

Together We've Created Great Theater.



COCONUT GROVE



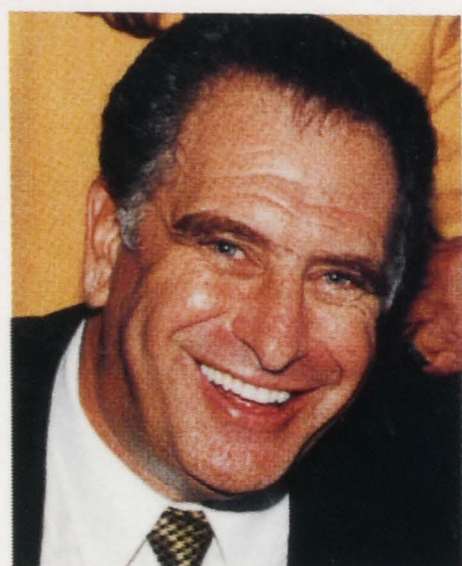
PLAYHOUSE

A N N U A L R E P O R T

Arnold Mittelman

Producing Artistic Director

Our Hometown Theater With A World Class Reputation



Arnold Mittelman

Someone remarked to me recently, "South Florida is one of only a few places outside of New York where a New Yorker can feel at home." As a New Yorker, I have found that to be true. Over the past twelve years, I have chosen to make this community my home and have been proud to be a part of the success of the Coconut Grove Playhouse.

While many of us come from other parts of the country and the world, South Florida has become our "hometown." We are the gateway to the Americas and an integral link to the global marketplace, and the Playhouse stands committed to playing a vibrant role as a cultural beacon in this community.

The Playhouse is dedicated to producing theater that enlightens, educates and entertains our diverse audiences. We also develop and nurture new audiences through our educational outreach programs that challenge young people to seek the "higher ground" when it comes to making value-based choices.

The 1997-98 season advanced our mission through the outstanding work that we have produced in the Arthur F. and Alice E. Adams Theater, on the Encore Room Stage and through our educational touring programs. This year alone we have seen three of our recent productions (**The Sunshine Boys** starring Jack Klugman and Tony Randall, **Visiting Mr Green** with Eli Wallach and **An Evening With Jerry Herman**) travel to New York and play for extended runs in Broadway and off-Broadway theaters. We have experienced the longest running production in Playhouse history with Dolores Sendler's gripping new work, **Goodbye My Friduchita**, which had well over 150 performances in its twenty three week Encore Room run. The Theater was successful in attracting new audiences with two of our family-friendly productions, **Having Our Say** and **To Kill A Mockingbird**, the latter of which was produced in conjunction with two other nationally recognized theaters. Furthermore, we toured to more schools in the region than ever before, with **Louie the Lizard** which taught elementary schoolers about friendship and **BX Blues** which took a hard look at teenage violence in our middle and senior high school program. Also, a record number of children and adults participated in our Theater Stages programming.

While we celebrate our achievements of the past season, we can't forget that we also said goodbye to one of our dearest friends, Rafael Blanco, "a true man of the theater." We will miss his creativity, professionalism and friendship. A fund has been established in his memory and we have received contributions from patrons, trustees, staff members, actors, directors and designers who loved him dearly.

We now look to the future and to the exciting challenges that lie before us. Our 1998-99 season looks to be one that will be thought-provoking, heart wrenching, touching, inspirational and entertaining and we hope that you will continue to play a vital role in its success.

Senator Gwen Margolis

Chairperson, Board of Trustees



Gwen Margolis

It has been my pleasure to serve as the Coconut Grove Playhouse's Board Chairperson during this most remarkable season. I have been involved with the Playhouse since the facility was purchased by the State of Florida in 1979. The Playhouse has brought national attention to South Florida as the host for an HBO special, a "Late Night with David Letterman," the centerpiece of a "60 Minutes" segment and through productions that have made their way to New York.

Like a hometown kid that "makes good," our community should be proud of the Playhouse's accomplishments over the past several years. The Theater has experienced an increase in all areas of ticket sales, which includes our dedicated subscribers and group and single ticket purchasers. We continue to rank as one of the top "tourist attractions" in South Florida serving more than 130,000 patrons each season. We have also seen our contributions from corporations, individuals and foundations increase by nearly 80% when compared to funds raised just four years ago.

This was a season where we recognized artists and individuals for their achievement on our and the world's stages and for the role they play in our community. Tony Randall and Jack Klugman received Ambassadors of the Arts Awards from Secretary of State, Sandy Mortham; Jerry Herman was awarded the Playhouse Lifetime Achievement Award; more than twenty-five African American and Bahamian American women were honored for "Having Their Say" in our community and Police Chief Donald Warshaw and five others (two of them children) were recognized with "Making A Difference Awards" for their outstanding and heroic efforts. The Playhouse also paid a special tribute to the Arison family for their ongoing support and commitment to this institution. This year also marked the 100th production of our Producing Artistic Director, Arnold Mittelman.

We are very excited about moving forward to the twenty-first century. The Playhouse will soon launch a multi-year advancement campaign that will fund much needed repairs and renovations to this aging facility, establish an endowment and cash reserve to afford us the opportunity to continue to create more extensive productions and support our annual operating needs for the next five years. We will be turning to those people who have played a major role throughout the forty-two year history of this institution, as well as looking to newcomers who understand the importance of having a major regional theater here in our community.

