

ArtAge

**SENIOR THEATRE
RESOURCE CENTER**



CATALOG

NEW PLAYS | NEW AUTHORS | SUPERIOR SERVICE

ArtAge helps older adults fulfill their theatrical dreams!

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Cover photos, *Improv is always fun,* page 38; *A Passing Fancy,* page 28; *Wicked Little Wager,* page 21



Welcome to the largest collection of Senior Theatre plays, books, and materials. Over the past 23 years, the ArtAge Senior Theatre Resource Center's collection has become the gold standard in the field. It is a treasure trove of bright, lively shows, mainly comedies, which portray older people in their best and most humane light--with both strengths and weaknesses fully exposed.

At ArtAge, our goal is to promote more Senior Theatre by making it easy for older actors to find and perform pieces that meet their needs. You'll find something for everyone, from amateurs to skilled professionals, in shows that feature up-to-date characters in current situations living the lives of modern seniors.

It's an honor to connect playwrights with older performers around the world. We are filled with gratitude, knowing that we help thousands of older actors find fulfillment on the stage. It couldn't happen without your support.

Thank you!

Bonnie

Bonnie L. Vorenberg
Founder/President



If you can dream it!

You can use our plays in so many ways. They adapt well to different formats and are being successfully staged in:

- **Traditional Performance:** Actors and audience are in the same room.
- **Socially Distanced Performance:** Actors and audience are all in the same room at an appropriate distance from each other.
- **Livestreamed Performance:** Actors perform live, either in the same room or from different locations. The live performance is broadcast over the internet. Audiences watch from their own computers.
- **Virtual Performance:** Actors are recorded. The recorded performance is broadcast over the internet. Audiences watch from their own computers.

We can accommodate any variation you wish. Contact us so we can help you find the format that works best for you!



Frequently Asked Questions

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I want to . . .	Next Step	How It Works	What Does It Cost?
Evaluate a script	Read the FreeView	Download the first few pages of the play -- just enough of the show to get a taste of the cast, dialogue, and technical requirements.	Free
Read the complete script	Order an E-script or hard copy of the play	Place orders on our website, over the phone, or by mail. Most scripts are 8/12 x 11" in 12 point font.	E-scripts: \$10 for less than 10 minutes; \$15 for 10+minute shows
			Hard copy scripts: \$15 for less than 10 minutes; \$20 for 10+ minutes. Shipping fees apply
Rehearse and perform a play	Order cast copies	Cast Copies: Each actor, director, stage manager, lighting and sound crew leader must have a purchased copy of the script. E-cast copies are 8½ by 11" in 12 point font. Hard cast copies are on 3-hole punch paper, printed in black and white. Shipping rates apply.	E-Cast Copies are each: Up to 10 minutes \$3 10-30 minutes \$5 30+ minutes \$7.50 Hard Cast copies are: Up to 10 minutes \$5 10 minutes \$7.50 11-30 minutes \$9 30-60 minutes \$13 61+ minutes \$15
	Pay for royalty	Royalty: Unless the show is a non-royalty piece, productions require a licensing fee for the playwright.	Royalty rates are determined by run time, per performance.
Stream a Play	Contact Us	We will discuss how you plan to stream the play in order to determine the appropriate agreement and fees.	Most livestream and virtual performances are an additional fee.
Perform a Musical	Order a Perusal Copy	Take 2 months to read, share with your company, and evaluate. Then return it to us.	\$5 plus shipping; Fee for lost or non-returned perusals.
Get large print scripts	Contact Us	You can get scripts in any font size.	Only an additional \$15 per play.

PRICES

Prices may change due to availability and other factors beyond our control. Updates are on our website at www.seniortheatre.com.

SYMBOL KEY:



Plays that take place on a park bench

AGELESS

Plays that pair well with those in the book, *Ageless*, page 5.



Radio shows

The Age on Stage® Series

BEST SELLERS

These best sellers are some of our most performed plays!

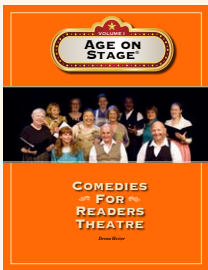


Age on Stage®: Ten Minute Plays

Terri Ryburn

Six 10-15 minute plays

This collection of six 10-15 minute plays is an affectionate and funny look at everyday relationships of family, friends, and strangers. Includes *Ten Years Younger*, *Cross Words*, *Let's Go to the Movies*, *High Heels*, and more. **\$16.95**

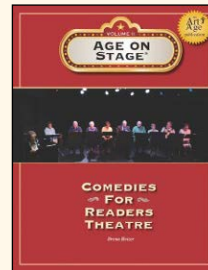


Age on Stage®: Comedies for Readers Theatre, Volume I

Drena Heizer

Ten 10-minute comedies

From chuckles to guffaws, this is a laugh fest all the way. Sparked with funny characters and humorous situations, lively dialogue, sudden surprises, and just the right touch of charming goofiness, these plays are great fun for audiences and performers alike. Large Print. **\$24.95**

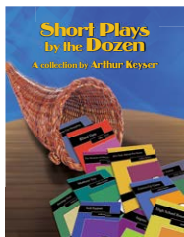


Age on Stage®: Comedies for Readers Theatre, Volume II

Drena Heizer

Ten 10-minute comedies

Volume II of our best-selling collection features more ten-minute comedies, tons of fun for both actors and audiences. Open to any page and you will find quirky characters in humorous situations. That's why these short comedies are so much fun for both actors and audiences. Includes the popular *The Holiday Letter*. Large Print.

\$24.95


Short Plays by the Dozen

Arthur Keyser

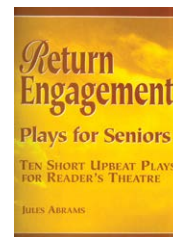
You're going to enjoy these twelve fun-filled, and often poignant, plays. In ten to fifteen minutes, they will touch your funny bone and warm your heart as they delight your actors and capture your audiences. Useful in classes, as Readers Theatre, or staged as fully mounted

performances, these shows will be the ones you'll return to again and again. **\$24.95, single e-scripts \$15 each**

"Arthur's plays are funny, optimistic, and a joy to watch."

— Howard Millman, former Producing Artistic Director, Asolo Theatre, Sarasota, Florida.

ALSO SEE more of Arthur Keyser's works featured throughout this catalog!



Return Engagement Plays for Seniors, Volume I

Jules Abrams

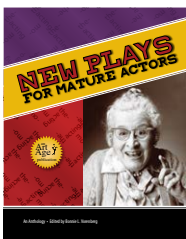
This popular anthology of 10 upbeat 30-minute plays features dynamic senior characters sure to interest many older performers. Large Print.

\$23.95


Return Engagement Plays for Seniors, Volume II

Jules Abrams

Another collection of 10 short, upbeat plays for Readers Theatre. We're sure your actors and audiences will love these shows as much as those in Volume I. Large Print.

\$23.95


New Plays for Mature Actors

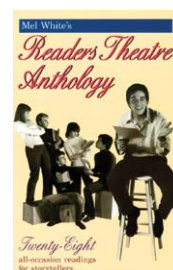
Edited by Bonnie L. Vorenberg

This prized collection features 10 plays and sketches selected from 300 in two nationwide searches. Their plots and characters present modern, positive images with primarily female roles. Can be used for Readers Theatre or staged for any audience. **\$24.95**

BEST SELLER

"Useful and entertaining..."

—Booklist, American Library Association.



Readers Theatre Anthology

Melvin R. White

A nationally recognized authority brings you 28 stories from the pens of classical and contemporary writers and playwrights for Readers Theatre performance. Includes *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Tell-Tale Heart*, *The Wind in the Willows*, and much more!

\$19.95



AGELESS! *11 Short Plays Celebrating Seniors*

Curated by Kate Katcher,
Edited by Bonnie L. Vorenberg

These 10 minute winners at the *Still Crazy After All These Years Festival* take the high road of humor, lifting spirits. They help us laugh and enjoy being all we can be in our senior years.

Our newest collection \$24.95

Backfire

David Lee White | 10 minutes
1 man, 1 woman

It's the morning after their high school reunion in this comedy about a long overdue hook-up. Is it the fulfillment of a couple's life-long dream or a case of mistaken identity?

Let's Make a Deal

Scott Mullen | 10 minutes
1 man, 2 women

A woman brings an unusual object to the for appraisal: her husband.

Blue Sky with Approaching Storm

Kate Katcher | 10 minutes
2 men, 2 women

A painting in a gallery leads to a showdown between a wealthy man, his wife and her previous lover, the artist. As with a clear blue sky, you don't always see what's coming.

The Reunion

Ken Levine | 10 minutes | 2 men

A chance encounter on a New York street brings together a bored businessman and the friend who has waited fifty years to return a crayon.

Second Career

Ellen Margolis | 10 minutes
1 man, 1 woman

An obsessive businesswoman jumps into retirement with a vengeance making it her mission to return defective items for people who don't have the time.

Splitting Hares

Brett Hursey | 10 minutes
1 man, 2 women

A psychiatrist tries to help an empty-nester couple when the husband starts dressing like a rabbit.

Prepper's Nightmare

Rex McGregor | 10 minutes
1 man, 1 woman

An American man is building an underground bunker in New Zealand prepping for the end of the world. Here to talk him out of it is a down-to-earth sheep-herder. But who sent her?

Mistranslations

Jack Rushton | 10 minutes
1 man, 1 woman

A magical device helps a couple communicate better, but is better communication what they really want?

Action and Reaction

Joël Doty | 10 minutes
1 man, 1 woman

This harrowing drama involves the moments after a couple has witnessed a violent crime. Their differing reactions lead to a moment of reckoning in a previously stable marriage.

Something Old Something New

Margie Semilof | 10 minutes
1 man, 1 woman

A woman seeking to jazz things up in the bedroom challenges her husband's sense of adventure.

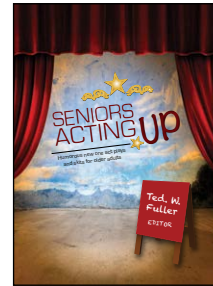
A Memoir of Jackson

Rona Altrows | 10 minutes | 2 either
In this tender story of a man and his cat, Mr. Penner wants to write an unusual memoir. He just has to get past the inexperienced mentor who leads his writing class.

BEST SELLER

Seniors Acting Up

Edited by Ted Fuller



Includes 10 amusing one act plays, six skits, and useful information such as how to cope with stage fright. Plots range from the bittersweet final chapter of a caring waitress' life to the zany carryings-on of a mountain clan

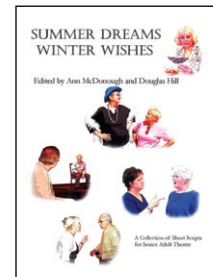
obviously affected by excessive inbreeding! All are funny. Most of the playwrights and characters are seniors.

\$24.95

ALSO SEE: *Seniors Still Acting Up*, page 6

Summer Dreams/Winter Wishes

Edited by Ann McDonough and Douglas Hill



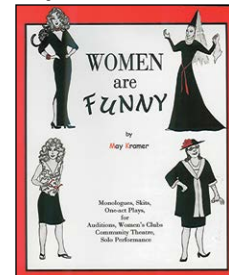
You'll want to perform every single play in this book! All 10 scripts feature older characters who are dynamic and romantic! The collection includes monologues, ten-minute scripts, and one act plays. You'll find 130 pages of

stimulating theatre that's sure to please your audiences.

\$18.95

Women Are Funny

May Kramer



This collection features easy monologues, skits, and one-act plays perfect for auditions, women's clubs, community theatre, and solo performance. Mainly for women, all 14 scripts are funny,

and have clear characters. Includes the popular play, *How to Marry the Minister*.

\$17.50

When you see **AGELESS** the play pairs well with those in this book, our newest collection.

Royalty-free Play Collections

Royalty-free plays are useful when you need short, easy scripts for classes or readings. The best part is that when you buy the show, you can perform it and there is no charge for cast copies and royalty.

Theatre-Antics: Twelve Comedies for Older Actors

Michele M. Miller



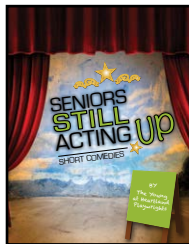
Actors and directors alike adore the hilarious plays in this book for its lively characters. All of the plays are short--six are under 5 minutes long--allowing you to mix and match for

whatever length of production you desire. Originally created for use in a long-running class for older adults, now they are available royalty-free.

\$24.95

Seniors Still Acting Up: Short Comedies

The Young at Heart Players
4-6 minute comedies, mainly women



You will enjoy and have fun using these short, light-hearted plays that require few props or costumes. They are in large print for ease of reading.

\$24.95

ALSO SEE: *Seniors Acting Up*, page 5

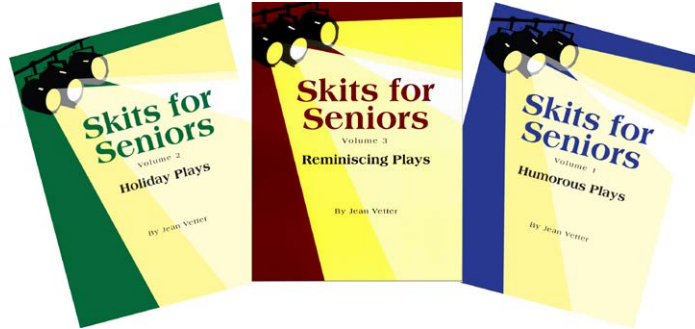
Funny Stuff: 10 Skits by Olga

Olga Sanderson



You'll love Olga's quirky humor, hilarious situations and lively characters. With casts of 3-6 actors, these plays are versatile. *The Wrong Captive*, *The Bug Hunters*, *Close Call*, and others have become favorites.

\$24.95



**GET ALL
3 VOLUMES
ONLY \$40!
SPECIAL OFFER**

Skits for Seniors: Humorous Plays, Holiday Plays, Reminiscing Plays

Jean Vetter

Humorous Plays

20 short plays, each with 1-4 characters
\$14.75

Holiday Plays

34 scripts for 27 different special days and seasons
\$17.75

Reminiscing Plays

14 witty scripts with nostalgic focus
\$12.75

Buy these two: Humorous Plays and Holiday Plays for \$29.95 or all three for \$40!

**See our
website for
a full list of
plays in each**



Readers Theatre: Legendary Ladies and Their Gents

Marilyn Warsofsky | Five 12-15 minute plays
Casts from few to 12, both men and women

For ten years, Marilyn toured these shows throughout her community. Actors and audiences love her combination of rich history and solid theatre. Includes *Molly Brown*, *Amelia Earhardt*, *Annie Oakley*, *The Harvey Girls*, and *Pauline Cushman: Union Spy*.

\$24.95 for the collection
Single scripts: \$15 E-script



Carol Burnett Show Sketches!

Use these pieces as a hilarious and fun way to read, rehearse, and perform Carol Burnett's best comedy sketches just like you saw them on television. Not only are they royalty free, the entire staff of *The Carol Burnett Show*, including Associate Producer Robert Wright, donate their share of profits from the sale of these collections to the Navajo Indian Children's Scholarship Trust.

There are 10 volumes, with 4 to 8 sketches in each. You can find the contents on our website. Look for *The Old Folks* sketch collection, which is the most popular one. You will love each volume and you can't make a bad choice!

