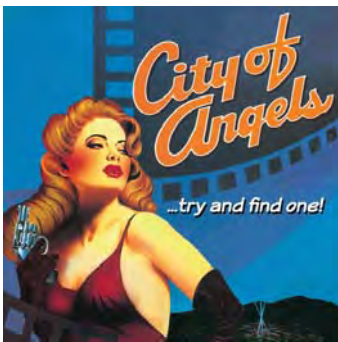


*This season is dedicated in memory of Mollie Robbins.*

# CITY OF ANGELS

## Sept 17- Oct 3, 2015

Directed by Chris Hull; Book By Larry Gelbart; Music By Cy Coleman; Lyrics By David Zippel  
 Vocal arrangements by Cy Coleman and Yaron Gershovsky  
 Presented by special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library



Our initial production of the Williamsburg Players' 2015-2016 Season features the "real" and "reel" worlds of the Tony® Award winning *City of Angels*. Set in the glamorous and seductive Hollywood of the '40s, the world of film studios and filmy negligées, *City of Angels* chronicles

the misadventures of Stine, a young novelist, attempting a screenplay for movie producer/director, Buddy Fidler. Stine strives to stay true to his detective alter ego, Stone, all the while fighting to save his friendships, his career, and his marriage.

The *City of Angels* is one of the most technically and artistically challenging shows that the Players has ever undertaken. It is actually two shows in one. It is the interweaving of two plots, one dealing with the writing of a screenplay in the legendary Hollywood of the 1940s; the other, the enactment of that screenplay. This double feature quality leads to many other unique production values, the most notable being the fact that *City of Angels* is perhaps the only "color coded" show any theatre audience is likely to see. The movie scenes of our "reel" world appear in shades of black and white, and the "real" life scenes are in color.

The show also boasts two musical scores. One provides the cast with numbers to help reveal certain emotions or to celebrate particular moments in the way that only music can. The "other" score was written to emulate pure movie soundtrack music, 1940s vintage. It is entirely appropriate, then that the final curtain comes down on two happy endings.

Returning to our stage is David Stallings (Stine), who was last seen on the Williamsburg Players' stage in *The 39 Steps*, and his counterpart, Stone, is played by John Cauthen, a familiar face on our stage, last seen as Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls*. Also returning is Rani Wachter (Gabby/Bobbi), seen on stage in our special holiday showcases

last season as well as the Witch in *Into the Woods*. Jennifer Lent, last seen on our stage as Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, is Donna/Oolie, and Amanda Knowlton, last seen on our stage as Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls*, plays Carla/Alaura. Jeff Sherman, last seen in *Peter Pan* here at the Williamsburg Players, portrays Buddy/Irwin and Bess Worley returns as Avril/Mallory. Bess hasn't appeared with us since she played Rose in *Secret Garden* in 2003! New to our stage is Alex Bagoly, a senior at Woodside High School, as Peter/Sonny and making his very first appearance on any theatrical stage is Greg Dowell, who has taken on the roles of Pancho/Lt. Munoz. Welcome to both of these actors.

Familiar faces rounding out our cast are Bill Chronis (Werner/Luther), Neil Hollands (Jimmy/Dr. Mandril), Sharon Hollands (Yamato) and Starla Eve Kramer (Bootsie). New to Williamsburg Players, but not new to the stage, are two married teams – husband Roy Chesson (Big 6/Pasco) and wife Erika Chesson (Della/Margaret), and husband Carsten Berndt (Mahoney) and wife Jenny Hart-Berndt (Hairdresser).

We hope you will join us for this musical and comedic homage to the film noir detectives of the '40s, *City of Angels*!

Chris Hull  
Director / Designer

### Comments

If you have a comment, a suggestion or an idea that you would like to share with us, you can contact us via regular mail at:

P.O. Box 91 Williamsburg, Virginia 23187

send an email to:

[webmaster@williamsburgplayers.org](mailto:webmaster@williamsburgplayers.org)

or leave a message at (757) 229-1679.