Nationally, the Playhouse is one of sixty-six not-for-profit regional theatres who comprise the League of Resident Theatres. Other member theatres include: Atlanta's Alliance Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Washington's Arena Stage, Chicago's Goodman Theatre, The Guthrie Theatre, Los Angeles' Mark Taper Forum, Seattle Repertory Theatre and the Yale Repertory Theatre, among others.



MESSAGES

MESSAGES



1997-98 Season In Review

in the
Arthur F. & Alice E. Adams
Theater



Neil Simon's *The Sunshine Boys* starring Jack Klugman and Tony Randall



Jack Klugman and Tony Randall in

Neil Simon's

The Sunshine Boys

with
Matthew Arkin
Jack Aaron
Stephen Beach
Peggy Joyce
Crosby
Ebony Jo-Ann
Martin Rudy



Directed by: John Tillinger
Set Design: James Noone
Costume Design: Noel Taylor
Lighting Design: Kirk Bookman
Sound Design: T. Richard Fitzgerald

Sponsored by:
Carnival Cruise Lines

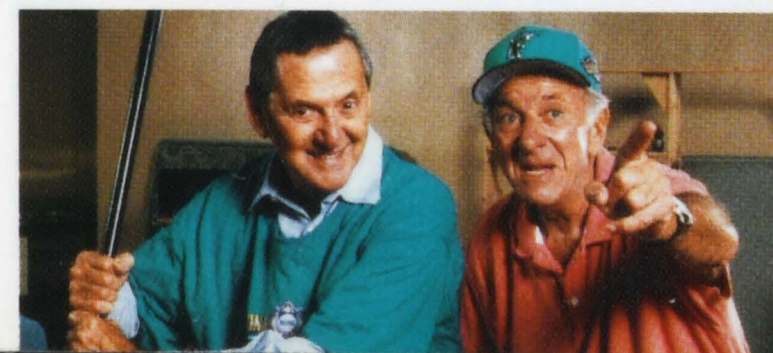
October 28 – November 23, 1997

Produced in association with
National Actors Theater, New York

Opened on Broadway at the Lyceum
Theater — December 8, 1997

*Klugman and Randall dazzle as Simon's 'Sunshine Boys'... Even if you don't remember their chemistry-in-conflict from television's long-running *The Odd Couple*, you owe yourself the pleasure of seeing them in their pre-Broadway run of Neil Simon's *The Sunshine Boys* at the Coconut Grove Playhouse.*

— Christine Dolen, *The Miami Herald*,
November 3, 1997



Having Our Say

a play by Emily Mann
adapted from the book by
Sarah L. Delany & A. Elizabeth Delany

Starring:
Micki Grant & Lizan Mitchell

Directed by: Loretta Greco
Set Design: Robert Brill
Costume Design: Nadja Lancelot
Lighting Design: Max DeVolder
Sound Design: Steve Shapiro
Adapted by: Steve Shapiro
Projection Design: Marc I. Rosenthal

Sponsored by:
The William and
Tina Rosenberg Foundation
Barnett Bank

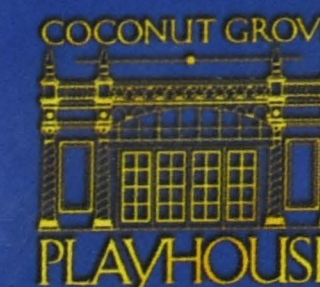
December 2 – December 21, 1997

Having Our Say is perfect theatre, a warm and touching combination of laughter, tears and the dignity of the human spirit.

— Buddy Clarke, *The Digest*,
December 11, 1997



1997-98



THE SEASON

1997-98



THE SEASON

Berlin to Broadway with Kurt Weill

Original text and format by: Gene Lerner
Adaptation by: Jack Allison & Fred Kolo
Musical Arrangements by: Newton Wayland
Originally Directed by: Donald Saddler
Originally Produced by: Hank Kaufman & Gene Lerner

Starring in Alphabetical Order:
Michael Babin
Mike Burstyn
Marilyn Caskey
Joy Franz
Martin Vidnovic

Directed by: Jack Allison
Set, Lighting and Costume Design: Fred Kolo
Musical Direction and Additional Arrangements: Susan Kingwill
Sound Design: Steve Shapiro

December 30, 1997 – January 25, 1998

Sponsored by:
Coopers & Lybrand
NationsBank
Don & Hedy Carlin
Ophelia & Juan Roca



A capable cast delivers dozens of songs with full-throttle emotion.
— Hap Erstein, *The Palm Beach Post*, January 7, 1998



“Weird as it may sound, Douglas J. Cohen’s No Way To Treat a Lady is one of the funniest serial-killer musicals you could ever hope to see...”

