



# THE SPOTLIGHT



Editor: Pat Boera

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August 2021

## “A New Season is Underway”

By Erin Evarts, Executive Director

I am so excited to officially kick off the 48th Season of Lyric Theatre Company! The uncertainty and tumult of the past sixteen months makes me especially proud that we have arrived here—with a robust, innovative season ahead of us, to boot. We are looking forward to collaborations with the Vermont Symphony, the ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, local public libraries, the City of Burlington, the Flynn, and more. We are so proud to be featuring old favorites in new ways, christening new performance spaces, and debuting original works, as we continue to explore the limits of what is possible at Lyric.

I encourage you to reserve your spot right away for *18 Below*, and keep an eye out in the next couple of weeks when tickets go live for *Moonlight in Vermont*. Don't forget to take a look at volunteer and audition opportunities for *Looking for the Heart of Saturday Night*. Finally, we are seeking a team to produce the third *Burlington Does Broadway* celebration, set for New Year's Eve, which will mark Lyric's return to the Flynn.

I also want to remind everyone to stay safe during this summer of recovery and reconnection. The more people get vaccinated and make healthy choices, the quicker we can get back to the theater and celebrate all we have accomplished during this unexpected chapter, and all of the exciting things ahead for the Lyric community.



## SHINING THE SPOTLIGHT ON YOUNG TALENT

By Kerry Farrell

The cast and team of *18 Below: Legends in the Making* are very excited to share what we have been working on so diligently for the past two months! The cast has been rehearsing in person since the beginning of July, continuing to add movement, collaborate on group numbers and support each other through the journey. The dedication and commitment the cast brings to each rehearsal will be evident come show time. The team is thrilled for audiences to experience the talent and energy of our upcoming young Lyric performers.

Performance dates are:

August 3, 2021, 6:00 p.m. at Adams Farm, Williston  
August 7, 2021, 6:00 p.m. at City Hall Park, Burlington  
August 11, 2021, 6:00 p.m. at Maple Tree Place, Williston  
**Please note this is a change of venue!**

Thanks to our generous donors all performances are free, but you are encouraged to register on the Lyric website: <https://lyrictheatrevt.org/18-below-legends-in-the-making/>

Please help us spread the word and we look forward to seeing you at the shows!

## SAVE THE DATE FOR LYRIC'S ANNUAL MEETING

Mark your calendar for Friday, September 17. Please join us to vote in our new board members and celebrate an incredible year navigating through the many challenges we faced and conquered. More information to come, but plan on a movie night and food trucks!



## LOOKING FOR THE HEART OF SATURDAY NIGHT AUDITIONS!

By Taryn Noelle, Creator/Director/Choreographer

Welcome from the *LftHoSN* team! Lyric Theatre announces auditions for our November 2021 original musical *Looking for the Heart of Saturday Night!* This is a true, once in a lifetime, dream project. I first tread the incomparable Lyric boards in their 1996 production of *Oklahoma!*, and like many of you, my life was forever changed. Fast forward to today, in 2021, inspired by a nudge from a dear friend, our team and this incredible family that is Lyric Theatre, are being afforded the opportunity to create something new—and now all we need is you! An original dance-based musical inspired by phenom Broadway director/choreographer, Susan Stroman's 1999 dance play *Contact*. This show focuses on two main themes; love and time. How we all wish for love, and how at the end of the day, we all wish that we had more time. There are so many opportunities for dancers, actors and vocalists of all ability levels from ages 8-80 to be involved in this show! We hope you'll consider

joining us for this new project that celebrates the people in our lives, the things that connect us and focusses on what we're going to do, with the time that we have.

### AUDITION INFORMATION

The team is excited to welcome auditionees of all gender identities, sexual orientations, races, ethnicities, and body types. We are also excited to welcome dancers of all levels and styles. Auditionees must be at least eight years old by August 18, 2021. Auditionees should decide if they wish to be considered for a dancer role, singer/actor role, and/or a dancer/singer/actor role. All auditionees interested in a dancer role or dancer/singer/actor role must attend one of the in-person auditions. Auditionees interested in a singer/actor role without dance may either attend one of the in-person auditions (strongly preferred) or submit a video audition.

**Dance Audition:** All auditionees interested in dancer or dancer/singer/actor roles. The dance audition will include several styles of dance offered at different levels of difficulty. There will be modifications to the choreography available for beginning dancers and for highly experienced dancers. If you have experience with aerial silks, please include that on your audition form. Please wear clothing that is comfortable and easy to move in. Clothing that lets us see your body move is helpful. Shoes must be worn for the dance audition—jazz shoes, dance sneakers, character shoes, indoor sneakers, or another type of soft-soled, lace-up shoe are appropriate footwear choices.

