

Psych

Brainstorm:  
An Evening of  
Improvational  
Creation

The Sorcerer's  
Apprentice

Marvin's Room

29th Original  
One Act Festival  
for Wisconsin  
Playwrights

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## Inspiration Studios ... A new home for the VPW

The Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa has a new home!!!

Thanks to a few members (Art Carter, Erico Ortiz and Barb Lynch) the VPW now has a new space. Forming an LLC called Inspiration Studios, these members have purchased the property at 1500 S 73rd St in West Allis.

The VPW will rent the 2,000 square foot basement for storage and rehearsal space, and have access to the performance space on the first floor as needed. Inspiration Studios will rent out the first floor when the VPW is not using it, both as a performance space and an art gallery. There is an apartment on the second floor that the owners are looking to rent out as well.

Help is needed to get the space up and running before the VPW's spring show, *Marvin's Room*.



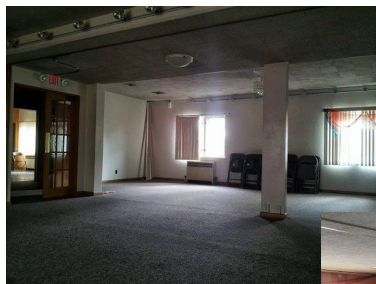
**Inspiration Studios**  
1500 S 73rd St, West Allis

Please stop by to help as you can. The schedule is posted on [villageplayhouse.org](http://villageplayhouse.org) and is also emailed to the VPW membership.

Having it's own space means the VPW can do more. It will be going to a 6 mainstage show season (maybe even a musical), in addition to adding some theater workshops and clinics, as well as possibly some reader's theater, improv nights, and/or cabarets.

Check your email often in the upcoming months for details on how the space is coming along, and what you can do to help out. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to stop by, the more the merrier.

More information on Inspiration Studios can be found online:  
[www.inspirationstudiosgallery.com](http://www.inspirationstudiosgallery.com)  
[www.facebook.com/InspirationStudiosLLC](http://www.facebook.com/InspirationStudiosLLC)



## BrainStorm: An Evening of Improvisational Creation

Last November, VPW debuted *BrainStorm: An Evening of Improvisational Creation*.

During this 2 hour workshop, a talented cast of actors took the ideas of aspiring playwrights and audience members and brought them to life in a series of improvised scenes.

A teacher celebrated her 30<sup>th</sup> birthday alone. A woman said goodbye to the memory

of her dead son. An overweight fast-food employee confronted a bully and got the last word. A parrot and his owner argued about his girlfriend, and much more.



Niko King and Max Williamson perform a *BrainStorm* skit

We laughed, we cried, we got some great ideas for one-act scripts...all in all, *BrainStorm* was a success – hopefully the first of many. Keep an eye out for *BrainStorm the Second* – details to come!

The *BrainStorm* cast included:

Clarence Aumend, Bethany Batson, Jessie Barr, Dawn Fanning, Niko King and Max Williamson  
Directed by Alexis Fielek

## Director selected for *Marvin's Room*

The VPW is excited to announce Deanna Strasse as the director for the spring main-stage show, *Marvin's Room*.

Deanna is a graduate of Wisconsin Lutheran College, with a degree in theater. She is one of the founding members and general manager for the Off-Book Players, and has directed productions for Mukwonago High School.

In addition to directing, Deanna also acts, and is a playwright. Several VPW members were involved in a staged reading of her play *Lovers and the Like* this past November.

Deanna's passion and enthusiasm for *Marvin's Room* will bring a personal touch and a high level of compassion and understanding to this heart

wrenching drama about family.

*Marvin's Room* will run March 21st—April 6th, and will be the VPW's first production at Inspiration Studios.

Please email [MarvinsRoom@villageplayhouse.org](mailto:MarvinsRoom@villageplayhouse.org) to reserve your tickets.

## Marvin's Room Auditions

Auditions will be Monday, January 27th and Tuesday January 28th from 6:00 PM -- 9:00 PM at Inspiration Studios by appointment only.

Click [here](#) to sign up for an audition time slot.

Click [here](#) to read a snippet of the script.

Please prepare a 1-2 minute monologue (comedic or dramatic). Auditions will also consist of reading from the script.

You can contact the director, Deanna Strasse ([DeannaStrasse@gmail.com](mailto:DeannaStrasse@gmail.com)), or producer, Rita Bates ([RitaBates@villageplayhouse.org](mailto:RitaBates@villageplayhouse.org)), with any questions.

Character Breakdown...

