

DFAP



DUBUQUE FINE ARTS PLAYERS

DUBUQUE FINE ARTS PLAYERS
present

WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTIONS
OF
WINNERS OF THE
32st ANNUAL
NATIONAL ONE-ACT
PLAYWRITING
CONTEST

Friday Aug 14 & Saturday Aug 15, 8:00 PM 2009
Hoffman Hall (Clock Tower), Loras Blvd, Dubuque

First Place

Little Moscow
by Aleks Merilo

Director: Colin Muenster

Tailor Tom Boxleiter

Second Place

Maggie's Reconstruction
by Alan Steinberg

Director: Sunil Malapati

Writer Kevin Connerty
Maggie /Virtue Daisy McKinlay
Ebstein Dan Fairchild
Mike/Villager Ryan Decker
Musician Allison Ott

Sound Design and Maggie's Theme
composed by Sunil Malapati

Third Place

Cork's Cattlebaron
by Eric Steele

Director: Teresa Fairchild

Brady Ted Williams
John Benjamin Barlow
Amanda Melinda Titus

Sound Design by Teresa Fairchild

Technical Credits

Stage Manager	Tracey Richardson
Technical Director & Lighting Design	Tracey Richardson
Light & Sound Board Operator	Bridget Walsworth
Stage Hand	Lily McKinlay
Publicity	Teresa Fairchild
Poster & Programs	Sunil Malapati
Mailing	Art Roche
Box Office	Wendy Wilwert
Talk Backs	Doug Donald, Michele McKinlay

Prize-winning Writer Bios

Aleks Merilo is a high school drama teacher who currently resides in Ashland, Oregon. Most recently, his play BLUR IN THE REAR VIEW took first place At the Dylan Days Playwriting contest, and was produced in Hibbing, Minnesota. Currently, it is slated for production in 2010 at the Diablo theater in the San Francisco Bay Area. LITTLE MOSCOW was heavily influenced by the playwright's experiences living in Siberia as a young man.

Alan Steinberg. I want to thank the Fine Arts Players and all those associated with this production for their hard work and generosity. Many years ago, my grandmother told me, "Once a word is out of your mouth it's no longer yours." But then, it never was. We only borrow words to try to tell the stories of the world, the stories of our lives, and it's so easy to be wrong or misunderstood. But the wonderful thing about words is that we also can use them to say we're sorry, to ask forgiveness, and so try again to get the words, our stories and our lives right. For all those who have done so or want to, I dedicate this little play about Maggie.

Eric Steele is a Writer / Actor / Filmmaker from Dallas, TX. He is the Co-Creator of Small Lion Productions in Dallas, focusing on releasing original theatrical and film projects that challenge the mainstream including the "City of Fire" web series and his film "Topeka", a 2009 Screen Actors Guild Signatory Project based on the one act play of the same name. "Cork's Cattlebaron" was written during the same period as "Topeka" and is based on Eric's observations of business travel during the past two years. Eric's recent roles on stage were Calvin in the Hub Theater's US premier of "Raising Jo" by Charlotte Miller (member of the Lab Theater in New York) and John / Ehrlich / Frye in the Kitchen Dog Theater's New Works premier of "Danny Casolero Died for you" by Dominic Orlando. Eric is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma where he studied Theater and Journalism...and Sooner Football. He wishes to thank his family, his writing mentor Jeff Davis, Hunter Wood and his incredibly supportive girlfriend Tricia (who has allowed him to come all the way out to Iowa to see his show performed while she watches the dogs).

Performer/ Director Bios

Benjamin Barlow (John) Benjamin is a Mathematics Major with an Actuarial Science Emphasis at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. This is his first One Act. Ben is excited again to be performing in Dubuque with his first production in Dubuque being Bless Me Father at the Grand Opera House. Some of his favorite on-stage credits include And The Killer Is... (Donnie Nowell), Thoroughly Modern Millie (Mrs. Meers), A Midsummer Nights Dream (Nick Bottom), Bless Me Father (Ira), Anything Goes (Moonface Martin), The Fantasticks (Matt), and Beauty and the Beast (Gaston). Other Credits include the direction of Naomi in the Living Room and performances in The Producers, Fiddler on the Roof, Pirates of Penzance, The Music Man, Les Miserables, Twelfth Night, and Oliver. Finally, he would like to thank you for coming and his family and friends for all their support.

