

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

AUDITION NOTICE FOR THE BOWEN PARK THEATRE'S FALL PRODUCTION

Waukegan, IL (June 17, 2015) The Waukegan Park District's Bowen Park Theatre Company (847-360-4740) is holding an open call for two plays that will be on the Schornick stage in late September to mid-October. Auditions will be held on Sunday, July 12 from noon to 5:30pm and Monday, July 13, from 5:30 to 9:00pm at the Schornick Theatre in Goodfellow Hall, 39 Jack Benny Drive, Waukegan IL 60087.

This is a cold read and actors are asked to bring in a headshot and resume to the audition. Actors are invited to set up an audition time by contacting the Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 847-360-4740 or by contacting staff at cfreeman@waukeganparks.org. The plays will run September 25, 26, and October 2, 3, 4*, 9, 10, 11*, 2015. Curtain is at 8 pm and Sunday matinees* have a 2 pm curtain.

The Guys is a play that was written soon after the terrible events of September 11th by Anne Nelson. Nick, a New York Fire Department captain, is left with the task of delivering the eulogies for eight fallen firefighters who perished during the evacuation of the World Trade Center. Overpowered with emotion and unsure what to say, he secures the assistance of a journalist who helps him craft eulogies to honor not only his men who died, but also everyone who lost their lives that day. *The Guys* by Anne Nelson includes two actors. Joan: a woman who is a journalist/editor and somewhere between her mid-

forties and mid-fifties. Nick: a man and a NY firefighter who is somewhere between his mid-forties to mid-fifties. This production is possible through a special arrangement with Dramatist Play Service, Inc. NY, NY.

The Mercy Seat is a 2002 play by Neil LaBute that was among the first major theatrical responses to the September 11, 2001 attacks. Set on September 12, it concerns Ben, a man who worked at the World Trade Center but was away from the office during the attack, with his mistress, Abby. Expecting that his family believes that he was killed in the towers' collapse, Ben contemplates using the tragedy to run away and start a new life with his lover. *The Mercy Seat* by Neil LaBute has two actors, one male (Ben Harcourt) in his thirties and one female (Abby Prescott) in her forties. This production is made possible through a special arrangement with Brooklyn Play Publishers Services, NY, NY.

There is pay, however, Bowen Park Theatre is non-Equity. The auditions and the theatre are located at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts located in Bowen Park, 39 Jack Benny Drive, Waukegan IL 60087. Rehearsals will take place in Waukegan. For directions or assistance please call 847-360-4740 during regular business hours M-Th 10 am to 9 pm, F 10 am-5 pm and Sat 9am to 4 pm. Auditions for the remainder of the season includes Agnes of God on October 18 and 19 and Comedy of Errors on December 6 and 7.

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 48 sites and more than 735 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball and tennis. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all

ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 59 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois Association of Park District (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and sustains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.

9.5.14/Comm. Relations

Additional Information:

Contact Claudia Freeman, Superintendent of Cultural Arts

847-360-4744

cfreeman@waukeganparks.org

www.waukeganparks.org