

MAY 2014

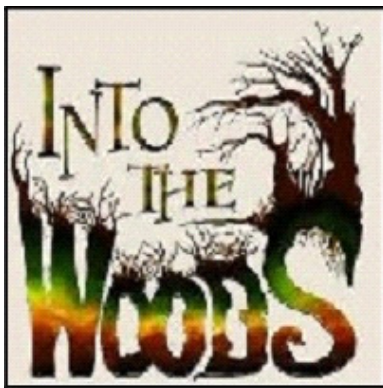
# STAGE•WRITE

The  
Williamsburg  
Players  
Community theatre  
at its best

## INTO THE WOODS

JUNE 5 - JUNE 21, 2014

Book by James Lapine  
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim



*“Into the Woods  
it’s time to go...”*

I love this show and I have loved this show since I first listened to the cassette tape when the show opened on Broadway in 1987. Stephen Sondheim has always

been my favorite musical composer, so it wasn’t a surprise when I fell in love with *Into the Woods*. I knew then, when I was in high school, that someday, not only would I love to land a role in the show, but I wanted to direct it; to put my own personal spin on the story and the characters.

At first glance, the show is a retelling of popular fairy tales - Cinderella, Little Red, Jack, Rapunzel, a Witch, a Giant - with the addition of a new story about a baker and his wife. As you would expect, the characters go *Into the Woods* to find their wish: be it a prince or gold or beauty or a child, and they meet with obstacles along the way. But the story doesn’t end when they find their “happily ever after.” The creative team of Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine take the leap of exploring what happens after all your wishes are granted, and in doing that, the characters face the same questions *WE* face in our non-fairy tale world.

As much as I would love to play every character in the

the show, that would be crazy. Over 80 people auditioned to fill the 19 roles for *Into the Woods*. You’ll see some new faces on the stage: Tom Bermas, Zacharay Bigelow, Deirdre Jones, Chris Kelce, Kirsten Koch, Starla Kramer, Ken Krantz, Jeffrey Seyller, Sadie Westbrook, Cate & Zack Westenberger; and some friends who haven’t been around in some time: Debbie Kendall, Geoff Klein, Beth Pruitt, Rani Watcher; and some old friends: Caitlin Burke, Becky Krantz, Sam Miller, Adin Pace. Our production staff is like no other, with Andrew Blackmon, Jan Bomar, Neil Hollands, Jason Kriner, Amy Lyles, Brandon Lyles, Mike McCoy, John Trindle, and Michael Westenberger. Along the way we have gained important knowledge such as: *“When going to hide, know how to get there and how to get back, and eat first.”*

It is an amazing story, with brilliant music and I hope, we hope, you’ll go *Into the Woods* with us.

*Christina Westenberger, Director*

### TICKET & SHOW INFORMATION

Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm with Saturday matinees at 2:00 pm. Tickets, \$18.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children and students, can be purchased online at [www.williamsburgplayers.org](http://www.williamsburgplayers.org) or by calling the box office at (757) 229-0431 and leaving your name and phone number. A box office volunteer will return your call as soon as possible.

# Children's Theatre

Ages Grades pre K - 5

## CHESSIE THE MANATEE

presented by Rainbow Puppet Productions

**Saturday  
June 14th  
11:00 am  
All Seats  
\$7.00**



It's a puppet musical extravaganza as Chessie the Manatee wanders into Virginia's Chesapeake Bay where he meets the Seagull, dolphins, sharks and more. Introduced by Broadway legend Carol Channing, The Amazing Adventures of Chessie the Manatee is based on a true story of the first Florida manatee found as far north as the Chesapeake Bay. The colorful performance uses 47 life-sized puppets of marine wildlife such as oysters, crabs, tiger sharks and seagulls. Some of the puppets come from Florida while others have been made here in Hampton Roads.

Purchase tickets online at [www.williamsburgplayers.org](http://www.williamsburgplayers.org), call the box office at (757) 229-0431 or pay at the door.



