

SUMMER DAYS DRIFTING AWAY

By Jose Rincon, Executive Director

Happy 45th Season! The excitement of opening Lyric's 2018-2019 season comes just at the right time, as I sit in denial over how fast the summer months seem to pass by. Before you know it we will be thinking about back-to-school shopping and Labor Day plans. But before we get ahead of ourselves, I hope your summers have been and continue to be filled with good food, great friends and all things chill.

Summer highlights at Lyric Theatre so far include unveiling our snazzy new website, two fabulous LyricKids summer camp performances, hair and makeup workshops at the Lyric Creative Space, and winning the 2018 Seven Daysie for Best Local Theater Company!

None of these highlights would have been possible without the members, local businesses and community partners we work with every day. It is with your support that Lyric has been able to produce sensational shows and provide hundreds of opportunities for learning and growth through volunteering for 45 years.

We can't wait to show you what we have in store this season—or better yet, come be part of it!

See you at Kick-off!

LYRIC FRIENDSHIPS...SOMETHING SPECIAL

By Rosalind Saunders, Board Chair

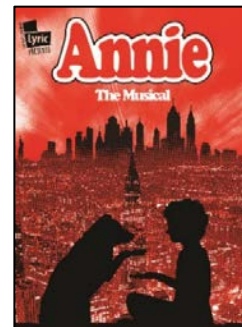
Ask anyone the best part about being a member of Lyric and they will most likely say, "the people." The more I chat with folks, the more I hear wonderful anecdotes of friendship. Last week, several of us were in the conference room preparing the membership mailing and I was chatting with Rita Myers and Shari Bergstein. I could tell they were good buddies, and I casually asked how long they had known each other. Finishing each other's sentences as only the best of friends can, they told me how they met and gave me permission to share their story. Rita started working on costumes in the late 1980s, and in 1989 was convinced by Sharon Holman to audition for *My Fair Lady*. Rita said she was very unsure about this and "incredibly nervous," but when she walked in the door the first person she saw was Shari, with a big smile on her face. Shari came right up to Rita and "warmly welcomed her to Lyric Theatre." It was the start of a beautiful friendship, now going on almost 30 years. I was so happy they shared their story, which made me grateful for all of the incredible people who have come into my life because of Lyric. And yes, I did ask Rita if she had been cast in *My Fair Lady*. She played Lady Boxington opposite John Gravel's Lord Boxington!



LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY:

A SEVEN DAYSIES WINNER...AGAIN!

Lyric Theatre Company was honored to receive the 2018 Seven Daysie for Best Local Theater Company. Thank you to everyone who voted. We also congratulate Lyric member Kim Anderson who earned the Best Actor Daysie and former Board member Chris Bohjalian who earned the Best Published Author Daysie.



LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS ANNIE

By Sean Leach

"The Sun Will Come Out Tomorrow," but the information for auditions for *Annie*, Lyric's fall production, is already out!

Visit the Lyric website to learn about how auditions will be run, what you need to audition (including forms needed to be filled out), character descriptions, and the materials to be used for auditions—including readings and vocal selections. See all of this information at lyrictheatrevt.org/annie.

Auditions for Orphans: Sunday, August 19, from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Auditionees must be through the registration process by 9:15.

Callbacks for Orphans: Sunday, August 19, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. AND Monday, August 20, from 5:45-10:00 p.m.

Adult Auditions: Tuesday through Thursday, August 21-23, from 5:45-10:00 p.m. Auditionees must be through the registration process by 6:15 p.m.

Callbacks for Adults: Friday, August 24, from 5:45-10:00 p.m.

All auditions will be held at Fusion802, 1881 Williston Road, South Burlington.

Please also plan to attend the Kick-off/Informational Meeting, on Thursday, August 16, 7:00 p.m., at University Mall, 155 Dorset Street, South Burlington, in the Sears Center Court.

VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT LYRIC PRODUCTIONS IN MANY WAYS

To adapt a popular saying, it takes a village to put on a show. In addition to the cast, several hundred volunteers work in about a dozen areas behind the scenes for each Lyric production. Here is information about some of the crews that will be holding weekly work sessions at Lyric's Creative Facility in South Burlington:

Costumes

The costume construction crew is responsible for making or gathering all of the costumes seen on stage. Not only does this involve sewing, but also gluing, scrounging, cutting, dyeing and much more. The costume crew works together in the costume shop at Lyric's Creative Facility and/or volunteers may be asked to take projects home to complete. Working on this crew also gives you the opportunity to sign on as a dresser during the run of the show!

Crew Work Times: Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m.; Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Contact: Dawn Dudley, dwndudley@yahoo.com or 802-355-5141; Kim Steinfeld, Kimberly_steinfeld@msn.com or 802-734-1775

Properties

The Props crew finds (or makes) everything on the stage that isn't screwed down. "Prop tarts" do everything: paint, glue, carpentry, wiring, sewing, cutting-and-pasting, flower arranging and decorating—everyone's particular talent is put to good use! During the run of the show the Props crew works backstage moving furniture on and off and keeping track of all the hand-props the actors carry.

