

PLAYBILL

Fort Wayne Youtheatre

HARVEY COCKS

A Life in Revue

Sunday, May 15, 2022
Embassy Theatre



SYNOPSIS

Place: The Stage of the Embassy (formerly Emboyd) Theatre,
Fort Wayne, IN

Time: 6:00PM (or a little fashionably late)

OVERTURE.....	Ben Wedler, Piano
WILLKOMMEN.....	Todd Espeland, Youtheatre Executive/Artistic Director
“A BROADWAY MEDLEY”.....	Lindsay Hoops, Chris Rasor, Brad Beauchamp, Emilie Shoquist, Ben Wedler, Piano
THE HARVEY COCKS Jr. STORY.....	Christopher J. Murphy, Youtheatre Asst. Director
A TRIBUTE TO HARVEY.....	Melissa Long, Celebrity Friend
“LOSING MY MIND” from FOLLIES.....	Leslie Beauchamp <i>by Stephen Sondheim</i>
AN HOMAGE TO HARVEY.....	Jim Nelson & Jim Matusik, Friends
A SELECTION FROM “HARVEY”.....	Gavin Drew <i>by Mary Chase</i>
SALUTATIONS FOR HARVEY.....	Margaret “Soup” Gaughan, Former Student
“MY LUCKY STAR” from SINGIN’ IN THE RAIN.....	Renee Gonzales
THE HARVEY GIRLS.....	Becky Niccum & Dianne Giannakeff, Former YT Assistant Directors
THE SELECTED WORKS OF HARVEY COCKS Jr. (Abridged).....	Alivia Wheeler, Randall Keeling, Isa Lugo, Keegan Dobson, Gavin Dobson, Raigyn Dobson Adapted & Directed by Gregory Stieber
A PAEAN TO HARVEY.....	Kirby Volz, Friend
ACCOLADES FOR HARVEY.....	Tony Didier, Friend
“CHILDREN WILL LISTEN” from INTO THE WOODS.....	Renee Gonzales Ben Wedler, Piano
LIFE WITH FATHER.....	Ann Cocks
FINALE.....	All

PRODUCTION STAFF

Executive Producer.....Todd Espeland
Conceived & Overseen by.....Christopher J. Murphy
Music Director/Accompanist.....Ben Wedler
Graphics.....Megan Ebbeskotte
Artistic Assistant.....Emersen Conner
Production Assistant.....Kimee Gearhart
Production Interns.....Ryan Peroza & Marissa Drew
Embassy Asst. Technical Director.....Michael Brett
Technical Directors & Designers.....Miriam Morgan, Corey Lee,
Luke Holliger, Brock Eastom
Reader's Theatre Adaptation/Direction.....Gregory Stieber

SPECIAL THANKS

Chris Cox, Ann Cocks, Kelly Updike & Embassy Theatre Staff/Volunteers,
Brock Eastom & Frosty Pictures, Matt Kuntz, Ben Wedler, Leslie Beauchamp,
Renee Gonzales, Brad Beauchamp, Chris Rasor, Jimmy Mitchell,
Lindsay Hoops, Emilie Shoquist, Gavin Drew, Margaret Gaughan,
Gregory Stieber, Alivia Wheeler, Randall Keeling, Isa Lugo, Gavin Dobson,
Keegan Dobson, Raigyn Dobson, Melissa Long, Kirby Volz, Tony Didier,
Becky Niccum, Dianne Giannakeff, Jim Matusik, Jim Nelson, Luke Holliger,
Corey Lee, Miriam Morgan, Brock Eastom


The Cocks family asks that any memorials go to Fort Wayne Youtheatre so that all children can experience the magic of theatre. If you would like to make a donation in Harvey's memory, see Youtheatre staff in the lobby or visit FortWayneYoutheatre.org/donate. Thank you.

April 3, 1925 – March 31, 2022



Harvey G. Cocks Jr. (Harvey Collins) Fort Wayne's greatest showman, playwright, theatre historian, Tony Award nominee, and past Executive/Artistic Director of the Fort Wayne Youtheatre, took his final bow at Stillwater Hospice on March 31, 2022, with his children by his side. He was 96. Born over a butcher shop in Glen Cove, Long Island on April 3, 1925, Harvey's childhood was spent moving across the country with his father who was a promoter for Paramount Pictures. Dubbed "the boy on the box" he spent his free time sitting on a box in the wings with the performers. Among his earliest friends were Al Jolson, Bob Hope, Cab Calloway, and Bing Crosby who took him for one of his first

haircuts. Harvey graduated from South Side High School in Fort Wayne in 1943 and soon after hopped a train to New York City for the lights of Broadway. With luck on his side, he was booked into a Broadway show within days of his arrival. Broadway acting credits include roles in **Life with Father** (Clarence/John), **As the Girls Go**, **I'll Take the High Road** and **Bright Boy**. He was a featured actor in summer stock productions in Cape May, NJ, Fairhaven, MA, and New London, NH. Radio and TV credits include *The Ann DeLafield Hour*, *The Daniels Family*, *Studio One*, *Robert Montgomery Presents*, *Places Please*, and *The Aldrich Family*. Harvey returned to Fort Wayne to manage Quimby Village (Clyde Theatre, Village Bowl, and Stage Door Lounge) with his father. Never losing his love for the stage, he became active in the Fort Wayne theatre community both as an actor and director at the Civic Theatre, Arena Dinner Theatre, First Presbyterian Theater, and the IPFW Theatre. In 1978 Harvey became the Executive/Artistic Director of the Fort Wayne Youtheatre, a position he held until 2010. He served as Artist-in-Residence until his death. He was passionate about working with children and introducing them to all aspects of the theatre. He measured his success by counting how many of his students grew into confident young adults and not by the number who became stars. Harvey was a proud U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War where he served in Europe. He is survived by his children, Ann Cocks, Christopher A. Cox, niece Dana McCormick (Brooke Wiseman); nephew, Kevin McCormick; niece, Peggy Hanson-(Duane)Hartmann; and nephews, Ed Hanson, Larry Hanson, Chris Hanson, and Philip Hanson. He was preceded in death by his wife of 35 years, Jean Hanson-Cocks; his sister, Jane McCormick; niece, Kim McCormick; nephews, Brian McCormick, and Tommy Hanson; and his parents, Harvey G. Cocks Sr., and Ray Helen (Drugan) Cocks.

This Event Brought to you By:  **Fort Wayne
youtheatre**

