

WE'VE GOT MAGIC TO DO

By Jose Rincon, Executive Director

With my first Lyric Board of Directors retreat on the books, I write this feeling inspired by the passion and thoughtful insight our board members bring to their stewardship of this organization. Lyric Theatre Company is in good hands and the future looks bright.

The concept of information sharing was a theme throughout the retreat, looking at Lyric's mechanisms for communication both within the organization and with our community partners. As we continue to settle into the Lyric Creative Space, I am excited to work with our technology committee, and explore ways to streamline how we communicate across all constituencies.

And in the spirit of community partnerships, I am delighted to share that Lyric recently received a grant from The Reddus Foundation in support of the 2018 LyricKids summer camps. We are most grateful to The Reddus Foundation for its investment in Lyric and the children and families we serve.

Speaking of LyricKids camps, now is the perfect time to register your children and grandchildren so they can join in the fun. You'll find more information on the 2018 LyricKids camps in this issue of *The Spotlight*. Happy reading!



GREEN UP VERMONT AND *DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS*

By Jose Rincon

Lyric is proud to have Green Up Vermont as our philanthropic partner for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Green Up's mission is to promote the stewardship of Vermont's natural landscape and waterways, and the livability of our communities by involving people in Green Up Day and raising public awareness about the benefits of a litter-free environment. Always the first Saturday in May, Green Up Day is an annual statewide event when over 22,000 volunteers come together to remove litter from Vermont's roadsides and public spaces. Mark your calendars for Green Up Day 2018 on Saturday, May 5!

TUTT CHALLENGE COMPLETED!

By Jose Rincon

I am thrilled to announce that after only two months we have reached \$10,000 in Tutt Challenge capital campaign donations! Thank you to Freda Tutt and all the donors who contributed to the challenge. Including Freda's gift of \$1,000, we are now \$11,000 closer to building our beautiful rehearsal hall!



TEAM UPDATES

DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS

By Serena Magnan O'Connell

On behalf of the *DRS* team, I am delighted to announce Brent Garrow as our Production Parties Coordinator. Welcome to the team, Brent!

WORKING CREWS FOR *DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS*

With rehearsals now underway, there is also activity seven days a week at Lyric's new Creative Facility. All crews welcome new and returning volunteers. Here are details for the crews which have regular work schedules.

Costumes

Crew Work Times: Wednesdays and Fridays 5:30-8:30 p.m., Sundays 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Contacts: Lyn Feinson, lyn@darntough.com or 802-363-6304; Debby Dot Decker, debbyd@gardeners.com or 802-598-3987

Mardi Gras Parade

Crew Work Times: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 6:30 p.m., for most of February

Contact: Michael Tutt, Michael.tutt@comcast.net or 802-324-4219

Properties

Crew Work Times: Thursdays, 6:00 p.m.

Contact: Lesley Graham, LAGprops@outlook.com or 413-884-4371

Set Construction

Crew Work Times: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 6:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

Contact: Tim Henderson, zeyde88@gmail.com or 802-343-0041; or Charlie Church, cchurchjr@comcast.net or 802-338-0864

Set Decoration

Crew Work Times: Monday and Thursday, 6:00-9:00 p.m.; Sunday, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Contact: Cathie Covey, cath_717@yahoo.com or 802-309-5061



STILL TIME FOR ROOM RECOGNITION FOR THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

By Syndi Zook

On December 16, Lyric held an Open House and Ribbon Cutting to show off Phase One of our incredible renovations. We revealed the design by France and Frederic Silberman of S&H Design Company for our recognition plaques. The plaques are colorful and modern and recognize many Lyric friends and supporters as well as honor some individuals who are no longer with us. Though many rooms are “spoken for” there is still time to add your name to a plaque as we move into the final phase of renovations. For a gift of \$1,000 or more you can add your name to The Set Shop, Costume Shop, Board Room or Rehearsal Hall. If you have given a previous gift and would like to bring that amount up to \$1,000 that would be wonderful too. If this is something that interests you, please contact me at syndi@lyrictheatrevt.org. Thank you to all who have contributed and continue to participate in fulfilling this goal.

SPOTLIGHT FACILITIES SPOT

By Doug Viehmann, Facilities Chair

The Lyric Theatre Company Facilities Committee would like to thank all those stalwart volunteers who have put time, talent and dollars into making our new building at 7 Green Tree Drive a home we can all be proud of.

