



THE SPOTLIGHT



Editor: Pat Boera

www.lyrictheatrevt.org | office@lyrictheatrevt.org

May 2023

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Erin Evarts

What a joy to see Lyric's impact on full display during the run of *Shrek* at The Flynn last month. Every moment our audience gets to experience is made possible by the hundreds of volunteers, supporters, and community partners who use their collective strength to transform an idea and a script into what you see on stage. Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen!

We are already charging ahead with rehearsals now underway for *Elephant & Piggie's We Are in a Play*, our third annual TYA production. We are so excited to present this story throughout the community free of charge in June. We are also excited to be offering an expanded slate of LyricKids camps and programming this summer, as we continue to invest in our future by supporting the next generation of young local performing artists.

If the work that Lyric does means something to you, I hope you will take special care to read our upcoming spring fundraising appeal. As we prepare for a milestone anniversary this year, it's important to make sure that Lyric is on strong footing to continue bringing the arts and opportunities to our community for the half-century ahead. Thank you for being part of our story!

SEEKING PROPOSALS FOR FALL 2024

*By Jennifer Warwick, Chair,
Production Selection Committee*

The Production Selection Committee is seeking proposals for the fall 2024 production. We are looking for core team members (Production Supervisor, Director, Music Director, and Choreographer) to propose a show of their choice by May 31. It's not too soon to get the ball rolling. If you are interested or need any help or answers to questions, please contact Jennifer Warwick at jenw.sokol@gmail.com or Erin Evarts at erin@lyrictheatrevt.org for more information.

LYRICKIDS CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Registration for LyricKids Summer Camp is open.

Camp Week One: July 17-21, 2023

Ages 8-11: ~~The Aristocats Kids~~ CURRENTLY FULL! Email office@lyrictheatrevt.org to be added to the Waitlist.

Ages 12-18: The Art of Scenic Design

Camp Week Two: July 24-28, 2023

Ages: 11-15: *Raise Your Voice!* Cabaret Camp

Half-Day Dance Camps: August 14-18, 2023

Info: <https://lyrictheatrevt.org/portfolio/lyric-kids/>



THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

By Ryan Addario

We are off to the races in a show that will have the entire family dancing and cheering! This June we will present *Elephant & Piggie's We Are in a Play* at venues across the region, free of charge. Our cast comprised of Lyric vets George Sullivan, Rachel Weinfeld, Brianna Newman, Corrine Mertz, and Jayden M. Choquette, along with Lyric newcomers Kim Anetsberger and Karlie Kauffeld, are all already singing and dancing in preparation.

Based on the beloved books by Mo Willems, this delightful musical follows an elephant named Gerald and a pig named Piggie as they take to the stage in this rollicking adventure that is perfect for young audiences. Follow these two "bestus" friends and three singing squirrels, on a day when anything is possible. Check the Lyric website for performance details and venue information. Don't miss out!

ON STAGE IN SOUTH HERO: SPAMALOT JUNIOR

By Tim Henderson

Folsom Middle School in South Hero presents *Spamalot Junior*. Featuring a cast from grades 5-8, with Art Director Shannon Lowe, Music Director Karlie Kauffeld, Choreographer Kristen Bartle, and Technical Director Melanie Henderson. With Queen Arthur and her quirky Knights of the Round Table, the stage is set for a hilarious show. Join us at the Folsom Auditorium May 12 at 7:00 p.m., May 13 at 2:00 p.m., or May 13 at 7:00 p.m. \$10 tickets support Folsom's active and inspiring arts programs.

SUCCESSFUL RAFFLE DURING SHREK

By Pat Boera

Deepest thanks to Black Flannel Brewing Co., Pizzeria Verità, Hen of the Wood, A Single Pebble, The Farm House Tap & Grill, POCO Restaurant, ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain, Spare Time Entertainment, Lake Monsters, Studio 2N Portrait Photography, Petra Cliffs, and to the audience members who purchased tickets to our raffle which raised \$1,450 for Lyric.



