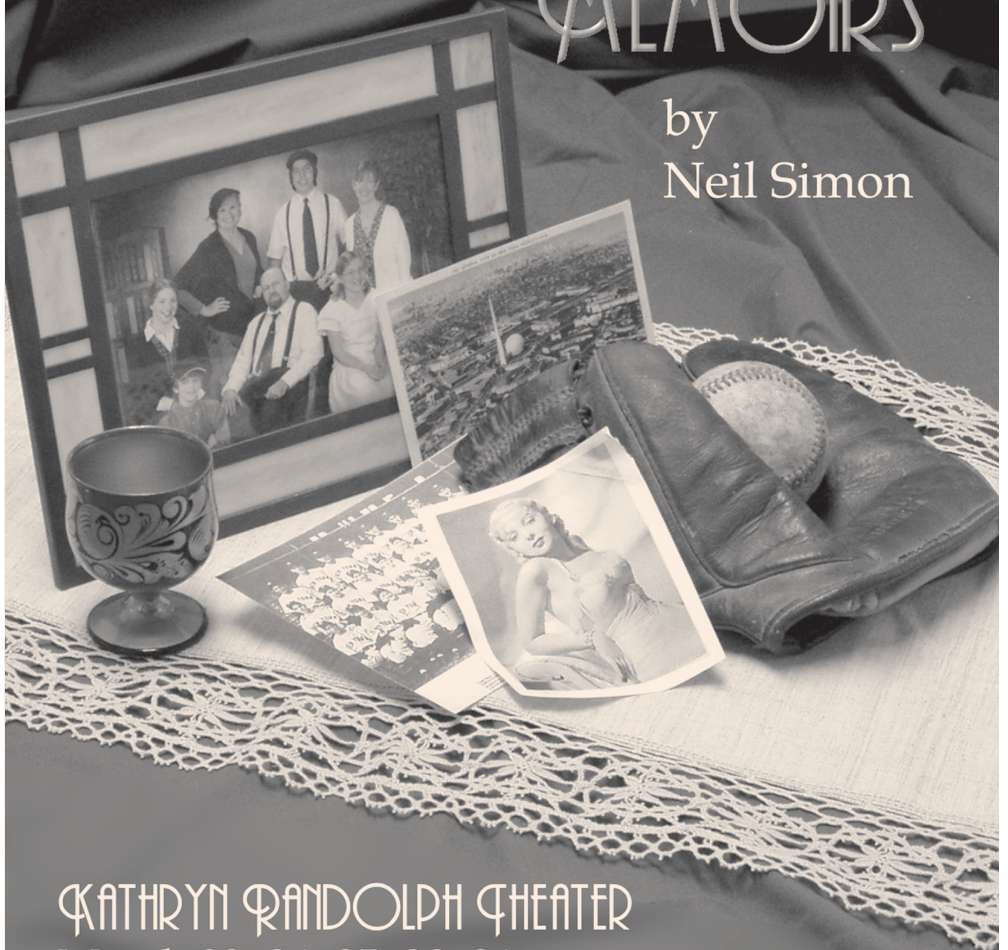


Red Mask Players, Inc.  
present

# BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS

by  
Neil Simon



KATHRYN RANDOLPH CHEATER

March 23, 24, 25, 30, 31

April 1, 6, 7, 2007



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- Debbie Prentice
- Edward S. Sant



Produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

**CAST**  
(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

<b>Eugene</b>	Brian Coutant
<b>Blanche</b>	Janet Lewis
<b>Kate</b>	Mary Ann Laker
<b>Laurie</b>	Jordyn Goodman
<b>Nora</b>	Kelsey Daugherty
<b>Stanley</b>	Andrew Puhr
<b>Jack</b>	Rick Prentice

**ACT I**

Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, New York  
September 1937 - 6:30 pm

**ACT II**

Wednesday, a week later  
About 6:45 in the evening

*There will be a fifteen-minute Intermission between Act I and Act II. At this time restrooms and refreshments are available at the lower level of the theater. We request that there be **NO SMOKING** in any area of the building.*

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Welcome to the third production of our 70th Season. I am so excited we are doing another Neil Simon play. This is the first of Neil Simon's autobiographical trilogy. The others include *Biloxi Blues* and *Broadway Bound*.

