

CAST & CREW

“The Source For Theater Happenings”

HERE’S TO THOSE WHO DARE TO RISK

By Megan Grumbling

The praises of theater’s immortal favorites – its Off-Broadway hits, its Miller, its musical long-runners – are easily and frequently sung. They’re proven, audiences love ‘em, and the companies that mount them appeal to our desire for tradition, and the familiar. But the companies I’d like to applaud now are the ones who opted for slightly riskier artistic directions in 2005. Here follow my celebrations of five area theater groups who last year took on works that were strange and unusual, ambitiously multi-medial, or significantly, controversially activist in nature.

First of all, who ever decreed that narrative need corner the theatrical market? In the realm of film, for example, we have the works of Jonas Mekas and Luis Buñuel to satisfy our hankering for art absent a story, but when was the last time you sat through a *play* unhampered by a plot? My last – and perhaps only – time was in March of 2005, when I tramped through the snow for **The Deviant/goods** production of Katie McKee’s strange and circular *Flo and Glo*. Chirpy, schizoid Flo (Jamalieh Haley) and haggard, guttural Glo (Tavia Lin Gilbert) wear red parkas to shovel snow from an airstrip in a sterile Antarctica of the soul. As they toil, they chatter, pause, and obsess, refraining the quips and non-sequiturs of a script driven by language and character rather than action. There’s little action in this surrealist work at all – although the women do occasionally point up at a plane manned by the mythic and sexy Frank – and instead, we’re drawn solely by rhythms, repetitions in triplicate, and phrasing that returns us, inevitably, to where we began. Accompanied by director Stephen McLaughlin on the piano, *Flo and Glo* adventurously explored the sounds of language rather than the sense, and made eerie music of human loneliness and longing.

There’s something appealing and artistically democratic about music, and other arts, when they are allowed equal billing with the acted script. Sets and soundtracks, for example, are often thought of as the tech support to the main event, rather than arts of their own and of equivalent weight. But in **A Company of Girls’** January production of Madeleine L’Engle’s classic sci-fi humanist tale *A Wrinkle in Time*, directed by Odelle Bowman, the cast’s young actresses shared equal prominence with two other mediums in a triptych of performance/art. Local middle-eastern-spacy band Tarpigh performed a cosmic and primal original score to accompany the story, and Yarmouth artist Susan Bickford guided young video-artists in creating a video installation

projected onto the backdrop. So carefully conceived were both Tarpigh’s music and Bickford & co’s visual art, they could have stood alone as independent works – but in trinity with the actresses, each became much more than the sum of its parts.



Megan Grumbling

Another ambitious theatrical use of media made for a nerve-racking and manic production of *Titus*, that most gruesome of Shakespeare’s tragedies, directed by Michael Toth last July for **Two Lights**. Even before actors took the stage, projections affronted the audience. At first, there were printed questions up on the backdrop, of the sort seen as trivia before the movie previews, but with poignant topicality about violence: “When was your first fight?” “Where are your scars?” “What do you hate?” Soon after, the audience was assaulted with an overture of modern film and video images: a mushroom cloud, American soldiers in Vietnam, the World Trade Center collapsing, ground troops in Iraq. The accompanying audio was of piercing screams and strafings, which Toth followed, throughout the play, with a soundtrack diverse and familiar enough to include jazz

ballads, techo, and the Copeland “beef” song. In all, Toth’s medial ambitions set us up to experience *Titus*’s atrocities personally, viscerally, and in a compellingly contemporary context.

Down in Portsmouth, on the other hand, **Pontine** put up a show that stayed refreshingly true to the media and materials of its period. *The Peace of Portsmouth*, a documentary work written and performed by Greg Gathers and Marguerite Matthews, explored what happened in 1905 when diplomats from all over the world descended upon Portsmouth, New Hampshire, to try to make a peace between the warring nations of Japan and Russia. The people of Portsmouth were thrilled to play host, naturally, and Gathers and Matthews dramatized – using words culled from newspapers and letters of the times, cut-out ships and figures from old photos and drawings, and music remastered from old wax-cylinder recordings – some of their expectations and disappointments. Documentary-based performance is hard to come by, and **Pontine**’s performance elegantly immersed its audience in the sentiments and imagery of a younger America, offering us an intimate and authentic view of a New England that once was.

Finally, a group of young professional and non-professional actors banded together last fall to help shape a New England that could and should be. When Maine’s 2005 Question One, an assault on civil rights for gays and lesbians, made it to the ballot, **ROIL**, a troupe of theater social activists, created a smart set of skits for voter education. The group – which included Seth Berner, Peter Brown, Derek Converse, Joanna Horton, Hannah Legerton, Paul Miller, Christopher Reilling, and Tessy Seward – collaboratively honed a script that was empathetic, well-informed, and acute in its range of perspectives. Its characters weren’t just stereotypical gay activists. A regular old housewife, who’s not exactly comfortable talking about lesbianism, is nonetheless shocked and outraged when her daughter’s lesbian pre-school teacher is evicted because of her sexual orientation. Later, New York executives bag a plan to set up an office in Maine, being unwilling to funnel jobs and money into a state with such a medieval approach to difference and rights. **ROIL** took its series of activist skits on the road to dozens of schools and community centers from Portland to Unity. The troupe’s fine civic theater was the year’s most heartening reminder of how art can not just imitate life, but also instruct it.

Here’s to more, in 2006, of the zealous ambition of these five groups. In taking chances with their choices, and offering audiences more than the obvious, they’ve made the local theater community richer, more provocative, and more of an extension of the larger community itself.

Megan Grumbling is the theater critic for The Portland Phoenix. She may be reached at mgrumbling@hotmail.com.



FLO AND GLO, **The Deviant/goods**: Jamalieh Haley (Flo) and Tavia Lin Gilbert (Glo)



A WRINKLE IN TIME, **A Company of Girls**: Nhi Nguyen, Crystal Cron, & Karina Massabanda



TITUS ANDRONICUS, **Two Lights Theatre Ensemble**

Deviant/goods

80 Roberts Street #1
Portland, ME 04102
(207) 409-6763 (Tavia Lin Gilbert)
www.thedeviantgoods.org

A Company of Girls

10 Mayo Street
Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-2107 (Odelle Bowman)

Two Lights Theater Ensemble

Portland, ME
(207) 653-9065 (Sean Demers)
www.twolights.org
twolights@hotmail.com

Pontine Movement Theatre

135 McDonough St., P.O. Box 1437
Portsmouth, NH 03802
(603) 436-6660 (Marguerite Mathews, Greg Gathers)

ROIL (A collaborative effort)

Portland, ME
www.roilnow.com
info@roilnow.com

MeACT

MeACT (Maine Association of Community Theaters) will hold their annual One-Act Play Festival at Morse High School in Bath, ME, in May. Saturday, May 6, will begin with workshops at 8 am, followed by the annual meeting at 11 am. After a provided lunch, productions will begin at 1 pm and go hourly until time out for dinner at 5 pm. Evening performances will begin at 7 pm. The plan is to fill the Saturday schedule first. If necessary because of the number of entrants, Friday or Sunday times could also be added.