— Christine Dolen,
The Miami Herald,
February 9, 1998



No Way To Treat A Lady

A musical by Douglas J. Cohen
Based on the novel by William Goldman

Starring in Alphabetical Order:
Maureen Silliman
Cordell Stahl
Ruth Williamson
Lenny Wolpe

Directed by: Jeffery B. Moss
Choreography by: Barbara Siman
Musical Direction by: John Mulcahy
Scenic Design: James Morgan
Costume Design: Ellis Tillman
Lighting Design: Susan A. White
Sound Design: Steve Shapiro

February 3 – March 1, 1998

Sponsored by:
Mayfair House
Seagram Americas

After-Play

by Anne Meara

Starring in Alphabetical Order:
Barbara Andres
Marilyn Chris
Merwin Goldsmith
Lee Wallace

with
Duane Boutté
Barbara Bradshaw
Steve Wise



Directed by: Arthur Storch
Set Design: Steve Lambert
Costume Design: Ellis Tillman
Lighting Design: M. Todd Williams
Sound Design: Steve Shapiro

March 10 – April 5, 1998

Sponsored by:
AT&T
Union Planters Bank

“...a delicious souffle about two couples who dish and diss the dirt about life, love and the pursuit of anything and everything... After-Play is very tasty theater.”

— Robert Sandler, *WIOD News Radio*



1997-98



THE SEASON



An Evening With Jerry Herman

Starring:
Jerry Herman
Florence Lacey
Lee Roy Reams

Bass: Jered Egan
Directed by: Lee Roy Reams
Set Design: Kenneth Foy
Lighting Design: Ken Billington
Sound Design: Steve Shapiro

April 14 – May 3, 1998

Sponsored by:
Hedy & Don Carlin
Northern Trust Bank: The Private Bank

Opened on Broadway at the Booth Theatre — July 28, 1998

“As this show underscores again and again, Herman is a composer with a gift for haunting melodies and a lyricist adept at revealing character.”

— Christine Dolen, *The Miami Herald*,
April 20, 1998



1997-98



THE SEASON

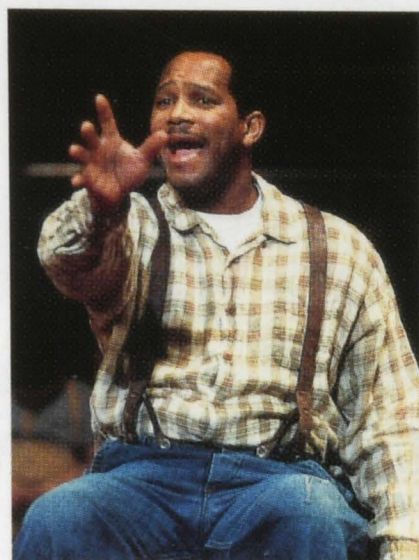
Harper Lee's

To Kill A Mockingbird

Adaptation by Christopher Sergel

Starring in Alphabetical Order:

Janine Cogelia
Hank DeLuca
David Dossey
Suzanna Hay
Beth Holland
Keith Jochim
Anthony Jones
Michael George
Owens
Tonye Patano
Nas Patouhas
Charlie Saxton
Mianna Saxton
Will Stuttz
Clarence Thomas



Directed by: Thomas Bullard
Set Design: Walt Spangler
Costume Design: Kim Krumm Sorenson
Lighting Design: F. Mitchell Dana and Brenda Veltre
Sound Design: Michael Shawn Deiger

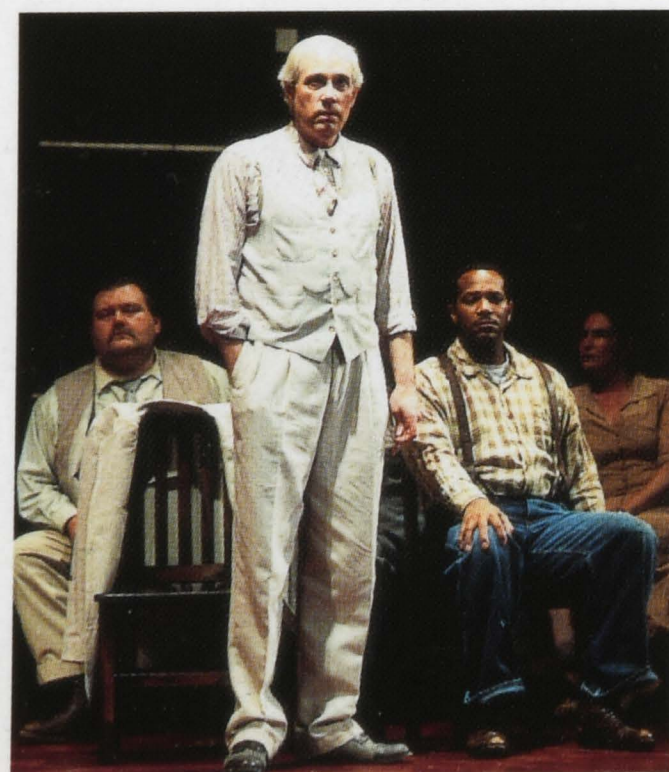
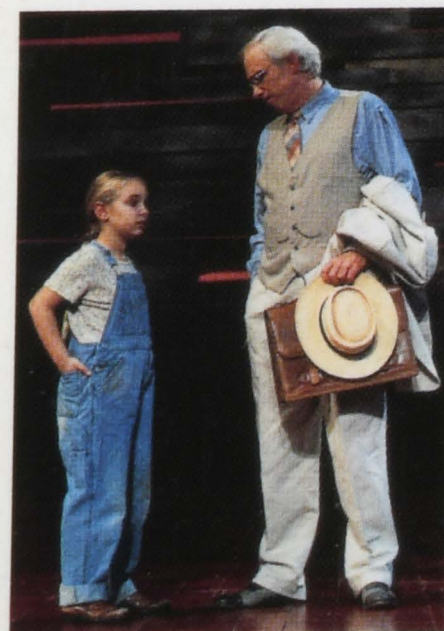
May 8 - June 7, 1998

