

CAST & CREW

“The Source For Theater Happenings”

THE CHOCOLATE CHURCH CELEBRATES 40 YEARS!

by Muriel Kenderdine

It was in the late 60's when Jack Doepf, a New York theatrical designer, became interested in the vacant former Congregational Church on Washington Street in Bath, ME. He bought the old building from the non-profit Sagadahoc Preservation, Inc., which had saved it from urban renewal destruction. Doepf then turned it into a performing arts center and with a staff of volunteers presented concerts and plays for mid-coast audiences. Subsequently, in 1977 the **Chocolate Church Arts Center** was incorporated and received non-profit status. For 40 years now, while continuing to preserve its historic home, CCAC presents visual and graphic arts, a diverse offering of musical concerts, and theater performances, Cast and Crew's main focus.

About four years ago CCAC welcomed a new Executive Director, Jennifer DeChant, who has a background of 27 years of marketing, communications, and fundraising experience as well as a Master's degree in Business Administration. I asked her recently, *How is your background related to theater and the arts?*

She replied, “When I was 8, my mother bought us season tickets to our high school theater program. I fell in love with the entire experience. I believe strongly in the creative economy and the role it plays in Maine.”

And how did you become interested in the Chocolate Church?

“The Chocolate Church was part of the reason I bought a house in Bath. A performance arts center adds to the sense of place that makes Bath unique. As residents, we can walk or travel a short distance to experience quality music, theater, and variety shows.

“Prior to serving on the Board, I was aware of the high profile community leaders who guided the organization. As a board member, I recognized the unreached potential.

“Several years later I became the executive director at a pivotal time for the organization when there were severe challenges in funding, development, and community relations. I met with the Board to share a short-term and long-term approach to re-establishing the organization as the regional asset that it is.

“I have been surrounded with hard-working and dedicated volunteers. Together we have adopted a different business model, diversified revenue sources, and developed programming outreach that is more populous in nature. These efforts have received the support of local businesses.

“We operate on three guiding principles: 1) we do what we say we are going to do; 2) we buy what we can pay for; 3) we rise to the level of support from donors and community.”

How has that worked for you?

“Together we have made progress. For example, in recent seasons (September-June) we have had several sold-out shows. We more fully utilize the campus by programming in the Annex (100 seats) as well as the main stage (277 seats). We have better defined membership, improved donor relations, offered diverse programming, and addressed physical challenges of the facility. We have paid down 62% of the debt that existed and have not accumulated further debt. We have operated a budget in the black for the past fiscal years.



Jennifer DeChant

“We have engaged a building action committee comprised of builders, financiers, attorneys, and architect to address improvement and prioritize work. Through their guidance we replaced the furnace in the main stage, further insulated the annex, and continue to address projects that enhance the audience experience.”

Along with that, Ms. DeChant continued, “We are moving from being a venue focused on nationally known (and expensive) entertainers, to one that welcomes community involvement and provides a forum for local and regional talent,” including initiating “our own theater productions, shows chosen for their theatrical quality and for the opportunities they offer for community involvement. Our theater productions provide seasoned local actors as well as children and students the chance to perform and experience what only live theater can provide.”

One of those opportunities is the popular **Hot Chocolate Jubilee**, a community variety show that benefits the Chocolate

Church Arts Center. This year titled “Life Begins at 40” in celebration of the 40th anniversary of arts at CCAC, it takes the stage at 7 pm Thursday-Saturday, **March 30 – April 1, and at 2 pm on Sunday, April 2.** Wayne Otto is Master of Ceremonies and there will be singing, dancing, and comedy skits from the Jubilee Chorus. There will be music from special guests as well as returning Jubilee favorites Front Street Boys and the Tambo Line. Advance purchase of tickets is recommended online at www.chocolatechurcharts.org, by phone at (207) 442-8455, or at the box office at CCAC, 804 Washington St., Bath.



Chocolate Church Arts Center

Another anniversary will be celebrated in April when Thom Watson directs a concert version of JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR twenty years after its initial appearance on the CCAC main stage. Thom says, “Back in 1997 when I first had the privilege of directing this musical, I have to admit I was a little intimidated when I got the script and found it contains absolutely no stage directions, but I found that the story tells itself in beautiful music, and that is why it has withstood the test of time. When Marc Rodriguez and Mark McNeil came up with the idea of a reunion performance, my first thought was that we’d never find all the original cast – but I was wrong. Word got out quickly, and with very few exceptions, the entire 1997 cast was on board right away. They started rehearsing, in small groups at first, and the magic came back quickly. While I miss the costumes and scenery of a full production, I know the magic is in the music, and our concert version will deliver that in style.”

Mark McNeil directs the music and the band, as he did in 1997. Returning cast members include Ron Bouffard (Jesus), Gregory Charette (Judas), Teresa Henderson (Mary Magdalene), John York (Pontius Pilate), Sheldon Bird (Caiaphas), Sumner

Richards (Annas), Marc Rodriguez (Peter), Dennis Doiron (Simon the Zealot), and new to the cast Ben Proctor (King Herod).

Show times are April 14 at 7:30 pm and April 15 at 2 & 7:30 pm.



Cast of JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR, Chocolate Church Arts Center

And Shakespeare comes back to the Chocolate Church when John Willey directs THE TAMING OF THE SHREW with performances on the main stage May 5, 6, 12 & 13 at 7 pm and May 7 & 13 at 2 pm. Marc Rodriguez and Clay Hawks are assistant directors, and Melanie Willey is the stage manager. Heading the large cast are Mike Blakemore (Petruccio), Jeanette Wolfarth (Katerina), Peter Havas (Baptista Minola), Letia Fowlie (Bianca), Garret Coffey (Lucentio), Dennis Crews (Tranio), Nate Levesque (Hortensio), Kendray Rodriguez (Grumio), Vince Shatto (Gremio), Cathy Matero (Biondello), and Sue Blakemore (Widow).



ON GOLDEN POND, Chocolate Church Arts Center February production: Tracy Hall (Chelsea), Shirley Bernier (Ethel), and Peter Havas (Norman)

Now back to Jennifer DeChant, I asked what do you see for the future for the Chocolate Church Arts Center?

“All our efforts to build community, increase audience, and re-establish the role of the Chocolate Church is a pre-cursor to the capital campaign to repair the 170-year-old main stage. We will continue to strengthen our connection to the community and region. We will engage the community in our programming and outreach, based on feedback.”

Chocolate Church Arts Center

804 Washington St., Bath, ME

(207) 442-8455

www.chocolatechurcharts.org

Hot Chocolate Jubilee –Mar.30-Apr.2

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR-Apr.14-15

THE TAMING OF THE SHREW-May 5-13

HEARD IN THE GREEN ROOM

Monica Wood's *PAPERMAKER* took the stage at the Opera House, 131 Main St., Bangor, ME, when **Penobscot Theatre Company** opened it on Mar. 16 and it runs **through Apr. 2**. During a paper mill strike in a small Maine town the lives of two families collide, and tensions rise between a CEO and a union man who is keeping himself occupied building an ark in his backyard. In the cast are Portland-based James Herrera (Ernie Donahue), AJ Mooney (Marie Donahue), Daniel Kennedy (their son, Jake Donahue), Doug Meswarb (mill owner Henry McCoy), Emily Shain (his daughter, Emily), & Jennifer Shepard (neighbor Nancy Letourneau). Daniel Burson directed and the design team included Chez Cherry (scenic), Jonathan Spencer (lighting), Kevin Koski (costumes), Brandie Larkin (sound), & Belinda Hobbs (props). **Also on April 2 at 7 pm**, PTC presents an *All-Star Improv Cabaret* at the Bangor Opera House featuring these masters of improvisation: PTC's own Amy Roeder and Lizz Mathews, Dennis Price (founder & director of Capital City Improv), & Larrance Fingerhut and Jen Shepard from ImprovAcadia. Next in the company's regular season will be the Maine premiere of *I LOVED, I LOST, I MADE SPAGHETTI*, adapted by Jacques Lamarre from the memoir by Giulia Melucci, running Apr. 27 – May 14. A pasta dinner will be made from scratch on stage as "regrettable, relatable tales of a young woman's spoiled romances unfold." Visit www.penobscottheatre.org or call (207) 942-3333. Thirty-four performers aged 4 – 15 took part in the *PTC Dramatic Academy* March production of *THE NEVERENDING STORY* directed by Ben Layman.



PAPERMAKER, Penobscot Theatre Company: James Herrera (Ernie Donahue), Jennifer Shepard (Nancy Letourneau), and AJ Mooney (Marie Donahue) Photo by Magnus Stark

Cast Aside Productions is presenting the Maine premiere of *GUTENBERG! The Musical* by Anthony King & Scott Brown at Portland Ballet Studio Theater, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME, where it opened on Mar. 14 and has its final performances on **Mar. 31 & Apr. 1** at 8 pm. This is "the untold story of Johannes Gutenberg, inventor of the printing press." Visit www.castasideproductions.com or call (207) 691-2270.

Acorn Productions hosts *The Fool's Ball*, a benefit for Acorn and for the Maine Charitable Mechanics Association, in The Ballroom at Mechanics Hall, 519 Congress St., Portland, ME, on **April 1** with doors opening at 6 pm for a cash bar, then a short presentation by Herb Adams about the history of Mechanics Hall, and at 7 pm a *Phyzgig Variety Show* featuring Janoah Bailin, Sharoom Cohen, Norman Ng, Naked Shakespeare actors, Martin Steingesser, & special guest star *Avner the Eccentric*. At 8:30 pm enjoy swing dance lessons with Gillian Davis and at 9 pm dance to the music of Hadacol Bouncers. Visit www.acornproductions.wordpress.com.

Acorn Productions' *Naked Shakespeare* will be back at The Ballroom at Mechanics' Hall with Michael Levine's adaptations from Shakespeare scenes titled *A COMPENDIUM OF FLAMBOYANT*

SHYSTERS AND GARGANTUAN BLABBERMOUTHS on Apr. 7 & 8 at 7 pm. Then Acorn's 2017 *Maine Playwrights Festival*, curated by Dan Burson, will be at Portland Ballet Studio Theater, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, the weekends of Apr. 27 – May 7. The plays selected for this year's MPF include *CONNECTION* by David Vazdauskas, *ELWOOD'S LAST JOB* by Elaine Ford, *MIRACLES* by Ron Kanecke, *THE THING CAROL SAW* by John Manderino, *THE WILD HUNT* by Lynne Cullen, and *WALTER LIKES HENNY JUST FINE* by David Susman. A preview of the program prior to heading into the rehearsal process was on Mar. 25 when the plays were read to an audience at The Ballroom at Mechanics' Hall. FMI visit www.acorn-productions.org.

Cast & Crew is published bimonthly. Articles, photographs, and news are welcomed.

Editor: Muriel Kenderdine

Contributing Writers: Harlan Baker, Greg Titherington

Layout: Andre Kruppa

Advertising Rates: \$15 – 1/8 Page, \$25 – 1/4 Page, \$35 1/2 Page, \$45 – 3/4 Page, \$75 – Full Page

Deadlines for June 2017 Issue:

Articles, Photos, and Related Content:

May 24, 2017

Auditions Only: May 26, 2017

File Submission Guidelines

Articles: Please e-mail your articles as Microsoft Word Documents whenever possible. PDF files and Rich Text e-mails will also be accepted. If you need to use another format, please contact us.

Images: Please e-mail images as JPEG, GIF, or TIF files.

Cold Comfort Theater presents John Cariani's *ALMOST, MAINE* this weekend only at 7 pm **Mar.30 – Apr. 2** in the 400-seat theater of The Crosby (former Crosby High School) during its Grand Re-opening at 96 Church St., Belfast, ME. Artistic Director Aynne Ames directs with stage management by Bryan Spaulding. In the cast are Andre Blanchard, Julian Cross, Andrea Domenichelli, Maggie Goscinski, Nathaniel Gray, John Hamer, Chesley Lovell, Dana Wilson, & Dakota Wing. The group gave a preview show accompanied by luncheon at Rollie's in Belfast on March 26. Call (207) 930-7244 or for more information visit www.coldcomforttheater.com. Cold Comfort Theater celebrated "Theater in Our Schools" month on Mar. 13 by offering a free beginners' theater workshop for students at Belfast Area High School. The workshop was taught by Joe Goscinski of the Stella Adler Studio of Acting in NYC and focused on spoken word through poetry, looked at how to begin approaching a new text, & introduced students to Laban Movement.

Also this weekend only **The Daytime Players** will stage David Bery's *THE WHALES OF AUGUST* **Mar. 31 & Apr. 1 at 7:30, Apr. 2 at 2:30** pm. Performances will be at Saco River Theatre's Old White Church, Salmon Falls Rd., Bar Mills/Buxton, ME. Katy Marshall directs and Harley Marshall is the producer. In the cast are Penny Davis-Dublin (Sarah Webber), Muriel Kenderdine (Sarah's sister, Libby Strong), Sallie Chase (neighbor Tisha Doughty), Peter Allen (another

neighbor, Nikolai Maranov), & Harley Marshall (local handyman Joshua Brackett). Tickets at the door, cash or check.

