



# Winter Preview



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## Main Street Productions, Inc.

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*Member of the Encore Association — [encoreassociation.net](http://encoreassociation.net)*  
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*Westfield Chamber of Commerce — [westfield-chamber.org](http://westfield-chamber.org)*  
*Downtown Westfield Association — [downtownwestfieldassociation.com](http://downtownwestfieldassociation.com)*

## Thanks to our 2019-2020 WPH Season Co-Sponsor



### **2020 Shows**

- Lie Cheat and Genuflect*  
by Billy Van Zandt & Jane Milmore  
**Jan. 17 to Feb. 2**  
*A Raisin in the Sun*  
by Lorraine Hansberry  
**March 20 to April 5**  
*Rumors* by Neil Simon  
**May 8-24**

### *30 Reasons Not to Be in a Play*

- by Alan Haehnel (Youth Production)  
**July 17-26**  
*Hedda Gabler* by Henrik Ibsen  
**Sept. 18 to Oct. 4**  
*Annie* — Music by Charles Strouse,  
Lyrics by Martin Charnin,  
Book by Thomas Meehan  
**Holiday (Nov. to Dec.) 2020**

# State of the Playhouse

A play begins with the first line spoken by an actor.

A *playhouse* begins with the first shovel full of dirt, as the ground is broken and a new chapter begins.

On October 22, 2019, the next chapter of the Westfield Playhouse began with the groundbreaking ceremony on 220 N. Union Street. Mayor Andy Cook, Councilman Jim Ake, and nearly all of the Board of Directors for Main Street Productions were in attendance, along with the press and many lookers-on . . . including Teresa (Otis) Skelton and Carolyn Montgomery, two of the original founders of Main Street Productions, back in 1992.

Although there is still much left to do, the new Playhouse is now on track to open its doors in Spring 2020. We're grateful to everyone who has helped make this possible so far. This is the culmination of tremendous effort from city leaders, visionaries, fundraisers, and many others — including you.

We hope you'll continue to support and encourage us as so many of you have been. We still have more wonderful months in the old Playhouse . . . including both productions showcased in this newsletter. But it's an exciting time for Main Street Productions. As you make your plans for the holidays and beginning of the new year, we hope you'll continue to be part of the community that makes all this possible.



Main Street Productions, Inc. Presents



# Over the River And Through The Woods

By Joe DiPietro

Directed by Doug Davis

Come see our last Holiday  
Show in the old playhouse !!

November 15th & 16th, 2019 @ 7:30 pm

November 22nd & 23rd, 2019 @ 7:30 pm

November 24th, 2019 @ 2:30 pm

November 29th & 30th, 2019 @ 7:30 pm

December 1st, 2019 @ 2:30 pm

2019-2020 WPH Season is Co-Sponsored by Horizon Bank

## AT A GLANCE

*Over the River and Through the Woods*

November 15 - December 1, 2019

**Perfect for:** Fans of family-oriented comedies (such as *Everybody Loves Raymond*).

**Watch out for:** Unexpected memories of your own family.

# Get With Family This Holiday Season

They say that home is where your heart is . . . but what happens to everyone's hearts when you plan to move *away* from home?

That's the central predicament faced in *Over the River and Through the Woods* by Nick, a single Italian-American from New Jersey who is fortunate enough to have family dinner with both sets of grandparents every Sunday. But when Nick receives a tempting cross-country job offer, he faces a decision: Does he pursue the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, or does he stay with the roots of his loving family?

If this were a drama, we'd say something exciting like, "a family finds itself at the breaking point, and lives will be touched forever." And that's mostly true, but this is a comedy, so there's a lot more laughter, exasperated yelling, and Trivial Pursuit. And when the grandparents try to nudge their lovely acquaintance Caitlin toward Nick as a possible reason to stay, the sparks *really* fly.

No one knows you like family . . . which means no one can drive you *crazy* like family. You're warmly invited to spend your holiday season with an unforgettable family. The table is set, and the food is plentiful; all that's missing is you.



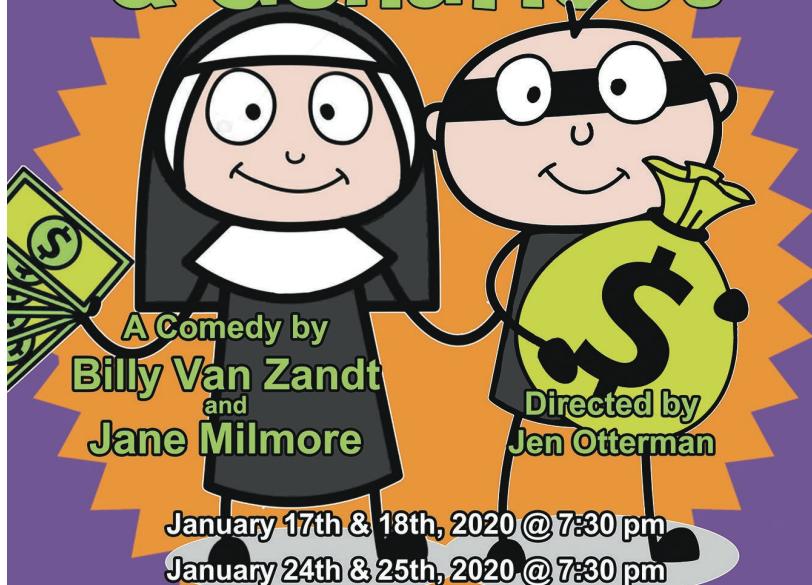


*Enjoy a sneak peak with these photos from the rehearsals  
of Over the River and Through the Woods!*



