

**CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY
KICK-OFF AND AUDITION INFO
A CHRISTMAS STORY
THE MUSICAL**



Just in time for the holiday season, *A Christmas Story The Musical* will take the stage. In 1940s Indiana, a bespectacled boy named Ralphie has one wish for Christmas—a Red Ryder BB gun. A kooky leg lamp, pink bunny PJs, a cranky department store Santa, and a triple-dog-dare to lick a freezing flagpole are just a few of the obstacles that stand between Ralphie and his dream. Based on the book by Jean Shepard and classic movie, the show captures holiday wonder with funny and heartfelt songs from the Tony/Emmy-nominated songwriters Benj Pasek and Justin Paul (the team behind *Dear Evan Hansen* and *La La Land*), show-stopping dance numbers, delicious wit and a heart of gold.

Can you envision yourself as Ralphie or Randy, The Old Man, Mother, the Narrator, Miss Shields, Santa, or one of the other wonderful characters in *A Christmas Story The Musical*? If so, dust off your dancing shoes and mark the dates on your calendar. The Artistic Team is eager to see you at auditions.

Lead, featured and supporting roles for youth and adults, stage ages 7 to 60+. The Kids' Ensemble (three to four girls and four to five boys, stage age nine years old and one stage age twelve years old) is featured in several major scenes. Auditionees for children's roles must be age 8 or older. The Adult Ensemble will consist of eight to twelve men and eight to twelve women. Auditionees for adult roles must be age 16 or older.

We urge you to sign up early, particularly if you are limited as to which day you are available to audition. Auditionees will be able to sign up at the Kick-off Meeting. Beginning August 17, auditionees may also pre-register by emailing Pam Carter, Stage Manager, at pamela.carter@uvm.edu.

The audition is a one-day event for each auditionee. Your audition will consist of a Dance Workshop/Audition and a Traditional Audition (reading, vocal selection). All auditions are closed (no audience).

Comprehensive audition information including readings, vocal selections, and forms can be downloaded from the Lyric Theatre Company website. Audition binders are also available at most community libraries in Chittenden County.

Reminders:

- ★ You are auditioning every moment—from the time you walk through the door at Fusion 802 to when you leave at the end. In addition to discovering whether your talents are a fit for our production, we will watch for positive attitudes, your ability to follow directions, and your willingness to try new things. These are all qualities and traits we desire in the performers chosen for this production. All of these elements will be strongly considered in making our casting decisions.
- ★ Rehearsals are Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, 6:45-10:00 p.m., and Sunday afternoons, 12:25-5:00 p.m. Rehearsals begin August 27.
- ★ Production dates are Thursday through Sunday, November 9 through 12, on the Flynn MainStage. Members of the cast must be available for the technical, orchestra and dress rehearsals (November 5 through 8) as well as all performances.



Wednesday, August 16, 2017

Kick-off/Informational Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Lyric Creative Space
7 Green Tree Drive, South Burlington

Saturday and Sunday, August 19 and 20, 2017

Auditions for Children's Roles
Saturday, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-5:00 p.m.
Must be registered by 8:30 a.m. for morning sessions and by 1:30 p.m. for afternoon session
Fusion 802, 1881 Williston Road, South Burlington

Monday-Wednesday, August 21-23, 2017

Auditions for Adult Roles
5:45-10:00 p.m.
Must be registered by 6:15 p.m.
Fusion 802, 1881 Williston Road, South Burlington

Thursday and Friday, August 24-25, 2017

Call-back Auditions (if needed)
Fusion 802, 1881 Williston Road, South Burlington

**UPDATED PRODUCTION TEAM FOR
A CHRISTMAS STORY THE MUSICAL**

Producer	Steve Kendall
Artistic Director	Kelly Kendall
Assistant Directors/Kid Wranglers	Emily Benway and Brent Garrow
Music Director	Martin Hain
Assistant Music Director	Megan Beaucage
Rehearsal Pianist	Carol Schein
Choreographers	Doris O'Brien, Kate Whalen
Stage Manager	Pam Carter
Assistant Stage Manager	Shirley Sweet
Costume Construction	Andi Olsen, Diantha Howard
Wardrobe Manager	Kim Steinfeld
Costume Designer	Kerry Farrell
Lighting Designer/Master Electrician	Andy Pearson
Assistant Lighting	Freda Tutt
Make-up Designer	Kelley Lane
Properties	Donna Riera
Safety & Security	George Henry, Bill McSalis
Scenic Designer	Cheri Forsythe
Set Construction	Bruce Cowan, Len Rubin
Set Decoration	Janet Bessmer
Set Engineers	Vern Emerson, Tim Henderson, and Paul Ledak
Sound Designer	Justin Brault
Special Effects	Belinda Emerson
Technical Director	Tom Dunn
House	Heidi Racht, Bill Suiter
Photography	Steve Mease
Program	Linda Whalen
Promotional Art	Jane Burchard
Promotional Wear	Karyn Dubie
Promotions	Pat Boera