Meanwhile, **The DTP** (visit them on Facebook) toured their current program of short plays by members to the Betsy Ross House in South Portland and 75 State Street in Portland in early March. Actors were Peter Allen, Sallie Chase, John Ersek, Barb Finn, Sally Hinckley, Paula Johnson, Anita Jones, Muriel Kenderdine, Harley Marshall, Katy Marshall, Anne Miller, & Helene Quint. The plays were OPEN MIC by Sally Hinckley; TWO LADIES PLAYING GO FISH by Jerry Walker; GOLDIE & THE URSINE FAMILY by Sally Hinckley; WHAT NOW? by Jerry Walker; TWINS by Sally Hinckley, OUR WEDDING by Katy & Harley Marshall; and TIN OF TUBE ROSE by Sandra Redding but adapted & performed by Helene Quint.

Lyric Music Theater's production of SPRING AWAKENING opened Mar. 17 and runs **through April 2**, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2:30, at 176 Sawyer St., South Portland, ME. Direction was by Jamie Lupien Swenson with musical direction by Bob Gauthier and choreography by Victoria Perreault. In the cast as 19th century teenagers are Eric Berry-Sandelin (Melchior), Jacob Boyce (Moritz), Caleb Streadwick (Hanschen), Ricky Brewster (Ernst), Seth Crockett (Georg), Richard Russell (Otto), Rachel Friedman (Wendla), Rachel Grindle (Isla), Alyssa Rojecki (Martha), Piper Kingston (Thea), & Helen Bellafiore (Anna). Mark Dils and Lynn Boren-McKellar play the adults. On April 29 join Lyric Theater for *A Night of Song and Dance!*, a fundraiser with a live and silent auction, delicious hors d'oeuvres, a complimentary glass of wine, and, of course, entertainment! Visit www.lyricmusictheater.org or call (207) 799-1421.

Portland Ovations has these upcoming performances (at Merrill Auditorium in Portland unless otherwise noted): the national tour of SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER at 8 pm on **March 31**; the *Ragamala Dance Company* on Apr. 13 at 7:30 pm at the Westbrook Performing Arts Center, 471 Stroudwater St., Westbrook, ME; the national tour of ANNIE at 6 pm on Apr. 27; and the national tour of PIPPIN at 2 & 8 pm on May 13. Call (207) 842-0800 or visit www.portlandovations.org.



BUYER & CELLAR, **Portland Stage Company** March production: Dustin Tucker (Alex)

Portland Stage Company Affiliate Artists are presenting workshops of plays in progress in the new *Studio Series Workshops* events: THE CAVE by Eleanor Burgess on **April 1** at 7:30 pm, directed by Todd Brian Backus – “As winters get colder and food gets scarce, a make-shift tribe of cavemen struggles to decide whether to remain in the

place they call home or head to greener pastures in the south -- exploring our relationship with nature, our place in the universe, and what relationships mean in a time of survival”; LOVE’S A BITCH written & directed by Dave Dalton (freely adapted from *Don Gil de las calzas verdes* by Tirso de Molina) on **April 3** at 7:30 pm, featuring Abigail Killeen -- “Dumped, abandoned, and humiliated, Dona Juana has been jilted by her boyfriend in favor of a richer woman in the big city, but she discovers what she’s really made of and shows that love can hurt, heal, and kick a little ass.” Visit www.portlandstage.org/studio-series.

Clauder winner Brenda Withers’ STRING AROUND MY FINGER is the next main stage production at **Portland Stage Company**, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, ME, where it runs at various times Tues-Sun. Apr. 4 – 23. “Emma and Kip are preparing for their upcoming wedding when a medical emergency upends their plans. As they careen through the halls of the local hospital, they are joined by a biting funny nurse, a helpful relative who is ready to run their lives, and the mysterious Mrs. Rizzo who offers sage advice.” The final show of the 2016-17 season is the 2013 Pulitzer Prize winner DISGRACED by Ayad Akhtar running May 2 – 21. “A high-powered New York attorney, Amir has climbed the corporate ladder while distancing himself from his Muslim roots. When he and his wife host an Upper East Side dinner party, what starts as a friendly conversation escalates, shattering their views on race, religion, and each other.” Call (207) 774-0465 or visit www.portlandstage.org.

On Mar. 7 the *Portland Stage Affiliate Artists* gave a reading of Lisa Carey’s THE STOLEN CHILD as part of the *Longfellow’s Shorts* series. The novel is “haunting and luminous...set on an enchanted island off the west coast of Ireland where magic, faith, and superstition pervade the inhabitants’ lives and tangled relationships.” PSC’s March production of Jonathan Tolins’ BUYER & CELLAR, starring that incomparable master of character quick change in all the roles, Dustin Tucker, was directed by Kate Galvin with set design by Meg Anderson, lighting by Andrew Hungerford, sound by Seth Asa Sengel, costume design by Kathleen Payton Brown, & stage management by Myles C. Hatch.

Patrick Dorow Productions is presenting CATS at the Star Theatre in the Kittery Community Center, 120 Rogers Rd., Kittery, ME, where it opened in mid-March and runs **through April 2** at 8 pm Fri., 3 & 8 pm Sat., and 5 pm Sun. Visit www.patrickdorowproductions.com.

Presque Isle Community Players present the Aroostook County premiere of LAST GAS by Presque Isle native John Cariani on Mar. 31, April 1, 7, & 8 at the Auditorium at Wieden Hall on the UMaine Presque Isle campus. Barbara Frick-Ladner directs and in the cast are Jeff Ashby, Jim Derosier, Tamia Glidden, Jake Graham, Sherry Sullivan, & Adam Swanson. Part of the proceeds will benefit the renovations to the Auditorium at Wieden Hall. Tickets at the door or in advance at the Aroostook Centre Mall & the UMPI Campus Center.



Dancers of **Maine State Ballet** in SWAN LAKE Photo by C. C. Church

Maine State Ballet opened the classical ballet SWAN LAKE on the stage of their Lopez Theater, 348 US Rte One, Falmouth, ME, on Mar. 24, and it continues through Apr. 9, Fri. at 7 pm, Sat. at 2 & 7, Sun. at 2 pm. Much of the sacrosanct standard choreography by Petipa and Ivanov has been retained plus original choreography by Artistic Director Linda MacArthur Miele. Principal dancers include Rhiannon Pelletier and Veronica Druchniak, who share the role of Odette/Odile, the Swan Queen; Nathaniel Dombek and Glenn Davis who share the role of Prince Siegfried; Robert Shelley, Zsuzsa Williams, & Ron Trell (Court Jester, Queen, & Tutor, respectively, at Siegfried's court); Frederick Bernier (evil sorcerer Count Von Rothbart), Lucy Denton and Kallee Gallant (Lead Swans); Glenn Davis & Janet Davis (Hungarian Prince & Princess). Visit www.mainestateballet.org or call (207) 781-7MSB.

Bangor-based **Robinson Ballet Company** will present EXTENSIONS, original works by Artistic Director Stevie McGary, at the Brewer Performing Arts Center, 92 Pendleton St., Brewer, ME, **Apr. 1** at 7 pm & **Apr. 2** at 3. Call (207) 200-5447. Members of the company will dance in WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE at Brewer Performing Arts Center on May 6 & 7 at 3 pm; then on May 12 at 3 pm they will perform at The Grand, 165 Main St., Ellsworth, ME, as part of The Grand's *Performance for Children Series*. For The Grand call (207) 667-9500.

Mad Horse Theatre Company, 24 Mosher St., South Portland, ME, opened THE LAST DAYS OF JUDAS ISCARIOT by Stephen Adly Gurgis on Mar. 23 and it continues through Apr. 9, Thurs-Sat. at 7:30 pm, Sun. at 2 pm. Stacey Koloski directed with set/prop design by Meg Anderson, lighting by Corey Anderson, costumes by Lauren Tudor, sound by Jacob Cote, & stage management by Benn May assisted by Mary Michels. Jennifer Halm-Perazone is the production manager. In the cast are Christine Louise Marshall (Henrietta Iscariot/Sister Glenna), Jason LeSaldo (Jesus of Nazareth), Nicholas Schroeder (Judas Iscariot), Marie Stewart Harmon (Gloria/Mary Magdalene), Burke Brimmer (Judge Littlefield/St. Matthew/Caiaphas), Sean Senior (Bailiff), Janice Gardner (Fabiana Aziza Cunningham), Mark Rubin (Yusef El-Fayoumy), Erica Murphy (St. Monica), Tootie Van Reenan (Loretta/Mother Teresa), Caleb Aaron Coulthard (Uncle Pino/Pontius Pilate), Jody McColman (Butch Honeywell), Mandela Gardner (Matthias of Galilee/St. Thomas), Khalil LeSaldo (Simon the Zealot/St. Peter), Brent Askari (Satan), & Tony Reilly (Sigmund Freud). Next for the company will be MR. BURNS, A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY by Annie Washburn. Performances will be May 4 – 21, Thurs.-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2. Call (207) 747-4148 or visit www.madhorse.com.

L/A Community Little Theatre, Great Falls Art Center, 30 Academy St., Auburn, ME, opens GYPSY on Mar. 31 and it continues through Apr. 9, Fri-Sat. & Thurs. Apr. 6 at 7:30, Sun. at 2 pm. Paul Caron directs with musical direction by Rebecca Caron, & choreography by Adam Blais. Jackie McDonald is the producer. Call (207) 783-0958 or visit www.laclt.com.

Horton Foote's THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL closes the 2016-17 season of **Good Theater**, running Mar. 29 - Apr. 30 at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland, ME, Wed-Thurs. at 7, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 3 & 7:30, Sun. at 2. In the cast are Louisa Flaningam (Carrie Watts), Chris Holt (her son, Ludie Watts), Amy Roche (his wife, Jessie Mae Watts), Hannah Daly (Thelma), Michael Kimball, Glenn Anderson, Craig Capone, Griff Kimball, Val Bramble, Claire McDougald, & David Vincent. Artistic Director Brian P. Allen directs with set design by Francis Lamothe, costumes by Justin Cote, lighting by Iain Odlin, sound by Steve Underwood, technical direction by Craig Robinson, props and scenic artistry by Cheryl Dolan, & stage management by Michael Lynch. Call (207) 885-5883 or visit www.goodtheater.com.

The Crowbait Club's monthly *Theater Death Match* of newly written short plays will be on Apr. 5 (the topic is "Please") & May 3 at Portland Ballet Studio Theater, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME, meeting at 7:30 with an 8 pm start. FMI visit www.thecrowbaitclub.org. The

March 1 theme was "Sex" and the host was Michael Tooher. The plays read (chosen at random by the Playwrights Sorting Device) were NO PHISH by Elizabeth Freeman (winner Best Play), GINGER WORRIES by Charlie Cole (runner-up Best Play), ALT RIGHT TURNS GAY by James Melanson, STUPID BASTARD by Michael Kimball, WHERE'S THE GOVERNOR? by Chalmers Hardenberg, SEX AND DEATH IN VENICE by Richard Sewell, WHITE GLOVES by Hal Cohen, DEAD LEAVES by Lynne Cullen, 2nd VERSE, SAME AS THE FIRST by Paul Dervis, THE PERSECUTION & ASSASSINATION OF PHILLIP SEYMOUR HOFFMAN AS PERFORMED BY THE INMATES OF EBBETS FIELD UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MARILYN MONROE by Eric Darrow Worthley. Best Actor finalists were Rebecca Cole (winner), Kim Gordon, & Kate Michaud.

The Crowbait Club February theme was "Broken Promises," hosted by Charlie Cole. The 10 plays chosen by the Playwright Sorting Device to be performed were GRILL by Seth Berner, PROMISES by Payne Ratner, CHANGELING by John Bowker, WASPS IN G MINOR by Lynne Cullen, KNIFE TALE by Michael Tooher, A BITTER SYNCOPATION by Rebecca Cole, ABOUT MIKE by Elizabeth Miller, KEEP YOUR PROMISE by David Body, SPIRITED DISCUSSION by Tony Morin, & ARTHUR TO GUINEVERE AT AMESBURY by Eric Darrow Worthley. The evening's winning play was CHANGELING by John Bowker (runner-up SPIRITED DISCUSSION by Tony Morin); Best Actor Randy Hunt (runner-up Sara Dolstead).

Although their dates don't come up until later, this might be a good time to tell you about a similar group, **The Thread Theater**, that meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (new date from previous meetings) at the Franco Center in its Heritage Hall Clubhouse, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston, ME. The doors open at 6:30 and the show starts at 7:30 pm (\$5 entrance fee for everyone including playwrights & actors). All who would like to write plays are invited to enter their work. Plays or scenes need to be 10 minutes or less in length. Playwrights are responsible for bringing enough copies of the play for all required actors and a copy to submit; they are also responsible for any needed props. Plays will be drawn at random and performed in two acts: 5 in the first act, 5 in the second. The March 15 theme was "A Good Year" and Jay Barrett was the host. FMI visit www.facebook.com/thethreadtheater.