At present the following groups have committed to performing: **Camden Civic Theatre, Sacopee Performing Arts, Gaslight Theater, and Open Book Players.** For information on membership and festival performance applications, visit www.meact.org.

You don't have to be a member to attend, but you do need to be a member to present a play. However, membership is always open and welcomed!

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STRETCHING YOUR PRODUCTION BUDGET

By Bob Demers

Editor's Note: The Tilbury Town essays are the tongue-in-cheek brainchild of Bob Demers of Gardiner, ME. Bob is an actor/director/producer whose special interest is in Readers Theatre (such as Open Book Players) and who publishes on line the Readers Theatre Digest. FMI email him at rdemers@adelphia.net.

One Wednesday a guy from Hallowell named Gary Woolsey wandered into the Holy Mackerel Bar and Grill next door to Theatre-on-the-Fritz. He soon got caught up in a discussion of the problem we were having with the production budget. Royalties and the cost of building sets, hiring technicians and all that stuff, were taking a toll on our resources. Everybody agreed that some cutting back was in order.

Gary got right into it by saying, "Here's a little experiment you can do. Take a playscript," he said; "I mean the object that has the words on the page. Place it on the stage. Put posters up around town announcing that people can come see the play on the stage for four or five dollars. Do this for a year and watch its effect on your bottom line," so said Gary.

Jeremy Jackson-Johnson, Tilbury star actor and chairman of our annual Haircut Festival emoted, "This is a great idea! It's the new post-modernism. I bet you'll get a least three people a performance and MAYBE one of them will go pick up the script. And maybe one will walk out with it! This is brilliant!" If Jeremy thought it was a good idea, then by golly it was. And besides, it was good audience participation stuff.

Everyone thanked Gary for giving them something they could use at Theatre-on-the-Fritz.

The idea of charging admission to watch a script lying on a bare stage fitted right into the need to cut corners. Production costs should be minimal. A single borrowed candle could light the set (if they can find a match), and actors and directors won't even be an issue. All that remains is to find the right play at a fair price. The script should be fairly thick so as to be visible from the back row – not a big problem given that we have seating for only nine (eight if Sadie Hatfield shows up). The royalty should be negotiable.

About the time we thought we'd covered the subject, Dave Skcysm piped up. "Now wait just a minute," he said. "Just in case anyone thinks this idea of charging admission to look at a playscript on a bare stage is a stroke of genius, there is a sort of musical precedent."

Dave is Third Selectman and something of a cultural guru in Tilbury. So Dave went on, saying, "There's a work by a composer named John Cage, in which a piano player sits with his fingers poised over a piano keyboard but never plays anything. I think the musical notation for this is 'tacet.'

"Well," Dave says, "The piece's name is its length, which varies from performance to performance. The name might be 'Eight Minutes' at one performance, 'Eleven and a Half Minutes' at another, and so on." The discussion went on like that for a spell and eventually petered out.

Next day someone mentioned the discussion to Marion Decimal, the town librarian. Marion represents the *litterati* of our community. In fact, she IS the *litterati* and has her finger on the cultural pulse of Tilbury Town.

Seems she and a couple of other board members had been looking for a way to honor Sod Ferment for his unflagging support of our theater. And just in time along comes Dave Skcysm with the John Cage information. Marion was ecstatic! "How about," she keened, eyes a-glisten with inspiration, "How about having Sod star in his own one-man musical? If we place him at our Steinway just right, no one will ever notice that there ain't no doggone keys!" (Marion's cultural persona falters a bit under the influence of strong emotions.)

Sod is the quintessence of tone-deafness. He can't tell the difference between a cow's moo and a cat's meow without looking, so anything musical is an alien experience to Sod. But this new approach to musical theater made all that moot.

So, Sod's theatrical debut will eventually happen, and when it does, you'll be the first to know. Marion wonders though, who holds the performance rights and if an intermission is a good idea and if so, what kinds of baked goods might go over best at the concession.

And which notes should Sod's fingers be poised over.

Chauncy Chellis, Aesthetic Director-of-Maintenance
Theatre-on-the-Fritz
Tilbury Town

<http://www.kennebecrivercommunities.com/tilbury/culture1.htm>

HEARD IN THE GREEN ROOM

Good Theater will open the Tony Award winning musical **THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD** by Rupert Holmes on February 16, with a run through March 12 at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress Street, Portland. Each performance of **DROOD**, based on the unfinished novel by Charles Dickens, will be unique because the audience will vote on who is the murderer, who plays detective, and which pair of lovers will be united! Brian P. Allen directs, with musical direction by Aaron Robinson and choreography by Samantha Fitschen. Set design is by Janet Montgomery, lighting by Jamie Grant, and costumes by Joan McMahon. In the cast are Glenn Anderson as the Chairman, Stephen Underwood as John Jasper, Tanya Whitman as Edwin Drood, Karen Stickney as Rosa Bud, Cathy Counts as Princess Puffer, Graham Allen as Neville Landless, Jessica Peck as Helena Landless, Chris Handy as Rev. Crisparkle, William Sandstead as Bazzard, John B. Nutting as Durdles, Christopher D'Iorio as the Deputy, Evan Charest as James Throttle, Betsy Melarkey Dunphy as Flo, and Tyler Sperry and Nell Green, Dancers. Good Theater has received a grant from Target to underwrite the cost of renting authentic Victorian costumes from The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. Performances will be Thursdays at 7:30, Fridays and Saturdays at 8, and Sundays at 2 pm. Call (207) 885-5883.



THE DINING ROOM, Good Theater November Production: L-R, Amy Roche, Sean Demers, Craig Ela, Denise Poirier, Stephen Underwood, and Tootie van Reenan.

At **The Theater Project**, 14 School Street, Brunswick, ME, their **WINTER CABARET** opened January 27 and continues through February 12, Friday and Saturday at 8 pm and Sunday at 2 pm. Director Wendy Poole says, "We have found some wonderfully funny new pieces, and there are those wonderful desserts provided by The Humble Gourmet!" The cast includes regulars Keith Antcil, Craig Ela, Michele Livermore-Wigton, Al Miller, Lee K. Paige, Wendy Poole, and Christopher Price. Jazz music is provided by Peter Dugas on organ and Lex Jones on guitar. Call (207) 729-8584.

The Theater Project Young Company will present Shakespeare's comedy **AS YOU LIKE IT** March 17 – 19 and 24 – 26. Leading the cast are Carl Elsaesser (Orlando), Alex Toy (Rosalind), Joe Faustine (Touchstone), and Kate Bell-Hart (Jaques). Call (207) 729-8584.

Theater Manager Joanna Patterson has also happily announced that The Theater Project not only reached, but surpassed, the \$20,000 goal of its annual fund drive, a welcome boost for TP's work in the community with classes, school workshops, and collaborations with other groups such as Spindleworks, as well as theater productions.



