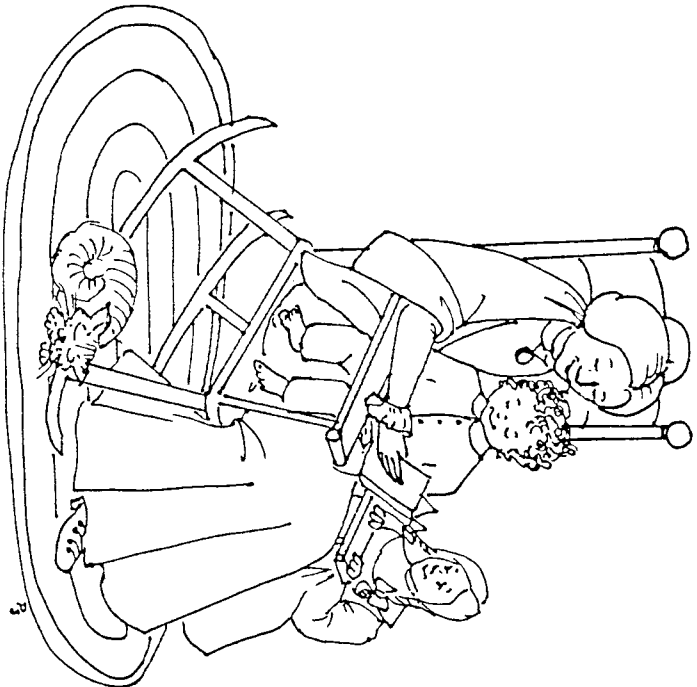


THE ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS

I REMEMBER MAMA



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NEVELN SCHOOL, ANKENY, IOWA

May 6th and 7th at 7:30 pm

May 8th at 2:00 pm and 7:30 pm

I REMEMBER

MAMA

By JOHN VAN DRUTEN

**Adapted from Kathryn Forbes'
Book "Mama's Bank Account"**

**Directed by
JO REID**

**Produced by
GRACE LEVIERENZ**

Produced by special arrangement with Drammatica Play Service, Inc.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

To be honest, the selection of *I Remember Mama* was made originally because the time of our production was going to fall so close to Mothers' Day. Cute gimmick don't you think!

Well, it didn't take long for us to realize that the reason...*Mama* has been such a perennial favorite of theater goers and presenters since 1944 is no gimmick. The cast and crew have fallen in love with each character and every touching vignette. We have laughed many hearty laughs and sniffed back tender tears. Rehearsals have been delightful as well as challenging.

ACT is proud to salute all of our mothers, all of the mothers in the audience and all mothers everywhere with this special tribute to family life and love.

Jo



I hope you will enjoy *I Remember Mama*, a lovable and heartwarming production. We wish to thank the Ankeny School District and their Community Education Office for making it possible for ACT to perform at Nevein School.

These are exciting times for ACT! We are ecstatic that ACT may be getting our own theater! This dream-come-true is still a bit premature, but our friend and supporter Denny Elwell has offered ACT about 5,000 square feet in his Heartland Building rent-free for ten years. If you would like to share or help with this exciting adventure, please make your wishes and ideas known to us. Thanks for supporting ACT! Enjoy...*Mama!*

Darel Alleman Hildreth, President, ACT

ps: As of now, the ACT Board has voted to accept Denny's generous offer and our work begins to clean, build, and raise money for our new home. Join us for these exciting times!

