

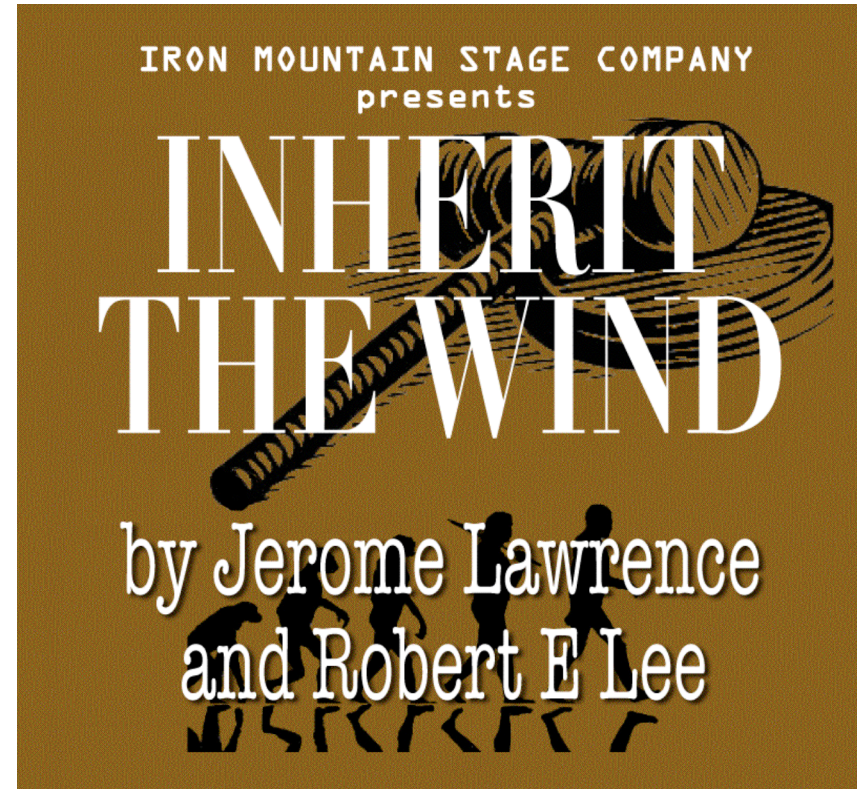
Iron Mountain Stage Company, Inc.

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IRON MOUNTAIN STAGE COMPANY was founded in April 1993. We are an award winning, non-profit performing arts company located in the beautiful mountain setting of Ringwood, New Jersey. Our goal is to continue to be an integral part of our unique community, and a significant cultural and educational resource to the surrounding areas. We will present theatrical productions of classic and contemporary plays, and live performances in a variety of styles, constantly striving for the highest artistic standards.



Directed by Linda Gerdes

Starring:

Richard Ahrens, Bill Benzie, Marie Cannici, Matt Casey, Scott Coburn, June Downey, Laura Edcius, Pam Herbig, Sue Klein, Bob Kreutz, Cynthia Loud, Patricia Loud, Jill McDonald, Leslie Potashner, John Santalla, Marijane Santalla, Janis Cortese-Tollis, Julie Trapanese, Victor Venning, Caroline von Glahn, Noberto Yalono

Inherit the Wind is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. New York. This project is funded, in part, by the Passaic County Cultural and Heritage Council at Passaic County Community College, through a grant from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts / Department of the State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Inherit the Wind: Playwrights' Note

Inherit the Wind is not history. The events which took place in Dayton, Tennessee, during the scorching July of 1925 are clearly the genesis of this play. It has, however, an exodus entirely its own.

Only a handful of phrases have been taken from the actual transcript of the famous Scopes Trial. Some of the characters of the play are related to the colorful figures in that battle of giants; but they have life and language of their own - and, therefore, names of their own.

The greatest reporters and historians of the century have written millions of words about the "Monkey Trial." We are indebted to them for their brilliant reportage. And we are grateful to the late Arthur Garfield Hays, who recounted to us much of the unwritten vividness of the Dayton adventure from his own memory and experience.