WINTER CABARET, The Theater Project: Craig Ela and Wendy Poole in "The Processional". Photo by Emily Glinick

The Maine premiere of **BAD DATES** by Boston playwright Theresa Rebeck and starring Julie Jirousek opened January 27 at **The Public Theatre** in Lewiston, ME, and has been so successful that the play has been extended through February 12! Performances will be Thursday at 7 pm, Friday and Saturday at 8 and Sunday at 2 pm. Janet Mitchko directed, with set design by Adam Klein, lighting by Bart Garvey, and costumes by Kathleen Brown. Call (207) 782-3200.



BAD DATES, The Public Theatre: Julie Jirousek

The Public Theatre has also announced the receipt of a \$5,000 grant from The Maine Theater Fund of the Maine Community Foundation to be applied toward its four phase, \$2.4 million renovation of the theater facility. The Public has already completed two phases of the renovations with the recently unveiled reconfigured lobby box office and concession area, and new restrooms. The MCF grant will be applied to Phase III, which includes extensive work to the exterior of the building and the stage and backstage areas.

Next for The Public will be **FICTION** by Steven Dietz, Match 17 – 19 and 23 – 26. The play concerns a long-time married couple, who are also successful authors, and their shock when a twist of fate compels them to read each other's diaries! This will be the New England premiere of the Off-Broadway hit. Call (207) 782-3200.

A **MEMO FROM JUPITER** by Dennis Snee will be given a reading by **Freeport Community Players** on February 12 at the Azure Café, Main Street, Freeport, ME. This is a one-act comedy in which Jupiter, Minerva, Venus, and Mars gather to deal with the word that Cupid has decided to resign as god of love and go into show business. Visit www.fcponline.org or call (207) 865-2220.

On January 15 at the Hilton Garden in Freeport FCP presented a reading of Maine resident **Larry Crane's** full-length play **BREADALBANE**, followed by an audience/playwright dialogue exploring key elements of the play. David Glendinning directed, and the cast included Jackie Oliveri, John Linscott, Patricia Scott, Julia Sheridan Langham, Bob Pinkelman, John Albright, and Nicole Moore.

THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS by Larry L. King and Peter Masterson, with music and lyrics by Carol Hall, will be opened on February 17 by **Lyric Music Theater**, 176 Sawyer Street, South Portland, ME. The run will continue through March 5, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm and Sundays at 2:30 pm. Vincent Knue directs, with musical direction by Leslie Chadbourne, choreography by Nancy Salmon, set design by Don Smith, technical direction and lighting design by Jim Caruthers, costumes and assistant to the director Denise Knue, and stage management by Doreen Caruthers. Eileen Candelmo is the producer. Heading the large cast are Brian Chadbourne as Sheriff Ed Earl, Rhonda Trask as Miss Mona, Lisa Southwick as Jewel, Teri Gauthier as Angel, Shannon Marie Cusello as Shy, Cindy O'Neil as Doatsey Mae, Bill McCue as the Narrator, Jim Colby as the Governor, Alex Pratt as Senator Wingwoah, and Christopher Benoit as Melvin T. Thorpe. Call (207) 799-1421 or 799-6509 beginning February 10.

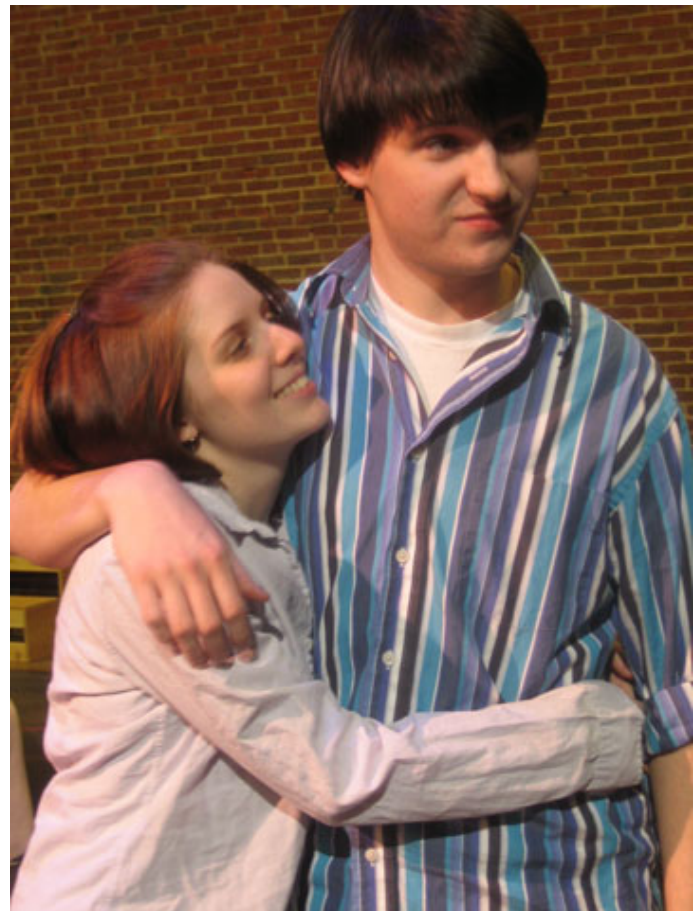
Principals in the large cast of Disney's **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**, Lyric Music Theater's December show (we didn't have this information in time for the December issue), included Jessica Ernest as Belle, Jonathan Emery as the Beast, Devon Fogarty as Gaston, Derek Brigham as LeFou, James Kane as Maurice, Kevin Birkemose as Lumiere, Dennis Fontaine as Cogsworth, Pat Moody as Mrs. Potts, Andrew Ernest as Chip, and Colleen Cole as Babette.

The Children's Theatre of Maine will present **MISS NELSON IS MISSING** by Harry Allard and James Marshall, adapted for the stage by Joan Cushing, February 10 – March 12, at their 317 Marginal Way theater in Portland. Pamela DiPasquale directs, with musical direction by Jamie Lupien. The cast will be headed by Maureen Butler in the title role, with Hannah Daly, Alina Grimshaw, Michaela Thurlow, Peter Bailinson, Dylan Volk, and Brian Hinds in other roles. Performances will be Fridays at 7 pm, Saturdays at 11 am and 2 pm, and Sundays at 2 pm, plus vacation matinees at 11 am and 2 pm on February 22, 23, and 24. Call (207) 828-0617.

CTM staged George Bernard Shaw's **SAINT JOAN** January 13 –30, with Rita Brandt-Meyer in the title role. Other major roles were played by John Hickson, Brian Hinds, Dan Bracken, Mark Young, and Sebastian Ascanio. Pamela DiPasquale directed.

