



Our 100th Season - June 2020

The Prompter

Players Guild of Leonia Monthly Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Let me begin this final Prompter of the season by thanking Art Penque and Ed Feldman for their time on the Board. While they will both be missed for their experience and wisdom, they have assured me that they will both remain as active members of the organization. As they leave, I am happy to welcome Alice Garcia and Marc Leland to replace them, and look forward to their input as new Board members - continuing their active involvement in the Guild. After completing the final year of a previous board member's unfinished term, Alison Miller has now begun a full tenure of her own. We look forward to her continuing role as secretary.

As for our 2020-2021 season, we will be calling and relying on everyone, including Board members, to participate more and help us during these unusual circumstances. Some of you have great ideas that are still untapped and some of you have already shared amazing suggestions for upcoming workshops and future production shows. We want to explore all possibilities available in the months to come and reshape our thinking process in ways we have never done before so that we can bring new and exciting shows for the coming season.

While I expected all of us to be celebrating the end of our 100th season, I have been reflecting on many things lately. As we have seen in recent developing events, many of us are taking the time to reflect as individuals and the roles we play within our society. In particular, we are seeing how certain people are treated differently because of the color of their skin. Racism is a complex and ingrained problem that we are all witnessing and addressing in one way or another. And while we try to make sense of what is happening in our world, we want to reassure our PGL community that we will always remain strong, through commitment and solidarity, in supporting the following principles: 1) We support the ongoing efforts of the Black Lives Matter movement; 2) We remain, and will always be, an inclusive organization of all diverse backgrounds, and; 3) We see and acknowledge the injustices currently happening in our country and because of this, we will not tolerate racism of any kind.

We will begin with a short discussion on these topics at our Thursday meeting for those who wish to participate. I hope to see you at the meeting to hear your thoughts.

Daniel Giordano

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ad Journal:

Beth Parrillo, Mark Watson

Budget/Finance:

Ralph Martinez

Building/ Facilities:

Dan Giordano

Costumes:

Diane Arabella, Laurette Miller,

Joanne Livelli

Director/Play Selection

Diane Arabella

Historian:

Annette Lenge

Hospitality:

Diane Arabella

Membership:

Bunny Giordano, Laurette Miller,

Chris Thorn Alison Miller

Music/Sound/Video:

Chris Thorn

The Prompter:

Ralph Martinez, Alison Miller, Nicole Parente

Props:

Art Penque

Publicity:

John Garbo, Mark Watson

Set Construction:

Steve Moldt

Tickets:

Lynne Vitale, Bobbi Weintraub

Website:

Ralph Martinez

Workshops:

Alison Miller, Chris Watson, Angela Cozzi

UPCOMING DATES:

- June 18 Membership Meeting - followed by a video montage by Marc
- June 27 Attic/Prop Clean up with Diane
- June 28 Virtual light board training with Nicole Parente

Note: Our 2019-2020 season has been cancelled, including the Gala. Please visit our website's Home page for additional information and updates.

Please enjoy this virtual encore performance of *I Love you, You're Perfect, Now Change* from 2013, directed by Vince Parrillo. Continue to follow us through The Prompter for additional PGL encore performance links.

[I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change](#)

Highlights from Leonia Improv workshop sessions with Staci Block:



WELCOME BOARD MEMBERS

We are pleased to announce our newly nominated and elected PGL board members: Alison Miller, Marc Leland, Alice Garcia. These talented guild members have been selected because of their commitment, willingness, and years of theater experience and knowledge. We know they will undoubtedly contribute greatly to PGL's current and future plans as we continue to evolve and progress in delivering a fun, enlightening and positive theater going experience. Thank you to our nominating committee: Bunny Giordano, Joanne Livelli and Suzanne Renaud for spearheading the search process and nominating talented members who will do amazingly well. We'd also like to extend a big heartfelt thank you to our exiting board members: Art Penque and Ed Feldman. Their knowledge, ideas, and overall participation have allowed the PGL to progressively move forward. Thank you Art and Ed for your commitment, time, and service!



PGL is looking to build bridges between generations of seamstresses, fortifying the longevity of our costume department. Combining both virtual and hands-on instructions, participants will learn how to use a sewing machine and do simple hand-stitching. Thanks to donation efforts led by Ed Feldman, PGL now has several sewing machines available for members to sign out and participate in the Mask project. If you are interested in participating or you have a machine and/or materials to donate, please contact:

Alison Miller - yoginiczucchini@gmail.com, or
Beth Parrillo - bethparrillo@yahoo.com.

Dates TBA

2020-2021 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Membership renewals for the upcoming 2020-2021 season are just around the corner. We are working on creating a digital version of the membership form as well as an ease of use platform for paying electronically through either Venmo and Google Pay. Credit Cards and check payment will still be available. Bunny Giordano will work directly with members who prefer receiving the forms by USPS mail. Stay tuned for more details.

PGL WORKSHOPS

Marc Leland has created another wonderful video montage of great dance sequences performed on the Drill Hall's stage including choreography from Kiss Me Kate, Rodgers & Hart, Crazy for You, Cats, Cabaret and many more. Join us at our June 18th General Membership meeting for this special treat, which will be shared by Marc. For current PGL workshops coordinated by Staci Block and Nicole Parente, please click on the below link for additional information.

[PGL WORKSHOPS](#)

PROP & COSTUME ATTIC CLEANUP

After spending so much time at home cleaning and organizing due to the pandemic, it's time to now work on organizing our "Home away from home." On Saturday, June 27th from 10am to 5pm, I will be at the theater working to organize and purge our prop and costume collections. If you have any free time to join me during those hours, your help is well appreciated! I will try to assign areas so we can social distance as best as possible. To help facilitate this process, we will need to bring all items out of the attic and categorically arrange them on the main stage floor where there is a space. Remember to bring your mask! There will be snacks and I hope to see members help out! Dates to be announced soon for help with main floor (kitchen, lobby, green room) and basement clean up.

-- Diane Arabella

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Growing up within the Guild, Alison has many fond memories of summer performances in Wood Park and rehearsals at the Print Shop. She took her first acting class with Helene Marshall at the Rec Center at the age of 7. Her first performance with PGL was in *Oliver!* at which point her mother Laurette, became a member. Even her brother, Matthew, participated in this family ritual, appearing in *I Remember Mama*. Alison graduated Barnard College with a degree in Sociology and worked in health care before becoming a full-time yoga and fitness teacher. During this time she reawakened her initial love of theater and began taking classes in NYC to develop her craft, most particularly dance. She has worked onstage with directors Chris Watson, Vince Parrillo, Michael Wurl, and Dori Persson. She has written and choreographed original workshops and co-chairs this committee. She produced *Harriet Tubman: An American Moses*, helping to bring her story to FDU. She currently heads the Outreach Committee and has worked to develop relations with the mayor & council, Leonia Library, and Recreation Commission. She recently directed *Free to Be You and Me*, bringing together children and adults for what she hopes will lay positive seeds for the future, in which PGL will continue to be a safe and fun environment, cultivating the growth of talent and service and good will towards all.



If you have an editorial piece you want to share or want to be featured in an upcoming issue of the Prompter? Send your write-up or pic and bio via email to Ralph Martinez at: rm70art@gmail.com.