

Stage Whispers



January

2016

Vero Beach
Theatre Guild

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UPCOMING AUDITIONS

Auditions for *The Nerd* will be held at the VBTG: Sun., Feb. 7 and Mon. Feb. 8 & 15 @ 6pm.



Casting needs: 2 females ages 25-45; 4 males ages 25-45; one boy age 8-12. Check our website for additional information.



JAN 7-17

SOCIAL SECURITY
written by Andrew Bergman



Norman Cross, Isabel Garrett

Guild's production is directed by Mark Wygonik, with Jim Daly as stage manager and Sarah Morley as producer.



MARK WYGONIK
Director *SOCIAL SECURITY*

"Just when you were beginning to think you were never going to laugh again on Broadway, along comes Social Security... and you can laugh out loud, joyfully...The play is a hoot, and better yet, a sophisticated, even civilized hoot." – *The New York Post*.

David and Barbara Kahn (Norman Cross and Martha Kelly) are Manhattan art gallery owners. Their domestic tranquility is shattered upon the arrival of Barbara's uptight sister, Trudy (Leslie Christoffel), her CPA husband, Martin (Paul Amaru), and her archetypal Jewish mother, Sophie, (Isabel Garrett). They are there to save their college student daughter from the horrors of living only for sex (the play includes sexually explicit descriptions). The comic sparks begin to fly when the walker thumping Sophie hits it off with elderly artist, Maurice (Nick Keeler), the art dealer's best client!

With a Broadway run of 388 performances, *Social Security* was written by Andrew Bergman, one of Hollywood's top screenwriters, whose film credits include *Blazing Saddles*, *The Freshman* and *Honeymoon in Vegas*. The Theatre



Martha Kelly, Norman Cross, Leslie Christoffel

A 30-year fixture at the Guild, Mark has run the gamut from on-stage performer to back-stage set designer to off-stage board president...but his greatest love in the theatre is directing. Mark has won numerous honors for his direction, design and overall service to the Guild, including the Bette Parfet Music Award and the Jacobus-Seibert-Hazen Award for Continued Excellence. Mark is a partner in M BOUTIQUE INTERNATIONAL, which specializes in luxury non-toxic/green household, body and pet products, and is personal assistant to a philanthropist/artist.



Jim Daly

Jim has been involved with VBTG since 2004, acquiring numerous Genie Awards as a result of his contributions. Jim is a successful real estate Broker with Coldwell Banker Paradise Realtors, a profession he has enjoyed since 1988. .

A Letter From Our President

On behalf of our Theatre Guild family I would like to wish the rest of our friends and family a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and best wishes for the New Year. While most of us are decorating, going to parties and shopping, there are a few of us Guild members doing all that holiday stuff plus rehearsing for two different productions heading for openings in January (*Social Security*) and March (*The King and I*). **Speaking of which, if you're still looking for late stocking stuffers, how about giving theater tickets at the Guild for your more selective love ones?**

I'm wearing another hat for our next show; *Social Security*, which opens January 7th and runs through the 17th. I'm so honored to be serving as the stage manager for this very talented group of actors. I can't help laughing during the rehearsals, even though I hear the same lines every night. If you're rolling in the isles, check your pulse. You say you have your tickets already? Make it a double date and invite your friends or neighbors, you won't be disappointed. This cast is overstuffed with talent. It marks the return to our stage by Paul Amaru, Martha Kelly and Leslie Christoffel, three great character actors who have a smorgasbord of material with this script. **They're joined on stage by new comer Norm Cross, veteran actress Isabel Garrett and Nicholas Keeler, who's quickly making a name for himself on our Guild stage.** This clever comedy is about a cultured couple whose trendy lifestyle is turned upside down by the arrival of the wife's Jewish mother. Written by Andrew Bergman, directed by Mark Wygonik, delivered by a talented cast who will have you in stitches.

As you know, we're a busy theater and we don't like to "go dark" when the town is full of our snowbird friends from the North. So be looking for some great February entertainment opportunities between *Social Security* and *The King and I*. This will include a musical spectacular. **We're bringing one of *Hairspray's* show stopping stars, Vallery Valentine and her band to our stage on February 27th for two shows on one day.** Be looking for more details.

It's a busy theatre in a busy time of year... We're all busy, but it's all fun. So if you know someone who would like to join us and get into show business in Vero Beach, please have them contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Lauretta Hlebichuk at 562-8300. **You'll love it!**

See you in the spotlights,
Jim Daly

As I write this, there is scaffolding up on the new addition...and the painting of the building is in full swing. Can the end finally be in sight? This has been one big production for The Guild, one that hopefully will help shape



by Mark Wygonik

the future of your community theatre. We looked at the areas that our volunteers needed **to make their time here more productive... more enjoyable...and so stands before you this three-story expansion.**

It took several years and plenty of hard work to get to this stage, but now comes the hardest part: utilizing the building to its fullest potential. We must be smart about the best possible layout for the dressing rooms/hair & make-up stations. We must find creative uses for the rehearsal/multi-purpose floor, with workshops and classes a distinct possibility during down-time. We must be judicious about our inventory of costumes, especially fragile older ones that require special care. Luckily,

we have a passionate group of volunteers at the moment that sees how beneficial this addition can be, and who are capable of thinking outside the box.

