

Gateway Players Theatre, Inc.  
PO Box 171  
Southbridge, MA 01550

founded 1975  
February 9, 2025

Barbara Day,  
editor since 1991



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You will be hearing a lot about our 50 years in the months ahead. This month "Plaza Suite" opens- our 3rd version of this Neil Simon classic. Cast and crew are working hard to make this show a worthy production to open this historic season. Mark your calendars with 50th anniversary celebrations. Don't miss any of our celebrations.

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February 21, 22, 28  
March 1 & 2

NEIL SIMON'S  
**Plaza**  
**Suite**

Tickets are now available for "**Plaza Suite**", the first show of our 50th Anniversary Season. This comedy is written by Neil Simon. Performance dates are February 21, 22, 28 and March 1 at 7:30pm and March 2 at 2:00pm. The performances are held at

Fellowship Hall of Elm Street Congregational Church, 61 Elm Street in Southbridge, MA. Entrance is on Park Street (around the corner). Directed by Mike Dupuis and produced by Jeanne Dupuis, this show is presented by permission through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals. This program is supported by a grant from the Southbridge Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for seniors and youth under 18. Tickets may be reserved by calling Gateway at 508-764-4531. Online credit card tickets://www.ticketleap.events/.../plaza-suite-1845664734

The cast includes John Golden (Jesse Kiplinger), William Bolster (Waiter), Kevin McGee (Roy Hubley and Sam Nash), Hillary Robertson (Jean McCormick and Muriel Tate), Deb Hollett (Karen Nash), Asher McCoy (Borden Eisler), Cynthia Claudio (Norma Hubley), and Chamira Santiago Flores ( Bell Hop and Mimsie Hubley).

Synopsis: Hilarity abounds in this portrait of three couples successively occupying a suite at The Plaza. A suburban couple take the suite while their house is being painted and it turns out to be the one in which they honeymooned 23 (or was it 24?) years before and was yesterday the anniversary, or is it today? This wry tale of marriage in tatters is followed by the exploits of a Hollywood producer who, after three marriages, is looking for fresh fields. He calls a childhood sweetheart, now a suburban housewife, for a little sexual diversion. Over the years she has idolized him from afar and is now more than the match he bargained for. The last couple is a mother and father fighting about the best way to get their daughter out of the bathroom and down to the ballroom where guests await her or as Mother yells, "I want you to come out of that bathroom and get married!".



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Gateway Players is pleased to announce the cast of "On Golden Pond". Directed by Patrick Bracken with Lou-Ellen Corkum as producer and Gwen O'Brien as stage manager, the cast includes: Richard Clark (Norman), Lynn Boucher (Ethel), Elizabeth Jacoby (Chelsea), Jordan Miller (Bill), TJ Lee (Billy), John Golden (Charlie) and Linda Bouthillier (operator). Showdates will be May 2,3,4,9,10 and performances will be at Elm Street Congregational Church, Fellowship Hall, 61 Elm Street in Southbridge.

**Synopsis:**

This is the love story of Ethel and Norman Thayer, who are returning to their summer home on Golden Pond for the forty-eighth year. He is a retired professor, nearing eighty, with heart palpitations and a failing memory – but still as tart-tongued, observant, and eager for life as ever. Ethel, ten years younger, and the perfect foil for Norman, delights in all the small things that have enriched and continue to enrich their long life together. They are visited by their divorced, middle-aged daughter and her dentist fiancé, who then go off to Europe, leaving his teenage son behind for the summer. The boy quickly becomes the “grandchild” the elderly couple have longed for, and as Norman revels in taking his ward fishing and thrusting good books at him, he also learns some lessons about modern teenage awareness and slang in return.

Below is cast photo from 2013 production. Patrick Bracken was a cast member. This time around he is directing. This show was Twizzler winner for best production of 2013.



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This is the time when we send out Sustaining Membership drive letters to the community to solicit funds to keep our organization alive and well. Please consider making a contribution to help us continue to achieve our mission.

February 2025

Dear Friend, 50 years- how exciting for an all-volunteer, non-profit organization! We are very proud to be part of a vibrant community, bringing live entertainment and performing opportunities. Please join us as we celebrate a long history of theater and fun. 50th Anniversary celebrations- • In August, our memorabilia will be on display in the main reading room of Jacob Edwards Library. Ron Senecal, a longtime Gateway member, put together scrapbooks which are housed in the library's Historical collection. We are looking for any pictures, programs, or show memorabilia that we can add to the display. • A Celebration of Gateway Gala will be November 1st at