Produced in association with:
George Street Playhouse, New Brunswick, NJ and
Walnut Street Theater, Philadelphia, PA

Sponsored by:
American Airlines, Knight Ridder,
The Miami Herald and The John S.
and James L. Knight Foundation.

It's the children, from grown up Hay to the younger Saxton and Patouhas and Charlie Saxton (Scout's real life brother) as their friend Dill, who immeasurably give the show a poignant life.

— Robert Sandler, *Loafer's Choice*
May 22-28, 1998



In the Encore Room Theater

Goodbye, My Friduchita

by Dolores Sendler



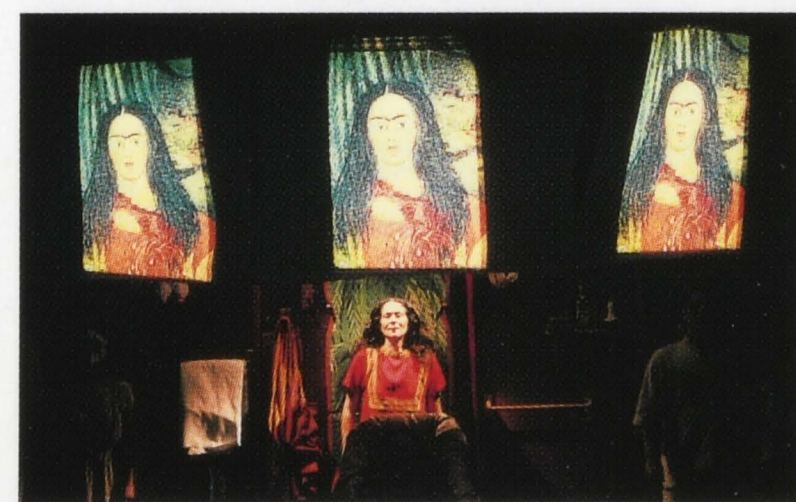
with
Judith Delgado
Delma Miranda
Alejandro Bahia
Juana Escobar

Directed by: Barbara Lowery
Choreography by: Damaris Ferrer
Original Music & Underscore by: Greg Sendler
Set Design: Steve Lambert
Costume Design: Ellis Tillman
Lighting Design: M. Todd Williams
Sound Design: Steve Shapiro

November 11, 1997 - April 19, 1998

Sponsored by:
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and Rene Jacoby

Extension sponsored by:
The Manny and
Ruthy Cohen Foundation,
Mel Morgenstern, trustee



... an explosive depiction of the life of Kahlo (1907-1954)... Judith Delgado embraces the title role with stunning, breath-taking hunger. Her performance brings Sendler's powerful, emotionally searing script to startling life.

— Bill Von Maurer, *The Sun Sentinel*,
November 18, 1997



Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird*.

Coconut Grove Playhouse Educational Programs

While producing theatre is our primary focus, we have developed an extensive educational agenda that includes everything from classes for children and adults to touring programs for elementary, middle and high school students. The power of this agenda lies in its inclusive ability to discover and develop undernourished talent and skills, to provide an environment that encourages trust and self-confidence, and to guide participants on a path of self discovery of their cultural diversity and ethnic heritage. The Education season under the direction of Judith Delgado included:



Adventures with Louie the Lizard... The Fairy Tale

Apprentice Company:
Annie Henk
Vance LaSala
Andy Quiroga
Taneka Riley

Director: Rafael V. Blanco
Playwright/
Lyricist: Phyllis Barash
Composer/
Sound Design: Joe Pisciotta
Musical Director: Frances O'Brien Epsen
Set Design: Steve Lambert
Costume Design: Ellis Tillman
Tour Stage
Manager: Gina Montet

