



ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

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EC Theatre Professor to Premiere Play at Arnot Art Museum

Elmira, New York – A new, full-length drama titled, “aide et réconfort,” by local playwright and Elmira College professor, John J. Kelly, will premiere February 25 at 8:00 p.m. and February 26 at 2:00 p.m. at the Arnot Art Museum in Elmira, New York.

The play, performed by Elmira College students, is about French women who offer aid and comfort to German soldiers during World War II. The play serves as a fundraiser for local charities, with proceeds being distributed through the Chemung County Sunrise Rotary Club. Included in the charities regularly supported by the Rotary Club are Meals on Wheels, Camp Star (for children, ages 6 through 12, with a physical or developmental disabilities), Tanglewood Nature Center, Woodlawn Cemetery, the Parley Coburn School, and many more.



Playwright John J. Kelly, currently Professor of Theatre and Director of the Theatre Program at Elmira College and primarily an actor and director with more than 250 educational and professional productions to his credit, began work as a playwright only a bit over three years ago. In that time, his plays have been published, anthologized, and performed in high schools, colleges, and professional theatres throughout the nation, including New York City, Washington D.C., and Chicago

General admission is \$15. Members of the Arnot Art Museum, Rotary Club, and faculty, staff and students of Elmira College are \$10. Space is limited and reservations are recommendation. Contact Professor Kelly’s office at (607) 735-1981.

About Elmira College

Elmira College is a private, coeducational, Phi Beta Kappa college founded in 1855, located in Elmira, New York. The College has an undergraduate enrollment of approximately 1,200 full-time mostly-residential students, and is the guardian of Quarry Farms where Mark Twain summered for decades and where he wrote many of his most iconic novels and is today a research center for visiting Twain scholars. The College has been ranked as a Best College in the Northeast by *The Princeton Review* and a national Top Tier liberal arts college by *U.S. News & World Report*, which has also ranked Elmira College as a leading college, nationally, for student internships. *The Philadelphia Inquirer* cited the Elmira College campus as ‘picture postcard perfect.’

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Photo attached: AAM façade.jpg Photo

Provided by Arnot Art Museum.

Caption: Professor John Kelly will premiere his new play, “aide et réconfort,” at the Arnot Art Museum on February 25 & 26. The play serves as a fundraiser for local charities, with proceeds being distributed through the Chemung County Sunrise Rotary Club.