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91

APRIL-MAY 2011

(904) 396-4425  
www.theatrejax.com

Theatre Jacksonville bets on

# THE CHAMPAGNE CHARLIE STAKES

Theatre Jacksonville ups the ante this spring by bringing the comedy *The Champagne Charlie Stakes* to the stage for an April 29-May 14, 2011 run. Just in time for Kentucky Derby season, *The Champagne Charlie Stakes* is a heartwarming comedy about love, integrity and growing old gracefully.

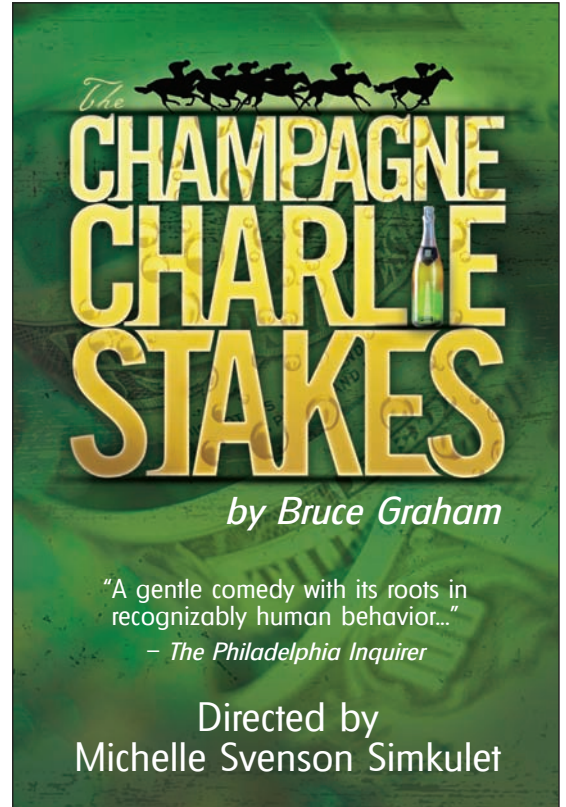
It's a very special day at the racetrack, where "Champagne" Charlie, a race-track regular, has had a race named in his honor. A dreamer and teller of tall tales, Charlie is accompanied by his wife of 53 years, Mary Lee, an incurable romantic, who still finds Charlie very attractive. They are accompanied by Jackie, a family friend and race track bookie, and their daughter, Mary, a high-school drama teacher, and the realist in the family who has nervously invited along her long-time boyfriend, Paul, to finally meet her parents. Since this is such a special day, Charlie conspires with Jackie to place the bet of his life – his entire meager savings ("the whole shebang") – on a long-shot hunch.

"We're thrilled to produce this very sweet play," said **Sarah Boone**, Executive Director of Theatre Jacksonville. "It's such a funny, lovely piece of work from playwright Bruce Graham who also wrote *Moon Over the Brewery* which was such a big hit for us in 2007"

The cast includes Theatre Jacksonville vets **Roger Lowe** as Charlie; **Sue Pope** as Mary Lee; **Allen Morton** as Jackie; **Jason Collins** as Paul and **Cee Cee Hayes**, in her Theatre Jacksonville debut, as Mary.

Director **Michelle Svenson Simkulet** (*Kitchen Witches*, *Getting Sara Married*) heads the talented production team, **Kelly Wagoner** (set design) **Jeff Wagoner** (lighting design), **Tracy Olin** (costume design) and Stage Manager **Bradley Akers**.

*For Families: This play is often humorous, but also contains instances of strong language.*



by Bruce Graham

"A gentle comedy with its roots in recognizably human behavior..."  
– *The Philadelphia Inquirer*

Directed by  
Michelle Svenson Simkulet

APRIL 29, 30 MAY 1, 5,  
6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 2011

Theatre Jacksonville's production of *The Champagne Charlie Stakes* is sponsored by Pacer International.



Show times are Friday and Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.; and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets for the show are \$20-\$25, and are available by calling **904-396-4425** or online at **www.theatrejax.com**.

## TRIPLE CROWN LOUNGE @THEATRE JACKSONVILLE MAY 7 And they're off!

To celebrate the Kentucky Derby, Theatre Jacksonville is hosting the **Triple Crown Lounge** at the Derby Day performance of *The Champagne Charlie Stakes* on May 7. Pre-show and intermission mint juleps and derby lemonade will be available at the cash bar in our lounge upstairs.

**And what's a derby bash without big hats?** Show guests are invited to put on their biggest, flashiest toppers for a Champagne Charlie Chapeau competition -- audience cheers will pick the winner of this hat race.



# REGISTER NOW FOR CAMP THEATRE JACKSONVILLE 2011 WE'VE GOT PARTS TO PERFORM... HEARTS TO WARM!

Are your kids obsessed with Glee? Natural born performers? Give them the gift of theatre arts camp this summer. Come join the Camp Theatre Jacksonville cast as we sing, dance, and act our way through great Broadway moments of the 20th century. Your guides on this four week journey will be our fantastic staff of trained and professional instructors, as well as a team of bright and talented counselors from NE Florida high schools and colleges. Campers will put their skills to use in our rocking end of session showcase performance.

