

New Century Players presents

The Octette Bridge Club

by
P.J.
Barry

Directed
by
Karlyn
Love



November 15 - December 1, 2019

Rose Villa Performing Arts Center
13505 SE River Road
Portland, OR 97222

New Century Players Welcomes you to the show!

The New Century Players is a not-for-profit community theatre company. Our mission is to build community by providing opportunities for artistic expression through live performances.

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We’re Proud!

New Century Players is proud to partner with the City of Milwaukie and the North Clackamas School District and to be a member of the following organizations:

- ◆ Oregon Cultural Trust
- ◆ American Association of Community Theatres
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- ◆ Oregon Community Theatre Alliance

Acknowledgements

Our special thanks to:

- ◆ The City of Milwaukie
- ◆ North Clackamas School District
- ◆ Rex Putnam High School
- ◆ Clackamas County Arts Alliance
- ◆ Rose Villa Senior Living Community

From the Director...

Welcome to *The Octette Bridge Club* by P.J. Barry. Tonight you are going to experience a play written in the 1980's about women in the 1930-1940's being produced by a theatre company in the year 2019! Even though the play is older and written about a time gone by, I think it is a fine way to spend an evening in the theatre.



I chose *The Octette Bridge Club* for three reasons. First, there are eight roles for women and just one role for a man. EIGHT roles for women!!! You do not see that very often in a play, trust me. And, the eight women are wonderfully juicy roles to play. They are a complex combination of mothers, daughters, sisters, aunts, professionals, and homemakers. They are also uniquely interesting women with their own strengths, weaknesses and dreams.

Secondly, I like plays that let us look back at how we used to live. It is easy, especially right now, to have a real fondness for a nostalgic, simpler time. *The Octette Bridge Club* is indeed a look back, but P.J. Barry doesn't shy away from tackling some tough subjects. I love how these kinds of stories let us see how we have both progressed and stayed the same. The play's themes of sisterhood, religious faith, mental health awareness, making a marriage work and finding a balance between loyalty to one's self and family are universal and still very relevant today. All the characters tonight are struggling to understand their roles in society, their duty to their families and their sense of self. Who can't relate to that?

Finally, I chose this play because I think it is entertaining. The women are funny, sweet, flawed, sad, joyous, inspiring and loving. They are a delight to spend time with. My hope is that you will laugh and cry and relate to these women like I do and just possibly relate to all the women in your life a bit better for having experienced *The Octette Bridge Club*.

Enjoy the show!!

Karlyn Love, Director

About the Director: *The Octette Bridge Club* is Karlyn's second time directing for New Century Players. Last season she directed *Beau Jest*. She has directed productions of *Sense and Sensibility*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The Fantasticks* for Clackamas Repertory Theatre. As an actress Karlyn recently played Mrs. Slocum in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* for Lake-wood Theatre. She also has acted at Clackamas Community College as Harriet in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, and at Clackamas Repertory Theatre she was M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*. Karlyn was the Drama Director at Oregon City High School's Theatre Arts Department from 1988-2018, and directed close to 90 plays in her 30 years there.

**During the show we ask that you
please respect the actors and
your fellow audience members
by turning off cell phones
and other electronics.**

No flash photography or videography please.

**Follow us on Facebook
or online at
www.newcenturyplayers.org**





Benefactor Support Program

Thank you for your support of New Century Players! We are proud to represent the greater Milwaukie and North Clackamas areas by producing quality entertainment at an affordable price!

We are a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve this community!

We want to thank the following donors who have contributed greatly to making our season possible.

