

Arts and Culture

Gail Golden produces "Give & Take," screenplay in Buffalo

More than 150 local actors featured in the film

When Gail Golden moved back home to Buffalo from Orlando, Fla. last spring, it was to produce her screenplay, a feature-length comedy called "Give & Take." "Give & Take" is about a young Jewish woman, Ellie Maisel, who moves back home to Buffalo from New York City and tries to pursue her acting career. Gail's roots are in the Buffalo Jewish community -- her grandparents were the Maisel, Dosberg, and Goldsman families. She has acted at virtually every theatre in town, and she directed The Youth Theatre at the JCC for seven years.

When her children, Holly and Geoffrey, went out of town to college, Gail moved to Orlando and worked at Walt Disney World, playing Cinderella's Fairy Godmother for more than 1,000 performances in Magic Kingdom on The Castle Stage. Theme park work was surprisingly unpleasant and it became the basis for her screenplay.

"Give & Take," which opens with a Channukah scene, has had a lot of support from the Buffalo Jewish community. The cast of 150 local actors includes Jodi Starr Cook, Ann Dozoretz Earne, Holly Golden, Pam Weinrieb, Richard Maisel, Geoffrey Golden, and Gail Golden. Esther Greene, Stuart Maisel, and Carol Lederman also helped with the production. Grant Golden and Pam Golden contributed art work for set decoration. Gail's late mother, Beverly Goldsman, was a former President of the Buffalo Society of Artists. Her collages are on display throughout the film. On the wall of the McGinty's set, is a photo of Manny Fried, in tribute to his importance in the Buffalo arts scene.

Give & Take, now in post-production, will be shown for cast and crew at the Market Arcade on Sept. 7 at 7:00 p.m.

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