

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre  
Act  
75  
years  
1929-2004

ANN ARBOR CIVIC THEATRE PRESENTS

# REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE

DIRECTED BY LORNA COLÓN  
ADAPTED TO STAGE BY JAMES FULLER

APRIL 22, 23, 24 AT 8:00 P.M.  
APRIL 25 AT 2:00 P.M.

TOWSLEY AUDITORIUM  
WASHTENAW COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Ann Arbor Civic Theatre  
Opening night April 22, 2004  
Towsley Auditorium

# Rebel Without a Cause

Adapted to Stage by

James Fuller

Directed by

Lorna Colon

Producer

Wendy Sielaff

Assistant Director

Torey Berneis

Graphic Designer

Rebecca Sutton

Stage Manager

Torey Berneis

Lighting Designer

Don Smith

Stage Manager

Cathy Cassar

Set Designer

Cathy Cassar

Costume Designer

Alexandra Berneis

Sound Designer

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Debra Thomas

Set Construction

Cathy Cassar  
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Emily Raymond  
Matt Rogers  
Debra Thomas

Program Designer

RJB

Produced by special arrangement with the  
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## From the Director

"You're tearing me apart!" - Words well known to the movie world as the tortured words James Dean cries out in *Rebel Without a Cause*. I am happy and proud to bring the stage version of this magnificent film for the first time to the A2CT stage.

This production wouldn't be where it is if it weren't for a great group of people. First, THANK YOU Rebecca Sutton for your time, patience, and hard work. The result was amazing. God Bless You. Thank you production staff for always being on the ball and for your promptness. Thanks to the crew. I REALLY APPRECIATE IT! Finally, THANK YOU to my INCREDIBLE cast for your effort, your time, and most importantly, your dedication to this show. I especially want to thank my "Jim Stark" and "Judy Brown". You have worked so hard for this! ENJOY IT!!!!!!!

Finally, I want to thank the audience. Thank you for supporting community theatre, the actors, and *Rebel Without a Cause*. Blessings to all.

Lorna Colon  
Director

### Act One

- Scene 1 - Easter Evening-12th Street
- Scene 2 - Police Station-Same evening
- Scene 3 - Next Day-Stark House/Outside Stark Home
- Scene 4 - Planetarium
- Scene 5 - Brown House
- Scene 6 - Stark Living Room

### Act Two

- Scene 1 - Millertown Bluff
- Scene 2 - Stark Living Room
- Scene 3 - Police Station
- Scene 4 - 12th Street
- Scene 5 - Outside Police Station
- Scene 6 - Deserted Mansion
- Scene 7 - Summit Drive
- Scene 8 - Planetarium
- Scene 9 - Outside Planetarium

*Please silence cell phones and pagers during the performance.*

## The Cast

Jim Stark .....	Nick Kittle
Judy Brown.....	Valerie Wilkinson
Plato Crawford.....	James Stevick
Mr. Stark .....	David Keren
Mrs. Stark.....	Debra Thomas
Grandmother Stark .....	Susie Berneis
Ray.....	David Melcher
Mrs. Davis.....	Andrea Van Heerde
Buzz Gunderson .....	Kevin Stacy II
Crunch.....	Sean Place
Goon .....	Aaron Rabb
Moose.....	Brandon Cave
Helen.....	Renee Bower
Millie .....	Colleen Theisen
Belle.....	Ruthi Hortsch
Mouse.....	Neal Ellsworth
Patty.....	Sasha Lazare
Katie .....	Eryn Korkowski
Cherie.....	Mijoe Sahiouni
Officer Mullen.....	Andy Jentzen
Mr. Brown.....	Joe Koob
Mrs. Brown.....	O'Bryan B. Worley
Mrs. Hannington .....	Karen Underwood
Lecturer.....	Michelle Gasco
Officer One.....	Steve Elliott
Officer Two.....	Paul Bianchi
Cigarette Man .....	Jon Elliott

**This information was inadvertently omitted from the Program**

**Andy Jentzen** last appeared in *Midsummers Dream* at AACT.  
He is active at the Rec and Ed after school program.  
Andy also does freelance work for the *Current Magazine*.  
To pay the bills he works for Yellow Cab.

**Thank Yous**

Lorna would also like to thank Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church,  
Rebecca Starr, Cathy Cassar, Suzi Peterson and Cassie Mann.