Second time director at Red Mask, Julia Megan Sullivan, will take you back to the 1930's in Brighton Beach, New York where Eugene Jerome struggles with growing up in a household that is anything but normal. While tensions rage in Europe, his own exploration of growing up rages inside and he shares his philosophy with the audience.

Returning to our stage are Mary Ann Laker, Rick Prentice and Janet Lewis. We would like to welcome Children's Theater alum, Andrew Puhr, Brian Coutant, Jordyn Goodman and Kelsey Daugherty.

With Donna Sant as Producer and me as Stage Manager, we will keep things running smoothly.

So sit back and enjoy reliving Neil Simon's childhood!

*Sue Harden*

President



## A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Common reactions to reading *Brighton Beach Memoirs*:

“Great show, but can we find a kid to carry it?”

“Oof! A two-story set!”

“You know who makes a great Jew...?”

“Oh, God. It’s my mother.”

Care to guess which one is mine?

□□□

Upon first read of *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, I instantly connected with the play. I had lived in this family. I had been cooped up in this house. I have that mother.

My mother?!?! Yes, she is the woman known to many as the local newspaper reporter dedicated to providing local arts organizations the coverage they deserve. But she’s also the woman I recognized in Neil Simon’s autobiographical play - the one who says things like, “You’re going to wear make-up right?” and then in the next breath, “I sound just like my mother.”

While this identification ultimately creates great worry in me (after all, if history repeats itself, as it often does, I’ll soon pick up something like *The Yiddish Are Coming!* and say, “Oh no - it’s me!”), I am happy to exploit it for the benefit of the production.

While I may never have worried about the safe passage of relatives to America, I have lived with the Jeromes and seen these daily mini-dramas play out. That’s really what *Brighton Beach Memoirs* is all about - the family dynamic.

So sit back, relax, and enjoy this family full of big personalities and bigger dreams contained in this tiny Brooklyn home. Although you may never have had to suffer through a dinner of liver and cabbage or asked your uncle if you could audition for a Broadway show, I know you’ll find members of your family parading across this stage.

**Julia Megan Sullivan**

Director



Red Mask Players are funded in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council and the Danville Area Arts Council.



 Congratulations to Red Mask for Another Successful Season.

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PRODUCTION TEAM



**Julia Megan Sullivan – Director**

Julia Megan Sullivan is honored to have been entrusted with the final production of the Red Mask Players’ 70th anniversary season. After graduating from New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts, she attacked the professional theatre scene, working in theatres all over the country and touring nationally. Since returning to Danville nearly three years ago, she has been active with all of the local theatre organizations including appearing onstage as Mama Morton in “Chicago” (DLO) and most recently as Bernadette, the deaf chef, in “Flaming Idiots” (Red Mask). Julia is proud to serve as First Vice President of the Red Mask Players board and as a member of the Arts in the Park board. She sends special thanks to each person who has touched this production. Your unwavering support and hard work will always be appreciated.



**Sue Harden – Stage Manager**

Sue has been actively involved with Red Mask since 1993, from having worked backstage on numerous shows (props, stage manager, etc.) to being onstage (“Rumors,” “Here Lies Jeremy Troy,” “Meet My Husbands” and “Bell, Book and Candle”). She has coordinated the Summer 2002 One-Acts, co-directed two children’s shows (“Jungle Book” and “Pinocchio”), directed two adult shows (“Cemetery Club” and “Web of Murder”), and served on the Board of Directors (Secretary, Box Office, Treasurer and currently Program Coordinator and President). During the day, she works at Dukes, Ryan, Meyer, Freed & Goodwin, Ltd. as a legal secretary. She would like to thank Julia for asking her to be stage manager for this show, the cast and crew and, of course, her husband for building the set and her loving Augie Doggie.