The collision of Bryan and Darrow at Dayton was dramatic, but it was not a drama. Moreover, the issues of their conflict have acquired new dimension and meaning in the thirty years since they clashed at the Rhea County Courthouse. So ***Inherit the Wind*** does not pretend to be journalism. It is theatre. It is not 1925. The stage directions set the time as "Not long ago." It might have been yesterday. It could be tomorrow.

from Inherit the Wind
Jerome Lawrence
Robert E. Lee

Production Staff

Director	Linda Handzus Gerdes
Stage Manager:	Janis Cortese Tollis
Set Painting	June Downey
Props	Janis Cortese Tollis; Bill Selvidio
Posters	Turner Striffler
Program	Kerry Soloway
Sound	Linda Gerdes
Costumes	Cast of <i>Inherit the Wind</i>

Afterward

Lawrence and Lee's ***Inherit the Wind*** remains strikingly relevant more than fifty years after its first performance. It has been translated into more than thirty languages, and has enjoyed literally thousands of productions, major revivals, and film and television adaptations.

Since ***Inherit the Wind*** first roused audiences at Margo Jones' theatre in Dallas—and subsequently opened on Broadway in 1955—the controversy over the teaching of evolution in the public schools has only intensified. How astonished Jerry Lawrence and Bob Lee would be by this fact.

They wrote ***Inherit*** as a response to McCarthyism, but they also saw the play as a very personal testament to their belief in the compatibility of faith and reason. Bob was raised a Methodist in the small town of Elyria, Ohio; Jerry, born just a few miles away in Cleveland, was raised in a deeply observant Jewish household. Over their lifetimes, they each sustained an abiding faith in God and religious principles. Bob wrote, "Religion means a great deal to me. But Jesus did not burden the disciples with creeds and credos. He said: 'Follow me.' More important than observing any formal ritual is the ethical result of the religious experience. Religion urges us to use our intuition of the divine in our practical, hour-to-hour tasks of working and living."

Protesting the action of the Rockford, Illinois School Board, which had sought to cancel a 1963 high school production of ***Inherit***, the playwrights wrote, "We feel that ***Inherit the Wind*** is entirely in accord with a basic religious tenet: each man his own priest."

Both Lawrence and Lee felt that the religious experience is essentially mystical - and very different for every individual. They did not intend ***Inherit the Wind*** to be perceived as an attack on fundamentalism, nor as a battle between science and religion. They wrote, "Ministers of many faiths have preached sermons about this play because they believe, as we do, that educated, scientifically aware people may still believe, deeply, in God."

Mrs. Robert E. Lee
Encino, California
January 2009

Coming next Spring!

The Queen of Bingo!

**By Jeanne Michels
And Phyllis Murphy**

Dates to be announced!

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For advance notice of auditions and productions, subscribe to the web-based newsletter of Iron Mountain Stage Company by visiting our web site www.ironmtn.org or e-mailing us at info@ironmtn.org.

Inherit the Wind

by Jerome Lawrence & Robert E. Lee

Directed by Linda Gerdes

Cast of Characters (in order of appearance)

Holly Blair	<i>Cynthia Loud</i>
Rachel Brown	<i>Julie Trapanese</i>
Meeker	<i>John Santalla</i>
Bertram Cates	<i>Bob Kreutz</i>
Mrs. Goodfellow	<i>Caroline von Glahn</i>
Mrs. Krebs	<i>Pam Herbig</i>
Rev. Jeremiah Brown	<i>Scott Coburn</i>
Mr. Sillers	<i>Roberto Yacono</i>
Mrs. Cooper	<i>Marie Cannici</i>
Mrs. Blair	<i>Marijane Santalla</i>
Photographer/Reporter	<i>Bill Benzie</i>
Elijah/Harry Y. Esterbrook	<i>Matt Casey</i>
E.K. Hornbeck	<i>Patty Loud</i>
Matthew Harrison Brady	<i>Victor Venning</i>
Mrs. Brady	<i>Sue Klein</i>
T. Davenport	<i>Laura Edcius</i>
Mayor Dunlap	<i>Rich Ahrens</i>
Henrietta Drummond	<i>Leslie Potashner</i>
Judge	<i>Jill McDonald</i>
Mrs. Loomis	<i>June Downey</i>

Time: Summer. Not too long ago.

Place: A small town.

Act 1

Scene 1 – In and around the Hillsboro Courthouse.

Scene 2 – The courtroom. A few days later.

Scene 3 – The courthouse lawn. The same night.

Act II

Scene 1 – The courtroom, two days later.

Scene 2 – The courtroom, the following day.

Cast

Rich Ahrens - Mayor Dunlap - Rich has performed in community theater for 18 years with various groups. Recently Rich played Vincent Greenleaf in *The Girls of the Garden Club*. Rich has also played Vinnie in *The Odd Couple* and the Star Keeper in *Carousel* both with Studio 13. Rich is Vice-President of The West Milford Players and has directed *London Suite*, *Noises Off*, *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Night Watch*. Rich has performed in *The Laramie Project*, *California Suite* and *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*. With Iron Mountain Stage Company (one of the founders), shows include, among others, *The Rainmaker*, *The Fantasticks*, *12 Angry Men*, and *Night Watch* for which he received a Perry nomination for his role as Officer Vanelli.

