

THEATRE COMPANY

LyricTM

BURLINGTON, VT



SETTING THE STAGE FOR LYRIC'S FUTURE
A Capital Campaign In Two Acts

The Lyric Theatre Mission

The mission of Lyric Theatre Company is to produce musicals and dramatic performances of professional quality for northern New England. We offer both members and the public opportunities for learning and growth by volunteering within the Lyric organization. As a community institution, we are committed to keeping our productions affordable, offering educational and theatrical activities, sharing resources and working cooperatively with public and private schools and other community groups.

Vision

“A Lyric Theatre Production,” means the very best in community theater. This mark of quality is earned in part by the standards and processes of planning and evaluation that the organization uses continuously to improve both its productions and its organization. Lyric seeks to nurture talent and a love of the arts and foster a culture of collaboration that encourages each participant to achieve his very best – and then to surpass it.

Photo credits: Stephen Mease, Karen Pike, Jonathan Couture, Bill Kneen.



Prologue

From the Campaign Chair



From the first meeting in 1973, when Howard Delano and Polly Nulty gathered together a group of friends who wanted to do a musical, to the massive cast and crew hard at work on the current production, Lyric Theatre Company has come a long way. Our first musical was presciently titled *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and cost \$9,000 to mount. Our upcoming production of *Les Misérables* has a price tag of over \$130,000. For all of these years Lyric has functioned as an all-volunteer organization. Lyric builds community and creates opportunity both economic and artistic.

Lyric is participatory, diverse, inclusive and that rare organization that promotes and celebrates a multigenerational world. There is not only a growing need for Lyric's activities, but a growing need for the social capital that Lyric builds in our community.

Lyric is now at a critical juncture in its history. We can meet these growing needs but our current facility is woefully inadequate. I hope you will read this program, learn more about Lyric and consider taking a role in this... our most important production.

— John Gravel, Campaign Chair

How To Succeed...1974



40 years of Lyric Theatre

83 Broadway Musicals

1,720,000 Volunteer Hours Given

2.5 Staff

518,000 Tickets Sold

486 Professional Musicians Employed

632 LyricKids Learning at Summer Camps

Over **18 Million** Dollars put into the Regional Economy

12 Lyric Alumni have gone on to Successful Careers in Television, Stage and Film

2,340 Volunteer Actors and Crew Members

Act I

Volunteers and Value

Lyric is passionate about making dazzling live musical theater available to all members of our community.

With the exception of the musicians in our orchestra and 2.5 staff members who take care of the “business” of show business **Lyric is an All-Volunteer Organization.**

Volunteers = Affordable Ticket Prices = Everyone Can Go to a Show!

As many as 400 of our family, friends, neighbors and co-workers are involved in any given Lyric production **giving over 52,000 hours** per year to Lyric.

A family of 4 can still see a big Lyric show for as little as \$75, yet Lyric offers production values and **theatrical magic** that surpasses anything available by a non-professional organization in New England.

In the last 3 years alone **38,257 tickets** to Lyric were sold and over 1,000 tickets were donated to individuals who could not otherwise attend a live theater event.

We have been to fifteen or more Lyric shows and this might be the best. Lyric twice a year is one of the cherished traditions in our family. Our daughters still tolerate us for Lyric, and the Nutcracker in Montreal every year. Each of these outings is memorable for our family, but last night really topped the chart. Thank you, thank you, thank you. – Jen Morrison





Introducing the Next Generation!

Lyric is committed to helping children connect with the theater arts as both **appreciators** and **participants**. Lyric provides the rare opportunity **for children to audition** for and be cast alongside adults in a large show produced on the Flynn Mainstage.

LyricKids summer camps **always have a waiting list** due to their high quality and affordability.

Lyric's Delano/Nulty Scholarship gives a stipend each year to a Vermont High School Student going on to study the theater arts in college or a professional academy.

Lyric is an **irreplaceable community resource** to over 20 schools and civic groups who turn to us each year for theatrical resources and expertise.

