

Playhouse of American Classics



**In Residence at the
Buffalo & Erie County
Historical Society**

**25 Nottingham Court
Buffalo, NY 14216**

Box Office: (716) 873-9644

**Group Sales & Subscriptions: (716) 862-9531
www.playhouseofamericanclassics.org**

Your Guide to PAC's 2007-08 Season at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society! See Inside for Plays and Dates!

Playhouse of American Classics
P. O. Box 1486
Amherst, NY 14226



Buffalo, New York in 1880.

Our Mission

The mission of Playhouse of American Classics is to:

- A. Revive great American plays that are rarely produced.
- B. Make theater patrons aware of our rich legacy of American Plays.
- C. Excite audiences to further explore our past in order to better understand our present and point the way to our future.

Our History

Playhouse of American Classics (PAC) was incorporated in 1989 in New York City to bring lost plays to life. At that time, PAC presented five plays: *Why Marry?* by Jesse Lynch Williams (1917), *Craig's Wife* by George Kelly (1928), *Street Scene* by Elmer Rice (1925), *The Fourposter* by Jan De Hartog (1951) and *Two For The Seesaw* by William Gibson (1958).

All of these plays won the Pulitzer Prize or the Tony Award for Best Play at the time of their original productions.

PAC presented the first New York City professional production of most of these plays since their original Broadway run.

Our 2007-2008 Season

PAC has moved to Western New York and is in residence at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society (BECHS)!

PAC, Buffalo's newest theater, plans to revive award-winning plays by America's finest playwrights.

Plays by such famous authors as William Saroyan, Garson Kanin, Kaufman and Hart and Elmer Rice often sit on library shelves, unread and unseen because they are not produced.



Newsies selling outside Shea's Theatre in 1910.

By presenting these plays in "Chamber Theater" presentations, PAC brings new life to these plays. Chamber Theater is a mix of reader's theatre and full production. Using cubes, benches, and folding screens, PAC creates the setting needs for the production and then adds special touches to capture the feel of the play. The emphasis is always on the play and the story it has to tell.

Subscription, Senior Citizen/Student Discount, and Group Sales Coupons may be picked up at the box office at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society (BECHS) 30 minutes before curtain on the date of your chosen performance. Identification will be required for Senior Citizen and Student Discount Sales.

Why Marry?

Friday, 11/9/07 at 8:00 PM
 Saturday Matinee, 11/10/07 at 3:00 PM
 Saturday, 11/10/07 at 7:00 PM
 Sunday Matinee, 11/11/07 at 3:00 PM



Promotional photo of the Why Marry? cast in 1917.

The first play to win the Pulitzer Prize in Drama in 1918, *Why Marry?* is a lost gem that explores a woman's role in this time period. A wealthy New York family estate is run by the older brother who is insistent that his two sisters marry wealthy men. The youngest sister reluctantly agrees but the older sister resists. She believes she has found her life's work in a position she took in the science lab and also loves the head scientist. "A scientist!?" the brother scoffs, "Scientists make no money. A scientist could never keep you in life style to which you are accustomed." The determined sister responds, "You're right. A scientist could never keep me in the lifestyle I grew up in. So...Why Marry? He and I will live together and work together the rest of our lives. We don't need marriage." Needless to say, this sparks much conflict in the family and much fun for the audience.

All The Way Home

Friday, 2/15/08 at 8:00 PM
 Saturday Matinee, 2/16/08 at 3:00 PM
 Saturday, 2/16/08 at 7:00 PM
 Sunday Matinee, 2/17/08 at 3:00 PM



A scene from the 1960 version of All The Way Home.

A winner of the Pulitzer Prize in 1961, *All The Way Home* is a moving drama about the unexpected death a family must endure in Knoxville, TN in 1915. It explores individual family members' reactions, particularly the dead man's wife and young son.

Presenting *All The Way Home* exemplifies how PAC and the Historical Society enjoy a collaboration that can complement each other's presentations. The Historical Society is currently exhibiting *In Loving Memory*, an exploration of the traditions of mourning and how we memorialize loved ones. *All The Way Home* provides a moving counterbalance to BECHS's exhibit.

Tomorrow... The World

Friday 4/25/08 at 8:00 PM
 Saturday Matinee, 4/26/08 at 3:00 PM
 Saturday, 4/26/08 at 7:00 PM
 Sunday Matinee, 4/27/08 at 3:00 PM



Shirley Booth, Skip Homier and Ralph Bellamy in the 1943 Broadway version of Tomorrow...The World.

Fascism and intolerance are, unfortunately, part of our past and present. *Tomorrow...The World* is a drama about an American family who has found their lost 12-year-old nephew, the son of a German scientist who spoke out against Nazism. They think they are getting the son of the man who opposed Hitler. Instead, they get a child who has been raised (and brainwashed) in the Nazi Youth Organization. The struggle of the professor, his family and his Jewish fiancé to reach this lost young man forms the basis for this fine melodrama. This play ran on Broadway for over 500 performances when it was first produced in 1943 with Ralph Bellamy and Shirley Booth in the leading roles.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Date:

State:

City:

Zip:

E-mail:

	Why Marry?	All The Way Home	Tomorrow...The World
Showtimes	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 11/9/07 at 8:00 PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday, 2/15/08 at 8:00 PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Friday 4/25/08 at 8:00 PM
	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 11/10/07 at 3:00 PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 2/16/08 at 3:00 PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 4/26/08 at 3:00 PM
	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 11/10/07 at 7:00 PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 2/16/08 at 7:00 PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, 4/26/08 at 7:00 PM
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday, 11/11/07 at 3:00 PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday, 2/17/08 at 3:00 PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday 4/27/08 at 3:00 PM
Individual Sales	Number of tickets x \$15 each = _____	Number of tickets x \$15 each = _____	Number of tickets x \$15 each = _____
Senior Citizen/Students	Number of tickets x \$10 each = _____	Number of tickets x \$10 each = _____	Number of tickets x \$10 each = _____
Group Sales	Number of tickets x \$10 each = _____	Number of tickets x \$10 each = _____	Number of tickets x \$10 each = _____
Subscription Sales	I would like to purchase _____ sets of subscription tickets to all 3 shows at \$36 per set.		
			Subtotal

A check is enclosed made out to : **Playhouse of American Classics, P. O. Box 1486, Amherst, NY 14226** The total cost of these tickets is

I would like my name and address added to the PAC and BECHS mailing lists to be notified about future performances and events.