



THE SPOTLIGHT



Editor: Pat Boera

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July 2023

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

By Erin Evarts

The summertime is in full swing here on Green Tree Drive after a very busy few weeks for Lyric, presenting *Elephant & Piggie's "We Are In A Play!"* at venues around the community. This marked the third annual Theatre for Young Audiences production that we were able to offer to audiences free of charge, made possible this year by Mascoma Bank. We have once again been humbled by the overwhelming response, and we are working hard to add performances and locations next year. Thank you to everyone who helped bring this bit of joy to so many budding thespians.

To mark the end of the school year, the Education Committee was honored to present the Delano-Nulty Award to Caitlin Balón of Burlington and Lily James Roberts of Bristol. Both will be heading to college in New York City this fall, and we can't wait to see what they do next. We're also already hard at work preparing for more young energy in our midst with LyricKids Summer Camps just around the corner!

I hope you will find inspiration and enjoy some relaxation in the warmth of the Vermont summer and come back ready to celebrate our momentous 50th Anniversary Season this year. There are endless opportunities to take part in what Lyric has to offer, and I hope to see many of you at the Kick-Off for *The Prom* in August!

*Always,
Erin*

JULY SPOTLIGHT SHOUT-OUT

By Brita Down

This month the Membership Committee would like to give a shout-out to two amazing women whom you may know well from the Lyric stage as performers: Merrill Cameron and Kaitie Bessette!

Lyric's third Theatre for Young Audiences show – *Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"* – saw these two actors taking on new creative team roles for the first time at Lyric and crushing it! As Music Director for *Elephant & Piggie*, Merrill made the songs and singers truly shine! For her role as Choreographer, Kaitie created lively and fun dances that the young audiences loved following along to. The performances in June were a great success and we commend these two talents for their hard work, warm and thoughtful guidance, and creative spirit in new roles! Great work!

SAVE THE DATE FOR A BIG PARTY

We are overjoyed for the opportunity to mark the success of our first half-century with the people who have made it all possible. Mark your calendars for **September 23, 2023**, for Lyric's 50th Anniversary Gala at the UVM Alumni House in Burlington. Join us for an evening of celebration filled with food, dancing, music, and lots of memories. Stay tuned for formal invitations with complete details and ticketing information.



SEEKING FLYNN MAIN STAGE BLOCKBUSTERS

FOR SPRING 2025!

By Jennifer Warwick

The Production Selection and Evaluation Committee is now seeking proposals for our Spring 2025 production. We are looking to produce one of the following block-busters: *Beauty and the Beast*, *Kinky Boots*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Singin' in the Rain*, or *Cinderella*. The deadline for written proposals is November 30, 2023. For more information contact Production Selection Chair Jennifer Warwick, jenw.sokol@gmail.com, or Erin Evarts, erin@lyrictheatrevt.org.



**NEWS FROM THE
50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE**

Like everyone who has grown up at any point during the last half-century in our corner of Vermont, Lyric Theatre Company has always been part of my life. I have taken on a number of roles—fan, supporter, volunteer, performer, donor, and lately as Chair of the 50th Anniversary Committee. I have been just tickled thinking of somehow being able to tell that small group of friends who came up with the notion of starting a volunteer-based community theatre company in December 1973 that this is what their idea would evolve into.

We are so excited to be offering the full season of theatrical productions as you have come to expect from Lyric, but also a formal gala celebration in September, vintage and commemorative merchandise, and a very special presentation of *The Sound of Music: In Concert* next summer at Trapp Family Lodge with the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. I am so grateful for all of the work that our committee and the extended Lyric community have already put in preparing for a truly momentous year of celebration. If you would like to join in the effort, please reach email office@lyrictheatrevt.org.

*In celebration,
Kim Anderson*

LYRIC'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON!

We have an amazing line-up of events this year, stay tuned as more might be added in the coming months!

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| June '23: | <i>Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"</i> |
| July '23: | <i>LyricKids Full Day Camps, Artistocats and Raise Your Voice</i> |
| August '23: | <i>LyricKids Half Day Dance Camps, Musical Mix Tape
Kick-Off and Auditions for <i>The Prom</i></i> |
| September '23: | <i>Lyric's 50th Anniversary Gala: A Fundraising Event</i> |
| October '23: | <i>Lyric's Annual Meeting</i> |
| November '23: | <i>The Prom at The Flynn</i> |
| December '23: | <i>Lyric Caroling
Kick-Off and Auditions for <i>The Wizard of Oz</i></i> |
| February '24: | <i>Auditions for <i>The Sound of Music: In Concert</i></i> |
| April '24: | <i>The Wizard of Oz at The Flynn</i> |
| June '24: | <i>The Sound of Music: In Concert at Trapp Family Lodge</i> |
| July '24: | <i>Lyric Picnic for all Members</i> |



ANNOUNCING OUR TEAM FOR *THE PROM!*
By Lauren Genta

We've had a few changes and new additions, and we are so happy to share the names of the team working hard to bring *The Prom* to the Flynn MainStage this fall!