# **Pioneer High School Theatre Guild**

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**A Musical Comedy**

April 30, May 1, 7, 8 at 7:30 PM---Schreiber Auditorium

\$6 (students and seniors) \$8(adults)

Directed by Mike Mosallam

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**A Hilarious Play**

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**2004-05 Season**

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## THE A2CT **World Tour**

A season that takes you around the world and across the centuries!

### **On the Town**

Directed by Emily Perryman

*"New York, New York! It's a helluva town!" Bernstein's musical comes to the Civic stage for the first time.*

September 16-19, 2004

at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

### **Inherit the Wind**

Directed by Jon Elliott

*Pay a visit to Hillsboro, Tennessee for the trial of the century.*

November 11-14, 2004

at Towsley Auditorium

### **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**

Directed by Wendy Sielaff

*Civic takes you to ancient Egypt with the exciting music of Andrew Lloyd Webber.*

January 6-9, 2005

at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

### **Our Town**

Directed by Glenn Bugala

*Grover's Corners, NH, 1901-13. Life happens in the simplest of places.*

March 10-13, 2005

at Towsley Auditorium

### **Lysistrata**

Directed by Catherine Zudak

*Visit ancient Athens for a hilarious "battle" of the sexes!*

April 14-17, 2005

at Towsley Auditorium

### **Cabaret**

Directed by Chris O'Brien

*The Berlin of the 1930's serves as a backdrop for this provocative Kander & Ebb musical.*

June 9-12, 2005

at Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

Further information at  
[www.a2ct.org](http://www.a2ct.org) or 734/971-2228



# Save the Date!

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre

Act  
75  
years

1929-2004

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre  
75th Anniversary Gala  
*Performance & Dessert Reception*  
**May 6, 2004 at 8 pm**  
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## The Cast

**Susie Berneis** (Grandmother Stark) *Rebel* is Susie's (lucky) 13th stage appearance with A2CT (although she has been backstage on plenty more.) This has been a wonderful opportunity for her to work with her daughters, Alix and Torey, and also with her theatre daughters, Lorna and Valerie. Thanks to Paul for his everlasting patience with leftovers. Break-a-leg to the entire cast!

**Paul Bianchi** (Officer Two) Paul is a relative newcomer to Ann Arbor Civic Theater, this being his third show with Civic. His other roles with Civic were the Citizen Captain in *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and Merriman in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. When not participating in theater, he enjoys listening to music, attending concerts, reading, and golf. Paul lives and works here in Ann Arbor.

**Renee Bower** (Helen) has been involved in theatre for six years now. This is her first A2CT production, but most believe she is adapting quite well. As well as partaking in *Rebel Without a Cause*, Renee is also the Assistant Stage Manager and Fight Choreographer of *The Lark*, Lincoln High School's current production.

**Gabe Brogard** (Cigarette Man) is happy to perform at A2CT with this terrific group of cous-cous actors and crew while on sabbatical from his position as Professor of Culinary Arts, Rodentia and Camponology at Notre Dame. Previous favorite roles include Godot in *Waiting For Godot* and the title role in *Harvey*.

**Brandon Cave** (Moose) has appeared in five shows at A2CT, as well as several others groups in the surrounding area. Including Washtenaw Community College, Chelsea area Players, and Whitmore Lake Water Ski Club. Where this summer he will be reprising his role as The Announcer in the July 4th holiday show, *Super Heros in Paradise*.

**Steve Elliott** (Officer One) Raised by a troupe of otters, Steve enjoys acting, writing screenplays and telling people he was raised by otters. He owns and operates Mind-Films Productions in Ypsilanti where he has written and directed four short films. He also creates flash animation intros for websites in his spare time. Currently, Steve is writing his fifth film and encourages everyone to do his or her part in supporting individuals raised in multi-species environments. We need you now more than ever.

**Neal Ellsworth** (Mouse) has lived in Ann Arbor for three years. He is a freshman at Saline High School. This is his first play with us. He is looking forward to participating in more acting next year. His other hobbies are baseball and miniature games.

