

# SUMMARIES and PLAYWRIGHTS



## YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT

**STARRING:** James Blaha as Len; AND Shannon Maloney as Lottie  
**DIRECTED BY:** Ginny Leutgeb, Lakeshore Players

Lottie has never been to a high school reunion; Len has been to all of them--but their 70th is a first for them both.

**WRITTEN by** DONNA HOKE of East Amherst, NY

Western New York representative for the Dramatists Guild and member of the International Centre for Women Playwrights, Donna Hoke is a writer and editor, New York Times-published crossword puzzle constructor, and ensemble playwright at Road Less Traveled Productions. Her work has been seen in 24 states, as well as in England, Korea, and Australia. She is co-curator of BUA Takes Ten: LGBT Short Stories, and author of "Neko and the Twiggets," a children's book about a music-loving family of mice living in a double bass. Find out more about her at [www.donnahoke.com](http://www.donnahoke.com).

## THE BUTTON PUSHERS

**STARRING:** Brandon Bruce as Mr. X; Mickaylee Shaughnessy as Dana Gladis;  
 AND Neil Schneider as Ed Gladis  
**DIRECTED BY:** Ben Layne, Freshwater Theatre



A mysterious stranger visits an amiable suburban couple with an offer they just can't seem to fathom.

**WRITTEN by** RUBEN CARBAJAL of Jersey City, NJ

Ruben is probably best known for THE GIFTED PROGRAM, a play set in his home town of Racine, Wisconsin, and published by Dramatists Play Service. In January, Next Stage Press published his one-act, "Portland," and later this year, will release a collection titled "Hold & Other Short Plays." Recent productions include "Subdivision" (Gorilla Tango Theatre), "Car & Carriage Collide" (Pipeline Theatre), "The Button Pushers" (Snowdance Festival Finalist) and "The Last Reader of Books" (Hobo Junction). His work can be found in "The Best Men's Monologues of 2005," "More Scenes and Monologues from teh Best New Plays," "Outstanding Men's Monologues Volume 2," and the forthcoming anthology "31 Plays in 31 Days."

# Minnesota Shorts Play Festival



7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 6

Scripted  
by Mark Harvey Levine

A Long Trip  
by Dan McGeehan

All's Fair in Love & Science  
by C.J. Ehrlich

Dream a Little Dream  
by James Grob

Seldom is Heard  
by Mary Steelsmith

Kung Foolery  
by Brett Hursey

You Haven't Changed a Bit  
by Donna Hoke

The Button Pushers  
by Ruben Carbajal



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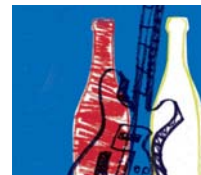
**SKYGIRLS:** Wednesday, Sept. 18-  
Saturday Sept. 21 at Andreas Theatre,  
MSU.



**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS:** Oct.  
25-27 and Nov. 1-3, Lincoln Community  
Center.



**PUPPET PROBLEMS:** Friday, Sept.  
20 at Mankato Event Center; Friday,  
Sept. 27 at Mankato Brewery and Satur-  
day, Sept. 28 at What's Up



**BLUES B4 THE HOLIDAYS:** Nov.  
21 at Arts Center of St. Peter; Nov. 22  
at Mankato Event Center and Nov. 23 at  
What's Up.



### PUPPET PROBLEMS

SEPT 20, SEPT 27 & SEPT 28  
Manakto Event Center, Mankato  
Brewery & What's Up



Don't miss Mankato Mosaic's "Puppet Problems," a comedy about how NOT to deal with the loss of a friend.



# SUMMARIES and PLAYWRIGHTS



## SCRIPTED

**STARRING:** Bridgette Karl as Elaine; AND Austin England as Simon  
**DIRECTED BY:** Paul J. Hustoles

Can we change our destiny? Or is our future already written?

**WRITTEN by** MARK HARVEY LEVINE of Pasadena, CA

Mark Harvey Levine has had over 900 productions of his short works all over the world from New York to Seoul to Sydney to Cairo. His work has been translated into Portuguese, French, Hebrew, Japanese, Arabic, and American Sign Language! Evenings of his short plays have been produced in Amsterdam, Sao Paulo, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, New York, Los Angeles, Boston, Indianapolis, Columbus and other cities. This is his fourth appearance in Minnesota Shorts in a row! His plays "Surprise", "Superhero", and "Misfortune" (Best Of The Fest Winner) were seen in the three previous festivals. He can be found online at [www.MarkHarveyLevine.com](http://www.MarkHarveyLevine.com), and in real life in Pasadena with his lovely wife and son.



## A LONG TRIP

**STARRING:** Al Saks as Older Man; Christine Sweet as Older Woman;  
Aaron Pepple as Young Man; AND Madelyne Riley as Young Woman  
**DIRECTED BY:** Cynthia Uhrich

An elderly man tries to connect with his wife one last time before he completely loses her to dementia. In an attempt to reawaken the bond they have held for so long he tells her of the moment they fell in love.