**Session A: June 13-July 8**  
**Session B: July 18-August 12**

Camp TJ has been going strong for a quarter century and we're looking forward to at least another 25 more great years! We ask that your children bring their positive energy, creativity, and a lunch! For more details visit us on the web at [www.theatrejax.com/camp](http://www.theatrejax.com/camp) or call **Juan Unzueta** at the Educational Outreach Office, 904.396.4425 ext 16.



## AND THE WINNER IS...

A group of dedicated, aspiring playwrights competed in the first **24 Hour Playwriting Competition** on April 1st and 2nd inside the Harold K. Smith Playhouse. The night into day race combined creative minds, liberal amounts of caffeine and a ticking clock.

After 24 hours, the winners are: **First place – Kelby Siddons; Second place – Michael Lipp; Third place - Craig Spirko.** First place prize is \$300 and a public staged reading of the winning script. Excerpts of these top three scripts will be read at Riverside Arts Market on June 4, and a full staged reading of the winning script will be held at Theatre Jacksonville on **Sunday June 12.** Start times for each event will be posted on [www.theatrejax.com](http://www.theatrejax.com) in May.

The judges for the competition included professional playwright **Ian Mairs, Jeff Grove,**

Head of Stanton College Preparatory School's Aesthetics Department and Theatre Jacksonville Board President **Kristen Majdanics.**



## JUNIOR MAINSTAGE PLAYERS PRESENT JACK VS JILL

Congratulations to our young and talented Jr. Mainstage Players who successfully tried the courtroom case of **JACK vs JILL** on the set of *Inherit the Wind* March 19th and 20th!

## TPC AND THEATRE JAX: BIRDIES FOR CHARITY

Fore! It's almost TPC time in North Florida, and this year golf and theatre lovers alike can follow the tournament and help benefit Theatre Jacksonville. As part of the TPC's Birdies for Charity program, you can make a donation (minimum of \$20) to Theatre Jacksonville – and wager a guess at how many birdies will be made at the 2011 PLAYERS Championship.



**BIRDIES FOR  
CHARITY**

After TPC ends, the individual who guesses the exact number of birdies made has a chance to **win a trip for two to the 2011 Presidents Cup in Melbourne Australia.** But Theatre Jax wins regardless! To donate or for more information, please go directly to [www.birdiesforcharity.playerschampionship.com](http://www.birdiesforcharity.playerschampionship.com).

## GOING ONCE... GOING TWICE... LAST CHANCE TO NAME YOUR SEAT IN THE THEATRE



**Wayne and Delores Weaver** have theirs – and they want you to also have your very own seat at Theatre Jacksonville. **The Weavers have pledged \$2,000 to match the first ten auditorium seats sold.** Because

of this generous gift, **you'll only have to pay \$800 instead of \$1,000** to have your name permanently affixed to a seat of your choosing.

But don't wait, there are only a few seats eligible for this special program. Seats can be purchased at upcoming performances or during business hours by calling the theatre office at **904.396.4425.**

# IMPORTANT DATES

### The Drowsy Chaperone

*Book by Bob Martin and Don McKellar*  
*Music and Lyrics by Lisa Lambert and Greg Morrison*  
**June 10 - 25**

*Directed by Dave Thomas*

### Our Town

*By Thornton Wilder*  
**August 19 - September 3**

*Directed by Andrew Dickson*

**AUDITION:**  
**Saturday, June 18, 1:00 pm**

**VOLUNTEER SET  
CONSTRUCTION WORK CALL**  
May 21 & 28 from 10am - 5pm.



## 2010-2011 Board of Directors

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# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:



**PHILLIP GROW** Behind the scenes of every show at Theatre Jacksonville, there's a small army of volunteers who make it all happen – and that includes crafting the props and scenery. That's where **Phillip Grow** shines in our Volunteer Spotlight.

Phillip is a retired carpenter and cabinetmaker. He got his professional cabinetmaking license in 1987 in France, and has been an active woodworker ever since, starting as a journeyman on construction sites. After moving to the US, Phillip set up a woodworking business selling novelty items such as wooden toys and puzzles on the internet and also volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, first in the Bay Area where he earned the Regular Volunteer ("Yellow Hat") status doing framing, roofing and dry walling, and then in the Jacksonville area.

Since 2007, Phillip has been a volunteer with Theatre Jacksonville, working on set design and construction as well as furniture and props. His specialty set creations include the doll house and rustic wheelbarrow in *The Secret Garden*; the set turntables for *Into the Woods* and the courtroom tables that took such a beating in *Inherit the Wind*.

## LAST SEEN ON OUR STAGE...

### INHERIT THE WIND

By Jerome Lawrence and Robert Edwin Lee

**Directed by Michael Lipp**

Sponsored by

**Holland+Knight**  
Charitable Foundation, Inc.

# HOME AND PATIO SHOW WRAP UP...



The spring version of **the Jacksonville Home and Patio Show** wasn't just the hottest home improvement event in town, it was an opportunity for North Floridians to learn more about Theatre Jacksonville, the show's charity partner for Spring 2011's show. The show entrance was transformed into vignettes from Theatre Jacksonville – from props to costumes and more. Not only did the show introduce us to new fans, it hosted a fundraiser where guests played old school video games – and we got the coins. A win-win for everyone!



Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Jacksonville, and the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, Inc.

**JOIN US**  
**MAY 19th**  
**FOR AN INTIMATE**  
**CABARET EVENING**  
**TO BENEFIT THEATRE JACKSONVILLE**  
**AT FRIDAY MUSICAL**  
**SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS**



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