If you missed the opportunity to visit the new building during our open house in December, or during our move from Leroy Avenue back in June, please know that you are welcome to stop in either during business hours 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, or during any evening of the week, Saturday mornings or Sunday afternoons. Though crews will be busily preparing sets, props and costumes for the April production of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, we are sure that someone will take time to show you the facility. You may even find a new or long-lost friend in the process; things are hoppin’ around here!

While we are enjoying the fruits of our labors, the Facilities Committee is also planning for the next phase of construction. The Board promised that this building would house all of our production work, including rehearsal space. It is our hope that we can make this happen before the *Annie* team needs rehearsal space.

There will be opportunities for those of you who missed out on the fun and camaraderie of demolition or construction. (It is so-o-o cathartic to tear things apart!) We are building a rehearsal space! Once the contractors are done, volunteers will be needed—painters, cleaners, sewers, chefs, light hangers and anyone who wants to lend a hand applauding the hard work of others. Keep your ears open for calls to lend a hand. Come join the Lyric family in the completion of our new efficient and fun home!

ANNIE...DIRECTOR'S VISION

By Sara McDonald, Artistic Director

On behalf of the entire *Annie* team, let me express how excited and honored we are to be bringing this classic musical back to the Flynn stage this fall! I am grateful and privileged to be working with an amazing team, including but not limited to, Julianne Nickerson as producer, Belinda Emerson as assistant director, Ian Ferris as assistant to the director, Craig Hilliard as music director, Kim Nowlan Hathaway as choreographer, and Sean Leach as stage manager.

Annie is based on the popular comic strip by Harold Gray, *Little Orphan Annie*. In 1972, Martin Charnin bought the rights to the comic strip. With Thomas Meehan and Charles Strouse, he created the Broadway musical *Annie* in 1977. After 2,377 performances, four national tours, and five Broadway *Annie*'s, the musical ended its New York City run in 1983. There have since been several Broadway revivals of the show and numerous professional and amateur productions. *Annie* is well known for a great musical score that includes such famous songs such as *Tomorrow*, *Easy Street*, and *I Don't Need Anything But You*.

Though people may have not seen a stage production of *Annie*, the famous 1982 movie version starring Carol Burnett as Hannigan, Tim Curry as Rooster, Bernadette Peters as Lily St. Regis, Aileen Quinn as Annie, and Albert Finney as Daddy Warbucks, remains a classic to this day. It is in this vein that we will tell the story of Annie: a fiery yet charming young orphan determined to find the parents that abandoned her, who comes to stay at the mansion of the cold-hearted billionaire Oliver Warbucks. We will maintain the look and feel of the original Broadway show and 1982 movie, while incorporating some unique staging and movement elements.

Annie is more than a show about an orphan looking for her parents. It embodies the longing we all have to be part of a family, albeit dirt poor or filthy rich. This show is about Annie's and Daddy Warbucks' journey to find what family really means, and it is the story we will bring to life on the Flynn stage. So...be sure to save these dates:

Kick-Off: August 16, 2018

Auditions: August 19-25, 2018

Auditions for Orphan Girls: Sunday, August 19, 2018

Orphan Call-backs: August 20, 2018

Auditions for Adult Roles: August 21, 22, 23, 2018

Adult Call-backs: August 24, 2018

THANKS TO EXPO VOLUNTEERS

By Pat Boera

Lyric's Winter Cabaret cast reprised their First Night performance at the Vermont 50-Plus and Boomer Expo on February 3. An appreciative audience enjoyed the diverse selection of “Classic Broadway” songs. Special thanks to the artistic team and the eight-member cast.

Sarah Joslin, Mary Lou Lord, Rita Myers, Shari Bergstein, Pam Carter, Stephanie Miner, and Bill Suiter joined me in staffing Lyric's booth, sharing information about *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *Annie*. The Savvy Seniors—Ken Wolvington, Richard Hibbert, Bill Suiter, and Audrey Arnold—performed skits about serious topics impacting seniors such as phone scams and identity theft.