\$26.95 for each volume, only available as an E-script
Buy all 10 for \$250



New Humorous Skit Collections

Robert O. Redd | 3-9 minutes | 2-6 characters

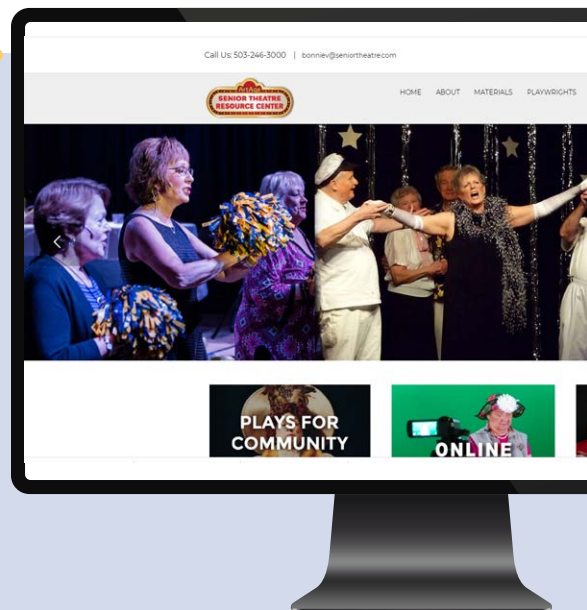
You'll find a lot to like in Bob Redd's many short, easy scripts. They are favorites because the characters are clear, there's plenty of action, and they are fun! The plays have been successfully produced in retirement communities, senior centers, and wherever seniors gather. Add several to your library for when you need something special.

\$24.95 each

Extensive Resources at your Fingertips!

- Visit our website for plays on a theme. Put them together to stage a full production.
- Most of our plays have FreeViews!
- Almost every play can be performed as a Readers Theatre or as a script-in-hand show.

Learn more at www.seniortheatre.com



Talk about flexible! These plays can be staged alone or together to create a production that meets all of your needs.



Senior Moments

Donald Fried

Five funny, 9–14 minute comedies;

total 75 minutes

1 to 5 men, 1 to 5 women

The plays are extremely portable, requiring only one small table and four chairs.



The Code 13 minutes

Two seniors, Rose and Charlie, meet at a café on a blind date set up over the Internet.

The Gamblers 14 minutes.

Colonel William and Mother Angie have a chance encounter at a casino. Colonel William is forced to change the habits of a lifetime.

First Love 14 minutes.

Rose and Oscar, both in their 80's, meet to renew their interrupted romance.

On the RAC(K) 13 minutes.

The members of the Resident's Advisory Committee have huge troubles trying to accomplish anything at all.

Growing—Old 9 minutes.

The sequel to *The Code*, Rose and Charlie meet again. Charlie is once more on the prowl for older women, but Rose has had an "unexpected dose of reality."

"Senior Moments" is a prize winner! You can rely on this series again and again.

Plays in a Series:

\$20 E-Script

\$24.95 Hard copy

Mike 'Hard As' Nails

Georgia Tuxbury

Three 15 minute comedies

These are short, humorous plays all starring a 1950s style, hard-boiled private eye and his cronies.

Mike 'Hard As' Nails and the Case of the Wandering Buck

15 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

Mike stays away from cases of unfaithful spouses, but Joy Buchanan is so charming and convincing he takes her on as a client. Besides that, he needs the money. Joy hires him to follow her husband Buck and catch him and his paramour in "the act"—of eating and drinking.

Mike 'Hard As' Nails and the Case of the Missing Mink

15 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

Mike has had a bad year. What he needs is a well-heeled client. Who should knock on his door but the diamond-flashing Suzette Swank who hires Mike to find her missing mink coat.

Mike 'Hard As' Nails and the Case of the Loving Lozanos

15 minute comedy | 2 men, 1 woman

As a private eye, Mike has seen some pretty sleazy characters in his day but none as bad as Louie 'the Louse' Lozano, bug exterminator and owner of the House of Pstitution. Louie feels his marriage is falling apart so he hires Mike to find out what his wife wants in a man.

Praise for Mike 'Hard As' Nails

These are three of the funniest plays that I have seen. Anyone looking for a good laugh will enjoy them. —C. Brown-Clark

I had the honor of playing Mike in all three of these productions. It was such fun. The plays are clever and keep the audience laughing. —J. Grotenhuis

A Fine Time to Be Lucille

Richard Davis, Jr.

Two 20 minute comedies



Fun twenty minute comedies that are a play within a play. In the first, the role of Lucille is cast; in the second, it's the play.

The Audition

1 man, 3 women

Anne and Bea compete for the role of Lucille in a community theatre production. While Bea is simply happy to be on stage, Anne pulls no punches with her catty banter and guileful acts to secure the role. True motives and secrets are revealed leading to an ending with a twist.

EDITOR'S PICK

Lucille Flirts with the Space-Time Continuum

2 men, 3 women

Lucille lives comfortably with her husband, Jim, but she has always envied her friend, Martha Anne, who has a life of adventure, travel, and glamour. Lucille wishes that all her dreams could become reality. She answers a sudden knock at her door to meet Madame Revere and her assistant, Monsieur Caprise, who promise to fulfill her every wish. But as an old adage warns, beware what you wish for lest it come true!

ALSO SEE: *The Naked Man on the Couch*, page 17



Romance Senior Style

Sherry Churchill | Two popular comedies!

The Singles Cruise

30 minute comedy | 1 man, 4 women, 1 either

Three women meet on deck during a singles cruise. All goes well until an eligible male appears and then the claws come out. Audiences will laugh at the comedic characters and at the surprise outcome that bonds the women.

Boys Will Be Boys

33-40 minute comedy

3 men, 2 women

Take a Seniors Singles Cruise with us to learn if nice guys really do finish first, or if the 'bad boy' wins the girl. Do we ever really change or are we still high school kids in older bodies? A hilarious look at senior style romance.



ALSO SEE: *The Purse* and *The Wish*, page 15



Cuckoos in Cahoots at The Villa Estates

Lennie Singer | Four 15 minute comedies

1 man, 4 women, and up to 4 men, 16 women

Four short comedies woven together by four quirky women and one calm and reasonable Walter.

Out to Lunch

When you get to the point where food, pharmaceuticals, and friendships are at odds, going out to lunch can be an experience! The four friends serve up a menu of mayhem and indigestion for the quick-witted, shuffling Walter.

Casserole Chorus

Routinely, the lively quartet cooks up delicious, home-made casseroles for grieving widowers. This time, however, one of their dishes has an adverse effect.

Save the Date

A simple proposal turns into a major bridal event when Rosie's friends become her wedding planners.

Your Girlfriends Know Too much

The bride's three best friends come to her aid when they discover that Walter has a close relationship with two strange women: Siri and Alexa.

The Pie Ladies

Sherry Piros | Three comedies



The Pie Ladies

25 minute comedy

6 women, 3 either

The Pie Ladies pick up their rolling pins to make dozens of pies for the church supper. But as they busily bake pies, they decide to create their own country! *The Pie Ladies* is a hit!

The Pie Ladies Make Bail

35 minute comedy | 1 man, 9 women

The Pie Ladies have landed in jail because they didn't take kindly to their neighbors trying to take down the flag of their new country. Lots of action, practical jokes, and misunderstandings, laughing all the way!

The Pie Ladies in Deep Water

30-40 minute comedy | 2 men, 8 women

The Pie Ladies are headed for a dream vacation cruise thanks to their cookbook sales but there are the usual outlandish glitches. With this group of zany women the audiences are always richly entertained!



Chatterton Country Club

Annette Tringham | Three 15 minute comedies
2 men, 7 women



Chatterton Country Club, a 55+ retirement community, is the setting for these comedies that feature a crazy cast of characters. The plays can be performed individually or together. If performed together, they should be done sequentially. Easy, simple staging.



It's Your Move

Bob and Joe, friends and next-door neighbors for 23 years, share more than a game of checkers. It's all guy talk until Bob reveals a secret about Joe's wife.

With Friends Like You

At their weekly "Stretch-ercise" class, Margaret and Arlene show us what happens when adults gossip in a close-knit community.

If You Can't Beat 'Em

Kicked out of her book club, Judy Crayton decides to form her own group called Civilian Rules Administration Police (C.R.A.P.). Filled with twists, turns, and revelations, they ultimately change the course of their mission.

Plays in a Series:
\$20 E-Script, \$24.95 Hard copy



House of Tomorrow

Susan Shear | *Flexible casting*
Personal, touching and believable, *House of Tomorrow* is a series of sketches that weave together stories about facing life with vigor. Use as many as you want; add the six optional songs for a very strong production. Humorous yet touching, this is a play with characters that are lovable and laughable, recognizable and real, facing the perils and pleasures of life.

Flexible Length Plays
\$15 E-Script, \$20 Hard Copy

ALSO SEE: *You're the Jury*, page 26 and *The Quibbles Radio Shows*, page 30

Feeble Fables

Bob Naquin | *Four 20 minute shows*

Feeble Fables is a series of folk tales, retold with a modern humorous twist. You'll enjoy the Big Bad Wolf who has denture problems, the Three Little Pigs who run afoul of their neighborhood's C. C. and R.'s, and the Grasshopper who has landed a cushy job with the TSA!

L'il Red Riding Hood

3 women, 1 either

The Three Little Pigs

4 women, 1 either

Jackie and the Bean Stalk

3 women, 3 either

The Grasshopper and The Ant

3 women



See more shows by Bob Naquin, page 20



Our Voices: Senior Selfies

Catherine Frid | *Scenes for 1-9 actors, predominantly women | 1-15 minute vignettes*

Created through a unique collaboration between a professional playwright and a group of seniors, this collection of scenes is based on true stories from the lives of seniors today. The vignettes are hilarious, insightful, and poignant, including *Smart Alec Car Sales*, a mock TV game show *So You Think You Can Help*, the *Best Adult Child* competition with audience voting by ballot, *Quickie*, a (non) conversation about sex, and a rollicking finale song. Uses simple staging with chairs, two small tables, and a lectern. The show works well as script-in-hand or as Readers Theatre.



Plays Under 10 Minutes

See Pricing for all plays on Page 3

Chicken or Meatloaf?

Eric Weil | *5 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman*
Carol and Chuck have ridden the "what to have for dinner" merry-go-round for years. Here they go again! It's the little things in life that end up mattering the most.

The Real Deal

Douglas Campbell | *6 minute comedy | 2 women*
Every antique has its story, but some are a too good to be true. Did this tea set really belong to Martha Washington? If so, it'd be a real deal! Easy to stage and lots of fun!

Lost Things

Jo Rake | *7 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman*
Karen is in a panic. She's lost her cell phone. Again. She just had it -somewhere. But it's not in the usual places. Her husband Mark is helping to retrace her steps, when he's not distracted by all the cool stuff he does find.

ALSO SEE: *Driving with Siri*, and *Driving under the Influence*, page 20

Pass the Peas Please

Jerry Cunningham | *5 minute comedy*
1 man, 1 woman
Retires Walter and Sally share a synchronized breakfast using a particular implement, grabbers.

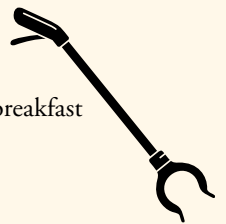
Stunned

Trevor Suthers | *8 minute comedy | 4 either*
A group of art enthusiasts wax lyrical over a new exhibit in an art gallery, certain it is a work of genius. A stranger's opposite perspective is simply stunning.

Pair with *Still Life with Nudes*, page 26

The Great Escape

Penny Bloodhart | *6 minutes | 5 either*
Don't judge these three little 'ole seniors by their bathrobes. There's more to their story than meets the eye. A quick little play that's has a fun ending.





The Challenge of Bureaucracy

Carole Glickfeld | 7 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman, 3 either
An older lady has not received her last Social Security check so she calls a bureaucrat, an activity director, and others for help. It is short, easy to produce, and is a never fail show!

The DMV or What's Your Sign?

Bruce Boeck | 5 minute comedy | 2 women
Things at the DMV, Department of Motor Vehicles aren't always easy. The life of an examiner can try anyone's patience! Surefire entertainment!

The Appraisal

Fred Sahrner | 8 minute comedy | 2 women, 2 either
The popular TV program, *Antique Side Show*, has rolled into town and excitement is in the air. Hopes, dreams and wacky fantasies have replaced common sense in this funny, quick, easy comedy!

The Exchange

Frank Ridenour | 6 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women
The simple act of returning a broken hair dryer evolves into a 'shaken not stirred' concoction of nonsense and confusion with a dash of puzzlement, all topped off with a twist.
Pair with *The Complaint Department*, page 13
Pair with *Second Career*, page 5



Joggin' Along

Dory Kaiser | five 2-minute sketches | 2 women
Two single women jog to center stage, where they stop long enough to talk about what's going on in their lives. Nothing is sacred! A favorite show!
ALSO AVAILABLE in Spanish and French



No Frills Airline

Dory Kaiser | 5 minutes
1 man, 5 women
Flying isn't what it used to be. Take it from these passengers, their flight attendants, and captain. Add four chairs and get ready for the laughs to take off!



Now Hear This

Dory Kaiser | 5 minute comedy
2 men, 3 women, 1 either
Fast-paced! Six characters on a cruise ship continuously misinterpret passed messages, similar to the old telephone game. This play always gets lots of laughs!

It's Time for Bingo

E. Scott Icenhower | 8 minute comedy | 2 women
Rose and Lucille always go to bingo together, but this time it's different. Funny show with twists, mix-ups, love, and dentures!
Pair with *Bingo Ladies Gone Bad*, page 17

Choosing the Menu

Bruce Boeck | 5 minute comedy | 2 women, 1 either
As we grow older, our diets change. Everything we want to eat is on the 'no no' list. Humor emerges in this very funny story of two women deciding what to eat.

Lust 'n Digestion

William J. Doody | 7 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman, a brief appearance by a waiter
A woman meets her blind date just in time to see him sneaking a foil packet of Alka-Seltzer into his wallet. She presumes it's a condom. The ensuing barbed dialogue between the mutually attracted couple is high comedy! It's been a hit at many Senior Theatres.

Lost and Found

Susan Callahan | 7 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman
Fred and Jeanne get ready for an evening out with friends and have lost their keys once again. You'd think they'd be used to the situation, they misplace everything. This light-hearted, one-act play will make audiences laugh, but will they guess the surprise ending?

I Forgot

Greg Evans | 5 minute comedy | 2 men, 2 women
This funny, charming skit, an excerpt from the full-length musical *Wrinkles*, is about...uh...um...Oh! Memory loss! Four old friends comically stumble through some 'senior moments' before realizing that sometimes forgetting can be a GOOD thing!

You're My Doctor?!?

Greg Evans | 5 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman, 1 either
In this laugh-a-minute skit, Hank goes to his trusty old physician for his annual physical. But guess what—his old doc has been replaced by a new one—a young woman! And if that's not awkward enough, why is that nurse slipping on a rubber glove...

Greg Evans is the creator of the *Luann* comic strip.
ALSO SEE: *Wrinkles*, a musical, page 28



Canine Contact

Penny Bloodhart
7 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman
George and Gracie briefly share the challenges of getting older. Through a happy exchange of ideas, they emerge hopeful about the future.



Anniversary

Jo Rake | 7 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman
It's David and Janet Riley's wedding anniversary and David has forgotten--again. No plans, no gift, nothing. And this year is a 'big' one. After 40 years of marriage, Janet knows David all too well so she has made plans—a trip to Hawaii. Now, she just has to convince David that it's the perfect anniversary gift.

It's Hell Gettin' Old

Harry Stutt | 7-8 minute comedy | 3 men
Three old codgers sit in the park and soak up the sun while they reminiscence about the past and their youth. Hilarious sketch! Very popular in variety shows.



Imagination Never Gets Old**DANCE***Roger Brookfield | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman*

Your imagination is yours for life. It doesn't get old and it can't be stolen. Rudy watches a neighbor couple perform a youthful ritual of dance, and persuades his wife, Wanda, to join him and be transformed to dance as they did in their youth.