Mad Horse Theatre opened Christopher Durang's **BABY WITH THE BATHWATER** on January 26 at the Portland Performing Arts Center's Studio Theater, where it continues through February 19. Joan Sand directed. The design team included Barb Truex (sound), Joan Sand (lights), Max Jones (set and props), and James Herrera and Elizabeth Chambers (costumes). The cast includes company members Craig Bowden, David Currier, Christine Louise Marshall, and Lisa Muller-Jones, and guest artist Nancy Brown. Performances are at 7:30 pm on Thursdays (February 9 is "Buy One Get One Free Night"), Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm, and Sundays at 7 pm. Call (207) 730-2389.

Shakespeare's **HAMLET** is the winter production of **Camden Civic Theatre** at Camden Opera House on Elm Street February 10 – 12 and 16 – 18. Hal Owen directs, with set design and special effects by Paul Aron Weintraub, lighting by Mary Ann Glasson, costumes by Gail Berry, and stage management by Jaime Williamson. The producer is Don White. Woodruff Gaul takes the title role, with Roger Marcotte as Claudius, Lisa Lundgren as Gertrude, Foner Curtis as Polonius, Matt Withee as Laertes, Morgan Cooper as Ophelia, Eric McAllin as Horatio, Jim Dugan and Kat Messing as Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, and Robert Jordan, Richard Podolsky, Caitlin Taylor, and Kristina Rowe. Call (207) 236-2281.



LAYERS OF LOVE, USM Department of Theatre: Meaghan Benton (Audrey) and Jack Fossett (Nathan). Photo by Mary Snell

Two new plays by students will take stage at the **University of Southern Maine's** Russell Hall February 16 – 18 at 7:30 pm and February 19 at 5 pm. Assunta Kent directs. **LAYERS OF LOVE** by Mia Perron features Meaghan Benton as Audrey, a bright, witty college grad looking for love in a town very like Portland. Also in the cast are Jack Fossett (Nathan, the "boy next door"), Colin Whitely (Lucas, a hot-shot young developer), Shawn Reardon (Martin,

Lucas's salt-of-the-earth construction foreman), and Cate Goeschius (Audrey's lusty, repressed mother). After intermission there follows LOVE AND (JUST) ROMANCE, a thriller by Tim Sheridan (for mature audiences only). In the cast are Nate Amadon (Marcus, a small city newspaper editor), Jaime Willard (his bohemian wife, Carla), and Kristen Peters as Lillian, a "mysterious temptress" fascinated by Johnny Speckman as Warren, the survivor of a car accident. In the design team are Jesse Pilgrim, set: Corey Anderson, lighting; Nate Speckman, sound; and Meredith Davis, costumes. Call (207) 780-5555.



MUSICAL THEATER: BY RODGERS!, USM School of Music: Alexis Handy, Derrick Jaques, and Sara Johnson-Berz. Photo by Mary Snell

On January 28 and 29 the **USM School of Music** presented **MUSICAL THEATER: BY RODGERS!**, an original revue conceived and directed by Edward Reichert, celebrating the Broadway music of three generations: Richard Rodgers, his daughter Mary Rodgers (*ONCE UPON A MATTRESS*), and his grandson Adam Guettel (*THE LIGHT IN THE PIAZZA*). Performers in Corthell Concert Hall were Ashley Christy, Jason Cook, Alexandra Dietrich, Travis Grant, Alexis Handy, Caitlin Kelty-Huber, Derrick Jaques, Sara Johnson-Berz, Slaney Jordan, Amy Lockwood, Janelle LoSciuto, Ryan Mack, Emily Moore, Hallie Parmenter, Jared Poulin, Kimberly Stone, and Ashleigh St. Pierre.

Next for the **USM Department of Theatre** will be Willy Russell's **BLOOD BROTHERS**, a collaborative production with the School of Music, March 17, 18, 23 – 25 at 7:30 pm, March 19, 22, and 26 at 5 pm, and a High School Matinee March 21 at 10 am. Wil Kilroy directs, and musical direction is by Edward Reichert. Call (207) 780-5555.

USM VDAY 2006 will present Eve Ensler's **THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES** at 8 pm on February 10 in Corthell Concert Hall on the USM Gorham Campus, and on February 11 at noon and at 8 pm (ASL Interpreted), both in Luther Bonney Auditorium on the USM Portland Campus. All proceeds benefit Family Crises Services and Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine. FMI or for tickets call the USM Women's Resource Center at (207) 780-4996.

At **Colby College** in Waterville, ME, you can see **ROUGH MAGIC: THREE NIGHTS OF TERRIBLY TRUE STORIES** February 9 – 11 at 7:30 pm in the Strider Theater. Also in the same theater, an original adaptation by Joylynn Wing of Ibsen's **AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE** will be staged March 16 – 18 at 7:30 pm. Call (207) 859-4535.



HENRY V, The Theater at Monmouth: Fluellen and MacMorris square off – L-R, Augie Truhn, Michael Holmes, Frank Omar, and Dennis A. Price

The Theater at Monmouth started touring on January 20 to schools and other community venues with Shakespeare's **HENRY V** and continues with the tour through February 18. TAM regular New York actor/director Bill Van Horn directed with set design by John Story, costumes by Mike McGrew, technical direction by Taylor Rodgers, and stage management by Anne Jude. Henry Bazemore, Jr. plays the title role. Others in multiple roles are Jeri Pitcher, Dennis A. Price, Frank Omar, Christine Piche, Kati Stodd, Augie Truhn, and Michael Holmes. Other performances are scheduled as follows: Hall Dale H.S. in Hallowell on February 7, U. Maine at Presque Isle on February 8, Muskie Performing Arts Center in Rumford on February 9, North Haven Island Waterman Center on February 10, Winthrop H.S. on February 11 (all preceding at 7 pm); Hutchinson Center Auditorium in Belfast at 2 and 7 pm (hosted by Belfast Maskers – Charlotte Herbold and William Nelson held two "preview sessions on January 22 and 29, which included readings of excerpts by local actors, along with discussion of the play with Ms. Herbold as presenter and facilitator); Hebron Academy on February 13, 15 and 16 (at 6:30 pm), The Grand Auditorium in Ellsworth on February 14 and The Waldo Theatre in Waldoboro on February 17 (both at 7 pm); and February 18 at Penobscot Theatre in Bangor at the Opera House at 2 and 7 pm. The production is part of *Shakespeare in American Communities: Shakespeare for a New Generation*, sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts in cooperation with Arts Midwest. Additional support has been received from the Maine Arts Commission, the Winthrop Performing Arts Center, and Winthrop High School.

Penobscot Theatre opened Rebecca Gilman's **SPINNING INTO BUTTER** on February 1 at the Bangor Opera House on Main Street, Bangor, where it continues through February 12, with 2 pm matinees on February 8 and 12, February 9 at 7 pm, February 10 and 11 at 8 pm. The story "explores racism and political correctness through the experience of Sarah Daniels, dean of students at a small liberal college in Vermont." In the cast are Kent D. Burnham, Alison Cox, Michael Geise, Rich Kimball, Ace Marrero, Tracy Liz Miller, and Ken Stack. Nathan Halvorson directed, with design by Lex Liang and Jonathan

Spencer, and stage management by Rebecca Spinac. Call (207) 942-3333 or 877-PTC-TIXX.