**BECOME A BOX OFFICE STAFF PERSON  
AND GET TO SEE THE SHOWS FOR FREE!**

**We will train you to sell tickets from home  
and work the Box Office at the theater.  
In return, you can receive COMP tickets  
to the great season of shows coming to  
our theater. Interested? Call Debbie  
Noonan at 220-3208 & say COUNT ME IN!**

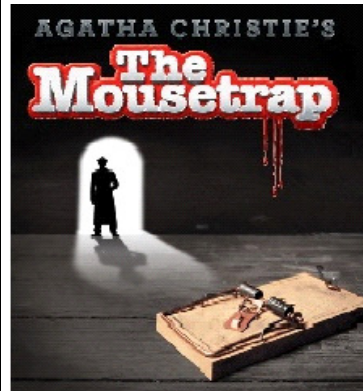


**SEPT. 11-27  
2014**

Based on Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats by T.S. Eliot

Music by  
Andrew Lloyd Webber

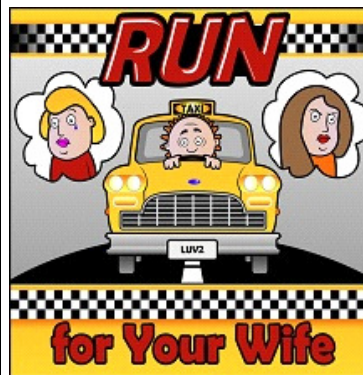
Presented by special  
arrangement with the Rodgers  
and Hammerstein Library



**NOV. 6-22  
2014**

Written by  
Agatha Christie

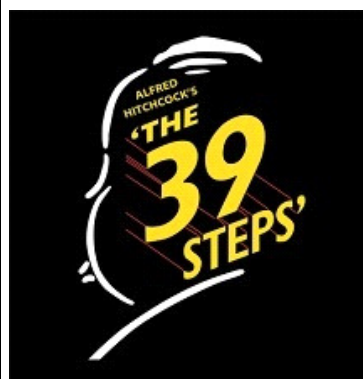
Presented by special  
arrangement with  
Samuel French, Inc.



**JAN. 15-31  
2015**

Written by  
Ray Cooney

Presented by special  
arrangement with  
Samuel French, Inc.

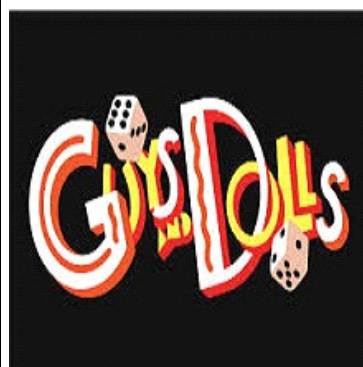


**MAR. 12-28  
2015**

Adapted for the stage by  
Patrick Barlow

From an original concept by  
Simon Corble & Nobby Dimon

Presented by special  
arrangement with  
Samuel French, Inc.



**MAY 28 -  
JUNE 13  
2015**

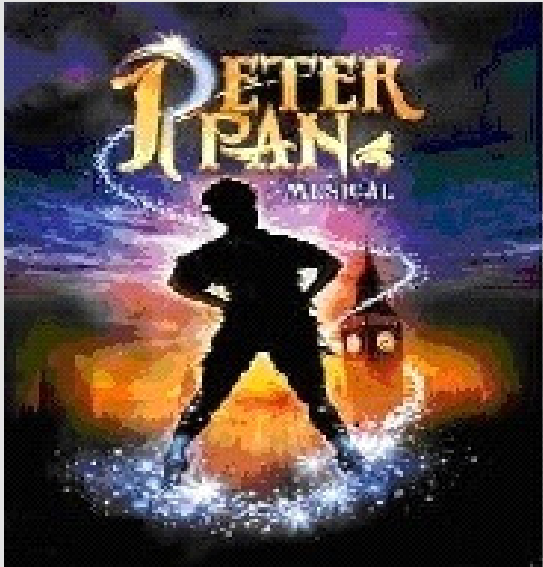
Book by Jo Swerling and Abe  
Burrows. Music and Lyrics  
by Frank Loesser.

