

The Autumn Players

Auditions

**for a staged reading of *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* by Alfred Uhry
Tuesday, November 5, 2019, from 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM, at 35Below**

The year is 1939. In Europe, the Nazis have begun to round up Jews. In Atlanta, Georgia, the posh, elitist German Jewish community – including the Freitag family with two daughters -- is busily preparing for Ballyhoo, the social event of the year, where young people have the opportunity to meet suitable future spouses. In the midst of the excitement, Adolph Freitag brings his new and favorite employee, Joe Farkas, home to dinner. Joe is from Brooklyn and of Eastern European background. What transpires in the socially stratified Southern Jewish community is a series of unexpected events – comedic, romantic and touching -- as the characters must confront their prejudices, beliefs, and who they really are.
The Last Night of Ballyhoo won the 1997 Tony Award for Best Play.

8 CHARACTERS: 4 WOMEN, 3 MEN, AND A NARRATOR OF ANY GENDER.

Please Note: 2 female & 2 male roles are written for actors in their 20's.

NARRATOR – Identifies and describes settings, scenes and subtexts.

BEULAH (BOO) LEVY – Lala's mother, Sunny's aunt, and Adolph's sister. Her husband is dead, and she struggles with wanting her daughter to be socially successful. Boo is the character who drives the play's prejudice.

ADOLPH FREITAG – Adores Sunny, but has little tolerance for Lala. Adolph is a businessman and a kind soul, who understands the good impact Joe Farkas has on the family.

REBA FREITAG – Sister-in-law to Adolph and Boo. Reba is somewhat simple, but she is shrewder than others give her credit for. Like the other characters, she is oblivious to what it means to be Jewish.

JOE FARKAS – Works as Adolph Freitag's business assistant. Joe challenges the family to reassess their ideas of identity and family. 20's.

SUNNY FREITAG – Reba's daughter and a junior at Wellesley College. She struggles with her Jewish identity, but faces this through her relationship with Joe. 20's.

LALA LEVY – Obsessed with *Gone with the Wind*. Somewhat childish and awkward. She fights with her mother, Boo, over their Jewish identity and social status. 20's.

PEACHY WEIL – A visitor from Lake Charles, known for his obnoxious behavior and outspokenness. 20's.

Rehearsals: Nov. 7, 12, 14, 19 and 21 from 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM at 35Below.

Performances: Nov. 22 and Nov. 23 at 35Below, and Nov. 24 at UNCA's Reuter Center.

All performances are at 2:30 PM.

Director: Wendy Strauss

Scripts may be borrowed from the ACT Box Office with a \$10 deposit.

