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# Mask and Mirror Monthly Membership Magazine

## August 2020

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VOLUNTEER

# **Greetings from the Mask & Mirror Community Theatre Team!**

We live in an exceptional time; a time when we are all so thankful to be part of a community of patrons, artists, and volunteers that care for, and support, one another; a time when, regardless of our need to social distance, we find new and innovative ways to connect; and a time when we are reminded of how essential and nourishing the arts are for our soul.

We have all been facing new experiences, some that are challenging and disappointing, and some that encourage us to find the opportunity of the situation, the motivation to seek productive change, and the inspiration that fosters new ideas.

In this new environment of physical separation forced upon us by our desire to keep our families, and each other, safe from the spread of COVID-19, communication has become even more critical than ever; that is why our team at Mask and Mirror Community Theatre is so thrilled to refocus our resources and efforts on making sure that you are receiving the information that you need about the exciting events and people that are shaping our new season.

Despite the obstacles of the health emergency we are facing, Mask and Mirror Community Theatre remains dedicated to moving forward with quality, conscientious programming and events which both entertain and contribute to our community...and this Monthly Newsletter is how we are going to be sharing that information.

Thank you for subscribing and thank you for your past, present, and future support! Without you there is no "us"!

The Mask and Mirror Community Theatre Team

## **Mask & Mirror Diversity Statement**

Mask & Mirror Community Theatre enthusiastically joins the effort to change the culture arising from centuries of basic human rights transgressions. We believe everyone is created equal and we unequivocally denounce racism,

bigotry, misogyny, and violence in any form.

We have always welcomed people of all races, LGBTQIA+ identities, and religions to participate in our community, and we will continue to do so. As evidenced by our By-Laws and Codes of Conduct, we have been consistent in our intolerance of discriminatory behavior. Current events, however, including the Black Lives Matter movement which we support, have made it clear that having a welcoming attitude and intolerance of discriminatory behavior is not enough. A radical change in culture is necessary to cure these ills and we are inspired to be a part of that change by not only continuing to provide a welcoming, inclusive theater experience for our patrons and artists but also by actively promoting the message of justice and equality.

While we have produced some theatrical works illustrating the consequences of injustice and inequality, we are committed to presenting more theatrical programming that embraces and promotes social justice, basic human rights, diversity and inclusion, with equal opportunity for all.

Please join us in this critical worldwide cultural movement. Help us create a better, more inclusive community in the arts.



## **The Prez Sez**

Welcome theater lovers to our recent edition of the Mask & Mirror newsletter, as we celebrate the beginning of our 10th season! I am honored to have been elected as the new President of Mask & Mirror Community Theatre. We are a vibrant theatre company that presents quality live theatrical productions that engage audiences both artistically and socially. Although our non-profit

company currently has no shows in production due to COVID-19, we stand ready to hit the boards once this Pandemic is over.

The members of Mask & Mirror wish to express our thanks to the outgoing President, John Bartholomew, for his successful stint as President. We also wish to thank Pat and Gary Romans, who started Mask & Mirror in 2011 along with others, and recently announced their intentions to retire from our day to day operations. They assure us, however, that they have left Mask & Mirror in good hands.

At the present time, we plan to present our next production in the Spring of 2021. While we are very disappointed at having to cancel so many shows due to the Pandemic, we realize that the safety of our audiences, actors, technical staff and volunteers comes first. In the meantime, we will keep you apprised of what is happening in the world of theater in our newsletters.

Stay safe, and know that we will keep the lights on for you.

John Knowles, President of Mask & Mirror Community Theatre



## **Our Tenth Season**

**Mask & Mirror is excited to announce our tenth season!**

**Although two performances that had been scheduled for our tenth season starting in the Fall of 2020 have been canceled, we are planning to present productions beginning in the Spring of 2021. Those show include:**

More details on these shows can be found

at <https://www.maskandmirror.com/season-10-2020-2021.html>



### **Deathtrap**

A comic thriller by Ira Levin

*Performances:* March 6-28 2021, Sat 7:30 pm/Sun 2:30 pm (no Fri shows)

*Location:* Main Stage at Calvin Church, Tigard OR

Directed by Tony Broom



### **Suite Surrender**

A 1940's comedy by Michael McKeever

*Performances:* May 7-23 2021, Fri, Sat 7:30 pm/Sun 2:30 pm

*Location:* Main Stage at Calvin Church, Tigard OR

Directed by Aaron Morrow



### **Lone Star / Laundry and Bourbon** by James McLure

A pair of one-act comedies with a Western flair (for mature audiences)

*Performances:* July 9-18 2021, Fri, Sat 7:30 pm/Sun 2:30 pm

*Location:* Tualatin Heritage Center, Tualatin OR

Directed by Leslie Inmon

**Two shows scheduled to be performed this fall but had to be canceled will be presented in our 11<sup>th</sup> Season. Those plays are:**



**The Foreigner** by Larry Shue

A Comedy of Deception and Revelation



**The Dining Room** by A.R. Gurney

A diverse and telling look at the lives of upper-middle class WASPs in the Eastern US

## Call for Volunteers

Friends, as you can tell from the enthusiasm in this Newsletter, once this pandemic is over we intend to hit the boards with some great productions, (including 'Deathtrap', 'Suite Surrender' and 'Laundry & Bourbon/Lone Star' )

We need volunteers to help us make these productions successful and we ask that you consider giving your time and skills to a worthwhile cause.