Based on The Idyll of  
Sarah Brown and characters  
by Damon Runyon

Presented by special  
arrangement with Music  
Theatre International

**OUR 2014 - 2015 SEASON**

# AUDITIONS



**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY  
MAY 20th & 21st  
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm**

**Auditions will take place at  
The Williamsburg Library Theatre  
515 Scotland Street, Williamsburg**

**CAST 10 Men 2 Women  
10 Teenagers (13-18)  
10 Youth (6-12)**

**Teenager's and youth's may be male or female**

**Prepare a song of not more than two  
minutes in length. Provide sheet music or  
Karaoke style CD. No MP3's and No a capella.  
Dress comfortably for dance & movement audition**

**Characters include: Peter Pan, Wendy, John,  
Michael, Mrs. Darling, Liza / Tiger Lily,  
Mr. Darling / Captain Hook, Mr. Smee,  
8 Pirates, 8 Indians, 8 Lost Boys, Nana / Crocodile  
Many actors will play multiple characters**

**9 Performances - July 18 - 27, 2014**

For questions or additional information, contact the director, Peter Natale, at [peco@cox.net](mailto:peco@cox.net) or on the WP FaceBook page **WP Auditions Peter Pan, the Musical**

# 2014-2015

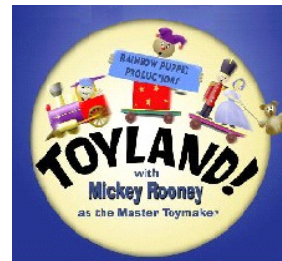
## Children's Theatre

Ages Grades Pre K - 5



**A pirate party  
Sept. 20, 2014**

*Presented by  
Rainbow Puppet Productions*



**Toyland  
Nov. 22, 2014**

*Presented by  
Rainbow Puppet Productions*



**William's Adventure  
in Black History  
Jan. 31, 2015**

*Presented by  
Brightstar Touring Theatre*



**Happily Ever After  
Mar. 28, 2015**

*Presented by  
Brightstar Touring Theatre*



**The Wright Brothers  
June 30, 2015**

*Presented by  
Rainbow Puppet Productions*

**All Shows  
Saturdays 11:00 am**



## A Message from the President

It's hard to believe that we are already closing our 57th season! As we look back over the years, from performing in store fronts during our early years, moving into the old black box theatre in the late 1970s, and now ready to open our 4th year in our new venue, one can only quote the saying "You've Come a Long Way Baby!"

### D. Hugh Siggins

How did we do it? By gathering the most talented people in Hampton Roads to do what they love to do: directors that have the inspiration and imagination to direct the shows; actors to perform, sing and dance; musicians and choreographers to bring a musical to life; carpenters and painters to build, strike and dress the sets; graphic artists to design and produce our posters, playbills and newsletters; costumers, make-up artists, lighting, sound and technical folks to put the flourishes on the production; box office, concession workers and ushers to assist you while at the theater; other unsung heroes that work tirelessly behind the scenes maintaining the building and the property; and you.

Everything we do here at The James-York Playhouse is done for your entertainment and enjoyment. The Board of Directors, a group of volunteers elected by the membership, are the caretakers you entrust your financial resources to, a group of individuals who work for you by selecting the season of shows and who continually see that improvements to the building are made. The whole organization, the list of people described above (and the many I may have missed), along with you, the audience, all work together like a well oiled machine. And yes, while every now and then we hit a bump along the way, in the end, the road traveled is a good one.

As you look through this month's newsletter, take a special interest in the cover story about our upcoming production *Into the Woods*, the 2014-2015 selection of main stage and children's theatre productions, audition information, the request to be a box office helper and how you can earn comp tickets, what the benefits of becoming a subscriber are - these are the articles that tell you what is going on at your theater.

As we prepare our budget for the coming year, your donations when you subscribe, your subscription purchase, your special gifts towards our scholarship fund, light and sound fund and our adopt-a-chair program will allow us to continue doing what we have done for the past 58 years - presenting *Community Theatre at its Best!* As long as you are here, we will be here too. Thank you for your generous and continued support.

2014-2015  
SEASON SUBSCRIPTION

## 2014 - 2015 SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS

Purchasing a Season Subscription is the best way to guarantee having the best seats possible for our main stage performances. Our Season Subscription price remains at \$75.00 for five shows - a significant savings over our single ticket price. The Children's Theatre subscription is \$30.00 for five shows, a \$5.00 savings.

The Season Subscription form is available online at our website, [www.williamsburgplayers.org](http://www.williamsburgplayers.org), or call the box office and ask one be mailed to you. For further assistance please call (757) 229-0431 and someone will return your call as soon as possible.