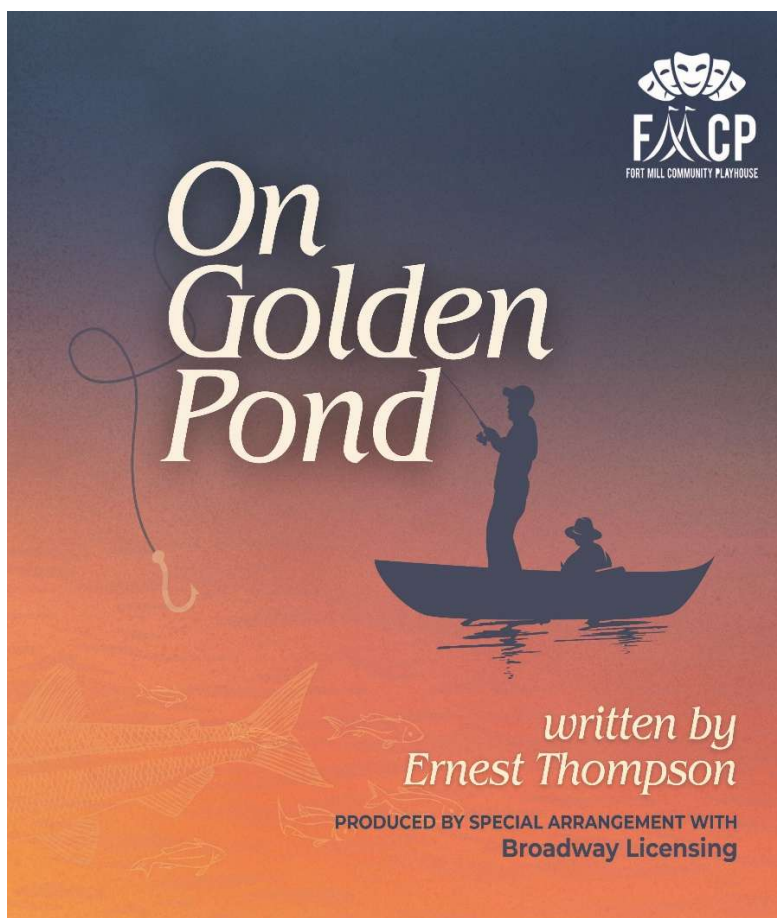


FORT MILL COMMUNITY PLAYHOUSE

Auditions Notice

for



**Sunday, August 30th, 6:30 pm, and
Monday, August 31st, 6:30 pm**
at

Fort Mill Community Playhouse
220 Main Street Fort Mill, SC 29715

**Production dates: November 6, 7, 13, 14, 20 and 21 @ 7:30 pm and
November 8, 15, 21 and 22 @ 3:00 pm**

Rehearsals-Monday through Thursday nights; beginning September 8th

Director: Tom Hollis

On Golden Pond

Characters: 3 men, 2 women, 1 boy. (Note: all ages are approximate. You must be able to believably play the age listed, not necessarily be the age listed).

The parents of boys auditioning for the role of Billy Ray, Jr. should be aware that this character is required to use some adult language.

On Golden Pond is the story of an aging couple, Ethel and Norman Thayer, who spend their summers at the New England lake house, exploring themes of love, aging, and family relationships, particularly the strained dynamic between Norman and his daughter, Chelsea, which is complicated by the arrival of her fiancé and his son.

Character Descriptions

Norman Thayer, Jr.

At 80, Norman is the play's central figure — a retired man with arthritis, heart issues, and early signs of senility. He is sharp-witted, sarcastic, and often gruff, using humor to deflect discomfort with age and mortality. Though he resents the idea of being “old,” he is deeply devoted to his wife Ethel, whose warmth he often contrasts with his own grumpiness. His relationship with his daughter Chelsea is strained, rooted in unmet expectations from her childhood. The summer's events, especially his unlikely friendship with Billy, begin to soften him and open the door to reconciliation.

Ethel Thayer

Ten years younger than Norman, Ethel is vibrant, nurturing, and full of life. She is the emotional anchor of the play, balancing Norman's cynicism with patience and affection. She is a devoted caregiver, decisive in moments of crisis, and enjoys the lake's natural beauty. Ethel thrives on community and hospitality, welcoming neighbors like Charlie and fostering warmth in the household.

Chelsea Thayer Wayne

Chelsea is Norman and Ethel's daughter, in her forties, divorced, and engaged to Bill Ray. She is attractive and independent but still carries the emotional distance from her parents. She feels the weight of her unfulfilled childhood expectations and struggles to connect with Norman. Her arrival with Billy is both a surprise and an opportunity for her to reevaluate her relationship with her parents.

Bill Ray

Chelsea's fiancé, Bill is a dentist from California. He is straightforward, honest,

and confident, often standing up to Norman's teasing. His attempts to impress Norman are met with resistance, but his maturity earns his respect. He is also a father to Billy, adding another layer to the family dynamics.

Billy Ray. Jr.

Billy is Bill's 13-year-old son and soon to be Chelsea's stepson. A typical California teenager, he is initially awkward in the Thayers' Maine setting. His relationship with Norman evolves from awkwardness to a genuine friendship, which becomes a turning point in the play's emotional arc.

Charlie Martin

A longtime local mailman and family friend, Charlie is a down-to-earth, sociable Maine man. He has a long-standing crush on Chelsea but never acts on it. He is kind, sincere, and appreciates Ethel's hospitality, often offering comfort and perspective to the Thayer's.

These characters form a three-generation family unit whose summer at Golden Pond becomes a crucible for confronting age, love, loss, and reconciliation.

Auditions will be a cold reading from the script.

Contact Tom Hollis with any questions, concerns, or problems @
704-617-1563 or tomhollis54@gmail.com