

GOODBYE NOVEMBER. THANKSGIVING'S GONE.

By Jose Rincon, Executive Director

Bravi tutti to the artistic team, cast and crew of *A Christmas Story, The Musical!* If you were one of the more than 6,000 people who came to see us at the Flynn last month, you know what a beautiful and touching production we were able to present with the help of hundreds of volunteers, thousands of donated hours, and immeasurable amounts of energy—and we sincerely thank you!

Although we've put our fall show to bed, we are still very much awake and finishing the year in full force. Before we broke for Thanksgiving the Lyric Anthem Singers shared their talents with spectators at a UVM Women's Ice Hockey game; and our traveling Savvy Seniors troupe was busy performing for a senior residence in Milton and filming one of their many skits—"Canada Goose"—so that they may share it with an even broader audience. Thank you to those volunteers who help bring Lyric Theatre Company to communities across the region all year round.

And Lyric doesn't show signs of stopping as we settle in for winter. December brings a flurry of activity beginning with the kick-off meeting for our upcoming production, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Be sure to visit the Lyric website for information on how you can audition, volunteer and get tickets for what is sure to be a glamorous jaunt to the French Riviera next spring. This month you will also find Lyric members spreading good cheer on Church Street with our annual Christmas caroling, officially opening the new Lyric Creative Space with a ribbon-cutting celebration, and closing out the calendar year with our Winter Cabaret as part of First Night Burlington.

On behalf of Lyric Theatre Company, I want to wish everyone a peaceful holiday season, and a happy, healthy new year. See you in 2018!



COMMUNITY PARTNER SAYS THANKS

During each production, Lyric shines the spotlight on a nonprofit community partner. For *A Christmas Story, The Musical*, our partner was Toys for Kids of Vermont, an initiative of the Marine Corps League. Herbert F. Drew, Jr., Commandant of the Donald G. Cook Detachment #608, shared that \$1,035.40 was raised for the program and commented: "The people were very generous and that makes a great start for the Christmas season for our program; we want to personally thank you and your organization for inviting us to participate in this event."

OPEN HOUSE AND RIBBON CUTTING FOR LYRIC'S CREATIVE SPACE

By Syndi Zook

Because you helped us to "Dream the Impossible Dream," we enthusiastically invite you to an Open House and Ribbon Cutting ceremony to celebrate Lyric's new Creative Space. All of the technical and business sides of Lyric are all here. First level costume shop, meetings rooms, Archives, properties storage (for 43 years of stuff) and an amazing scene shop. Please join us and see what donors and volunteers together have created. There is nothing like it in Vermont!

Where:

Lyric Theatre Creative Space

7 Green Tree Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403

Date: Saturday, December 16, 2017

Time: 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

Capital Campaign Chair, John Gravel, leads the remarks at 12:30 followed by a ceremonial ribbon cutting and refreshments. Tours of the building from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. If you cannot make the event but would love to see the building, please contact Syndi Zook at 802-658-1484 or syndi@lyrictheatrevt.org.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

By Rosalind "Roz" Saunders

I want to offer my congratulations to everyone involved with *A Christmas Story, The Musical!* Many thanks to our terrific team, crew, and cast, and to everyone involved on and off stage, including all who attended. As we wrap up from our wonderfully successful fall show, we look forward to the upcoming *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* kick-off. I also wanted to take a moment to thank our four retiring board members: Stephen Kendall, Geri Ann Higgins, Brian Meyer, and Julianne Nickerson. We are grateful to you for your service to Lyric!



LYRIC'S FIRST NIGHT WINTER CABARET

By Brent Garrow

Members of the cast for Lyric's "Classic Broadway" Winter Cabaret are: Jim Coates, Andrew Parise, Steve Watson, Weller Henderson, Julie Parise, Megan Butterfield, Elizabeth Richards, and Alexa Kartschoke. Come and enjoy wonderful tunes performed by a talented group of people at 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. on December 31 at the First United Methodist Church. This special performance to ring in the New Year is a result of the collaborative efforts of Brent Garrow, Director; Craig Hilliard, Music Director; and Sue Bailey, Choreographer.

THE TUTT CHALLENGE

By Freda Tutt

If you know me, you know that I love Lyric Theatre Company. It has been my home away from home, my family away from family for almost 20 years. I am one of Lyric's biggest cheerleaders. I have served two six-year terms on the Board of Directors, worked on every production since 1998, and have been a part of our Capital Campaign since it was just a spark of an idea. We are SO close to completing our Capital Campaign and are trying to raise just a few more dollars. To that end, I have started the "Tutt Challenge."

