



Peter Loftus

Peter Loftus was born in Utica, New York and has been interested in performing and directing since the age of seven, when he would force his cousins to do “shows” for the family on holidays. Peter attended Utica and Whitesboro Central schools and was president of the Drama Club there. He attended SUNY at Geneseo and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education and Special Education, including a concentration in Drama. He received his Master’s Degree in education from The State University College at Cortland.

Peter has been involved in local productions since sixth grade, when he appeared as the doctor in *Macbeth*. During high school and college, Peter was also involved in directing, producing and acting. After graduating college, Peter began his career in local community productions. He performed with The Upstagers, Players of Utica and Rome Community Theater. In 1982, he directed a musical production of *Scrooge* with a cast of 32. Twenty-seven years later, he continues to direct the annual holiday event with a cast of close to 200. He has performed in, or directed, over 50 plays and musicals for the Players of Utica. He co-founded Ruckus Productions with his dear friend Bonnie Hibbard and together they produced several musicals including one of his favorites, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. In 1995, Peter directed his first musical for Summerstage at the Capitol Theatre. In the following 14 years, he has directed over thirty productions there including special performances of *Big River*, *Noises Off* and *A Chorus Line*.

Peter has also worked with many other performing groups in the Central New York Area; including Utica B Sharp Club, The Town of Trenton Community Education Productions, The M. Proctor Theatre Guild, The Etude Club, Mohawk Valley Ballet, Petronella Productions, and The Vinnie Coluzza Memorial Fund. In 1999, he directed his dear friend Richard Enders in his one- man show *Sketches of Boz*. This show was also produced Off- Broadway at the Irish Arts Theater. Peter also directed two shows at The Colony Club – a women’s club on Park Avenue in New York City. He has served as cantor at St. Mark’s Catholic Church for the past 25 years.

He has served on several area boards and committees including the New York State Decentralization Grant Committee, he was a board member of Players of Utica for over ten years, a board member of the Mohawk Valley Performing Arts Company, on the Production Committee for the Capitol Theatre. Peter is presently a Broadway Theater League Board Member.

Peter was the recipient of the M. Proctor Theater Guild Life Achievement Award and a special proclamation naming Saturday, December 8, 2001 as Peter Loftus Day in the City of Utica.