Not Kate or Leo*Barbara Trainin Blank**10 minute drama | 1 man, 1 woman*

Isidor and Ida Straus continue their affectionate bickering about what happened on the deck of the Titanic prior to its sinking. While they may have lost their lives, their love for each other and an interesting item survived the calamity.

**Finding Zeus***Jack Rushton | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman*

Charles is accustomed to the fancies and whims of his wife, Martha. Yet she can still shake up their daily routine and bring a fresh lens proving the strength of long-term relationships.

Jugs*Shelli Pentimall Bookler**10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman*

Feisty Lucille is applying for a job at Jugs Restaurant, ready to compete with younger women. But Lucille, in her 60's, isn't your typical applicant. This super strong sassy character is one you'll want to play.

**The Radio Show***Basil Melnyk | 10 minute comedy**1 man, 2 women, 1 either*

This play within a play is set in a radio station studio. Angry at having to work together, the guest actor and actress go off script. The kisses she used to give him are not the only things these two have faked.

Heart to Heart*Eric Weil | 10 minute comedy | 2 women, 1 either*

A wife, a widow, and one heart traipse through a hospital's halls in this quirky, crazy comedy with some "heart-to-heart" revelations. Is the doctor holding an icy heart or a heart on ice? A fun to perform short play with strong characters, good action, and conflict—just a nice balanced piece!

**Which Goldberg?***Michael A. Stang | 10 minute comedy**2 women, 1 either*

Etta and Ida, two elderly Jewish women happen to sit next to each other at the funeral of Goldberg. They share how they are connected with the deceased but discover, sometimes, you don't really know a person until you hear their eulogy. Or maybe you didn't know them at all.

All of these
are new!

Etta and Ida at Starbucks*Michael A. Stang | 10 minute comedy**2 women, 1 either*

Two elderly feisty Jewish friends, Etta and Ida, enter Starbucks for the first time. How to order, what to order, and the prices! Oy vey! Perhaps they shouldn't have kvetched so loudly at the barista, because a tall hot blonde is not the only thing they need from behind the counter.

Zombie Cream*John McDonnell | 10 minute comedy | 3 women*

Ellen Buxton is waiting to see her doctor to discuss some recent test results when a woman sits next to her in the waiting room and tells her a disturbing story: the doctor is turning her patients into zombies! Is the strange woman telling the truth? Is the doctor really turning people into the undead? Or is it all a big joke?

Audiences identify with their experiences in a doctor's office. Just as the plot appears to resolve, it takes a funny turn.

—J. Brenner, Writer, Reviewer, Director

**Compos Mentis (of sound mind)***Marilyn Millstone | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women*

A sophisticated older couple's children are pushing them to move out of their home and into an elite retirement community. The Prospective Resident Interview reveals who really is of "sound mind."

AGELESS



The Thingamajig

Jo Hamlet | 10 minute comedy
1 man, 2 women

Two older sales clerks at a thrift shop rummage through a dropped off box and fail to recognize the collection of books, clothing, and objects. A helpful customer offers his assistance with one of the items they've dubbed "the thingamajig."



Secret Family Recipes

MYSTERY

Emily McClain | 10 minute mystery | 3 women

A delightful family romp with a beyond-the-grave vibe. Suzanne is desperate to find a missing heirloom and calls on the assistance of psychic Madam Christie. In death, as in life, Irene is prickly, pretty, and possessive but their sisterly bond endures.

This script is pure fun: sibling jealousy and a strong conflict/need at its core, distinct characters and precise dialogue added into the mix, and an environment and actions that put it over the top. An audience will be surprised and delighted throughout.

— S. G. Martin

The Great GG Gang

Linda L. Rand | 10 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman

This sweet story takes place in a NYC park where Sue has a History Channel inspired solution to all her financial struggles while Hal is...well, he's just willing to try anything to not be alone. It's never too late to spark a romance even though it might be a little illegal.



The Complaint Department

Larry Ferguson | 10 minute comedy | 3 either

When a man returns to the department store upset about the thermometer he bought on Black Friday, confusion abounds! The customer service representative helps other customers who overhear and mis-hear, all making everything more confusing and more funny as it progresses. This is hilarious stuff!

Metaphorical Shoes

Judith Pratt | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

After raising children and wearing sensible shoes, Doris finds her inner goddess in a pair of stylish, trendy shoes. Husband Don is not convinced, as he worries about broken hips. It's funny, with a satisfying ending!

A Moving Experience

Fred Sahrner | 10 minute comedy | 2 men, 1 woman

Today is moving day and Eddie is ready to help his mom move to the Purple Sage Retirement Village, but Mom has other plans.



Clyde, Is That You?

Jerry Bailey | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 3 women

Clyde is a hard-core womanizer and three-time loser in the marital sweepstakes. Still on the prowl, he journeys to Las Vegas, but his three ex-wives are all in town for the convention.

Up and Down

Doug Campbell | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

What happens when two people get trapped in an elevator? Find out in this delightful comedy about anxiety, anger, and connecting. Fun and very easy to stage!

The Comeuppance of Flame LaQuench

Terryl Paiste | 10 minute comedy | 1-3 men, 4 women

Three dead husbands, all Bubbass, have resulted in a winning lottery ticket, a day rubbing elbows with famous people, and a best selling book and movie. What Flame really wants from life though, is validation from her own people. To get it, will she have to die?



Waiting for 7

Philip Hall | 10 minute comedy | 2 women



Two 'women of a certain age,' Mary and Ethel, are waiting on a bench for their ride. Now bored with the newspaper, Mary innocently begins to question Ethel about her private life. She finds Ethel's marital history to be nothing short of astonishing, including a surprising trend about her many husbands.

EDITOR'S PICK



Griddle Cakes

Mark Rigney | 10 minute comedy | 2 women

Two cranky, aging sisters sit in their tandem rocking chairs and agree to disagree on the merits of answering the telephone, global warming, and attending the annual wildflower walk. An actor's gem!

At the Diner with Dad

Walter Thinnies | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

His daughter is taking Dad to his appointments and they're at lunch. It's a battle to be heard, get attention, and connect so Dad does what he always does—he gets her attention!

Winner of Heartland Theatre's Ten-Minute Play Festival, Tri-State Theatre Festival, Page-to Stage Festival at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Festival of Ten, National Play Reading Festival, and more.

Blinking Lights in the Middle of the Night

John Weagly | 10 minute comedy

1 man, 1 woman, 1 either

Sally and Carl receive a late-night visit from an alien tourist making a pit stop while traveling among the stars. But why is he on Sally and Carl's lawn?

Pair with *Out of This World*, available on the web



Navy Bean Soup

Wes Wetzel | 10 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman, 1 offstage voice

Inspired by a PBS show, the broadcast of the sophisticated *Madame DuJour Men's Gourmet Cooking Show* is seriously sidetracked by the guest host, a sloppy and overweight retired Navy cook.



Sgt. Levy's Lonely Hearts Club

Jordan R. Young
10 minute wordless play with music
1 man, 1 woman

Phyllis Greenberg and Charlie Levy live in neighboring apartments. Every night she dances to the Victrola in her apartment while he reads the newspaper in his. But tonight is different.

DANCE

NO WORDS

Can I Put You On Hold?

Marcia Savin | 10 minute comedy
2 men, 3 women, 1 either

It seems like everybody is calling Agnes at the same time—a friend, neighbor, sister, and a repairman. She has only one choice—put people on hold! The show is lively and fresh!

Special Screening Today

Marcia Savin | 10 minute comedy
1 man, 4 women, 2 either, plus extras

When someone cuts in line at the hot new movie, Janice and her friends have to act quickly to save a fun night out. This short show with plenty of characters is full of action!

Go, Momma, Go

Dale E. Moore | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 3 women

Two sisters, engaged in the classic family argument about what to do with Momma, are more concerned about themselves than her. But Momma has her own plans! A positive, upbeat show with strong characters.

Undo

Lisa Bruna | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

Liz and Marjorie spark a community scandal when they blast a provocative email to the entire Wine Wednesday chat group. Things go from bad to worse faster than you can say, "World Wide Web." Tensions rise as rumors spread. Soon they realize that maybe, just maybe, their tech guy knows what he's doing when it comes to undoing.

HIT World's Oldest Hobby

Frank Canino | 10 minute comedy
2 men, 2 women

Bored? Tired with old routines? How about a new hobby that only requires a telephone and some imagination? Jan and Barbara are making some interesting choices. So are their husbands, Max and Ed. Except the ladies are not telling the guys and the guys are keeping their plans a secret, until...?

The cast and I had such fun rehearsing this piece! And so did the audience who enjoyed it immensely.

— Nora Brown, New York, NY

Still Twenty-Nine

Wendy Vander Velde | 10 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman

Life is quiet, simple, and routine for stodgy retiree Earl, until Aileen, his fun-loving wife, jostles the norm by joining a motorcycle club!

Angel in Disguise (or how to get your husband to wear a costume!)

Georgia Tuxbury | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

What's a woman to do if she can't get her husband to dress up like an angel for a costume party? The answer will have the audience laughing!

ALSO SEE: Mike 'Hard as Nails' Series, page 8

HIT All I Want is the Recipe

Georgia Tuxbury | 10 minute comedy | 2 women

An unsuspecting caller only wants to find out how to make a casserole but finds herself in a conversation that takes off everywhere but in a recipe!

ALSO AVAILABLE in Spanish and French



Signals

Marv Siegel | 10 minute comedy | 2 men, 2 women

When an online encounter leads to a blind date, two widows plot an escape strategy just in case, only to have romance turn the tables on them.

Standing Tall

Marv Siegel | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

Seeking to spark their love live, a married couple tries a pill with startling results.

A Life Enriching Community

Philip Middleton Williams

10 minute comedy | 2 men, 1 woman or 3 either

Adam and Paul love life and each other. Now in their sixties, they've moved into a retirement community in Florida. Together, they are coming to terms with their old baggage, their new situation, and the changes that life has brought them. Audiences fall in love with these two, their wit, and humanity.

This play is every long-term relationship, whenever big life decisions must be made... and it is beautiful. Absolutely beautiful.

— D. Devita

AGELESS



MYSTERY

Jus 'Tus

Linda Larocque

10 minute murder mystery

1 man, 1 woman

Mystery surrounds the death of Nell's husband and Sheriff Wally is suspicious. Nell has some doubts of her own.



The Purse

Sherry Churchill | 10 minute comedy | 4 women

When your purse becomes your husband's carryall, you finally revolt. The only solution is to give up the purse, which is not the best choice when you have to pay for lunch. This is a fun, easy script that you'll love!

The License

Fred Sahner | 10 minute comedy | 2 men, 2 women

An engaged couple's trip to the County office to get a marriage license sounds easy enough. But the County Clerk has her own plans for them!

Little Bundles of Joy

David Wiener | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

Two newborns are in the hospital struggling to make sense out of their amazing new situation.

The Gift of Love

Steve Fogelman

10 minute issue-oriented play | 1 man, 1 woman

Howard and Roz are rushing to their grandchild's birthday party with a potential gift that brings up their fears and acceptance of the child's recent trans diagnosis. The playwright, inspired to consider how grandparents adapt to trans grandchildren, created this solid, quick entertaining show with strong characters.

SOCIAL ISSUES

Snow and Seven Marshmallows

Susan M. Steadman | 10 minutes | 1 man, 1 woman

Having your wife stare out the sliding glass doors during a snow storm, watching red-booted boys build a snowman, should be marvelous. However, it's puzzling when your condo is in Florida. And it's June. This surprisingly funny play reveals how Ron and Phyllis strengthen their bonds not despite but because of their quirks.

AGELESS

The Wish

Sherry Churchill | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman, 1 either

A longtime married couple's stereotypical bad habits and their inability to understand each other becomes a hilarious situation. Be careful what you wish for...



Coconut Creme Pie

John Clifford | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

On his first day delivering pies for his son-in-law's business, everything goes wrong...wrong address, a dropped pie, and then someone comes to his aid. Strong characters, so sweet!

Sylvia and Myrna

Bob Rinfret | 10 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

Myrna Howard is a retired starlet. Sylvia Goldstein is a retired housewife. They both live at a retirement village in Florida. Sylvia, however, thinks they are sharing something else.

The Last Holdout

Judd Lear Silverman

10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

Based on a real-life story, when the menu changes at a local senior center for the members' "own good," protests erupt—which while seemingly trivial at first, reveals a far more important need for autonomy and retaining one's own voice.



Head First or Feet First?

Douglas Campbell

10 minute mystery comedy | 1 man, 3 women, 1 either

Did Malachi Throckmorton accidentally fall from the balcony of The Copa Coconut Hotel or did he commit suicide? A hysterically zany 1940s-style mystery-farce.

MYSTERY

Who Shot Fred?

Douglas Campbell

10 minute mystery comedy | 1 man, 3 women, 1 dead male body

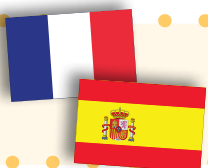
Who could have shot Fred at the Moon Over Poughkeepsie Hotel? This hilarious 1940s-style whodunit takes place in a residential hotel catering to seniors. Sure to keep audiences guessing!

MYSTERY

Forget Me Not

Laura Pfizenmayer | 10 minutes | 1 man, 2 women

Vernon is a good husband but sometimes his wife Merle could just wring his neck especially when uptight church lady Maevelyn comes to call.



Available in French and Spanish!

Joggin' Along, All I Want is the Recipe, and Gin and Tonic



Featured playwright



Arthur Keyser

Arthur, a corporate lawyer for fifty years, only began writing plays when he was 80 years old. He has now written seven full-length plays, several one act plays, and forty short plays. Senior theatre actors love his work.

A Brief Encounter

MYSTERY



10 minutes | 1 man, 1 woman, 1 either

It's late on a Friday afternoon when Susan is leaving work. Rushing to get into the elevator, she squeezes in just as the doors are about to close, asking, "Didn't you hear me calling?" What follows is an astonishing conversation. Easy to perform with virtually no props.

We Interrupt this Program



10 minute drama | 1 man, 1 woman, 1 offstage voice

Phoebe is knitting and Cyrus is reading the morning paper. A typical day in their 39 years of marriage, taking place in their living room listening to the 75-year old radio on their equally old sofa. The radio interrupts their usual program to blast an emergency announcement. Other people would freak out but not these two—they focus on old sofas, scratchy radios, and "neighbors having their way!"

Award Winner! Finalist at Theatre Odyssey's *Ten Minute Play Festival*

Molly's Secrets

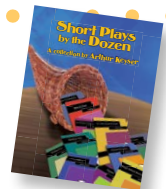


10 minute drama | 3 women

Why does a 68-year old leave Boston for months without telling her friends where she was? Molly's got her secrets, and her friends' theories are all wrong. The truth is a shocking decision Molly can't take back.

ALSO SEE by Arthur Keyser: A new 10 minute play *Switching Sides*, available on the Web and *Harry's Angel*, page 25

See Arthur Keyser's hit book, *Short Plays by the Dozen*, page 4.
Purchase the shows individually or choose the book and own them all!



It's Not About Pot Roast

10 minute comedy | 2 women

Norma confides her dilemma and what she plans to do about it to her closest friend and neighbor. Will she listen to her friend?

The Prize

10 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

Roger, a retirement community's new resident, is stunned to learn that he will be the latest award in an astonishing lottery.

The Wisdom of Ganesha

12 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

Seeking solace in a Hindu temple, Sarah discover her guru's goal is far from guiding her spirit.

The Visitor

10 minute comedy | 2 men, 2 women

A seriously ill man wants to rewrite his will and continue his bad habit but a visitor helps him change his opinions about almost everything.

Blind Date

10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

After finding each other online, Jen meets her date Gus at a restaurant. He looks like he may be a great match!