SHAKESPEARE IN WILLISTON
By Chloë Fidler

Vermont Repertory Theatre and the Isham Family Farm in Williston have joined forces to celebrate the 400-year anniversary of the publication of the *First Folio*, and with it, humanity's first encounter with Shakespeare's first, shortest and funniest play, *The Comedy of Errors*.

The Comedy of Errors tells the simple story of a single day in the fantastical Mediterranean town of Ephesus along the Turkish coast. A cast full of crazy characters fall into a farcical plot that has more in common with an episode of *Modern Family* than anyone's idea of an Elizabethan drama. As the day continues, identity and self-worth twist and warp with horrifying hilarity.

Performances: May 25, 7:00 p.m., May 26, 7:00 p.m., May 27, 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. Admission: \$25; \$10 for students; free for age 16 and under. Tickets/info: www.vermontrep.com

Lyric members involved (so far!) either on stage or supporting the production, include Stephen Kendall, Kelly Kendall, Connor Kendall, Nate Venet, Michael Fidler, Chloë Fidler, Kylie Halpin, Benjamin Villa, Sue Bailey, Lyn Feinson, Jennifer Honeywood, Kathryn Daniels, Paul Ledak, Steve Smith, Lesley Graham, Christopher Ziter, Connor Eaton, G. Richard Ames, Aleah Papes, Peter Carlile, and Josie Fox. (Apologies for anyone we missed.)

GIRLS NITE OUT ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS
By Jennifer Warwick

Burlington theater company Girls Nite Out Productions announces open auditions for our fall production of Michael McKeever's hilarious comedy, *Suite Surrender*. We will be casting eight individuals across a range of ages and invite you to be among them.

Auditions will be held at the offices of Mamava at 180 Battery Street, 2nd floor, on May 21, 1:00-4:00 p.m., and May 23, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Information about the play, including character descriptions and sides, are posted on our website, girlsniteoutvt.com, and you can contact our Stage Manager, Kyla Waldron, with any questions at events.kyla@gmail.com. Come play with us!



WE'RE OFF TO SEE THE WIZARD
By Linda Whalen

"Toto, I don't think we're in Kansas anymore..." That's right – Dorothy and the cast of *The Wizard of Oz* will be at the Flynn Center in Burlington next spring. As part of our 50th anniversary celebration, Lyric will be presenting the classic favorite, *The Wizard of Oz*, April 11-14, 2024.

Co-Producers Linda Whalen and Pam Carter, Artistic Director Sara McDonald, Music Director Craig Hilliard, and Choreographer Sue Bailey invite you to join them as they go over the rainbow and follow the yellow brick road! Auditions will be in early December 2023. Watch for information in the *Spotlight* and area media outlets.

ON OTHER STAGES

- ★ Vermont Stage presents *Venus in Fur*, April 26-May 14, at the Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center. Tickets/info: vermontstage.org
- ★ Essex Players present *Out of Order*, May 5-20, at Memorial Hall. Tickets/info: essexplayers.com
- ★ Lamoille County Players' upcoming season at the Hyde Park Opera House features *August: Osage County*, May 5-14; *Let It Be: A Musical Celebration of the Beatles*, July 20-30; *The Haunting of Hill House*, October 6-15; and *The Foreigner*, December 1-10. Tickets/info: lcplayers.com
- ★ Fairfax Community Theatre Company presents *Steel Magnolias*, May 18-21, at the Brick Meeting House in Westford. Tickets/info: fctcvr.wordpress.com
- ★ Vermont Repertory Theatre presents *The Comedy of Errors*, May 25-27, at Isham Family Farm. Tickets/info: vermontrep.com
- ★ Lost Nation Theater presents *My Mother's Three Mothers*, May 25-June 11, at Montpelier's City Hall. Tickets/info: lostnationtheater.org
- ★ Charlotte Munson performs *Di Lady Di*, a one-woman, powerhouse, fairytale musical chronicling the life of Lady Diana, May 26 and 27, at Main Street Landing. Tickets/info: charlottemunson.com
- ★ Northern Stage presents *Sense and Sensibility*, June 14-July 9, at the Barrette Center for the Arts. Tickets/info: northernstage.org
- ★ Williston Community Theatre presents *Little Shop of Horrors*, June 22-24, at Isham Family Farm Barn. Tickets info: willistoncommunitytheatre.com
- ★ Valley Players present *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*, June 29-July 16. Tickets/info: valleyplayers.com
- ★ Full Circle Theater presents *Spring Awakening*, July 14-16, and July 21-23, at Isham Family Farm Barn. Tickets/info: fullcircletheater.com