Producer's Circle (\$1,000+)

Labyrinth Farms,
*(sponsors of A
FIRESIDE CHRISTMAS)*

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Karen Atkinson
Maria Bosch
David Deutsch
George Janis
Dorice Jones
Kyle Rossi
Michael Toth
Barbara Tuck
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Cast for The Octette Bridge Club

Martha (Mrs. Michael McDermitt) Diane Borcyckowski
Mary (Margaret Donovan) Ann M. Haldy
Nora (Mrs. Lawrence Hiller) Arleen Daugherty
Connie (Mrs. David Emerson) Wendy May
Alice (Mrs. Walter Monahan) Daria DeLillo
Ann (Mrs. John Conroy) Karie House
Lil (Mrs. Peter Carmody) Vicki Guthrie
Betsy (Mrs. Daniel Bailey) Terri Schafer
Robert Foster (Photographer) Stephen Rickard

Setting: Providence, Rhode Island

Act 1: Alternate Friday evenings, 1934

Act 2: Alternate Friday evenings, just before Halloween,
10 years later

Number of Acts: 2

Intermission: There will be one intermission of 15 minutes



Production team for The Octette Bridge Club

Director	Karlyn Love
Stage Manager	Alanis Graham
Assistant Stage Manager	Stephen Rickard
Music Director	Melissa Harris
Costume Designer	Ellen Spitaleri
Set Designer	Mark Schwahn
Sound, Props	Karlyn Love
Special Prop Construction	Alanis Graham
Production Photographer	Karmin Tomlinson
Booth Crew	Walter McNaughton
Artwork Design	Mark Schwahn
Producer	Julie Akers
Box Office	Elisabeth Goebel
Program	Greg Prosser

We would like to extend Special Thanks to...

- ♦ Kelley Marchant, Vicki Guthrie and Ellen Spitaleri for loan of card tables
- ♦ NW Giving Hope Foundation for loan of props
- ♦ Victoria's Little Shop for discount and loan on costumes
- ♦ Dawn Engel and Patricia Krumm for teaching the cast about Bridge
- ♦ Karmin Tomlinson for pictures to use on poster and in the show
- ♦ Julie Akers for encouragement and support
- ♦ Mark Schwahn, for EVERYTHING

and...

The entire cast and crew for a fabulous job well done!



Diane Borcyckowski

Martha (Mrs. Michael McDermitt)

An actress from age 13 to 32, Diane has played leads in more than 50 shows during that time, favorites being Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Jackie in *Hot l Baltimore*, and Regina in *Another Part of the Forest*. The next 25 years of her life were dedicated to a New Thought Ministry, serving as Senior Minister in Southern California churches. Retiring from ministry 11 years ago,

Diane now serves on occasion as a guest speaker, teacher and counselor at Unity of Portland. Also, since retirement, she has returned to the stage as Margaret in *Dead Guilty*, Catherine in *Chasing Manet*, Glory in *Grace & Glory* and Dinah in *Dixie Swim Club*. This is her first engagement with New Century Players. Diane dedicates this performance in *The Octette Bridge Club* to her late mother, Charlotte, who was a “bridge shark” and could have beat Omar Shariff in a bridge tournament, in her late 80’s.



Ann M. Haldy

Mary (Margaret Donavan)

Ann Haldy discovered a love for acting in elementary school and is delighted to still be acting more than half a century later! Some favorite roles during the past couple decades include Betty Meeks in *The Foreigner*, Old Gobbo in *Merchant of Venice* and Mrs. Corney in *Oliver*. Most recently, Ann was seen in three of New Century Player’s staged readings. Ann is grateful for the opportunity to be on stage with this incredible group of “sister” actors!



Wendy May

Connie (Mrs. David Emerson)

This is Wendy’s second show with New Century Players. In 2013, she played Mickey the cop in *The Odd Couple-Female Version*. She is grateful to Karlyn to be given the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful production and cannot say enough about the support she has received from Karlyn, Alanis, Steve and her stage sisters. And of course, her patient, supportive husband Todd.

Arleen Daugherty

Nora (Mrs. Lawrence Hiller)

Arleen Daugherty (Nora) Arleen is delighted and honored to be a part of this talented, fun team. Since 2008 she has had the privilege of participating in over twenty shows with a variety of wonderful local theatres but New Century Players is home. Some of her roles include Emilia in *Othello*, Ana in *The Clean House*, Truvy in *Steel Magnolias* and Angel in *Entanglement*. Many thanks go to her ever-supportive family and friends for their encouragement of her theatre passion!