**Michelle Gasco** (Lecturer) is a graduate from Eastern Michigan University. She has a degree in Elementary Education and is currently working at Lakewood Elementary as a Teacher Clerk. This is her fourth production with A2CT but her first non-musical experience. Michelle would like to thank her family and friends for all the love and support they give her in all her endeavors. Michelle also sends her love to her daughter Mika, who constantly brings her joy!

**Ruthi Hortsch** (Belle) is a freshman at Greenhills High School. She first acted when she was six as an orphan in YPT's production of *Oliver!* Most recently she was Annie Sullivan in Greenhills' *The Miracle Worker* and Lady Macbeth with Young Actors Guild. Outside of acting, Ruthi plays the bass guitar and does jazz dance.

**David Keren** (Mr. Stark) has thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with this fine cast and crew. He has appeared in several Ann Arbor Civic Theatre productions including portraying Grandpa in *You Can't Take it With You*, Norman Thayer, Jr. in *On Golden Pond*, and Uncle Adolf Freitag in *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. In his spare time, David directs Warde Medical Laboratory and teaches pathology at the University of Michigan.

**Nick Kittle** (Jim Stark) is both thrilled and honored to be cast in his first lead role. His near future plans include moving out to Los Angeles with his band, De Novo. Nick would like to thank first and foremost his friend Valerie for her endless love and encouragement. Thanks also to: Lorna for seeing the potential; Tracy Komarmy for her invaluable help in his self-discovery; his boss, Chris Graham for his leniency; his girlfriend Jean; and finally his parents... this performance is dedicated to you.

**Joe Koob** (Mr. Brown) is making his first appearance with A2CT. His stage experience includes Andrew Makepeace Ladd III in *Love Letters*, Willum in *The Nerd*, and other roles. Dr. Koob is Owner and Founder of difficultpeople.org and just moved to Ann Arbor with his wife from Kalamazoo.

**Eryn Korkowski** (Katie) Ever since I can remember I have wanted to be an actress. Being in this performance is a dream come true. I would like to thank my family and friends, especially Grace and Angela for getting me into the choir. Thanks to my mom for driving me to rehearsals. Love you all.

Sasha Lazare (Patty) is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Slauson Middle School. This is her 15<sup>th</sup> show, and 7<sup>th</sup> with A2CT. She last appeared in *Fiddler on the Roof* in January with Civic. Her other favorite roles and shows include Gloria in *Wait Until Dark*, Mary in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, both with Redbud, and chorus in *Jekyll and Hyde* with A2CT. Hobbies include acting, dancing, singing, and hanging out with friends. She would like to thank her parents, her brother, all her friends, Lorna, Tori, Wendy (who will always be her "Mama"!), the whole cast, and of course, Elle! :)

David Melcher (Ray) David is an active member of the Ring of Steel, a local club that specializes in theatre combat and stunts. With Ring, he has taught at several schools and the Detroit and Toledo Opera Houses. By day, he is a mild mannered computer programmer. *Rebel* is his first performance with Ann Arbor Civic.

Sean Place (Crunch) Sean was born and raised in the Ann Arbor area. *Rebel* is the first time Sean has gotten himself involved with the A2CT. It also marks his first appearance onstage after a two-year hiatus. On the side he studies sociology at Eastern Michigan and should graduate any time now.

Aaron Rabb (Goon) Everyone has worked very hard on this production. I hope you enjoy it.

Mijoe Sahiouni (Cherie) is excited to be back with A2CT. After a two year break, she returns with more shows on her resume and a couple inches to her height. She is now a sophomore at Huron High, and has been in numerous A2CT shows such as, *Girls to the Rescue*, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves* as Snow White, *Shearzade* and *Alice in Wonderland* as Alice. Mijoe has also appeared as Brooke Ashton in *Noises Off* done by the Huron Players, as well as *Our Town* and *Have a Nice Day*. She recently finished working behind the scenes of the Pulitzer Prized *Wit*, which took first place at the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association Theater Festival.

Kevin Stacy II (Buzz Gunderson) has previously worked with the Pinckney Players, Kalamazoo Civic Theatre, and Ann Arbor Opera Company. Credits include *The Kentucky Cycle* (Parts I and II), *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Macbeth*, *Dangerous Liaisons*, *Man of la Mancha*, *Children of Eden* and *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. He would like to thank Lorna for the wonderful opportunity and his family for their ongoing support.