Next for this company will be Anton Chekhov's **UNCLE VANYA** as adapted by David Mamet and directed by Shaun Peknic. It will run March 15 and 16 at 7 pm (previews), March 17 at 8, March 18 at 5, March 19, 22, and 26 at 2, March 23 at 7, and March 24-25 at 8. Call (207) 942-3333 or 877-PTC-TIXX.

We didn't have the information for the December issue on PTC's **CHRISTMAS CAROL** cast, so here it is now: Ken Stack returned to lead the cast of 15 as Scrooge; others were Dennis Price, Arthur Morrison, Rich Kimball, Allen Adams, Mikki Jordan, Roberta Barclay, Mary Atkin, Lacey Martin, Rebecca Bailey, Lexi Marceron, John Greenman, Christopher Yeatts, Mikayla Burrige, and Connor Kenney as Tiny Tim. Scott R. C. Levy directed, with set and costume design by Lex Liang and lighting design by Lynne Chase.

Warren Kids and Teens TheaterWorks will present a coffee house program of songs and skits on February 11 at 7 pm at the Warren Library Auditorium, 479 Main Street, Westbrook, ME.

LIE, CHEAT & GENUFLECT, a fast-paced comedy by William van Zandt and Jane Milmore, is the current offering at **Waldo Theatre** in Waldoboro, ME, where it continues with performances at 8 pm on Friday 10 and 11. Eugene Thomas directed. In the cast are Corey Honkonen, Dale Smith, Barbara Souther, Heidi Kopishke, Tod Widdecombe, Marie Merrifield, Polly Noyce, and Ryan Mitchell. Call (207) 832-6060.

At **Portland Stage Company** 25A Forest Avenue, Portland, **ROUGH CROSSING** by Tom Stoppard opened January 24 and continues through February 19. Michael Rafkin directed this play based on Ferenc Molnar's farce **THE PLAY'S THE THING**. On the 1930's ocean liner crossing the Atlantic are Daniel Noel and Richard Boardman as the playwrights Gal and Turai, Bryant Richards as composer Adam, Marcy McGuigan as Adam's fiancée, Natasha; David Edwards as actor Ivor; and Mark Honan as cabin steward Dvornichek. Call (207) 774-0465.

Next at PSC will be the Tony and Pulitzer Prize-winning **I AM MY OWN WIFE** by Doug Wright, directed by Drew Barr, starring Tom Ford. This tour de force for a single actor was "inspired by the true story of Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, a German transvestite who, despite incredible odds, survived the Nazis and the Communist regime that followed." Performances will be February 28 through March 26. call (207) 774-0465.

PSC directing interns Leah Batt and Leigh Anne Morlock have created and are directing two new plays for presentation between March 10 and 18.

On January 14, PSC hosted a "Family Open House, an afternoon of free performances and workshops" featuring PSC Affiliate Artists, along with backstage tours and refreshments.

In Concord, NH, **Concord Community Players** will stage **INHERIT THE WIND** by Lawrence and Lee February 16 – 18 at Concord City Auditorium. Call (603) 225-6078.

Generic Theater will present Arthur Miller's **THE PRICE** at **Players' Ring** in Portsmouth, NH, February 10 – 26. **Daniel Productions** follows at this theater at 105 Marcy Street with **2 X 2 X 2** March 2 – 12. Then **Scullin Productions** comes in with **SEXUAL PERVERSITY IN CHICAGO** March 17 – April 2. Call (603) 436-8123.



***ROUGH CROSSING, Portland Stage Company:** L-R clockwise, Daniel Noel (Gal), David Edwards (Ivor), Robert Boardman (Turai), Bryant Richards (Adam), Marcy McGuigan (Natasha), and Mark Honan (Dvornichek). Photo by Darren Setlow*

Over at 125 Bow Street in Portsmouth, **Seacoast Repertory Theatre** is currently staging Leiber & Stoller's **SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ** through February 19. The ensemble includes Jennifer Sue Mallard, Merrill Peiffer, John Pirroni, DeMond B. Nason, Rafael Rawlins, James Cepero, and Mariella Hill. Craig J. Faulkner directed; Musical Director William Asher is at the keyboard with the 6-piece band. Call (603) 433-4472 or 800-639-7650.

Next at SRT will be the School Edition of **GODSPELL** February 24 – March 5. Call above number(s).

On February 11, **Seaglass Performing Arts** will present **OPERA FOR LOVERS** in the newly renovated MacArthur Hall in Biddeford, ME, located in the area behind City Theater. Part of the music for the event will be provided by The Overtones, the newest member of the Seaglass family, directed by Jean Strazdes. Call (207) 985-8747.

When Seaglass staged Menotti's **AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS** in Kennebunk, ME, in January, the cast included Kelia Ingraham as Amahl, Jean Strazdes as the Mother, Alex Pratt as



AM AHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS, Seaglass Performing Arts: Amahl and The Three Kings

Balthazar, Ron Woodward as Kaspar, Kevin Broad as Melchior, and Matthew Drown as the Page. Musical Director Steven Morris was at the piano, with Stephanie Sanders on flute, Tiffany Twitchell on clarinet, and Carl Menard on percussion. Choreography was by Kelly Brown.

St. Luke's Cathedral of Portland will host its first annual LOVE FEAST on February 11 at the Eastland Park Hotel on High Street. The celebration of love and diversity is open to singles and couples and people of all faiths, ages, and cultures. It includes a sit-down dinner, musical entertainment, dancing, and a skit by Portland's New York-transplanted composer/writer **Hank Beebe**. Proceeds will benefit the cathedral's Outreach Programs. Call (207) 772-5434 or 415-8274.

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR by Lloyd Webber & Rice will be on the boards at the **University of Maine Orono** campus February 17 – 26. Sandra Hardy directs. Call 800-622-8499.

On February 10, Helikon Opera Company will offer DIE FLEDERMAUS by Johann Strauss at 8 pm at the **Maine Center for the Arts** in Orono. Call 800-MCA-TIXX.

UMO's School of Performing Arts has received a grant from the Maine Academic Prominence Initiative to convert the Class of 1944 Hall acting studio into a state-of-the-art black box theater, video recording studio, and learning lab. The space will support live performances, video recording of teaching and of classes for analysis of student work, video recording of performances, multimedia and interactive performance, and preparation of video for distance and local education, enabling the creation of any shape of theater space within its walls!

At the Merrill Auditorium in Portland, **PCA Great Performances** will bring the Carl Rosa Opera production of Gilbert & Sullivan's HMS PINAFORE on March 16 at 7:30 pm; Teatro Lirico D'Europa with Puccini's LA BOHEME on March 30 at 7:30 pm; and the Russian National Ballet with SWAN LAKE on April 6 at 7:30 pm. Call (207) 842-0800.

