

The Dubuque Fine Arts Players

present
the

Winners of our 29th Annual National One-Act Playwriting Contest



Friday August 18, and Saturday August 19, 2006

7:00 pm

Hoffman Hall, Loras College

Sponsored by the Dubuque County Fine Arts Society

Our Third Prize Play

Sullivan's Bar

A drama by Robert Dunn of Dubuque, IA
Directed by Chris Ludescher

Cast:

Robert Lynn as Frank Sullivan
Teresa Fairchild as Mary Sullivan
Fran Henkels as Big Mike Sullivan
Mary McDonald Gershon as Kate Sullivan
Katherine Kluseman as Peg Phelan

This is only the second time in the history of the DFAP contest that a Dubuquer has had a winning play. Interestingly enough, the other winner (Pam Kress) is married to Bob.

Our Second Prize Play

Day of Atonement

A drama by Janet S. Tiger of San Diego, CA
Directed by Sunil Malapati

The play is set in 1970s New York on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement and the holiest day of the Jewish year. God seals the Book of Life on this day, deciding who will live and die in the next year. Jews light the *Yartzeit* candle at sundown on the eve of Yom Kippur to commemorate a close relative who has died and fast until sundown the next day. To atone, you must truly apologize to God for wrongs committed against God; and to the person whom you have wronged.

Cast:

Gerarda Lahey-Keppler as Frieda
Melissa McGuire as Molly

Janet Tiger has the record for most wins in the DFAP contest. This is the fifth of her plays to be among our winners. In the 29-year history of the contest, no other playwright has won more than twice.

Our First Prize Play

Winner of the Jim and Sally Ryan Award

Be the Hunter

A drama by Tom Coash of New Haven, CT
Directed by Michele McKinlay

This play contains strong language and loud noises.

Cast:

Brandon Pape as Quint
Dan Fairchild as Bobby

We will run the plays in the following order:

"Sullivan's Bar" (3rd Prize)
"Day of Atonement" (2nd Prize)
"Be the Hunter" (1st Prize).

There will be two intermissions. A half-hour discussion will follow the performance of the plays. It will start ten minutes after the final curtain.

Our Winning Playwrights

First Prize: A playwright and director, **Tom Coash** is also currently employed as the Director of New Play Development for Stageworks/Hudson, in upstate NY. He spent three years in Bermuda where he directed the film *BABY...WAIT* and produced the Famous For 15 Minutes New Play Festival. Coash spent four years teaching playwriting at The American University in Cairo, Egypt. He has had numerous productions of his plays both here and abroad and has worked for such theatres as the Manhattan Theatre Club and Actors Theatre of Louisville. Coash has won several playwriting awards including Ensemble Studio Theatre's Hammerstein Emerging Playwright Award, The Kennedy Center's Lorraine Hansberry Award, and a year as a Jerome Playwriting Fellow at the Minneapolis Playwrights Center. Mr. Coash's latest projects include founding The Play Factory, a playwrights' collective in New Haven, CT.

Second Prize: Janet S. Tiger's award-winning plays have been produced internationally from New York to New Zealand and are in popular anthologies in the United States and Canada. She received her BA in Comparative Literature from San Diego State University in 1973 and has worked as a scriptwriter in Hollywood. She is now living in San Diego with her husband and children. Her current commission involves a play and a one-act about an amazing woman who survived WWII Poland, fought in the Warsaw Ghetto and escaped a Nazi death camp.

Third Prize: Robert Dunn was raised on an Iowa farm, educated at Loras College (B.S.) and Iowa State (Ph.D.)

Both degrees are in Psychology. He has been on faculties at the University of Manitoba School of Medicine (1975-84) and Loras College (1984-present). He is a licensed clinical psychologist and has worked in a variety of clinical settings. He has been a musician his entire adult life, a songwriter for thirty-some years. He began writing plays in the 1980s and has written 20 plays, musicals, or multimedia presentations. Other plays that have been produced include: *LoveLines*, *Closing the Circle*, and *Antique Dubuque*.

Our Actors and Directors

Sullivan's Bar cast:

Teresa Fairchild (Mary) is a member of the DFAP board. Last year she was in the one-act play, *At Rise*, and has been in a number of Fly-by-Night plays since moving to town almost two years ago. Her husband, Dan, is in the play *Be the Hunter*.

Robert Lynn (Frank) was seen most recently in the Fly-By-Night's production of *Fools*. He has also appeared in *Uncle Jake's 90th*, *Incorruptible*, and *An O. Henry Christmas*. Robert's Christmas comedy, *The Regifters*, will premier at the Bell Tower Theatre this November.