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James Stevick (Plato Crawford) is an actor, writer, and stand-up comedian. His previous roles include Nathan Detroit in *Guys & Dolls* and Jonathan Harker in *Dracula*. He would like to thank the amazing cast and crew, his mama for being his inspiration, Aole, papa, and Phil Walker for teaching him to act. And Movalski for just being Movalski.

Colleen Theisen (Millie) is from Cedar Rapids, Iowa where she participated in community theater and directed high school plays for the Marion Arts council. Colleen first appeared with A2CT as Miss Dickenson in *Pillow Talk*. She performs mochas and lattes daily at your local Barnes and Noble.

Debra Thomas (Mrs. Stark) is pleased to be involved with her fifth show with A2CT. Although Debra's greatest love is performing, she has also served as a musical director, prop mistress, stage manager and called over 400 light cues for A2CT's *Chicago*. Debra teaches elementary music for the Milan Area School District.

Karen Underwood (Mrs. Hannington) bids a reluctant and most likely, temporary, farewell to the boards in *Rebel Without A Cause*, due to her current "interesting condition." The newest Underwood is expected to make an entrance in early July. Karen's last appearance with A2CT was in November's *Scarlet Pimpernel* (with husband Tom as the villainous Chauvelin), and she has also appeared in Civic productions of Neil Simon's *Rumors, On Golden Pond*, and as Bella in *Lost in Yonkers*. Much love to Mom and Dad, "the nipper," and as always, to Tom.

Andrea Van Heerde (Mrs. Davis) is ecstatic that her acting debut is with A2CT. She gives loving thanks to Troy, her family, and friends for supporting her dream. Thanks are also given to Lorna and the enjoyable cast of *Rebel*, especially Brandon, Sean, James and Kevin.

Valerie Wilkinson (Judy Brown) A person is only as talented as the people supporting them. THANK YOU... to family and friends for the constant enthusiasm and unwavering support; cast and crew for making this experience so incredible and unforgettable; Lorna for the opportunity, support, guidance, and always demanding more; audience, thank you for supporting A2CT!!! Enjoy the show!

O'Bryan B. Worley (Mrs. Brown) began her career at age 4 as the "girl on the stool" during a Vegas lounge show. Closer to home: Lil in *The Octette Bridge Club*; Aunt Queenie in *Bell, Book and Candle*. Thanks to A2CT for this opportunity and love to Daniel & Taylor for their constant support.

## The Production Staff

Alexandra Berneis (Costume Designer) is happy to be working once again with A2CT. She was last seen (or not seen) as part of the costume team for *Fiddler on the Roof*. She has performed on stage and designed and built costumes for shows at Civic since her return to Ann Arbor, including *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Pillow Talk*, and *Chicago*. She has also been active with the Dexter Community Players. While not in Ann Arbor, she performed and designed as well, her credits including *The Waiting Room*, *Everyman*, and *Hedda Gabler*. She has a degree in Theatre Performance from Denison University, which merely goes to prove she has theatre in her blood. Speaking of which, she says it's great to be working with her family on this one, and yes, Vallie and Lornita, you count! Break a Leg, Everyone!!

Torey Berneis (Assistant Director, Stage Manager) is a freshman at Washtenaw Community College majoring in Education. This is around her tenth backstage show with Civic. Torey has done numerous other shows with Dexter Community Players and Dexter High School and was on the 2003 DHS State Drama Team as Diana in *Lend Me A Tenor*. Mucho Gracias Lornita! Break a leg cast and crew!

Cathy Cassar (Set Designer, Set Construction, Assistant Stage Manager) is pleased to once again be behind the scenes for an A2CT production. Once again lending her talents and experience to set design and assisting backstage. You last didn't see her working behind the scenes for Civic's fall production of *Chicago*. She is very grateful for the opportunity to work with such a talented group. While not in the theatre you can find her designing roads throughout the state. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their support.

Lorna Colon (Director) *Rebel* marks Lorna's 10th show with A2CT. She directed last season's production of *Pillow Talk* and was last seen on stage as Maria Gonzales in *Smile*. Lorna would like to thank her fabulous cast, her amazing production staff, Rebecca Sutton for her artistic talent, Cassie and Suzi, her "fluffy puchungis" Casey the Cat, Sir Nigel the bulldog, and most importantly, her familia. Los quiero mucho!!!!!! God Bless!