Don't forget The Early Evening Show at **Oddfellow Theater**, Route 117, Buckfield, ME, on the first Friday and Saturday of each month, looking ahead to March 3 and 4. Call (207) 336-3306 for more information. (On January 27 and 28, four-time gold medal winning Juggler Morten Hansen presented his show FALLING UP WORDS.) Also visit: www.oddfellow.com.

A NIGHT OF ONE ACTS will take the stage at **Nashua Theatre Guild**, 14 Court Street, Nashua, NH, February 23 – 26. Call (603) 880-0243.

At the **Palace Theater**, 80 Hanover Street in Manchester, NH, INTO THE WOODS will be on the boards February 16. Then 42nd STREET will be performed March 17 – 26. Call (603) 668-5588.

Thornton Wilder's OUR TOWN was opened February 3 by Winnie Players Community Theater and continues through February 12 at **Winnepesaukee Playhouse & Performing Arts Center** in Laconia, NH. Call (603) 366-7377.

Stage One Productions, 124 Bridge Street in Manchester, NH, offers Simon's PLAZA SUITE February 10 – 12 and Steve Martin's THE UNDERPANTS March 17 – 19. Call (603) 699-5511.

Yellow Taxi Productions of Nashua, NH, will present the 2006 SUSAN McINTYRE PLAY FESTIVAL at Pinkerton Academy's Black Box Theater in Derry, NH, March 1 – 4. Next will be TENDER March 9 – 11 and LANTERNS March 10 – 11, both in Nashua. For information call (603) 626-5606, Ext. 2.

At the **Waterville Opera House**, 93 Main Street in Waterville, ME, FAME, The Musical will be on the Main Stage February 10, 11, 17 & 18 at 7:30 pm, and February 12 at 2 pm. The Annual Variety Show will be on that stage March 18. Call (207) 873-7000.

Raymond Marc Dumont, after a hiatus of several years (which included his time as Managing Director at Maine State Music Theatre), is returning to **L/A Community Little Theatre** in Auburn to direct GRAND HOTEL, which will run at the Academy Street Great Falls Performing Arts Center March 10 – 19. Ray performed in the Philadelphia production of this show and also choreographed it for CLT when it was presented 11 years ago. In the cast are Catherine Ouellette as Elizaveta Grushinskaya, the aging ballerina; Karen McArthur as Raffaella, her longtime confidante; Bob Gauthier as penniless Baron von Gailgern; Tim Pinkham as Rohna, the hotel manager; Bruce Gerry as Col. Dr. Otternschlag, W.W.I veteran and narrator; Michelle Mahan as the typist, Flaemmchen; and Steve Dupont as Otto Kringlein. Others performers are Scott Powers, Wayne Pike, Sarah Sutter, John Blanchette, Roger Philippon, Melvin Morrison, Bruce Szal, Andy White, Jeremy Dubois, Ron Bouffard, Eileen Messina, Elizabeth Snyder, Rachel Hanscom, Michael Litchfield, Joline Caron, David Kivus, and Michael Weber. The production team includes Ron Bouffard, assistant director; Paul G. Caron, musical director; Linda Britt and Ellen Peters, producers; Joel Salberg, production assistant; Celeste Philippon, stage manager; Rachel Morin, publicist; Karen Mayo, props; Stan Spilecki, set design and scenic artist; Renee Davis, makeup; Richard Martin, lighting; David Trask, sound. Call (207) 783-0958 or visit www.laclt.com.

The Studio Theater of Bath, ME, has had to postpone its production of VISITING MR. GREEN from February to a May time slot, opening May 12.

Meanwhile, Thom Watson, a leading player/director with Studio Theater, is directing WEST SIDE STORY for **The Chocolate Church**, 804 Washington Street, Bath, March 17 – 26. Musical direction is by Rebecca Beck, and choreography by Elaine Perry. Heading the cast will be Timothy Stilson as Tony, Tyler Beck as Riff, John Banta as Bernardo, and Christina Webb and Holly Yarmosh, who will alternate as Maria. The stage manager is David Baker, a British actor/director who has recently retired to Maine. Thom says he has not updated the show in any way, "and the kids (ages 13 and up) in the cast are learning a great deal about how class conflict and social pressure in America has not really changed much since 1957!" Performances will be at 7 pm on March 17, 18, 24, and 25, and at 2 pm on March 19 and 26. Call (207) 442-8455.

At **Bates College** in Lewiston, ME, POPCORN by Ben Elton, directed by Dana Professor of Theater Martin Andrucki, will be staged in the Schaeffer Theater March 10, 11, 17, and 18 at 8 pm, and March 12

and 19 at 2 pm. The story: "It's the day after the Oscars. What happens when a pair of crazed thrill-killers takes a director, his family and flunkys hostage? The networks arrive – and it's reality TV!" **(For adult audiences only.)** Call (207) 786-6161.

Then the Bates College Modern Dance Company will offer their Spring Concert of New Works in the Schaeffer Theater March 31 and April 1 at 8 pm and April 2 at 2 pm. Call (207) 786-6161. On April 6 at 5 pm there will be a FREE showing of works from dance classes and independent projects in the Marcy Plavin Studios, Merrill Gymnasium at Bates. *No reservations accepted.*

At **Bowdoin College** in Brunswick, ME, CHEKHOV VAUDEVILLES will be presented in the Wish Theater on the campus February 23 – 25 at 7 pm, with an open dress rehearsal at 8 pm on Wednesday, February 22. Tickets are FREE but seating is limited. The Spring Show of Masque & Gown will be March 2 – 4 at 8 pm in the Pickard Theater. This is also FREE.

Portland Ballet will offer SIGNS OF SPRING at 8 pm March 24 and 25 at John Ford Theatre, Portland High School. The program includes the all-male piece *Au Suivant* and two world premieres: a classical ballet based on Manuel de Falla's *Three Cornered Hat*, choreographed by Daelma Santos (also the choreographer for *Au Suivant*), and a modern piece, *Winkler Project*, choreographed by Nell Green in collaboration with artist Michael Winkler. Call (207) 772-9671 or visit www.portlandballet.org.

Physical comedy artist **Michael Lane Trautman** will present his newest production THE STOOGE, A Troubled Clown for Troubled Times, at 7 pm on March 25 and 26 at Deering High School Auditorium, 370 Stevens Avenue in Portland. Call (207) 761-4598.

ROIL, the activist collaborative group with ties to similar groups in other states, will be performing on March 12 at Falmouth Congregational Church at 10 am, Falmouth, ME. They will lead a discussion as part of the church's transition to an "Open and Affirming" congregation. This month some of the group will join others from New Orleans to do some work in the Gulf Coast region, leading workshops for young people to create a performance in a FEMA trailer park outside Baton Rouge. They also have an anti-war project based in Ithaca, NY, called the Veterans' Truth Project. For more information visit their website: www.roilnow.com.

