



THE SPOTLIGHT



Editor: Pat Boera

www.lyrictheatrevt.org | office@lyrictheatrevt.org

September 2017



ANNUAL MEETING NEW DATE AND LOCATION

What: Lyric Theatre Company Annual Meeting
When: Sunday, October 1, 2017, 4:30-8:00 p.m.
Join us after rehearsal and crew work.
Where: The Eagles Club, South Burlington, VT

Vote for new Board Members. Say good-bye to Board Members who are completing their terms. Hear the exciting treasurer's report. Celebrate our past season and get prepped for this coming season. Find out who will be Volunteer of the Year. Please bring a dish to share and share a lovely fall evening with your Lyric friends.

VOTE FOR YOUR NEW LYRIC BOARD MEMBERS By Syndi Zook

At Lyric's Annual Meeting, the Nominating Committee will present five new candidates for seats on the Lyric Theatre Company Board of Directors. Here is a little information about the five individuals and the talents they bring to the Board.

Kathy Grise is a long-time fan and patron of Lyric and the arts, and thrilled to take on a volunteer role. Kathy is the Senior Program Director for the IEEE and advances efforts on new technology initiatives. She and her husband have two beautiful daughters.

Tim Henderson has been on Set Construction crews, often as crew chief, for Lyric for almost 15 years. "I started with Lyric to share an experience with my daughter/actress, and was surprised at the sheer fun of it. Then one day someone said we could not only build a *Titanic*, but sink it on stage! Whoa!!! So then I was truly hooked." Tim brings expertise in facilities and volunteer management to Lyric, as well as the ability to "fix things!"

Mary Margaret Lee works with the Green Mountain Higher Education Consortium (GMHEC) as Stakeholder Relations Strategist. In this role, Mary will work with the three member institutions, including Champlain College, Middlebury College and Saint Michaels's College to leverage the Consortium's economics and shared services. Mary brings to Lyric expertise in Human Resources and a connection to local colleges and universities. Mary is actively engaged in a number of community organizations and resides in Burlington with her husband and son.

Andy Pearson has worked as a Lighting Designer on six Lyric shows and helped crew many more. He brings technical expertise and IT skills to the Board as well as a connection to the local school community as he currently works at South Burlington High School.

Skip Potter currently lives in Barre, VT, and has been employed for 19 years as the IT Manager with RL Vallee, overseeing all technology for the company. Though a Lyric fan for some time, his first true association with Lyric came this past spring as a cast member in *9 to 5*. Skip brings Lyric connections to other parts of Vermont as well as other arts organizations as he has performed with several choral and theatre groups in the region. When not working, he lives aboard "Knot Retired" at the Champlain Marina.

DID YOU RECEIVE YOUR TICKET MAILER?

The ticket mailer for Lyric's outstanding 2017-18 season was recently sent to all Lyric members. Our 91st and 92nd shows on the Flynn MainStage will be *A Christmas Story The Musical* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. We anticipate that both productions will be very popular so we recommend that you return the completed mailer soon to ensure the best selection of seats. Tickets will go on sale to the general public in September.

There will be six performances of *A Christmas Story The Musical*:

| | | |
|----------|-------------|----------------------|
| Thursday | November 9 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Friday | November 10 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Saturday | November 11 | 2:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. |
| Sunday | November 12 | 2:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m. |

There will be five performances of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*:

| | | |
|----------|---------|----------------------|
| Thursday | April 5 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Friday | April 6 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Saturday | April 7 | 2:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. |
| Sunday | April 8 | 2:00 p.m. |

Tickets: \$24-\$42; student/senior discounts are offered at some performances; group rates available. If you did not receive a mailer, please contact the Lyric Office, office@lyrictheatrevt.org or 802-658-1484, to request one.

A CHRISTMAS STORY THE MUSICAL WELCOMES A NEW TEAM MEMBER

We are delighted to welcome Kate Kendall to the team in the role of Assistant Director/Kid Wrangler, joining Brent Garrow.

SEARCHING FOR A WINTER CABARET DIRECTOR

By Margaret Welch

Lyric's Winter Cabaret will be performing for at least two venues this year—First Night Burlington on December 31 and the 50+ and Boomer Expo at the Sheraton Conference Center on Saturday, February 3, 2018. We are looking for a Winter Cabaret Director (or Directors) to put together the show. The Director(s) of Lyric's Winter Cabaret is an entire production team rolled into one position. They are the show's producer, director, choreographer, stage manager, costume designer, props person, etc. This can be one person or a team. Current guidelines for the Winter Cabaret include:

-Cast Size: 8 to 16 performers

-Cast Age: 16 years old and up

Participation of Lyric Kids is encouraged (not part of criteria stated above)

People who audition must be able to perform/commit to performances at 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. on December 31 (First Night) and in the morning on Saturday, February 3, 2018 (Expo).

