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★ presents ★



The MISS FIRECRACKER CONTEST

by Beth Henley

DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE, INC.

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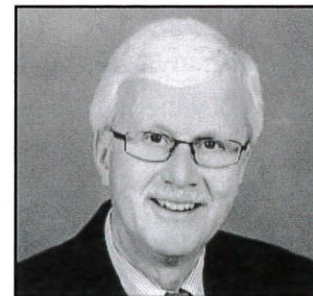
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The Miss Firecracker Contest

by Beth Henley

Presented by Dramatists Play Services, Inc.

A PLAY IN TWO ACTS

Time:

The ending of June and the beginning of July.

Place:

The action of the play takes place in Brookhaven, Mississippi;
a small southern town.

Synopsis of Scenes

Scene 1: The living room of Ronelle William's house in Brookhaven, Mississippi – about five o'clock Monday afternoon on a hot day at the end of June.

Scene 2: The same setting. About eight o'clock in the evening, on the following Saturday.

CAST

Carnelle Scott.....	Brittany McDaniels
Popeye Jackson.....	Lynnette Hodges
Delmount Williams.....	Drake Taylor
Elaine Rutledge.....	Shannon Schroeder
Tessy Mahoney.....	Meredith Black
Mac Sam (Balloon man).....	Tim Kirby



FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT...

Set in Brookhaven, Mississippi, in July, the winter show, *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, will surely warm your heart as well as your soul. The cast, under the direction of Debbie Prentice, has been working hard to present an “explosive” performance during the post-holiday season.

As you know, the theater roof was leaking and in need of repair. The Red Mask Players board launched a “Raise the Roof” campaign seeking donations. With all the generous donations and grants, the goal has been reached and the roof repairs have been paid in full! Thank you to all who helped!

Now that the building is protected from the weather, the board will begin focusing on interior repairs during 2016. An aging stage and renovation of the restrooms are taking top priority. Plans will also continue for updating the marquee, as well as all the other general maintenance issues that occur with a 100 plus year old building. The board will keep you updated on all the progress.

Thank you for your continued support!

Sue Harden, President
Red Mask Players, Inc.



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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Imagine if you will, you're at the 4th of July carnival on a hot summer day, enjoying all of the fun and excitement that only a carnival has to offer. I know it's hard to imagine right now since it is winter. But, our brilliant cast will take you there, if only for a little while.

The place is Brookhaven, Mississippi. And like any other carnival, there is a queen pageant. This one is called *The Miss Firecracker Contest*. And, there is one particular young lady, Carnelle Scott, who would give anything to win that title. But, at this carnival, as in real life, there are obstacles and hurdles you must pass to have a chance to win. Some of those obstacles include her family and friends. It will take a miracle for her to pull this off. So, will she be able to overcome everything thrown her way to win the title of *Miss Firecracker*?

Sit back, relax, and imagine the smell of cotton candy, elephant ears and roasted peanuts filling the air, and we will take you on a comical journey that will lead to the winner of *The Miss Firecracker Contest*.

Debbie Prentice

Director

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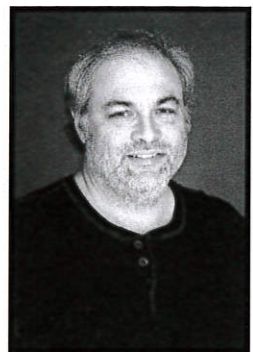


BIOGRAPHIES



Meredith Black Meredith is glad to return to the Red Mask stage—this time all grown up. Last time she performed here was four years ago in the children’s production of *The Mad Adventures of Mr. Toad*, but since then she has been in productions at Schlarman Academy, Lincoln Park Theatre Company, and Shawnee Summer Theatre in Bloomfield, Indiana. Meredith plans to attend the University of Evansville next fall to study Theatre Performance. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support, and to the *Miss Firecracker* family for making this a wonderful experience.

Lynnette Hodges Lynnette is excited to be returning to the Red Mask stage after her adult acting debut in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Lynette would like to thank Debbie Prentice for casting her as Popeye. The role of Popeye allows her to be the shy/odd girl and was a challenge as it takes her out of her stereotypically happy demeanor. Nevertheless, this star crossed lover was certainly fun for her to portray and she hopes you enjoy her interpretation of the character.



Tim Kirby Tim is excited to be appearing in another Red Mask Players production. Tim first appeared on the Kathryn Randolph stage in *The Girls in 509*. and has since been lucky enough to appear several more times, including Summer One Acts. Christmas productions and several regular season plays. He was most recently seen in the RMP production of *A Streetcar Named Desire* as Pablo Gonzalez. After playing a long string of disreputable characters such as alcoholics and Nazi scientists, Tim is happy to finally portray the more upstanding role of a syphilitic carnay. When Tim is not onstage portraying an interesting character in a theatrical production, he stays busy writing, recording and performing original music. As always, Tim gives his thanks to sons Dean and Tyler for all their support. And he hopes you all enjoy the show.

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BIOGRAPHIES



Brittany McDaniels This will be Brittany McDaniels first full show with Red Mask. She previously played Alice Morgan in Red Mask’s 2015 Summer Stock Short Acts. When Brittany is not involved in a production, Brittany enjoys spending time with her 2 dogs, Rory and Sadie, her cat Riley and her husband of 2 years, Bryan. Brittany would like to thank her family and friends for all their support and she would like to give special thanks to her husband Bryan. Brittany would also like to thank Debbie for the opportunity of playing Carnelle and would like to thank her cast mates for all their encouragement and support during the past weeks.

