

A MESSAGE FROM INCLUSIVE THEATER OF WNY (ITOWNY)

Inclusive Theater of WNY (ITOWNY) began with a vision: to create a safe place for people of all abilities and backgrounds to grow in experience and understanding in the Arts, while exploring their artistic abilities and talents. We believe that any time people of varied backgrounds are working together, the world gets a little bit friendlier and dare we say, better! Difference is beautiful and reflects the world in which we live.

As we will soon embark upon our 10th year (this November!), we once again realize that vision in this year's Festival of Shorts (established in 2019), themed "Friendship." All of the plays you will see in the Festival explore varying types of friendships; those formed in a post apocalyptic world, on drives to conventions with friends, feline and owner, familial, on dating apps, office watercooler friendships, formed in coffee houses, found in unexpected places like a DV shelter, and even those friendships that transcend our earthly understanding.

ITOWNY cast and crew members are people from various backgrounds and levels of experience who didn't know each other prior to their participation with ITOWNY. They continue to encourage and support one another; all the while, establishing their roles as artists and building lifelong friendships.

We would like to take this moment to thank all of our actors, participants, volunteers, and those who support us, who are helping us to make change here in Western New York and beyond! In particular, we would like to thank Mark Tramont and St. Mary's High School in Lancaster, who we are so proud to be in collaboration with. We look forward to all of the great things to come! Thank you to our families and friends. Without you, we could not do this. We appreciate your love and encouragement.

ITOWNY will continue to demonstrate what true inclusion looks like and prove to those who doubt its value, that when given the opportunity, training, and appropriate support in an inclusive setting, people will accomplish things they never imagined possible!

With much love and gratitude,

Aimee, Dallas, and Shanda - Directors, *Festival of Shorts - Friendship*
www.inclusivetheaterofwny.com



12-14 & 19-21
APRIL 2024

INCLUSIVE THEATER
OF WNY
IN COLLABORATION WITH
ST MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL
LANCASTER
PRESENT

FESTIVAL
OF
SHORT
PLAYS

WWW.INCLUSIVETHEATEROFWNY.COM

ACT I

The Merry Men of Tinder

Written by Madison Sedlor

Directed by Dallas Taylor

Performances by Lexie Hoelgmeier & JR Ozoria

On Rooftops and Rowboats

Written by Bella Poynton

Directed by Aimee Levesque

Performances by Heather Benson, Jessica Levesque & Susan Lorigo

Damn You, Roger!

Written by Mark C. LLoyd

Directed by Shanda Gardner

Performances by Penny Baldwin and Teri Ritz

Peace in the Mist

Written by Ryan Norton

Directed by Dallas Taylor

Performances by Hussein Mohsin & Susan King

Building Balanced Men in Buffalo

Written by Justin Karcher

Directed by Dallas Taylor

Performances by Geno Delmaro & Dallas Taylor

There will be a brief 10-minute intermission.



Scan me!

ACT II

Soar Spot

Written by Allison Fradkin

Directed by Aimee Levesque

Performances by Cat Kwiatkowski & Stacy Kowal

Coffee Dance

Written by Lynnemarie Scrivano

Directed by Aimee Levesque

Performances by Penny Baldwin, Geno Delmaro, Bob Janusz, Susan King, Jessica Levesque, Hussein Mohsin, Teri Ritz
Special Guest Appearance by Mr. Boodles

The Go-Away Face

Written by Scott Mullen

Directed by Shanda Gardner

Performances by Heather Benson and Stacy Kowal

The Golden Girls Convention

Written by JB Stone

Directed by Lexie Hoelgmeier

Performances by Hussein Mohsin, JR Ozoria, Manny Stephens & Dallas Taylor

Stage Management

JR Ozoria

"Friendship isn't a big thing-it's a million little things"



Theatre renovations generously supported through a grant award from Erie County.

Sponsored by:

Frank J. Todaro

Erie County Legislator