the Heritage Country Club. More information will be available as plans are finalized. • Several other events are also in the planning stages. A 50th anniversary is such a milestone- we want to share all our experiences with the community. • Gateway Memories --- we would like to put together a collection of Gateway memories- as actors, crew, audience. Please send your memories to Barbara Day- bldaycare@verizon.net. How you got involved in Gateway, friendships developed, memories to share. Thanks. We invite you to enjoy live theater with us again in 2025. Our performances include: Plaza Suite in February/March, On Golden Pond in May, Fiddler on the Roof in August, The Clumsy Custard Horror Show in October and A Candle in the Window in December. Follow us on Facebook or visit our website for more information. Each Spring, Gateway Players Theatre runs a Sustaining Member Drive. It is through your contributions that we are able to perform a full season of community theater shows and other events. As a thank you for your sustaining member donation we are pleased to offer complimentary tickets to an upcoming Gateway production and your name will appear in all Gateway Players show programs. The attached form can be completed and mailed to Gateway Players PO Box 171 Southbridge, Ma 01550 or given to any board member. Sincerely, Lou-Ellen Corkum Lou-Ellen Corkum- President, Gateway Players Gateway Players Theatre, Inc. is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the support and encouragement of the arts and the development of talent and creativity, endeavoring to offer the community a program of diversified theatrical fare while providing its members, both adult and youth, with opportunities for participation and training in the theater arts.

Yes, I'd like to be a Sustaining Member of Gateway Players Theatre, Inc.  
Donation Amount/# of Complimentary Tickets (please circle one) Director's Circle \$1000 / 10 tickets Starring Role Donor \$500 / 8 tickets Lead Donor \$100 / 4 tickets Ensemble Donor \$50 / 2 tickets Friend \$25 / 1 ticket  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Name as it should appear in Gateway's Program:

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Please mail this form, along with your donation to: Gateway Players Theatre, Inc. P.O. Box 171 Southbridge, MA 01550 Complimentary ticket certificate will be mailed upon receipt of your donation. The certificates can be used for our 2025 season. If you have any questions, please call Gateway Players (508-764-4531). This is an answering service, and we will return your call.

We are now fundraising for a new space to call home. If you would like to donate visit our Facebook page and click on the Donate button Sustaining

Member donation: \$\_\_\_\_\_ Gateway Players Theatre, Inc. is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the support and encouragement of the arts and the development of talent and creativity, endeavoring to offer the community a program of diversified theatrical fare while providing its members, both adult and youth, with opportunities for participation and training in the theater arts.

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Be sure to check out our UPDATED WEBSITE. Thanks to Deb Hollett, we have a new and exciting site [gatewayplayers.org](http://gatewayplayers.org). You can read the most current news, history, production history and see photos from past shows.

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As we look back on 50!!! years, it really is amazing at our history. With adult and youth casts, musicals, dramas and comedies- we really have had an eclectic history. Wonder if our founding members envisioned 50 years- and still going strong! Below is Trivia Nite at the barn, Improve Workshop, "Who Am I This Time", "The Christmas Express" , "Momologues" and "Comedy by Committee". Between workshops, productions, road shows, golf tournaments and Twizzler Awards (our Tony awards), selling cotton candy= we have had a fun 50 years! Be sure to come to all our events.











The Christmas Express  
2015



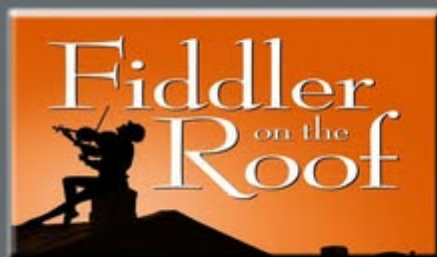
# Gateway Players Theatre 2025 Season



February 21, 22, 28 March 1 & 2



May 2, 3, 4, 9 & 10



August 1, 2 & 3



October 4, 5, 10, 11 & 12



December 5, 6 & 7



508-764-4531  
[www.gatewayplayers.org](http://www.gatewayplayers.org)

our home for many years--Gateway Arts Barn.

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**Gateway Players Theatre Board:**

Lou-Ellen Corkum-- president, Mike Dupuis- vice-president,  
Chris McTigue- secretary, Bill Guy- treasurer.

Members at large- David Corkum, Mikey Dearn, Kathi Grenier,  
Deb Hollett, Deb Ostiguy, Stephanie Ruggiere.

Pat Haddock- past president.

**GATEWAY PLAYERS THEATRE, INC. HISTORY**

If you would like to see a listing of ALL the shows Gateway has performed since 1975- just go to website, [gatewayplayers.org](http://gatewayplayers.org) under Past Seasons. You will even find photos from many of the shows. When Gateway started in 1975, we used borrowed rehearsal and storage space, and performed at Southbridge HS on Cole Ave. In 1978 we moved into the Arts Barn at 111 Main St, on the property donated by Ruth Wells (of American Optical Company family). We were there for decades, until the Barn needed more repairs tDeb Hollettan were affordable. For the past few years, we have used space in Fellowship Hall of Elm St. for rehearsals, performances and storage, for which we are very grateful.

Thanks to DAVID CORKUM for maintaining our facebook page and to Deb Hollett for website. Many thanks to Jim Douglas, who is stepping away from the website-after a dozen years as website volunteer.

**WE ALL WORK TO KEEP GATEWAY-- AND THEATER--ALIVE**

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Thanks to Elm Street Congregational Church for giving us a home



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