Lincoln Theater, 2 Theater St., Damariscotta, ME, will screen these *UK National Theatre Live* productions: TWELFTH NIGHT on Apr. 6 at 2 & 7; and ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD on Apr. 20 at 2 & 7. The series continues in June and July – see the Theater Listings. FMI call (207) 563-3424. Resident theater company **Lincoln County Community Theater's** March production of MARY POPPINS in 3 concert performances featured Victoria Hamilton in the title role with Roosevelt Bishop as Bert, Joel Biron as Mr. Banks, Emily Mirabile as Mrs. Banks, Emme Harris as Jane Banks, & Andrew Lyndaker as Michael Banks.

David LaGrafte's **Portland Playback Theatre's First Friday Series** (for everyone) continues Apr. 7 & May 5 at CTN5, 516 Congress St., Portland, ME, with doors opening at 7, show at 7:30. The *Third Friday Series* (for grownups only) continues Apr. 21 & May 19. The Feb. 17 theme was "Solitude" with Meg Christie conducting and actors Geep Amara, David LaGrafte, Erin Curren, & Colin O'Leary. The March 3 theme was "Mesmerized." Kym Dakin conducted and the actors were Geep Amara, Marcia Pitcher, Oren Stevens, Erin Curren, & Colin O'Leary. On Mar. 17 with the theme of "Hooked," David LaGrafte conducted and actors were Colin O'Leary, Kym Dakin, Marcia Pitcher, Oren Stevens, & Meg Christie. FMI on the company visit www.portlandplayback.com.

At **Portland Players**, 420 Cottage Rd., South Portland, ME, THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE took the stage on Mar. 24 and continues through Apr. 9, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2:30 pm. Paul Bell directed this play by Jay Presson Allen, adapted from the book by Muriel Spark. In the cast are Megan Cross in the title role as a teacher in a

girls' school between World Wars I & II, Lynne White (Miss MacKay), Zack Handlen (Mr. Lloyd), Schuyler White (Mr. Lowther), Tara Golson (Sandy), Brittany Burke (Jenny), Zara Boss (Mary), Amelia McNeil-Maddox (Monica), & Rebecca Cole (Sister Helena). Next Michael Donovan directs ROCK OF AGES, which will run May 19 – June 14, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2:30 pm. Visit www.portlandplayers.org or call (207) 799-7337.



ROMEO AND JULIET, **Portland Players** Jan/February production: (clockwise from left) Sarah Kennedy (Lady Capulet), Charlie Marengi (Capulet), and Emma Payton Cooper (Juliet) *Photo by Tom Scannell*

THE LITTLE MERMAID takes over the main stage at **Waterville Opera House**, 1 Common St., Waterville, ME, Mar. 31 – Apr. 9, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 2 & 7:30, Sun. at 2 pm. Call (207) 873-7000 or visit www.operahouse.com.

The **Open Book Players** perform at Johnson Hall, 280 Water St., Gardiner, ME, with DANDELION WINE on Apr. 8 at 7:30 & Apr. 9 at 2 pm. Artistic Director Lucy Rioux directs. OBP returns to Johnson Hall with *Once Upon a Time* on May 20 at 7:30 & May 21 at 2 pm. Call (207) 582-7144.



COCKTAILS AND TRAVAILS, **The Theater Project** February production: Mark Rubin (Prof. Greg) and Keith Antcil (his brother, Dylan)

In collaboration with the community **The Theater Project** takes the stage at 14 School St., Brunswick, ME with ANZACS: LEST WE FORGET by Michele Livermore Wigton Apr. 6 – 15, Thurs. at 7:30, Fri-Sat. at 8, Sun. at 2. “Based on *The Anzacs: 100 Years On* by Ted Egan, this new play tells the story of the beginnings of a formidable fighting force – the Australia and New Zealand Army Corps, formed in 1915, exploring the extreme conditions of war in the 20th century, and the effects of battle on the ANZACS and those who waited for them at home.” Mr. Egan, who is listed among “Australia’s Living Treasures” and has been recording songs and writing about the spirit of the Australian people for 40 years, has allowed the Theater Project to use his music, words, & family history to produce this new work. The *Center Stage Players* return with Reader’s Theater on May 13 & 14. All performances are pay-what-you-want. Visit www.theaterproject.com or call (207) 729-8584. Wendy Poole directed the March premiere of Jim Adolf’s MOTHER’S HELPER about 12-year-old Natalie, who is taking care of her baby cousin for the summer on an isolated Maine island when she discovers a dangerous secret.

Acadia Community Theater will offer SHREK: The Musical Apr. 7 – 9, Fri-Sat. at 7, Sun. at 2 at Mt. Desert Island High School, 1081 Eagle Lake Rd., Bar Harbor, ME; & Apr. 14 – 15 at 7 pm at The Criterion Theater, 35 Cottage St., Bar Harbor. Mark Puglisi directs with musical direction by Vivian Hyde & Annie Leonardi-Merchant, and stage management by Angel Hochman. Doug Van Gorder is the producer. Heading the very large cast are Jeff Servatas (Shrek), Christina Longstreath (Princess Fiona), Jon Wood (Donkey), Brian Booher (Lord Farquad), Julie Creed (Dragon), & Danielle Shepard (Gingy). Call (207) 288-0829 or visit www.acadiacommunitytheater.net.

Houlton Star Bright Children’s Theatre invites you to bring the children to hear about Mowgli, the young boy raised by wolves, and his friends, Baloo the bear, Bagheera the panther & Kaa the python, and their adventures in THE JUNGLE BOOK at the Community Arts Center, Bird St., Houlton, ME, Apr. 7 at 6 pm & Apr. 8 at 1 pm. Tickets at the door.

Jerry Walker directs Neil Simon’s PLAZA SUITE with performances at the **Schoolhouse Arts Center**, 16 Richville Rd. (just north of the intersection of Rtes 114 & 35), Standish, ME, Apr. 7 – 23, Fri-Sat at 7:30, Sun. at 2. The play is in three scenes: “Visitor From Mamaroneck” with Terri Plummer and Chris Roberts as Karen & Sam Nash, and Jon Bolduc (bellhop/waiter) & Crickett Cote (Jean McCormack); “Visitor From Hollywood” with Gerald Davis (Jesse Kiplinger), Mia Perron (Muriel Tate), & Jon Bolduc (waiter); “Visitor From Forest Hills” with Teresa Dyer (Norma Hubley), Tom Ferrant (Roy Hubley), Jon Bolduc (Bordon Eisler), & Rachael Scala (Mimsey Hubley). The production crew includes set design by Walker & Danny Gay, lighting design by Danny Gay, props by Patrice Foley-Olsen, & stage management by Sue Voinche. Next see the kids in MULAN JR. May 19 at 7, May 20 at 2 & 7, May 21 at 2 pm. Call (207) 642-3743 or visit www.schoolhouseartscenter.org.

Everyman Repertory Theatre will offer Lanford Wilson’s TALLEY’S FOLLY at the Rockport Opera House, 6 Central St., Rockport, ME, in weekend performances starting at 7 pm on Apr. 8 – 23. “At the end of World War II, Matt Friedman, a Jewish immigrant who has spent his life keeping others at a distance, returns to the small town where he first met Sally Talley. Nothing like her conservative Protestant family and neighbors, Sally is a nurse with deep misgivings about the country’s future. After a lifetime of believing they’ll never truly belong in the world around them, Matt has worked up the courage to ask Sally for her hand and convince her that they do belong – together.” In the cast are Ryan Jackson as Matt and River Lombardi as Sally. FMI visit www.everymanrep.org or call (207) 236-0173. ERT’s third staged reading at the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland was on March 4: ANIMALS OUT OF PAPER by Rajiv Joseph. “Andy, a high school teacher and avid fan, pressures the reclusive Ilana, a world-famous origami artist, into becoming an unwitting mentor to a troubled teenage prodigy named Suresh. These three intriguingly

flawed characters begin to reshape and mold each other's lives in much the same way they fold and crease their paper art." Jennifer Hodgson directed and the actors were Eva Hopkins (Ilana), Robbie Carroll (Suresh), & Scott Anthony Smith (Andy).

The **Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine**, 142 Free St., Portland, ME, will offer THE LITTLE MERMAID, adapted by Jennifer Reck from the original Hans Christian Andersen story, Apr. 13, 22, & 28 at 4 pm; Apr. 14, 15, 21, 23, & 29 at 1 & 4 pm; Apr. 19 & 20 at 11 am & 2 pm. Allison McCall directed. Visit www.kitetails.org or call (207) 828-1234 Ext.247. (We hear that CMTM has outgrown its Free Street building and may relocate to Thompson's Point on the Fore River in Portland, possibly breaking ground next year with a possible opening in 2020.)



THE NAKED TRUTH, **The Footlights in Falmouth** March production: Cindy O'Neil (Liz), Jeffrey Gillenwater (George), Justin Gifford (Clark), and Leslie Chadbourne (Jane)

The Footlights Theater, 190 US Rte One, Falmouth, ME, presents LIVE! LOVE! LAUGH! Apr. 13 – 29, Thurs. at 7, Fri-Sat. at 7:30. Artistic Director Michael J. Tobin wrote the play and directs. Featured are the "Hot Flash" Ladies Nancy Durgin, Cheryl Reynolds, & Gretchen Wood. "The 'Porch Sisters' are best friends since childhood, enjoying life's adventures as only a family of friends can – but age and circumstances are bringing their predictable way of life to an unpredictable forefront." Next will be the USA premiere of CLOUDBURST by American-Canadian writer Thom Fitzgerald, which will run May 4 – 20, Thurs. at 7, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, and also in celebration of PRIDE Portland June 6 – 15, Tues-Thurs. at 7 pm. In this heartwarming comedy, Stella and Dot have been together for 31 years through life's ups and downs. Now in their 70's, Stella is hard of hearing and Dot is legally blind. Dot's conservative granddaughter refuses to accept that they are "a couple" and visits them with a court order that allows her to move Dot into a nursing home. "This forces Stella and Dot to make a bold decision: they will leave their hometown in Maine and make their way to Canada, where same-sex marriage is legal. En route to Canada, they pick up a young, free-spirited hitchhiker, who is returning to Nova Scotia to visit his dying mother. Despite his bravado, the young man has much to learn from Stella and Dot. CLOUDBURST focuses on life-long relationships." Call (207) 747-5434 or visit www.thefootlightsinfalmouth.com.

The Footlights' March production, Rich Orloff's THE NAKED TRUTH, was about an older couple who inherited a clothing-optional resort & its colorful staff in Key West. In the cast were Cindy O'Neil & Jeffrey Gillenwater (Liz and George, the couple), Justin Gifford (Clark, the clerk at the Godiva Inn), Leslie Chadbourne (Jane, all-around handyman), and Michael Tobin (Fred, prospective buyer for the inn), who also directed the play).

Lynne Cullen's *Seanachie Nights* continues with the best of Celtic and other traditional stories and music at 7 pm Apr. 17 & May 15 at Bull Feeney's Irish Pub/Restaurant, 375 Fore St., Portland, ME. Storyteller Lorraine Martin-Gelardi will entertain you on Apr. 17; and actor/storyteller Libby Franck returns for the 9th time on May 15. FMI

contact Lynne at thetwacorbies@yahoo.com or (207) 805-1062. Also visit www.lynnecullen.com.



The Cast of OKLAHOMA, Monmouth Community Players

Josie French directs OKLAHOMA for **Monmouth Community Players** with performances Apr. 21 – 30, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2, at the historic Cumston Hall, Main St., Monmouth, ME. Musical direction is by John Neal and choreography by Melissa Guimond. Heading the large cast are Joshua Oakes (Curly), Sarah Flagg (Laurey), John Lipovsky (Jud Fry), Jeanne Fletcher (Aunt Eller), Megan Record (Ado Annie), Danny Gay (Will Parker), Ray Fletcher (Ali Hakim), Henry Quintal (Andrew Carnes), & Karen Lipovsky (Gertie). A few of those in the large ensemble are Dan Allard, Michael Dolan, Carol Griffiths, Elaine Katz, Ginger Smith, & Andy Tolman. Call 800-838-3006 or visit www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org.

Bangor-based **Some Theatre Company** will stage SPRING AWAKENING at Keith Anderson Community House, 19 Bennoch Rd., Orono, ME, Apr. 21 – 30, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 2 & 7:30, Sun. at 2 pm. Elaine Bard directs with musical direction by Christina Belknap, choreography by Becca Hodgdon, & lighting design by Gerry Bard. In the cast are Logan Bard (Melchior), Robert Brangwynne (Moritz), Daniel Legere (Georg), Jacob Sutherland (Hanschen), Jacob Siegel (Ernst), Zach Comeau (Otto), Silvia Baxter (Wendla), Hannah Box (Martha), Sarah Smaha (Ilse), Erryn Bard (Anna), Taylor Lavoie (Thea), Logan Tripp (Melitta), Sam Kunz (adult male), & Corissa Bither (adult woman). Tickets at the door or online at www.sometheatrecompany.com. Elaine Bard also directed the company's March production of John Pielmeier's AGNES OF GOD. Actors were Logan Tripp (Agnes), Nancy Nicholson (Mother Miriam Ruth), & Moira Beale (Dr. Livingstone).

