



2014/2015 season



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# “Nothing short of brilliant”

Severna Park Voice

## Off we go!

Another milestone (our 65th season!) is celebrated and behind us, and we're on our way to creating another year of passionate, polished theatre for you and ourselves. It is the collaboration of enthusiastic audiences and energetic playmakers that fuels our hearts and imaginations and we are so grateful for your support.

Season Sixty-Six begins with the wistful comedy, *Rocket Man*, by Stephen Dietz. In October, Aaron Sorkin's *A Few Good Men* will march onto the stage. It will be followed in November by Colonial Players' holiday tradition, *A Christmas Carol*, by Richard Wade and Dick Gessner – and this year for the first time, you may make it part of your subscription series. In January, CP will chase away the winter chills with the explosively funny comedy about a man who can't tell the truth and his servant who can't tell a lie: *The Liar*, written by Pierre Corneille, adapted by David Ives.

It is CP's wish to present a series of American Standards for the nostalgia of our older audience members or introduction to our younger patrons. Therefore, in February, we will present the taut drama, *Watch On The Rhine* by Lillian Hellman. As spring returns, it will bring the sparkling musical, *Ernest In Love* by Anne Crosswell and Lee Pockriss, based on Oscar Wilde's classic *The Importance of Being Ernest*. Finally, we will wrap up the season in June with Christopher Durang's whacked-out comedy, *Why Torture Is Wrong and the People Who Love Them*.

We are making Season Sixty-Six an enticing blend of new and old, comedy and drama, presented with your pleasure in mind. Join us!



# Rocket Man

*Written by Stephen Dietz  
Directed by Scott Nichols*

Donny is in his mid-40's and has piled all his belongings out onto his lawn topped by a sign that reads, "Here's My Life - Make an Offer." His daughter, his ex-wife and his good friend, Buck, are mystified by his actions, but he is determined to transcend the boundaries and un-grasped opportunities of his current life and seek a second chance. This serious comedy, rich with existential overtones, will take audiences down their own roads not taken, exploring alternative universes and worlds where lifelines move backwards, and nudging them as only theater can, into introspective musings on action, family and life.

SEPTEMBER 2014  
CIRCLE SHOW

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
SEPT.		05	06	07	M
	11	12	13	14	M
	18	19	20	21	M
	25	26	27		

# A Few Good Men

*Written by Aaron Sorkin  
Directed by Jeff Sprague*

The excitement of courtroom drama and the lively dialogue among Sorkin's interesting, complex characters makes seeing this play a wonderful theatre experience. Two young marines have been charged with murder. They are defended by a trio of officers intent on learning the truth when an exercise in illegal discipline results in the death of a third marine. As they investigate the events leading up to the death, the codes, ethics and personalities of the men's commanding officers reveal a complicated mix of duty and psychology.

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2014  
CIRCLE SHOW

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
OCT.		17	18	19	M
	23	24	25	26	M
	30	31			
NOV,			01	02	M
	06	07	08		

THIS PLAY CONTAINS MATURE THEMES AND LANGUAGE.



“Funny, uplifting  
and moving”

DC Metro Theater Arts

*In The Next Room, or The Vibrator Play, 2013*



“A stunning portrayal”

DC Metro Theater Arts

Coyote on a Fence, 2014

## A Christmas Carol

*Adapted from the Charles Dickens classic  
Play and Lyrics by Richard Wade  
Music by Richard Gessner*

November 28 - December 14, 2014

November 28 | 29\* | 30\*

December 4 | 5 | 6\* | 7\* | 11 | 12 | 13\* | 14\*

\* Saturday shows are at 2 pm, 4 pm, and 8 pm

\* Sunday shows are at 2 pm and 4 pm.

All other shows are at 8 pm.

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2014  
MUSICAL

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
NOV.		28	29	30
		8 PM	2PM 4PM 8PM	2PM 4PM
DEC.	04	05	06	07
	8 PM	8 PM	2PM 4PM 8PM	2PM 4PM
	11	12	13	14
	8 PM	8 PM	2PM 4PM 8PM	2PM 4PM

The holiday season brings us beloved traditional events, and one of our favorites is the musical written for Colonial Players, *A Christmas Carol*. Dickens' story of the salvation of the miserable old miser, Ebenezer Scrooge, by the visits of his departed partner, Jacob Marley, and the Ghosts of Christmases Past, Present and Future, is told with relish enhanced by music and dancing in a show that is perfect for families and children of all ages. This year, we have made it a subscription offering and subscribers who choose it to be part of their season have the opportunity to buy two additional tickets for each subscription.

