



CUELINES

FEBRUARY EDITION



OCTA Jr. will be making its return this year in Mount Vernon

IT'S MEMBERSHIP TIME

It's not too late to renew your memberships! To receive renewal forms, visit our website. Theatres that would like to join OCTA as first time members have the option to experience the perks of OCTA free for one year. Reach out to your regions representatives for more information

Thank you to the patrons of 2023 that donated over **\$7,000!** Your donations are greatly appreciated

Want to Recognize Someone in your Community?

Submit your nominations for the Hall of Fame and the Spirit of Community Theatre awards. You will find forms and due dates on the OCTA site.



CALLBOARD

CENTRAL

Feb. 2-18 Marvin's Room Curtain Players

Mar. 8-17 Dilemmas with Dinner Licking Co. Players

Mar. 8-24 The Psychic Little Theatre Off Broadway

Mar. 15-17 Honk, Jr. MTV Arts

Mar. 22-Apr. 7 All in the Timing/Mere Mortals Curtain
Players

Apr. 5-7 The SpongeBob Musical Millersport Community
Theatre

Apr. 5-14 The Curious Savage Lancaster Playhouse

Apr. 5-14 Spring Awakening Worthington Community Theatre

EAST

Feb. 2-11 Finding Nemo, Jr. Zanesville Community Theatre

Feb. 9-18 Mean Girls, High School Edition Cambridge
Performing Arts

Feb. 10-24 Jerry Finnegan's Sister Coshocton Footlight
Players

Feb. 16-25 Oklahoma! Carnation City Players

Feb. 16-Mar. 3 Tuck Everlasting Little Th./Tuscarawas Co.

Feb. 23-Mar. 3 Emma, a Pop Musical Zane Trace Players

Mar. 15-17 Being of Sound Mind Little Th./Tuscarawas Co.

Apr. 5-14 Tick, Tick...Boom Zanesville Comm. Theatre

Apr. 5-20 Sylvia Coshocton Footlight Players

NORTH

Jan. 26 - Feb. 3 Hands on a Hard Body Bellevue Soc./Arts

Jan. 26 - Feb. 4 Frozen, Jr. Mansfield Playhouse

Feb. 2 - 11 Tuna Does Vegas Fremont Community Theatre

Feb. 16 - 25 Rumors Ritz Players

CALLBOARD

NORTH (CONT.)

Feb. 23 – Mar. 3 What is “Murder”? Harlequins Coach House

Mar. 8 – 17 Over the River & through the Woods
Mansfield Playhouse

Mar. 8 – 17 Four Old Broads Playmakers Civic Theatre

Mar. 9 – 17 Drop Dead! Bucyrus Little Theatre

Mar. 15 – 23 Finding Nemo, Jr. Bellevue Soc./Arts

NORTHEAST

Jan. 26–Feb. 10 The Three Musketeers Chagrin Valley Little
Theatre

Jan. 26–Feb. 17 Arsenic and Old Lace Aurora Community
Theatre

Feb. 1–4 12 Angry Jurors Medina Co. Show Biz

Feb. 2–17 A Night of David Ives Twin Masks Perf. Arts
Center

Feb. 2–24 Curtains Hudson Players

Feb. 9–24 The Girl on the Train Stow Players

Feb. 23–Mar. 3 Working Broadview Heights Spotlights

Mar. 8–9 Alice in Wonderland Dynamics Community Theatre

Mar. 8–23 Four Old Broads Stow Players

Mar. 8–24 Unnecessary Farce Trumbull New Theatre

Mar. 15–24 Steel Magnolias Medina Co. Show Biz

Mar. 15–Apr. 13 9 to 5 Chagrin Valley Little Theatre

NORTHWEST

Feb. 8–18 Misery Van Wert Civic Theatre

Feb. 9–18 Love Letters Village Players Toledo

Feb. 16–24 Love / Sick Williams County Community Theatre

Feb. 16–25 Barefoot in the Park Oregon Community Theatre

Feb. 16–25 Sweat Toledo Repertoire Theatre

CALLBOARD

NORTHWEST (CONT.)