**WRITTEN by** DAN MCGEEHAN of Tulsa, OK

Dan McGeehan is an artist/actor/author. As an artist, his illustrations have appeared in countless international publications, magazines, children's books, and ads. As an actor, after attending Philadelphia's Arden Theatre training program, he has performed in and/or directed over 100 productions in regional theaters across the country. As an author, he has penned a number of children's shows and short scripts that have won awards at several playwriting festivals in the US.



## ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE AND SCIENCE

**STARRING:** Kevin Mock as Vince; AND Chris Scruggs as Scott  
**DIRECTED BY:** Erik Nelson

Two Dads discover the high-stakes game of the elementary school science fair.

**WRITTEN by** C.J. EHRLICH of Chappaqua, NY

C.J. Ehrlich's award-winning one-acts have been performed in numerous states, notably of undress and panic, around the US, from Boston to Chicago, from Normal to Kealakekua, and in the British Empire (including India, Canada and Wogonga, Australia). Some favorites: "The Lilac Ticket" (Heideman award finalist), "2+1=Murder" (Bellarmine International MADthematics Fest, Louisville), "Tuesdays in the Park with River Apple" (American Globe Theatre, NYC), "Shrew Man vs. Shrewman" (Artists Exchange, Cranston RI). Published in Smith & Kraus' "Best Ten-Minute Plays" anthologies: "Noir in Second Class" (2011), "The Ninth Circus of Hell" (2013), and "Intervention" (2014). Please visit at [www.CJ-Ehrlich.com](http://www.CJ-Ehrlich.com).



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## DREAM A LITTLE DREAM

**STARRING:** Amy Scruggs as Dreamer 1; Carol Rath as Dreamer 2;  
Noelle Lawton as Dreamer 3; AND Cindy Olson as Dreamer 4  
**DIRECTED BY:** Maggie Maes

Four women. Four VERY sexy and very romantic dreams. But what's the deal with WOMAN FOUR? She's not playing this game right. Her dream is just a little bit too realistic.

**WRITTEN by** JAMES GROB of Bloomfield, IA

James is an established writer, editor, author, blogger and playwright who is currently trying to pay the bills as a scribe in his home state of Iowa. James has written for newspapers -- with over 25 years worth of newsroom experience -- as well as television, radio and advertising companies. He also wrote dialogue for a daily comic strip, which appeared in newspapers throughout the Midwest. He majored in English and Communication at the University of Iowa and minored in Theatre Arts. While at the University of Iowa, he earned special permission to work in the playwriting graduate program as an undergrad and was honored to be able to successfully participate in the prestigious Playwright's Ensemble program. He is fluent in all genres of playwriting and has had several of his plays produced all over the world. He is active in community theatre and has taken the stage many times, both as an actor and director. He has been the coordinator of the Davis County Players' Summer Shorts Play Festival in Bloomfield, Iowa for the last three years. See much of James's work at [iowascribe.com](http://iowascribe.com).



## SELDOM IS HEARD

**STARRING:** Erik Nelson as Ivan; Anika Cristwell as Hannah;  
AND Launa Helder as Marilyn  
**DIRECTED BY:** Jen Potocnik

A woman's husband returns from Afghanistan, coping with an I.E.D.-caused head injury. She finds herself battling a local kind of terrorist -- that of the pink-suited president of their local Neighborhood Restoration Association.

**WRITTEN by** MARY STEELSMITH of Los Angeles, CA

Mary Steelsmith grew up in Boise, Idaho, two cow fields away from the Broadway Drive-In movie theater. Her work has been produced in the United States and internationally. Her short play, "Happy and Gay," two women stressing over how to "correctly" decorate their church for its first same sex wedding), won the Eileen Heckart competition. "Isaac, I am," Mary's sordid tale, of love, life death and AOL, won the very first Helford Prize, giving her the distinction of being the only woman given the honor. This play has been produced at Jacksonville, University, by graduate students of Ohio State University and by the Womens' Theatre Organization at USC. In August 2012, Mary traveled to Stockholm, Sweden for the Women Playwrights International Conference, presenting "Isaac, I am," which was an official selection in the event.



## KUNG FOOLERY

**STARRING:** Kaelea Rovinsky as Karly; James Ehlenz as Barry;  
and Brandy Wilker as Lois  
**DIRECTED BY:** Shelley Whitehead

Karly's husband works as a video store check-out clerk, but every time her mother visits, Barry puts on his ninja outfit and sets up another ambush. Will love conquer all -- or is it only a prelude to more carnage and "kung-foolery?"

**WRITTEN by** BRETT HURSEY of Farmville, VA

Brett Hursey's comedies have appeared in over a hundred theaters across the country including venues in Chicago, Boston, Detroit, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Hollywood, as well as internationally in England, Belgium, Luxembourg, Romania, Australia and Canada. He's also had over 40 off/off-off Broadway productions in Manhattan.