**LIGHTS! CAMERA! ACTION! FILM CAMP
at Spotlight Theatre Academy**

www.Spotlight.com

June 19-23, 2023

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Ages 11-15 years

Cost \$395/week; **Lyric Theatre members get 10% off.**

Call Jen Barden at 802-865-7626 while spaces are still available.

Welcome to the exciting world of film and TV! There is nothing like this being offered in the Burlington area! In this unique program, students will get hands-on experience with cameras, boom mics, green screens, editing, learning on- and off-camera technique, exploring scenes from TV and film, and production design. Plus, students will collaborate to create a short film of their own to share with friends and family. Partial scholarships available.



**MUSICAL THEATRE INTENSIVE
at Spotlight Theatre Academy**

www.Spotlight.com

August 7-11, 2023

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Ages 11-14 years

\$350/week; **Lyric Theatre members get 10% off. Call**

Jen Barden at 802-865-7626 while spaces are still available.

Do you love performing musical theatre? Want to improve your skills, learn new roles, perform songs,

scenes, and choreography from some of your favorite Broadway shows? Then this camp is for you. Taught by Broadway veteran Elisa Van Duyne, students will dive deeper into musical theatre technique, broaden their skills, learn songs, scenes, and choreography from Broadway repertoire like *Hamilton*, *Newsies*, *Dear Evan Hansen* and more. This camp culminates in a final Showcase performance on Friday, August 11. Partial scholarships available.

**MAY SPOTLIGHT SHOUT-OUT
By Kerry Farrell**

This month the Membership Committee would like to give a shout-out to the Dragon Team from *Shrek The Musical*. The designers and engineers behind the magic were Ann Vivian, Eric Richardson, and Will Richardson. All three of these volunteers worked countless hours creating Debra the Dragon and their attention to detail was not lost on the audience. They also collaborated with the special effects team – Belinda Emerson and Julianne Nickerson – who added in the smoke. After all, you can't have a dragon without smoke. Kyla Paul Marchand and Ellie Wallace were a big part of making Debra come alive through their choreography and ability to move all the parts together simultaneously to look and act like a dragon. And lastly the actors who manipulated the various parts of Debra and gave her a voice. Hålee Bernier held the head and navigated the mouth and eyes; Tara Henry and Brianna Newman worked the wings and made Debra fly; Carah Pioli-Hunt and Kerry Powell maneuvered the tail; and Megan Ferris gave Debra a voice that captured the audience every show. The Dragon Team is a great example of how Lyric works together with all the different aspects of theater to create a magical moment on stage.



Photo by Jenn Adams, Studio 2N



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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 June issue: May 28, 2023

Theatre for Young Audiences This Summer

AT YOUR SERVICE-LYRIC THEATRE COMPANY BOARD & STAFF

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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): 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 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-xjej-kfo>



**November 9-12, 2023
Flynn Center MainStage
Burlington, VT**

**Kick-Off
August 23, 2023
Auditions
August 28-September 1, 2023**

ARTISTIC TEAM FOR THE PROM

Production Supervisor: Lauren Genta
Co-Directors: Gina Fearn and Amy Riley
Music Director: Nate Venet
Stage Manager: Becky Millard
Assistant Stage Manager: Cat Meyers