Crew Work Times: Wednesdays, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Contact: Amy Stetson, aastetson86@gmail.com or 802-238-3480

Set Construction

From the visions of the set designer and artistic directors, the set construction crew creates the fabulous sets that populate the Flynn stage. Previous experience is appreciated but is not required. We teach, so anyone with an interest in construction is welcome. Even if you can make it only one or two days a week, that's great...all help is appreciated!!

Crew Work Times: Saturdays, 9:00 a.m.-Noon; Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Contact: Bruce Cowan, cowanbm@ieee.org or 802-881-2340; Paul Ledak, pledak@gmail.com

Set Decoration

Once the sets are built, they need to be painted. That is the work of the set decoration crew. If you have any artistic talent or just an interest in painting, this is the crew for you; no experience necessary! There are things to paint and create for every skill level.

Crew Work Times: Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Contact: Cathie Covey, cath_717@yahoo.com or 802-309-5061; Janet Bessmer, jbessmer@drpower.com



COME SEE LYRIC'S *MAMMA MIA!* IN APRIL 2019

By Margaret Welch

Producer: Margaret Welch

Director: Mike Fidler

Music Director: Craig Hilliard

Choreographer: Sue Bailey

Stage Manager: Sean Leach

Show Dates: April 11-14, 2019

Auditions: December 2018

We have two first-time Lyric Artistic Team members and we are excited about the creativity and energy they are bringing to the production!

Sue Bailey, Choreographer: Sue has been a long-time Lyric audience member but really caught the 'bug' when she choreographed Lyric's 2018 Winter Cabaret. A 6th generation Vermonter, Sue has taught various dance genres for UVM, Johnson, and Castleton State. She has choreographed for Harwood, Colchester, and Essex High Schools, Flynn's Show Choir, Woodland Dance, Spotlight Vermont, The Bird's Nest, and Day and Dance. Sue holds a BA in Dance and Education and is a graduate of the Arts Connect Professional Development Program in conjunction with the Vermont Arts Council and Saint Michael's College. *Mamma Mia!* is a show that belongs to everyone as most of us have a memory associated with the music, and many in the audience will *enter* the theatre *already* humming the tunes!

Michael Fidler, Director: Mike graduated with a BA(Hon) in Theatre from the University of Kent in Canterbury, England, and went on to train at Central School of Speech and Drama in London. He has worked in every theatrical department (except wardrobe!) all over Europe and the States, from Technical Stage Manager at the Old Vic, London, to Lighting Designer at the Fox Theatre, Atlanta, all the way to directing his own award-winning musical, *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens* in London's West End. As amazing as that all was, he made a slightly better living as a Production Manager and Producer in London's corporate event industry, one of the highlights of which was undoubtedly Prince Charles' 50th birthday party at Buckingham Palace. Mike moved to Williston in 2015 and has spent three years salivating in the orchestra, watching his wife, Chloë, do one Lyric show after another. Eventually she agreed they were her kids too and he finally has the opportunity to get involved, and he is extremely excited, to say the least!

Mamma Mia! is one of the big shows of the 20th century. Seldom does a production ever get to claim that it invented a genre, and whether it truly was the first juke-box musical or not, history is ultimately going to allow this one the honor. As the 8th longest running show in Broadway history, it deserves some genuine respect.

Above all, *Mamma Mia!* is about the music of ABBA and what ABBA represents more than anything else is the freedom to be whoever you want to be, to love whoever you want to love and to dance like no one is watching. This show is going to be for everyone and it is going to include everyone: singers who can't dance, dancers without voices, actors who aren't great at either—there is a place here for anyone with enough energy and the right spirit. That's the message of the music and that's going to be the beating heart of this great show.

With Mike leading the Creative and Artistic teams, we are planning on staging a party in the Flynn Theater, and this production is going to be a party the likes of which the Lyric has not seen. We urge you to come and be part of it!

LYRIC COSTUME SALE

By Rita Myers

Mark your calendar for our Costume Sale which will be held on Saturday, September 15, 2018 from 9 a.m. til 2 p.m. at Lyric's Creative Space on Green Tree Drive. Our huge collection of costumes is being culled. All items reasonable priced: clothing, accessories, one-of-a-kind costumes and specialty items such as furs, tulle skirts as well as fabric yardage. There are unique and vintage treasures galore.



NEWS ABOUT LYRIC ALUMS KERSTIN ANDERSON AND SHAINA TAUB

By Pat Boera

Your *Spotlight* editor had the pleasure of being in the audience at Lincoln Center's Vivian Beaumont Theater on Sunday, July 22, when Lyric alumna Kerstin Anderson performed the lead role of Eliza Doolittle in the acclaimed revival of Lerner and Loewe's *My Fair Lady*. Kerstin is a poised and confident leading lady with a voice that reaches the rafters. The production runs until January 2019 and Kerstin goes on as leading lady at every Sunday matinee. If you are planning a trip to the Big Apple in the next few months, make an effort to get to the show.