If you would like to be considered for the Winter Cabaret Director, please submit a proposal by as soon as possible. Written proposals should include:

-Names of the Director, Choreographer, Music Director and Accompanist (these can be one or more persons)

-A general outline of the show (theme, possible songs)

-Basic strategy for auditions and rehearsal schedule

For more information or to submit a proposal, please contact Margaret Welch, tapwelch@aol.com or 862-2428, or Sean Leach, Leachs@aol.com or 363-4599.

THREE CHEERS FOR OUR SHOW SPONSORS AND MEDIA PARTNER

By Pat Boera

We are delighted to shine the spotlight on three organizations that make it possible for Lyric to honor its mission of making the arts accessible to all through their generous sponsorship.



www.tcvermont.com

The Trust Company of Vermont is a long-time and valued sponsor of Lyric shows, having most recently partnered with us to support *Mary Poppins* and *RENT*. The Trust Company of Vermont is a state chartered trust and investment management firm for individual investors, corporations and non-profits. Headquartered in Brattleboro, with offices in Burlington, Rutland, Manchester and St. Albans, the Trust Company was chartered as of September 16, 1999 and became the state's

first independent trust company. The Trust Company has grown from a zero base to more than a billion dollars in managed assets.

A company devoted solely to investment management and trust services, the Trust Company is unique among fiduciary and investment advisors for its combination of independence, local employee ownership, expertise, and approach to maintaining long-term relationships.

An employee-owned and locally controlled organization, The Trust Company is structured to remain a Vermont-based company in perpetuity.

We are grateful to Nanette Stevens—Trust Company of Vermont Managing Director and former Lyric Board member—for championing sponsorship of *A Christmas Story The Musical*.



www.kountrykartdeli.com

Kountry Kart Deli, located next door to the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, is known as Burlington's best deli serving Vermont fresh food—made fast. The deli, which is open 20 hours a day, has been serving Burlington since 1989. Owner Mike Williams started with a push cart on the Church Street Marketplace. Their very popular and locally famous sandwich is called the Shiner (the sandwich with the hash brown on it). The Morning Riser is their breakfast sandwich sans hash brown. KKD is a Daysie winner for "Best Breakfast Sandwich" for two years straight and winner of "Best Late-night Eats" for eight years straight. Mike, who is a long-time supporter of Lyric, tells us, "I'm happy to be able to help because of the great things Lyric does for our business community."



www.wcax.com

Long-time Lyric volunteer Meredith Neary is Creative Services Director, PSA Director and Program Coordinator at WCAX, the CBS affiliate in Burlington, VT. A conversation with Meredith at one of Lyric's social events resulted in media partnerships for *Mary Poppins, 9 to 5*, and now for *A Christmas Story The Musical*. The station, which has history in Vermont dating back to 1954, was recently purchased by Gray Media. Aside from its primary coverage area of the Champlain Valley in Vermont and New York State, WCAX's signal also carries across the U.S.-Canada border into portions of southern Quebec.

COMMUNITY PARTNER FOR *A CHRISTMAS STORY THE MUSICAL*

We are pleased to announce that Toys for Kids VT is the community partner for our show. Watch for more info in the next issue.

ON OTHER STAGES

★ Following *The Addams Family*, Stowe Theatre Guild continues its season with Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None*, September 27-October 14.

Performances are held at the Ackley Memorial Building. Tickets/info: stowetheatre.com

★ Shelburne Players present *I Hate Hamlet* at Shelburne Town Center November 10 through 18. Tickets/info: shelburneplayers.com

★ Essex Community Players present *Dracula*, October 13-28; *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, December 1-10; *Doubt*, February 22-March 4; and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, May 5-13. Performances are held at Memorial Hall. Tickets/info: essexplayers.com

★ Lamoille County Players present *The Miracle Worker*, September 29-October 8; and *Murder Inn*, November 10-19. Performances are held at the Hyde Park Opera House. Tickets/info: lcplayers.com

★ Lost Nation Theater presents *Kate, The Unexamined Life*, September 7-17; and *Sense and Sensibility*, October 5-22. Performances are held at City Hall Auditorium Arts Center. Tickets/info: lostnationtheater.org

★ UVM Department of Theatre presents *The Exonerated*, October 4-8; *Sense and Sensibility*, November 8-12; *The Toys Take Over Christmas*, December 2 and 3; and *Peter and the Starcatcher*, February 28-March 4. Performances are held at the Royall Tyler Theatre. Tickets/info: uvm.edu/cas/theatre/

★ Middlebury Community Players present Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, November 2-5, at Town Hall Theater. Tickets/info: middleburycommunityplayers.org

★ Girls Nite Out Productions presents *Ripcord* by David Lindsay-Abaire, October 5-14. Performances are held at the Black Box Theater in Main Street Landing. Tickets/info: girlsniteoutvt.com

★ Vermont Stage Company's 2017-18 season opens with *Fun Home*, based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel, October 4-29. The season also includes *Doublewide*, January 24-February 11; *Sex with Strangers*, March 7-25; and *Tigers Be Still*, April 18-May 6. Performances are held in FlynnSpace. Tickets/info: vermontstage.org

JOIN THE DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS TEAM

Hello Lyric Members!!!