The impact and influence of Lyric's willing support of educational theater cannot be over-stated. We've found immeasurable benefit from their generosity in sharing costumes, props and veteran advice over many years. While their founders may not have had this role of regional resource in mind when they began, Lyric Theatre has become a beacon of singular importance, to us and others working to bring theater alive, even in the smallest corners of Vermont. Lyric volunteers "pay it forward."

– Mount Abraham Union High School production team

Lyric



A Unique Artistic Opportunity

There is **nothing comparable** to a Lyric Theatre experience for actors and designers in the State of Vermont. The opportunity to work in a large professional theater such as the Flynn Center – which has beauty, history and great technical capabilities – is rare in any community. Lyric's volunteers have attained **professional level skills** by working in the Flynn and are passing those skills on to the next generation as well as **sharing them throughout the region**. Lyric has been a launching platform for people who are appearing on Broadway today as well as a home to a **fourth generation of community members** who are fulfilling their artistic dreams by creating a beautiful product for our region year after year.



Lyric's Legacy

Stephen Rainville was a Lyric leading man throughout the 70's and 80's and recently saw his son Eric shine in Lyric's production of *RENT*. **Sean Moran** of Lyric's 1976 production of *Guys and Dolls* went on to a Hollywood career, including a role in the movie *Grease*. **Lianna Hunt** who graced Lyric's *Grease* as Sandy in 2004 was cast in *Mama Mia* on Broadway alongside a Lyric alum from 1984, **Michelle Dawson**. **Tim Maynes** began with Lyric as a child actor in *A Secret Garden*, became a theater educator, went on to direct Lyric's *Peter Pan* and this year's *Oliver!* and serves on the Lyric Board of Directors. Many Lyric members, including **Keith Varney**, **Jacob Tischler** and **Lue' McWilliams** have gone on to write and perform in plays and musicals that have been performed across the country. Each of these working artists credit Lyric with giving them timely lessons and opportunity.

For more Lyric Legacy stories go to: www.lyrictheatrevt.org



Building Artistic and Economic Capacity

In 1981, Lyric played an instrumental role in **saving the Flynn Theater** from the wrecking ball by leading a non-profit coalition in raising one million dollars to purchase and restore the aging building, paying the initial down payment from its own coffers. Our yearly support helps keep the Flynn thriving.

Lyric provides a **burst of economic adrenaline** into downtown Burlington and our region as its hundreds of volunteers and thousands of audience members access the goods and services of local Vermont businesses.

From its inception, Lyric has **helped to raise the profile of Northern Vermont as an area for quality arts** and entertainment. We enjoyed

success in 1974 when local arts events were fewer, yet today, despite other entertainment options in our area, **people continue to choose Lyric.**



The Flynn exists today because of Lyric. Not only did they save the building in 1981, each and every season since has been enlivened by their extraordinary musical theater artistry. I am so proud and grateful to have Lyric Theatre call the Flynn its performance home.
– John Killacky, Executive Director, Flynn Center



End of Act I

They are clamoring for more but Lyric has no room!

Though Lyric has the privilege of performing at the Flynn Center, the sheer scale of what we must do to fill the Flynn is challenging in our current, primitive 4,500 sq. foot space.

- The costume shop and set-building area is **bursting** at the seams. The result is that we must dismantle costumes and flats following each show, **losing them** for use in future Lyric or school productions.
- There is no rehearsal, education or workshop space. This limits the scope of our educational capabilities as well as our chance to create additional, smaller shows for travel to other communities at a time when **people are clamoring for opportunities to be involved with Lyric.**
- Renting other spaces for Lyric activities is costly in dollars and morale. Having actors working in one place and crew in another is **not an efficient use of time or money** and hinders collaboration and team-building.



Lyric



Act II

With your help, Lyric Can Acquire the Home It Needs!

