



The Farmington Players Barn Audition Notice
Brighton Beach Memoirs by Neil Simon
Sunday, June 24, 2018
Registration 12:30 pm Auditions 1:00 pm

Production Team: Maureen Mansfield-Director, Jill Jones-Assistant Director,
Dave Reinke-Stage Manager, Amy Lauter-Producer

Rehearsal Schedule: 3 nights a week TBD, beginning August 3

Performance Dates: September 28,29,30 October 5,6(x2),7, 11,12,13

More Mandatory Dates: Tech-Saturday September 22, Dress Rehearsals-September 24, 25, 26
Tear Down-Sunday, October 14

Synopsis: Brighton Beach Memoirs is the first in a trilogy of Simon's semi-autobiographical plays. Eugene Jerome dreams of baseball and girls, but in his everyday life, he must cope with the mundane existence of family life in 1937 Brooklyn: a formidable mother, an overworked father, and his worldly older brother Stanley. Throw into the mix his widowed Aunt Blanche and her two young daughters, and you have a recipe for hilarity, served up Neil Simon style. This bittersweet memoir evocatively captures the life of a struggling Jewish household where, as Jerome's father states, "If you didn't have a problem, you wouldn't be living here."

Characters: *We are auditioning actors age 16 + only

*All ages are "appears as"

**Brooklyn accents will be used

Eugene Jerome: (15 y/o): The story revolves around his memoirs which are reportedly those of the young Neil Simon. Eugene wants to be a baseball player and if that doesn't work out he'll settle for being a writer. He has recently discovered girls and is obsessed with the female anatomy (which he's never seen). He complains about his family's demands but is very concerned about them. Frequently breaks 4th wall. Actor must be careful to stay away from cartoonish nerd territory.

Kate Jerome: (mid 40's) Eugene's mother. Kate is the strong one who attempts to hold her family together and solve their problems. She has worked hard her entire life and probably grew up too fast because of it. She puts the family's needs before her own, and though she often sounds annoyed by it, her greatest pleasure is being needed.

Jack Jerome: (late 40's) Eugene's father. Jack feels the pressure of supporting an extended family by working two jobs. In addition, all family members come to him for advice and answers. He is patient but weary and warmly empathetic. He is the moral backbone of the family.

Stanley Jerome: (18 y/o) Eugene's older brother. To help the family, he works in a factory instead of attending college. Stanley does this without complaint, but he does feel the weight of his obligations and struggles between listening to his own heart and convictions and doing what the family needs him to do.

Blanche Morton: (early 40's) Eugene's aunt and Kate's younger sister. Recently widowed, Blanche is indecisive and dependent. With her poor eyesight, there's a self-pitying frailty about her. She wants to build a life for herself and her daughters but doesn't know how or where to begin. She feels buried with her husband and finds herself and her own strength throughout the play.

Laurie Morton: (13 y/o) Eugene's cousin. Laurie is the youngest in the house and the "flutters in her heart" cause both Kate and Blanche to pamper her. She leans on the flutter to cover a bit of laziness. Studious, yet quietly mischievous, Laurie is all ears around adults. She appears innocent, but really has a grasp on what others around her are up to. She can't hide her pleasure at Nora's precocious blossoming.

Nora Morton: (16 y/o) Eugene's cousin. Nora is a very well endowed, beautiful and ambitious girl. She dreams of dancing on Broadway and has more than her share of teenage angst. She's angry with her father for dying and leaving her with a weak mother. She's resentful of Laurie who is pampered.