The *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* are hard at work, already creating some amazing designs and innovative ideas for our upcoming spring production. Don't miss out your opportunity to be involved in this show!!!! If auditions aren't for you (coming your way the first week of January; stay tuned!!!), then consider joining our team as the super-important role of Production Parties Chair or Promotional Wear Chair!!!! If interested, please contact yours truly via email at serenamagnan@hotmail.com. We look forward to seeing you all very soon!!!!

-Serena Magnan O'Connell, Production Supervisor

INTRODUCING THE CAST

A CHRISTMAS STORY THE MUSICAL

*First time on Lyric MainStage



| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Jean Shepherd/Narrator | Bill Bickford |
| Mother | Betsy Whyte |
| The Old Man | Mark Cranmer |
| Ralphie | Ronnie Farrell |
| Randy | Lucas Moran |
| Miss Shields | Mindy Bickford |
| Flick, Children's Ensemble | Asa Baker-Rouse |
| Esther Jane, Children's Ensemble | Charli Kellaway |
| Mary Beth, Children's Ensemble | Veronica Miskavage* |
| Scut Farkas, Children's Ensemble | Nathan Brown |
| Francie, Children's Ensemble | Zoe Bernstein* |
| Schwartz, Children's Ensemble | Evan Reichelt* |
| Artie, Children's Ensemble | Cole Williams* |
| Nancy, Children's Ensemble | Juliana Tomlinson* |
| Grover Dill, Children's Ensemble | Stephanie Miskavage* |
| Dottie, Children's Ensemble | Ella O'Neil* |
| Peggy, Children's Ensemble | Bella Joly* |
| Santa, Men's Ensemble | John Sonnick |
| Men's Ensemble | Evan Brown |
| Men's Ensemble | Ian Ferris |
| Men's Ensemble | Peter Garrow |
| Men's Ensemble | Isaiah Gilbert |
| Men's Ensemble | Travis Hathaway |
| Men's Ensemble | George Walker |
| Men's Ensemble | Andy Whitaker |
| Women's Ensemble | Brita Down |
| Women's Ensemble | Lauren Johnson* |
| Women's Ensemble | Dana LaClair* |
| Women's Ensemble | Kristina McSalis |
| Women's Ensemble | Jayne Methot-Walker |
| Women's Ensemble | Rachel Smith* |
| Women's Ensemble | Rebecca Sprano* |

SCHEDULES FOR WORKING CREWS

Costumes: Monday and Wednesday, 5:30-8:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Contact: Andi Olsen, andrea.olsen@uvmhealth.org or 860-1950; or Diantha Howard, Diantha.howard@uvm.edu or 343-0884.

Props: Tuesdays, time TBA

Contact: Donna Riera, drieria46@gmail.com or 922-1946

Set Construction: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 6:30-9:30 p.m., and Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

Contact: Bruce Cowan, cowanbm@ieee.org or 881-2340; or Len Rubin, ljrubin2@comcast.net or 238-2206

Set Decoration: Thursday and Friday, 6:00-9:00 p.m., and Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Contact: Janet Bessmer, reallyfastread@gmail.com or 324-2841



P.O. Box 1688
Williston, VT 05495



**Cast Announced for *A Christmas Story*
Time to order your tickets!**

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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 October issue: September 28, 2017

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

AT YOUR SERVICE—LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY BOARD & STAFF

| | |
|--|--|
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| Kristina McSalis, <i>Campaign Assistant</i> | Kristina@lyrictheatrevt.org |

MEETING TIMES FOR LYRIC'S STANDING COMMITTEES

Board (Chair: Stephen Kendall): 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington
Facilities (Chair: Doug Viehmann): Monthly, Time TBA, Location varies
PR/Development (Chair: Geri Ann Higgins): 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington
Education (Chair: Andrea Cronan): Meeting details TBA
Finance (Chair: Brian Meyer): 2nd Monday of the month, 12:00 noon, People's United Bank, 2 Bank St., Burlington
Membership (Chair: Christopher Brown): 4th Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., home of the O'Connell's, Burlington
Show Selection (Chair: Margaret Welch): Monthly, Time TBA, Location varies

**RHYME TIME
By Len Rubin**

A clever invitation from Set Construction:
The time has arrived in all its glory
To build the show called *A Christmas Story*
The new set shop is all done
It will be so much fun
With you we can make Lyric His-tory

**November 9-12, 2017
MainStage
Flynn Center for the
Performing Arts**