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST by Dale Wasserman, adapted from Ken Kesey's novel, will be staged by **ACAT** in the Studio Theater at Waterville Opera House, March 30 – April 8. Fred Liebfried directs. More about this in our April issue. Meanwhile, call (207) 580-6783.

Lincoln County Community Theater Dead of Winter Players are planning a Theater Festival for the last weekends in February with comedic and dramatic one-act plays and scenes. For information, call (207) 563-3424 and leave a message for Sue Ghoreyeb, or call producer Kim Fletcher at 594-1112 or 563-3171.

LCCT, aided by the generosity of local business owners, held a New Year's Eve Gala to raise money for much needed repairs to the theater's roof. Local performers presented Broadway show tunes, and there were a silent auction and raffle and dancing to music provided by DJ Patrick Couture.

Michael Rafkin will direct Kaufman & Hart's YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU for **Portland Players** with weekend performances March 10 – 26 at the theater at 420 Cottage Road in South Portland, ME. Call (207) 799-7337.

Portland Players' winter production was GODSPELL January 20 – February 5, directed and choreographed by Michael Donovan, with musical direction by Becky Michals-Rinaldi. In the cast were Kevan

Patriquin as Jesus, Brian McAloon as John the Baptist and Judas, Chris Austin, Mark Barrasso, Elaine Benoit, Rachael Duddy, Anna Gravel-Foss, Jenn Miller, Fran Page, and Susan Tremblay.



GODSPELL, Portland Players: From Top, Kevan Patriquin, Fran Page & Elaine Benoit, Anna Gravel-Foss & Jenn Miller, Brian McAloon & Chris Austin, Mark Barrasso & Rachael Duddy, and Susan Tremblay

Neil Simon's RUMORS will be staged at the **Schoolhouse Arts Center**, Route 114 in Sebago Lake Village, ME, weekends March 3 – 19. Linda Sturdivant directs. In the cast are Rick Kusturin as Ken Gorman, Terri Plummer as Chris Gorman, Gene Zerna as Leonard Gantz, Sharon Bearor as Claire Gantz, Keith Halliburton as Ernie Cusack, Sumida Sferes as Cookie Cusack, Chip Burnham as Glenn Cooper, Kate Loukas as Cassie Cooper, Larry Robinson as Officer Welch, and Meg Connell as Officer Pudney. Call (207) 642-3743.

Michael T. French is directing INTO THE WOODS BY Sondheim & Lapine for **Monmouth Community Players**, with performances at Cumston Hall, Monmouth, ME, March 17 – 19 and 24 – 26. Call (207) 582-5717.

Seaglass Kids of **Seaglass Performing Arts** will present a song-filled JUNGLE BOOK, based on Rudyard Kipling's classic, March 18 and 19 in Kennebunk, ME. Dianne Chadbourne directs. Call (207) 985-8747 or visit www.seaglassperformingarts.org.

Advice to the Players, based in North Sandwich, NH, will offer Shakespeare's **ROMEO AND JULIET** March 23 – 26. For information, call Producing Director Caroline Nesbitt at (603) 284-7048 or 677-2739.

M & D Productions of North Conway, NH, will stage **CLOSER** by Patrick Marber March 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, and 25 in North Conway. Ken Martin directs. Call (603) 356-4449.

From January 19 – 21 through 26 – 28, M & D presented **CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF** by Tennessee Williams, also directed by Ken Martin. In the cast were Rich Russo as Big Daddy, Dan Tetreault as Brick, Christy Hikel as Maggie, Gary Wilkinson as Gooper, Daisy Cabral as Mae, Cynthia Johnson as Dr. Baugh, Virginia Moore as Big Mama, Michael Ray Allen Parcels as Rev. Tooker, and Kelly Drew, Bailey Staples, Rebekah Bushey, Christine Thompson, Lily Mercer-Paiva, Jake Maidment, Jessica Hodgkins, Grayson Hikel, and Hannah Marudzirski.

The non-profit beneficiaries of the profits of this M & D season will be North Conway Library (CAT), North Conway Rotary Club (CLOSER), Starting Point (HOT-N-THROBBING), Mt. Washington Valley Dolphins (DOUBT), and The Children's Advocacy Center of Carroll County (FROZEN).

In Dover, NH, **Garrison Players** will offer Ernest Thompson's **ON GOLDEN POND** March 17 – 26. Call (603) 750-4ART.

The **University of New Hampshire Department of Theatre and Dance** began a tour of Prokofiev's **PETER AND THE WOLF** on February 1 and will continue to May 8. This ArtsReach troupe will be performing at New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Maine schools for children in grades K – 8. Carol Jo Fisher directs. In the cast are Andrea Benton, Laurie Ewer, Matthew Frazier, Brandon Lavin, Colleen Lewis, and Jonathan Roth. For information call (603) 862-2150 or email kay.staten@unh.edu.

Open Book Players just closed a weekend of readers' theater performances of **THE WORLD OF CARL SANDBURG** February 3 – 5 at Johnson Hall in Gardiner, ME. Next will be **TALES FROM THE BROTHERS GRIMM** May 20 – 21 at Johnson Hall. Call (207) 582-5717. Also, the group is preparing for their 10th Anniversary Summer Tour when the theme will be **PET STORIES FOR CHILDREN**. For details email Bob Demers at rdemers@adelphia.net. Subject: Summer Tour Update.

Reindeer Records will hold its 22nd annual statewide Rock-Off, with new this year a competition for solo artists, the first weekends in April at McAuley Performing Arts Center, Stevens Avenue, Portland. Finals are May 7. The deadline to register is February 10. Reindeer president Louis Philippe is the producer. Registration packets and information can be obtained by contacting Reindeer at (207) 857-9002 or emailing events@reindeer-group.org.

And that reminds me that I received a brochure recently from **The Outlook**, a professional recording and audio production studio, located in an 1830 homestead surrounded by 103 acres of a private wildlife sanctuary, 894 Mayville, Bethel, ME 04217. If this is something you're looking for, call Ted St. Pierre for more information at (207) 824-3246, or email: outlook@smasheasy.com. Website: www.outlookstudio.com.

The 9th annual **Maine Jewish Film Festival** will begin 9 days of programming on March 18 with a French comedy **LOCAL CALL**. It will continue through March 26, when it concludes at the Portland Museum of Art with a party and the screening of a lighthearted modern-day fable, **USHPIZIN**. For festival information go online to www.mjff.org.

Agatha Christie's indomitable Miss Marple solves the mystery in **MURDER AT THE VICARAGE**, which **Poland Players** presented February 1 – 4 at the Dr. Robert Wall Theatre in the Poland, ME, Regional High School.

St. Lawrence Arts Center in Portland was the venue February 2 – 4 for a TV pilot titled **THE COMMERCIAL SHOW** written by Portland area writer/director/comedy actor **Dan Bernard**. The cast included Paul Drinan, Denise Poirier, and members of Portland's Instant Comedy. The production team was headed by Frank Verock, whose resume includes work with The History Channel and National Geographic, with audio by Michael Townsend.