High School Reunion

10 minute comedy | 3 men

A 101 year-old high school graduate faithfully attends his annual high school reunion. Now, a surprise guest insists on joining the party.

Award Winner! Best Play in the prestigious Odyssey *Ten Minute Play Festival*

Tech Support

15 minute comedy | 2 either

When you call for help with your new computer and printer, tech support is there to help...or not. Hilarious!

School for Wives

10 minute comedy

1 man walk-on, 5 women

When three women who divorced the same man meet to compare horror stories, an unexpected guest renders them speechless.

Grown-Up Games

10 minute comedy | 2 men

Anthony and Charles wait on a bench in the passenger area of a train station. We think they're taking the next train, but are they?



Starting Over

15 minute comedy

1 man, 2 women

A chance meeting in an urban park is a time for secrets, conversation, and the basis for a bright new future.



New Car Shopping (men or women's versions)

20 minute comedy | 2 women or 2 men

We all know the hard sell that car sales people use to get you into a new auto but this one is so exaggerated that it's more than funny.



Mothers' Day

10 minute comedy

5 women

Molly Sullivan and friends launch a madcap scheme to get a daughter to visit more often.



Featured Playwright



Linda LaRocque

An award-winning playwright, Linda's work has been produced in professional, community, and Senior Theatres throughout the United States. Her writing gives characters the spark that makes bringing them to life so much fun.



Old Men

10 minute comedy | 2 men, 1 woman

Pass on the game of the dominos, it's time to share what's on their minds. Leonard's upset that Bill has found a floozie in Florida; Bill announces Leonard has always been a big mouth blowhard. And the crafty crafty old muskrat with a palate for boat lines outwits them again. When the rodent is finally caught, the two men realize that making a stew is less important than friendship.



Love's Language

10 minute drama | 1 man, 1 woman

After reading a best-selling book on relationships, Jackie learns her love language is giving gifts. Before giving her present to George, her soon-to-be fiancé, perhaps she should have proofread the message.

ALSO SEE: *Moving Back* and *Evacuation*, page 18



Housekeeper Wanted

15 minute comedy | 1 man, 4 women

Sisters Patsy and Mary decide their Dad's messy house has gone too far and they hire Bea to clean and cook him kale with tofu. The trouble is, Dad has plans of his own and she's much more fun.

Dream Camper

10 minute comedy | 3 women

At the KOA campground, crusty Wilma shares her dreams with friends and life becomes better for everyone. Funny, charming.

Witch One

10 minute comedy | 2 women

Life is always about unintended consequences, even if you are a witch! When an unsuspecting bride makes a rude remark about Trudy's hat, the spell is cast.

MYSTERY

Living Large

10 minute comedy | 4 women

Peg knows that she has to change if she's going to make it. She gets a new name, gives up her apartment, and moves into a Holiday Inn!



Crazy for Love

10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

Second-time-around and in love, Barry and Sylvia quickly discover all sorts of things about each other!

Girlfriends

10 minute comedy | 1 man, 4 women

Lifelong friends Trish and Nancy discover that true girlfriends last only until the next man comes along...that is, unless he has a wife.

Editor's Picks



Bingo Ladies Gone Bad

Laura Pfizenmayer

15 minute comedy | 7 women

There's bingo. There's prizes. And there's fighting over the prizes. President Dixieanna and the rest of the officers of the Perfect Petunias Garden Club have a plan to take all those bath salts and coffee mugs home. There are hijinks and shenanigans as the ladies pull out all the stops and it might come down to fisticuffs if the new members don't get at least one bingo!

Pair with *It's Time for Bingo*, page 11

The Hotel Lobbyist

Bara Swain | 12 minute comedy
2 women

How far will feisty senior, Goldalee Schneider, go to make her daughter listen to her? To a sit-in strike at the local Holiday Inn, that's where!



Gin and Tonic

John Clifford | 10 minute

comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

This laugh-out-loud comedy offers a fresh look at senior dating. Olive is having a bad day when she is interrupted by Stanley, a brash fellow who has mistaken her office for the nearby Senior Dating Service.

ALSO AVAILABLE in Spanish and French

The Stick-Up

Bob Rinfret

15 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

Shirley is the cashier at a local convenience store. She's seen everything, but never expected Charlie, her retired friend and regular customer, to try to rob the store. It doesn't take long for Shirley to help Charlie realize he's on a bad career path. It's a rich comedy with heart.

CRIME COMEDY

The Naked Man on the Couch

Richard Davis, Jr.

20 minute comedy
1 man, 3 women

Suppose for a moment that you're an older lady, a widow, living with two friends in similar circumstances. Now suppose that you wake up on the morning of a long-planned trip to Las Vegas to a mysterious naked man (though he's under covers) sleeping on your living room sofa. This is precisely what happens to Harriet, Sophie, and Mildred followed by the police, a dead cat, and Elvis Presley. No nudity, just laughs!

ALSO SEE: *A Fine Time to Be Lucille*, page 8

CRIME COMEDY





Muriel's Mission

Joyce Schwartz
15 minute comedy
2 men, 3 women

Muriel Harris, an 81-year old free spirit, is determined to make the best of her stay at a rehabilitation center. She has her eye on the dashing 88-year old physical therapist. And when Muriel is on a mission, her competition doesn't stand a chance.

Mimi and Me

SOCIAL ISSUE

Kitty Dubin
15 minute comedy | 2 women

An unforgettable story of a young volunteer who tries to cheer up an outspoken older woman. What begins as a test of wills ends as a loving relationship.

G-O-A-L

Jo Rake | 11 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman

Jay, a widower, realizes that he is ready to meet someone new. Amanda is perfectly happy with her single life – or is she? An under-five soccer game seems an odd place to find a companion but maybe the grandkids are the key.

Do You Believe in Magick?

MYSTERY

Jo Rake | 12 minute comedy | 3 women
Stirring up a love potion seems simple enough. But when your eye of newt expired back in 1986, and your sisters are no help, sometimes the best magic is a carefully dropped hint.

For...Press or Say...

Jo Rake | 12 minute comedy
1 man, 2 women

Those automatic phone services can be a pain, just ask David Riley! They don't seem to understand what you say and they have too many choices. But his wife knows how to get past all of those annoying menus to speak with a real person.

A Profusion of Roses

MYSTERY

AGELESS

Marcus Steinour
15 minute mystery | 2 women

A seriously wonderful play! With two strong women's roles this show introduces you to a mother, daughter, and an absent 'sister' in a twisty, mysterious relationship. Directors, actors, and audiences love this play and we know you will also.

Moving Back

Linda LaRocque | 13 minute comedy
1 man, 2 women

The kids want to move back home but Dad has just the plan to stop that nonsense. Hilarious!



Evacuation

Linda LaRocque | 13 minute comedy
2 men, 1 woman

The divorced parents and their son are driving to escape the hurricane and the past, only to discover that there's still a lot there to love!

Digging up Hoffa

Dave Carley | 15 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman, 1 either

The 1975 disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa continues to fascinate North Americans. A great deal of time and money has been spent looking for Hoffa's body, to no avail. Meanwhile, in a tiny house in a Detroit suburb, Phyllis DeLong worries about her finances—and a septic system that has broken down. She is living on a strict budget with her developmentally delayed child. Life is one big worry. But Phyllis is a resourceful woman who decides that desperate times require bold action...

The Refrigerator

Darlene Thompson | 12 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman, 2 either
For humans or puppets.

Phil is an active, sprightly 81-year old man who lives with his dog Bounder. When Phil's old rusty refrigerator breaks, his daughter Dorothy persuades him to look for a new one. Phil makes a surprising decision at the appliance store. The play ends with father and daughter singing a duet, *You Never Know*. Funny, endearing, and sweet!

Secrets in the Clouds

AGELESS

Judith Allen | 15 minute comedy
2 women

Long-time friends, Liz and Elsie, meet in the Afterlife. As they play games and drink whiskey, they share stories of immigration, jealousy, and unrequited love. Their friendship is awakened as they are reminded about the importance of love. So nice!

Louie and Louise

Bob Rinfret | 15 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman

Louie and Louise have been married for years. But now, Louie spends his days 'looking' for something and won't say what. A fast moving show with a strong ending!

Party Animal

Marcus Steinour
15 minute comedy | 1 man, 3 women
Middle-aged widower Brick Thompson has been receiving casseroles from neighborhood widows and divorcees, but when his daughter talks him into attending a party, women throw themselves at him with wild abandon and Brick finds himself lucky to escape unscathed.



Hi Tech

Wes Wetzel | 15 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman or 7 either

Modern life and the frustrations associated with it never got this funny. A man trying to get his television to work calls Tomorrow's Electronics and receives the usual telephone merry-go-round from the operator. Works well with any size cast. Great fun!

ALSO SEE: *Murder at the Movies*, another fun play by Wes Wetzel, available on the web.





Calling Dr. Phil

C. A. Dougherty
20 minute comedy

1 man, 1 woman, 1 woman off-stage voice
Dixie has a unique problem with her husband. Dr. Phil, her favorite TV shrink isn't available. Is her local therapist up to the task?

Let's Party

Susan Jarrett | 20 minute comedy
3 men, 3 women

Sam is planning an un-surprise birthday party for his wife, Valerie. But when he is talking on the phone, Valerie overhears a few tantalizing words like "bud," "pot," and "weed." She can hardly believe her ears! What exactly is Sam cooking up? And what is Jim's contribution to this whacky event? When the big day arrives, there is a big surprise, not exactly what was expected.

The Committee

Charles Alverson | 20 minute comedy
3 men, 4 women

Before Keith can settle in at the retirement community, he's brought before the self-appointed committee. To gain the approval of the group, he'd have to meet quite a list of zany requirements. A former resident Oscar, who didn't fit their mold, arrives to save the day.

Cougar on the Green

James Keller | 20 minute comedy
2 women

Mrs. O'Neill tries to get the senior rate at the golf club only to be rebuffed by the icy, all-business Miss Mulligan. It seems that Mrs. O'Neill is definitely losing the battle until she discovers that Miss Mulligan may be another kind of player. Great characters!

SOCIAL ISSUES

Silence

Brandon Daughtry Slocum
20 minute comedy | 2 women

In a surprisingly funny play, Jennie who is recently widowed, learns how to adapt to this new stage of life by her eccentric and opinionated neighbor, Bettie. Audience members love this show.

Bagels

Art Shulman | 20 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman

Bagels is a romantic comedy featuring seniors Jake and Rachel, who meet through an Internet dating site. But the computer seems to have made a mistake. Or did it?



The Secret to Making the Perfect Lasagna

Alex Broun | 20 minute comedy
1 man, 8 women

When Max meets Wendy in the frozen food aisle of his local supermarket, he decides to start dating again. But if he is to win her heart, she decrees, "You must be able to make the perfect lasagna." Lasagna! Max doesn't even know how to spell lasagna! Never fear—he turns to the women in his family for help. The result is a comedy filled with love and lots of lasagna.



SOCIAL ISSUES

Fool Me Once, or Henrietta's Absolutely Horrible Day

James Buglewicz
20 minute comedy
4 men, 5 women, 2 either

Henrietta, a new widow, is taken in by various schemes and scams, only to be saved in the nick of time by the street-wise detective and scambuster, Sam Scam! Laughter with a message, this is an excellent vehicle to raise awareness and initiate discussion about the frauds and scams that target seniors.

Dumpster Divers

Barbara Nouvel | 20 minute comedy
1 man, 3 women, 1 either

A hilarious fiasco results when three older ladies try to figure out how to retrieve a case of bridge boards that accidentally got thrown into a dumpster with some trash. Easy to stage!

SOCIAL ISSUES

Volunteering Has Its Moments

Ann Barham Pugh | 20 minute comedy
4 women, 1 either

The Opal show is a nationally televised tribute to volunteers, moderated by the popular TV personality. Her guests are stellar volunteers who present funny and quirky adventures, 'moments.' The characters clash during the production but in the end, are brought together by the warm spirit of volunteerism. The show can be easily performed as Readers Theatre or staged as a fully mounted production.



At Half Time

Art Shulman

20 minute comedy | 1 man, 5 women
The team in the Over 60 Women's Park Basketball league has had a terrible first half. They're losing to Little Sisters of Mercy, a silent order of nuns who play in long skirts. It's half time and the Coach is beside himself because his team of slow moving, slow reacting ladies is losing 59-6. His efforts to motivate his team don't seem to work. Then he thinks of a way to neutralize the competition. This fast moving play has plenty of action from the well drawn characters. Lots of standing ovations!

Favorite Cousins

Allan Bates | 20 minute comedy
2 men, 2 women

Two older 'cousins' who haven't seen each other in years run off together on a cruise to the chagrin of their protective middle-aged children.

ALSO SEE by Allan Bates:

Theft!, page 27, *Opus 88*, and the collection of all three shows, *Old Folks Rock* available on the web.



Featured playwright



Bob Naquin

Directors depend on Bob Naquin for shows that are funny with strong, quirky characters.



Doctor, Doctor

25 minute comedy
2 men, 4 women, 1 male voice

If you thought looming cuts to Medicare were scary, wait until you see the inner workings of Dr. Fatpacker's medical office. Zany doesn't begin to describe!



Lawyer, Lawyer

25 minute comedy | 2 women, 5 either

Everyone involved is a bit off kilter in this hilarious murder trial. The prosecutor's not even a lawyer; the defendant, Ms. Slayer, boasts about her crime; the defense counsel asks the most obvious of questions and Judge Judy Moody just now realizes murder isn't even legal.



Driving under the Influence

8 minute comedy | 2 either

A DUI suspect puts some bumps, grinds, and twirls into her sobriety test.



Driving with Siri

5 minute comedy | 2 either

Oh no! Communication breaks down between the driver and the computer.



The Speeding Ticket

15 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 either

We break into a cold sweat when we see the blue flashing lights of a law enforcement officer in our rear view mirror. But not Starlight Moon. She may be older, but she knows how to talk her way out of a speeding ticket.

MYSTERY



A Will to Murder

45 minutes | 2 men, 5 women, 1 either

William "Billy Bob" Thornburg has died somewhat peacefully in his sleep. Unsavory relatives, a corrupt lawyer, a sexy maid, and a devious butler circle the body to divide the spoils of the estate. One by one, the sharks meet their fate. Who will survive long enough inherit it all?



NO WORDS



Silent Movie

15 minute silent comedy | 3 men, 3 women

Everyone has had a seating issue at the movies. Watch as these characters work out their issues without saying a word. This is a fun script and a useful training vehicle for actors in any skill level. It will soon become one of your group's favorites.



Dead Cat: The Play

25 minute comedy

4 women, 2 either, extras if you have them

Maggie knows that Chloe is an insufferable cat lover but she doesn't ask for the trouble they get into when a Santa hat gets in the way. There's lunch, a dastardly thief, and situations that always seem to get out of hand. In the end, the thief gets her due, the cat lover is satisfied, and everyone is left in stitches at the surprise ending. No cats are harmed in this play!



The Health and Wellness Club Meets

15 minute comedy | 7 women

Who knew that broccoli could pose such a risk and that laughing at joggers is just as good for you as actual jogging? These and other zany tips are shared at the Health and Wellness Club's meeting. Each actor is required to have the 'meeting notes' in hand which makes memorizing lines very easy.

SOCIAL ISSUE

Get Your Flu Shot!

10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

Who wants to listen to another boring lecture about what you "should" or "should not" do? Instead, use entertainment to send a message that folks will actually listen to! This lively show will have audience members laughing as they think seriously about the importance of getting a flu shot.

ALSO SEE by Bob Naquin:

Feeble Fables, page 10

The Perils of Carmen Geddit, page 26

Home for the Holidays, page 32

A Santa-Mental Christmas, page 32

★ Featured playwright ★

Pamela Loyd

Pamela has turned her experiences as a counselor into a robust playwrighting career. Her specialty is comic plays with lively roles for seniors.