**Donna Sant – Producer**

“Brighton Beach Memoirs” is Donna’s kind of show! When it was selected, she instantly decided she has to be a part of it somehow. After appearing in two productions in as many years (“Barefoot in the Park” and “Desk Set”) she decided she (and the audience) needed a break. So when Julia asked her to produce, and she found out that her old buddy, Sue, was stage managing, she jumped at the opportunity. She would like to thank her husband of 22 years for cleaning the house and giving the pets lots of love while she is gone.

ON STAGE



**Rick Prentice – Jack**

This is Rick’s 8th regular season appearance on the Red Mask stage. Rick has done various roles in the past as a mental patient, husband, angry man, foreigner, gardener, news reporter and an English Bobbie. This, however, is his first role as a Jewish papa. Rick would like to thank his wonderful wife, Debbie, late mother, Gloria, father Torch and friend Judy, brother Duane, sister-in-law Carla and his evil cat, Butters, for all of their love and support. He would also like to thank his director, Julia, for her faith in him. And thanks to all the loyal Red Mask patrons who always make him want to come back for more!



**Mary Ann Laker – Kate**

Mary Ann returns to the Red Mask stage after appearing in last year’s production of “Come Back to the Five and Dime Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean.” Previously she appeared in “The Elephant Man,” “Web of Murder” and “Meet My Husbands.” She wishes to thank Julia for the opportunity to play Kate, the ultimate woman in charge. Also thanks and much love to Dave, who after appearing in “Flaming Idiots,” is taking a break to stay at home babysitting George and Gracie.



**Andrew Puhr – Stanley**

Andrew is glad to return to Red Mask after a four year hiatus. Back in the day, Andrew was involved with numerous children’s shows. He has been involved in many school plays and a few DLO shows. He thanks his parents for allowing him to participate in plays at such a young age and thus causing him to get “hooked.”

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## RED MASK



### Brian Coutant – Eugene

Brian is very proud to be debuting in his first adult show at Red Mask. Brian was last seen in Red Mask's Children's show "Blather, Blarney and Balderdash." He has also been involved in several Danville Light Opera shows, including "Big," "The Great Ghost Chase" and more recently as the news boy in "Ragtime." Brian is 13-1/2 years old and in eighth grade at Southview Middle School, where he also plays trumpet in the SVMS band. Other activities include being a member of his church's puppet team and youth group. He also enjoys spending time at home playing video games and running around with his wired hair terrier, Baxter! Brian would like to thank all of the cast and crew for "Brighton Beach Memoirs" for their support and for making it feel like a second family to him! He would also like to thank his family for all their support during these busy months!

We Salute Red Mask on Another Great Year.

AQUA<sup>SM</sup>  
Illinois

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**Janet Lewis – Blanche**

Janet is honored and thrilled to be performing with such a talented cast. Her past performances have been in “Desk Set,” “The Elephant Man,” “Meet My Husbands,” “George Washington Slept Here,” “Scrooge Lives Upstairs” and “Communicating Doors.” She wishes to thank her marvelous director for giving her this opportunity to be a part of such a wonderful play. Janet also wishes to thank the crew, her family, especially her husband, Bob, and friends for their continued love and support.



**Kelsey Daugherty – Nora**

Kelsey is extremely excited to perform in her first adult Red Mask show. In love with the stage since the 3rd grade, she has performed in Red Mask Children’s shows “MGTV” and “Incantation: Frog Prince” and student-directed “Twinderella”. She also performed in DLO productions of “Chicago” and “Ragtime” and is an avid participant of the DHS Players. Kelsey is currently in her sophomore year at Danville High School and plans to pursue the arts in college. She would like to thank Julia Megan Sullivan for giving her the dream opportunity of working with her; and her parents for helping her embrace her character whole-heartedly. (Wink.)



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**Jordyn Goodman – Laurie**

Jordyn is 11 years old, and a 6th grader at North Ridge Middle School. She has been seen in the Red Mask Children’s Theater productions of “Twinderlla” as Nick the Gangster, “Blather, Blarney and Balderdash” as the narrator and has played Mary, a “girly girl,” in “Monster in the Closet.” “To this day, I’m still her!” Jordyn is honored to portray Laurie under the awesome direction of Julia Megan Sullivan. This is one of the best experiences a girl my age could ask for!