If 100 people will donate just \$100 each, I will donate an additional \$1,000 to the Capital Campaign (over and above my previous gift). Of course, if you are feeling generous, you are welcome to contribute more. Let's do this! If you are ready to help Lyric make it to the end, and I know you are, please call Jose Rincon at 802-658-1484 and he will help you make it happen. Or you can go to the Lyric website and click on the Donate button. Don't forget to say you are answering the "Tutt Challenge." And please share this with your friends. Together we can make this happen. Thank you for supporting Lyric Theatre Company.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

By MaryBeth Nuovo

The Lyric Theatre Education Committee is gearing up for a great year, and we need YOU! Please consider becoming a member of the Education Committee. You'll be able to help us reach area youths with our summer camps (and even help us choose which summer shows we produce) and help us plan new initiatives to expand 'impact with young theater buffs across our region. The next Education Committee meeting is December 12 at 6:00 p.m. at 7 Green Tree Drive. Questions? Contact MaryBeth Nuovo at mbnuovo@aol.com or 233-9264. Hope to see you there!

LYRIC ALUMNA ELLY VALASTRO IN DISNEY'S *THE LITTLE MERMAID*

By Wendy Valastro

Lyric alumna Elly Valastro is currently performing in the Northern Stage production of Disney's *The Little Mermaid*. Besides understudying Ariel and playing Atina, she also is a flying stingray and some other parts. The production runs through January 7, 2018. Tickets are going fast. For more info: <https://northernstage.org/2017/06/26/the-little-mermaid/>



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR
SHOW SPONSOR
By Pat Boera

NorthCountry: Your community credit union is the sponsor for our upcoming production of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. NorthCountry's "Can-Do" core values are the tenets that underlie every transaction, interaction, and decision—internally and externally. NorthCountry was recently named as one of the *2017 Best Places to Work in Vermont*. Learn more at www.northcountry.org and be sure to say thanks the next time you visit one of their locations.



THE PERFECT GIFT

The gift of live theatre...perfect for every occasion!

For that challenging-to-buy-for person in your life, consider a gift certificate for tickets to a Lyric Theatre Company production or LyricKids' camp. Perhaps you can recall the first time you sat in the audience for a live theatre production—the flurry of conversations as patrons entered the hall; reading your program; sensing the excitement as the house lights dimmed; hearing the first notes of the overture; being awed by sets, costumes, hair, make-up, and lighting; and perhaps even waiting after the show to meet your favorite actor or actress. Everyone should have this experience! You can make it happen. Contact the Lyric Office for more info—802-658-1484.

UPDATE ABOUT LYRIC ALUMNUS PAUL MILLER

By Jeanne Miller

Lyric alumna Paul Miller performs in the production of *Miss Saigon* at the Broadway Theatre in New York City through the end of its run January 14. Paul is cast in various ensemble roles and is understudy for Thuy.

Paul is one of 12 persons cast for the world premiere of *Soft Power* at the Ahmanson Theatre in LA from May 3 through June 10, 2018. For more info, visit <https://www.centertheatregroup.org/tickets/ahmanson-theatre/2017-18/soft-power/>

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PROPOSE?

By Sean Leach

... for Lyric's spring 2019 show! The Show Selection and Evaluation Committee is seeking proposals for spring 2019 and would like a show that would be very popular with our Lyric audiences—ideally one with six performances. This show, coupled with *Annie*, our fall 2018 show, will provide Lyric with a blockbuster season to help support our new building. The deadline for show proposals is January 15, 2018. Guidelines are stated below. Contact Sean Leach, chair of Lyric's Show Selection and Evaluation Committee, at leachs@aol.com or 363-4599 for more info.

Main Stage Show Proposal Criteria:

- Has not been produced by Lyric in the past ten years
- Has broad-based audience appeal
- Is appropriate for directors, cast and crew available to Lyric
- Has potential for substantial ticket sales
- Has artistic value

Written proposals should include:

- Names and qualifications of the Producer, Director, Choreographer and Music Director
- Synopsis of show
- History of the show (where and when it has been performed)
- General vision including cast size and mix, special talent needs and why it should be produced by Lyric
- A preliminary budget (past show budgets are available from the Lyric Office)
- Some general marketing ideas to promote the show

**ALMOST, MAINE COMES TO THE
SOUTH BURLINGTON STAGE**
By David Bailey

Almost, Maine, a tiny town so far north Vermont is considered the South. One winter night with the aurora borealis creating celestial enchantment, eight couples fall under the spell of that funny little unpredictable thing called love. *Almost, Maine* is a funny and poignant look at what makes our lives matter.

Almost, Maine is a play by John Cariana, comprising nine short plays that explore love and loss in a remote, mythical almost-town called Almost, Maine. Each scene features a different, offbeat, authentic couple trying to make sense of their lives. Two elements added to this production will be linking word sounds taken from the work of Vermont poet Hayden Carruth and original music by the cast. As the Northern Lights appear in the sky above, the audience will find themselves admiring these hardworking honest characters who take time to wonder about things, the same things that unite us all.