Bill Benzie - Photographer/Reporter - Bill has been involved with the Iron Mountain Stage Company since 2003 in various capacities such as stage management, lighting assistance, producer (*The Girls of The Garden Club*, *Spring Mix*), and as a cast member (*Christmas Carol*, *Spring Mix*, *Seniors of the Sahara*.) Bill is also a member of the Iron Mountain Board of Directors.

Marie Cannici - Mrs. Cooper - Marie has appeared in shows with Iron Mountain Stage Company, West Milford Players, IACT, St. Catherine PAG, The King Center and was in the chorus on Cruise Ship to Alaska!! Performed in over 30 shows and all were fun--especially *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Arsenic & Old Lace*, *Lilies of the Field*, *Annie*, *Wizard of Oz*. Was very proud to perform in *Vagina Monologues* with WM Players and was nominated for a "Perry" for her performance as Ouizer in *Steel Magnolias*. Thanks to Crissey, my three girls and "Shorty" and my friends for always making me feel like a "STAR". Thanks also to Linda & Janis for their unending support.

Matthew Casey - Elijah/Harry Y. Esterbrook - Though Matt has participated within many school events and church clubs, this is his first time ever in a theater production. A senior at Don Bosco Preparatory High School, Matt hopes to advance his passions in the artistic realm by pursuing a degree in English. An avid fan of Shakespearean Literature, Matt has found *Inherit the Wind* to be morally parallel to many of the underlying themes of Shakespeare's plays- including love, justice, compassion, truth, and the individual's right to discern the truth based upon one's own conscience. Matt would like to especially thank Janis Tollis for welcoming members of the production into her home with warm and open arms, Linda Gerdes for her sincere dedication, fervor, and zeal in regards to directing the play, and all the cast members for their active roles within the play itself.

Scott Coburn - Rev. Jeremiah Brown - Scott is pleased to be performing once again for the Iron Mountain Stage Company having previously been seen as Paul in *God Walks Into a Bar*. Scott's recent acting experience(s) include lead roles in *London Suite*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *Into the Woods*, *Flaming Idiots* and *Its Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas*; all with The West Milford Players. Scott's past experience includes lead roles in *Damn Yankees*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the*

Director's Note

I happened to pick up the script of ***Inherit the Wind*** last year in my classroom where a student had left it behind. 2 hours later I was hooked. Even while I was reading the play, I was seeing the parallels to our own time and envisioning the famous trial taking place in 2011! When I read the authors' note (which is included in this program), I knew that this was the next play I wanted to direct.

I want to commend our terrific cast who bring this show to life. Casting a show with 20 people was a risk. But their patience, dedication and good humor, turned a stressful situation into a wonderful experience. A huge thank you also has to go to Janis Tollis, who let us use her house as a rehearsal space. Thank you for letting us take over your living room for 2 months and for the treats and coffee!

And lastly I want to thank you our audience. Without you, we would have no shared experience of theater. If this is your first Iron Mountain play, I hope we convince you to try another next Spring with our upcoming production of ***The Queen of Bingo***!

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Production Staff

Linda Handzus Gerdes - Director - Linda has performed and directed with several local NJ community theater groups. Favorite roles include Bloody Mary (South Pacific); Katisha (The Mikado); Mary St. Martin (Bawdy Babes of Broadway) and Dolly Biddle (The Kitchen Witches). She is currently the president of Iron Mountain Stage Company. During the day, Linda can be seen teaching Mathematics at Ridgefield Park Jr.-Sr. High School or directing their annual musical. "Thank you to a hardworking, patient and talented cast! - It was a pleasure."

Janis Cortese Tollis - Stage Manager - A retired Pediatric Intensive Care Nurse of 25 years and the original east coast breeder of the domestic "Bengal" cat with Asian Leopard bloodlines. Janis' passion is animals. She is a member of an international group called Friends of Homeless Animals dedicated to animal rescue and advocacy. Janis' last stage appearance was as a Can-Can dancer in her high school play back in 1970. She admits "anything to do with acting is uncharted territory" This is Janis' first try as "stage manager". A big thanks to Linda Gerdes and the entire cast for helping this "fish out of water" grow some gills and scales. This has been a sweet experience I will never forget. Not only was I warmly welcomed but I was educated with the help and great patients of all. I am looking forward to the further spreading of my wings with Iron Mountain in the future. Special love to my daughters Jade and Mia, you are the light of my life and special thanks to my mother Lena for giving me "life". Janis would also like to remind everyone who is looking for a pet to PLEASE check out www.petfinder.com where any pure breed or mix of dog, cat, bird, etc. of any age, baby to senior can be found throughout the USA and Canada and rescued from a Rescue or Shelter. Please don't buy while shelter animals die. Give an animal a second chance at life...adopt or foster.



