



Hello & Thank You for your service to our great nation!

My name is Patricia Frank; and I am the Drama Director at Avon Lake High School. I am also the proud daughter of a Korean War Navy vet, the sister and sister-in-law of career Army officers, and the daughter-in-law of a World War II Navy pilot who is still living an active life at the age of 92.

I am reaching out to you today, in order to invite veterans to be recognized during our spring musical, Leonard Bernstein's *On the Town*. This show was selected because we wanted to produce a musical with a patriotic theme to coincide with Avon Lake's Bicentennial celebration, as well as the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice ending World War I and coincidentally the 100th birthday of American composer Leonard Bernstein.

*On the Town* is a musical with music by Leonard Bernstein and book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, based on Jerome Robbins' idea for his 1944 ballet *Fancy Free*, which he had set to Bernstein's music. The musical introduced several popular and classic songs, among them "New York, New York", "Lonely Town", "I Can Cook, Too" (for which Bernstein also wrote the lyrics), and "Some Other Time". The story concerns three American sailors on a 24-hour shore leave in New York City during wartime 1944. Each of the three sailors meets and quickly connects with a woman.

*On the Town* was first produced on Broadway in 1944 and was made into a film in 1949, although the film replaced all but three of the original Broadway songs with Hollywood-written substitutes. The show has enjoyed a number of major revivals. The musical integrates dance into its storytelling; Robbins made a number of ballets and extended dance sequences for the show, including the "Imaginary Coney Island" ballet.

We would appreciate your assistance in two ways.

1. **We need assistance in contacting any vets who would be interested in being "honored" by one of our cast or crew members for this production.** Based on past musical productions, this means that we are trying to make certain all 80 students have at least one veteran to "honor." The vet's picture would be posted in our lobby display; and all veterans will be recognized at the intermission of our show. We would need each veteran to provide us with a picture, their name and branch of military service. If interested, please e-mail: [markosoteo@hotmail.com](mailto:markosoteo@hotmail.com).

2. **We also want to provide a complimentary ticket to ANY veteran attending one of our shows Thurs., April 11 at 7:00PM, Fri., Apr. 12 at 7:00PM, Sat., Apr. 13 at 2:00 AND 7:00PM, and Sun., Apr. 14 at 2:00PM.** All veterans are able to use the promo code 'veterans' to receive their complimentary ticket. Our website is [www.avonlakedramaclub.com](http://www.avonlakedramaclub.com) to get your free veteran ticket!

THANK YOU!

Thanks,

Patricia Frank

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ALHS Drama Director

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