Bill Raiten directs **New Surry Theatre's** production of FIDDLER ON THE ROOF at Blue Hill Town Hall Theater, Blue Hill, ME, Apr. 21, 22, 28, & 29 at 7, Apr. 23 & 30 at 3 pm. (This show will be reprised Jul. 28 – Aug. 12.) Call (207) 200-4720. This is New Surry's 45th season and is a special one since it marks the retirement of long-time Artistic Director Raiten. Although retiring from directing, Raiten will continue to teach in the Performing Arts School. The season's shows are his favorites over the years and especially FIDDLER, which was the first show that he directed and produced with NST.

The *Metropolitan Opera Live* will close the 2016-17 season with these operas: Tchaikovsky's EUGENE ONEGIN Apr. 22 at 12:55 pm; and Richard Strauss's DER ROSENKAVALLIER May 13 at 12:30 pm.

Here is the contact information for venues offering this series (be sure to check with your local venue for the times and also because some will have changes in dates in order to fit in with their other scheduled events): **The Grand**, Ellsworth, ME, www.grandonline.org, (207) 667-9500; **The Strand**, Rockland, ME, (207) 594-0070, www.rocklandstrand.com; **Brunswick 10 Cinema**, Cook's Corner, Brunswick, ME, (207) 798-4505; **Lincoln Theater**, Damariscotta, ME, (207) 563-3434, www.atthelincnoln.org; **Collins Center for the Arts**, Orono, ME, (207) 581-1755, www.collinscenterforthearts.com; **Eastman Performing Arts Center**, Fryeburg, ME, (207) 935-9232, www.fryeburgacademy.org; **Waterville Opera House**, 1 Common St., Waterville, ME, (207) 873-7000, www.operahouse.com; **Capitol**

Center for the Arts, Concord, NH, www.ccanh.com, (603) 225-1111; **The Music Hall**, Portsmouth, NH, www.themusic hall.org, (603) 436-2400.

Heartwood Regional Theater Company presents Sarah Ruhl's EURYDICE at the Parker B. Poe Theater, Lincoln Academy, 81 Academy Hill Rd., Newcastle, ME, Apr. 27 – 29 at 7:30 pm, Apr. 30 at 3, & May 4 – 6 at 7:30. The playwright reimagines the myth about Orpheus from the point of view of Eurydice, who dies too young on her wedding day and must visit the underworld, where she reunites with her father and tries to remember her lost love. Griff Braley directs. The cast includes Gina D'Arco in the title role with Austin Olive (Orpheus), Clifford Blake (Father), Steven Shema (Nasty Interesting Man/Lord of the Underworld), Joe Lugosch (Big Stone), & Mary Boothby (Little Stone). Call (207) 563-1373 or visit www.heartwoodtheater.org.



GALLERY: The Choreographers' Work, **Portland Ballet Company** dancers in *From the Cracks* in the PBC March production *Photo by Justin Day*

Portland Ballet will dance Act II of SWAN LAKE & Other Scenes from a Mixed Repertoire at the Westbrook Performing Arts Center, 471 Stroudwater St., Westbrook, ME, Apr. 28 at 7:30 & Apr. 29 at 2 pm. Visit www.portlandballet.org or call (207) 772-9671. In Portland Ballet's March dance production of GALLERY: The Choreographers' Work, two of the dances were choreographed by Savannah Lee: "Half of Me" and "Dream Catcher" (which had winged costumes by Amy Baxter). Also on the program were Annie Kloppenberg's "Expert Witness" and Fernando Ramos Cintron's "From the Cracks." Dancers were Erica Diesl, Kaitlyn Hayes, Kelsey Harrison, Jane Howard, Jennifer Jones, Savannah Lee, & Eliana Trenam.

PEACE, LOVE & ZOO, a film directed by **Reginald Groff**, was named best feature documentary in January in its first festival, the AARF *International Film Fest* in Berlin, Germany. The featured attraction in this year's *Emerge Film Festival*, which will run April 27 – 29 at various venues in the Lewiston/Auburn area, it will be shown at 7 pm on April 29 at The Dolard & Priscilla Gendron Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston, ME. The film "tells the story of Zoo Cain, a colorful and prolific abstract artist. A former addict who has been sober for more than 25 years, Cain has devoted his life to helping others with their addictions." Both Cain and Groff are expected to be at the screening. Ramsey Tripp, president of the Emerge Film Festival, says the film "is about a local Portland artist who is just a wonderful person who has lived an amazing life."

The Originals will present CHAPATTI by Christian O'Reilly at Saco River Theatre, Salmon Falls Rd., Bar Mills/Buxton, ME, Apr. 21, 22, & 27 – 29 at 7:30 pm, Apr. 23 at 2:30 pm. Dana Packard and Jennifer Porter star in this story about two lonely animal lovers in Dublin, Ireland, who meet through a chance encounter. But Dan has his beloved dog, Chapatti, and Betty has 19 cats. Can they overcome their differences and find love? Call (207) 929-5412 or visit www.sacorivertheatre.org.

PortOpera, founded as Portland Opera Repertory Theater, has changed its name to **Opera Maine** to reflect its presence as a professional

opera company throughout the state. The main stage production of Verdi's LA TRAVIATA will be at Merrill Auditorium in Portland July 26 & 28. Meanwhile, the season opened on March 26 with a concert by Mainer **Kate Aldrich**, renowned mezzo-soprano of the Metropolitan Opera, La Scala, San Francisco, & more, accompanied by Martin Perry. Coming up on May 2 will be the first *Serenade*, a series of opera concerts in homes or other special venues. FMI visit www.operamaine.com.

Midcoast Youth Theater will present Disney's THE LITTLE MERMAID at the Crooker Theater, 116 Maquoit Rd., Brunswick, ME, May 4 – 7. Chris Holmes directs with musical direction by Courtney Babbidge. Sheryl Palese is the producer. Visit www.midcoastyouththeater.org or get tickets at the door.

ACAT Theatre (Aqua City Actors Theatre) will stage 6 one-act comic plays in the Studio Theater at The Center, 93 Main St., Waterville, ME, May 5 & 6 at 7:30, May 7 at 2 pm. The plays: LIVES OF THE GREAT WAITRESSES by Nina Shengold, directed by Stephanie Irwin; THE PHILADELPHIA by David Ives, directed by Juli Brooks & Keith Libold; THE BATTLE OF BULL RUN ALWAYS MAKES ME CRY by Carole Real, directed by Doree Austin; THE POORLY-WRITTEN PLAY FESTIVAL by Carolyn Gage, directed by Joe Klapatch; SURE THING by David Ives, directed by Doree Austin; and LIP SERVICE by Bradley Hayward, directed by Stephanie Irwin. Actors are Doree Austin, Kalyn Black, Marie Cormier, Tim Croce, Jen Day, Nathaniel Grindstaff, Heidi Holst, Erik Hyatt, Sarah Johnson, Ben Keene, Robyn King, Karen LaPlante, Uri Lessing, Emilienne Ouellette, James Paine, Nikki Porter, Michael Pullen, Kathy Reardon, Bart Shattuck, & Jeralyn Shattuck. Email info@acattheatre.org.



WRONG FOR EACH OTHER, **The Public Theatre** March production: Lee Fitzpatrick (Norah) and Jason Cadieux (Rudy)

RIPCORD by David Lindsay-Abaire closes the 2016-17 season at **The Public Theatre**, 31 Maple St., Lewiston, ME, May 5 – 14, Thurs-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2, with the Social Saturday matinee on the second Saturday at 3 pm, and pre-show wine tasting at 6:30 before the Thursday, May 11, performance. Think of The Golden Girls meets The Odd Couple as two widows wage war with each other over the most desirable room in a retirement home! Visit www.thepublictheatre.org or

call (207) 782-3200. The Public's March production of Norm Foster's **WRONG FOR EACH OTHER** was directed by Christopher Schario with Jason Cadieux (Rudy) & Lee Fitzpatrick (Norah) as the on-again-off-again-on-again lovers.

Ben Layman directs **CINDERELLA**, a youth production at **Center Theatre for Performing Arts**, 20 E. Main St., Dover-Foxcroft, ME, with performances the weekends of May 5 – 14. Call (207) 564-8943 or visit www.centertheatre.org.



ARMS AND THE MAN, **Pie Man Theatre** February production: Emily Grotz (Raina) and Josh Brassard (Bluntschli) Photo by Craig Robinson

Pie Man Theatre Company will stage Kevin O'Leary's **LASCAUX** at Mayo Street Arts, 10 Mayo St., Portland, ME, May 11 – 21, Thurs-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2. Stephanie Ross directs. The play "riff's off the true story of four French teenagers coming upon the Lascaux cave, a treasure trove of ancient art in southwestern France in September 1940 while searching for a lost dog." O'Leary's story is a thriller focusing on two of the boys, Marcel Ravidat & Simon Coencas, and is set in a fictional 1983 when Ravidat is French minister of culture and is summoned by a psychologist to an isolated chateau where she is administering to the care of Coencas, thus awakening long-buried skeletons in this fictional Ravidat's closet. Did Ravidat try to kill his friend long ago? Visit www.piemantheatre.org. On Feb. 21 as part of Pie Man's *Dark Night Development Series*, there was a dramatic reading of **HARRY JAMESON**, a new play by Hal J. Cohen. This was followed by a talk-back hosted by Anna Cranage Conathan, particularly requesting audience feedback since the theater company plans to produce the play in the spring of 2018. Actors in the reading were Chris Davis, Amanda Painter, Corey M. Gagne, Angela Moline, Josh Brassard, & Chip Morris.

Sparrow's Nest Theater, Rte. 148, 1114 West Mills Rd, Industry, ME, will present Robert Harling's **STEEL MAGNOLIAS** May 11 – 14. Call (207) 696-4323. FMI visit them on Facebook.



PUMP BOYS AND DINETTES, **Biddeford City Theater** March production: Joel Crowley (Jim), Sara Sturdivant (Prudie), Kevin Smith (L.M.), Kelsey Franklin (Rhett), and Jason Phillips (Eddie) Photo by Audra Haich

STEEL MAGNOLIAS will also be staged by **City Theater**, 205 Main St., Biddeford, ME, May 12 – 21, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2. Visit www.citytheater.org or call (207) 282-0849.

Vivid Motion, that quirky dance company, will present **THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME** in dance form at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland, ME, May 12 – 14. Call (207) 775-5568.

The **Bangor Ballet** will dance to *Schubert Waltzes and Paquita Variations* May 13 at the Husson College Gracie Theatre, 1 College Circle, Bangor, ME (call 207-941-7888); and on May 21 at Center Theatre for Performing Arts, 20 E. Main St., Dover-Foxcroft, ME (207-564-8943).

Portland-based actor/playwright **Brent Askari** has been notified that his play **PROTECTING THE INNOCENT**, which was produced by The Crowbait Club with Cory King and Mnemosyne Heileman and directed by Jody McColman, has been chosen to be part of the 2017 Boston Theater Marathon. He reported that three other playwrights, also nurtured by The Crowbait Club, have had their plays chosen as well: **Anna Cranage Conathan, Josh Brassard, & Delvyn Case, Jr.** The *Boston Theater Marathon XIX*, presented by Boston Playwrights' Theatre, will offer 10-minute plays by 50 playwrights on May 14 at Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., starting at noon and winding up at 10 pm, followed by a party!

Ogunquit Playhouse, Rte One, Ogunquit, ME, will open their 2017 season with **MAMMA MIA** with performances starting on May 17 and running through July 1. Visit www.ogunquitplayhouse.org or call (207) 646-5511.

The *Staged Reading Series* at **Opera House Arts, Stonington, ME**, continues on May 19 & 21 with **ANTIGONICK** by Anna Carson. This is a new poetic adaptation of Sophocles' **ANTIGONE**. Producing Artistic Director Meg Taintor directs. Visit www.operahousearts.org or call (207) 367-2788. When **OHA** presented a staged reading of Jordan Harrison's **MARJORIE PRIME** the last weekend in February with Jon Ellsworth, Elizabeth Audley, Joshua McCarey, and beloved local actor Cherie Mason in the title role, after the Sunday performance everyone gathered in the theater to celebrate Cherie Mason's 90th birthday! Happy Birthday, Cherie!

The spring show for **Windham Center Stage**, 8 School Rd., Windham, ME, is Disney's **HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL** on May 26 & June 2 at 7, May 27 & June 3 at 2 & 7. Mary Wassick directs with musical direction by Patrick Martin. Call (207) 893-2098 or visit www.windhamtheater.org.

Storm Warnings Repertory Theatre presents **ELEPHANT** by award-winning playwright David Gow at the Brick Store Performing Arts Center, 117 Main St., Kennebunk, ME, at 7:30 pm May 26, 27, June 2 & 3. Paul Darvis directs. Visit www.stormwarningstheatre.com or call (207) 441-8163.

