also added to beautify our sidewalk.



THE 24 HOUR PROJECT



while the lights were out

AN OFF-the-WALL MURDER FARCE

WRITTEN BY JACK SHARKEY

AUGUST 24, 2013



The Colonial Players, Inc.

108 East Street • Annapolis, MD 21401
Telephone: 410-268-7373

— thecolonialplayers.org —

Board of Directors

Corporate Officers:

President Terry Averill
Vice President Beverly van Joolen
Treasurer Kaelynn Miller
Secretary Jo Sullivan

Directors:

Artistic Carol Youmans
Education Ron Giddings
Human Resources Shirley Panek
Marketing Andrea Elward
Operations Wes Bedsworth
Production Beth Terranova

Special Events

Season Sneak Peek
Summer One Act Festival
Promising Playwright Contest
Post Show Talk Back
Scholarship Award
Season Celebration
Beth Whaley Series

For information on these events, contact:
info@thecolonialplayers.org

Front of House

Box Office Lynda Cunningham
Subscriptions Lynda Cunningham
Mary Beth Yablonski
Ushers Jeanie Mincher
News & Cues Editor Beth Terranova
Webmaster Richard Atha-Nicholls
Wes Bedsworth

President's Message

It usually takes me more than a few hours to decide just what to say as 'the president', but as this is the 24 HOUR PROJECT, an hour must suffice.

Remember, it's not the words but the intention that counts. Tonight you will see what determination, creativity, talent, and a bit of insanity can accomplish in a matter of hours. *While the Lights Were Out*, a murder may have taken place, but the creative spirit flourished probably because there was NO TIME to think.

Enjoy tonight's performance. It's a one time deal, like life. Take it and run with it. Don't think TOO much, or you will miss the moment and the fun. Laugh lots as our cast and crew did so often over the past few hours, for NOW is all there is.

I am proud of everyone who gave so completely of themselves to create tonight's production. I only wish Kaeti Bradley, one of CP's more recent members, could be here to see the miracle of this weekend. It is my hope that she is watching from the wings, along with Tom Ammon and Brian Blanchard, who also passed this season. I have no doubt that they have been laughing and crying with us during the entire crazy 24 Hour Project.

-Terry Averill

Our 65th Season

Subscriptions are now on sale for our 65th season! Check out our website for more information and subscribe today!



PRODUCTION STAFF

Director Ron Giddings
Stage Manager Jacki Dixon
Set Designer Edd Miller
Carpenters Nick Beschen, Duncan Hood
Floor Painting Edd Miller, Heather Quinn, Hannah Sturm
Costume Designer Kaelynn Miller
Costume Assistants Mandee Glasgo, Lyana Morton, Katie Scheidt
Lighting Designer Shirley Panek
Lighting Assistants Andrea Elward, Ernie Morton,
Emma Panek, Hannah Sturm, Amy Wheaton
Sound Designers Richard Atha-Nicholls, Sarah Wade
Technical Director Wes Bedsworth
Technician Jacki Dixon
Properties Designer JoAnn Gidos
Properties Assistants Mike Gidos, Staci Mehri, Charlotte Robinson
Play Consultant Edd Miller
Program Designer/Editor Wes Bedsworth
Program Assistant Hannah Sturm





THE STAFF (continued)

best set decoration for *Chapter Two*. He feels his greatest reward from his association with CP was meeting his late wife, Dolores. After almost 50 years, he just can't help it!

Kaelynn Miller (*Costume Designer*) -- Kaelynn embarks upon her fifth season of involvement at CP in the new-to-her role of producer this fall. She has been involved in many productions over the last five years, both on the stage and off in a variety of roles, from actor to smushed banana cleaner to set painter to last-minute button sewer to usher to costume designer. Kaelynn currently serves as Treasurer on the CP Board of Directors. To pay the bills, she works in the music industry as a customer service representative for an instrumental accessory distributor, where some days she actually gets to use her bachelor's degree in music. Kaelynn sends love to her friends and family for their lifelong support, especially to Wes, for sharing and dragging her back into this wonderful, completely crazy world of theater all those years ago.

Shirley Panek (*Lighting Designer*) -- Shirley is back as lighting designer for our 24 Hour Project. Normally seen on stage, she was very excited to take on the challenge of lighting this unique show. Other lighting designs include *Trying*, *Moonlight and Magnolias*, and *Chapter Two* (2012 WATCH nominee) at CP, and *Art* at Dignity Players. Shirley would like to thank the cast, production staff, and crew for their help and patience during tech week (i.e., hours). "Love to Drew, Emma, and Jeff - the lights that make my life brighter."