There are still several open positions on the team (Chair for Hair, Chair for Parties). Contact Stephen Kendall, stepkend@comcast.net or 802-985-2020, to learn how you can become a part of *A Christmas Story The Musical*.

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: Work times will be determined based on the schedules of those who sign up for this crew.
Contact: Donna Riera, driera46@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

Crews work at the Lyric Creative Space, 7 Green Tree Drive, South Burlington.

Save
the
Date



ANNUAL MEETING

By Christopher Brown

What: Lyric Theatre Company Annual Meeting

When: Saturday, September 30, 2017

Where: Elley Long Center, Colchester, VT

Please bring a dish to share. Celebrate and reflect on our past year. Live music and dancing to follow! Details soon.



ANOTHER DAYSIE FOR LYRIC

By Syndi Zook

Lyric is proud to be this year's winner of the Daysie Award for Best Local Theatre Company! We thank everyone who voted for Lyric and we give a hearty congratulations to all of the individuals nominated in the Best Local Actor or Actress category, all of whom have appeared in a Lyric production! Congrats, Bob Bolyard, Serena Magnan O'Connell, Rusty DeWees and Kim Anderson!



**SOFIA CARFARO:
DELANO-NULTY SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER**

*By Elizabeth Sieghardt and
Andrea Cronan*

We're so pleased to announce our 2017 Delano-Nulty Award recipient—Ms. Sofia Carfaro, a graduate of Mount Mansfield High School! Sofia has demonstrated strong leadership skills and proven commitment to the community. These traits represent all the best of our Lyric Theatre family. As the founder of the Inconceivable Theatre Co., Sofia has used theatre as a platform to help local charities, such as Women Helping Battered Women. We wish Sofia the best of luck as she continues on her journey as a Theatre Arts major at The Theatre School of DePaul University. Thank you to the Lyric Education Committee for preparing the award program and evaluating all of the outstanding applications that we received this year!

ON OTHER STAGES

- ★ Stowe Theatre Guild continues its season with *The Addams Family*, August 23-September 9; and 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



...CELEBRATE ANOTHER GREAT SUMMER By Syndi Zook

Lyric capped another summer off with two great shows from LyricKids! Thirty-eight campers polished up their musical theater skills and learned a few new ones under the guidance of a terrific team. Many thanks to Nikki Juvan, John Luce, Kim Nowlan Hathaway, Julia Cronan and Cathy Rylant for providing such a wonderful program for our LyricKids!

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 TRIVIA

By Pat Boera

The stage musical is based on the beloved film of the same name which turned three decades old in 2015. Here are some fun, little-known facts:

- ★ The story takes place in 1940 in the fictional northern Indiana town of Hohman, based on real-life Hammond, Indiana, where writer Jean Shepherd grew up. Most of the filming took place in Cleveland, Ohio, and Toronto, Ontario.
- ★ Much of the snow in the movie is artificial—made from potato flakes, shredded vinyl, and firefighters' foam.
- ★ Jean's Shepherd's book "In God We Trust: All Others Pay Cash," on which the film and stage production are based, is a collection of semi-autobiographical short stories that Shepherd wrote for "Playboy" magazine during the 1960s.
- ★ The film has a few noteworthy cameos including the film's narrator and co-writer, Jean Shepherd, and director Bob Clark.
- ★ Peter Billingsley, aka Ralphie, grew up to become a Hollywood big shot and producer of films such as *Iron Man*.
- ★ Author Jean Shepherd's concept for the "major award" leg lamp was based on a real lamp: an illuminated Nehi logo. Three leg lamps were made for the movie and all were broken on set during filming.



P.O. Box 1688
Williston, VT 05495



Season ticket mailers have been sent.
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 September issue: August 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: 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

SPOTLIGHT SHOUT-OUT

By Christopher Brown

A big thank you to the Nominating Committee for all of their work in helping to build the future of Lyric—from Executive Director to new Board candidates. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Roz Saunders, Stephen Kendall, Serena Magnan O'Connell, Marna Bisaccia, and Nanette Stevens.



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