Main Street Productions, Inc. Presents

# Lie, Cheat & Genuflect



A Comedy by  
**Billy Van Zandt**  
and  
**Jane Milmore**

Directed by  
**Jen Otterman**

January 17th & 18th, 2020 @ 7:30 pm

January 24th & 25th, 2020 @ 7:30 pm

January 26th, 2020 @ 2:30 pm

January 31st & February 1st, 2020 @ 7:30 pm

February 2nd, 2020 @ 2:30 pm



2019-2020 Season Sponsored by



## AT A GLANCE

*Lie Cheat and Genuflect*

January 17 - February 2, 2019

**Perfect for:** Fans of fast-paced farcical comedies, especially *Nuns on the Run*.

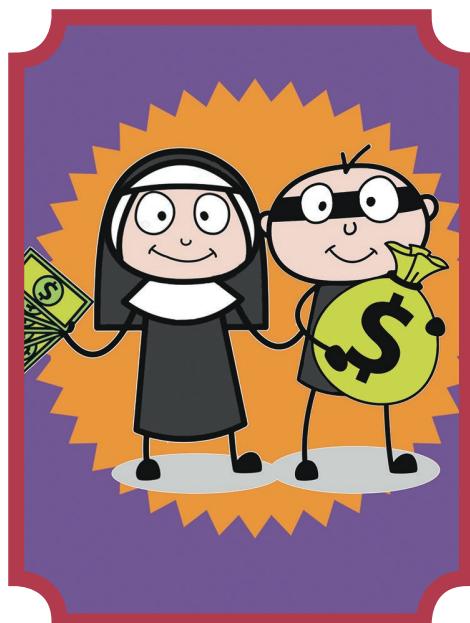
**Watch out for:** The quick-change antics of Billy Buckle.

# The Funniest Show of the Season, Bar . . . Nun?

Who among us, when confronted with a problem, *hasn't* concluded that the best possible way to resolve the situation is to dress like a nun?

Okay, it's a crazy plan, but it just might work, in *Lie Cheat and Genuflect*. Thanks to a history of ill-advised gambling, the Buckle brothers need money . . . or else loan shark Pizza Face Petrillo is going to exact his revenge on some kneecaps.

Unfortunately, not even the extreme fortune of a timely deceased grandfather will provide any relief, since the departed didn't leave the Buckles a dime. But what about the third heir, a little-known cousin? If she happened to be a nun, then no one would have to see her before or after getting the fortune. Now, *there's* an opportunity . . .



What follows is an energetic comedy of two hapless conmen, a cavalcade of complications, a booze-loving man-crazy maid, and other memorable characters. Written by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore — called “the masters of modern farce” by the New York Times — this play puts proof to the idea that “laugh-a-minute” might be *understating* the timetable! Doors will be slammed, plots will be concocted and hastily patched, and a good time will be had by all. Will Billy be cured of his “bad habits,” or will he prove that anything is possible for someone willing to Lie, Cheat . . . and Genuflect?

# Questions With the Director

Director Jen Otterman graciously took a few moments to talk about the first play of 2020, *Lie Cheat and Genuflect*.

## ***What draws you to this comedy?***

My show slot is in the middle of winter when things can get pretty dreary, so I thought that a slap-stick comedy would be a good fit. I have directed the show previously, so I know how fun and funny it can be!

## ***It seems like there's a lot going on at any given time during this show. As a director, how are you planning on making sure the audience can "keep up"?***

There are a lot of visual gags, so it will be important for actors to give and take focus . . . sort of a teeter-totter effect, so that the audience has no problem following the story line.

## ***Do you have a favorite scene, moment, or character?***

I really like the beginning of the show when the brothers first arrive in the mansion. They're not supposed to be there, so it's a conundrum when others — the lawyer and the housekeeper — show up.

## ***So many classic comedies are about ne'er-do-wells getting caught up in their own schemes. Any theories as to why they're so popular for playwrights and audiences alike?***

We all relate, if only a little, to the underdog who is really good at heart, but has a fatal flaw that causes him to make bad choices. It is the essence of classic Greek theatre and appears in most all of our storytelling. We know that person or are that person in our own lives. So, we like watching a story where that character can potentially find a happy ending.

## ***Lovable losers, crazy characters, and screwy scams . . . what's not to like?!***

This show is a rip-roaring good time. Anyone looking for a cure to the midwinter blues will find this show is just the ticket!

# How to Become Involved

For each production, we must budget for royalty costs, props, building materials, costumes, etc. All of this is in addition to our annual facility maintenance costs.

MSP asks for your support and participation to allow us to continue to bring excellence in theatre to the community. Please consider becoming a MSP Patron or Member and donating you time/skills.