Sarah Wade (*Sound Design*) -- Most recently, Sarah was seen as Kitty in CP's production of *Taking Steps*. She also appeared in the Bits 'n Pieces festival as Ionesco in *The Shepherd's Chameleon* and as the Girl in *Starcrossed*. Before that, she appeared in the Compass Rose Studio Theater's production of *Oliver!* as Bet and the Widow Sowerberry. She also worked as sound designer for *The Miracle Worker* and *To Kill a Mockingbird* for Compass Rose. "Much love to my family and friends for understanding that I can't tonight, I have rehearsal."

Director's Notes

Five years ago, we decided to do something crazy: produce an entire show in only twenty-four hours, from casting to performance. It was a huge success and has become the stuff of legend around Colonial Players. It was incredibly stressful, but also a lot of fun. I think absence has made the heart grow fonder over the last five years, as we have decided to do it again. All of the post-traumatic stress has come back with a vengeance, but so has the fun, in spades. We hope that you enjoy our sleepless effort and have a blast right along with us as we find out what happened while the lights were out.

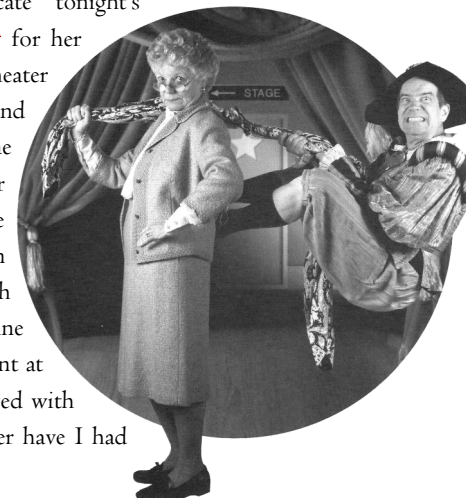
-Ron Giddings

About the Director

Ron doesn't know how this all got started, but he's thrilled to helm the 24 Hour Project again. A former Artistic Director of CP and current Education Director, he has directed shows locally for CP (*Shipwrecked!*, *Wonder of the World*, *Moonlight and Magnolias*, and their inaugural 24-Hour Project: *Months on End*), Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre (*Crazy For You*, *Sweeney Todd*, their 40th Anniversary Celebration, and *Urinetown: The Musical*, which was awarded the Ruby Griffith Award for Overall Production Excellence in 2007), and Standing O Productions (*On the Twentieth Century*, *The Retreat from Moscow*, *Counting the Ways*, and *Mr. Marmalade*). "Thanks to my parents, family, and friends for being more supportive than I could ever express."

Dedication

The Colonial Players, Inc., Ron Giddings, and the cast and staff of *While the Lights Were Out* would like to dedicate tonight's performance to the late **Beth Whaley** for her fifty-plus years of dedication to our theater family. Beth joined CP in 1951 and remained active throughout her lifetime with both CP and in the greater Annapolis theater community. The fondest memory of those involved in the last 24 Hour Project is Beth everywhere: handing gels, running line cues, sewing buttons, and her excitement at the party, exclaiming "I've been involved with theater almost my entire life, and never have I had such a good time!"





THE CAST

Mimi Chambers (*Unidentified Blonde*) -- Mimi is beyond excited to get back into the groove of acting. She performed in numerous shows while attending Plymouth State University, her favorite being Hannah in *The Art of Dining*. She also performed with the Shakespearian company Advice to the Players in New Hampshire. Originally from Lyon, France, Mimi will be starting her fourth year teaching French at Crofton Middle. She would like to thank her wonderful husband, Chris, and Edgar Belhurst for bringing out the British in her.

Thurston Cobb (*Benjamin Braddock*) -- Thurston is excited to be back on the stage here at CP. He was last seen in his award-winning role of Ralph in *Frozen*, and he also appeared in *Wonder Of The World* and *Hauptmann*. He would like to thank his wife, Sara, and Jacki for convincing him to get up off the couch and audition for the 24 Hour Project. Thank you, Ron, for casting me again and giving me a butt-load of lines to memorize in one night!

Michael Donovan (*Algernon Wickenham*) -- A product of that Federal "Boat School" down the road, Michael is excited to be making his CP and community theatre debut! Michael was recently seen as Demetrius in The USNA's Masqueraders production of *Titus Andronicus* and in the Academy's one act play festival in *Second Honeymooners* this past April. CP

has always been a valued source of entertainment for Michael and he is thrilled to have a chance to join the talented ranks to put on this wacky murder mystery. Special props go out to the parents, fellow Masqueraders, and of course "mine brotha" Eric Lies. Keep it classy Annapolis!