ARTISTIC TEAM

Production Supervisor: Lauren Genta
Co-Directors: Gina Fearn and Amy Riley
Music Director: Nate Venet
Choreographer: Ellie Wallace
Assistant Choreographer: Vonnie Murad
Stage Manager: Becky Millard
Assistant Stage Manager: Kit Meyers

TECHNICAL TEAM

Co-Technical Directors: Belinda Emerson, Julianne Nickerson
Scenic Designer: Natalia Bastante
Assistant Scenic Designer: Tom O'Brien
Set Engineers: Doug Viehmann, Tim Henderson
Set and Lights Visualizer: Tom Dunn
Lighting Designer: Jamien Forrest
Sound Designer: Zach Williamson
Sound Engineer: Abra Clawson
Propmaster: Arianna Soloway
Costume Designer: Hayley Ryan
Hair Designer: Sarah Crowley
Make-up Designer: Kaitie Bessette

BUSINESS TEAM:

Promotions: Sabrina Sydnor
Promo Wear: Chelsea Lafayette

If interested in joining our team, stay tuned to the Lyric website for our volunteer opportunities and contact information for these crews!

Later this month and in next month's issue, we'll be sharing everything you need to know for auditions including character descriptions, song selections, sides, and information on how to register.

ON OTHER STAGES

★ Northern Stage presents *Sense and Sensibility*, June 14-July 9, Courtyard Theater. Tickets/info: northernstage.org
★ Saint Michael's Playhouse presents *Almost Heaven*, June 28-July 8; *Popcorn Falls*, July 12-22; and *Over the River and Through the Woods*, July 26-August 5; McCarthy Arts Center, Colchester. Tickets/info: saintmichaelsplayhouse.org

★ Valley Players present *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*, June 29-July 16. Tickets/info: valleyplayers.com
★ Island Stage presents *Steel Magnolias*, July 6-9, Main Street Landing. Tickets/info: theaterengine.com
★ QuarryWorks Theater presents *Call Me Madam*, July 6-9 and July 13-16, Frank Suchomel Memorial Arts Center. Tickets/info: fsmac-quarryworks.org
★ Full Circle Theater presents *Spring Awakening*, July 14-16, Isham Family Farm, and July 21-23, Main Street Landing. Tickets/info: fullcircletheater.com
★ Lost Nation Theater presents *The Addams Family*, July 20-August 6, Montpelier City Hall. Tickets/info: lostonationtheater.org
★ Middlebury Community Players present *Slow Food*, July 20-23; and *Wally's Café*, August 17-20, Vergennes Opera House. Tickets at the door. Info: middleburycommunityplayers.org
★ Lamoille County Players' present *Let It Be: A Musical Celebration of the Beatles*, July 20-30; and *The Haunting of Hill House*, October 6-15; Hyde Park Opera House. Tickets/info: lcplayers.com
★ Vermont Stage presents *Talley's Folley*, July 26-August 6, Isham Family Farm. Tickets/info: vermontstage.org
★ Girls Nite Out Productions presents *Suite Surrender*, November 9-19, Main Street Landing Performing Arts Center. Info: girlsniteoutvt.com



***THE SOUND OF MUSIC: IN CONCERT* IN COLLABORATION WITH
**THE VERMONT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA &
THE TRAPP FAMILY LODGE - JUNE 2024**
*By Jennifer Warwick***

This is an incredibly special event, celebrating the momentous legacy of Lyric Theatre's 50th Anniversary, VSO's 90th Anniversary, the 75th Anniversary of *The Story of the Trapp Family Singers*, and the 65th Anniversary of the musical's Broadway premiere.

The Production Selection and Evaluation Committee is seeking resumes and letters of intent for Music Directors and Artistic Directors or a combination of Music and Artistic Directors for *The Sound of Music: In Concert* to take place at the Trapp Family Lodge in conjunction with the VSO in June of 2024. Resumes and letters are due by September 5 and interviews for the position/s will take place on September 12.

This production will be similar to *Burlington Does Broadway*. For more information please contact Production Selection Chair Jennifer Warwick, jenw.sokol@gmail.com, or Erin Evarts, erin@lyrictheatrevt.org.



Now celebrating our 50th Anniversary Season!

**Lyric Theatre Company
7 Green Tree Drive
South Burlington, VT 05403**

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

Kick-Off
August 23, 2023
Auditions
August 27-September 1, 2023

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-xiej-kfo>

SUPPORT THE ARTS IN VERMONT THIS SUMMER

As you can see from the **ON OTHER STAGES** list, there is no shortage of great live theater in Vermont this summer. Many Lyric members perform with other companies, so don't be surprised to see familiar faces on stages elsewhere in the state. If you're a music fan, it's almost time for the **Middlebury Summer Festival on-the-Green**, July 9 through 15. Info: festivalonthegreen.org