Wendy Sielaff (Producer) is glad to be producing for Lorna again. This team worked together for last year's A2CT production of *Pillow Talk*. When not producing, Wendy is busy directing and can even be seen on stage if you look close enough. She was last seen in A2CT's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*, and will be directing *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor*




*Dreamcoat* for A2CT next year, and *Bye Bye Birdie* for Spotlight Players. Wendy would like to thank her family for their support, but would do it even if they gave her a hard time, because, as she says, "this is what I do to make me feel alive."

Don Smith (Lighting Designer) is proud to be designing his fifth show for Ann Arbor Civic. He has previously lit *Chicago*, *Pillow Talk*, *2 1/2 Tenors*, and *Jekyll & Hyde*. When not staring at lights in a dark theater, Don is a postdoctoral fellow in Astrophysics at the University of Michigan, where he... stares at lights in a dark observatory. He apologizes for any inaccuracies in the planetarium scene, and wants you to know that although the sun will expand in about five billion years, charring the Earth into a lifeless cinder, it will not actually explode.

Ben Sweetser (Sound Designer) Ben misses his A2CT family since defecting from Michigan and becoming a cheesehead, though he is happy to be able to participate in one more Civic Theatre production, even if it isn't on stage. Past on-stage credits with A2CT include Tommy, Jekyll and Hyde, Pillow Talk, and Chicago. He hopes to discover community theater in Wisconsin but knows nothing could ever compare to the friendships found with A2CT.



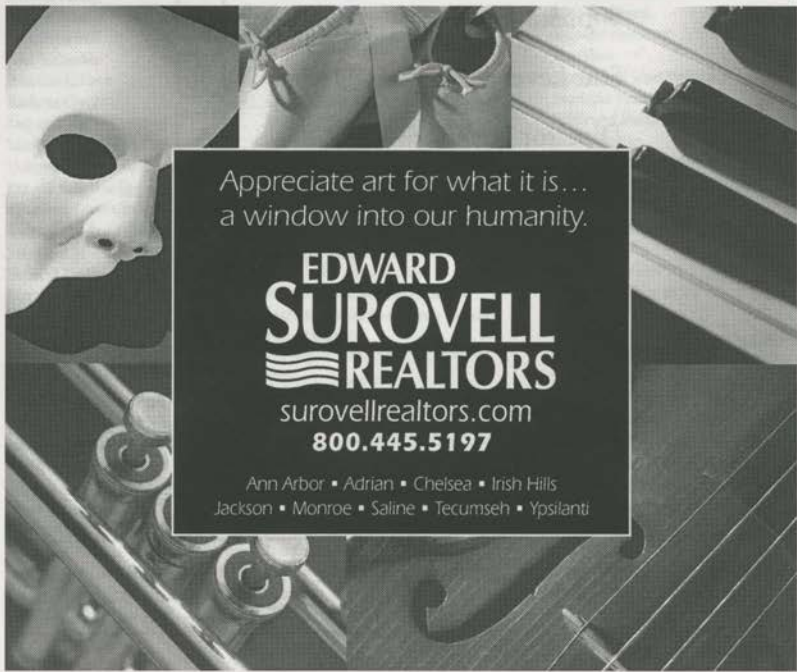
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As has always been true, revenue from ticket sales alone cannot cover the entire costs of operating our community theatre. We hope that you will join us as a supporter of this vibrant and venerable institution. In addition to providing support to keep A2CT fiscally sound, membership offers you:

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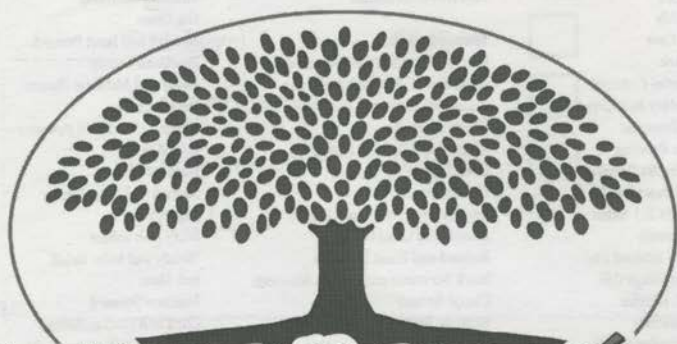
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