Shannon Schroeder Shannon Schroeder is thrilled to join the cast of *Miss Firecracker* during her first regular season Red Mask role. Shannon performed as Lady Godiva for Red Mask Summer Stock. She was the Maître D at the CASA Royal Ball and performed as Vivien in DLO’s *Promises, Promises*. She’s grateful for the opportunity to take the stage with such a great cast and crew, and she especially thanks her husband, Bryan, and her daughters, Nelle and Molly for their support and encouragement. Finally, a special Thank You to Patrick Linn for his less-than-gentle push to get out of the wings and back onto the stage! Love you all!



Drake Taylor Drake has appeared in The Great American Trailer Park Musical, The Miracle Worker, and Mary Poppins. This is Drakes second regular season acting role with Red Mask Players. Drake has really enjoyed playing Delmount, and couldn’t have asked for better cast mates! He wants to say thank you to Debbie for allowing his to play crazy - on stage for once. “Much love to Patrick, my biggest supporter”.

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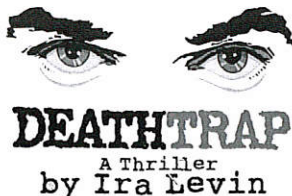
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THE REST OF THE 2016 RED MASK SEASON

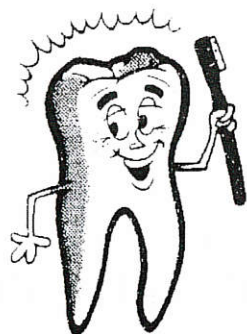


Seemingly comfortably ensconced in his charming Connecticut home, Sidney Bruhl, a successful writer of Broadway thrillers, is struggling to overcome a "dry" spell which has resulted in a string of failures. A break in his fortunes occurs when he receives a script from a student in the seminar he has been conducting—a thriller which Sidney recognizes as a potential Broadway hit. Sidney's plan, which he devises with his wife's help, is to offer collaboration, an idea which the younger man accepts. Suspense mounts steadily as the plot begins to twist and turn with devilish cleverness and an abundance of thrills and laughter.

Auditions: February 8 & 9, 2016.

Performances: April 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10, 2016

Scripts will be at the Danville Public Library for reading.



Randal P. Ashton, D.D.S.

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Named after the founder of Red Mask Children's Theater, the Jean Lewis Scholarship is an annual award of \$750 to a student planning a career in the theater, performing arts, or a directly related area such as speech or radio/television. Area high school students as well as university or community college students are eligible to apply. Applicants will be expected to demonstrate their ongoing interest in theater by their past participation in local theater opportunities. Performing artists will be asked to audition as part of their application. Along with a completed application, those seeking the scholarship funds must submit two letters of recommendation. Completed applications must be postmarked by March 18, 2016.

Guidelines and applications are available at our website www.redmaskplayers.com/gettinginvolved, and from guidance counselors, speech teachers or drama departments at area high schools and from the DACC Communication Department.

Mail Completed applications to:
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 An instant in the wind (I know not whither hurled)
 But not for long to hold each desperate choice.

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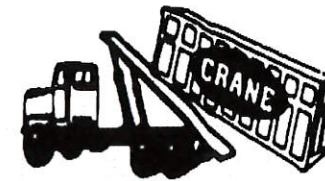
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BACK STAGE



Debbie Prentice (Director) Debbis is no stranger to Red Mask. Having directed four other adult shows, two children’s shows as well as acting, stage managing, and many other aspects of the theater experience, it is suffice to say she loves theater! When she is not doing “theater stuff”, she can be found hanging out with her husband Rick or her friends Karen, Allen and Laury. She is super excited to be directing *Miss Firecracker* and to be working with such a great, hardworking and talented cast!

Ann Soderstrom (Producer) Ann is happy and honored to be helping her friend Debbie with this production as producer. Ann is no stranger to the theater, she has helped in every job you can possibly think of, but Ann’s love is performing. Some of her favorite roles are *Dad’s Christmas Miracle* as Jessie and *Sly Fox* as Miss Fancy. Ann is a owner/operator for an in-home daycare, which she has been doing for 20 years.



BEHIND THE SCENES

- Director Debbie Prentice
- Stage Manager..... Ann Soderstrom
- Producer..... Ann Soderstrom
- Set Design & Construction
..... Gail Garner, Dave Downing, Dave Techtow, Bob Hous
- Set Painting..... Cast
- Light Technician..... Joel Ferren
- Lighting Design Joel Ferren
- Sound Technician Patrick Linn
- Props.....Rick Prentice, Bryan McDaniels
- Make-up and Hair..... Cast
- House Manager Gaye Garner
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- CastingDebbie Prentice, Amy Hegg
- Show Liaison.....Dave Downing



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- Rhonda Sermersheim • Lynn Cook



COMING ATTRACTIONS

Red Mask Auditions/Performances

Deathtrap

Auditions: February 8, 9

Performances: April 1-3, 8-10

DLO Musical Theater Performances and Auditions

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February 13-14, 20-21, 2016

Auditions for *Little Shop of Horrors*: February 28-29, 2016

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April 14-16, 2016

Danville High School

Midwest Show Choir Competition Classic

February 5, 6, 2016

Veteran's Concert

May 12, 2016



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