The Public Theater's musical version of *Twelfth Night*—the second show of the free 2018 Shakespeare in the Park season—officially opened July 31 in the Delacorte Theater in Central Park. The adaptation is conceived by Kwame Kwei-Armah and Lyric alumna Shaina Taub (one of the orphans in our 1998 production of *Annie*), directed by Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Kwame Kwei-Armah, with choreography by Lorin Latarro. Shaina also performs in the show. The show runs through August 19. *Twelfth Night* was originally performed in 2016 through Public Works, which brings together professional artists and community members from all five New York City boroughs.



FALL CLASSES AT SPOTLIGHT VERMONT

By Tim Barden

Got an up-and-coming musical theatre kid? Starting this fall, Vt Musical Theatre Academy's Saturday afternoon programs are integrating training and performance more than ever before. In addition to their groundbreaking CREATE! summer program, several performance opportunities are now baked into the program throughout the year including monologue evenings, one-acts and short plays, cabarets and a fully staged production of *Seussical Jr.* next April. More info at www.spotlightvermont.com.

GIRLS NITE OUT PRODUCTIONS ANNOUNCES FALL SHOW

By Sharon Radtke

Girls Nite Out Productions will present the dramatic comedy *Sitting Pretty* by Amy Rosenthal October 3-13, 2018, at Main Street Landing's Black Box Theater.

Sitting Pretty is about Nancy, a shy, insecure, delightfully Rubenesque middle-aged woman who suddenly finds herself "redundant" after being downsized from her job as a shorthand typist. Her dynamic and assertive sister Nina works at an art museum, and doesn't know what to do with her despondent sister. A suggestion by Nina that she find a hobby leads Nancy on a journey of self-discovery that transforms the lives of their friend Max, the artist Philip, his paramour Zelda, and the members of Nancy's art class.

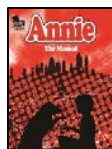
The show will be produced by Janet Stambolian and directed by Cheri Gagnon. Tickets are on sale NOW at www.flyntix.org or 86-FLYNN: \$25/full, \$23/senior and student, \$23/groups of 10 or more. For more information go to www.girlsniteoutvt.com.

ON OTHER STAGES

- ★ Lost Nation Theater's 2018 season continues with *Becoming Dr. Ruth*, September 6-16; Howard Frank Mosher's *Disappearances*, October 4-21. Tickets/info: lostnationtheater.org
- ★ Stowe Theatre Guild's 2018 season continues with *The Bridges of Madison County*, August 22-September 8; and *The Odd Couple (Female Version)*, October 3-20. Tickets/info: stowetheatre.com
- ★ Skinner Barn presents *Always...Patsy Cline*, August 1-5 and August 8-12. Tickets/info: 802-496-4422 or theskinnerbarn.com
- ★ Lamoille County Players 2018 season continues with *All Shook Up!*, September 27-October 7; and *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, November 2-11. Tickets/info: lcplayers.com
- ★ The Flynn Center's Broadway series for fall 2018 includes *Rock of Ages*, October 18; *Spamalot*, October 22; Lyric's *Annie*, November 8-11; *Elf*, November 14 and 15; and *Something Rotten*, November 29. Tickets/info: 802-86-FLYNN or flynncenter.org
- ★ Vermont Stage's 2018-2019 season features *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, October 3-28; *A Doll's House-Part 2*, January 23-February 10; *The Roommate*, March 6-24; *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, April 17-May 5. Tickets/info: vermontstage.org



P.O. Box 1688
Williston, VT 05495



MAMMA
MIA!

Purchase your tickets for our 2018-2019 season!
Kick-off and Auditions for Annie

Postage
here

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AT YOUR SERVICE—LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY BOARD & STAFF

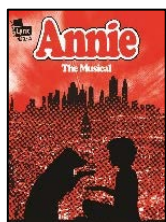
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MEETING TIMES FOR LYRIC'S STANDING COMMITTEES

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): 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington
Finance (Chair: Karen Sheedy): Meeting details TBA
Membership (Chair: Christopher Brown): 4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., home of the O'Connell's, Burlington
Show Selection (Chair: Sean Leach): Monthly, Time TBA, Location varies
Technology (Chair: Andy Pearson): 3rd Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office, 7 Green Tree Dr., South Burlington

SAVE THE DATE FOR LYRIC'S 2018 ANNUAL MEETING!
By Christopher Brown, Membership Committee Chairperson

Lyric Theatre Company's Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, September 16, at the Eagles Club on Shelburne Road. A formal invite with more details will follow. Join us as we celebrate a successful 44th season and hear about exciting plans for the coming year!



November 8-11, 2018
Flynn Center MainStage
Burlington, VT

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