## The Liar

*Adapted by David Ives from the play  
by Pierre Corneille.  
Directed by Steve Tobin*

This sparkling comedy, fast witted and robustly-paced, is the story of a man who can't tell the truth, and his servant who can't tell a lie. Together, they roar into Paris and into the immediate pursuit of ladies they meet in the Tuilleries Gardens. Full of spicy banter, mistaken identities and passions running away with common sense, this timeless tale was originally written in 1643 in iambic pentameter. David Ives has updated it with romping, contemporary language still in verse. Audiences will be dazzled as the story bounces to its hilarious conclusions.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2015  
CIRCLE SHOW

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
JAN.		16	17	18
	22	23	24	25
	29	30	31	
FEB.				01
	05	06	07	

## Watch On The Rhine

*Written by Lillian Hellman*  
*Directed by Terry Averill*

The first in our American Standard series, this play takes place in America in 1941, before Pearl Harbor drew America into World War II. Sara, daughter of a privileged family, has returned home after 20 years away. She had married a German citizen and was raising her three children in Europe as he had become intensely involved in the anti-fascist efforts in Germany opposing the rise of Hitler. They have returned to her home for safety and rest, but he will need to return to Germany to continue his dangerous underground work. He is recognized by a houseguest of the family, and the violent outcome of that discovery shocks the sheltered American family out of their ignorance, bringing home the struggle that is going on in Europe.

FEBRUARY – MARCH 2015  
 CIRCLE SHOW

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
FEB.		27	28		
MAR.				01	M
	05	06	07	08	M
	12	13	14	15	M
	19	20	21		

## Ernest In Love

*Book and Lyrics by Anne Crosswell*  
*Music by Lee Pockriss*  
*Directed by Rick Wade*

Some consider Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Ernest* the funniest play written in English. CP seeks to capture all its wit and piquant satire in this musical version. The story is of the courtship of two affluent young ladies, Gwendolyn Fairfax and Cecily Cardew, by the young self-indulgent gentlemen, Jack Worthing and Algernon Moncrieff. Each man has been slightly dishonest in order to get what he wants, and they struggle against major challenges: the formidable Lady Bracknell, Cecily's mother, and the truth itself. When all is revealed to everybody, even Jack, it leads to an unexpected happy ending and three weddings!

APRIL – MAY 2015  
 MUSICAL

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
APR.		17	18	19	M
	23	24	25	26	M
	30				
MAY		01	02	03	M
	07	08	09	10	M
	14	15	16		

“A winner  
 at every  
 level”

Severna Park Voice



Taking Steps, 2013

“A truly stellar cast.”

Baltimore Sun



1776, 2013

Superior Donuts, 2014

## Why Torture Is Wrong and the People Who Love Them

*Written by Christopher Durang*  
*Directed by Kristofer Kauff*

As Wilde skewered his privileged contemporaries in 1895, Christopher Durang also takes on several disturbing elements of our own culture and our current state of homeland insecurity. This pungently funny comedy bears all the hallmarks of Durang's style: hilarious non-sequitur-loaded dialogue, characters atilt with their own predilections, and the sense that you somehow wandered into the wrong play and can't quite understand all that is happening and whether you should be laughing or outraged.

But you can count on this: the play is funny, whether dealing with a passionate butterfly collector who cherishes lots and lots of powerful specimens, an inept secret agent who can't stop making noises like cartoon characters, or a woman who marries, under the influence, an Irish terrorist named Zamir.

**THIS PLAY CONTAINS VIOLENCE AND MATURE THEMES AND LANGUAGE.**

	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	
JUNE		05	06	07	M
	11	12	13	14	M
	18	19	20		E

Colonial Players celebrates our 66th Season of Great Community Theater



“A sure fire audience pleaser.”