Feb. 22–Mar. 3 Weekend Comedy Fort Findlay Playhouse

Mar. 15–17 The World of the Brothers Grimm Toledo
Repertoire Theatre

Mar. 15–24 War Paint Black Swamp Players

SOUTHEAST

Feb. 8–18 Finding Nemo, Jr. Chillicothe Civic Theatre

Feb. 23–25 The Red Velvet Cake War Apple City Players

Mar. 1–9 Little Women Actors Guild/Parkersburg

Mar. 8–17 Death of a Salesman Mid-Ohio Valley Players

Mar. 16–17 Blithe Spirit River City Players

SOUTHWEST

Feb. 2–10 American Son Beechmont Players

Feb. 9–17 And the World Goes ‘Round Cinti. Music Theatre

Feb. 15–18 Barefoot in the Park Greater Hamilton Civic

Feb. 15–Mar. 3 Murder on the Orient Express Footlighters,
Inc.

Feb. 16–24 The Outsider Sunset Players

Feb. 23–25 You Can’t Take It with You Fairfield
Footlighters

Feb. 23–Mar. 2 Art Village Players

Feb. 23–Mar. 2 Proof Mason Comm. Players

Mar. 1–17 Becky’s New Car Drama Workshop

Mar. 1–17 Joseph and the Amazing...Dreamcoat Loveland Stage
Co.

Mar. 7–24 Deathtrap Mariemont Players

Mar. 15–23 The Ladies Foursome CenterStage Players

Mar. 22–31 Rent Queen City Productions

CALLBOARD

WEST

Feb. 2-11 Private Lives Beaver Creek Community Theatre

Feb. 16-17 Moana, Jr. Windmill Productions

Feb. 16-25 Outside Mullingar Amil Tellers

Feb. 22-24 The Bigfoot Letters Springfield Civic Theatre

Mar. 1-10 Moon over the Brewery Troy Civic Theatre

Mar. 8-10 One-act Play/Wrong & Actor's Nightmare Preble
Players

Mar. 14-16 The Odd Couple (Female) Springfield Civic Theatre

Mar. 22-23 Guess Who's Coming to Dinner Windmill Productions

Mar. 22-Apr. 7 Flight of the Lawn Chair Man Dayton Theatre
Guild



The house lights dimmed in December with the passing of a Cincinnati Theater legend, Mary Haas at the age of 92 ½.

For decades Mary played every role in community theatre – actress, director, producer, and financial investor. She was a dedicated member of Village Players, Footlighters, and Cincinnati Music Theater for many years, providing her vision and backing her ideas with “roll up your sleeves” action. She was one of the “founding women” helping Village Players move into the basement of the Ft. Thomas Women’s Club in the 70’s and, in the 80’s she and her husband, Don, were investors in the purchase of the Stained Glass Theater in Newport.

As a leader, Mary served on the board of both Village Players and Footlighters and ACT-Cincinnati for many years. As a dedicated member of Footlighters, she used her connections and persuasion to raise the funds needed to restore the historic building initially opening a 75-seat theatre on the main floor and, in 1990, opening the doors to a 163-seat theatre upstairs. The consummate promoter, the group was welcomed by the community Mary made sure everyone knew that this adventure for Footlighters made them one of 2 community theatre groups to own their theatre (only one in Kentucky). It was only fitting that she was selected to be the director of the first show in the upstairs space with a successful run of ANNIE.

For her long history of dedication to community theatre, she received many directing and acting ACT orchids as well as an OCTA award for the direction of *THE ODD COUPLE* (Female) and received two special recognition awards - the 1978 ACT Art Rouse Award and the 2002 induction into the OCTA Hall of Fame.

If asked, Mary would probably tell you her favorite roles were Dolly Levi and Mame. However, Mary’s very special theater memories would be the experience of “*What’s a Nice Country Like You Doing in a State Like This?*” This was the musical for which Footlighters represented the United States in Monaco in 1977. Then the organization was FACT (Festival of American Community theater - now AACT) which sponsored all the excerpt competitions. Mary, who was part of the cast, spearheaded the journey from Coschocton to Spokane, Washington making sure when invited, there was enough sponsors to get the 8 cast members plus crew and their chairs all the way to Monaco. The cast was super excited that Princess Grace attended their performance.

Generous in time, talents, and treasures, both Mary and her husband, Don, would always host an annual swim party for all community theatre members to attend. It was the party of the year where memories were made, laughter was shared and new friendships forged. Even when she was facing health challenges, she continued to support theatre by attending performances. And, when Footlighters needed an elevator to make it easier for our patrons to access the main theatre, she and Don underwrote the project.

Freida Houck, Mary’s very close friend said: “To her theater credit, Village Players and the Footlighters would not exist today if it wasn’t for Mary’s persistence and generosity, which helped these community theaters thrive. Mary loved life, loved her family and loved her friends. What a lady!”



The Cast of “Nice Country.....”



Mary as Mame