

FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

Kentwood Players Presents

Lois Lowry's

THE GIVER

Adapted by Eric Coble



directed by
Harold Dershimer

produced by
Kathy Dershimer

Jan 17 -
Feb 22

(310) 645 - 5156
kentwoodplayers.org

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC., of Woodstock, Illinois

THE GIVER

Adapted by Eric Coble

from the Newbery Award-winning book by Lois Lowry

Director

Harold Dershimer

Producer

Kathy Dershimer

Set Design

Bruce Starrett and
Harold Dershimer

Lighting and Sound Design

Bruce Starrett

Costume Design

Kathy Dershimer

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Father	Shawn Plunkett
Lily	Kaya McLean
Mother.....	Jenny Boone
Jonas (Jan 17-19, Jan 31-Feb 2, Feb 14-16).....	Jack Heath
Jonas (Jan 24-26, Feb 7-9, Feb 21-22)	Elliott Plunkett
Asher (Jan 24-26, Feb 7-9, Feb 21-22)	Jack Heath
Asher (Jan 17-19, Jan 31-Feb 2, Feb 14-16).....	Elliott Plunkett
Fiona	Lily Repp
Larissa.....	Lois Bostwick
Chief Elder.....	Maria Brodeur
The Giver	Gavin Glynn
Rosemary/Fiona understudy	Allison Cunningham
Friend/Lily understudy	Robin Cunningham
Announcer (pre-recorded).....	Daniel Kruger

PLACE: In and around the community.

TIME: Soon.

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.

Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

"Rosemary's Theme" courtesy of ASCAP in association with AACT.

During the performance please turn your pagers to silent, and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches. There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane. *Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.*

About the Cast



Jenny Boone (Mother) is currently Kentwood's President, Jenny can be seen in many capacities around the theater. Happy to be returning to the stage after appearing as Mrs. Gibbs in last year's *Our Town*, Jenny is also active behind-the-scenes, having most recently produced *Dangerous Obsession*, *The Gingerbread Lady*, *Farragut North*, and *Wait Until Dark*. Endless gratitude to the Dershimer team for their creativity, boundless energy and friendship and to the amazing cast and crew of *The Giver*. As always, much love, gratitude and appreciation to her family: Larry, Erin and Brandon.



Lois Bostwick (Larissa) studied theater at Northwestern University and with Jean Shelton. Since moving to this area, she has performed in a variety of roles at the Morgan-Wixson Theater, such as in *The Foreigner*, *Social Security*, *Christmas Carol*, *Morning's At Seven*, *Picnic*, and *Shadow Box*. She appeared in *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife* at Theater Palisades, in *Rabbit Hole* with Kentwood Players, and recently in *The Next Ivan Sharansky* at Hollywood's Brisk Festival.



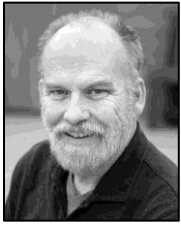
Maria Brodeur (Chief Elder) is thrilled to be making her KP and CA debut with such a talented cast and crew! In NJ, Maria was seen as Eleanor in *The Lion In Winter* with Chatham Players and as Mrs. Banks in *Mary Poppins*, *The Musical* with Centenary Stage Company. Previously she was in *Ruthless!*, *The Musical* with Chester Theatre Group. Many thanks to my husband, Ed, for bringing me to LA on this adventure!



Allison Cunningham (Rosemary/Fiona understudy) – *The Giver* marks Allison's third time on stage with Kentwood Players. Her debut was in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* and she returned as Rebecca Gibbs in *Our Town* last year. Allison is a 7th grade student at Katherine Johnson STEM Academy in Westchester and is active in WDRLL Softball and Girl Scouts. She would like to thank Kentwood Players for welcoming her into their fine tradition of community theater.

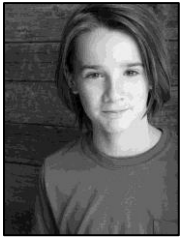


Robin Cunningham (Friend/Lily understudy) is excited to make her Kentwood Players debut with this production of *The Giver*. A Westchester native, Robin is a 3rd grade student at Playa Vista Elementary School and is active in AYSO Soccer and Little League Softball. She would like to thank Kentwood Players for providing her the opportunity to participate in a true community theater experience.