Sponsored by:
The William Fox, Jr. Foundation
The Peacock Foundation



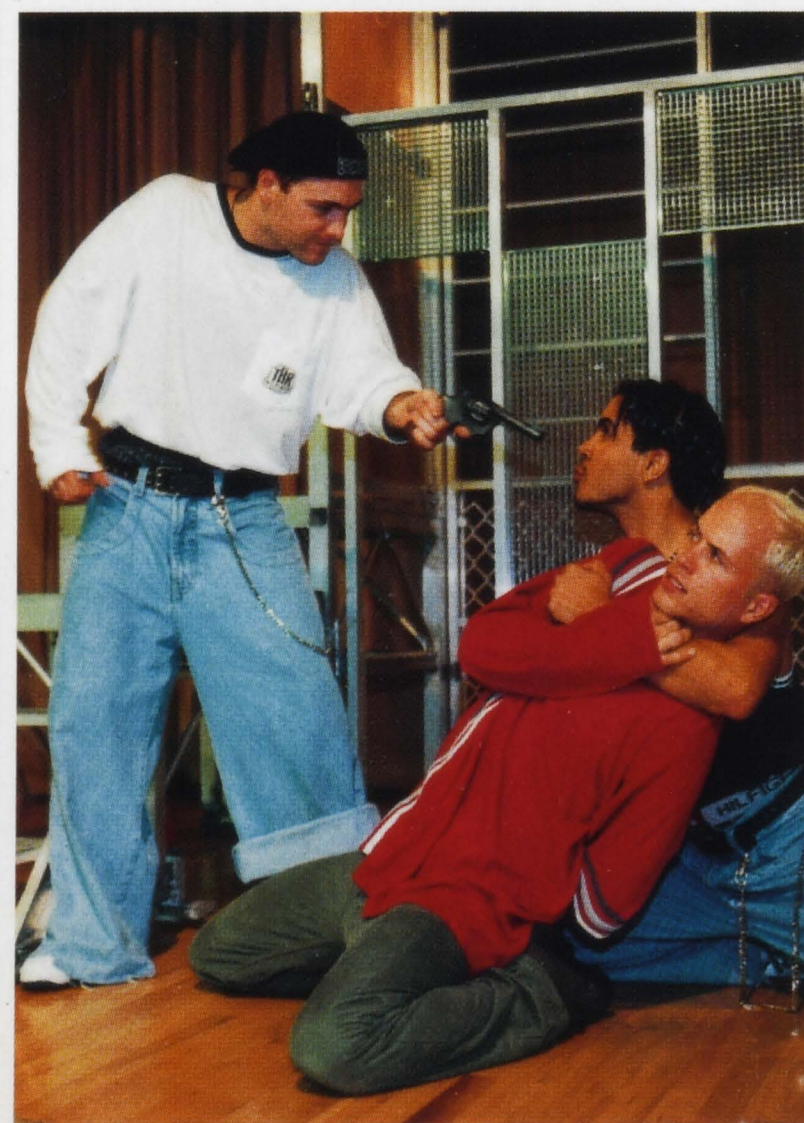
BX Blues

Written and directed by Rafael V. Blanco

Apprentice Company:
Mary Chuy
Annie Henk
Timothy Nelson
Andy Quiroga
Alex Rios

Choreography by: Esaias Johnson
Set Design: Steve Lambert
Costume Design: Ellis Tillman
Lighting Design: M. Todd Williams
Sound Design
& Musical
Arrangements: Steve Shapiro
Original Music by: John DeGiacomo
Tour Stage
Manager: Gina Montet

Sponsors:
American Express, City of Miami,
City of Miami Police Department,
Miami-Dade County Public Schools,
Broward County Public Schools and
Norwegian Cruise Lines



Educational And Outreach Programs

THEATER STAGES: Theater training and personal enrichment classes for children, teens and adults.

BIRTHDAY SATURDAY SERIES: Entertaining, fun-filled, thought provoking theatrical presentations for children in grades K-3.

THEATER FOR A DIFFERENCE: Under the Theater For A Difference banner we offer unique and exciting educational programs.

CREATIVE ARTS PROGRAM: An interactive program designed for special populations utilizing theater techniques as a means to encourage, nurture and strengthen positive attitudes, behavior and communications skills. Programs were held this past season at F.S. Tucker Elementary School and St. Albans Day School. Special funding provided by The Peacock Foundation.

IN-SCHOOL TOURS: Theatrical in-school touring programs providing elementary, middle and high school students with a forum to examine critical life issues. Plays are commissioned and produced with a study guide, developed for pre- and post-performance classroom discussions.

INTERACTIVE PLAY READING PROGRAM: Engaging high school theater arts teachers, their students, adult actors, and a professional director in an exciting exploration of dramatic literature in a physically interactive and enjoyable structure.

INNOVATIVE EXPERIMENTS: A professional actors workshop focusing on the



collaboration of a new theater piece (by invitation only).

SUMMER THEATER CAMP: Two three-week sessions of intensive theater training, rehearsals and performance.

MASTER SESSIONS: A series of dialogues and/or classes conducted by visiting artists for Playhouse students, apprentices, and guests.

PROFESSIONAL APPRENTICE PROGRAM: Designed for people with formal theater training who want to advance beyond the academic and are looking to develop their artistic maturity through participation in a body of performing experiences which serve as a bridge between academic studies and professional work to come.

YOUNG AMBASSADORS: A group of young professionals ages 22 to 45 who share a love of live theatre and gather to socialize, network and promote the not-for-profit Coconut Grove Playhouse. Along with attending shows at the Playhouse together, members experience the Theatre through workshops, play readings, backstage tours and opportunities to meet artists.