Tom Boxleiter (Tailor) returns to the DFAP one act play festival for the third time having apparently not learned his lesson. He has appeared in several musicals at the Grand, and having learned the necessity of being able to carry a tune, is now taking a stab at drama. He lives in Dubuque with his perpetually patient wife, Catherine and practices psychiatry at Medical Associates.

Kevin S. Connerty (Writer) is very excited to be performing with the DFAP for the first time. He has recently been credited in "Almost, Maine" with FBNP and "Bye, Bye Birdie" at The Grand Opera House. His next venture will be with FBNP yet again when he will play the role of Frank Lubey in Arthur Miller's "All My Sons". He would like to thank his current employers, Penny and Paul Hoecker, for their ongoing support of his love for theater!

Ryan M Decker (Mike/ Villager) Ryan is excited to be part of a world premiere play. Decker is a sophomore theatre major/ music minor at UNI, where he is an actor, director and marketing designer-director for the Strayer-Wood Theater & UNI Student Theatre Association. He is also a member of the Great River Film Initiative (GRiFI) and founding president of Trainwreck Productions, a summer theatre company in Dubuque. Most recent roles include Smee (*Peter Pan*), Man-in-White (*House of Blue Leaves*), Husband (*Unlimited*) and Dr. Horrible/ Billy (*Dr. Horrible's Sing-Along Blog*). He recently directed *Godless*.

Dan Fairchild (Ebstein). This is the fourth consecutive year Dan has been part of the DFAP, having acted in two prize-winning plays (Bobby in *Be the Hunter*, and the Prisoner in *Johnny Quest and the Giant Kidney*) and directed *Warflick*. He expects to be back again, especially since he is married to a board member. He was recently seen as Kenneth in Fly By Night Productions' *Bad Seed*.

Teresa Fairchild (Director, Cork's Cattlebaron) Teresa has been a board member and active participant in DFAP for a couple years now, but this is her first foray into directing. She has also done plenty of work with Fly By Night, her most recent role as Genevra in Bright Ideas. She can always tell when people have seen her in that role, because when they meet her they back away slowly.

Performer/ Director Bios

Sunil Malapati (Director, Maggie's Reconstruction) is feeling really old as he is surrounded by a young energetic cast that has taken his ideas and spun them into theatrical gold. Sunil has been involved in theatre on stage (17 roles in *A Perfect Ganesh*, the player king in *Hamlet*, *The Laramie Project*, *Machinal*, etc) and backstage as director, sound designer, costume designer, etc. He would like to thank Alan Steinberg for providing a beautiful script, and hopes you enjoy this avant-garde love-letter to the theatrical arts.

Daisy McKinlay (Maggie/ Virtue) Daisy is ready to lace up her running shoes and jet back to the University of Iowa for her sophomore year, where she will continue her studies as a Theatre/English Major. As she forgot to write her bio until the last minute, she would quickly like to thank Dr. John Pemberton for opening the window that would someday lead to Diet Coke and her family for their constant contribution to her mental stability. I love you all!!

Colin Muenster (Director, Little Moscow) is honored to be a part of Dubuque Fine Arts Players One Act Play Festival, and with that, a longstanding tradition of producing new and exciting theatre. He is a graduate of Clarke College, where he received his B.A. in Theatre. He is founder and artistic director of Dubuque Art Theatre, a free community funded theatre company. His recent theatre credits include Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* (where he directed and played the part of Vladimir), *Almost Maine* with Fly By Night Productions and *Beauty and the Beast* with The Grand Opera House. He would like to thank Aleks for providing a charming story, Tom for bringing the character to life, River Lights Bookstore for a place to rehearse, and Elizabeth for everything else

Alison Ott (Musician) will be a sophomore at Clarke College this fall where she is currently double majoring in music and theatre. Alison has played the cello since fourth grade and since then has taken up other instruments such as piano, violin, bass (both electric and upright) and pennywhistle. As well as performing music, both instrumental and vocal, she has been a part of numerous theatrical productions. A few of her favorite roles include Pepper in *Annie*, Peter Pan in *Peter Pan* and Alligator in *Really Rosie*.