Dangerous Games

15 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women, 5 either

A game-night party with good friends becomes more interesting when a new game is proposed, leading one to ask: among friends, what is more dangerous—the truth or a lie?

Unfaithful

16 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

Laurel cheats on her longterm hairdresser. Now she has a guilty conscience and a bad haircut. A fast-paced comedy with rumors, misunderstandings, and a plan involving scissors.

A Wicked Little Wager

45 minutes

2 men, 2 women

This year's annual Coconut Cream Pie celebration comes with mischievous gamesmanship, laughs, suspense, and murder. Be glad you don't have friends like these!



MYSTERY

The Dandelion Ladies' Decisive Tea

20 minute comedy
4 women

Four long-time friends get together for an afternoon. But it's more than tea and scones, it's about hopes, dreams, and misunderstandings. The old issues and unspoken thoughts jump out as the characters quickly move in their chairs around the table.



EDITOR'S PICK

Double Date

16 minute comedy | 1 man, 2 women

Two women show up at the same time for a first date with Thomas. He's so tongue-tied and embarrassed that he can't even keep their names straight as he blurts out wrong answers to their very important questions. A little mistake becomes a big mess that creates only one solution for the women.

That's Not The Problem

18 minute comedy | 2 men, 2 women

Counseling couples is never easy but when Helen and Dave bring in an inept hit-man as evidence, it gets all so very complicated. As the comedy unfolds, it becomes more and more farcical. Where will it end?



Lunch Ladies at L'Ambrosia Luncheria

15 minute comedy | 8 women

Two very proper ladies lose all pretense of ladylike behavior as they have trouble paying for their meal at an expensive restaurant, finally finding a funny solution.

ALSO SEE by Pamela Loyd:

a new radio play, *Radio KRZY*, page 30

a favorite holiday play, *Merry Magic*, page 31

a new holiday play, *'Twas the Night*, page 31

Lifeguard on Duty

George Sauer | 25-30 minute comedy
2 either

Two old friends have come out of retirement to become lifeguards at their local beach. They soon wonder if they are up to the task and more importantly if they can get along in their confined space.

Bowling with Dixie

Ann Barham Pugh | 20 minute comedy
4 women

Four middle-aged women, former high school classmates, are avid bowling enthusiasts who meet in a vacant store to convert it into a bowling alley. You'll love the surprise ending!

EDITOR'S PICK

Love and Other Investments

John Hayes | 25 minute comedy
2 men, 2 women

As Agnes tries to finish her taxes, a meddlesome neighbor, demanding mother, and ex-husband all interfere on a peaceful night to remind Agnes that there's more to life than investments and paperwork.

Home Shopping Hijinks

Kim Kelly | 15 minute comedy
1 man, 2 women

Aunt Boo falls for a sales pitch on TV and orders a robot to help with housework. The product is not what she expected. He's tall, handsome, wears aluminum, and cops quite an attitude!

Just a Song at Twilight

Marcia Savin
25 minute
romantic comedy
1 man, 1 woman

After unpacking from her move to a senior apartment, an older woman goes to the park and meets another tenant. Do they share a past? Can lost love be recovered?



Included in *New Plays for Mature Actors*, page 4



Billy Buck and Jo-Jo

Frank Canino | 20 minute comedy | 2 men

What happens when you try to kill yourself and wind up killing a friend with you? What happens when you have nowhere to be except with that person? Ladies and Gentlemen, we present Billy Buck and Jo-Jo, two rodeo performers who wake up only to discover that they are dead...and still together.



Playing the Game

Joyce Schwartz
20 minute comedy
3 men



Three old friends meet daily at their favorite park bench to chat and complain about aches and pains. Today, Earl brags about hitting a home run with Olga while George is happily paired with Rhonda. The conversation turns to the loner Ozzy. To dust off his dating skills, they create hilarious scenarios to prepare him for the world of romance. Will Ozzy hit a home run or strike out?

The Gold Standard

George Freek
20 minute comedy | 2 men
“Cantankerous, caring, funny...” —that’s how readers describe the relationship between Max and Leonard, who meet over a game of checkers to discuss, grouse, and enjoy life. When it comes to meaty older men’s roles in short plays, there are few that are as deep and charming as these two.

AGELESS



The Naked Truth

John McDonnell
15 minute comedy | 2 men

The first time Bob is ever honest about his wife’s figure, he loses his eyesight. Confused and disoriented, he stumbles into an art gallery. It’s opening night and he’s the only one there to chat up the artist.

“The Naked Truth” is a deeply funny, and surprising comedy. From the moment Bob enters the room, confused and disoriented, the audience was howling with laughter. By the end of the play many people were clutching their sides and had tears streaming down their faces. Truly a laugh-every-15-seconds play.

– B. Smallen, Director

How to Marry the Rabbi

Barbara Trainin Blank
20 minute comedy | 1 man, 4 women
When the rabbi’s wife unexpectedly walks out on him, three determined women in his congregation vie to win the rabbi’s heart—and a marriage proposal—the old-fashioned way: through his stomach. They shower him with ridiculous questions, meal invitations, and all kinds of food. The play’s been a hit at community centers, retirement communities, and everywhere it’s been performed.

How to Marry the Minister

May Kramer | 20 minute comedy
4 women
How many ways can these women connive to get the minister to marry them? This show is easy, fun, and can be pulled off with a minimum of rehearsal.
Included in *Women are Funny* book of plays and monologues, page 5

Maisie Drags Grover to the Theatre

Tony Vellela | 10 minute comedy
1 man, 1 woman
For their anniversary, Maisie and Grover’s kids gave them tickets to the theatre. She’s eager to go. He’s anything but.

Don't miss plays by these favorite playwrights:

Bob Rinfret:
The Stick-Up, page 17
Noah, page 23
Old Hams, page 27
Mr. Hartwell’s Christmas, a new holiday play, page 32

Jo Rake:
Lost Things, a new play on page 10
Do You Believe in Magick?, page 18
For...Press or Say, page 18
G-O-A-L!, page 18

More plays for men!

The Reunion, page 5
It’s Your Move in *Chatterton Country Club*, page 9
Romance Senior Style, page 9
High School Reunion, page 16

Grown-Up Games, page 16
New Car Shopping, page 16
Old Men, page 17
Lifeguard on Duty, page 21
Bert, One Year Later, page 34

Available
on the web
Marty’s Bromance
The Exam



Under a Magical Moon

Patrick Gaffney | 20-25 minute

1 man, 1 woman, or 3 men, 3 women

Since Ancient Times, the magic of the night sky has held sway over love and lovers. Whether in Verona, Italy between the young Romeo and Juliet or in Muncie, Indiana between the...not so young...Gavin and Kathleen. In three short scenes over a backyard table and chairs in the height of midsummer, we visit the past and present of two old friends who have not seen each other for 30 years...who just may have some sort of future together. A charming play.

Award Winner!

Made for Each Other

Simmie Levine | 30 minute comedy

1 man, 3 women, 2 either

Pauline Stewart, an 80-year-old retired dentist lives alone but to insure Pauline's safety, her children hire companions. She fires every one of them! That is, until Annie Simms. Together the dynamic duo engages in escapades as they build a fun, trusting friendship. This is a laugh-filled romp with unexpected fun for actors and audiences.

Gerald's Dream

Bob Wilkins | 35 minute comedy

2 men, 5 women, 1 either, plus extras

In a dream, Gerald relives his high school transformation from nerd to regular boy. It is an adventure that includes many of the teen stereotypes with a twist—all of the characters are played by seniors in their present day physical appearance. Hilarious show!

Bitsy and Her Friends

Ludmilla Bollow | 30 minute comedy

6 women

Bitsy and her friends recycle trash for their 'art faire' to be held in the Wyndham Mansion Gardens only to meet opposition from the neighbors. The offbeat characters thwart their detractors with a surprise ending.

Award Winner!

DNN—Definitely NOT the News!

Bob Wilkins | 25 minute comedy

9 actors playing 26 characters

Here in the newsroom of DNN are the stories, features, and commercials of the evening newscast. Though contemporary in nature, the characters are ones you'll recognize. It's simply fun. Don't expect a lot of in depth coverage or serious social commentary because this is Definitely NOT the News!

ALSO SEE: *Mother Goose State Your Case* on this page and *Feeble Fables*, page 10.



Love in 4/4 Time

Gary Young | 40 minutes

2 men, 2 women

Do the names Bob and Carol and Ted and Alice, perhaps two of the most famous couples of the 1970s, jog your memory? The names are the same, but the time and characters are different. Now confronted by the reality of Alzheimer's disease and dementia, they forge ahead with questions, humor, and honesty, discovering that most things boil down to the truth of accepting reality.



Mother Goose, State Your Case

Patricia Walker

Flexible length (10-40 minutes)

2 men, 3 women, 4 either

(or up to a full cast of 31)

The World of Mother Goose is rife with crimes and misdemeanors. The Little Boy Blue should be sued for breach of contract; the Old Woman's Shoe doesn't meet the HOA's covenants; and saving Little Red Riding Hood violated the Endangered Species Act. A Tribunal of Old King Cole, the Queen of Hearts, and the King from his Counting House pass judgment on these and many other equally serious cases!



At the Border

Bob Wilkins | 25 minute comedy

3 men, 3 women, 3 either

The Pettiburg Town Hall spans the Canadian-U.S. border with two mayors in a feud made worse by pending changes to the border crossing's administration. The U.S. mayor wants to assure his re-election; the Canadian mayor is sure his American counterpart is plotting to take over the crossing. Add a meddling janitor, a persistent reporter, and a couple of over-the-hill hippies. International relations are rarely this hilarious.

HISTORICAL

Noah

Bob Rinfret | 30 minute comedy

3 men, 1 woman, 2 either

Laugh along as Noah builds his gigantic boat in the middle of the wilderness as his wife and neighbors complain bitterly. It only gets worse when a bureaucratic building inspector threatens to derail the entire project. It's a laugh-filled show that will entertain, enlighten, and give a new slant to one of the world's oldest stories!



The Robbin' Hoods**CRIME COMEDY**

Michael Licwinko | 35 minute comedy
1 man, 6 women

Like many seniors, Al and Mabel Hood planned well for their retirement. Then Gus, Al's sister...also known as El Diablo...made a bad investment that wiped out their savings. Broke and desperate, what else could they do but rob the rich?

The Day They Kidnapped Blanche**MYSTERY**

Ann Barham Pugh and Katy Dacus
30 minute comedy

2 men, 3 women, 1 either
Blanche, an energetic and youngish seventy year-old retired teacher, is having a blast starring in a community theatre comedy. The fun turns scary when she and her buddies are recruited to help the FBI in a complicated scheme. She goes undercover to outwit a money-hungry set of criminals. Luckily, they're not too swift.

**A Brief History of Mah Jongg**

Faye Sholiton | 40 minute comedy
5-6 women

Twenty-two years after the sudden break-up of their beloved weekly Mah Jongg game, three feisty women return to the kitchen table where it all began. Now missing one player and one important tile, they discover what the Monday gatherings meant in their lives. It is a comedy about the power of women's friendships.

Award Winner!

**Spaghetti Western**

Loriston Scott | 30 minute comedy
3 men, 4 women

Rio, a lone cowboy, likes his spaghetti plain. When he wanders into a small western town, he stops off at Ms. Lola's Saloon, world famous for its spaghetti & meatballs. This slapstick play goes upside down and sideways, allowing you to flex your comedic muscles as much as you dare. The life and death question is, "are you a 'plainer' or 'meatballer'?"

**Misconceptions**

Dick Meredith
35 minute comedy

2 men, 5 women plus extras
Life at Willow Creek Retirement Center has never been the same since the rumor mill concocted the story about June's pregnancy. The place has been all a-buzz! The story gets more outlandish as the overheard conversations are skewed from fact to fiction. It's love, marriage, babies, adoption and...well, where will the story ever end? Eventually, the rumor is cleared up and the wedding celebration begins!

Stanley's Choice

Millie Ackley | 30 minute comedy
2 men, 3 women

Stanley is taking his wife Sally on a surprise birthday trip with their very conservative friends. Sally is excited until she accidentally learns they are going to a retreat where she and her husband were members years ago! There are plenty of surprises.

Grand Moves

Wes Wetzel | 40 minute comedy
2 men, 6 women

Our realtor heroine hosts an open house visited by zany house hunters, a group of women that we learn far too much about while they are "just looking," an Eskimo, Cash-Only Katie, and finally, the Walters with a huge surprise! Simple staging.

Hot Pursuit

Cynthia MacGregor | 30 minute comedy
1 man, 4 women, 2 offstage female voices
(can be double cast)

When Helen's newly widowed brother Larry comes to visit her in Florida, three of her 'available' female friends 'just happen to drop in,' each bearing food! They try to outdo each other in appealing to this now-available man. The action is frantic and funny as the three friends compete for Larry's heart.

Did you Hear About the Neighbor?

Cynthia MacGregor | 30 minute comedy
2 men, 2 women

When Ro and Ilene snoop and eavesdrop on Ilene's new neighbor, Max, they come to the mistaken conclusion that he works for the CIA, has murdered his wife, and has buried her in his back yard. Hilarity ensues as their snooping is uncovered and the truth is revealed.

AGELESS**Alice and Charlie Forget About Sally and Eddie**

Stephen Sossaman | 30 minute comedy
1 man, 2 women

A couple in their seventies urgently culls through old photographs and letters, contesting each other's memory of a special romance. The floor is strewn with scissored and shredded photographs, until visited by the memory of a central figure from their youth, as each comes to better understand and accept the nature of memory, love, aging, and loyalty. So nice!



Betta Daze

Don Fried

60 minute comedy
1 man, 2 women

Michelle is a technologically challenged senior in a retirement community. Betta is a virtual computerized assistant assigned to her against her wishes by the administration of the facility. After a brief period of conflict, Michelle and Betta reach a truce and settle down to life together. Betta's upgraded software makes her ever more human-like. Trouble arises however, when the upgrade includes paranoia and schizophrenia. Even the programmer is stymied, and the situation spins out of control. Will technology and humans learn how to work together?



Mernie's Little Hoax

Carol Nimmons | 70 minute comedy | 6 women, 2 either

The only possible heir to Mernie's large fortune is a distant relative. To select which friends to include in her will, she devises a hoax to test their loyalty. The whole thing backfires through crazy shenanigans plotted by a network of unpredictable retirees.

HISTORICAL

Arches, Balance and Light

Mary Spletter | 60 minute drama
2 men, 3 women, 4 extras that can be double cast

This lovely play brings Julia Morgan to life. She was a ground-breaking architect who designed more than 700 buildings during her long and prolific career. Best known for Hearst Castle in San Simeon, California, all she wanted was to be a world-class architect. Did she follow the right path or give up too much to achieve her goal? Such a nice show!

Harry's Angel

Arthur Keyser | 90 minute comedy
2 men, 3 women

Set in the Lower East Side of New York City, *Harry's Angel* is a comedy about an Italian brother and sister, a divorced owner of a failing deli, an Irish bookie, and a thirty-one year old former exotic dancer. They are tied together by the oldest of human emotions—love, in all of its shapes and forms. This is a laugh-filled romp through five lives, each of which affects the lives of the others, and the ultimate, often unexpected, resolutions. Loads of fun for the actors and even more fun for your audiences.



Reunited

Penny Petersen | 98 minute comedy
2 men, 5 women, 1 female voice

Four sorority sisters from the University of Nebraska get together every 10 years for a week of fun and frolic in Arizona. Though they're supposed to be sunbathing, swimming and playing bridge, the gathering doesn't go as planned. Friendships are tested with flirtatious boyfriends, a séance, and a football coach who gets caught in alcohol's web. In the end, the women grow stronger and friendship prevails. This well-written show is full of action, easy to stage, and very popular everywhere it's been performed.