RED  MASK



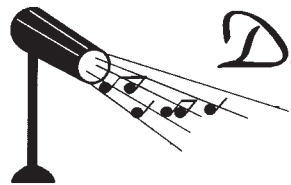
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The Red Mask Players Board of Directors is happy to announce that they will again present the Jean Lewis Scholarship, a \$750 stipend, to a local college-bound high school senior, community college student, or university student, enrolled full time. Theater majors or those pursuing a directly related field of study are encouraged to apply. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate an interest in theater by their past participation in local theater opportunities at the high school or community level. Details and applications are available at area high schools and the DACC Communications Department. Applications must be received by April 9, 2007. Interviews will be arranged at a later date. Mail applications to:

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## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### LINCOLN PARK THEATER COMPANY

- "Honeymoon from Hell" Murder Mystery - March 30 and 31 at Harrison Park
- Auditions for "Wizard of Oz" - April 21 and 22 at Village Mall
- "Wizard of Oz" - July 13,14 and 15 at Lincoln Park

### DANVILLE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

- Annual Easter Egg Hunt - April 7 at WDAN, 1500 N. Washington

### DACC THEATER DEPARTMENT

- "Every Family Has One" - April 13 and 14 at 7:30 pm at Kathryn Randolph Theater  
 Admission is free

### LIPPIZANER STALLIONS

- April 13 at David S. Palmer Arena

### DANVILLE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

- "An Evening in Casablanca" - April 21 at Mary Miller Center, DACC
- "Songs of the Heart" Featuring Justin Vickers - May 12 at Danville High School

### DANVILLE LIGHT OPERA

- "Into the Woods" - April 28 and 29 at Danville High School

### SWEET ADELINES

- "Cabaret" - May 5 at the Beef House Convention Center



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## BEHIND THE SCENES

<b>Director</b> .....	Julia Megan Sullivan
<b>Stage Manager</b> .....	Sue Harden
<b>Producer</b> .....	Donna Sant
<b>Set Design</b> .....	Edward S. Sant
<b>Set Construction</b> .....	Mike Boedicker, Rick Prentice
<b>Set Decorating</b> .....	Edward S. Sant
<b>Lighting Design</b> .....	Leslie Boedicker
<b>Sound Design</b> .....	Mike Boedicker
<b>Lights &amp; Sound</b> .....	Randy Offner
<b>Prop Mistress</b> .....	Suzie Harmon
<b>Prop Crew</b> .....	Chris Jacobs
<b>Wardrobe</b> .....	Ashley Lawton
<b>Hair Design</b> .....	Renata Wise
<b>Make Up</b> .....	Chris Jacobs
<b>Dramaturg</b> .....	Julia Megan Sullivan
<b>House Manager</b> .....	Jamey Coutant
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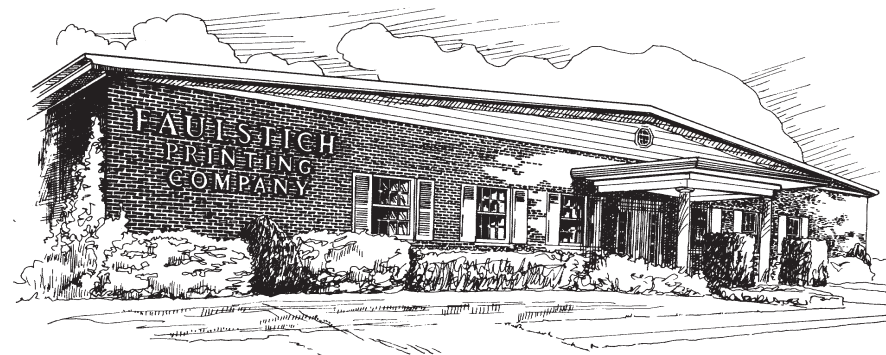
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Illini Skateland	Jamey Coutant	Bryan Schroeder
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