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Delight and lesson

The Teen Summer Theater presented Port Washington with another triumph this weekend when it gave four performances of "Oliver!"

Once again, Pam and Ron Meadows and their cast of thousands (75, actually) and crew of dozens, produced a show that was attractive, lively, interesting, fast-paced, and witty. Once again, the teenagers did themselves and Port Washington proud with a thoroughly professional job that was a delight to all.

This play was produced with no real institutional funding. Because of the austerity school budget, the Teen Theater had to pay in advance for use of the high school for rehearsals and performances. This time, funds came in small donations from many residents and business-people.

The Meadows and their colleagues have demonstrated that big money is not required for worthwhile activities for our young people. What is required is hard work, dedication, and imagination.

The magnificent set, for example, was built of lumber used for other sets and stages in previous Teen Theater productions. And it was designed and built by inventive amateurs.

Let us all learn a lesson from "Oliver!" Let's begin to think creatively and spend brain power instead of money whenever possible.

And many, many thanks to all involved in "Oliver!" It was a wonderful way to spend an evening.