A delightful, funny story about true friendship. A wonderful way to spend the evening. - MaryAnn Seidlinger, Falls Run Community Theatre

This one is tough to beat! I wanted to sit thru a second performance on the same night. - Dee Roppo, Fredericksburg, VA

Funny and touching. It has serious material as its base and presents it in hilarious form. - Connie Wilkinson, Port Ludlow, Washington

ALSO SEE: *Senior Moments*, page 8 and *The Haunted Holiday Hotel*, page 33

Viagra Falls and the 70 Year Old Virgin

Janet Findlay & Alan Youngson | 80 minute comedy
4 men, 4 women

Fran borrows a container of artificial sweeteners from her nervous husband-to-be, Eric. She had no idea that's where he squirreled away his experimental Viagra pills. Chaos and embarrassment in the retirement community follow in this super fun show with lots of action and great characters!

A colorful cast of characters collaborate and connive in this hilarious tale of mishap and mayhem.

Marketing Templates make promotion for your show so easy!
Included: 2 posters, 1 flyer, and a program cover. Only \$50



Under a Full Moon in November

Paul Pastore | 80 minute comedy
6 men, 8 women

One night stands during the Northeast Blackout of 1965 come back to haunt two couples when they become neighbors 44 years later. While the flames of love-at-first-sight blaze within Selena and Jason, embers of a-long-ago-love begin to glow again between Kiki and Tom, and Rita and Mike. Each thinks they know the other, but none can put their finger on it. Only later do they learn the crazy truth.



Casserole Casanova

Herb McCollum
50-60 minute farce
2 men, 5 women

Roger, recently widowed, is visited by five women friends bearing gifts of food. Fred, Roger's friend and neighbor, believes they are all hot for Roger. While there is competition among the women, it is only on their cooking skills, but Fred convinces Roger otherwise. Hilarious!

Still Life With Nudes

George Johnson
50 minute one-act or
105 minute full-length comedy
3 men, 4 women

After Betty's gigantic paintings are rejected by the local gallery, she and her friends stage a protest. The trendy staff fail to see how Betty's nudes meet their cutting-edge standards. Tensions rise. The younger generation confronts their preconceptions of older adults, and they agree on a multimedia solution that brings new life to the gallery. No fruit is harmed, no actual nudes, just good clean fun.

Uff Da!

Jack Dyville | 60 minute farce
2 men, 8 women, plus extras if available
What happens when five yellow-school busses filled with Red Hat Ladies from the South Central Evangelical Lutheran Ladies Conference of Western North Dakota trek across the Rough-Rider state to see Marie Osmond in *The Sound of Music* but instead find the theatre marquee ablaze with a show entitled, *Bedroom Bedlam*? No Marie? No *Sound of Music*? Uff da, these golden girls are not happy campers!



You're the Jury Shows:

The Case of the Steele Deal

Steve and Susan Shear
60 minute courtroom drama
3 men, 5 women, 14 either
easily double cast

Identical twins, Clara and Sally Steele always shared their lottery winnings, but the relationship soured and now that Clara is dead, the families are fighting it out. The audience decides who is the rightful owner of \$3,000,000. It's fast-paced fun!

The State vs. Max Cooper

Steve and Susan Shear
75 minute drama
3 men, 2 women, 13 either,
easily double cast

Peter Lambert moved into a tranquil community and soon began terrorizing the neighbors including Max. One fateful night, their feud escalates. Now, rage, revenge, and humor rule as the audience decides on any of three different endings. Unique, interactive, and engaging. This a suspenseful, fun, theatrical event!

The Perils of Carmen Geditt

Bob Naquin | 50 minute melodrama
2 men, 6-8 women, 1 either

You'll enjoy this melodrama with modern twists. There are the standard characters of heroine and hero against the evil villain. But there's more, as the heroine gets herself into one predicament after another to satisfy her quest for plastic surgery. Predictably, good triumphs over evil in a surprise ending. Fun show, great characters, and of course a lot of hisses and boos!



Does This Show Make My Butt Look Fat?

Joni Hilton | 1 hour comedy | 1-6 women, or up to any number of women

In a flexible format, any number of female characters take you on a comic romp through the trials and tribulations of weight, dieting, and looking good. You can even create sweet concoctions on stage with audience members. The show celebrates women's self-acceptance and a reminder of the things that really matter.

PATRIOTIC

General Bingo

Jonathan M. Zaley & Mary A. Zaley
90 plus minute comedy
1 man, 2 women, plus audience participants

A comedy about life, bingo...and a chance to win a frozen turkey. Set in the local VFW hall, audience members are out to win some extra money or the grand prize...a frozen turkey! They'll laugh, sing, and play some wild and wacky audience games.

ALSO SEE: *Make Money Producing Weekday Luncheon Theatre*, page 37

Shenanigans at the Blue Pelican Inn

Kathleen Crandall | 75 minute comedy
3 men, 5 women

Sophie and George, the owners of a small inn along the coast, know that almost anything can happen at the Blue Pelican Inn. They have a lot of patience to deal with this quirky cast of lodgers: a family that causes headaches, a matchmaker, single schoolteacher, a nerd, a set of older honeymooners, and a couple of snobs. After getting a big dose of southern hospitality everyone heads home with a change of attitude and a pink flamingo. Audiences love their stay at the Blue Pelican Inn!

Finding Gladys MYSTERY

Dave Silverbrand | 90 minute comedy
4 men, 5 women, 1 either

Gladys dreams of celebrity so she writes a play and enters it in a national contest. But her chance at notoriety turns out to be a scam. The mystery deepens as the characters take us on a fun-filled adventure. It's a celebration of creativity and a testament to the resilience of the human spirit. The play captures the heart with laughter, sentiment, and intrigue and is a hit every time it's been performed!

A great ensemble play with many comic moments! —Eureka Times Standard

ALSO SEE: *The Haunted Holiday Hotel*, page 33

The Good Years

Penny Petersen | 95 minute comedy
4 men, 4 women, 4-6 non-speaking roles
In this romantic comedy, in the style of *The Fantasticks*, two middle-aged daughters fix up their reluctant, widowed parents. But the daughters make a terrible mess of everything: a fake robbery, an actress in a clown suit, a guy's night out bowling, and a fantasy nightmare. Mimes, who represent 'Fate,' intervene to clear up the confusion. In a combination of charm and wit with a warm understanding of human nature, love triumphs in the end. Simple scenic needs.

ALSO SEE: *The Good Years musical*, page 28

Reunion at Mount Sanguine

Doug Stewart | 90 minute comedy
4 men, 6 women

This is a warm and humorous script of a 50th high school reunion. The colorful group returns to a small Midwestern farm town along with their pasts and their futures. It makes for quite an evening!

Thief!

Allan Bates
42 minute comedy | 2 men, 2 women
A robber intrudes into a home and after a lot of befuddlement on all sides, becomes part of their family.

CRIME COMEDY



Old Hams

EDITOR'S PICK

Bob Rinfret
2 hour comedy

4 men, 6 women plus extras
Residents of the Ophelia L. Davis Home for Actors, Musicians and Singers have called it home for over 40 years. They include two sisters, a leading man who could never remember his lines, a man of 999 faces, and a mystic who hasn't had a correct vision in years! The former owner of the home died leaving the older performers in a terrible predicament. The taxes are due and if they can't be raised, the son will sell the house so he can make millions when the land is used for a shopping mall. At wit's end, they use their acting skills, some clever disguises, and a missing lottery ticket to turn a garage sale into a hilarious showdown.



Jack Benny's Not 39 Any More

Marv Siegel | 80 minute comedy | 4 men, 3 women, 1 either

Though Norman Bender insists that he, like Jack Benny, is as young as he feels, he really dislikes retirement. So he concocts one business scheme after another, even one involving mismatched socks! They don't please his wife, Edna, who would rather spend time socializing with the new neighbor, Rosemary whose son might be a match for their daughter. But when Edna discovers that Norman and Rosemary had a romance years ago, she jumps into action to stop any and all contact and puts the kibosh on any more of Norman's silly business ideas. This is such a great show—strong characters, lots of action, and a show-stopping ending—that it was selected for production out of 1000 entries and was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.



...hilarious and heartwarming.
— Island Reporter

... entertaining production, thanks to Siegel's funny, frothy script!
— Naples Daily News

Well, we're all in performance "post-partum!" We sold out our two performances last weekend and had a ball. We've had a lot of comments that this play was the best we've done! Even our rehearsals the last 2½ months were just as much fun as the show itself. We used this opportunity to benefit a homeless organization. Our audiences donated over 600+ pairs of new socks. It was a great script and experience for all of us... thanks for ArtAge getting us just what we needed! — J. M., Director

MUSICALS ARE CREATIVE AND FUN!

*Try them in traditional performance, script in hand, or Readers Theatre.
Everyone loves a musical!*



SS Shipenshore

Marian Ellis & John Gutberlet
75 minute musical

9 men, 15 women in cast from 24 to 40

Variety show lovers: Here's the strong story and structure you've been asking for! Complete with outrageous characters and a lively plot, all you need to do is add your favorite tunes. In no time at all, a variety show is written! Set on a cruise, the SS Shipenshore passengers experience romances, a jewelry theft, pirates, dancing girls, and comedians as they travel to Havana.

...a fun theatrical revue that is perfect for senior actors and entertaining for audiences of all ages!



Wrinkles

Greg Evans | 90 minute musical | 4 men, 4 women

The creator of the hit comic strip, *Luann*, brings you a fresh new musical about joys and challenges of a rich life. One surprise-filled, extraordinary day is rich with humor and heartwarming everyday moments: doctor visits, bingo, and a lively romantic dance. It all leads to an unexpected twist which reminds us to appreciate every moment—and to wear wrinkles with pride! A hit at the Welk Resorts Theatre in San Diego, audience members raved about “the humor, catchy tunes, and uplifting message!” Easy to produce, with a simple set.

Sometimes A Rainbow

Story, Lyrics, and Music by Tom Northam | Music Arranged and Orchestrated by Dick Wooley
90 minute musical comedy including intermissions
10 to any number of actors!

A musical comedy centering on the life of Cordy Shelburne, an elderly widow, who discovers the meaning of life and the joys of living while surviving on the streets of Washington, DC. She takes to heart the wise and sage advice of Duchess, a homeless person, enriching her life and bringing joy to everyone she meets along the way.

What they say about *Sometimes A Rainbow*:

*It was delightful, easily the best show I've seen in many years!
The musical score is awesome. It had me laughing one minute and crying the next.
The music and lyrics have so much meaning.*

PATRIOTIC



NEW

A Passing Fancy

Patricia Walker | 45 minutes | 5 men, 5 women

It's a great day for a picnic in Prairie Dog Hill in the shade of the old apple tree. Your audiences will want to sing along and tap their feet when they realize this is not just a song at twilight and Lucille is wild about Harry. Love is in the air, and there'll be a hot time in the old town tonight.

The Good Years

Penny Petersen | 95 minute romantic comedy

4 men, 4 women, 4-6 non-speaking gender flexible roles

This musical is a delight. The 12 original songs are uncomplicated melodies reflecting the feelings of older people. There are soulful tunes, charming waltzes, and hysterical comedic romps. You'll especially enjoy *She Makes Me Feel So Young*, *I Never Thought I'd Feel This Way Again*, and *Is It All Right with You?* Listen to the music, read the script, and you'll discover that this is the perfect show for both actors and audiences!

ALSO AVAILABLE as a non-musical play, page 27





Two musical comedies with song parodies

Joyce Stern Greenberg

Committee of Two

70 minute musical | 2 women

Committee of Eight

75 minute musical | 1 man, 7 women

The committee has been asked to create a show that will entertain everyone attending the upcoming college reunion. So they gather their experiences, stories, and characters to use in the production. Tied together with parodies of well-known songs, the show takes shape creating a light-hearted musical. Whether you use a cast of two or eight, the show is easy to produce and fun for both performers and audiences. You'll discover that you're in good hands with this writer—an experienced Senior Theatre director who really knows how to create successful pieces for older performers!



ALSO SEE: *Scrooge with a Twist*, page 33
Available on the web: *Full Steam Ahead!* and *Back in the Dreamtime*

BEST SELLER!

A Bag Full of Miracles

Stories, lyrics, and music by Tom Northam

Musical arrangement by Ron Pronk

Flexible size cast

Full-length musical

You are going to love this classic Senior Theatre musical comedy. Maggie Hill meets Lady Anne Windesmeere, a recent widow who has been swindled out of most of her funds by an unscrupulous lawyer. They convert Lady Anne's home into a bed and breakfast, which brings them hilarity, intrigue, romance, warmth, and a twisting chain of events that will shake up your audience in more ways than one. They're also sure to leave the theatre humming the memorable songs woven throughout.



Production Kit!

You can produce this full-length musical at a fraction of the usual cost when you purchase the Production Kit. Buy it once and the show becomes royalty free. Or pay for a scaled-down package using traditional royalties and cast copies.

The kit includes:

- Fully orchestrated recordings of all songs, segues, and underscore music on CDs
- Reproducible script
- Sound effects
- Set design
- Marketing and promotional materials
- And much more!



Readers Theatre Karaoke®

No special equipment required. Just follow the sounds and prompts on the DVD for a magical theatre experience!

Readers Theatre Has Just Taken A Giant Step Forward! Imagine Readers Theatre performed in a dimly lit room with background music and sound effects like those magic shows from the Golden Age of Radio.

Here's How It Works

The text of the script appears on a TV screen so actors can watch the screen and read along. Background music and sound effects are on the disc and timed to the script so they come in right on cue as the actors deliver their lines.

No Special Equipment Required

All you need is a standard DVD player and TV! Just insert the disc and "Raise The Curtain!" Also includes an e-script for rehearsals or performance.

Love Conquers the Wild West

Jim Gustafson | 15 minute melodrama
3 men, 6 women, double casting possible

In this melodrama, Daisy Fontaine, a New York socialite is engaged. As the wedding approaches she learns that her brother needs her to raise his small children. She leaves New York and her love to become a frontier woman. Later, an unusual turn of events reunites Daisy with her fiance and proves that true love can tame the Wild West. Features the normal good guys and bad guys that make melodrama fun!

\$24.95

Roxie McCoy...Private Eye

Jim Gustafson
15 minute mystery
comedy

4 men, 9-12 women
double casting possible

Roxie is a street-smart, no-nonsense private eye who comes to the aid of an English Baroness with a secret. When a sleazy con artist threatens to expose her highness, Roxie saves the day. With some twists and revelations, Roxie turns the tables on the blackmailer. Features several fun commercials to accommodate additional actors, if needed.

\$24.95

MYSTERY



Music! Dialogue! Sound Effects! Fun!



Radio KRZY

Pamela Loyd | 30 minute comedy
1 men, 2 women, 3 either

This is a farcical, wacky comedy about the shenanigans, backstage drama, and on-air screw-ups of the cast and crew of a small-town radio station, where everything goes a little KRAZY.



Mr. E's Radio Spirtz Show

Jonathan M. Zaley
75 plus minute comedy

11 roles plus 3 commercial announcers
This old-fashioned radio murder mystery suspense comedy is a real cliffhanger! The station manager of WMOO radio assigns the sound effects to the live radio audience and chaos ensues. It is one hilarious laugh fest as the audience tries to keep up with their sound effects duties. Fantastically funny!



