



THE SPOTLIGHT



Editor: Pat Boera

www.lyrictheatrevt.org | office@lyrictheatrevt.org

January 2023

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Erin Evarts

We are incredibly grateful that so many of you were able to join us at the Lyric Creative Space for our celebratory Kick-Off Meeting, and for all the brave performers who shared their talent with us at *Shrek* auditions. The team and crews put in such long hours to make it all happen and we are thrilled with our cast, and to have met so many wonderful new friends through the process.

Lyric is much more than any one production, or any one element of theatre. I hope that all of you who support our mission to tell stories, encourage volunteerism, and build community through the performing arts are able to find at least one of the many ways you can contribute to that effort. Please visit the *Shrek* page on [our website](#) to see all of the opportunities available to take part in the magic this season.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

By Serena Magnan O'Connell

As the curtain closes on 2022, I would like to take a moment and express my gratitude to our community of active volunteers: our hard-working Board of Directors, committee members, casts, and crews, for all of your time, talents, commitment and devotion to the future of Lyric as we celebrate yet another successful year creating high-quality musical theater. 2022 saw our return to a full season of programming at The Flynn Mainstage, as well as the continuation of our expanded programs including TYA, our camps and new membership events like *ReCREWt!*, and it couldn't have happened without the extraordinary efforts of our very active membership. It is clear as we continue to grow and evolve in a world of uncertainty that our organization needs one thing to ensure success: we need each other!

As 2023 quickly approaches I urge all of us to resolve to listen to one another patiently as new ideas surface, support our productions and programs with ongoing volunteerism, crew and committee participation as your time allows, and take care of one another with extreme kindness and respect as we continue to emerge on stages in a post-pandemic reality. What a gift of a community that I am beyond grateful and honored to serve. Wishing you all a very Happy and Healthy New Year ahead and hope to see you very soon (please come sign up to audition or serve on a crew at *Shrek* Kick-Off!).

SHREK THE MUSICAL WELCOMES OUR CAST

Congratulations to the cast of *Shrek the Musical*. We couldn't be more excited to cheer on these performers and welcome new and familiar faces to the stage. The cast will be hard at work in rehearsals from now until opening night on April 13. And did you know that for every actor you see on the Flynn stage, there are approximately three other volunteers who work behind the scenes to help bring the show to life? Now is the time to find your place in the crew. To find out more about volunteer opportunities such as costumes, set construction, sound crew, safety and security, hair and makeup, and so much more,

visit <https://lyrictheatrevt.org/shrek/>.

Shrek	Ryan Poulin*
Fiona	Sarah Connor
Donkey	Izzy Gilbert
Lord Farquaad	Sean Reeks*
Dragon	Megan Ferris
Young Fiona	Cady Murad
Teen Fiona/Ugly Duckling	Lila Trigaux*
Young Shrek/Baby Bear	Harley Everitt
Pinocchio	Jayden M. Choquette
Sugar Plum Fairy/Gingy	Dana LaClair

Fairy Tale Creatures:

Fairy Godmother	Jamie Roberts
Wolf/Knight	Peter Carlile^
Mama Bear/Mama Ogre	Johnee Golden*
Papa Bear/Papa Ogre	Brendan Rice*
Queen Lillian/Pig	Rachel Solomon*
King Harold/Pig	Eric Rainville
Pig	Vonnie Murad*^
Humpty Dumpty/Dwarf	Cat Meyers*
Witch	Kaitie Bessette
White Rabbit/Knight	Daniel Gibson^
Alice	Olivia Paulino*
Mad Hatter	Julia Colasanti*
Peter Pan/Pied Piper/Knight	Ben Long*
Elf	Keely Agan^
Captain of the Guard/Bishop	Franklin Paulino*
Thelonius	George Conklin*

Ensemble:

Caira Adams* Jess Brownstein* Nuala Dougherty*
Cedric Minier* Micah Trembley* Laura Valastro*

Featured Dancers:

Hålee Bernier* Tara Henry Brianna Newman*
Carah Pioli-Hunt Kerry Powell

*New to Lyric MainStage

^Featured Dancers

SEEKING PROPOSALS FOR THEATER FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES (TYA) FOR SUMMER 2023

By Jennifer Warwick

The Production Selection and Evaluation Committee is seeking TYA Proposals for summer 2023. *A Year with Frog and Toad* and last summer's *Ivy + Bean* were huge hits, and we would like to continue the tradition. This is a great way to get some artistic team experience and there are so many fun options to choose from: *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Curious George*, *Madagascar*, *A Musical Adventure*, *Junie B Jones the Musical* and many more. Proposal deadline is March 4, 2023. For more information, please contact Jennifer Warwick, Chair of the Production Selection Committee, jenw.sokol@gmail.com, or Erin Evarts, erin@lyrictheatrevt.org.