When you volunteer with Mask & Mirror for a particular project, you not only get to see a great show for free but you become a contributing member of our theater community which can be very fulfilling.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email [mnmprez@gmail.com](mailto:mnmprez@gmail.com) and let us know how you would be interested in contributing.

## MIGS Spotlight

**Member In Good Standing** simply refers to an individual that has paid the annual membership dues of \$20 to become an official member (tax deductible) and supporter of Mask & Mirror. This grants the individual reduced ticket prices at some of our shows, voting rights at the annual meeting and free coffee or tea at performances.

The MIGS spotlight is to recognize one of our members and to again thank them for all of their support of this theatre.

**John Knowles**



John is from Illinois. He graduated from Western Illinois University and then Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland. John currently resides in Hillsboro and has one son, Ian. He is a lawyer as well as a Pro Tem Circuit Court Judge, mediator and arbitrator. (When on the bench as a judge on hot days John only smiles when asked what he is wearing under the robe.)

In 2017 he released his first CD, “Country Classics”, and his cover of “Hurt” reached No. 11 on Cashbox Magazine’s National “Americana” Chart.

It was also in 2017 that he first emerged in the theater scene and then performed in the following plays:

Arsenic and Old Lace	Lt. Rooney	HART
Dearly Departed	Rev. Hooker	Mask & Mirror
Tony n Tina’s Wedding	Donny Dulce	Mask & Mirror
Legend of Sleepy Hollow	Brom Bones	Beaverton Civic
Anatomy of Gray	Crutch	Mask & Mirror

In addition to acting he has also been instrumental in set design and construction for various plays and even signed on as a producer. When there is a plea for volunteer help, he is one of the first to respond.

Because it was Mask & Mirror where he started with community theater, he considers it his main theater. That led John to join the Mask & Mirror Executive Board and now he is the new president with firm support behind him.



## **Mask & Mirror's 2020 Annual Meeting**

The Annual Meeting was held via Zoom on June 27, 2020. The newly elected Board Members were announced and welcomed! John Knowles, our new President, shared his New Presidential Statement to the attendees.

A very special "thank you" was extended by Cindy Green to Gary and Pat Romans, two of the original founders of Mask & Mirror, as they are stepping back from tasks they have diligently performed over the last ten years. Their shoes are huge to fill, They will be sorely missed. But we will be seeing their wonderful faces at our events and productions, on stage or off :)

As the COVID pandemic forced the early closure of our spring play, Death Trap, a winner for raffle tickets purchased from the two shows that were performed was not drawn. Pat Romans did us the honor of drawing the winner's ticket: the \$100 gift card will go to John Beres! The remaining raffle tickets will remain eligible for drawing when our next show goes up.

Short scenes from two of our upcoming productions were performed. Attendees were treated to scenes performed from The Foreigner and The Dining Room.



**NEW T-SHIRTS, FACE MASK AND MORE**

Support Mask & Mirror through the Coronavirus crisis and get your own custom Mask & Mirror T-shirt, hoodie or face mask to wear with pride!

Through a special deal with Golf Team Products, 25% of the price of this fine array of clothing will be returned to the M&M coffers. When we finally put our season together, we will need funds to pay the royalties. YOU can be part of that effort. There are many choices of style, color and size so you can make the design your own. Visit the website to make your choices! What you order will be delivered to your door via your choice of shipping within about 2 weeks.

[https://inkmyorder.com/mask\\_mirror/shop/products/all?page=1](https://inkmyorder.com/mask_mirror/shop/products/all?page=1)





## **Oregon Cultural Trust Tax Deductible Arts Donations**

OK, tax time is still a long way away - BUT did you know the Oregon Cultural Trust has a program where you can make a donation to arts in our state ABSOLUTELY FREE? Yes, it's true! Here's how it works:

First, you give a tax deductible donation to one of Oregon's over 1400 arts/heritage related nonprofit organizations, and Mask & Mirror Community Theatre is one of the qualifying organizations.

Second, you send a matching donation to the Oregon Cultural Trust by December 31st of that same year. You can do this either online at [www.culturaltrust.org](http://www.culturaltrust.org) or mail it to their street address (775 Summer St NE, suite 200, Salem OR 97301). If you donate to multiple nonprofits from their list, you can donate up to the total amount of your multiple gifts (though see the limits in the example below).

Third, you can write that matching donation to the Oregon Cultural Trust off your 2019 Oregon taxes! This reduces your total tax bill by the same amount of your donation to the Trust, up to \$500 for an individual or \$1000 for a couple filing jointly. This isn't a reduction in your income that gets then gets

taxed - it's that much less that you pay in taxes.

For example, let's say I donate \$100 to Mask & Mirror and another \$100 to another Oregon arts nonprofit. I can then donate a matching \$200 to the Oregon Cultural Trust, and write that full \$200 off the final total of taxes I owe to the state of Oregon. Yes, \$200 off my final total tax bill, and maybe receive that as a refund if I'm owed one. As an example, if I still owed \$500 when I do my 2020 taxes, I can claim a \$200 Oregon Cultural Trust tax credit and only have to send \$300 to the State of Oregon instead. It's essentially a free donation of your tax money to Oregon arts & heritage non-profits. Please be sure to read the details on their web site and note the donation limits and required deadline.

Why might you want to do this? First, it's a good idea to fund our state nonprofit organizations like this and chances are you're already making some form of qualifying donation. This program helps that donation go twice as far. Second, Mask & Mirror has been the recipient of up to \$1800 each year for the past four years, through Oregon Cultural Trust grants supporting our UnMasked series of shows. Let's show them our love and give something back...!



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