Gavin Glynn (The Giver) – A first-generation Irish immigrant with a flair for the dramatics coursing through his veins. He studied Organic Theater with William Raffeld at the Circle Rep Theater in Chicago and attended graduate school in CA studying acting under Anna Deveare Smith at The American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. He took a master class with acclaimed character actor, Sydney Walker, who convinced him he had talent as an elder character actor—but to follow other passions at 28 and return to acting in his 50s. His greatest

achievement is adopting five children from DCFS and ushering them through college and instilling in them life gets better. This is his first role with Kentwood Players and he is in awe of the craftsmanship and professional approach to regional theater here in Los Angeles. He dedicates this performance to his parents Mike & Evelyn Glynn, the givers of his life.



Jack Heath (Jonas / Asher) is from Los Angeles, CA. He enjoys acting for theater, commercials and films. Jack recently appeared in the Culver City Public Theatre's production of *The Manitou House* and played the role of Bert in the Wasatch Theatrical Ventures production of *All My Sons* at The Lounge Theatre. He currently can be seen in the Michael Bay movie *6 Underground*. Jack would like to thank Harold and the Kentwood Players family for this incredible experience.

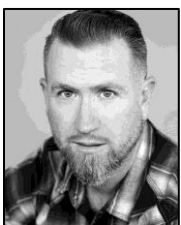


Kaya McLean (Lily), 8, is honored to make her Kentwood Players debut as Lily in *The Giver*! Kaya began acting last year and has appeared in *Annie Jr* and *Charlotte's Web* on stage, *Twisted Love* and *Unusual Predictions* on TV, and in short films. Kaya thanks Harold and Kathy for the opportunity to bring Lily to life. The support and encouragement of her family and the show's cast and crew has made this experience very special. Follow @KayaPMcLean on Instagram!



Elliott Plunkett (Jonas / Asher) is thrilled to be in this show. It has been a dream role for him ever since he read the novel. This is Elliott's second show with Kentwood, and he is so excited to be back. He has performed *The Jungle Book* (Mowgli), *Pirates of Penzance* (Sergeant/Pirate), *The Wizard of Oz* (Cowardly Lion), *Pippin* (Theo), *The Nerd* (Thor), and *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (White Rabbit). He thanks the director, cast and crew for being so welcoming and helpful, his mom for making him sign

up for drama camp that one summer, his dad for introducing him to Kentwood and Ms. Roemer for introducing him to *The Giver*!



Shawn Plunkett (Father) is so excited to be back on stage with Kentwood Players and for the opportunity to share the stage for the very first time with his real-life son. Shawn was most recently seen as Bo Decker in *Bus Stop*. Other performances with Kentwood Players were Mr. Webb in *Our Town* and Louie the Baker in *Sunday in the Park with George*. Shawn would like to thank this talented cast and crew for this wonderful opportunity and most of all his wife Gloria for her support.



Lily Repp (Fiona) is thrilled to be joining the cast of *The Giver*. She has previously performed in *Shrek The Musical Jr* and *The Wizard of Oz*. When she's not performing, Lily enjoys creating digital art. She would like to thank her mother and her sibling for all of their support throughout this experience!

You are invited to meet and greet cast members
after the performance in the Lobby.

About the Production Staff

Harold Dershimer (Director and Set Design) – Harold's previous directorial projects here with the Kentwood Players include the 3 multiple Marcom Masque award-winning productions of *Oliver!*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *A Raisin in the Sun*. Other past directorial projects include *All My Sons*, *The Gingerbread Lady*, and *Catholic School Girls* among others. Harold has also been seen on this stage in *Our Town*, Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *The Crucible* as well as 18 other productions, and still others with Theatre Palisades, Morgan-Wixson Theatre, and Long Beach Playhouse – all within the past 12 years! He has also been honored as a BRAVO award nominee through the Los Angeles Music Center for his musical work with elementary school children. Harold is enjoying this opportunity to challenge himself artistically; incorporating all these technical aspects to enhance the telling of this story. Special thanks to the cast, staff, and crew for their dedication to this project, and to his family for the continued support!