CAST OF CHARACTERS
(in order of appearance)

Katrin	Valerie Collins
Mama	Monica Green
Papa	Kirk Reeder
Dagmar	Briana Underbakke
Christine	Sarah Parker
Mr. Hyde	Bud Pratt
Nels	Nate Green
Aunt Trina	Kathryn Bisbey
Aunt Sigrid	Jeanne Ginger
Aunt Jenny	Marion Kieft
Uncle Chris	Alan Parker
Jessie (The Woman)	Angie Collins
Peter Thorkelson	Kevin Sprague
Dr. Johnson	John Lundstrom
Arne	Michael Mattson
A Nurse	Kate Rebholz
Another Nurse	Hazel Pratt

Soda Clerk/Bellboy	Mike McGuire
Madeline	Angie Blass
Dorothy	Sara Stone
Florence Dana Moorehead	Kathy Dickinson
Scrubwoman	Ima Starr
Uncle Elizabeth	Sebastian Bisbey
Narrator	Hazel Pratt

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Setting: *I Remember Mama* covers a period of approximately five years, beginning circa 1910. The central location is the Hanson family home in San Francisco.

ACT I

Vignettes

1. Mama's Little Bank
2. Mama at the Hospital

ACT II

1. A Cat's Tale
2. Graduation
3. *Farwell, Uncle Chris*
4. Mama Meets the Writer/The Adventure Begins

CAST NOTES

VALERIE COLLINS - Valerie has tackled her first speaking role in an ACT production and has proved she is a natural on stage. The portrayal of Karlin takes hard work on Valerie's part, but she has made it look simple. Since she is the younger child at home, she claims it was tough to act like the oldest. Valerie attends the Ankeny Middle School, enjoys singing, horseback riding and creative writing in her spare time. What spare time?

MONICA GREEN - Monica has never been on the stage before and she gives her young son the credit (or blame) for making her debut in ...*Mama*. She claims she is typecast, except for the blonde hair and Norwegian accent, but she has done a convincing job as an actress. Monica works full-time for Blue Cross/Blue Shield in Public Affairs. Bicycling and two teenage boys fill the rest of her time.

KIRK REIDER -Kirk has been a "good old boy" for Ankeny's ACT by playing roles in *Guns and Dolls*, *Lovers' Leap*, *Bad Seed* and *Ten Little Indians*. It is obvious that Kirk enjoys performing. He moved out-of-town for a while but returned just in time to take the role of Papa. ACT appreciates Kirk and his support of the theater. Kirk is a computer programmer/analyst in real-life.

BRIANA UNDERBAKKE - Briana is the "little darling" of the...*Mama* cast, and she even looks the part of a typical Norwegian. The black cat has become Briana's good friend, and she has worked hard to be a good Dagmar. Briana is in the 4th grade at East Elementary and lives with her parents (who both work at DMACC) and her three sisters. She plays the piano, does cross stitch and is a member of AGATE.

SARAH PARKER - Sarah is multi-talented, sweet 16, a junior in high school and claims she makes a good Christine since she's had a lifetime of experience being the snotty younger sister. Sarah has previously appeared in the high school productions of *Grease* and *Music Man*. She does needlepoint, sign language, music and creative writing. Is she artistic, or what!?! Sarah was recently inducted into the National Honor Society.

BUD PRATT - Once again Bud is wearing a different hat on the ACT stage. After being a judge, lieutenant, doctor, professor, grandfather and Buffalo Bill, Bud is now a shyster who reads to kids! ACT can count on Bud to do a good job at whatever profession he portrays. Presently he is also playing the role of a retiree and he loves it. However, he is busier than the proverbial cat.

NATE GREEN - Nate is a natural on stage. He could play any role and do a good job. Last year he was the mayor of Munchkinville in the *Wizard of Oz*. Nate is a fine young man, and ACT thanks him for bringing his mother to our stage. Nate is 13, goes to Parkview School and enjoys soccer, basketball and collecting sports cards.

KATHRYN BISBEY - Kathryn has multiple credits in the fine arts. Though her degree is in music, theater and dance, she has enjoyed doing a "straight" show and has done a good job of shy and retiring Aunt Trina. However, Kathryn may be upstaged by her own black cat--Sebastian Alexander Bisbey, alias Uncle Elizabeth. The cat has done a "feline" job. Kathryn works at KVI in marketing. Hobbies include singing in many musical groups, her fish, shopping and Jim, her husband.

