

## Langhorne Players Announce Best of Bucks Award, 2004 Season Productions

Newtown, Pennsylvania – The Langhorne Players are pleased to announce their award as “One of the Finest Theaters in Bucks County” in the Bucks County Courier Times’ annual Best of Bucks reader poll.

“We’re especially gratified that this award comes direct from the Times readers,” says Players president Rich Stockwell. “Since our material is sometimes more edgy, we’re thrilled that our audiences took the opportunity to speak for themselves.”

For decades, the Langhorne Players have dared to go beyond the predictable in regional theater, and the 2004 season will not disappoint. They’ve scoured the repositories of the best thought-provoking, contemporary work and brought creative, exciting plays to their home stage at the historic Spring Garden Mill. Dedicated in October as the Betty Davis Memorial Theater, their venue will host a season of five productions that dare you to turn off your TV, leave your inhibitions at home, and join them in turning on your mind with a different perspective.

Claudia Shear’s *Dirty Blonde* kicks off the season with a run from April 23-May 15. *Dirty Blonde* tells the story of two lonely New Yorkers obsessed with a legendary film actress. Opposites in most ways, Jo and Charlie meet at the grave of their idol, Mae West. Their mutual admiration leads them down a path of self-discovery. As their relationship intensifies, their story becomes intertwined with the life of America’s original Blonde Bombshell; a funny, sexy and unexpected love story.

*High Dive*, a new comedy by Leslie Ayvazian, follows from June 4-19, with a humorous look at the travails of turning fifty. Three weeks before her fiftieth birthday, heroine Leslie attempts to overcome her fear of heights by jumping from the high dive into the hotel pool on her family’s vacation in Greece. Out on the edge, her life passes before her eyes. What follows is a humorous review of her life choices, from that VISTA volunteer job to her losing bid at the \$25,000 Pyramid game show, paired with an inebriated celebrity. Join the laughs and see if Leslie makes the dive.

From July 9-24, the Players tackle Moises Kaufman’s *The Laramie Project*, a moving exploration of the aftermath of the Matthew Shepard murder. A theater company travels to the scene of the crime and interviews members of the tight-knit community. This gripping drama gives voice to the denial, anger and fear of a town torn by violence and prejudice. An honest portrait of human conscience and the power of compassion, it gives rise to a clear vision of hope for the future.

*Educating Rita*, Willy Russell’s comedic riff on Pygmalion, takes the stage from August 13-28. It’s the touching and wildly funny collision of an aging, disillusioned English professor and a spunky young hairdresser from the wrong side of London. The play is a magical journey to the other side of their hopes, insecurities and frailties to a rare understanding of how two sharply different people can find common ground.

The season winds up with *The Wild Party*, a new musical by Andrew Lippa, from October 1-23. A tale of moral decadence, passion and jealousy centered on two vaudeville performers in the throes of the Roaring Twenties, *The Wild Party* is filled with a riotous assortment of characters and an explosive mix of music, dancing, sex and booze. When Queenie, frustrated by her strained relationship with lover Burrs, throws the Mother of All Parties, passions ignite, inhibitions subside and the celebrating goes on all night. The cold light of morning reveals the price that must be paid for such reckless revelry. Based on a book-length 1928 poem, this jazzy piece leaps from the stage amid the sounds of the Roaring Twenties.

To request a season prospectus, call 215-860-0818 or visit [www.langhorneplayers.org](http://www.langhorneplayers.org).

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