At the colleges, the **University of New Hampshire** in Durham, NH, presents the UNH Dance Company in **CINDERELLA**, choreographed by Assaf Benchetrit & Susan Endrizzi, and **OOH, LA PAREE!**, choreographed by Gay Nardone & Mary Beth Marino, in the Johnson Theatre at Paul Creative Arts Center, 30 Academic Way, **Mar. 29 – Apr. 1** at 7 & **Apr. 2** at 2 pm. Then Aimee Blessing directs **7 BOXES OF BOOKS**, a devised piece created by the cast in a collaboration between the UNH Theatre & Dance Department and Mask & Dagger Dramatic Society, which will take the stage at the Hennessy Theatre, also at Paul Creative Arts Center Apr. 19 – 22 at 7 & Apr. 23 at 2 pm. 150 years ago a field with a stone building became what is known today as the University of New Hampshire -- that building and 7 boxes of books are what planted the roots for UNH. **FIRST DATE**, part of the *Studio Musical Series*, will be on stage at the Hennessy Theatre Apr. 28 – 30 at 7, followed on May 2 at 7 pm by the *Musical Theater Showcase*. The *Aerial Dance Showcase* will be presented at the Newman Dance Studio in New Hampshire Hall on May 3 at 7; and the final spring *Dance Showcase* will be on May 8 at 7 at Johnson Hall. Call (603) 862-2919.

At **Bates College**, Lewiston, ME, the *Spring Dance Concert* will be performed in the Schaeffer Theatre: Program A on **Mar. 31** at 7:30 & **Apr. 2** at 2 pm; Program B on **Apr. 1** at 5 & **Apr. 3** at 7:30. Call (207) 786-6161.

Emerging Works, the spring dance concert of Student Performing Arts (SPA) at the **University of Maine/Orono** will be offered in Minsky Hall on **Mar. 30** at 7:30 pm. Next will be the SPA spring production of John Cariani's *ALMOST, MAINE* in Hauck Auditorium Apr. 6 – 8 at 7:30 & Apr. 9 at 2. On the stage at the Collins Center for the Arts see the national tours of *ANNIE* on Apr. 26 at 8 pm and *PIPPIN* on May 9 at 7 pm. Call (207) 581-1755 or 800-CCA-TIXX. In February the SPA students performed *THE PAJAMA GAME* directed by Dawn McAndrews, Producing Artistic Director at the Theater at Monmouth. In the cast of employees at the Sleep-Tite Pajama Factory were Anna Giroux (union advocate Babe), Curran Grant (shop superintendent Sid Sorokin), Kate Dube (Gladys), Zachary Peacock (Vernon Hines), Derreck Schrader ("Prez" Barry), Nathan Reeves (Max), & Jacob Siegel (Charley). Raymond Marc Dumont choreographed the show, Dan Bilodeau designed the set, and Kathleen P. Brown was costume designer.

Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME, will host a film screening of a modern dance interpretation of Tolstoy's *ANNA KARENINA*, directed & choreographed by Angelica Cholina, on **Apr. 2** at 6 pm in Smith Auditorium at Sills Hall. This production of the Vakhtangov Theatre is free and will be in Russian with English subtitles. Next on campus will be the *Spring Dance Concert* at 7:30 pm May 4 – 6 in the Pickard Theater and it will feature a special performance by visiting artist Rakiya Orange of the Class of 2011. This is also free. Advance reservations may be made by calling (207) 725-3375.

The **University of Southern Maine** presents *MOLDED BY THE FLOW*, a collaboration of the USM Department of Art, School of Music, and Department of Theatre. This is "a poetic, visual and musical narrative inspired by Southern Maine's rich natural and human history, exploring how the state's rivers, ocean, weather, plants, and animals have inspired diverse groups of people to inhabit the area and thereby shape the landscape and the history of Maine." The piece was developed under the guidance of visiting professor Paul Dresher & performance artist Rinde Eckert. Asked about the show's concept, Eckert said, "As the streams move down the side of the mountain, some of them converge and the many streams become a few rivers, increasing in speed and power. The power of the river attracts a community, water becoming the shared resource at the center of a culture. Our communities are thereby molded by the flow." The first performances of this premiere will be at the Gendron Franco Center, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston, ME, Apr. 14 & 15 at 7:30. Then the show moves to Russell Hall on the USM Gorham campus: Apr. 21 at 7:30, Apr. 22 & 23 at 2 pm, Apr. 26 at 5 (all tickets \$5), Apr. 28 at 7:30, & Apr. 29 at 2. Visit <http://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=69626> or call (207) 780-5151.

In USM's March production of Otto Nicolai's opera *THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR*, fully staged in Russell Hall and accompanied by the Southern Maine Symphony Orchestra conducted by Robert Lehmann, the cast principals were Rachel Shukan (Mrs. Alice Ford), Helena Crothers-Villers (Mrs. Meg Page), Thomas Hanlon (Mr. Page), Logan MacDonald (Mr. Ford), Matt LaBerge (Sir John Falstaff), Sean Arsenaault (Slender), Matty Boyd (Dr. Caius), David Meyers, Jr. (Fenton), & Ida Santos (Anne). Stage direction was by Cary Libkin with musical preparation by Scott Wheatley, choreography by Maria A. Tzianabos, costumes by Anna Grywalski, scenic design by Christopher Price, technical direction by Perry Fertig, & lighting by Jamie Grant.

At **Colby College**, Waterville, ME, the Strider Theater will be the venue for the *Spring Director/Designer Showcase* on Apr. 21 – 22 at 7:30 pm. Call (207) 859-4535.

A touring production of the musical *DISENCHANTED* will stop at the Gracie Theatre, 1 College Circle on the **Husson University** cam-

pus, Bangor, ME, on Apr. 22 with performances at 5 & 8 pm. Call (207) 941-7888.



Set by Stan Spilecki for *THE BALD SOPRANO*, **UMaine Farmington** March production (The table is built to take the weight of the entire cast and will be placed in the lobby for seating after the show closes.)

Eugene Ionesco's *THE BALD SOPRANO* took the stage of the Alumni Theater Mar. 16 – 19 at the **University of Maine at Farmington**. Directing was Melissa Thompson, UMF Assistant Director of Performing Arts. The set was designed by Stan Spilecki and built by Stan and his student team.

Unity College Center for the Performing Arts, Unity, ME, presented *THE ST. VALENTINE'S DAY MASSACRE*, a murder mystery dinner theater performance, in February.

The **Capitol Center for the Arts**, 44 So. Main St., Concord, NH, will screen the *UK National Theatre Live* performance of Ibsen's *HEDDA GABLER* on **Mar. 29** at 6 pm. Next will be a series of performances for children: *CHARLOTTE'S WEB* on May 5 at 10 am (sold out) & 12 noon; *PETER RABBIT TALES* on May 9 at 10; *DINOSAUR ZOO* on May 10 at 6 pm; *ANNE OF GREEN GABLES* on May 15 at 10 am. Also, the national tour of *PIPPIN* will take the stage on May 11 at 7:30 pm. Visit www.ccanh.com or call (603) 225-1111.

VIOLET, the award-winning musical about a facially disfigured young woman who sets off in hopes of finding healing and finds much more, opened at **Seacoast Repertory Theatre**, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, NH, on Mar. 10 and continues **through Apr. 2**, Thurs. at 7:30, Fri. at 8, Sat. at 2 & 8, Sun. at 2. Alyssa Dumas and Caroline Shaheen star. Then Seacoast Rep's students take on the professionals' challenge with their own performances of *VIOLET* the weekends of Apr. 6 – 15. A Viewers' Choice show is scheduled for May 5 – 28. Visit www.seacoastrep.org or call (603) 433-4472.

The youth of the *Theatre Arts Studio* at **M & D Playhouse**, 1857 White Mountain Highway, North Conway, NH, opened *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST JR.* on Mar. 16 and it continues **through Apr. 1**, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 3 & 7:30 pm. Next will be Beth Henley's *THE JACKSONIAN* Apr. 20 – 30, Thurs-Sat. at 7:30 & with Sun. matinees. *AVENUE Q* takes the M & D stage May 18 – June 3. FMI call (603) 733-5275 or visit www.mdplayhouse.com.

The **Majestic Theatre** invites you to dinner and a show at the Executive Court Banquet Facility, 1199 South Mammoth Rd., Manchester, NH, to see Fred Carmichael's *MURDER IS A GAME* **Mar. 31 & Apr. 1** at 7, **Apr. 2** at 1:30. A. Robert Dionne directs. Call (603) 669-7469.

At **Jean's Playhouse**, Lincoln, NH, *Jean's Teens* stage *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* **Mar. 31 & Apr. 1** at 7:30, **Apr. 2** at 2 pm. Then the *Playhouse Players* will offer *THE ART OF DINING* May 19 – 21, Fri-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2 pm. Visit www.jeansplayhouse.org or call (603) 745-2141.

The *Southern New Hampshire Youth Ballet* will dance SLEEPING BEAUTY at the **Palace Theatre**, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, NH, at 1 & 4 pm on **Apr. 2**. SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER will take the stage April 14 – May 6, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 2 & 7:30, and Sun. Apr. 23 at 2 pm. Call (603) 668-5588. The *Palace Youth Theater* performed THE WIZARD OF OZ Mar. 8, 9, 15, & 16.

Actorsingers' spring youth production is THE WIZARD OF OZ, young performers' edition, at the Janice B. Streeter Theatre, 14 Court St., Nashua, NH, **Mar. 31** at 7, **Apr. 1** at 2 & 7, **Apr. 2** at 2 pm. Grace Morton directs mentored by Mia Berardi, with musical direction by Jed Holland & choreography by Katie Tocci. Heading the cast are Sophia Desilets (Dorothy), Julian Jagententl (Tin Man), Ben Morton (Scarecrow), Shane Gillis (Lion), Delaney Kipp (Witch), Casey Orner (Glinda), Gwen Davis (Aunt Em), Jackson Chittister (Wizard), & Cordova Symanski (Toto). Next will be SINGIN' IN THE RAIN at Keefe Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua, May 12 & 13 at 8, May 14 at 2. Kathy Lovering directs with musical direction by Judy Hayward & choreography by Lara Hyde. Heading the cast are Marc Murai (Don Lockwood), Colin Malette (Cosmo Brown), Mia Berardi (Kathy Selden), Seraphim D'Andrea (Lina Lamont), Don Smith-Weiss (R. F. Simpson), Phillip Laks (Roscoe Dexter), & Becca Tarr (Dora Bailey). Call (603) 320-1870. FMI visit www.actorsingers.org.

Northern Stage's spring productions are George Brant's GROUNDED directed by Derek Goldman, which opened Mar. 15 and runs **through Apr. 2**, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 2 & 7:30, Sun. at 5 pm; and MAMMA MIA, Apr. 19 – May 21; both at Briggs Opera House, 5 So. Main St., White River Junction, VT. Artistic Director Carol Dunne directs MAMMA MIA, and performances are Mon-Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 5, and after the first week there will be 2 pm matinees on Wed. & Sat. Visit www.northernstage.org or call (802) 297-7000.

Manchester Community Theatre Players will present YOURS, ANNE at the Jewish Federation Theatre, 698 Beech St., Manchester, NH, Mar. 31 – Apr. 2 & Apr. 7 – 9. Call (603) 627-7679.

The **New Hampshire Theatre Project's** 5th annual *Intelligent Theater Festival* takes the stage at 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, NH, **Mar. 31 & Apr. 1** at 7, **Apr. 2** at 2 pm. The NHTP youth will perform in THE JUNGLE BOOK Apr. 7 – 9, Fri-Sat. at 7, Sun. at 2. And C. J. Lewis returns by popular demand to reprise all the roles in I AM MY OWN WIFE Apr. 21 – 30, Fri-Sat. at 8, Sun. at 2. Call (603) 431-6644. or visit www.nhtheatreproject.org.

At **Players' Ring**, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, NH, Michael Kimball's THE SECRET OF COMEDY will run Mar. 31 – Apr. 16, Fri-Sat. at 8, Sun. at 3, a production of *New York Theater Company*. ALL THE WAY, a production of *Veterans in Performing Arts*, follows Pres. L.B. Johnson from his swearing-in after the Kennedy assassination through the Civil Rights struggles of 1964. It runs Apr. 21 – May 7, Fri-Sat at 8, Sun. Apr. 23 at 7; Sun. Apr. 30 & May 7 at 3, Sat. Apr. 29 & May 6 also at 3 pm. David Ives' VENUS IN FUR, produced by *Rolling Die Productions*, takes the stage May 12 – 29, Fri-Sat at 8, Sun. at 3. Todd Hunter directs. Meanwhile, *Generic Theater* continues its free play reading series at 7:30 pm on Apr. 12 & May 17; and *The 21st Century Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* continues its improv extravaganza Apr. 13 & May 25 at 8. Visit www.playersring.org or call (603) 436-8123.