*Please do not leave feedback on the ticket reservation line.  
Thank you!*

## Williamsburg Players 2015-16 Season



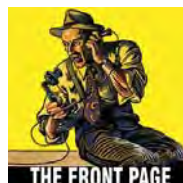
### Amadeus - Nov. 5 - 21, 2015

Directed by Catherine Hagner  
Written by Peter Shaffer  
Presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.



### Romantic Comedy - Jan. 21 - Feb. 6, 2016

Directed by Julie King  
Written by Bernard Slade  
Presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.



### The Front Page - Mar. 10 - 26, 2016

Directed by Sam Miller  
Written by Ben Hecht & Charles MacArthur  
Presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.



### Rent - Jun. 2 - 18, 2016

Directed by Dana Margulies Cauthen  
Book, Music and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson  
Presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



On behalf of the Board of Directors for The Williamsburg Players, I would like to extend to you a heartfelt "Thank you." You are the season subscribers, the concession workers, the ushers, the singers, the dancers, the directors, the stage managers, the spotlight operators, the sound designers, the set builders, the painters, the

costumers, and everyone in between. As you know, this great theatre would not be possible without your time, your passion, your donations, and your love for the arts. For this we THANK YOU!

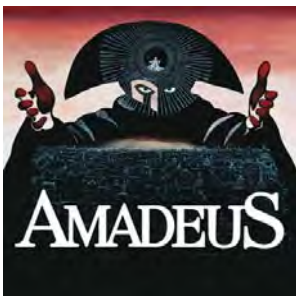
The 59th Season is underway and I am so excited to be a part of this great team. At our annual meeting held August 9th, you voted for and welcomed to our Board a few new Directors and we also took the opportunity to recognize the contributions of those who are not returning for another year on the Board. Please join me in giving a fond farewell to those who contributed so much to the theatre this past season; Guy Bordelon, Miguel Girona, Becky Krantz, and Tony Spunzo – we hope to see you around the theatre! Now, I have the privilege to introduce to you our newest board members; Olivia Bada (Media Relations), Phil Cabibi (VP Business), Scott Hayes

(Technical Director), Brandon Lyles (Artistic Director), and Deborah Soderholm (Educational and Special Events). Welcome to the Board! We look forward to your energy and your fresh perspective.

Those who purchased a season subscription have already received your tickets to great entertainment. For those who have not purchased your season ticket, it is never too late to guarantee a seat to the fantastic line up of shows we have in store for you beginning with the musical *City of Angels*, followed by *Amadeus*, *Romantic Comedy*, *The Front Page*, and wrapping up the season with the musical *Rent*. Intermixed within the main season shows, we are pleased to continue offering our Children's Theatre programs; *Christmas with Santa* in December, *Follow Me (story of the Tuskegee Airmen)* in February, and *Storybook Tales* (10 stories wrapped up in one performance) in June. Please visit our website, [www.WilliamsburgPlayers.org](http://www.WilliamsburgPlayers.org) where you can download the season subscription form or you can call our box office for questions, (757) 229-0431.

This is my first year as your president of The Williamsburg Players and I look forward to working with you as we continue to bring quality programming to the Williamsburg area. I welcome all of your comments and suggestions to ensure our theatre remains at the forefront of community arts on the Peninsula. Please feel free to send me an email; [wstnbrgr@cox.net](mailto:wstnbrgr@cox.net), call me at (757) 345-3538, or chat with me at the theatre.

Yours in theatre,  
Michael Westenberger



Directed by Catherine Hagner  
Written by Peter Shaffer  
Presented by special arrangement with  
Samuel French Inc.