The Capital

Annie, 2013

Colonial Players has won numerous awards for the quality of our productions in competition with community theater groups in Maryland and the Washington area. **In 2013, we received 25 nominations from the WATCH (Washington Area Theater Community Honors) awards** in every area, from overall production excellence, acting and direction, to many technical awards for lighting, set decorations, props, sound and costumes. Out of those nominations, we brought home four awards in acting and tech, considered best out of 114 productions by community theaters all around the beltway. In addition, CP has been honored 18 times by the Ruby Griffith Award competition for Washington area theaters.

For many years, CP has contributed to the community: donations, scholarships, workshops, forums, and activities designed to develop new directors, actors and playwrights.

CP is 100% volunteer and we welcome your support and participation, whether onstage, working backstage, ushering, staffing the box office or buying tickets! Our patrons' financial support pays the bills and their applause makes our hard work worthwhile. Thank You!

### Have you heard about the Colonial Players FlexTicket?

For the same cost per seat as a subscription, you may now purchase CP's new **FlexTicket**, which you may use for any combination of shows and seats you choose through the end of the season. They are transferable, so that your friends and kids may use yours. FlexTicket users must order their tickets through the box office, rather than the web. When shows are sold out, FlexTicket holders have the added advantage of being able to order standby tickets by phone, on the same day as the show, up to an hour before curtain time. FlexTicket Standbys who have ordered by phone will be seated before regular standby ticket holders.

**FlexTickets** are available for Adults for \$18.00 per show and for Seniors/Students and patrons with a Military ID for \$14.00 per show.

**FlexTickets** are ineligible for use with *A Christmas Carol*, but when you buy a FlexTicket before September 30, you may purchase 2 tickets for *A Christmas Carol* with each FlexTicket purchase.

## TICKETING AND GENERAL INFORMATION

### Show Times

<b>8:00 pm</b>	Thursday, Friday, Saturday
<b>2:00 pm</b>	Sunday
<b>7:30 pm</b>	Sunday evening (2nd week of run only)

### Box Office number: 410-268-7373

The Box Office is open one hour before curtain time on performance nights and matinees.

The Box Office is also open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday before Opening Night from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

Tickets may be purchased online at our website [thecolonialplayers.org](http://thecolonialplayers.org) at any time or call us at 410-268-7373 and leave a message.

Tickets will be held for patrons at the box office until show time. Patrons may also have tickets mailed to them for a fee of \$1 or provide a self-addressed stamped envelope.

**FlexTickets** for 10 seats may be used for any combination of shows and seats until the end of the season. The Box Office will keep track of use and punch the FlexTicket as the seats are used. Ticket orders must be placed through the box office, not on the web. FlexTickets are transferable. Senior/Student/Military FlexTickets must be used by seniors, students or Military patrons.

**Subscribers may exchange** their tickets in person, by phone, by mail or email at [boxoffice@thecolonialplayers.org](mailto:boxoffice@thecolonialplayers.org). **In order to receive new tickets in exchange, the box office must be notified 48 hours before performance time.**

### Colonial Players does not issue refunds.

Unused tickets may be returned to the Box Office for a tax-deductible donation receipt. FlexTickets expire at the end of the season. There will be no refunds on unused seats of the FlexTicket

### Single Ticket Prices

\$20 Adults
\$15 Seniors 65+ / Fulltime Students/Military

### A NOTE TO OUR AUDIENCES:

As with most contemporary plays, many of our shows this season contain contemporary language and situations, which Colonial Players believes should be viewed and heard as the playwright intended within the context of the scripted story.

**The Colonial Players, Inc. reserves the right to change season offerings if necessary.**

**Single tickets** may be purchased in person at the Box Office, by mail, phone or at our website, [thecolonialplayers.org](http://thecolonialplayers.org). Tickets ordered by phone or online must be purchased using MasterCard, Visa, or Discover credit cards. Checks and cash are also accepted at the Box Office by mail or in person. With the exception of Standby tickets, **all single (non-subscription) ticket purchases are final. Exchanges and refunds are not permitted on single ticket sales. FlexTicket reservations may not be changed within 48 hours of performance time.**

**Seats are guaranteed only until curtain time.** As we are a theater in the round, latecomers may have to wait to be seated until an appropriate break in the performance and at the discretion of the Stage Manager. A television monitor in the lobby allows late patrons to view the performance. Please allow plenty of time for parking in the crowded downtown area. It is very difficult for us to seat latecomers.