In association with the First Light Theatre Project, *Almost, Maine* is directed by David Bailey and will be performed at South Burlington High School on Friday and Saturday, January 12 and 13, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. It features talented actors from Tuttle Middle School including Lyric's own Ronnie Thom Farrell. Tickets go on sale in mid-December at www.firstlighttheatrevt.com or will be available at the door before the show. Info: dbailey@sbschools.net



AUDITIONS FOR *DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS*
By Serena Magnan O'Connell

Auditions for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, under the artistic direction of Andrea Cronan, music direction by Martin Hain, and choreography by Kate Whalen, will be held Wednesday through Friday, January 3 through 5, 2018, with callbacks on January 6. Auditions will be held at Hampton Direct, Inc. warehouse, 291 Hurricane Drive in Williston. Visit the Lyric website—www.lyrictheatrevt.org—for audition forms; readings; music; list of volunteer opportunities; and maps to Lyric's Creative Space and the audition site.

ANNOUNCING LYRIC'S FALL SHOW: ANNIE
Meet the Artistic team for *Annie*, Lyric's fall 2018 show:
Production Supervisor: Julianne Nickerson
Director: Sara McDonald
Music Director: Craig Hilliard
Choreographer: Kim Nowlan-Hathaway



**2017-18
SEASON
TICKET
ORDER FORM**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone (day) _____ (eve) _____

PAYMENT METHOD

Please charge my credit card []
[] VISA [] MasterCard [] American Express
[] Discover

Credit Card No: _____

Expiration Date _____ CV Code _____

Cardholder Name: _____

Cardholder Signature: _____

OR My check is enclosed []
(Make check payable to: Lyric Theatre Company)

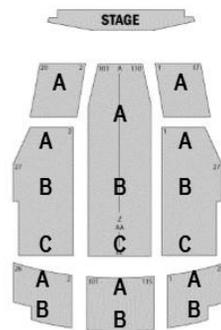
YOUR LYRIC SHOW SEATING PREFERENCES:

[] Floor [] Balcony [] Wheelchair
[] Other (please explain) _____

If the seat requested is not available, the next best location will be chosen for you.

DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS takes us to the French Riviera where a hilarious battle of con artists ensues. Sophisticated, suave with a good dash of mischief, this hysterical comedy features a delightfully jazzy score by David Yazbek (*The Full Monty*) and was nominated for a staggering eleven Tony Awards. PG13

Day	Date	Time	A=\$42	Student/Senior A=\$37	B=\$34	Student/Senior B=\$29	C=\$24	Student/Senior C=\$19	TOTAL
Thursday	April 5	7:30 pm							
Friday	April 6	7:30 pm		N/A		N/A		N/A	
Sat. Mat.	April 7	2 pm							
Sat. Eve	April 7	7:30 pm		N/A		N/A		N/A	
Sun. Mat.	April 8	2 pm							



LYRIC TICKET PRICES & SEATING CHART

Section A=\$42
Section B=\$34
Section C=\$24



\$5 discount for students (under 18) and seniors (62+). Not available for Friday or Saturday evening performances.

GROUP DISCOUNTS: Order 15 or more tickets for a single show and save 15%.

Call (802) 658-1484

1 TOTAL Ticket Cost \$ _____

2 Postage and Handling \$ 4.00

3 Subtotal (sum of 1 +2) \$ _____

4 Sales Tax: Line 3 x7% (.07) \$ _____

5 Become a Lyric Member today add \$40 \$ _____

6 TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____

MAIL PAYMENT & ORDER FORM TO:
Tickets, Lyric Theatre, P.O. Box 1688, Williston, VT 05495



P.O. Box 1688
Williston, VT 05495



Tickets to *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*
make great gifts!

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 333
Burlington, VT
05401

The Spotlight: A monthly publication of Lyric Theatre Company. To submit material for the next issue, email boerap@champlain.edu. Distribution questions? Call 802-658-1484.

Deadline for January issue: December 28, 2017

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AT YOUR SERVICE—LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY BOARD & STAFF

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MEETING TIMES FOR LYRIC'S STANDING COMMITTEES

Board (Chair: Rosalind Saunders): 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington
Facilities (Chair: Doug Viehmann): 1st Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington
PR/Development (Chair: Annie Ode): 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington
Education (Chair: MaryBeth Nuovo): Meeting details TBA
Finance (Chair: Karen Sheedy): Meeting details TBA
Membership (Chair: Christopher Brown): 4th Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., home of the O'Connell's, Burlington
Show Selection (Chair: Sean Leach): Monthly, Time TBA, Location varies

SPOTLIGHT SHOUT-OUT

By Christopher Brown

This month, we would like to shine a spotlight on Doug Viehmann and the Facilities Committee for not only keeping the building running in tip-top shape and addressing all problems and concerns that arise but for also preparing the creative space for our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Thank you for all of your hard work!



April 5-8, 2018
Flynn Center MainStage
Burlington, VT

Generous support from
NORTH COUNTRY
Your community credit union