**Auditions: Sun & Mon, Sept 20-21  
7-9PM**



Performances are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm with Saturday matinees at 2:00 pm. Tickets, \$20.00 for adults, and \$12.00 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 pre-K to 5th

Children's Shows  
Saturdays at 11:00 am  
Tickets \$7.00



**Christmas  
with Santa**  
Dec. 5, 2015



**Follow Me**  
story of the  
Tuskegee Airmen  
Feb. 6, 2016



**Storybook  
Tales**  
Jun. 4, 2016



**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 or click the volunteer tab on our website [www.williamsburgplayers.org](http://www.williamsburgplayers.org) and fill out the volunteer form indicating a desire to work in the box office. Just say **COUNT ME IN!**



# Williamsburg Players Announces Its 2015 McCulley-Scammon Scholarship Winner: Brooke Gorsica



Left to Right -- Neil Hollands, Treasurer - Williamsburg Players, Brooke Gorsica, 2015 McCulley-Scammon Scholarship winner and Betsy Jo Spence, McCulley-Scammon Scholarship Chair. Photo credit Michael Westenberger

The Williamsburg Players has awarded Brooke Gorsica, a York High School graduate, its 2015 McCulley-Scammon Scholarship. Betsy Jo Spence, Scholarship Chair, made the announcement at the Players' Annual Meeting. The Scholarship has been in existence since 1985.

This year graduating high school students from 29 public and private schools on the Greater Virginia Peninsula were invited to apply for the Scholarship, a \$2,000 award over 4 years of higher education during which the recipient continues studies in a theatrical field. Academic performance, achievements, goals and community service activities were all considered.

Gorsica auditioned before and was interviewed by a panel of judges with extensive theatre expertise and experience. Attending George Mason University, her major field of study will be Theatre and Performing Arts.

To learn more about this Scholarship Program visit [www.williamsburgplayers.org/scholarship](http://www.williamsburgplayers.org/scholarship).

## Williamsburg Players Board of Directors and Staff

- President..... Michael Westenberger
- Vice President ..... Phil Cabibi
- Treasurer ..... Neil Hollands
- Secretary ..... Kathleen Walden
- Production Director..... Brandon Lyles
- Technical Director..... Scott Hayes
- Media Relations ..... Olivia Bada
- Facilities Maintenance ..... Steve Olson
- Season Development..... Amy Payne
- Advertising and Fund Raising ..... Hugh Siggins
- Volunteer Recruitment ..... Rani Wachter
- Special Events/Educational Events..... Deborah Soderholm
- Member At Large..... Connie Granger
  
- Attorney ..... Robert Bland
- Graphic Designer ..... Lori Okay
- Scholarships ..... Betsy Jo Spence
- Premiere Night..... Jim & Les Waldron
- Webmaster..... Bob Noonan
- Volunteers..... Carol Moff
- Box Office/Season Subscriptions..... Debbie Noonan

## THE WILLIAMSBURG PLAYERS REMEMBER & HONOR

### MOLLIE ROBBINS



Mollie Robbins was one of the Williamsburg Players' favorite performers for many years. The Players was a fairly new group, just a few years into organizing itself, when Mollie and her husband Leo arrived in Williamsburg in the early 1960s. Shortly thereafter the Players and Mollie found each other and a happy future was assured for both.

Mollie had taken up theatre arts as a hobby while in high school in England. She found she enjoyed it and continued on to repertory and little theatre work afterwards. When she arrived in Williamsburg as a new bride she was more than pleased to find a community theater close to her new home. The Players were equally pleased to find a trained "thespian" ready to join their troupe.

Patrons of the Players loved Mollie for her excellent acting skills and especially her accent. Mollie played aristocratic ladies and quirky scullery maids with equal enthusiasm; perhaps with a different accent, but always genuine London British. When she was not on stage, or working backstage, Mollie loved to meet ticket holders in the lobby and talk about the show or future productions. Her "day job" was for many years as a "Hostess" (now, costumed interpreter) for Colonial Williamsburg where she was widely known and admired.

Mollie never got to play the "new theater" but she did enjoy seeing several shows in its "hugeness" as she called it. A survivor of the WPs' "gypsy" years when shows were played in borrowed ballrooms, auto showrooms, and school auditoriums, Mollie nested into the (former) theater on Hubbard Lane and loved her years there. We remember her with respect and love. Her spirit is ever with us.

## DONATION FORM

Please accept my gift of \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Type:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund       | <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Fund    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buy a Chair - \$300 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buy a Light - \$300 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound Equipment  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund        | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Purpose  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting Equipment  |   |

Designate your dedication  
(i.e. In Honor of... In Memory of...)

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