**Standby tickets** are sold one hour prior to performance time in person, on a first-come, first-serve basis. If standby seats are unavailable, purchasers' money will be returned immediately. FlexTicket holders may call on the same day of the show up to an hour before curtain time to reserve a priority standby seat.

**Wheelchair space** is available at most performances with advance notice. Order online or call the Box Office at 410-268-7373 at least one hour before curtain time.

**Gift certificates** for tickets are available at the Box Office.

### Become a supporter!

Subscribers providing additional support to Colonial Players are listed in each show's program. In addition, donors at the level of Designer or above will be invited to purchase *A Christmas Carol* tickets in October before the public sale, November 15th. Thank you for your generous support.

## OUR HISTORY

Colonial Players was founded by a group of Annapolitans dedicated to bringing high quality theater to what was then a sleepy town on the Chesapeake. As Annapolis has grown, so has the theater, continuing to thrive with a dedicated corps of volunteers and a loyal subscriber base.

The history of Colonial Players is intertwined with the rhythms and pace of downtown Annapolis. From its humble beginnings in the old Annapolis Recreation Center near City Dock to its current home at the foot of State Circle, Colonial Players continues its mission to entertain and educate, bringing the dramatic arts to the heart of the city.

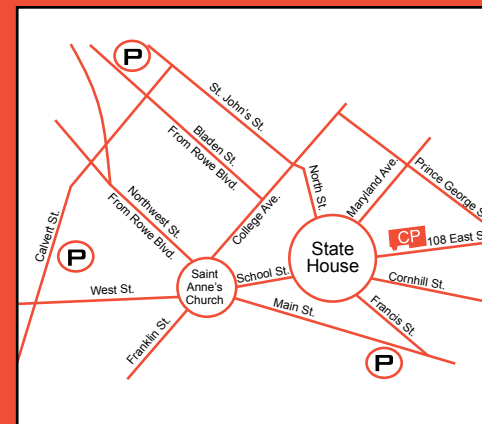
The theater's curtain first rose in 1949 with a production of James Thurber's slapstick comedy *The Male Animal*. Six years later, Colonial Players purchased an old car repair shop on East Street, and through the years this site has been

remodeled and expanded into the 180-seat arena theatre patrons and actors alike enjoy today.

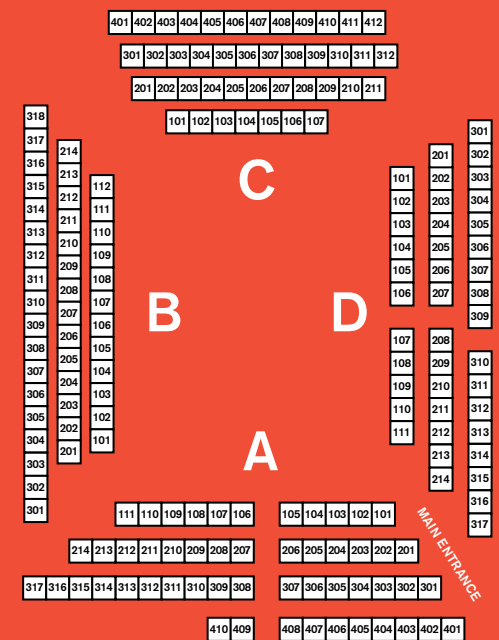
From Shakespeare to Noel Coward to Stephen Sondheim, Colonial Players audiences have enjoyed a wide range of performances. Experimental theater, theater for children, works by new playwrights, one-act play festivals, an array of workshops, and our annual Christmas production fulfill our mission to entertain, educate, and enrich our community through the dramatic arts.

Colonial Players is proud of its place in Annapolis history, and we invite you to take part. Whether as a theatergoer, subscriber, or volunteer, actor, director or playwright, join us as we continue to make theater in 360° a vibrant part of Annapolis.

## WHERE WE ARE



## SEATING CHART



Cover Photo: *Communicating Doors*, 2013

Design by Drama Queen Graphics, LLC

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