Income and Expenses From 1997-98 Season

Statement of Activities for the year ended June 30, 1998

OPERATIONS

Changes in unrestricted net assets:

Revenues and Support

Box office revenues:	
Subscriptions	1,275,990
Single/group/flex tickets	1,397,765
Support:	
State	500,000
Playhouse Trust	200,000
Other Government	185,160
Foundations	132,500
Corporations	340,000
Individuals	235,000
League	50,000
Benefits (net of expenses)	165,000
Special Gifts	95,000
Board of Trustees	145,000
Other	200,635

Total revenues and support 4,922,050

Expenses

Programming	1,977,509
Wages, Benefits, Taxes	1,731,296
Operations	346,200
Marketing	409,240
Development	167,500
Administration	163,900
Financing	82,000

Total 4,877,645

Increase in net assets 44,405

Current estimate as of 8/20/98 (unaudited)

Historical/Projected Ticket Sales

99-00	3,000,000
98-99	2,897,000
97-98	2,673,755
96-97	2,227,813

*Net box office sales
(excluding deduction of royalties)*

Historical/Projected Private Contributions

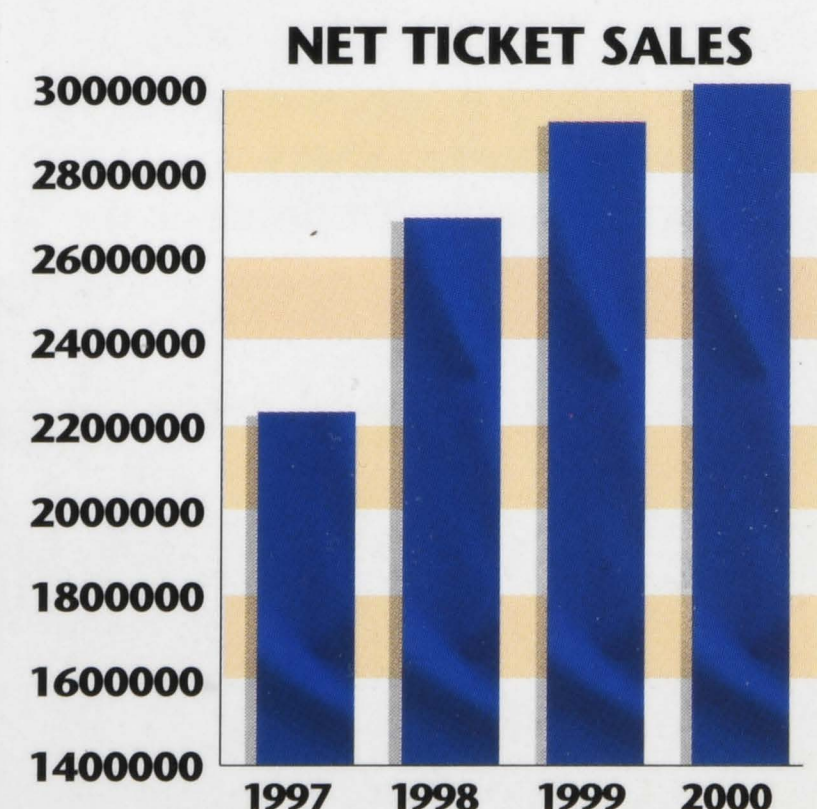
99-00	1,400,000
98-99	1,295,000
97-98	1,162,500
96-97	1,060,049