David Rabe's HURLY BURLY, offered by *Oz Productions* at **Players' Ring** in March and directed by Todd Hunter, had a cast of these actors: Tomer Oz, Matthew Schofield, Billy Butler, Jessica Miller, Amanda Dan, Karielle Anzaldi, & Ben Tylka. *Generic Theater's* Feb. play reading was of John Cariani's LAST GAS and featured Roland Goodbody, Barbara Hilton, Betsy Kimball, Zachary Koehler, Alex Pease, & Mike Pomp; Helen Brock directed. On Mar. 15 *Generic* players Alan Huisman, Peter Michaud, Roland Goodbody, Barbara Hilton, Helen Brock, & Susan Turner read LIVES OF THE SAINTS: Nine One-Act Plays by David Ives. The Feb. *Sherlock Adventures* featured Sam Bennett, Brian Paul, Tomer Oz, Zach Cranor, Bretton Reis, Molly Sullivan, & Jess Miller; all proceeds from the *Sherlock* improv evenings go towards renovations at **Players' Ring**.

Neil Simon's BILOXI BLUES is the spring show for **The Village Players**, 51 Glendon St., Wolfeboro, NH, with performances Mar. 31, and Apr. 1, 7, 8, & 9, Fri-Sat. at 8, Sun. Mar. 9 at 2. Russ Ellis and Bob Tuttle co-direct, Kaylin Dean is Assistant Director, and Joshua Spaulding is the producer. In the cast are Greg Parker (Eugene Morris Jerome), Erik Peterson (Roy Selridge), Paul Stewart (Joseph Wykowski), Vinnie Amico (Don Carney), Alex Andruzzi (Arnold Epstein), Bob Rautenberg (Sgt. Toomey), Luke Andruzzi (James Hennessey), Tony Dingley (Rowena), & Chelsea Stewart (Daisy). Call (603) 569-9656 or visit www.village-players.com.

Screenings at **The Music Hall**, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, NH, include HEDDA GABLER (*Nat'l Theatre London* HD) at 1 pm on Apr. 9 and SLEEPING BEAUTY (*Bolshoi Ballet*) at 12:30 pm on Apr. 15. Call (603) 436-2400 or visit www.themusichall.org.

Hampstead Stage Company, based in Center Barnstead, NH, continues to tour through May 7 with THE SECRET GARDEN and SHAKESPEARE Presents HAMLET & Other Works. FMI visit www.hampsteadstage.org.

Nashua Theatre Guild at the Janice B. Streeter Theatre, 14 Court St., Nashua, NH, will stage Joseph Kesslering's classic ARSENIC AND OLD LACE Apr. 27 – 30. Amy Mackay directs. The cast includes Maria Barry (Abby Brewster), Catherine Andruskevich (Martha Brewster), Rich Alcott (Mortimer Brewster), Mike Wood (Teddy Brewster), Sierra Jones (Elaine Harper), Raymond Mark (Rev. Harper), Chris Vick (Jonathan Brewster), Neal Blaiklock (Dr. Einstein), & Steve Kalter (Lt. Rooney). Call (603) 320-2530.

The *Professional Company* of **Winnepesaukee Playhouse**, 50 Reservoir Rd., Meredith, NH, will present Neil Simon's THE LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS Apr. 7 – 15, Thurs-Sat at 7:30, Sat. & Sun. at 2 pm. Next the *Winni Players Community Theatre* will offer a staged reading of THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK Apr. 29 at 7:30 & Apr. 30 at 2 pm, in commemoration of Holocaust Remembrance Day. Then *Winni Players* will offer a fully staged production of A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM May 11 – 14, Thurs-Sat at 7:30, Sun. at 2. Visit www.winniplayhouse.com or call (603) 279-0333. The WPCT February production of Lawrence & Lee's INHERIT THE WIND was directed by Thom Beaulieu assisted by Chris Slater. Heading the cast were Rick Morten (teacher Bertram Cates, accused of teaching Darwinism), Ken Chapman (lawyer Matthew Harrison Brady) & Wil Robertson (lawyer Henry Drummond).

Concord Community Players will stage OTHER DESERT CITIES by John Robin Baitz at Concord City Auditorium, Prince St., Concord, NH, May 5 & 6 at 7:30, May 7 at 2 pm. Wayland Bunnell directs. In the cast are Katie Dunn (Brooke Wyeth), Nancy Barry (Polly Wyeth), John Conlon (Lyman Wyeth), Anne Orio (Silda Grauman), & John Decareau (Trip Wyeth). Next GUTENBERG The Musical will be performed May 20 & 21 with Paula Mitchell Demers, Pat Delzell, Wayland Bunnell, & Douglas Schwarz. Call (603) 228-2793 or visit www.communityplayersofconcord.org.

Garrison Players will offer INHERIT THE WIND at 650 Portland Ave/Rte 4, Rollinsford, NH, May 5 – 20, Fri-Sat. at 8, Sun. at 2 pm. Mike Doyle directs. Call (603) 750-4ART or visit www.garrisonplayers.org. The March production of Ira Levin's DEATH TRAP was directed by Kimberly Fanning.

Peacock Players will perform GREASE at 14 Court St., Nashua, NH, May 12 – 21, Fri. at 7, Sat. at 2 & 7, Sun. at 2 pm. The cast includes Gabrielle Robinson (Sandy), Mac Galinson (Danny), Lillie Ellars (Rizzo), Jakov Schwartzberg (Kenickie), Olivia Silva (Frenchy), Kathleen Palmer (Principal Magee), Charlie Ellars (Coach Calhoun), MaryEllen Stevenson (Mrs. Murdock), Ethan Underhill (Vince Fontaine), Andrea Underhill (Viola), & Paul Gauthier (Teen Angel). Call (603) 886-7000 or visit www.peacockplayers.org.

Nasson Community Center & Little Theater, 457 Main St., Springvale, ME, is under new management with Lucas Lanigan as Executive Director and Carrie Jo Westenhouse as Theater Manager. Ms. Westenhouse has a strong arts and music background and her

wide range of experience includes being both Director and Artistic Director for theater productions. FMI on this venue call (207) 324-5657 or visit www.nassoncommunitycenter.com.



Theater Manager Carrie Jo Westenhouer in the **Nasson Little Theatre** Sound Booth

Moxie Productions presented **Rene Johnson** in **GEE !**, her autobiographical & interactive one-woman show on Mar. 11 & 12 at Grange Hall Cultural Center, Waterbury Center, VT.

A Company of Girls offered **THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ** by Michele L. Vacca (based on the Frank Baum novel) Mar. 17 – 18 at the Portland Ballet Studio Theater in Portland, ME.

On March 17 at the **Eastport Arts Center**, Eastport, ME, the EAC's Island Fellow, Naphtali Fields and her Los Angeles-based collaborator, Caitlyn Ference-Saunders, presented **ICARA**, an original play examining the Icarus myth through a feminist lens. The show has been developed through workshop intensives over the past two years exploring the myth with special attention to issues of women's mental health, perceptions of safety, & ideas of entrapment.



VENUS IN FUR, **Dramatic Repertory Company** March production: Casey Turner (Vanda) and Joseph Bearor (Thomas) *Photo by Craig Robinson*

Meetinghouse Theatre Lab, Winter Harbor, ME, staged a reading of Agatha Christie's **THE MOUSETRAP** on February 18. The group rehearsed at noon, shared a potluck supper, and performed that evening. In March the reading was Roald Dahl's **THE BIG FRIENDLY**

GIANT. FMI in the future visit www.schoolcartsforall.org or call Cynthia Thayer (207) 963-7771.



SHOOTING STAR, **Midcoast Actors' Studio** February production: Nathan Roach (Reed) and Danielle Bannister (Elena) *Photo by Leah Bannister*

UU Theater presented their 10th anniversary production of Eve Ensler's **THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES** in celebration of V-Day at aUbUrn the last weekend in February at the First Universalist Church of Auburn, ME. Alicia Fiori directed this special edition, which was dedicated to the memory of the late Janet Gibson, who performed in previous shows with the group. In this year's cast were Alia Abdulahi, Crystal Aube, Roxie Devoe, Mana Foxglove, Kara Haupt, Tara Humphries, Elise Johansen, Sara Karam, Karen Lane, Rebecca Lynch, Mary McIntyre, Ali Rabideau, Melissa Stevens, Klara Tammany, Ashley Thibodeau Hamboyan, & Danielle Woodbury.



THE CHALK GARDEN, **Gaslight Theater** March production: Isabella Rose Coulombe (Laurel) and Joseph Klapatch (The Judge)

Shoestring Theater offered its puppets in **PETER PAN**, adapted with some contemporary touches and directed by Nance Parker, at Mayo Street Arts in Portland on Mar. 17 & 18. This was the feature of *Mayo Street Arts' Puppet Cabaret*, which opened with Bad Puppies' **THE MAN WHO STOLE THE THUNDER**. **PETER PAN** actors included Zach Rohman (Peter), Dylan Rohman (Wendy), Zara Machatine & Sacaira Machatine (Wendy's brothers), Zara Machatine (Capt. Hook), & Allison Villani (Tiger Mom). The set gave the puppets 3 stages and included shadow puppetry & one for hand-and-stick puppetry as well as projections for appropriate background scenery.

The 2017 **Maine Jewish Film Festival**, running Mar. 18 – 25, offered more than 30 films and events at various venues in Portland, Brunswick, Lewiston, & Waterville. There were many documentaries but also comedies, dramas, & thrillers, all with English subtitles where needed.

Following on the success of last year's Pop-Up **HAMLET**, offered during the *First Folio* celebration in Portland, on March 3 & 4

PortFringe presented Pop-Up **MACBETH** with 14 theater companies staging no-holds-barred 10-minute interpretations of scenes from the Scottish play at various venues in Portland's Arts District. Audience members could travel from scene to scene in whatever order they wished.



LUMBERJACKS IN LOVE, **Penobscot Theatre Company** February production: Brad LaBree, Ben Layman, Matt Madore, and Cory Osborne

On March 3, **Mainely Improv** entertained with their *On the Spot Comedy* at the Gendron Franco Center in Lewiston. The troupe is headed by Dan and Denise Marois.



ROMEO AND JULIET, **Portland Players** Jan/February production: Sean Senior (Romeo) Photo by Tom Scannell

California-based **Janis Stevens**, a long-time favorite as an actor & director at the Theater at Monmouth, recently directed Harold Pinter's **BETRAYAL** for a January/February production at Capital Stage in Sacramento. Sadly, I believe that because of other obligations she will not be with us this summer at TAM.

The theater community has lost:

Susan Scheib in February. She was a frequent performer at L/A Community Little Theatre in Auburn in the 70's & 80's, where she is remembered particularly for her soaring soprano, a side-splitting performance as Gooch in **MAME**, and her last CLT production of **ASSASSINS**.

Thomas Bucci also left us in February at the age of 90, and only a few hours after the death of Catherine, his beloved wife of 67 years. I remember Tommy for his talent and his smiling face as he played the piano for the first shows at the newly-founded Portland Lyric Theater (now called Lyric Music Theater) not long after coming to Maine. He went on to be the music director for many productions, taught at USM, directed several choral groups, was a jazz soloist, performed with the Portland Symphony Orchestra, played the organ for 2 masses every Sunday for 45 years at St. Joseph's Church, and was a composer of note. One of his compositions, along with those of other American composers, was selected to be placed in a time capsule at Lincoln Center, where it will be opened in the year 2050

Margaretmary McCann left us in February, too. A teacher in the Portland schools for 37 years, Margaretmary was a frequent performer on local stages, including Lyric Music Theater, Portland Players (where she won two awards for Best Actress and was inducted into their Hall of Fame), & Portland Stage Company. Elsewhere she was named Best Actress in New England at the New England Theatre Conference held at Brandeis University in 1976 for the challenge of playing four characters with make-up changes on stage in **TWIGS**. Another theatrical highlight was being cast as Alvira in **THE COUNTRY OF THE POINTED FIRS** opposite Julie Harris at WGBH Boston. One of her acclaimed roles locally was Regina in Lillian Hellman's **THE LITTLE FOXES**, and I remember her most recently as Fanny Church in Tina Howe's **PAINTING CHURCHES**.

We offer our sympathy to the relatives and friends of these talented performers.

