

# Paul Green Foundation

NEWS – June 2012



## Honoring Two Artistic Giants in Paul Green's Life

### Richard Adler



The Paul Green Foundation Board of Trustees has lost an internationally talented member. Richard Adler, composer and lyricist, died in June at his home in Southampton, N.Y. at age 90. We remember fondly his visit some years back with his wife, Susan, when Richard became a Foundation Trustee. He was very proud of joining the board and he talked about his love and admiration of Paul Green and his work.

Adler and Ross (partner Jerry Ross) wrote Broadway musicals that included: *The Pajama Game* and *Damn Yankees* and the songs: "You Gotta Have Heart," "Hey, There," "Hernando's Hideaway," "Whatever Lola Wants," "Steam Heat," "Rags to Riches," and "Everybody Loves a Lover." After attending the University of North Carolina and serving in the Navy, he met songwriter Frank Loesser (*Guys and Dolls*), who introduced him to Ross. Each had been looking for a partner and, at their first meeting, they immediately hit it off. Later Adler also composed music for television, including *Little Women* and *The Gift of the Magi*. He claims, however, that the work he was most proud of was the birthday tribute in New York in 1962 for President John F Kennedy's; Adler produced and staged the show, at which Marilyn Monroe sang her famous Happy Birthday, "Mr. President."

**Andy Griffith** died in his North Carolina home in Manteo on July 3, 2012.



Andy Griffith, born in Mount Airy, N.C grew up listening to music and discovering later that he'd been living "on the wrong side of the tracks." His father instilled a sense of humor in him by telling old family stories. He was a shy student, but once he found a way to make his peers laugh, he began to come out of his shell and come into his own.



In 1944 he was offered a role in Paul Green's *The Lost Colony* as a cast member, then landed the role of Sir Walter Raleigh.

At UNC-Chapel Hill, he was a member of the Carolina PlayMakers and sang in student operettas, graduating with a music degree in 1949. He taught school in Goldsboro before making his famous "What it Was, Was Football" monologue that thrust him toward stardom. Many movies followed and the TV Series:



*The Andy Griffith Show*

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