## *General Membership*

\$25.00 for 1-year membership (cost good through August 2020). Includes 1 complimentary ticket, opportunities to help with theater maintenance and preparing for shows, invitation to the annual meeting, and the opportunity to vote in the annual Westie Awards.

## *MSP Patron Sponsor*

If you'd like to help even more, consider being a Patron Sponsor! Levels are:

- **Corporate Sponsor** — please contact MSP
- **Director** — \$1,000: 1-year membership and name in each program
- **Producer** — \$500-\$999: 1-year membership and name in each program
- **Leading Role** — \$250-\$499: 1-year membership and name in each program
- **Supporting Role** — \$100-\$249: 1-year membership and name in each program
- **Tech Crew** — \$50-\$99: name in each program

## *Donate to MSP*

Main Street Productions, Inc. gratefully accepts donations. If you wish to donate, please use the PayPal button on the web site, under "Membership and Donate." Designated funds are *Capital Improvement* and *Scholarship*.

# Audition Notices

Check the Playhouse website for additional audition information:  
[westfieldplayhouse.org](mailto:westfieldplayhouse.org).

## *Lie Cheat and Genuflect*

Written by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore, directed by Jen Otterman.

**Audition Dates and Location:** Auditions for *Lie Cheat and Genuflect* will be held November 17-18 at the Westfield Playhouse (IN-32 location) at 7:00 p.m.

**Performance Dates:** January 17 to February 2, 2020.

**Synopsis:** Billy and Tom, the Buckle brothers, are in big trouble: Tom's infallible eye for slow horses has drained away all of Billy's savings and he has borrowed from loan shark Pizza Face Petrillo, who now wants his money back or else! Involve a stuffy young lawyer, a hard drinking, man hungry housekeeper and a trio of beautiful young women, and you have the recipe for a laugh packed farce of twists, turns, puns and pratfalls as Tom strives mightily to compensate for Billy's "habitual" errors. (From publisher, Samuel French.)

### **Strong Comedic Roles to Be Cast**

**Tom Buckle** — 25-45 — The older brother. He is the mastermind of the zany plots. He is trying to help Billy get the inheritance to pay off the gambling debt.

**Billy Buckle** — 25-45 — The younger brother who gets sucked into the mayhem. Some Drag performance involved.

**Girl** — 20-30 — Beautiful young lady. Very gullible.

**Jane** — 20-30 — Beautiful, smart and smartly dressed. The eventual heir.

**Robert Fryburger** — 40-60 — Stuffy family attorney.

**Pizza Face Petrillo** — Fiftyish — Mobster who has come to collect.

**Virginia** — 40-60 — Sex-starved alcoholic maid who has served the Buckle family for years.

**Miss MacKintosh** — 20-30 — Mobster's bimbo girlfriend.

## *A Raisin in the Sun*

Written by Lorraine Hansberry, directed by Nancy Lafferty.

**Audition Dates and Location:** Auditions for *A Raisin in the Sun* will be held January 19-20, 2020 at the Westfield Playhouse (IN-32 location) at 7:00 p.m.

**Performance Dates:** March 20 to April 5, 2020.

**Synopsis:** Westfield Playhouse will be casting *A Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry's classic 1959 drama about a working-class African-American family living in Chicago. Race, identity, family, and the American Dream are put under the microscope as the Younger family tries to build a better life for themselves and for future generations.

### **Roles to Be Cast**

**Walter Lee Younger** — Male, 30-40 — A dreamer, whose big plans and schemes are fueled by his aspirations and ambitions to become something in the world. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**Lena Younger** — Female, 55-75 — Walter Lee's mother and the Matriarch of the Younger family; straightforward, honest, and principled. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**Ruth Younger** — Female, 29-39 — Married to Walter Lee; pragmatic, strong, and hard-working, is exhausted from bearing the weight of running a family, working a full-time job, and managing their tight finances. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**Beneatha Younger** — Female, 19-29 — Walter Lee's younger sister, college student studying to be a doctor; bright, confident, opinionated, and extremely intelligent. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**Travis Younger** — Male, 9-12 — Energetic, clever, honest. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**Joseph Asagai** — Male, 18-29 — A Nigerian student in love with Beneatha, intelligent, thoughtful, charming. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**George Murchison** — Male 18-39 — A fellow student and suitor of Beneatha's, smooth, confident, cocky, comes from a wealthy family, carries with him a sense of entitlement, used to getting what he wants. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**Karl Linder** — Male, 30-60 — An emissary sent from the Clybourne Park Improvement Association to visit the Youngers; intelligent, political, and diplomatic; gifted and persuasive. Ethnicity: White/European Descent.

**Bobo** — Male, 30-40 — A friend of Walter Lee, the two plan on going into business together opening a liquor store. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**Mrs. Johnson** — Female, 20-60 — The Youngers' neighbor; a gossip. Ethnicity: Black/African Descent.

**Moving Men** — Male, ages 18+ — Non-speaking roles; two moving men appear at the end of the play to assist with the move; they will also work with the Stage Manager as members of the backstage crew; age open. Ethnicity: All Ethnicities.