Historical/Projected Programming Expenses

99-00	2,100,000
98-99	1,956,500
97-98	1,795,009
96-97	1,438,006

Historical/Projected Total Expenses

99-00	5,100,000
98-99	4,962,000
97-98	4,695,145
96-97	4,233,973



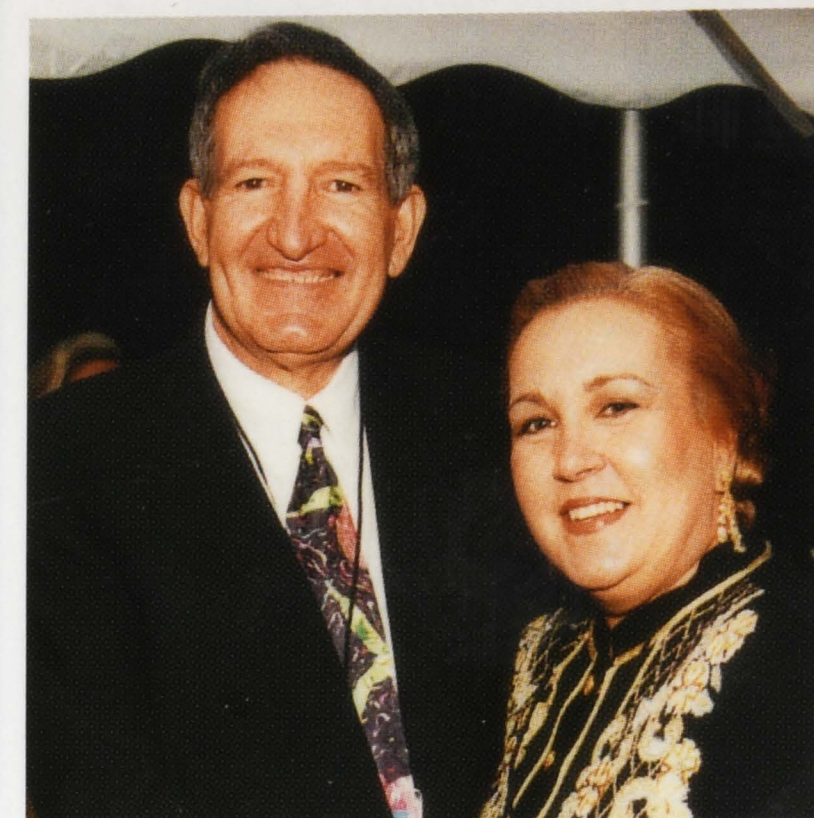
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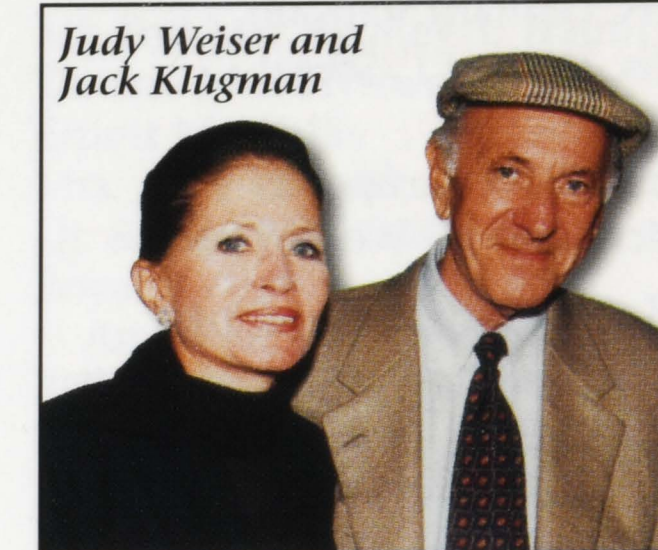
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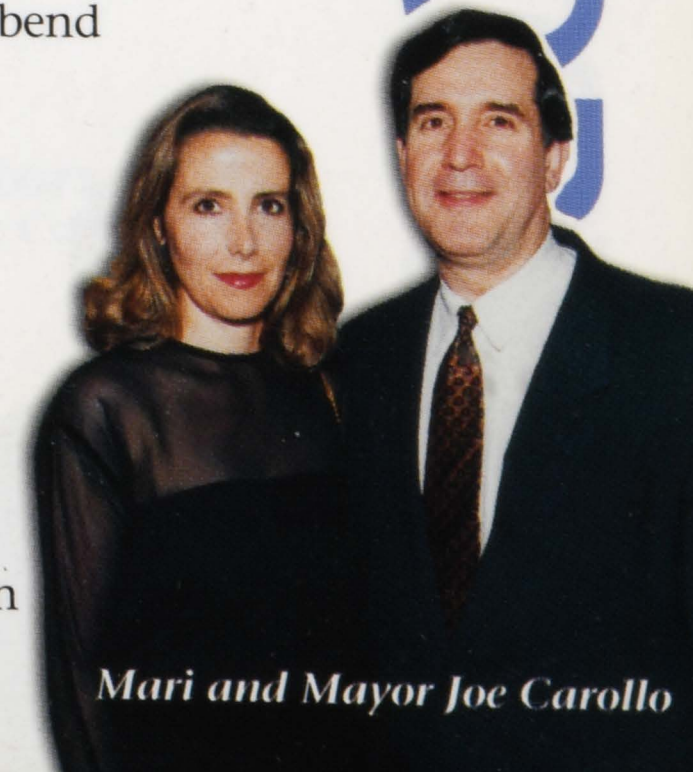
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Rafael V. Blanco Memorial Fund

This fund was established by the Playhouse's Board of Trustees to honor the memory of Rafael V. Blanco, the Playhouse's longtime production stage manager, director, playwright and actor. Donations made to this Fund will assist the Theater in supporting the work of young artists who are developing their craft as actors, directors and playwrights.

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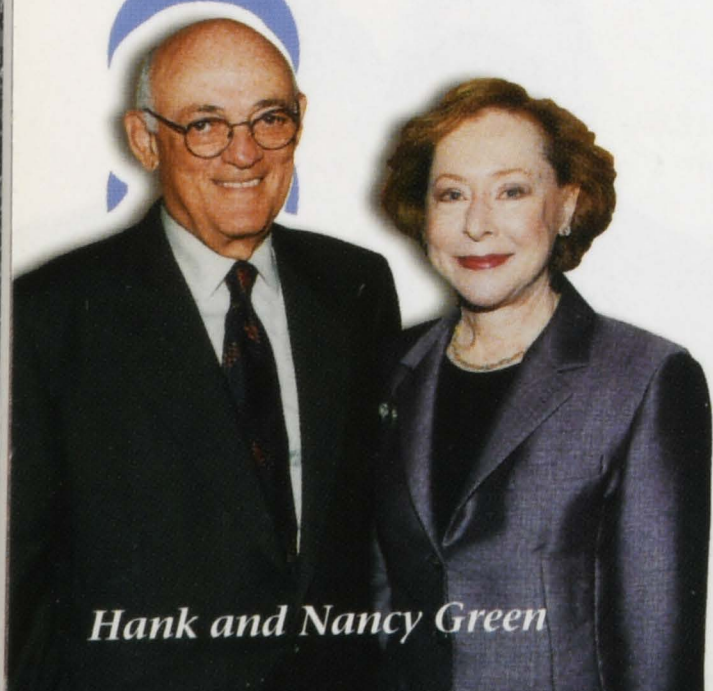
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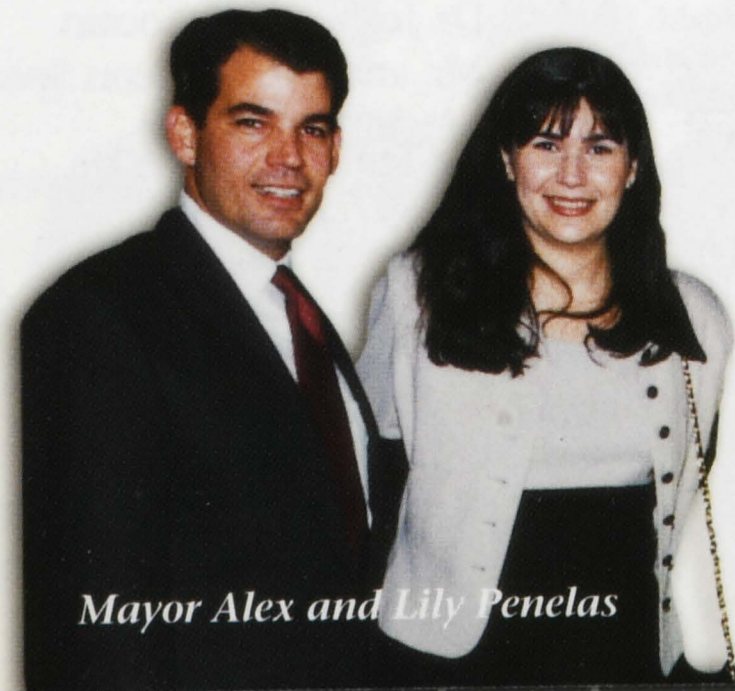
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Advancement Campaign