Kathy Dershimer (Producer and Costume Design) is happy to be being producing *The Giver* with her husband, Harold. Kathy is currently VP of Kentwood Players and has previously directed *Orphans*, *Wait Until Dark* and *Dangerous Obsession*, produced *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Our Town* and *Dial M for Murder*, and has costumed over 20 productions at Kentwood. She thanks the amazing cast and dedicated production team for their inspired and inspiring work Kathy thanks her husband, children and friends for their support in all her endeavors.

Bruce Starrett (Set, Lighting, and Sound Design) has been looking forward to working with Harold again since 2016's *A Raisin in the Sun*, and he has not been disappointed. *The Giver* has been a technically challenging production and a rewarding collaboration. Recent credits include *She Loves Me* at the Morgan-Wixson, *Dead Accounts* and *The Nerd* at Little Fish Theatre, and *Little Women* for Kentwood Players. Bruce has been a Kentwood member since 2009 and is currently serving as the theater's House Manager. Thanks to Harold and Kathy, and to Diane for giving up half our holiday time together. Enjoy the show!

Production Staff

Stage Manager	Roy Okida
Script Supervisor.....	Bouket Fingerhut, Gloria Plunkett
Booth Crew	Melissa Hom, Add'l Staff
Set Decoration Design	Kathy Dershimer, Harold Dershimer
Original Graphic Design	Andrew Dershimer
Lobby Design.....	Andrew Dershimer, Kathy Dershimer
Special Visual Effects	Michael Thorpe
Music.....	Susan Stangl
Master Builder	Doug Carlson, George Kondreck
Additional Set Construction.....	Shawn Plunkett, Bruce Starrett
Set Painting	Cast/Crew/Families
Properties	Kathy Dershimer
Publicity Photos	Gloria Plunkett
Audition Assistance	Myron and Anne Klafter
Hospitality Coordinator	Michele Selin
Box Office.....	Abilene Gonzalez

Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Samantha Barrios, Jenny Boone, Lois Bostwick, Doug Carlson,
Allison Cunningham, Becky Cunningham, Robin Cunningham,
Harold Dershimer, Kathy Dershimer, Judy Deutsch, Gavin Glynn,
Samuel Goldman, Marlene Grinde, Jack Heath, Jeff Heath,
Jennifer Heath, Myron Klafter, Daniel Kruger, George Kondreck,
Gretchen Luna, Kaya McLean, Jessica Wethington McLean,
Mel Miller, Roy Okida, Jeremy Palmer, Elliott Plunkett,
Gloria Plunkett, Shawn Plunkett, Lynn Warech

Special Thanks

Becky and Scott Cunningham
Diane Hazen
Jeff and Jennifer Heath
Jessica Wethington McLean
Gloria Plunkett

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Kentwood Players remembers long-time member **Max Heldring Stormes**, who died in December 2019. Max appeared in at least 27 KP shows from *A Man for All Seasons* (1968) to *Li'l Abner* (2010), directed 9 shows from *Dial "M" for Murder* (1977) to *Bus Stop* (2011), designed the sets for at least 32 shows from *Man of La Mancha* (1971) to *Bus Stop* (2011) designed the graphics for at least 18 shows from *A Case of Libel* (1970) to *Bus Stop* (2011).

Kentwood Players is a Member of the
LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website

www.kentwoodplayers.org

Special Theatre Parties

If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least ten friends, family members, or co-workers, special group rates apply if you book your tickets in advance. For more information please call 310-645-5156.

Reservations are Necessary

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm – 7:00pm WEDNESDAY – SATURDAY
Tickets MUST be paid for by cash, check or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER
at the time reservations are made.

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Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

A Comedy by Christopher Durang

March 13 – April 18, 2020

Director: Susan Stangl

Night Watch

A Mystery/Thriller by Lucille Fletcher

September 11 – October 17, 2020

Director: Brandon Ferruccio

Fun Home, a Musical

Book and Lyrics by Lisa Kron

Music by Jeanine Tesori

Based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel

May 15 – June 20, 2020

Director: Kathryn Dershimer

9 to 5 The Musical

Music and Lyrics by Dolly Parton

Book by Patricia Resnick

Based on the Twentieth Century Fox film

November 13 – December 19, 2020

Director: Kirk Larson

Laughter on the 23rd Floor

A Comedy by Neil Simon

July 10 – August 15, 2020

Director: Stanley Brown

All My Sons

A Drama by Arthur Miller

January 15 – February 20, 2021

Director: Ben Lupejkis

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