



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Directors Sought for: "Arsenic and Old Lace" and "Deathtrap"

The Beverly Theatre Guild, a member of the League of Chicago Theatres, seeks directors for ***Arsenic and Old Lace*** and ***Deathtrap***.

Resume: Interested directors should submit letter and resume to

Beverly Theatre Guild

9845 South Damen Avenue

Chicago, Illinois 60643

Interested directors should e-mail letter and resume to

hering@sbcglobal.net

There is a stipend

Arsenic and Old Lace is a farcical black comedy revolving around Mortimer Brewster, a theatre-hating drama critic who must deal with his crazy, homicidal family and local police in Brooklyn, New York, as he debates whether to go through with his recent promise to marry the woman he loves. His family includes two spinster aunts who have taken to murdering lonely old men by poisoning them with a glass of homemade elderberry wine laced with arsenic, strychnine, and "just a pinch" of cyanide; a brother who believes his is Teddy Roosevelt and digs locks for the Panama Canal in the cellar of the Brewster home (which then serve as graves for the aunts' victims); and a murderous brother who has received plastic surgery performed by an alcoholic accomplice, Dr Einstein (a character based on real-life gangland surgeon Joseph Moran) to conceal his identity and now looks like horror-film actor Boris Karloff (a self-referential joke, as the part was originally played by Karloff). The film adaptation follows the same basic plot, with a few minor changes. It is customary, after the cast takes several curtain calls, for the final one to finish with the "murder victims" (often well-known local personalities) entering from the basement and joining the cast for the final bow.

Deathtrap has many plot twists. Sidney Bruhl is a once-successful playwright whose last several productions have flopped at the box office. He then receives a script by a novice writer named Clifford Anderson for a stage thriller entitled *Deathtrap*. Bruhl tells his wife Myra that the script is brilliant and he then concocts a murder plot whereby he will offer to help Anderson rewrite the script, but will instead kill him and pass the play off as his own. Needless to say, the plan quickly spirals out of control.

ALL PERFORMANCES: The Baer Theater at Morgan Park Academy Arts Center
2153 West 111th Street , Chicago, Illinois 60643

PERFORMANCE DATES:

Arsenic and Old Lace:

Friday, Jan. 29, 2010 at 8:00PM
Saturday, Jan. 30, 2010 at 8:00PM
Sunday, Jan. 31, 2010 at 2:00 PM
** Possible additional performance*

Deathtrap:

Friday, April 30, 2010 at 8:00 PM
Saturday, May 01, 2010 at 8:00 PM
Sunday, May 02, 2010 at 2:00 PM
** Possible additional performance*

The Beverly Theatre Guild is a not-for-profit organization