Jennifer Dustin (*Fredonia Custardine*) -- Jennifer is excited to be back on the stage after a very, very long hiatus. We'll see if there is another one after this. Generally found behind the scenes, Jennifer has designed lights, run tech, and directed shows on CP's stage. She would like to thank Ron for the opportunity, her parents for their infinite encouragement, and her husband for his endless patience.

John Halmi (*Tom Groggins*) -- John is excited to return to CP, where he was last seen in *Shipwrecked*, *the Amazing Adventures of Louis de Rougemont (as Told by Himself)*. It is a pleasure to share this experience, however brief it may be, with talented performers and dear friends! John is a math teacher at Severna Park High School. Special thanks to his friends and family, and especially his fiancé, David.

Dianne Hood (*Lady Monica Wickenham*) -- Dianne is very happy to return to the CP stage. Dianne was most recently seen on stage last spring in the role of Lotty Wilton in *Enchanted April*



THE STAFF

Richard Atha-Nicholls (*Sound Design*) -- Richard is delighted to be back designing and engineering sound at CP. He directed CP's 63rd season opener, *The Unexpected Guest* (and tweaked the sound a little). It was behind the sound board that Richard first worked at CP. He feels very at home here. His most recent big production was the North American Discworld Convention 2013, which he chaired, preparing him well for 24 hours with no sleep at CP this weekend! Love to C&A.

Wes Bedsworth (*Technical Director*) -- Wes has been involved with more than 30 different productions at Colonial Players since he joined CP in 2007. He won the 2010 WATCH award for outstanding sound design for *Earth and Sky* and has been nominated for best sound design for *Hauptmann*, *Kindertransport*, and *The Diviners*. Wes serves as Operations Director on the CP Board, Technical Director on the Production Team, and as one of the CP Webmasters. Wes sends his love to his family, and especially Kaelynn who is always there for him.

Jacki Dixon (*Stage Manager*) -- Jacki is thrilled to be returning to CP! Her past CP credits include assistant director for the WATCH award winning production of *Shipwrecked!*, and stage manager for *Wonder of the World* and *Frozen*. She also directed *The Wrong Package* for CP's 2010 One-Act Festival. Jacki has

been the director for Spalding Theatre Productions at Archbishop Spalding High School for the last three years. She would like to send a HUGE thank you to Ron for all his hard work and dedication to this project - it could not have fallen into more loving and capable hands! She would like to congratulate the cast on a job well done and will forever be envious of their creativity and energy! Enjoy the show!

JoAnn Gidos (*Properties*) -- JoAnn has had a busy theater season, having worked on *Bell, Book and Candle*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Shipwrecked!*, and *Trying* at CP, *The Foursome and Master Harold* and *The Boys* at Bay Theatre, and *To Kill a Mockingbird* at Compass Rose Studio Theater. "Thanks go to a husband who can work a computer and do many errands, and to Ron for the faith that I will get the job done."

Edd Miller (*Set Designer*) -- Edd has worked with CP since the mid-sixties as an usher, sweeper, actor, painter, director, designer, and whatever was needed/allowed. He feels very at home here. His many CP credits include: performances in *Moon for the Misbegotten* and *Over My Dead Body*; direction of *Moon over Buffalo*, *Two Rooms*, and *Going to St. Ives*; and set design for *The Philadelphia Story*, *Chapter Two*, and *Sunlight*. Edd is a 2012 WATCH award nominee for best direction for *Going to St. Ives* and for



THE CAST (continued)

and *Going to St. Ives*, for which she won a 2012 WATCH award for lead actress. Thanks to Edd for the suggestion that got her back on CP's stage!

Kathryn Roggensack (*Nancy Stafford*) -- Kathryn is excited to attempt her first ever 24 Hour Project. She dabbled in acting during high school, but never took on such an ambitious job! Her day job is teaching Social Studies to the wonderful students at Bates Middle School where she has been for the past 2 years. Originally from Chicago, Kathryn has loved all of her time in Annapolis. A huge thanks to her fiancé, Jon, for his support, and her mother, father, and wicked step-mother for giving her the confidence to do anything she wants!

Jeff Sprague (*Pierre Pourri*) -- This is Jeff's second time being involved with the 24 Hour Project, and he is always happy to be back at CP. Most recently, he performed as John Adams in *1776*, and he has been in numerous other musicals and plays with the theatre. In 2007, he won the Washington Theatre Community Honors (WATCH) Award for his role in *Kindertransport*. Later this fall, he will be appearing as the voice of Audrey II in *Little Shop of Horrors* at Second Star Productions. By day, Jeff is an attorney with the Department of Veterans Affairs in DC. Thanks to the cast and crew, and love to Kathleen.

Alicia Sweeney (*Jasmine Perdoo*) -- Alicia is thrilled to be participating in the 24 Hour Project at CP for the 2nd time. She has also performed with The Bay Theatre, Dignity Players, Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre, and Live Arts Maryland.