KEVIN SPRAGUE - Kevin and his bride, Lisa, recently moved to Ankeny, so Kevin is a newcomer to the Ankeny stage, but an "oldcomer" in Harlan, Iowa, where he performed in numerous productions. Kevin describes his role of Mr. Thorkelson as the "Biggest Wimp and/or The Nerd of the 1910's".He is not typecast at all! His hobbies include camping, fishing, and sports. Kevin is an anesthesia technician at ISU Veterinary Teaching Hospital, but he promises not to put our audiences to sleep.

JOHN "SWEDE" LUNDSTROM - Swede is so "into" his role as a doctor that he is hanging out his shingle for free physicals. Swede has been very active in ACT and ACT II, but this is his first doctor role. He should sell malpractice insurance, but he's actually into real estate -- when not fishing or boating.

MICHAEL MATTSON - Michael (not Mike) is the youngest member of the ...*Mama* cast, but he is a big winner. He loves performing and has been taking acting lessons. He is a 2nd grade student in Des Moines, loves movies, biking, reading, and having a good time. Welcome to Michael.

KATE REBHOLZ - Kate is new to Ankeny and to ACT. She has had theatrical experience in high school musicals as a lead vocalist, and she continues with her singing. As a nurse, Kate is challenged by her "rude" role. She "woks" in the new HyVee Chinese Express. Kate is also learning to be a "grip".

HAZEL PRATT - Hazel has been in and around a great many ACT productions including *Carousel* and *Wizard of Oz*. She has also volunteered her artistic talents to prepare posters and program covers for past productions. Hazel admits that the bulk of her time is spent trying to corral her husband, Bud.

MIKE MCGUIRE - Mike gets credit for playing three characters in ...*Mama*: a bellhop, a soda jerk, and an invisible messenger boy. He didn't want a big part, so he got three small roles! Mike is a student at AHS and an enthusiastic Thespian.

ANGIE BLASS - As a junior in high school, Angie has been in a number of dramatic shows. She claims her part as Madeline is typecast so she can be herself. Angie is also into music activities and has been a great help with production chores of ...*Mama*.

SARA STONE - Sara has been around ACT since she was a toddler attending her father's rehearsals and shows. She has been on stage in *Carousel* and *Wizard of Oz*, and handled props for *The Foreigner*. Sara is active in 8th Grade Chorus at Parkview and in her church youth group. Theater is in her blood, and we're thankful she shares her talents with us.

KATHY DICKINSON - Kathy is the only affluent character in ...*Mama* and, wouldn't you know, she has to wear pink in spite of her red hair. Uff da Mega. (She is from a Norwegian background, so can say Uff da mega). Kathy's make-believe role is small, but in real life she is full-time mother, chauffeur and professional sports fan for her four sons. She also works at two jobs. Kathy absolutely rejects lutefisk and its aroma!!

MARION KIEFT - ACT's Jack-of-all trades. She has been a bag lady, a neighbor, a spectator, and a grandmother in *The Grapes of Wrath* (at the Des Moines Community Playhouse). In ...*Mama* she has a challenging role as Aunt Jennie - the crab, which is a non-type cast role. In her spare time Marion enjoys her dog Mac, who was a star in *Gyps and Dolls*, keeps busy with her "birding", gardening, painting, and traveling. She is also an ACT Board member and active in her church.

JO REID/GRACE LEVERENZ (Director/Producer and/or the Mutt and Jeff of ACT). No one knows how many details are involved with directing and producing a play until you have "walked in those shoes". At the expense of neglecting personal obligations and other responsibilities (there are many), Jo and Grace have spent endless hours on ...*Mama* and have given it their best.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Jo Reid
Producer	Grace Leverenz
Technical Director	Jerry Reid
Stage, Turntables, & Set Construction	Bill Shay Orville Ballard
	Bob Kratke, DeWayne Ehler, Duane Jacobson
Stage Crew	Jim Dean, Jim Bisbey Joan Underbakke, Nikki Mattson
Lighting	Mike Mosman
Properties	Marion Kieft, Entire Cast
Costumes	Linda Collins, Entire Cast
House Managers/Ushers	Doug, Lynne, Lisa, & Scott Arterburn
Publicity/Posters/Tickets	Darel Hildreth
Programs	Steve and Beverly Stone
Makeup	Lisa Sprague, Jeannine Carey, Pam Meyer
Photography and Sweatshirts	Bud Pratt
Paint Crew	The Cast and Interested Friends