SPOTLIGHT SHOUT-OUT

By Kerry Farrell

This month the Membership Committee would like to give a shout-out to Rob Parzych for his work on the Sunshine Subcommittee. The Sunshine Subcommittee is part of the Membership Committee and was started a long time ago by Marianne Kendall. The purpose of Sunshine is to send thoughts and love to Lyric members who are either celebrating a big event like a wedding or grieving the loss of a family member. Since 2020, Rob has been the volunteer responsible for writing and sending the cards after receiving the list from the Membership Committee. Rob is a lifelong member of Lyric and has many other roles aside from spreading sunshine. He is very much appreciated! If you have Sunshine news to share about Lyric members, please email Kerry Farrell at kkfrn3@gmail.com.



WANNA GO WITH US TO *THE PROM*?

By Lauren Genta

We are so thrilled to be bringing *The Prom* to the Flynn MainStage in November 2023 for Lyric's 50th season! As we continue to build our team, we know that in an organization as expansive as Lyric there are boundless ways to be involved and opportunities to expand your skill set or discover a new one. Whether you've played a role off-stage before or have always wanted to volunteer in a new way, we invite you to join us. If interested in joining the team, chairing a crew, or working with someone to explore a different skill, contact Lauren Genta, Production Supervisor at genta.lauren@gmail.com.

ON OTHER STAGES

- ★ The Flynn Center's Broadway lineup for the upcoming season includes *Anastasia*, January 22 and 23; *The Book of Mormon*, February 28, March 1 and 2; and *Stomp*, April 23. Tickets/info: flynnvt.org
- ★ Northern Stage presents *'Bov Water*, January 25-February 12, at the Barrette Center for the Arts. Tickets/info: northernstage.org
- ★ Very Merry Theatre presents *The Adventures of Mittens, Moppet and Tom Kitten*, February 14; *The Pirates of Penzance*, February 14 and 15; and *Winnie the Pooh*, February 16, at the O.N.E. Community Center. Tickets/info: verymerrytheatre.org
- ★ Middlebury Community Players present *The Importance of Being Earnest*, February 16-19, at Middlebury's Town Hall Theater. Tickets/info: middleburycommunityplayers.org
- ★ Essex Community Players present *Significant Other*, February 24-March 4, at Memorial Hall. Tickets/info: essexplayers.com
- ★ Valley Players present *Murder by Membership Only*, March 2-19. Tickets/info: valleyplayers.com
- ★ Vermont Stage presents *Airness*, March 8-26, at the Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center. Tickets/info: vermontstage.org
- ★ Shelburne Players present *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood*, March 17-25, at Shelburne Town Center. Tickets/info: shelburneplayers.com
- ★ Lost Nation Theater presents *Pass Over*, April 13-30, at Montpelier's City Hall. Tickets/info: lostonationtheater.org
- ★ Williston Community Theatre presents *Little Shop of Horrors*, June 22-24, at Isham Family Farm Barn. Tickets info: willistoncommunitytheatre.com

A BRIEF HISTORY OF BROADWAY

Source: <https://www.broadwayworld.com/article/A-Brief-History-of-Broadway>

Why is it called Broadway?

Broadway is a 13-mile street that runs through two of New York City's five boroughs – Manhattan and the Bronx. It technically continues far beyond city limits, eventually ending in Sleepy Hollow, New York. Long before European colonists arrived, Native Americans carved the Wickquasgeck trail as the main north-south thoroughfare through Manhattan Island. The Dutch widened and renamed the road (Heeren Wegh or Gentleman's Way) when they arrived in the 17th century. It wasn't until the English took over in 1664 that it was renamed 'Broadway' for its unusual width.

Being one of the oldest streets in New York City and existing long before the Commissioners' Plan of 1811, Broadway is one of very few in Manhattan that does not follow the city's grid system. Where it crosses avenues in midtown, it creates Times Square, Herald Square, Madison Square, and Union Square.

Where did 'Broadway' come from? The word eventually evolved beyond just the name of the famous street to the artform that dominated its blocks.

When did Broadway become *Broadway*?

How did Broadway begin and who invented Broadway? The development of the artform cannot be attributed to a single person.

New York City had a theatre presence as early as the mid-1700s, but not until the late 1800s did most theatres move uptown to the area we know today as the Theater District, which at the time was made up mostly of family residences and farms. As the area developed in the following decades, transportation improved, poverty decreased, and the neighborhood blossomed as a central hub to produce theatre. Some of the oldest Broadway theaters that are still in operation today were built in the first years of the 1900s, including the Hudson, Lyceum and New Amsterdam.