Melinda Titus (Amanda). Melinda is no stranger to DFAP's one act play performances. She has both acting and directing experiences, with her most recent being last year's *The Wisconsiners*, where she fell victim to a stranger offering candy.

Ted Williams (Brady) is 48 years old, and lives with his wife Diane and son Ian in Galena, IL. Ted enjoys acting, directing, writing, and musical composition. He is honored to be included in the "One Acts" this year. Ted is also a noted local ghost tour guide. He is currently developing several musical and dramatic productions.

DFAP Board

Gary Arms (President)

Mary Auman

Teresa Fairchild

Sunil Malapati

Art Roche

Wendy Wilwert

Acknowledgements

365ink

American Trust

Clarke College Music Department

Complete Dental (Dr Roger F Murray DDS)

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Dubuque County Fine Arts Society

Fly-By-Night Productions, Dubuque

Galena Gazette

KDTH

Loras College Players

Telegraph Herald

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Catherine Boxleiter, Amy Dunker, Darrel Feece, Lenore Howard, Daniel Holtcamp, Mike Ironside, Tracy Jenkins, Doug Donald, Steve McGuire, Michele McKinlay, David Resnick, Sandy Voight.

The Process

The Prize-winners you see today have been vetted through a rigorous selection process. In the first round, every play that is submitted to the Playwriting competition (117 this year!) is read twice by two different readers. Once all the plays are scored, the top 30-35 plays (the exact number depending on the cut-off score) are read by two different readers from a different reading group. The top ten plays are selected based on the average of four scores from two rounds and are sent to the jury.

The final jury consisted of the three directors and two other tristate theatre luminaries Lenore Howard & Tracy Jenkins. The prize winners thus have been read by 9 different readers.

Our competition is unique in that the writers get back comments from the readers, allowing even those who did not survive our vetting process to improve their skills and come back stronger next year. And many of them do come back and sometimes even win!

Our Readers

Keith Ahlvin

Becky Alford

Gary Arms*

Mary Auman*

Myra Benzer

Simon Bernstein

Andy Bixler

Catherine Boxleiter

Tom Boxleiter

Amy Boynton

Richard Clark

Maren Coates

Rachel Daack Riley

Sue Dolter

Teresa Fairchild*

Dirk Hamel

Loralee Hamel

Janet Jonjack

Katherine Kluseman

Ed Krazmodenski

Katie Krazmodenski

Glen Lantz

Meta Mazur

Melissa McGuire

Steve McGuire

Saskia Melchert

Jane Morgan

Paula Neuhaus

Alice Oleson*

Ann Pelelo

Kevin Purcell

Sue Purcell*

Tom Riley

Art Roche

Dianne Roche

Diana Russo

Lisa Steinle

Deb Duffy Tancred

Fran Vogt

Bryan Zygmunt

* indicates Reading Group Leader



DUBUQUE COUNTY
Fine Arts Society

Artscape

ArtStart

Dubuquefest

DAWG (Dubuque Area Writers Guild)

DFAP (Dubuque Fine Arts Players)

Elisha Darlin Arts Award

Faces and Voices

Nash Gallery

Founded in 1976, the Dubuque County Fine Arts Society (DCFAS) is a volunteer-driven not-for-profit arts organization. The group's mission is to provide free or low-cost access to arts experiences – either as artist or audience – and to support local arts programming.

DCFAS provides organizational support to a variety of arts groups and programs, including the non-profit Nash Gallery, hosting exhibits by emerging artists; DubuqueFest, a May arts and entertainment festival; the Dubuque Area Writers Guild (DAWG) which hosts monthly readings and publishes an annual poetry anthology; the Dubuque Fine Arts Players, host since 1977 of an annual one-act play contest and performance; the Annual Elisha Darlin Arts Award, which honors those who have made outstanding contributions to the arts; ArtStart, a program that provides scholarships in the arts for children; and Artscape, a local cable access television program highlighting area arts events and issues. In addition, DCFAS is a partner of Faces and Voices, an initiative of the Dubuque Human Rights Commission examining issues of diversity.

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