Please know that your talents will be needed in the near future to add creative touches to the expansion, both inside and out. And very soon we will need assistance in moving and reorganizing costumes and props and so **much more. Being a part of the best community theatre on the Treasure Coast doesn't always come easy, but our hard work will soon pay off.** Thanks to each and every one of you who believed in Casting Our Future.

Spotlight



Gerry King

A whirlwind from the Bronx blew into the Vero Beach Theatre Guild in 1996 and things have never been the same. Former actor, competitive ballroom dancer, and World Artistic Roller Skating Judge, Gerry King, came to Vero Beach with her husband to see the Mets. **“Then they left and we became Dodger fans,”** she says with a twinkle in her eye. **“Baseball is a love I have along with sewing.”**

Gerry started out volunteering in the Costume Department, and found her way into props and any other little thing that might need doing. Today she carries an important role with the Guild’s Casting Committee. A lot goes on before and during the audition process and this keeps Gerry very busy. The Theatre Guild has a huge base of actors from which to draw, and welcomes new talent with open arms. She works as the director’s right hand. Since she is familiar with so many productions and plays, sometimes she can offer input that will help the director immensely.

Once the casting is complete, the director will call those who have made the cut. **“You have to like Theatre.** I love the action and I love the people. I always encourage people to try out again and again. You never know **exactly what the director is looking for, and you might be it!”**

Just for the record, permission has been given to tell you that this beauty who still dances and acts, is 86 years young! **“The way to stay young? A good attitude and the Vero Beach Theatre Guild, of course!”** ~

THANK YOU to everyone who stopped at our booth at the Celebrate the Arts Festival on Oct 31 at Riverside Park. The winner of our drawing for



two tickets to *Hairspray* was Donna Clarke! Congratulations Donna!! And a very special THANK YOU to all the volunteers who were there to help promote the Vero Beach Theatre Guild! We have the BEST volunteers at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild. They **volunteer their time, talent...and more time...to make the Vero Beach Theatre Guild the best ALL volunteer community theatre along the Treasure Coast.**



MAR 3-20

THE KING AND I music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics and book by Oscar Hammerstein II

The incredible Rodgers and Hammerstein musical score of *The King and I* includes *Getting to Know You, I Have Dreamed, Hello Young Lovers, I Whistle a Happy Tune, We Kiss in a Shadow* and the unforgettable *Shall We Dance?*. The story line is doubly intriguing because it is based on the real life

Directed by Clara McCarthy; Music Direction by Elyse Larkins; Choreography by Stacy Miller

memoirs of British school teacher Anna Leonowens, governess to the children of the King of Siam in the early 1860’s.



Have an interest in acting? We have an audition for you to attend. Would you like to usher? We can use you! Do you

have experience as a Stage Manager or Director? Let us know **and we’ll match you up with an upcoming production.** These are just a few of the areas you can volunteer in. Visit our website @ verobeachtheatreguild.com and click on Volunteers, scroll down to **“Contact our Volunteer Coordinator,”** leave your information and Laretta will contact you. Thank you!

Vero Beach Theatre Guild

P. O. Box 1502
2020 San Juan Avenue
Vero Beach, FL 32960



VISIT US AT:
verobeachtheatreguild.com

TICKET HOTLINE:
772-562-8300 or
verobeachtheatreguild.com

President: Jim Daly
Vice President: Bill Lembeck
Treasurer: Carole Strauss
Secretary: Joy Wild
Directors:
Debbie Chastain
Marlys Kauten
Roberta Rose
Ben Earman



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CURRENT OCCUPANT OR

TEAR OFF AND SAVE THIS SECTION FOR QUICK REFERENCE 

Dates To Remember

- ◆ Dec 25 – MERRY CHRISTMAS – our Box Office will be closed
- ◆ Jan 1 – HAPPY NEW YEAR – our Box Office will be closed
- ◆ Jan 8 – Martin Luther King Day
- ◆ Feb 7, 8, 15 – Auditions for The Nerd
- ◆ Feb 14 – Valentine’s Day
- ◆ Feb 15 – President’s Day
- ◆ Feb 27 – SAVE THE DATE – Musical Fundraiser
- ◆ Mar 3-20 – The King and I

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MAR 3-20

THE KING AND I music by Richard Rodgers, lyrics and book by Oscar Hammerstein II



MAY 12-22

THE NERD written by Larry Shue

TICKET HOTLINE:
772-562-8300 or
PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS ONLINE:
verobeachtheatreguild.com

Box Office Hours: 10-2 Mon-Fri
and 1 hour prior to curtain time



Hearing Assist Devices Available
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