Thank you to all the groups, companies, and individuals who have donated supplies, equipment, time and talent to our show.

Special thanks to The UPS Store, The Community Presbyterian Church and Ponds Reformed Church.

Way to the Forum, Arsenic and Old Lace, The Bells are Ringing, The Butterfingers Angel... and Clifford Odets *Golden Boy*. Scott will be making his directorial debut this November with The West Milford Players production of Neil Simon's *Rumors*. Scott would like to dedicate his performance to his children, Ryan and Samantha, and encourage them to live their dreams to the fullest. "Break-A-Leg Cast"

June Downey - Mrs. Loomis - June has directed, stage managed, and designed sets and props for a number of NJ community theaters including Studio 13, West Milford Players, Iron Mountain Stage Company, St. Catherine's PAG, St. Paul's. Shows include *Arsenic and Old Lace, Steel Magnolias, Brighton Beach Memoirs, South Pacific, Annie, Children of Eden, Nunsense, Lilies of the Field*. For The West Players June directed *London Suite* and *Noises Off* with Rich Ahrens. She has designed sets for *Hello Dolly* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie, Oliver!, Grease* and *Hairspray* for Ridgefield Park High School. Thanks to Linda for asking me to be in this show.

Laura Edcius - T. Davenport - Having performed previously for Iron Mountain Stage Company, Laura is pleased to return to their stage to perform the role as District Attorney, T. Davenport. Most recently for Iron Mountain, she portrayed retired school teacher, Sylvia Goldstein in *Seniors of the Sahara* and inmate Beth in *Delval Divas*. A veteran of the local community theater circuit, some of her other favorite roles she has played include the dual roles of Angelina and Chi Chi La Boo Boo in *Flamingo Court*, Sandra in *One Flew Over the Cuckoos Nest* and Aunt Gert in *Lost In Yonkers* (West Milford Players), M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*, and Nikki Crandall in *1940 Musical Comedy Murders* (Curtain Call Players), and Muriel Tate in *Plaza Suite*, and Penny in *You Can't Take It With You*, (Theater Five Productions). In addition to theater, Laura has also done television commercial work, voice-over work for Prudential and film work, including Paramount Pictures, *Changing Lanes*. She would like to express her gratitude to her family and friends for their support while she pursues her theatrical interests and dedicates this performance to her late mother, Alice.

Pamela Herbig - Mrs. Krebs - Pamela is happy to be back with Iron Mountain and to be with people that she has worked with before in *The Girls Of The Garden Club* and meeting new people. Pamela has been a Ringwood resident since 1980, has been married to her husband Bob for 36 years. They have two daughters, Diana and Lauren. Pam and her husband enjoy the Jersey shore and have had a house there for six years.

Sue Klein - Mrs. Brady - Sue Klein last appeared with the Iron Mountain Stage Company in *Gift of Murder*, where she played the murderous Nurse Pepper. She also gossiped about gardens and gardeners as Agnes in *The Girls of the Garden Club* and slowly and steadily won the race as the Tortoise in *Aesop's (Oh So Slightly) Updated Fables*. West Milford Players productions include *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Elaine), *London Suite* (Grace), *Murdered to Death* (Elizabeth Hartley-Trumington), and *Nifty Fifties* (Beverley). She is grateful to her family and friends for supporting, and encouraging, her "theater habit."

Bob Kreutz - Bert Cates - Bob is happy to be performing with Iron Mountain for the first time. His past performances include the cameraman for the "Ed Sullivan Show" in *Bye Bye Birdie* with St. Catherine's Performing Arts Guild, Bob Cratchit & the Undertaker in *Scrooge* and also Mr. Gimble and the Bailiff in *Its Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas (Miracle on 34th St.)* with The West Milford Players. In addition to being on stage, Bob has spent countless hours working on set building with various theater groups. He would like to thank the directors, crew and all the actors for making this a great show.

Cindy Loud - Holly - Cindy is 17 and a senior at Lakeland Regional High School. Although she hasn't been on stage since playing an angel in Iron Mountain's *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, she played the flute in The West Milford Players' *Jungle Book* "Jungle Jive Band" and *Willy Wonka*. She also played the flute for the jingle used in *The Kitchen Witches*. Cindy is thrilled to be back on stage and is enjoying acting like a "kid" again.