**Vocal Audition:** All auditionees interested in singer/actor or dancer/singer/actor roles. The vocal audition will include singing one of the short tunes listed on the Lyric website along with a link to a recording of the song on YouTube, and the accompaniment track.

**Acting Audition:** Acting auditions must be completed by auditionees interested in singer/actor or dancer/singer/actor roles. The acting audition can include sharing an original monologue in the form of a short personal story. This should be under two minutes in length and can be true, fiction, comedic, dramatic, or somewhere in between. Please create and share something that tells a brief story and takes the audience on some kind of a journey. Instead of creating an original monologue, you may also choose from one of the pieces on the Lyric website. There are two options for adult actors (comedic or dramatic), and two options for young actors. Memorization is encouraged, but not mandatory. All auditionees must complete an audition form online. As part of the audition form submission process, you will be able to sign up for in-person audition times or attach your video audition if applicable. Video Submissions will be accepted for auditionees interested in a singing and/or acting role only (all dance auditions will take place in person). Video submissions are due no later than Thursday, August 12, at 5:00 p.m.

**Auditions will be held at the Lyric Theatre Creative Space, 7 Green Tree Drive, South Burlington.**

\*Sunday, August 15 | 4:00-8:00 p.m. Check-in begins at 3:30 p.m.

\*Monday, August 16 | 6:15-10:00 p.m. Check-in begins at 5:45 p.m.

\*Wednesday, August 18 | 6:15-10:00 p.m. Check-in begins at 5:45 p.m.

Callbacks will be held if needed at the Lyric Creative Space on Thursday, August 19, from 5:45-10:00 p.m. If you are needed for a callback audition, we will call you on Thursday, August 19, between 9:00 a.m. and noon. Please do your best to be available for this call. Please note that not everyone who is offered a role will be called back—you may be cast even if you are not asked to come to callbacks.

Casting calls will take place on Friday, August 20. If you are offered a role in *Looking for the Heart of Saturday Night*, we will need to speak with you directly. Please do your best to be available by phone on Friday evening. If we are unable to offer you a role, you will receive an email by Sunday, August 22.

If you have any questions regarding auditions please contact Stage Manager, Becky Millard, at [beckystagemanager@gmail.com](mailto:beckystagemanager@gmail.com).

### SBHS SEEKS DRAMA DIRECTOR

*By Kerry Farrell*

South Burlington High School is seeking a Drama Director for the 2021-22 School year. This paid position offers the right person the opportunity to work with highly engaged students in a school community that values and supports the performing arts. Musical theater experience preferred. Contact Principal Patrick Burke [pburke@sbschools.net](mailto:pburke@sbschools.net) with questions or if you are interested in applying.

### SEARCHING FOR TEAM TO PRODUCE

*BURLINGTON DOES BROADWAY!*

*By Jane Harissis, Production Selection Chair*

Burlington Does Broadway is a New Year's Eve concert put on as a collaboration between Lyric, the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, and the Flynn Center. A vocal ensemble of Lyric members along with the VSO will perform selections from Broadway's past and present as we look towards the future on the Flynn stage.

Lyric is looking to you, our membership, to put together a team of a Music Director, Director, Choreographer, and Production Supervisor for this year's Burlington Does Broadway. If you are building a team and plan to propose, we want to hear from you! Please contact our Executive Director, Erin, at [erin@lyrictheatrevt.org](mailto:erin@lyrictheatrevt.org) by August 13. Visit <https://lyrictheatrevt.org/portfolio/propose-a-show/> for an explanation of the responsibilities for team members.

## SPOTLIGHT SHOUT-OUT: CATHIE COVEY

*By Ryan Addario*

Cathie Covey is almost always doing something for Lyric Theatre Company. If she is not building sets or finding props on Green Tree Drive for an upcoming production, she is probably quietly taking care of any number of the unglamorous things that need to happen to keep Lyric humming. She is the first to volunteer to help out and is the last to go home if there is work to be done. When something seems to be magically taken care of in the Creative Space, it's probably because Cathie took care of it. She never complains or seeks praise, but we are so grateful for all that she does, and what she represents about the volunteer spirit of the Lyric Community. Thank you, Cathie!

## GLORIA & DENI CELEBRATION OF LIFE

*By Kathy Richards*

Gloria Dickinson first joined Lyric when she was cast as Gooch in Lyric's production of *Mame* in 1977. Deni quickly became involved in our next show *Gigi* in April of 1978 as the Assistant Stage Manager. Over the next 10 years they would work on or perform in numerous shows. Who can forget Deni and John Gravel as gangsters in *Kiss Me Kate* singing "Brush Up Your Shakespeare!" Gloria's final performance was in *Funny Girl* in 1986 playing Mrs. Meeker with her best friend Joann Stanfield playing Mrs. O'Malley. Deni served on the Board of Directors for a number of years, including the role of Board President for many of those years. They eventually retired to Florida where they continued their love of community theater; however, they came back to Vermont often and would visit with their many lifetime friends they had met during their years with Lyric. Gloria died in May 2020 and Deni passed away a few weeks later.