**LYRICKIDS SUMMER CAMP
ENROLLMENT IS NOW OPEN**

By MaryBeth Nuovo

The Education Committee is excited to announce that registration for the 2018 LyricKids summer camps is now open. The program for children ages 8-13 entails two one-week camp sessions from July 16-20 and July 23-27, 2018 at UVM's Mann Hall. This year, our summer shows will be Disney's *Aladdin KIDS* and Roald Dahl's *Willy Wonka KIDS*, and we are delighted to welcome back Kim Nowlan Hathaway, director/choreographer; John Luce, music director; and Cathy Rylant Simons, technical director. Visit lyrictheatrevt.org for more information and registration materials.

**LYRIC ALUMNA KERSTIN ANDERSON CAST IN
REVIVAL OF *MY FAIR LADY***

(Adapted from the article in Broadway World)

Lincoln Center Theater (under the direction of André Bishop) has announced complete casting for its upcoming production of Lerner & Loewe's *My Fair Lady*. Lauren Ambrose will play Eliza Doolittle and Harry Hadden-Paton will play Henry Higgins, alongside Norbert Leo Butz as Alfred P. Doolittle and Diana Rigg as Mrs. Higgins. The production's ensemble includes Lyric alumna Kerstin Anderson.

The show, which is directed by Bartlett Sher, is currently in rehearsal. *My Fair Lady* will begin preview performances on Thursday, March 15, and open on Thursday, April 19, at the Vivian Beaumont Theater, New York City.

ON OTHER STAGES

- ★ The Flynn Center Broadway series concludes with *Cabaret*, May 14, 2018. Tickets/info: flynncenter.org
- ★ Vermont Stage Company's season continues with *Sex with Strangers*, March 7-25, 2018; *Tigers be Still*, April 18-May 6, 2018; and *The Bake Off*, June 12-17, 2018. Tickets/info: vermontstage.org
- ★ UVM Department of Theatre presents *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Performance dates are February 22-March 4, 2018. Tickets/info: uvm.edu/theatre
- ★ Essex Community Players present *Doubt*. Performance dates are February 22-March 4, 2018. Tickets/info: essexplayers.com
- ★ Lost Nation Theater presents *Narnia* from the novel by C.S. Lewis on one day only, March 2, 2018. This is the culmination of LNT's one-week dance theater camp. Tickets/info: lostonationtheater.org
- ★ Shelburne Players present *The Dixie Swim Club*. Performance dates are April 13-21, 2018. Tickets/info: shelburneplayers.com
- ★ Lamoille County Players present *The Skin of our Teeth*, May 4-13, 2018. Tickets/info: lcplayers.com
- ★ Stowe Theatre Guild's season opens with *Gypsy*, June 13-30, 2018. Tickets/info: stowetheatre.com

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE A PROPOSAL

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 February 28, 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

GALA BENEFIT FOR UVM CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

By Skip Potter

The Gift of Music is a collaboration of Vermont's finest musicians, coming together to help raise money for the University of Vermont Children's Hospital. There will be eleven performers bringing a variety of music to the UVM Recital Hall stage on March 18 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. This celebration of different sounds and culture truly offers something for everyone.

Original compositions and improvisational works will be performed on stage for the first time. A movement written by one of the artists for this event entitled "You shall have a song" will be performed on the Fisk Organ. There will also be a Jazz piano performance, as well as vocal solos, duets, trios, and even a quintet. Our guest pianist will even be playing wonderful movements from Franz Liszt, Frederic Chopin and Rachmaninoff, just to name a few, and a wonderful Master Works Organ piece.

The stage will be filled with the gift of music from our hearts to your ears. Join us on March 18!

Tickets sales: flynntix.org or 802-863-5966

SAVE THE DATE

MAGIC HAT MARDI GRAS PARADE

Calling all revelers! The 23rd Annual Magic Hat Mardi Gras Parade will roll through downtown Burlington on March 10, 2018. This family-friendly fundraiser supports the Vermont Foodbank's efforts to fight hunger in Vermont.



P.O. Box 1688
Williston, VT 05495



Time to get your tickets for
Dirty Rotten Scoundrels

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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 March issue: February 28, 2018

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

On behalf of the *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* Team, we wanted to shine a spotlight and send a big THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who helped make the auditions move smoothly (despite all the weather-related obstacles) with a special 'thank you' for Sarah Crowley who went above and beyond during the week.



April 5-8, 2018
Flynn Center MainStage
Burlington, VT
Special thanks to our show sponsor