Daria DeLillo

Alice (Mrs. Walter Monahan)

Daria is delighted to be making her New Century Players debut. Born and raised in Rhode Island (yes, she is a real Rhode Islander), she earned a BFA in Theatre from the University of Rhode Island before moving to Germany where she performed in *Once Upon a Mattress* (Princess Winifred) and *Salome* (Salome). She subsequently returned to the States and became a teacher in Portland. At Lakewood Theatre Company she was in *The Front Page* (Peggy Grant), *Pal Joey* (Linda English), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tzeitel), *Two for the Seesaw* (Gittel Mosca; OTAS award), *Quilters*, and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Recently she portrayed Grace Hoylard in *Bus Stop* at Wilsonville Theatre Company and Margaret Lord in *The Philadelphia Story* at Beaverton Civic Theatre. She is thrilled to be working with this incredibly talented cast and crew.



Terri Schafer

Betsy (Mrs. Daniel Bailey)

This is Terri's first production with New Century Players. When not in the theatre, Terri is a math teacher at Oregon City High School. Terri is thrilled to be working with Karlyn Love, her high school drama teacher, again and has enjoyed this opportunity to work with such a fabulous cast. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support, especially her loving husband who spent hours upon hours helping her memorize her lines.





Karie House

Ann (Mrs. John Conroy)

Karie House is delighted to be performing again after spending 20 years instilling the love of music and theater to middle school students. Karlyn Love (the director) was one of her inspirations to share her passion. Her previous favorite roles include Patience in *Patience* by Gilbert & Sullivan and Hope Harcourt in *Anything Goes*. Karie has her Bachelor's in Music and a Masters in Education and teaches in the David Douglas School

District as well as at Northwest Children's Theater & School. Karie is grateful to her husband Michael and three children for supporting her through the rehearsal & performance schedule!



Vicki Guthrie

Lil (Mrs. Peter Carmody)

Vicki feels so blessed to part of this darling cast while under the direction of her favorite high school teacher, Karlyn Love. Vicki is currently the drama director at NCCS. A few of her favorite recent roles have been in *Godspell* at Sandy Actors Theatre, Ronnette in *Little Shop of Horrors* at Nutz-n-Boltz and Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof* at OCCT. Vicki is a graduate of Seattle

Pacific University with a Bachelor's in Theatre Arts. She is dedicating this show to her sister-in-law Sally, who donated her kidney to Vicki just 6 months ago. Be a donor, save a life!



Stephen Rickard

Robert Foster (Photographer)

Stephen was initially inspired to become an actor after seeing his brother Benjy perform in a middle school production of *The Outsiders*. Stephen quickly began to act out in school, at home, everywhere. While a student at Oregon City High School – Class of '97, Stephen was able to

Stephen Rickard - Continued...

channel his love of performance into various roles in fall plays and spring musicals. In the preceding years, "All the world's a stage" has been a more apt description of Stephen being merely a player on the stage of Life. Stephen is very excited to be back on a proper stage, interacting with fellow actors and reciting lines of dialogue once again.

Special Mention...



Karlyn Love's Eight Aunts

Pictured above are director Karlyn Love's eight great Aunts from sometime in the 1930's. They are her Aunts on her Father's side. She dedicates the show to them and her father, Karl Love!

Still to come in New Century Players 2019-2020 Season

Don't Talk to the Actors - *full staged production*

February 7-23, 2020

By Tom Dudzick

Directed by Kraig Williams

Presented at Rose Villa Performing Arts Center

(Auditions for Don't Talk to the Actors will be held on December 1st at 6:00pm and December 2nd at 6:30pm at the Rex Putnam High School Black Box Theater. Go to www.newcenturyplayers.org for more details.)

Broadway Bound - *a staged reading*

April 17-19, 2020

By Neil Simon

Directed by Brandee Leibrand

Presented at Rose Villa Performing Arts Center

Memory House - *full staged production*

June 5-21, 2020

By Kathleen Tolan

Directed by Julie Akers

Presented at the Rex Putnam Black Box Theater

For more information and for tickets,
please go to the New Century Players web site

www.newcenturyplayers.org