Fran Henkels (Big Mike) comes back to the stage after being seen last year in Fly-By-Night's production of *Fools*. Fran and his wife, Ellen, have been involved in the arts for 30 years.

Katherine Kluseman (Peg) has performed in previous DFAP shows, including *Cancer the Crab* and *Viking Funeral*.

Mary McDonald Gershon (Kate) has appeared in plays with the Bell Tower Theatre, Grand Opera House, Fly-by-Night, the Wisconsin Shakespeare Festival, and the UW - Platteville

Heartland Festival. She had a speaking role in the movie, *Field of Dreams*.

Chris Ludescher (Director) is working for the first time with DFAP. Chris has been active in theatre around the tri-states for 30 years. Chris and Melissa McGuire will be directing, *A Christmas Carol* for the Grand Opera House in 2007.

***Day of Atonement* cast:**

Melissa McGuire (Molly) directed *The Odd Couple* in Hanover, and *Fools* for Fly-By-Night, and she appeared in Carol Sullivan's *Uncle Jake's 90th*. For Main Street Players of Galena, she appeared in *The Cocktail Hour* and *Caught in the Net*. Last year, she directed a DFAP one-act winner, *Verbatim*.

Gerarda Lahey-Keppler (Frieda) is a psychology instructor and wellness consultant. She has performed in many one acts over the years, including *The Waiting Room* 23 years ago, a one-act also written by Janet Tiger. Recently, she has performed in a play by DFAP winner Bob Dunn, *LoveLines*.

Sunil Malapati is proud to make his Dubuque directorial debut. His stage experience extends to more than 20 musicals and plays, including *Machinal*, *The Laramie Project*, and *Dracula*. He has directed other one acts and was assistant director for a production of *Cabaret*. His technical specialty is sound design. Sunil designed the sound for all three one acts this year. He would like to thank Amy Dunker for musical assistance.

DFAP Board of Directors: Gary Arms, Michael Anderson, Art Roche, Paula Carlson, Mary Auman, Sunil Malapati, Teresa Fairchild.

***Be the Hunter* cast:**

Daniel Fairchild is performing for the first time for DFAP, and has considerable acting experience. Recently, he appeared in Fly-By-Night productions, *Machinal* and *Fools*.

Brandon Pape will appear in a DFAP one-act for the first time this year.

Michele McKinlay (Director) is an English professor at the University of Dubuque. She will direct *The Humble Boy* for Fly-By-Night productions in January 2007 and is a founding member of *cursedwithwords* theatre. Michele thanks Tracy and Bridget for helping her put the production together and offers special thanks to Sunil Malapati for his sense of sound.

Readers and Judges: Susie and Gary Arms, Mary Auman, Myra Benzer, Andy Bixler, Helen Black, Amy Boynton, Paula Carlson, Terry Ciccirelli, Cammie Dean, Sue Dolter, Ron Dunn, Jan Ford, Jennifer Gavinski, Audrey Hammer, Sandy Hirstein, Lenore Howard, Janet Jonjack, Lisa Langraf, Glen Lantz, Chris Ludescher, Sunil Malapati, Meta Mazur, Jesse McDowell, Michele McKinlay, Melissa and Steve McGuire, Jane Morgan, Judy Munshower, Evelyn Nadeau, Sue and Kevin Purcell, Jane Quill, Paul Roberts, Art and Dianne Roche, Diana Russo, Angela Salas, Scott Schneider, Tom Sinsky, Lisa Steinle, Kate Sutton.

Production Team:

Technical Director/Stage Manager: Tracey Richardson

Lightboard Operator: Bridget Walsworth

Stagehands: Daisy McKinlay and Sarah Szeibel

Box Office: Mary Auman, Susie Arms, Art and Dianne Roche

About the Dubuque Fine Arts Players

The Dubuque Fine Arts Players (DFAP) is an all-volunteer theater group whose mission is to promote the one-act play as an art form. DFAP accomplishes this mission by conducting an annual contest and producing the three winning plays each August.

The Dubuque Fines Arts Players is the sponsor of the oldest one-act playwriting contest in the United States. Begun in 1977, the contest over the years has drawn playwrights from all fifty states and several foreign countries. DFAP relies solely on volunteers to read and evaluate the contest entries and to produce the winning plays. We offer members of the community many different types of opportunities to be involved directly with the arts as script readers, actors, directors and technical crew. We are proud to present world premiere theatre every summer in Dubuque, Iowa. For more information, call (563) 582-5502 or e-mail Gary.arms@clarke.edu.

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