What was the first Broadway show ever? The first work that fits the mold of what we would today consider a musical was the five-and-a-half hour-long *The Black Crook*, which played 474 performances in 1866.

LYRIC ALUMNI NEWS

- Proud Mom Jeanne Miller reports that Paul Miller has recently returned to the U.S. after performing in *West Side Story* in Italy.
- Merritt David Janes and friends performed *Broadway Rocks: Home for the Holidays* to benefit his alma mater of Colchester High School.

SHREK CREWS WORKING AT THE LYRIC CREATIVE SPACE

Costumes: Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.-Noon; Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Props: First meeting on Tuesday, January 17, at 6:30 p.m. from there, work times will be determined.

Set Construction: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays, 6:30-9:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:00 a.m.-Noon

Set Decoration: Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m.; Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Most other crews will set work times closer to show dates.

Source: <https://www.wordsearchaddict.com/on-broadway-word-search-puzzle/>

On Broadway

B P Y M A M M A M I A L P E H Z P B
E G L E S M I S E R A B L E S N B J
A S N P M N M Q J O B B Z N U Z W B
F E N I O U Z I E Y G M S S P J Q M
I F N I K W J H J U F T Y Q V V E O
Y N S I D N U L K X K H Z A T U Y K
A P N N L I O J E R S E Y B O Y S R
R M I S S S A I G O N W M P B X Q C
P M P C S Y U R L O P I X S A U L Y
S M P Y J I X R G E J Z E B C T A Y
R G O S E C S A O F H G W I C K E D
I R P M S G C S W H A T Y S O O C M
A V Y F E I R L H F C R C E R N O R
H O R L H E S G O W D A M C O S A Z
S T A C N H B K M B S T M Y A V Q X
O P M T J P C B C U B Y F Q D O Y D
C D S Z E O C I F I C A P H T U O S
A W W U R T H E P R O D U C E R S Z

WORD LIST

A CHORUS LINE
CATS
CHICAGO
HAIRSPRAY
JERSEY BOYS
LES MISERABLES
MAMMA MIA
MARY POPPINS
MISS SAIGON
RENT
ROCK OF AGES
SOUTH PACIFIC
THE LION KING
THE PRODUCERS
THE WIZ
TOBACCO ROAD
WICKED



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 February issue: January 28, 2023

Announcing the Cast

AT YOUR SERVICE—LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY BOARD & STAFF

Kerry Farrell	kkfrn3@gmail.com
Cheri Forsythe	forsythecheri@gmail.com
John Gravel	
Kylie Halpin	halpinkylie@gmail.com
Howard Kalfus	hkalfus@comcast.net
Steve Kendall	stepkend@comcast.net
Mary Margaret Lee	MaryMLVT@gmail.com
Serena Magnan O'Connell	serenamagnan@hotmail.com
Vonnie Murad	
Andy Pearson	apearson@sbschools.net
Rebecca Raskin	rebeccaraskin@msn.com
Hillary Read	hbread@gmail.com
Nate Venet	natevenet@gmail.com
Jennifer Warwick	jenw.sokol@gmail.com
Dorothy Wright	
Erin Evarts, <i>Executive Director</i>	erin@lyrictheatrevt.org
Doris O'Brien, <i>Bookkeeper</i>	doris@lyrictheatrevt.org
Ryan Addario, <i>Dev. & Marketing Coordinator</i>	office@lyrictheatrevt.org

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

MEETING TIMES FOR LYRIC'S STANDING COMMITTEES

Board (Chair: Serena Magnan O'Connell): 3rd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Lyric Creative Space
Facilities (Chair: Cheri Forsythe): 1st Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Creative Space
PR/Development (Chair: Kylie Halpin): 1st Wednesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Creative Space
Education (Chair: Vonnie Murad): 2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Lyric Creative Space
Finance (Chair: Stephen Kendall): 2nd Friday of the month, 12:00 p.m., Lyric Creative Space
Membership (Chair: Kerry Farrell): 4th Tuesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., home of Kerry Farrell, 19 Pheasant Way, South Burlington
Production Selection (Chair: Jennifer Warwick): 4th Wednesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Lyric Creative Space
Outreach & Inclusivity (Chair: Howard Kalfus): 2nd Thursday of the month, 6:00 p.m., virtually on Google Meet using this link: <https://meet.google.com/sst-xjei-kfo>



April 13-16, 2023
Flynn Center MainStage
Burlington, VT

Generous support from



Thanks to our Season Sponsor