Over the next five years the Playhouse must make major renovations to this 72 year old facility, establish a cash reserve, and create an endowment while raising nearly \$10 million for annual operations. It is the goal of this \$25 million Advancement Campaign to accomplish this five pronged objective. In Phase I of the project the following naming opportunities exist:

Playhouse Building
Mainstage Theater *Arthur F. & Alice E. Adams Theater*
Encore Room Theater
Adams Theater Stage
Mezzanine Seating Area
Mezzanine Rehearsal Space
Inner Lobby
Outer Lobby
Annual Musical
In-School Touring Program
Donors Lounge
Education Studio
Costume Shop
Season Brochure
Stage Manager's Booth *In Memory of Rafael V. Blanco*
Producing Artistic Director's Office

Production photographs by Harvey Bilt; all others by Al Malschick

Society of Stars Benefits

As a not-for-profit, tax exempt, charitable institution, the Playhouse depends on ticket sales and contributions from the community in order to fund its annual budget of \$4.9 million. Your tax deductible contribution helps to support our outstanding educational programs and preserve your hometown theater.

\$1,000. Entry Level

- 2 VIP Tickets to Premiere Nights* includes free parking, pre-show champagne reception and VIP seating
- 2 Tickets to ONE Premiere Night after show party
- Personalized ticketing service through the Development Department
- 2 Tickets to Meet the Cast events
- 2 Tickets to the educational touring production annual Gala
- Discounts on adult and children's classes
- Listing in Playbill throughout the season
- Free Subscription to *Playwrite* — the official newsletter of the Coconut Grove Playhouse
- Participation in the VIP program that provides discounts to area restaurants and shops
- Invitations to Playhouse special events throughout the season

* House seats can be arranged for Playhouse performances other than Premiere Nights.

\$2,500. All of the above plus...

- 2 tickets to ALL of the non-gala post-show parties
- Listing on contributor plaque in lobby
- Use of the Contributor Lounge on non-Premiere Nights with complementary beverages
- Opportunity to host small gatherings in the Contributor Lounge
- Opportunity to purchase additional House Seats for Playhouse productions

\$5,000. All of the above plus...

- 2 Additional VIP tickets for Premiere Nights (total of 4 tickets)
- 2 additional tickets to post show parties
- Participation in the Corporate Member program entitling employees to half-price theatre tickets throughout the season.

\$10,000. All of the above plus...

- 2 Additional VIP tickets for Premiere Nights (total of 6 tickets)
- 2 additional tickets to post show parties
- Opportunity to participate in Chairman's Circle Events

Producer's Society \$15,000 and above.

- All Society of Stars benefits plus
- Opportunity to be listed as a sponsor for Mainstage, Encore Room or educational program (all sponsorships are tailored for the individual or corporate needs and vary based on the program but include mention in all advertising for the program, full or half page message, lobby signage)
- Logo or photo recognition in Playbill throughout the season
- Access to Playhouse constituency for direct mail/marketing
- 4 additional VIP tickets for all Premiere Nights (total of 10)
- 4 additional tickets to all post-show parties
- 20 to 50 Corporate Guest tickets for each of the Mainstage Premiere Nights throughout the season (depending on sponsorship level)
- Listing on Playhouse's Web Site as a sponsor for the season



COCONUT GROVE
PLAYHOUSE



Production photos by Harvey Bilt; all other photos by Allen Malschick.

For More Information Call (305) 442-2662

3500 Main Highway, Coconut Grove, FL 33133

A Not-for-Profit State Theater of Florida

Arnold Mittelman, Producing Artistic Director

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