After a long search, we have found the perfect place. A 14,650 sq. foot space that we can retrofit to become Lyric's long term, permanent home. **This will allow us to do everything we do now and MORE!**

- A home where we can do everything under one roof; auditions, summer camps, build, rehearse and have room to create additional shows and touring choral productions. This will save us thousands of dollars a year in rental expense and give **more people a chance to participate in theater.**
- A rehearsal space that replicates the size of the Flynn stage, **saving us money**, time, stress and **improved safety** once we move into the Flynn for final dress rehearsals.
- A **cost efficient**, safe warehouse facility to create and store sets, props and costumes all on ground level.
- Accessibility features such as ADA bathrooms and multiple level costume and storage racks so **volunteers of all abilities** can work with us.
- Improved office and meeting space to increase our **organizational capacity.**



KEY

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Rehearsal Space | 11. Paint |
| 2. Set Storage | 12. Supplies |
| 3. Set Construction | 13. Tools |
| 4. Props | 14. Warehouse & Costume Managers |
| 5. Costume Storage | 15. Practice Room |
| 6. Costume Shop | 16. Archives |
| 7. Lights | 17. Meeting |
| 8. Make-Up | 18. Executive Director |
| 9. Hair | 19. Staff Offices |
| 10. Laundry | 20. Conference Room |
| | 21. Future Practice/Classroom Space |



New Production & Rehearsal Facility

7 Green Tree Dr. So. Burlington
 Sq. Footage: 14,650 Cost: \$1,275,000

The Cost and the Plan

After conducting a professional feasibility study, Lyric worked for several years on finding a building that would suit our needs yet keep us within our identified campaign goals. **The first piece of this exciting project is already in place.** Owner Jeff Nick has agreed to hold 7 Green Tree Dr. for us over a period of months as we tackle this capital campaign. He is making a small part of the building available to us now so that we can have a proper office to stage this campaign as well as show people our prospective space.

Costs Estimated for 2013-2014:

Purchase of Site and Building	\$1,275,000
Mechanical and Electrical Upgrades	10,000
Interior Fit up	20,000
Specialized Fit up of Rehearsal Space (mirrors and floor)	35,000

Total Construction Costs **\$1,340,000**

Architectural and Engineering Costs	8,000
Building Permits	5,000
Furniture and Fixtures	5,000
Contingency	100,000
Capital Campaign Costs	80,000
Maintenance Reserves	100,000

Total Ancillary Costs **\$298,000**

Total Project Costs **\$1,638,000**

Sources of Funding

Equity from Sale of Current Lyric Warehouse	\$150,000
Stan Wollaston Bequest and Memorial Gifts	48,000

Total **\$198,000**

Total Capital Campaign Goal **\$1,440,000**

Named Giving Opportunities

The Lobby of Lyric's first home will contain a giant Playbill containing the names of those who gave gifts of any size to help us with this project. A donation of \$1,000 or more earns a plaque to be placed in the building. Do you see yourself playing a larger role? Choose a room from the list below! Add your name or the name of your family, business or someone honored or remembered to the walls and halls of Lyric Theatre Company.

• Performance Hall/Rehearsal Space	\$300,000
• Set Design and Construction Shop	\$300,000
• Costume Shop	\$150,000
• Lobby/Reception	\$50,000
• Shop	\$50,000
• Conference Room	\$50,000
• Meeting Room	\$25,000
• Music / Practice Room	\$25,000
• Tool Room	\$25,000
• Archive	\$25,000
• Paint Room	\$25,000
• Lyric Sign	\$25,000
• Hair/Wig Room	\$10,000
• Lighting and Sound Storage	\$10,000
• Make-up Storage	\$10,000
• Supply Room	\$10,000
• Laundry Room	\$10,000
• Copier Room	\$10,000
• Warehouse, Costume & Stage Manager's Office	\$10,000
• Office Suite	\$50,000
• Security System	\$10,000

Ways To Give

We gratefully accept donations of cash, stocks, bonds, mutual funds and irrevocable planned gifts. You are welcome to pledge over a three-year period. Lyric is a registered non-profit, so gifts are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.