The Quibbles Radio Shows

FLEX LENGTH

Karen Riehl | 10 five-minute sketches | Casts from 4 to 40

The Quibbles is a collection of comedy sketches, reminiscent of radio shows of the '40s and '50s, featuring a delightfully quarrelsome couple, Carol and Quentin Quibble, in the hilarious skirmishes of everyday life. Carol is a well-meaning helpmate, eager to improve herself and her husband. Quentin is mostly interested in golf. Their next door neighbor, Madge, is the town busybody. Sketches are easy to perform with well-drawn characters. Use one or all in fully mounted plays or variety shows. Such fun!

Royalty rates for these shows are only \$5 per sketch, per performance.

It is such a pleasure to have an unique theatre experience with humor and fun that beckons back to the days of radio, the audience filling in the spaces with their imaginations.

--Wynne Weiss, Vista, California Public Library

ALSO SEE: *The Cat Lady Christmas*, page 33 and *The Midnight Rider*, page 32



Tina Latigo Rides to the Rescue

Sherry Piros | 40-45 minute comedy
1 man, 12 women, 3 either, many parts doubled

Tune into this old-fashioned radio play! The Old West comes alive as Tina Latigo and her French sidekick, Lisette, work to bring justice to women everywhere. However, the sound effects man hasn't shown up for the play, so the audience has to fill in. Meanwhile, the mortgage is due on the Edward sisters' ranch but the miserly banker won't budge. And the final straw—a treasured music box is missing so Tina Latigo jumps into action. This show is fun, easy, and a sure hit!



The Last Day at W.O.R.K.

Brandon Daughtry Slocum and JP Schuffman.
40 minute comedy
Gender-flexible roles for 12-16 actors

A radio station in a small southern town, W.O.R.K., is signing off the air after 50 years. The station owners have invited back their old favorite acts for one last nostalgic show.



Mona Lisa's Toe

Douglas Campbell | 10 minute comedy
1 man, 4 women, 2 either

Who could have stolen the painting, Mona Lisa's Toe, at the Pink Pekingese Hotel, a residence for seniors? Was it Myra who preferred paintings of dogs? Or was it Fern, who lost her appetite every time she looked at it? What about Millie, the maid, who had to clean it? This madcap radio farce is fun and very easy to stage!

MYSTERY



Matzo Balls

Jordan R. Young | 20 minute comedy | 1 man, 4 women

The matzo balls have gone missing from Sunny Acres Retirement Home and Holmes and Watson are on the case—Shirley Holmes and Dottie Watson! The cook is the prime suspect. Inspector Lestrade, a policewoman who doesn't know matzo balls from mozzarella, catches the culprit who confesses that he borrowed them for the church lawn bowling tournament! A perfect blend of suspense and comedy in this radio show!





Mrs. Claus

Bruce Boeck

5 minute comedy | 1 woman

It's Christmas time and Santa is delivering toys in his sleigh, bringing good cheer to all. But what about the wife he leaves behind, the hardworking woman who supports him? Who cleans up after those reindeer, anyway? Who keeps those elves in line? Mabel Claus describes the trials and tribulations of being married to the world's most famous man for 541 years. She is the 'real' story behind Santa, and a true Christmas gem!



'Twas the Night

Pamela Loyd | 5 minute comedy

1 man, 1 woman

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring—except for his spouse. Her busy efforts to make everything perfect were disturbing his quiet Christmas Eve. So he put on his robe and his Santa Claus hat to make everything better by making it worse. Oops!

Merry Magic

Pamela Loyd | 10 minute comedy

1 man, 1 woman

Herbert decided there was no point in celebrating Christmas this year since the kids and grandkids couldn't make it home for the holiday. But while Herbert became a Mr. Humbug and cancelled Christmas, his wife Louise finds an unexpected way to create some magic for just the two of them. A sweet and warm-hearted Christmas play.



Perplexing Polar Problems

Jack Coberly | 10 minute comedy

3 men, 3 women, 2 either

The solution to Santa's production and labor problems arrives by way of the Brothers Grimm. Toy-making has restarted but the cure comes with some zany side effects.



Hanukkah Santa

Barbara Trainin Blank

10 minute comedy

1 man, 1 woman, 1 either

Time to call the rabbi, this is a real emergency. After spending a frantic hour looking for his Santa suit, Sam went running out the door at 4 o'clock in the morning. It was bad enough when he wore it to a Purim party, but on Hanukkah?



Merry Christmas / Happy Thanksgiving



Susan Jarrett

10 minute comedy

1 man, 7 women

A play for Thanksgiving or for the holidays. Nora has invited all of her lonely neighbors, but what a group! There's a grouch who doesn't like being around lots of people, a glutton who is about to eat them out of house and home, a flirt who only has eyes for Nora's husband, and a kleptomaniac who steals everything that isn't nailed down. At least the last two guests seem normal: two procrastinating sisters, about to enjoy turkey on the Big Day for the first time ever! That is, if only Nora can find the turkey.

The Christmas Police

Laura Pfizenmayer | 10 minute comedy

1 man, 1 woman

Bring out your tacky Christmas ornaments and don your worst holiday sweaters...then watch out for the Christmas Police! Officer Jack Frost is on the job protecting the neighborhood from gross violations of good taste and Maude Klawes is a repeat offender. Will Frost be able to pry her precious Christmas cow and her headless Santa out of her arthritic hands?



Sad Sack Santa

Paul DiLella

15 minute comedy

1 man, 1 woman

Four days before Christmas, all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse—or Santa. Jay Evers, a seasonal department store Santa, has had his fill of unruly kids and obnoxious parents. He's done, but so are the vacation plans and the new kitchen. In a last ditch effort, his wife offers to take his place. A bet is on.



Dance of the Sugar Plump Fairies

Ludmilla Bollow

15 minute comedy

1 man's voice, 2 women

Two cleaning women arrive on stage to tidy up after a Nutcracker performance and end up discovering a vision of their future. Their mops and brooms transform, a spotlight shines, and they celebrate with singing, dancing, and castoff costumes. This is a fun, upbeat show and a perfect way to create holiday magic!



Hoppy Holidays

Susan Jarrett | 13 minute comedy

3 men, 3 women

Every year the Christmas Gathering seems to be the same old same old: same food, same people, same conversation. Sylvia's big plan to mix it up this year gets interrupted by a surprise visit from Rudolph and then the Easter Bunny. Sounds crazy, but it's really fun!

Mrs. Claus Gets Menopause

Daniel Guyton

10 minute comedy | 1 man, 1 woman

Chaos erupts at the North Pole on the night before Christmas! As Santa gets ready for the busiest night of the year, Mrs. Claus lays a doozy on him. She is going through menopause and isn't very happy about it. Furthermore, she's heard some terrible rumors about him and one of his elves. Now Santa has to remind her of what Christmas is all about—before it all gets out of hand!



In One Door! Out the Other!

Jack Dyville | 15 minute farce

2 men, 2 women or 14 actors

Take a hilarious romp through a run-down fleabag hotel recently marked for destruction, with colorful inhabitants from various backgrounds. The everyday goings-on in the hotel lobby bring intrigue, mix-ups, and an appearance by Santa Claus! Use a cast of 14 or four. Such fun!



The Christmas Home Tour

Linda LaRocque | 15 minutes
5 women

It's days before Christmas and the ladies are off to their town's annual Christmas Home Tour. Helen, the newcomer to the group, is their merry driver. Thanks to their annoying habits, rudeness, and short attention spans, she loses her cool and almost tosses her Santa hat. The real fun begins when the group decides it's time to stage an intervention to lift her spirits. This audience pleaser is guaranteed to keep everyone laughing from the very beginning through its delightful ending.



Frank's 75th Christmas

Brandon Daughtry Slocum
20 minute comedy

Gender-flexible cast of 11 seniors

Your audience will laugh their way through this play about a man who gets a special visit on Christmas Eve that changes his bad attitude and his listless life. Simple staging, modern costuming, and easy-to-follow stage directions make this a low-cost and stress-free production for your holiday celebration.



A Santa-Mental Christmas

Bob Naquin | 20 minute comedy

1 man, 2 women, 5 either or elf roles can be combined

Christmas in the modern world is frustrating Santa. His list includes tariffs on China, elves more interested in social networking than actual working, injuries from twerking, and an incompetent procurement officer. To top it all off, a sexy Reindeer, Fluffy, has been hired to comfort the reindeer upset about what's happened to Rudolph. Can Mrs. Claus save the day?

The Christmas Coffee

Ann Pugh | 20 minute comedy
3 women, 1 special walk-on

The social committee at a senior center prepares for their annual Christmas Coffee. As bossy chairwoman Ruby fusses, Sandra, an easily intimidated worker and Lucy, a fashionable snob, hastily prepare for a special performance by a madrigal choir. To everyone's surprise, a hip-hop rapper appears onstage, secretly hired by a vindictive employee. A light, lively, fun holiday script that's easy to produce.



Mr. Hartwell's Christmas

Bob Rinfret | 35 minute

1 man, 1 woman, 4 either plus extras
Howard Hartwell has been a Santa at the downtown department store for a long time. This year, however, has taken a toll on him and he decides to find his Christmas cheer in a bottle. He's fired. Sitting in the seedy big city alley, at the back door of the store on Christmas Eve, some unexpected magic helps him discover the real meaning of Christmas.

Home for the Holidays

Bob Naquin | 30 minute comedy
1 man, 2 women, 2 either

A homeless person appears in the neighborhood and in the end, reminds us to look for the good in people, which is more important than outward appearances. Easily staged as Readers Theatre or as a fully-mounted production, this play is full of heart!



The Midnight Rider

Susanne Conger
35 minute comedy

4 men, 4 women, 8 either

Before a live radio audience, performers carry listeners across the starry skies with the jolly ole' man in the red suit. But this year, The Midnight Rider adopts a new team of transportation, encounters unique celebrities, and plunges down unpredictable chimneys. Can also include traditional Christmas carols.

Now comes with sound cues.

Christmas at the Lake

Betty Annand | 40 minute comedy
3 men, 7 women

Jim is tired of Christmas and everything about it so he decides to stay at the lake cabin alone while his wife, Ethel, entertains friends and family. It doesn't take long before Jim gets bored. During a nap, he foresees the future and how his absence has impacted others. This is a sweet show about the value of friends and family.

NEW The Cat Lady Christmas



Allison & Margaret Engel

60 minute radio comedy
2 men, 3 women, 2 either

Cat-loving Corly has promised her new beau that she's pet free. Well, she was, until a series of mix-ups and emergencies bring a dozen cats to her home. Mayhem ensues as she tries to hide the felines before her date arrives. This strong show with a super message makes a lovely holiday event!

ALSO SEE More Holiday Shows:

Santa Flunks Retirement and **The Blathersons Give Back** in *Age on Stage® Comedies for Readers Theatre Volume 1*, page 4

Visit to Santa and **The Holiday Letter** in *Age on Stage® Comedies for Readers Theatre Volume II*, page 4

A Collie for Christmas in *Return Engagement Plays Volume 1*, page 4

Skits for Seniors: Holiday Plays, page 6

AVAILABLE ON THE WEB:
Memories of a Wonderful Life



Scrooge with a Twist

Martha McMillen | 40 minute musical plus carols
1 man, 6 women, 12 either in flexible size cast

A delightful retelling of the beloved Christmas story!

The funny, unexpected turns in the story make it fresh and entertaining. An actor who auditions to play the part of a really "bad guy" finds out that he isn't that type at all and though the narrator prods him to be "bad," it's just not possible. The show can be performed as Readers Theatre with audience participation and holiday songs.

Merry Christmas Caper

D. K. Oklahoma | 60 minute comedy
4 men, 5 women

Someone has broken into the senior center and stolen all the food for the holiday Meals on Wheels, including 23 canned hams. Two homeless runaways are discovered hiding in the Center's attic and the Sewing Circle ladies are drawn into a potentially dangerous plan to shelter them. Can they do all of this and still finish their teddy bear project on time? What if the Center's nasty director discovers the fugitives? The characters are caring and loving, pretentious and snippy. They all come together to make the holiday season good for everyone. It's a perfect holiday show!

The Haunted Holiday Hotel

MYSTERY

Betty Annand and Heather Rapin
75 minute comedy
5 men, 13 women, 2 either

The Haunted Holiday Hotel is jam-packed with zany characters and mysteries to solve. The play takes place in a haunted hotel with characters such as Crystal Ball, a clairvoyant, and Bertha Jones, a little old lady from Pasadena who is running away from her family. Elvis Presley IS in the building and sings to his long lost love while the guests are embroiled in the crazy goings-on in the hotel. The fun and laughter can be enjoyed at any time of year.



Halloween & Mystery Plays



Secret Family Recipes	page 13
Angel in Disguise	page 14
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Head First or Feet First?	page 15
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Do You Believe in Magick?	page 18
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Finding Gladys	page 27
Roxie McCoy Private Eye	page 29
The Haunted Holiday Hotel	this page
Murder at the Movies	Available on the Web



NEW

Miss Ida's Man-in-the-Moon Yard Sale

Joseph Alan Johnson | 45 minutes | 1 woman

It's July 20, 1969 and Miss Ida Lemmie is on a mission! Before she can relax in her air-conditioned bungalow in Hollywood, Florida to watch the first moonwalk, she invites us to her yard sale. It's more than just her finery on display. She shares how she found her path in life and her lessons learned as a glamour gal in the boom-town Miami.

I loved this play!...Joseph Alan Johnson has done it again with his wit and wisdom. – D. Richards, I love the Burg, St Pete

This is a play for all audiences. I took my grandmother and she had lived in Miami and she totally identified with Miss Ida. It is a great show, especially for older people. I loved it. – A. Meyers, Saint Petersburg

Coming of Age

Nikki Harmon | 7 minute comedy
1 woman, 1 voice over

After 51 years of marriage, Edna took a vacation all by herself—to Indonesia, no less! Back now, sitting on her luggage, and swamped in layers of batik, the question is, will she go home?

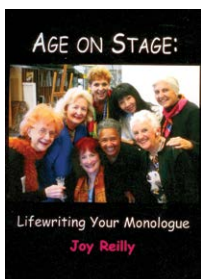


Housecleaning

Arthur Strimling | 1 woman

This is a delightful, comedic never-fail monologue.

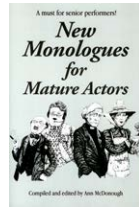
Follow the frustrated homemaker, Ida, as she swears off housework for more enlightening tasks. It's short, easy to perform, and a real audience-pleaser!



Age on Stage: Lifewriting Your Monologue

Joy Reilly

Joy Reilly teaches you to transform your life experience into theatre. Use her company, Howling at the Moon, as your model, taking you through the writing process. The monologues will inspire you and can be used in class or in readings. 38 monologues are included, ready to be performed...making a show that's easy to put together, with strong impact. **\$19.95**



New Monologues for Mature Actors

Edited by Ann McDonough

These comic and serious monologues have characters who are a fresh reflection on older adults. It's a convenient source book for auditions or acting classes. **\$19.95**

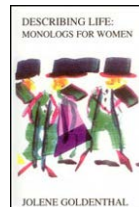


One on One: The Best Monologues for Mature Actors

Edited by Stephen Fife

Explore 81 older characters in dramatic literature like Big Daddy in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Halie in *Buried Child*, and George and Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Includes monologues from the classics

plus ones from American playwrights. Useful for auditions, in class, or performance. **\$19.99**



Describing Life: Monologs for Women

Jolene Goldenthal

In these 50 monologues actors tell tales, confide secrets, and share laughter. The pieces can be used for audition, for performance, or in class. Several are award-winners. **\$14.99**

I'm Stayin' Alive

Sandra Weintraub

7 minute comedy | 1 either

An older woman's life is boring until she discovers the pleasures of surfing the web, especially spam. Now she looks forward to adventure and excitement, all courtesy of her computer.