Muriel Kenderdine



Cast & Crew

www.castandcrew.org

castandcrewnewsletter@yahoo.com

207 – 799 – 3392

P.O. Box 1031, Portland, ME 04104

PETER PAN – Jul. 13 - 30
ONCE ON THIS ISLAND JR. – Aug. 4 – 6
DINOSAURS BEFORE DARK Kids – Aug. 5 - 7
DRACULA – Sep. 29 – Oct. 15
WILLY WONKA JR. – Nov. 3 - 5
ELF – Dec. 1 - 17

Seacoast Repertory Theatre - Prof. Non-Equity
125 Bow St. Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 433-4472 www.seacoastrep.org

VIOLET (Musical) – Mar. 10 – Apr. 2
Viewers' Choice – May 5 – 28
SPAMALOT – June 23 – Jul. 30
JANE EYRE (Musical) – Sep. 15 – Oct. 8
WINTER WONDERETTES – Dec. 8 - 31

Snowlion Repertory Co. – Prof./Equity Guest Artists
P.O. Box 1199, Portland, ME 04104-1199
www.snowlionrep.org Al D'Andrea, Artistic Director
Margit Ahlin, Producing Director (207) 518-9305

ANYTHING HELPS GOD BLESS (Premiere)–Sep.29-
Oct. 8
CONQUEST OF THE SOUTH POLE – Jan. 26 – Feb. 4
A CHERRY ORCHARD IN MAINE – Apr.20-29, 2018

Some Theatre Company – Community Theater
Bangor, ME. Performing @ Keith Anderson Community
House, Orono Elaine Bard, Artistic Director
www.sometheatrecompany.com

SPRING AWAKENING – April 21 – 30
GRUESOME PLAYGROUND INJURIES - TBA

Sparrow's Nest Theater (Community)
Rte 148, 1114 West Mills Rd, Industry, ME
Fred Liebfried & Diane Leeman (on FB)
www.sparrowstheater.com (207) 696-4323

STEEL MAGNOLIAS – May 11 - 14

Stage One Productions-Prof. non-Equity/Dinner Thea.
124 Bridge St., Manchester, NH 03101 George F. Piehl
(603) 669-5511 www.stageoneproductions.net

Stage Source of Boston, Boston Theater Network Equity
& Non-Equity, 15 Channel St Suite 103, Boston, MA
02110 (617) 350-7611 www.stagesource.org

St. Lawrence Arts Center
76 Congress Street, Portland (207) 775-5568
www.stlawrencearts.org Deirdre Nice, Exec. Dir.
(GT = Good Theater) (VM = Vivid Motion)

THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL (GT) – Mar. 29 – Apr. 30
HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME (VM) – May12-14
SEX WITH STRANGERS (GT) – Sep. 27 – Oct. 22
AN INSPECTOR CALLS (GT) – Nov. 1 – 26
Broadway at Good Theater (GT) – Nov.29 – Dec. 3
A CHRISTMAS CAROL (GT/Will Rhys) – Dec. 6 – 10
SHEAR MADNESS (GT) – Jan. 10 – Mar. 11, 2018
LOVE, LOSS & WHAT I WORE (GT-Sat.Mat @12:30,
Sun. @5.Mon. & Tues. evenings)–Jan.20–Mar. 6,2018
TBA (GT) – Mar. 28 – Apr. 29, 2018

Stonington Opera House – Equity Small Prof. Theater
One Opera House Lane, P. O. Box 56, Stonington, ME
04681 (207) 367-2788 www.operahousearts.org
Meg Taintor, Producing Artistic Director

Staged Reading Series:
ANTIGONICK – May 19 & 21

Storm Warnings Repertory Theatre
117 Main St., Kennebunk, ME (207) 441-8163
Paul Dervis, Art.Director, Susan Staples,Managing Dir.
www.stormwarningstheatre.com also on FB

ELEPHANT by David Gow-May 26, 27,June 2, 3

Studio 48 Performing Arts & Dance Center
20 Davis St., Brunswick, ME
(207) 798-6966 Rebecca Beck, Founder

Studio Theatre of Bath – Community Theater
P.O.Box 898, Bath, ME 04530
www.studiotheatreofbath.com also on FB
Caroline Hawks (207) 522-1810

Summer Theatre in Meredith Village (Prof.)
P.O. Box 837, Meredith, NH 03253 (603) 707-6035
Nancy Barry,Producing Dir. www.interlakestheatre.com

Ten Bucks Theatre Company
Mail: 300 French St, Bangor, ME 04401 (207) 884-1030
www.tenbuckstheatre.org Julie Arnold Lisnet, Pres.

THE BAD SEED – Dates TBA

Theater at Monmouth Prof.Equity/Shakespeare &
Classics-Cumston Hall, P.O. Box 385, Monmouth, ME
04259 (207) 933-9999, 933-2952

www.theateratmonmouth.org
Dawn McAndrews, Producing Artistic Director

Summer July 1-Aug. 20: THREE DAYS OF RAIN, THE
LEARNED LADIES, MACBETH, OTHELLO, RED
VELVET, MY FATHER'S DRAGON
Fall 2017: PETER & THE STARCATCHER

Theater Ensemble of Color, Portland, ME (on FB)
Rene Johnson TheaterEnsembleofColor@gmail.com

Theater Project, The - Prof. Non-Equity/Equity Guests
Young Peoples Theater & Community Theater
14 School St., Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 729-8584
Al Miller, Artistic Director www.theaterproject.com
CSP=Center Stage Players, YC=Young Co, YP=Young
People's Theater, PE=Prof. Ensemble

ANZACS – Apr. 6 – 16
Reader's Theater (CSP) – May 13 – 14
Voices in the Mirror (YC) – June 2 - 4

Theatre Under the Stars (Prof.)
3 Noon Peak Rd, Waterville Valley, NH (603) 726-0098
Donna Devlin, Art.Dir. www.shakespeareinthevalley.com

Umbrella Theatre, The - (Community)
Lincoln Street Center for Arts & Education
Rockland, ME Sally MacVane, Valerie Wells

University of Maine Farmington, Alumni Theater,
Academy St., Farmington, ME (207) 778-7465
www.umf.maine.edu

University of Maine Machias www.umm.maine.edu
9 O'Brien Ave., Machias, ME (207) 255-1200

University of Maine Presque Isle www.umpi.edu/theater
181 Main St., Presque Isle, ME (207) 768-9400

LAST GAS(Presque Isle Comm.Players)-Mar.31-Apr.8

University of New Hampshire Durham, NH
(603) 862-2290, (603) 862-0093 David Kaye, Chair
Johnson Theatre (J) Hennessy Theatre (H)
www.unh.edu/theatre-dance

UNH Dance Company Concert – Mar. 29 – Apr. 2
7 BOXES OF BOOKS – Apr. 19 – 23
FIRST DATE – Apr. 28 - 30

University of Southern Maine (USM)Dept.of Theater
Russell Hall, College Ave. Gorham, ME 04038
(207)780-5480 Box Office:(207) 780-5151
Andrew Harris, Chair www.usm.maine.edu/theater

MOLDED BY THE FLOW(Special Event)– Apr. 13 – 30

UU Theater – Community
First Universalist Church, 169 Pleasant St., Auburn, ME
Toby Haber

Village Players, The – Community Theater
51 Glendon St., P.O.Box 770, Wolfeboro, NH 03894
(603) 569-9656 www.village-players.com

BILOXI BLUES – Mar. 31, Apr. 1 & 7 – 9
25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING
BEE – July

THE MUSIC MAN – Nov. 3 - 12

Vivid Motion, Inc. Dance Company
90 Bridge St. Dana Warp Mill, Suite 227 (Drouin Dance)
P.O.Box 1417, Westbrook, ME 04098
www.vividmotion.org

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME – May 12 - 14

Waterville Opera House www.operahouse.com
1 Common St., Waterville, ME 04901
(207) 873-5381, Tix 873-7000

THE LITTLE MERMAID – Mar. 31 – Apr. 9
EXIT LAUGHING – June 16 - 25

Wayside Theatre – Community
Wayside Grange,851 No. Dexter Rd.,Rte 23, Dexter,ME
(207) 924-8813 Jane Woodman – Art. Dir. On FB

Windham Center Stage – Community Theater
P.O.Box 529, 8 School Rd., Windham, ME 04062
(207) 893-2098 www.windhamtheater.org

Disney's HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL – May 26 – June 3

**Winnepesaukee Playhouse & Performing Arts and
Education Center**- Prof. & Comm. 50 Reservoir Rd.,
Meredith, NH 03253 Bryan Halperin-Ex.,Dir. Neil Pank-
hurst-Art.Dir. (603)279-0333 www.winnipleyhouse.com:

LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS (Prof.)-Apr. 7-15
DIARY OF ANNE FRANK(Staged Reading)-Apr.29-30
A FUNNY THING...FORUM(Winni Players)-May 11-14
THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW(Prof. Co.)-June 14 – 24
HIGH SOCIETY (Prof. Co.) – June 28 – July 15
HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES(Prof.)-Jul. 19-29
THE GRADUATE (Prof. Co.) – Aug. 2 – 12
ROUND & ROUND THE GARDEN(Prof.)-Aug.16-26
THE MAN WHO SHOT LIBERTY VALANCE (Prof.
Co.) – Aug. 30 – Sep. 9

DEATHTRAP (Prof. Co.) – Oct. 5 – 8
Radio Variety Show (Winni Players) – Oct. 21 – 22
THE LORD OF THE FLIES (Ed. Dept.) – Nov. 3 – 5
M.A.S.H. (Winni Players) – Nov. 16 – 19
NARNIA (Ed. Dept.) – Dec. 1 – 3
SNOW WHITE (Prof. Co.English Panto)-Dec.16-30

Winterport Open Stage - Community Theater
P.O. Box 5, Winterport, ME 04496
(207)223-2501 (on FB)
www.winterportopenstage.net

Ziggurat Theatre Ensemble (Prof.)(207)319-7289
Bowdoinham, ME. www.ziggurattheatre.org
Stephen Legawiec, Dana Wieluns

*All information is up to date as of press time. Cast &
Crew suggests you call to confirm.*

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

ACORN PRODUCTIONS Acting Academy at Mechanics Hall, 519 Congress St., Portland, ME.. Classes: *Acting for Ordinary People* Mon. 5:30-7:30 from Mar. 27 for 8 weeks, with Michael Levine; *Shakespeare Conservatory: Clowns & Fools*, Mon. 7:30-9:30 from Mar. 20 for 4 weeks, with Carmen-maria Mandley; *Contemporary Scene Study*, Thurs. 5:30-7:30 from Mar. 30 for 8 weeks, with Sarah Barlow. 2 Voice workshops: *The Spice of Vocal Variety*, Apr. 11, 6-9 pm, taught by Bess Welden; *Text Play*, May 16, 6-9 pm, taught by Bess Welden. Also, *Dancing for Non-Dancers* Apr. 18, 6:30-9:30, with Rene Johnson; *Improv with Rachel* 3 Sats Apr. 22, 29 & May 6, 10 am-1 pm, with Rachel Flehinger; *Playwriting with Callie*, 2 Tues. Apr. 25 & May 2, 6:30-9:30, with Callie Kimball; *Juggling with Janoah* Tues. May 9, 6:30-9:30 with Janoah Bailin. FMI www.acorn-productions.org.

After School ARTS, 31 Lafayette St., Portland, ME. An after school arts enrichment for children ages 5 – 12. Erica Thompson, Artistic Director. For class listings visit www.theschoolhouseonmunjoyhill.com.

AYNNE AMES, COLD COMFORT THEATER Artistic Director offers classes in Belfast, ME, for “12 – 20” working on scene study, characterization, methodology & confidence!. Call (207) 930-7244.

BOSSOV BALLET SCHOOL, 125 So. Main St., Pittsfield, ME 04967. Classes in ballet at Maine Central Institute. (207) 487-6360.

CASCO BAY MOVERS DANCE STUDIO, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04101. (207) 871-1013. Classes for children, teens, adults.

CELEBRATION BARN, 190 Stock Farm Rd (off Rte 117), So.Paris, ME. Summer classes & workshops: *Neutral Mask* (Giovanni Fusetti)-Jun.19-24; *Intro to Eccentric Performing* (Avner Eisenberg)-Jun.26-Jul.1;*Advanced Eccentric Performing* (Avner)-Jul. 3-8; *CB Devising Intensive* (Davis Robinson, Karen Montanaro &Guests)-Jul.10-22; *Devising Shakespeare* (Dody DiSanto) – Jul.24-29; *SoulWork: Devising Activism* (Progress Theatre’s Cristal Chanelle Truscott)-Jul.31-Aug.5; *Creating Clown Material* (Soymonkey’s Aitor Basauri) Aug. 7-12.. FMI www.celebrationbarn.com, email info@celebrationbarn.com.

CENTRE OF MOVEMENT School of Performing Arts, 19 State St., Gorham, ME 04038. Children & adults. Vicky Lloyd (207) 839-3267.

CHILDREN’S MUSEUM & THEATRE OF MAINE, 142 Free St., Portland, ME, *Summer Theater Camps: JUNGLE BOOK* for ages 7-12 July 5-21; *Improv Acting* for ages 5-8 Aug. 21-25. Early Bird Discount for registering before April 15! FMI www.kitetails.org or call (207) 828-1234 Ext 247.

CITY DANCE, 196 U.S. Rte One, Falmouth, ME. Tap, ballet, jazz, street funk, pre-school. FMI call (207) 767-0870.

DENMARK ARTS CENTER, 50 W. Main St.(Rte 160), Denmark, ME. Circus Camp for kids of all ages during April vacation. FMI Call (207) 452-2412, or email Delaney McDonough at delaney@denmarkarts.org.

DROUIN DANCE CENTER at Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge Street, Suite 325, Westbrook, ME. All types dance, ages & experience. Visit www.drouindancecenter.com or call (207) 854-2221 FMI.

GOTTA DANCE, Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge St., Studio 425, Westbrook, ME 04092. Call (207) 321-1240. www.gottadance2.com. Beginner to advanced classes in ballroom dance – no partner necessary.

LIGHTS UP IMPROV, Classes in improvisation for kids & adults taught by David LaGraffe. Ongoing classes for all ages & experience at studio spaces in Portland & So. Portland. David also offers courses at various locations in the greater Portland area, as well as half-day and day-long workshops throughout southern Maine. Call (207) 799-3489, email lightsup1@maine.rr.com or visit www.lightsupimprov.com; also www.portlandplayback.com.