Gloria & Deni Celebration of Life

Saturday, August 14, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

American Legion Post, 3650 Roosevelt Hwy, Colchester

Please come join us and share a story or funny event. Dress in colorful comfortable summer attire. No black today!



This picture was taken in 2010 and one of the last times that Gloria and Deni celebrated with many of their Lyric friends.

## HOW MANY BROADWAY MODES OF TRANSPORTATION CAN YOU NAME?

*By Talaura Harms*

Source: <https://www.playbill.com/article/how-many-broadway-modes-of-transportation-can-you-name>

Use character and lyric clues to identify the Broadway cars, boats, and other people-movers in this transportation quiz. "Where am I going?" asks Charity Hope Valentine. In this quiz, though, it's not where you're going that's important, but rather, how you get there. See how many Broadway cars, boats, and other modes of transportation you can recall using the character and lyric clues in the questions. (What?...no *Miss Saigon* helicopter? There, we said it for you.)

- 1-The T-Birds sing about what car "burning up the quarter mile?"
- 2-Inventor Caractacus Potts is the owner of what "fine four-fendered friend?"
- 3-What little steam engine enters the World Championship Railroad Race in hopes of impressing Pearl, the observation car who has "the power to move" him?
- 4-What do ten contestants try to win, because "if you live in Texas and you ain't got no truck, buddy, you're stuck?"
- 5-To get to Usnavi's bodega, what subway must you take "even further than Harlem" to 181<sup>st</sup> Street?
- 6-A down-and-out producer tries to rekindle a romance with a successful actress (and talk her into starring in his next play) aboard what Chicago-to-New York "luxury line of locomotive trains?"
- 7-Julie Laverne "can't help lovin" her leading man aboard what boat known as "Captain Andy's Floating Show?"
- 8-Coalhouse et al "grab their goggles and climb aboard" as they genuflect to Henry Ford, the maker of what car?
- 9-What buggy outta Claremore is "the slickest gig you'll ever see?"

## FLYNN

### COUNTING DOWN TO THE GRAND REOPENING

Source: <https://www.flynnvt.org/flynn-reopening>

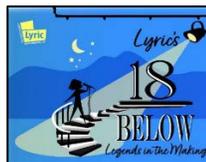
This fall, we're excited to welcome the community back to our beloved theater with a jam-packed evening of dancing, reunions, refreshments, stories, tributes, and incredible live performances on the Main Stage. The Grand Reopening Celebration is on October 23 and features a headlining performance from the sensational Angélique Kidjo.

In addition to this grand reopening extravaganza, the Flynn is pleased to offer a wide variety of shows for many different audiences across a full 2021-2022 season. As the kickoff for the season rollout, the Flynn is announcing five presentations—Shake & Holla (North Mississippi Allstars and Rebirth Brass Band plus special guest Cedric Burnside), *Cartography*, Ayodele Casel, Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar, and Flip Fabrique. Tickets to the grand reopening event and these season shows are available now for new and existing Flynn members.



7 Green Tree Drive  
South Burlington, VT 05403

**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, 2021**



Young Performers Shine in 18 Below

**TICKETS for Moonlight in Vermont go on sale August 9!**

**AT YOUR SERVICE—LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY BOARD & STAFF**

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**Lyric Office Address: 7 Green Tree Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403**

**MEETING TIMES FOR LYRIC'S STANDING COMMITTEES  
MEETING VIRTUALLY FOR NOW**

**Board (Chair: Nate Venet):** 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Lyric Office  
**Facilities (Chair: Tim Henderson):** 1st Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office  
**PR/Development (Chair: Rachel Bruce Drew):** 1st Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office  
**Education (Chair: MaryBeth Nuovo):** 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office  
**Finance (Chair: Karen Sheedy):** 2nd Friday of the month, 12:00 p.m., Lyric Office  
**Membership (Chair: Serena Magnan O'Connell):** 4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., home of Serena Magnan O'Connell, Burlington  
**Production Selection and Evaluation (Chair: Jane Harissis):** 4th Wednesday of each month, 6:30 p.m., Lyric Office  
**Outreach & Inclusivity (Chair: Hillary Read):** 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Office

**ANSWERS TO THE QUIZ**

No peeking. Check your answers to the quiz about Broadway modes of transportation here:  
 1-Greased Lightning  
 2-Chitty Chitty Bang Bang  
 3-Rusty  
 4-Nissan Hardbody  
 5-A Train  
 6-Twentieth Century Limited  
 7-Cotton Blossom  
 8-Model T  
 9-Surrey with the Fringe on Top



Awaiting new dates  
Flynn Center MainStage  
Burlington, VT

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