Patty Loud - E. K. Hornbeck - Patty was last seen on stage as Isobel Lomax in Iron Mountain's *The Kitchen Witches*. Her previous roles include Bernadette the Chef in *Flaming Idiots* and Poppy in *Noises Off* with the West Milford Players, and Ester in *Surprise*, Betsy in *The Spot*, Ginger in *The Girls of the Garden Club*, and Mrs. McCarthy in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* with Iron Mountain Stage Company. When Patty isn't on stage, she might be found at the piano keyboard and was musical director last spring for The West Milford Players' *Jungle Book*. Patty wishes to thank Linda and Janis for all their work in making this a great show. Break a leg to the cast and a special "I Love You" shout out to our youngest cast member, Cindy.

Jill McDonald - The Judge - is thrilled to be back with Iron Mountain. This cast includes old friends from other shows and a couple of new friends - how great is that!! Jill has appeared in many local productions in with Iron Mountain and also with West Milford Players, Oakland Community Theatre and The Barn Theatre in Montville. This play has been a lot of fun - many thanks to Linda, Janis and to all the cast for making this a really good experience and, as always, thanks to John for his continuing support of my thespian leanings.

Leslie Potashner - Drummond - was the Founder and Executive Director of Theater Under the Stars and the Battery Factory Theater for eighteen years. As an actress, her favorite roles include Fosca in *Passion*, Emma Goldman in *Ragtime*, Petra in *A Little Night Music*, the Stage Manager in *Our Town* and Bunny St. Bart in *The Bawdy Babes of Broadway*. She currently teaches voice and musical theater at the Kelsea Performing Arts Center in Warren, NJ. Thank you, Linda, for this wonderful opportunity.

John Santalla - Meeker - I have always been interested in acting and the process, so when our good friend, Linda Gerdes, told me of this opportunity I was excited to try it. Thanks Linda!

Marijane Santalla - Mrs. Blair - I am a stay at home mom who has never done any acting in my life. Our friend, Linda Gerdes, approached me with the thought of being in this play along with my husband and I thought it would be a great opportunity to do something with him. Linda assured me that my part would be small, well 21 lines later here I am and having a good time. Thanks Linda!

Julie Trapanese - Rachel Brown - has always loved the theatre. Being a theatre graduate of William Paterson University, she was involved in theatre in and out of college. Since taking a 10 year "hiatus" to raise a family, Julie has gone back to acting with roles in *Steel Magnolias* as Shelby and Sharon in Iron Mountain's production of *Delval Divas*. She is now thrilled to in an ensemble case acting with Iron Mountain Stage Company as Rachel. Julie would like to thank her husband, kids and mom for all of their support and encouragement with her involvement in acting.

Victor Venning - Matthew Harrison Brady - acted in his first show, *South Pacific*, forty years ago. He's been wandering around the various theatres ever since, acting, directing, singing, dancing, building sets, hanging lights and occasionally living in them. He's since appeared in, (among a lot of other things) *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Half a Sixpence*, *Panama Hattie*, *Hooray for What?*, *The New Yorkers*, *Bound to Rise*, *Happy Birthday Wanda June*, *The Apollo of Bellac*, *Sing to Me Though Open Window*, *In the Boom Boom Room*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Dreamgirl*, *Plutus* and most recently *London Suite*.

Caroline von Glahn - Mrs. Goodfellow - After a couple of years working behind the scenes, directing *Delval Divas* and *Seniors of the Sahara* for Iron Mountain stage company, I found I missed the somewhat nervous thrill of being on stage! What fun it has been working with our director Linda and the cast of *I.T.W.* Some of the past shows I have enjoyed participating in are: *Our Town*, *The Mouse That Roared*, *Nunsense*, *Oliver*, and *Girls of the Garden Club*. Community theater people are special, a genuine love of the stage is required!

Noberto Yacono - Mr. Sillers - Norberto "Bob" Yacono was born in Argentina and has resided in the United States, by way of New York, Paterson and Clifton, New Jersey since he was 12 years of age. Bob was chosen twice as an All State (High School and College) All-American Soccer player. He has one prior college theater experience. For the last 30 years he has been engaged in the practice of Law and has tried his fair share of cases in Passaic County and other North Jersey Counties. He extends his gratitude to Linda Gerdes, his wife Margaret, his sisters Laura and Irene and especially his late Godfather Mauricio for instilling in him an appreciation and interest in the arts.