MAINE STATE SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 348 U. S. Rte. One, Falmouth, ME. (Home of Maine State Ballet) Training in dance, voice, drama, music. Call (207) 781-7672 for schedule & information.

M & D PLAYHOUSE TAS (Theatre Arts Studio), 1857 White Mtn Hwy, No. Conway, NH.. FMI on spring class schedule visit www.mdplayhouse.com.

MIDCOAST ACTORS’ STUDIO, Belfast,ME, offers musical theater camps for youth in July. Visit www.midcoastactors.org or FB for information.

NEW SURRY THEATRE & ACTING SHOOL, Blue Hill, ME. Bill Raiten Artistic Director. FMI www.newsurrytheatre.org

PENOBSCOT THEATRE Dramatic Academy, Main St., Bangor, ME. *Ongoing theater classes for youth & sometimes for adults.* Also available: School Residency Programs: *Authors Alive, Improv Alive, Arts Alive*; from 90-min. workshops to week-long engagements. FMI visit www.penobscottheatre.org & click on the Education tab, email education@penobscottheatre.org or call (207) 947-6618 X 107.

PORTLAND SCHOOL OF BALLET, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME. (Home of Portland Ballet) Call for schedule information (207) 772-9671 or visit www.portlandballet.org.

PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, ME. Classes for kids. *Vacation Camp* Gr. 4-6 *Adventures with Robin Hood* Apr. 17-21, 9am-3pm. *Summer for K-12: Camp Hogwarts* (2) Jun.26-30 & Jul.24-28; *Camp Half-Blood* (2) Jul.31-Aug.4 & Aug. 7-11; *Small But Mighty* Aug.7-11; *Camp Ramona* Jul.17-21; *Picture of Peculiarity* Jul. 24-28; *Count Olaf & Other Unfortunate Events* Jul. 17-21; *Magic Trunk* Jul.10-14; *High School Conservatory Macbeth* Jul.10-14; *Brothers & Sister Grimm* Jul.3,5-7; *How To Train Your Daemon* Jul.3,5-7; *Middle School Conservatory Twelfth Night* Jun.26-30. FMI visit www.portlandstage.org or email education@portlandstage.org or call (207) 774-1043 Ext 104..

THE PUBLIC THEATRE, 31 Maple St., Lewiston, ME, again offers their Professional Theater Training Program for young actors ages 11-16 July 10 – 28. Audition now (Early Bird Tuition discount to apply by Mar. 31). Visit www.thepublictheatre.org or call (207) 782-2211.

ROBINSON BALLET SCHOOL, Studio at 107 Union St., Bangor, ME. (Home of Robinson Ballet) (207) 989-7226 (Voice Mail)

ROCHESTER OPERA HOUSE, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, NH. Classes for kids and teens. Visit www.rochesteroperahouse.com.

SCARBOROUGH DANCE CENTER. Oakhill Plaza, Rte 1, Scarborough, ME. Classes for all ages & types of dance. Melissa Willey, Dir. Visit www.scarboroughdancecenter.com or call (207) 883-4569.

SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER, Rte. 114 just no. of Rte. 35, Standish, ME. Classes for kids & teens. One-week summer camps: *Storybook Theatre* Jul. 10-14; *Princess & Pirate Camp* Jul. 17 – 21; **DINOSAURS BEFORE DARK** Kids, for ages 5 – 11, auditions Jun.25 9-12, camp Jul.24-Aug.4, 9 am-3 pm, perform Aug.4-6. **ONCE ON THIS ISLAND JR** for ages 11- 15 auditions Jun.24 9-12, camp Aug. 7-18, 9 am-3 pm, perform Aug.18-20. Visit: www.schoolhousearts.org, email education@schoolhousearts.org, or contact Education Director Dillon Bates at dillonbates@gmail.com . Also dance classes now with Centre of Movement’s Vicky Lloyd; FMI email vickylloyd70@gmail.com or call (207)839-3267.

SEACOAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, NH. (603) 433-7272 X 131. Workshops for young performers from 5 and up in all aspects of musical production. Also Jazz/Tap/Tumbling/Ballet for all levels.

SNOWLION REPERTORY CO., Portland, ME, *PlayLab* – Playwrights meet to hear their work & get feedback. Monthly readings of rehearsed & directed new plays. FMI: Margit Ahlin, at margit@snowlionrep.org or (207) 518-9305. Also see www.snowlionrep.org.

SNOWLION REPERTORY Co. offers an acting class by Artistic Director Al D’Andrea: **CHARACTER: the Soul of Acting Technique**, 5 Sundays from 6 – 8:30 pm & 1 Thursday 7 – 9:30 pm, Apr. 23 – May 25 at Studio 408, 408 Broadway, So. Portland, ME. Space is limited. To reserve your space or FMI contact Margit Ahlin at margit@snowlionrep.org or (207) 518-9305 or visit www.snowlionrep.org.

Are you sick of performing the same stale one-act plays at play competitions?

I can cut two or three-act plays for you and bring them in under 40 minutes. I have references re cuttings which have become regional and state winners. You pick the play, you get the clearance for the cutting, and I’ll do it for you for a flat fee of \$300.00. This might be the best expense you have in your High School Theater budget. Aynne Ames coldcomforttheater@gmail.com

AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES

We try to bring our subscribers all the audition information available. However, theaters may set their own audition dates after we go to print; so we suggest that you also consult your newspaper listings & the individual theater as well (see Theater Listings). Subscribers, for notification between issues, send your email address to castandcrewnewsletter@yahoo.com

CITY THEATER, 205 Main St., Biddeford, ME. will audition for THE WIZARD OF OZ on Apr. 17 & 18, children 4:30 – 6 pm; adults at 6:30 pm. Show dates Jul. 21 – Aug. 6. Children should be prepared to sing a short piece from something they know well & bring sheet music, accompanist provided, & dress comfortably for dance audition (no experience needed, just learn & have fun). Adults should come prepared to sing 35 bars of a musical theater piece & bring sheet music; again, accompanist provided. There will also be a dance audition. Casting 3 principal females & 5 principal males, plus a large adult ensemble & a children's ensemble. Linda Sturdivant directs with musical direction by Kevin Smith & choreography by Mariel Roy. FMI visit www.citytheater.org.

FREEPORT PLAYERS, Freeport, ME, will hold auditions for SEUSSICAL in April with roles for men, women & children age 10+; Simon Skold directs; show dates July 20-30; watch for announcement. Auditions for THE SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS by Carlo Goldoni will be held in June; roles for adult men & women; show dates Sep. 14-Oct. 1.

L/A COMMUNITY LITTLE THEATRE, Great Falls Art Center, 30 Academy St., Auburn, ME, will audition for PRELUDE TO A KISS by Craig Lucas on Sun. April 2 & Mon. April 3 at 6:30 pm. Plot: Happy young lovers have their first nuptial kiss on their wedding day and then an old man comes up to kiss the bride & somehow the bride now houses the soul of the old man and her soul is in the old man; the bridegroom works feverishly to put the souls back in their original bodies. Roles for 6 men & 3 women plus ensemble. Eileen Messina directs. Show dates June 9 – 18. www.laact.com

OPERA HOUSE ARTS, Stonington, ME, has launched the *Harbor Residency* program to provide artists & ensembles with 2 of the most requested resources for the development of new work: time & space. Through the residency program participating artists will receive free rehearsal space & accommodations and, in exchange, will have opportunities to engage with Deer Isle-Stonington's year-round community. Applications will be accepted & reviewed on a rolling basis, with residencies offered January through May for periods of time to be determined by the needs of the project. FMI email Producing Artistic Director Meg Taintor at director@operahousearts.org, call (207) 367-2788, or visit www.operahousearts.org.

PENOBSCOT THEATRE COMPANY, Bangor, ME. PTC's annual open call auditions will be on April 1, details TBA. Visit www.penobscottheatre.org. NOTE: PTC also continues to accept on a regular basis new plays which tell stories of the Bangor region; possible subjects: ice industry, lumbering history, Hannibal Hamlin, etc. Playwrights should send a synopsis, a 10-page sample, development/production history, & a short bio of the playwright to Penobscot Theatre Company, 115 Main St., 4th Floor, Bangor, ME 04401.

RECYCLED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY, a community group founded in 2013, will audition for AS YOU LIKE IT on Sat., Apr. 1, 10 am-2 pm, at Fairfield United Methodist Church, Fairfield, ME. All roles will be cast; schedule an audition spot by emailing recycledshakespeare@gmail.com. (You may just drop in as well.) If you would like to audition but are not available Apr. 1, please email for another time. Emily Rowden Fournier directs. There will be cold

readings & memorized lines. If you are able to, please prepare Jaques' monologue from Act II, Scene VII: "All the world's a stage and all the men & women merely players..." Performances June 16, 17, & July 7 in mid-Maine. Check out RSC on FB.

MORE CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS:

MIDCOAST YOUTH THEATER, Brunswick, ME, teaches & produces 4 shows every summer for students in Elementary, Middle & High School, all performances at the Orion Theater. Auditions & rehearsals will be approximately 10 weeks before the show dates. There is a fee although there are some scholarships available based on financial need. FMI on audition dates, etc. visit www.midcoastyouththeater.org. *Elementary School*: K-2nd grade E-I-E-I OOPS; Gr. 3 – 5 JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH JR; both shows performed July 13-15. *High School*: CAROUSEL, shows July 27 – 29. *Middle School*: THE LION KING EXPERIENCE JR., shows Aug. 3 – 5.

NORTH HAVEN WATERMAN'S COMMUNITY CENTER, North Haven, ME, will have summer camps for youth. FMI visit www.watermans.org.

PENOBSCOT THEATRE's summer camps will center on these youth productions: THE ADDAMS FAMILY: A New Musical Comedy, session dates June 26 – July 23 with performances July 20-23; weekdays 9 – 5 (9 – 12 for ages 4 – 6). SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES by Ray Bradbury, session dates Jul. 31 – Aug. 20 with performances Aug. 17 – 20, weekdays 9 – 5. In addition to rehearsing each show, performing students will engage in acting workshops, improv classes, etc. Both sessions offer Tech Track, a special course of study for teens interested in the technical aspects of the craft. Faculty includes Ben Layman, Grace Livingston-Kramer, Ira Kramer, & Amy Roeder. FMI and to register visit www.penobscottheatre.org & click on Education tab.

SPOTLIGHT MAINE DANCE STUDIO, 875 Broadway, So. Portland, ME. (207) 767-1353 www.spotlightdancemaine.com

STAGES: Performing Arts Academy for Kids, NEW LOCATION at Woodfords Cong. Church, 202 Woodford St., Portland, ME. Theater classes pre-school - high school. FMI (207) 699-3330. www.stagesacademy.com

TAP DANCE Lessons for Adults & Seniors with Betsy Melarkey Dunphy at Studio 408, 408 Broadway, South Portland, ME. Classes for Beginners meet Wednesdays from 12:30 – 1:30 pm; Intermediate class Wed. 11 am – 12. FMI call (207) 799-3273.

TERPSICHORE DANCE, 798 Main St., So. Portland, ME. Classes for age 3 - adult. Musical theater dance. Maria Tzianabas, Dir. (207) 518-9384

THE THEATER PROJECT, 14 School St., Brunswick, ME. Theater classes for kids, teens, and sometimes adults. Some scholarships available. FMI visit www.theaterproject.com or call (207) 729-8584.

MICHAEL TRAUTMAN, after years of touring, now teaches clowning & physical theater at CIRCUS MAINE, 4 Thompson's Point in Portland, ME. FMI visit www.michaeltrautman.com or email info@michaeltrautman.com.

THEATER AT MONMOUTH, Monmouth, ME, this year offers *CampShakes*: Three one-week sessions – for *Groundlings*, grades 3 – 5, (A) Jul. 31-Aug. 4, A Midsummer Night's Dream; (B) Aug. 7-11, Romeo & Juliet; (C) Aug. 14-18, Twelfth Night. For *Young Company*, grades 6 – 8, (D) Jul. 31 – Aug. 4, As You Like It; (E) Aug. 7-11, The Tempest; (F) Aug. 14-18, The Comedy of Errors. All sessions at TAM's Rehearsal Studio, 775 Main St., Monmouth. FMI visit www.theateratmonmouth.org or call (207) 933-9999.

VIVID MOTION, INC, 90 Bridge St., Suite 227, 2nd floor, Dana Warp Mill, Westbrook, ME. Company class Wed. 7-8:30 pm, mixed level, pay-what-you-can. FMI www.vividmotion.org

WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE & ARTSPACE, 93 Main St., 3rd floor, Waterville, ME. Classes in dance plus theater camps during summer & school vacation weeks. FMI call (207) 873-5381.

CAST & CREW

To Subscribe to CAST & CREW
Please send \$20.00 per year (6 Issues) to:
P.O. Box 1031, Portland ME 04104-1031
207 – 799 – 3392
castandcrewnewsletter@yahoo.com

- New Subscription
 Subscription Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone / E-Mail: _____

CAST & CREW
P.O. Box 1031
Portland, ME 04104

