

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

Last Weekend for Bowen Park Theatre's Current Production The Guys and The Mercy Seat

Waukegan, IL (October 7, 2015) – The Waukegan Park District Cultural Arts Division reminds the public that the Bowen Park Theatre Company's (BPTC) production of Anne Nelson's *THE GUYS* and Neil LaBute's *THE MERCY SEAT* wraps up this weekend. The production, under the artistic direction of Jason Clark, takes audience members back fourteen years ago to the tragedy of 9/11. Remaining performances of *The Guys* and *The Mercy Seat* will be held at the Dr. Lynn Schornick Theatre on Friday and Saturday, October 9 and 10 with an 8 pm curtain. A Sunday matinee will be held on October 11 with a 3 pm curtain.

The Guys is a play by Anne Nelson about the aftereffects of the tragedy that took place with the collapse of the World Trade Center. The characters include Joan, an editor, and Nick, a FDNY captain. Joan is enlisted to help Nick prepare the eulogies for the firefighters who died under his command on September 11, 2001. This moving play is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service.



James Stahl as Nick



James Stahl and Laura Jansen

The second play presented during the fall production is Neil LaBute's edgy 2002 play, *The Mercy Seat* which was one of the first major theatre responses to the attack on September 11. The playwright and the two characters, Ben and Abby take the audience to September 12 and Ben's contemplation of escape from his unsatisfying life. Believing his family thinks he died in the collapse of the World Trade Center Ben considers using this tragedy to run away and start a new life. This play is produced by special arrangement with Broadway Play Publishing, Inc.



Thomas Colvin and Margie Burba

Options for tickets include season tickets, single tickets, and single tickets may be purchased online through Brown Paper Tickets. Find our events at www.brownpapertickets.com or call 1-800-838-3006.

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 48 sites and more than 725 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 and agility course, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball, tennis and pickleball. 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.

7.6.15Comm. Relations

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