Bessie (F, 30s -- 40s)  
Lee (F, 30s -- 40s)  
Hank (M, 17)  
Charlie (M, 10)  
Ruth (F, 70's)  
Dr. Wally (M, 30s and up)  
Bob (M, 30s and up)  
Dr. Charlotte (F, 30s and up)  
Retirement Home Director (F, 20s and up)  
Marvin (M, older, unseen, only heard)



**Marvin's Room**  
will run  
March 21st -  
April 6th , 2014

# One Act Script Workshop



Before the plays are selected for the *29th Annual Original One Act Festival*, we will be holding a script workshop for prospective playwrights.

The workshop is open to any playwright in Wisconsin. The plays will be selected on a first come, first serve basis. Play should be between 10 and 45 minutes.

On February 15th, 4:00 PM at Inspiration Studios we will present staged readings of several one act plays. After each play the audience will be asked to give feedback to the author.

Participation in the script workshop is not a guarantee of selection for the One Act Festival, nor is it a prerequisite.

To participate, email your script to [oneactfestival@villageplayhouse.org](mailto:oneactfestival@villageplayhouse.org)

## Upcoming Events

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| January 11th<br><i>Sorcerer's Apprentice</i>            | February 15th<br>One Act Script Workshop     |
| January 12th<br>Board Meeting                           | March 1st<br>Inspiration Studios             |
| January 19th<br><i>Sorcerer's Apprentice</i>            | Grand Opening                                |
| January 27th and 28th<br><i>Marvin's Room</i> Auditions | March 21st—April 6th<br><i>Marvin's Room</i> |

For up to date information on upcoming events, check out our calendar ...

[Village Playhouse Calendar](#)

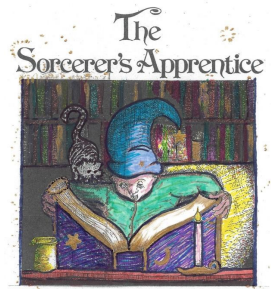
## Sorcerer's Apprentice Performance Dates

The *Sorcerer's Apprentice*, our traveling children's show, had it's first performance on December 8th at the Tripoli Shrine in Milwaukee.

- January 11th, 2014 — Arrowhead High School, Hartland
- January 19th, 2014 — West Allis Central High School
- April 12th, 2014 — Wauwatosa East High School
- April 27th, 2014 — Wauwatosa West High School

Don't worry if you missed it, you still have plenty more chances to see it.

To book a performance for your organization or group, please contact [SorecerersApprentice@villageplayhouse.org](mailto:SorecerersApprentice@villageplayhouse.org)





## Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa

1500 S 73rd St, Lower  
West Allis WI

P.O. Box 13095  
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

[info@villageplayhouse.org](mailto:info@villageplayhouse.org)  
(414) 207-4VPW (4879)

Quality local theater for over 30 years

The purpose of the Village Playhouse of Wauwatosa is to

- (a) Promote the advancement of the theatre arts within the community;
- (b) Stimulate and satisfy the community's cultural interests;
- (c) Advance the instruction and training of individuals seeking to improve and develop their capabilities within the theatre;
- (d) Provide a forum for creativity and self expression of members.

[www.villageplayhouse.org](http://www.villageplayhouse.org)

[www.facebook.com/VillagePlayhouseOfWauwatosa](https://www.facebook.com/VillagePlayhouseOfWauwatosa)

[www.twitter.com/tosaplayers](https://www.twitter.com/tosaplayers)

[www.cafepress.com/VillagePlayhouseOfWauwatosa](http://www.cafepress.com/VillagePlayhouseOfWauwatosa)

## Get Involved ...

There is more to the VPW than what you see on the stage. Here's some ways to be involved with what happens when the curtain goes down:

### Join a committee:

**Membership/PR** - This committee is in charge of getting our name out there by publicizing shows, auditions, and anything else the group is involved in. It also takes charge of getting new members and keeping members involved.

**Playreading** - This committee reads plays, plays and more plays, then reports back to the Board on which ones they liked and recommend for the next season.

**One Act Festival Playreading** - This committee reads all the One Act submissions and helps to pick which ones are in the show.

Please email [membership@villageplayhouse.org](mailto:membership@villageplayhouse.org) for more details about joining a committee.

### Come to a board meeting:

See how the day to day business of the board is decided. The next board meeting is on January 12th at 3:37 PM

Please email [membership@villageplayhouse.org](mailto:membership@villageplayhouse.org) for details.

### Help behind the scenes with a show:

Send an email to [volunteers@villageplayhouse.org](mailto:volunteers@villageplayhouse.org) for details on what is needed right now.

Thank you for being a member of the VPW. Hope to see you soon ... on stage, behind the scenes or in the audience!