EDITOR'S PICK

Bert, One Year Later

Dave Carley | 10 minute comedy | 1 man

Bert, in his 70's and recently widowed, encounters a teenager outside his condo. The interaction convinces Bert that life is worth the pain. A well written monologue with a strong character who learns to live again. Very nice!

Sara Plays Her Game

Frank Canino | 10 minutes

1 woman

Welcome to Madame Sara Joel's French class. Sara teaches you correct pronunciation but also relates stories from her childhood in Paris during the WWII. How did they survive? By learning to play a very special game—a game that saved her life. After that, how difficult can French vowels be?

AGELESS

The Oldest Living Graduation Speaker

Sandra Fenichel Asher | 4-minute comedy | 1 either

High school seniors have voted to invite a senior citizen to be their graduation speaker. Sarah's speech is wise and witty.

Other Monologues

AVAILABLE ON THE WEB: *A Grand Entrance*, *The Oldest Living Graduation Speaker*, and *The Exam*



Featured Author



Bonnie Vorenberg

Bonnie Vorenberg has been called “The Guru of Senior Theatre” for her groundbreaking work as a nationally recognized expert and pioneer in the field.

TipSheets

Senior Theatre at a Glance

Gain an understanding of the fundamentals of Senior Theatre with this overview. You'll learn who's performing, what they're doing, and how they make it all happen.

How to Start a Senior Theatre

When you begin a Senior Theatre, you might feel like you're out on a limb, working to create a magical company. Don't fret. With this road map, you have the step-by-step advice you need to get started with confidence and have fun. It includes ideas about how to find a sponsor, locate a director, and select the form of Senior Theatre that fits your mission.

How to Name a Senior Theatre

Your company's name shows what kind of work you do and ties you to a sponsor or a geographic region. Developed from an analysis of the 800+ companies in the ArtAge Publications database, this TipSheet explores the many names being used, the over-used, and favorites to ensure a strong future for your company.

Directing Older Actors

Directing older actors can be an extremely rewarding experience. This TipSheet is a product of an extensive survey of directors and the author's personal expertise. You'll learn basic techniques and adaptations including organization, staging, memorization, how to choose scripts, casting, and more. Leap over the barriers so your directing experience is exhilarating!

Senior Readers Theatre Made Easy

Explore the joy of Readers Theatre, one of the most popular performance styles in Senior Theatre. The format is flexible, creative, and doesn't require actors to memorize. Discover how to choose a script, develop vocal skills, and adapt techniques for class or performance. Filled with practical advice, use this TipSheet as your guide to a fun and fulfilling Readers Theatre program.

Writing Plays for Senior Theatre

Senior Theatre is a unique art form with special requirements—much more than just setting plays in a retirement community! This guide will help writers understand Senior Theatres and their needs. Learn how to shape dialogue, characters, and plots that are fun, yet challenging as you craft works that older actors love to perform and audiences love to watch.

These TipSheets are concise guides that will get you started in teaching classes, Readers Theatre, or directing!

All TipSheets
are \$15
E-Document,
\$20 Hard Copy



HIT Teaching Senior Theatre Classes

Teaching Senior Theatre classes is one of the most creative, stimulating, and enjoyable things you'll ever do! Based on the author's many years teaching older actors, learn how to organize, plan, market, and teach sessions that inspire. It includes lesson plans for a 10 week, 6 week, and a Readers Theatre class which can be adapted to your group's abilities, from amateur to professional. Combine the suggested 'never-fail' materials with techniques that suit your teaching style. In no time at all, you'll be off and running.

...very helpful! It taught me how to teach the class, and saved me a lot of time and effort. - Alicia Penn



NEW Senior Theatre Online Made Easy

Transform your live theatre work to virtual platforms. Discover technical tools, online basics, and acting techniques along with sources for information about lighting, how to choose scripts, and more. You'll find that with a little 'good learning,' you'll be up and running in no time at all.

Funding Your Senior Theatre

Financial stability for Senior Theatre is best approached from multiple angles, not just grants, gifts, and appeals. This essential guide shows you the many ways you can expand your income streams and get on the road toward sustainable funding.

Bibliography for Senior Theatre

Use this complete listing to find the books, dissertations, magazine, journal, and newspaper articles in the field. You will be amazed at the many resources available to help you find success in Senior Theatre. This bibliography will help you save time when searching for information in Senior Theatre, arts, aging, gerontology, and related areas. It's indispensable!

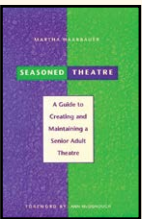
Drama Activities with Older Adults: A Handbook for Leaders

Anne H. Thurman & Carol Ann Piggins

Drama comes alive with this practical handbook. Directing creative drama, improvisation, and basic acting becomes easy with step-by-step instructions. Includes 50 activities to stimulate senses, awaken imagination, encourage interaction, and improve verbal communication. Great for use in the classroom or for actor training. A wonderful tool for directors.

\$48.95

Seasoned Theatre: A Guide to Creating and Maintaining a Senior Theatre



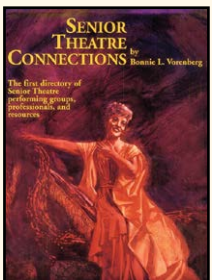
Martha Haarbauer
After many years of work with senior actors, Haarbauer has written a road map for how to establish and maintain a Senior Theatre. Discover information on how to

organize, recruit, and direct older actors, choose appropriate materials, make technical decisions, locate a space, attract audiences, generate funds, and more.

\$14.95

Senior Theatre Connections: The First Directory of Senior Theatre Performing Groups, Professionals, and Resources

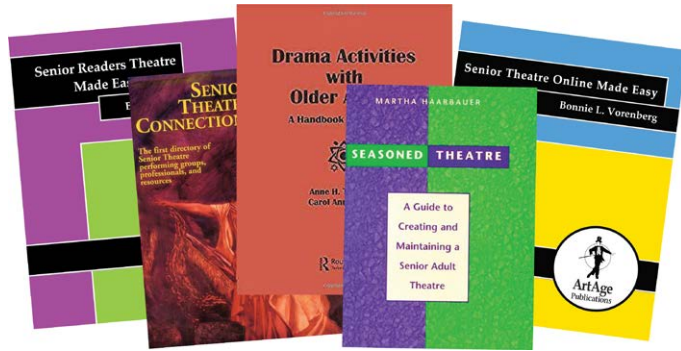
Bonnie L. Vorenberg



A top seller!
The winner of a National Mature Media Award for Excellence in Educational Materials for Older Adults, this comprehensive and well illustrated

source book brings all aspects of Senior Theatre together in one volume. A must-have!

\$19.95



How to Start a Senior Theatre Package!

SPECIAL VALUE of \$245 • Save over \$150!

When you start a Senior Theatre, research is critical. We've done the work for you, pulling together the time honored books and materials. Then we added consulting with Bonnie L. Vorenberg, Senior Theatre expert, to make the package even more indispensable. With these resources and the personalized support, you will be off to a great start.

- **Senior Theatre at a Glance** (TipSheet)
- **How to Start a Senior Theatre** (TipSheet)
- **How to Name a Senior Theatre** (TipSheet)
- **Teaching Senior Theatre Classes** (TipSheet)
- **Directing Older Actors** (TipSheet)
- **Senior Readers Theatre Made Easy** (TipSheet)
- **Funding Your Senior Theatre** (TipSheet)
- **Senior Theatre Connections** (book)
- **Senior Theatre Online Made Easy** (TipSheet)
- **Drama Activities with Older Adults: A Handbook for Leaders** (book)
- **Seasoned Theatre: A Guide to Creating and Maintaining a Senior Theatre** (book)
- Two hours of consultation with Bonnie L. Vorenberg (over \$200 value!)

Senior Theatre influencers get noticed!

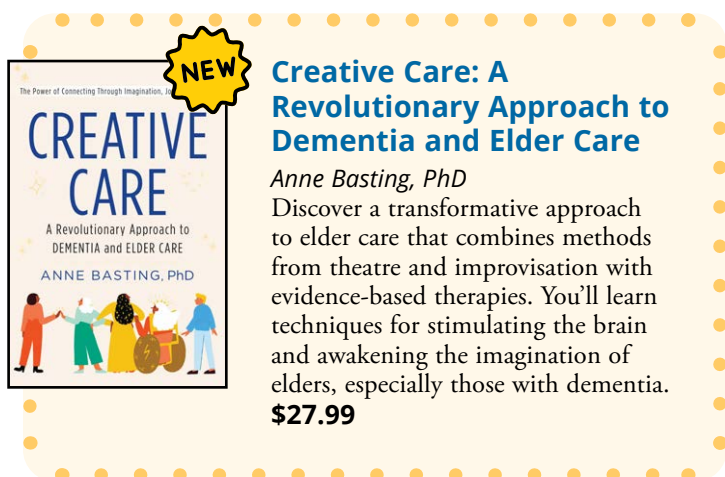
Join "Who's Who in Senior Theatre"

Join other performing companies, actors, and organizations who bring a wealth of experiences to the field. **\$135 per year**

If selected to be a member of this exclusive group, we will market you and your work, strengthening your presence in the field. We connect you with actors, directors, and playwrights to increase your visibility, credibility, and media attention.

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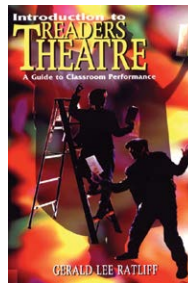
- A free webpage on www.seniorthatre.com with 5,000+ monthly visitors
- 10% discount on your next order
- A feature article in our newsletter introducing you to our 4,200+ readers
- One-hour consultation with our expert to help you reach your Senior Theatre goals



Creative Care: A Revolutionary Approach to Dementia and Elder Care

Anne Basting, PhD

Discover a transformative approach to elder care that combines methods from theatre and improvisation with evidence-based therapies. You'll learn techniques for stimulating the brain and awakening the imagination of elders, especially those with dementia. **\$27.99**



Introduction to Readers Theatre

Gerald Lee Ratliff

This basic guide makes Readers Theatre come alive! Learn how to produce Readers Theatre in class or on stage by easily adapting poetry, stories, and plays with simple theatrical staging. **\$19.95**

PAIRS WELL WITH: Audience Participation Shows, page 26



Make Money Producing Weekday Luncheon Theatre

Jonathan M. Zaley

This easy to read manual guides you through every step of establishing your own weekday luncheon theatre business. Learn about sites, food, shows, and pricing. Rely on Jon Zaley's 20+ years of experience to help you:

- Find your audience, markets, and promotion
- Make reservations and ticket systems
- Keep 'em coming back for more!

\$49.95 Hard Copy



Reminiscence Theatre: Making Theatre from Memories

Pam Schweitzer

Written by a renowned leader in the field, this book is a comprehensive guide to the nature, practice, and therapeutic effects of theatre created from memories. Drawing on examples from real-life case studies, it provides practical advice on how to draw out oral histories, create a script, and develop the material into a dramatic production. Excellent, thorough book! **\$36.95**

\$36.95

Makeup for Older Actors—Defining Your Character

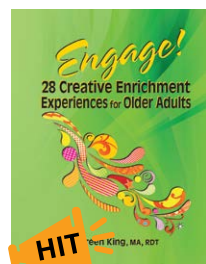
Patti Schulte

This TipSheet shows Senior Theatre performers how to use makeup to bring their characters to life! Learn new techniques, products, and tools for a flawless application. You'll give your acting a whole new sense of strength and clarity. It makes a huge difference!

E-Document \$10.00

ALSO SEE:

Age on Stage®: Lifewriting your Monologue, page 34 and **Our Voices: Senior Selfies**, page 10



EDITOR'S PICK

Engage! 28 Creative Enrichment Experiences for Older Adults

Kareen King

If you want to stimulate older persons' minds and imaginations, this gem of a book is for you. Let the easy-to-use lesson plans based on a theme help you create sessions that are filled

with creativity, exploration, and fun. The Experiences combine music, theatre, poetry, storytelling, and reminiscence with 28 topics. See the Table of Contents online. It's a great tool that fosters curiosity and builds connections. **\$29.95**

Kareen King knows how to connect with older adults. Her Experiences help bring out the creativity in everyone...they really work! --Sally Bailey, Kansas State University, Director of Graduate Studies



Creativity Matters: The Arts and Aging Toolkit

Johanna Misy Boyer

In this book, leaders in the field walk you through the fundamentals of arts and aging. It begins with the big picture of theory and practice but also includes the nuts and bolts of program design and implementation, evaluation, public awareness and services available. With an appendix rich with

resources, you'll have the solid footing you need to create or improve your own successful program.

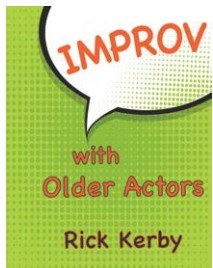
\$19.95

Acting in Television Commercials

Buddy Powell

Across the country, senior performers are discovering that advertising companies are looking for bright, charming, and friendly actors. Learn the skills necessary to add this fun and profitable venture to your resume.

E-Document \$10.00



Improv with Older Actors

Rick Kerby

Use this book to explore improvisation, one of the most popular forms of theatre. There's no memorization, only the creativity that comes from spur-of-the-moment thinking. Designed specifically for older actors, this collection's flexible format helps instructors expand participants' skills and creativity. The exercises are successful with novice to professional

actors, in performance or just for fun. In only a short time, this book will look torn and tattered as you use it again and again!

\$24.95



The Improv Game

Bonnie L. Vorenberg

This deck of more than eighty cards makes improvisation quick and easy. A huge hit when we've used them in our classes and workshops, the game is also amusing at parties or wherever people of all ages and abilities want to have fun. Unlimited combinations of When, Where, and Why cards provide the jumping off points for hours of spontaneous creative entertainment.

\$15.00



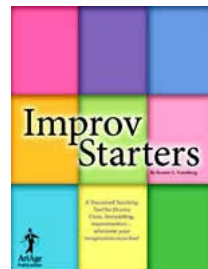
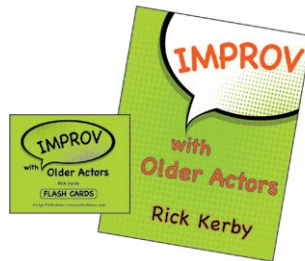
Improv Flash Cards

Rick Kerby

Spice up improvisation with this deck of cards! Use with the book or by themselves. Pull the "Who am I?", "Where am I?", and "What am I doing?" cards to create character, setting, and action. If your actors get stuck, turn to either a "Raise the Stakes" or to an "Emotion" card.

There's no limit to where the improvs can go. This will become a trusted teaching tool that you and your actors will love!

\$17.50



Improv Starters

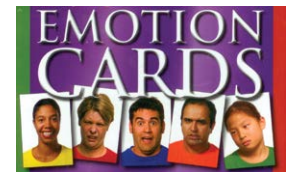
Bonnie L. Vorenberg

Liven up your improvisation with this deck of 35 expression cards. Printed on 8 1/2 x 11" bright cover stock, they are useful to prompt storytelling, to work on vocal expression in drama class, and to stimulate improvisation. When you're low on ideas, this will become your "go to" treasured tool.

\$15.00

Emotion Cards

Spark creativity in improvisation, storytelling, or writing with this 80-card set. Use the images of men and women expressing a wide variety of emotions as prompts. Other cards feature emotion-provoking situations and activities sure to stimulate. It's a useful tool! **\$34.99**



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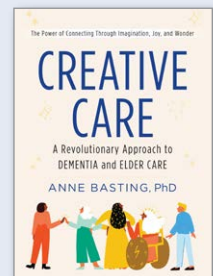
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FOR EVERY STAGE
Plays for virtual and
traditional theatre

Etta and Ida at Starbucks page 12



ArtAge helps older adults fulfill their theatrical dreams!