Building a stage from scratch at Nevein has added major chores to this production, and credit goes to Bill Shay, Orville Ballard, Jerry Reid, and their crews. The cast and production team have all been enthusiastic and cooperative, and have become a family because of...*Mama*. Jo and I truly thank each and every member of this unique family.

Grace

CREDITS AND THANK YOU TO:

Ankeny Press Citizen

Ankeny TODAY

Ankeny Community Education

Kevin Koester & Bonita Lemon

Walnut Street Gallery

First United Methodist Church of Ankeny

Jerry Hoffman/Auction Outlet

Sunny View Care Center

and...

Denny Elwell

Myrtle Sexauer

Harold Moline

Mickey Bentall

LouAnn Erickson

Ray Peters

Families of cast members

CONTRIBUTORS

Friends:

Evelyn Rigby

Mary Lou Stout

David Ross

Sponsors:

Gerald & Marie Ballard

Patrons:

Myrtle Sexauer

Wilma Axmear

Single Membership

\$ 10

Family Membership

15

Friend

25 - 49

Sponsor

50 - 99

Patron

100 - 199

Benefactor

200 - 500

Angel

over 500



● ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE ●

The Ankeny Community Theatre (ACT) is a nonprofit organization created to promote the development of theatre for the Ankeny community and surrounding area. We strongly urge you not only to patronize and support community theater, but also to participate in its many activities. Audition and production announcements are posted in the *Press Citizen*, *Ankeny TODAY*, and the *Des Moines Register Datebook*. If you would like to act, direct, produce, or be involved with one of our production crews, we welcome you. ACT offers a tremendous opportunity for interested people, and we would like to tap your talents and encourage you to participate.

ACT also has a song and dance group called **ACT II**, which performs for community affairs such as Ankeny Summerfest, Iowa State Fair, and various organizational programs and parties. Their special Christmas program is extremely popular. If you are interested in scheduling their services, call Jo Reid or any of the ACT officers.

ACT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Darel Hildreth, President

Marion Kieft

Jeanne Ginger

Kathryn Bisbey

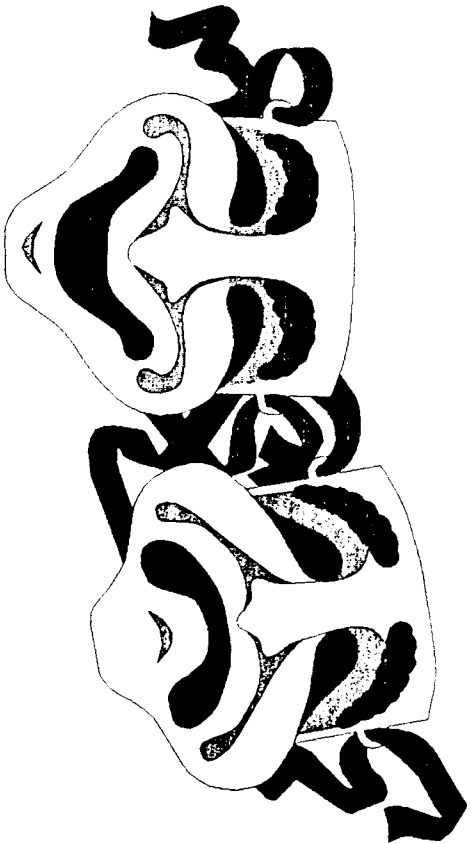
J.R. Walker

Steve Stone

Jim Dean

Monica Green

Sara VanOverbeke



*THANKS FOR
SUPPORTING*

ANKENY COMMUNITY THEATRE