



RALPH COLOMBINO

CLASS OF 1987

Ralph Colombino, raised in Point Pleasant, is a 1987 graduate of Point Pleasant Borough High School, where he was involved in many activities. While at PPBHS, Ralph was in mixed chorus and boy's ensemble under the direction of Mr. Loren Donley. As a senior, he was the bass section leader and was awarded *Best Senior Musician*. In 1986, he was selected to be in All-Shore Chorus as a tenor. Ralph was also involved in many plays at the Boro. He played Fred in *Oklahoma!*; Wilson in Mary Chase's *Harvey*; Luther Billis in *South Pacific*; Charlie Brown in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*; and Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes*, for which he was awarded *Best Senior Performance*. Ralph also illustrated political cartoons for The Panther Press, and was a counselor for the summer program at the Point Pleasant Recreation Center for seven years.

Upon graduation, Ralph attended Mason Gross School of the Arts Professional Actor Training Program at Rutgers University where he studied with some of the acting industry's most renowned teachers. In 1989, he was one of ten Rutgers students selected for the university's most elite theater company, *The Shoestring Players*. During the company's world tour that year, they performed to a sold out house at New Jersey's State Theatre and did a three week run at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland to rave reviews.

After graduating from Rutgers in 1991 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, Ralph began his career as a professional actor, director, musician, and educator. As an actor, Ralph has performed in nearly forty professional theater productions as well as a vast array of independent films and television appearances. As a musician, Ralph has performed at nearly every major rock venue on the east coast as the lead singer, guitarist, and songwriter for his longtime band, The Remnants, who have

received airplay on many national and independent radio stations including WHTG 106.3 FM and Q104.3 FM in New York City. As a teacher of theater and acting technique, Ralph has taught nearly every age and every level of education. Through his cutting edge curriculum, Ralph's classes have proven, time and time again, to have a profoundly positive and perpetually enriching effect on his students both artistically and personally. He is fiercely committed to progressive training in theater and the cinematic arts for young people and to elevating our nation's level of education in the arts. Some of his teaching credits include Actor's Heritage in NYC; The Children's Cultural Center in Red Bank, NJ; Hoboken High School, Hoboken, NJ; Dance Theater Project in Sea Girt, NJ; The Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, NJ; Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ; the Arts and Education Center of New Jersey; and Monmouth University, where, as an adjunct professor, Ralph has taught acting and theater appreciation for fifteen years.

On May 5, 2005, Ralph opened Actors Playground School of Theatre in Freehold, NJ, a conservatory style studio that teaches over 200 young people weekly, and offers the highest level of professional training in the art of acting for all mediums and for all ages. The Playground's friendly and creative atmosphere provides a strong foundation of encouragement and trust that allows its students to gain confidence in their work and challenge themselves uncluttered to explore their creative imagination. It has quickly become New Jersey's premier acting school. Multitudes of Ralph's current students and alumni are scattered throughout the acting industry and have successful careers as professional actors, directors, playwrights, screenwriters, producers, and casting directors.

Ralph is the company director of Playground Theatre Project, which is a company of well-trained and socially conscious young actors that travels to schools of all grade levels; churches; youth groups; community centers; libraries; museums; and theaters across America, performing original social issue plays concerning violence, racism, human rights, bullying, suicide, and drug and alcohol abuse. The company's unique peer-to-peer philosophy has proven to resonate profoundly with young audiences and has received rave reviews from students, teachers, parents, and the press. Ralph also created the younger division of this company called The Mini Misfits. This troupe of 7 to 12 year olds performs an original anti-bullying play for elementary schools throughout the east coast. They are the youngest social issue theater company in the world.