Lelia TahaBurt (*Chloe Custardine*) -- Lelia hasn't done a 24 Hour Project since college, and is very excited for the opportunity to participate in this one! She was last seen on CP's stage in *In the Next Room or The Vibrator Play*. Lelia works as an Arabic and math tutor, but now spends most of her time at the Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company in DC learning production management. Thanks to all her friends and family for their endless support!

David Thompson (*Roderick Remley*) -- David is very excited to be back for another 24 Hour Project at CP with such a fantastic cast and crew. He was most recently seen at CP in the Promising Playwright Reading of *Dancing Backwards* and *1776*. Other local roles include the titular roles in *Sweeney Todd* and *Pippin*, Molokov in *Chess*, Utterson in *Jekyll & Hyde*, Booth in *Assassins*, and Einstein in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Thanks and all my love to Garrett, Violet, and Sarah!



THE CAST (continued)

at Tred Avon Players. Earlier the same season, she performed as Francine in the premier of the one woman show *Kitchen Sink* at Church Hill Theatre and in the one woman show *The Year of Magical Thinking* by Joan Didion at the Strand Theatre in Baltimore. Dianne considers CP her "home theatre" and feels fortunate to have performed here several times since 1977. Favorite roles here include Charlotte Hay in *Moon over Buffalo*, Lee Green in *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, Mrs. Lyons in *Blood Brothers*, Bella Manningham in *Gaslight/Angel Street*, and Agnes in *Dancing at Lughnasa*.

DeJeanette Horn (*Lord Clive Wickenham*) -- This is DeJeanette's first ever 24 Hour Project. He is very excited to have the opportunity to have participated in such an exciting project with so many talented people. The expression and exploration is amazing! The energy is inspiring. DeJeanette works as an Federal Government IT contractor. This is an excellent project to use the other side of the brain... Thanks to my lovin' family, friends, and my lady Lolita for all of your support. I would not be here without you.

Christina Enoch Kemmerer (*Alma Threedle*) -- Christina is excited to be back at CP for the 24 Hour Project! Christina has performed in theaters around the Baltimore/Annapolis area and

in New York, where she earned her MFA in Theatre from Sarah Lawrence College. She has trained in physical theater at the Stella Adler Studio and in improvisation at Boom Chicago in Amsterdam. Christina has been a performer and instructor for the Baltimore Improv Group since 2005 and is a proud member of the troupe GUS, with which she has performed at improv festivals around the country. Christina was most recently seen on stage in CP's production of *Shipwrecked* (Player I), winner of the Ruby Griffith Award for Best Play. Off stage, Christina spends her time as the Director of the Theatre Arts Program at the St. Paul's Schools. Thanks to all for an amazing 24 hours!

Jamie Erin Miller (*Bibi Cavendish*) -- After taking a bit of a hiatus to have her daughter, Sophie, Jamie is so very happy to be back in the theater world (as crazy as it may be)! She has performed with Annapolis Summer Garden Theater, Dignity Players, CP, and Second Star Productions. Most recently, she has been setting up her classroom in preparation for "back-to-school" next week! Thanks very much to her supportive husband, Andrew, for everything, and to "Oma" for babysitting so Andrew could come see the show tonight!

Lolita-Marie (*Mimosa*) -- This is Lolita's debut 24 Hour Project! She performed with CP previously in *The Violet Hour*

The Colonial Players, Inc.
presents

THE 24 HOUR PROJECT



Place

The Wickenhams' elegant home
in Popliteal Beach, Bermuda

Time

The present, about the middle of May

Act I

About three p.m. on a sunny
Thursday afternoon

Act II

Just after dinner on the same night

while the lights were out

AN OFF-THE-WALL MURDER FARCE

WRITTEN BY JACK SHARKEY

The Cast

Lady Monica Wickenham - Dianne Hood
Lord Clive Wickenham - DJ Horne
Nancy Stafford - Kathryn Roggensack
Roderick Remley - David Thompson
Benjamin Braddock - Ty Cobb
Alma Threedle - Christina Enoch Kemmerer
Jasmine Perdoo - Alicia Sweeney
Mimosa - Lolita-Marie
Bibi Cavendish - Jamie Miller
Pierre Pourri - Jeff Sprague
Algernon Wickenham - Michael Donovan
Fredonia Custerdine - Jennifer Dustin
Chloe Custerdine - Lelia TaHaBurt
Unidentified Blonde - Mimi Chambers
Tom Groggins - John Halmi

There will be one 10 minute intermission between Act I and Act II.

Produced by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Taking photographs and using any recording devices are strictly prohibited. Smoking is prohibited throughout the building.