Shortly before that, January 27 – 29, also at the St. Lawrence, **Figures of Speech Theatre** of Freeport, ME, presented the premiere of **FAR EAST – TALES FROM CHINA AND JAPAN**. Performers were Figures of Speech Co-Director Carol Farrell and Lewiston-born choreographer Louis Gervais, formerly a dancer with Lar Lubovitch Company in New York and Compagnie Marie Chouinard in Montreal, and twice winner of the grand prize from the Dance Portland Choreography Competition. For more information about this company, visit www.figures.org.

Michael Parent brought his one-man show **ONE MORE THING** to the St. Lawrence January 12 – 15. Directed by David Kaye, the play, written and performed by Parent, portrays Jean-Paul Boisvert, a retired Franco-American mill worker and widower, coping with aging, loss, class consciousness, generational conflict, the connection between work and self-worth, and Franco-American culture and identity. Michael Parent, a native of Lewiston, ME, is an internationally known storyteller-singer as well as actor and playwright, who lived in Virginia for many years, where he was a co-founder of and frequent performer at Live Arts, a thriving alternative theater in Charlottesville. For more information visit: www.michaelparent.com.

The Originals Theatre Company, founded by Jennifer Porter and Dana Packard in 1988, has been awarded a \$3,000 grant from The Maine Community Foundation's Theatre Fund, recently established to strengthen and sustain live theater in Maine. Since 1990, The Originals have produced 49 plays and musicals at the Saco River Grange Hall in Bar Mills, ME.

The Belfast Maskers also announce that they have received a grant from the Maine Community Foundation in the amount of \$4,000 to aid in achieving debt reduction and financial stability. The Maskers performed their first community theater production in 1987 and have consistently offered six or more productions each season for the past 18 years. The group was recognized as "Business of the Year" in 2003 by the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce. Knowing that they could not exist without the generosity of the many people who volunteer their time and talents to the theater, the Maskers recently held their annual Volunteer Appreciation Party, which included special recognition of the long-time contributions of Board of Directors members Jerry Savitz and Nell Moore. Check out their website at www.belfastmaskerstheater.com. (Their 2006 season opens with **ONCE UPON A MATTRESS** – more about this in our April issue!)

Celebrating its 30th year, the **Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Hancock County** closed its annual G & S production at The Grand Auditorium in Ellsworth, ME, on February 5 after a two-weekend run. The story about this year's show, **HMS PINAFORE** and **TRIAL BY JURY**, which preceded it, was covered in our December issue. However, there was an addition to the cast of the one-act **TRIAL BY JURY** when Mike Povich, District Attorney for Hancock and Washington Counties, stepped on stage to act as counsel for the defendant in the comic opera for 5 of the 6 performances! The double bill will be reprised for area summer visitors July 13 – 16.

Heartwood Regional Theater Company presented Arthur Miller's ALL MY SONS January 13 – 29 at the Skidompha Library in Damariscotta, ME. Griff Braley directed. In the cast were John D. Adams, Laurie Brown, Pierre Diennet, Kelley Duffy, Kellie Gardner, Peter Panagore, Garret Schneider, John Strong, and Dixie Weisman. For more information on this group, visit: www.heartwoodtheater.org.

Acorn Productions' Shakespeare Ensemble offered a staged reading of JULIUS CAESAR ON January 23 at St. Lawrence Arts and Community Center in Portland.

Taking part were Keith Ancil, Karen Ball, Paul Drinan, Paul Haley, Michael Levine, Deborah Paley, Randall Tuttle, and Sue Yandell. Original music was provided by Denis Nye. The Shakespeare Ensemble is under the direction of Michael Levine and Michael Howard and is dedicated to bringing the words of the Bard to life through ongoing training and educational programs for the community. For more information, visit www.acorn-productions.org.

The next monthly performance of political satire and over-the-top musical numbers by **The Escapists** will be at Geno's, 625 Congress Street, Portland, on February 25. For more information visit www.theescapists.net.

From January 27 – 29, THE WEDDING, an original production by guest artists Tom Cayler and Steve Hayes, was presented at **The Pontine Movement Theatre**, West End Studio Theatre, Portsmouth, NH.

Ernest Thompson's ON GOLDEN POND, directed by Paul H. LeFevre II, will be staged February 10 – 26 at the **Leddy Center for the Performing Arts** in Epping, NH. Call (603) 679-2781, or visit www.leddycenter.org.

Their annual reading of A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES was offered by **The Chamber Theatre of Maine** in December at three locations: December 14 at Quarry Hill Assisted Living in Camden, with Erika Pfander and Terry Bregy and musicians; December 18 at the Harbor Square Gallery in Rockland with Ms. Pfander and Mr. Bregy, but the musicians were Ray Montana and Tom Judge, with Sarah Jessop, vocalist; December 19 at St. John Episcopal Church in Thomaston with Ms. Pfander and Peter Jenks and the Camden musicians.

The Lanyard Theatre Company is a new group in Bath, ME, founded by Kevin O'Leary and John Upham and committed to producing only original plays. Their inaugural production, staged in December at the Chocolate Church in Bath, HAS ANYONE SEEN RICHARD MANGIONE?, written by O'Leary, probes the relationship between father and son. Michael Howard directed the cast of seven: Giuseppe Barbarino, Katherine Pryor, Marie Stewart, Rosalind Eberhart, Charmaine McGee, Paul Haley, and Andrew Lyons in the title role. The founders say that "scripts will be generated from WritersGroup, who come every summer to Morse (High School in Bath) to mentor student playwrights," and who have "at least 12 plays waiting to come in to town."

On December 31, **Stage East** in Eastport, ME, presented two one-act comedies: BAKE OFF by Sheri Wilner, directed by Brian Schuth and featuring Stephanie Allard and John Leavitt; and THE PROPOSAL by Anton Chekhov, directed by Jean Wilhelm and featuring Anna Baskerville, Bob Elmer, and Jack Marshfield. Each play was presented twice during the evening at the Eastport Arts Center, planned so that people could drop in, have some refreshments, and see the plays.

What's Your Story?, a new venture in Playback Theatre being organized by David LaGraffe, after having its December showing postponed because of a blizzard, was successfully inaugurated on January 7 at Williston West Church in Portland when **True Story**

Theatre from Boston gave a performance-demonstration. This is a type of improv where audience members are invited to tell a story of some triumph or tragedy, and the troupe then acts out the story. Others working with David in getting this idea going are Christopher Price, Sue Shaw, Bill Duffy, and local psychologist Bruce St. Thomas. Watch for future notices.

Stephen Coppick, having helped establish the Opera House at Boothbay Harbor as a year-round performance center during his time as Executive Director, is moving on to other challenges. **Kate Schrock**, herself a performer, has been hired as Programming Director and will take over some of the executive director's duties as well. For more information, visit www.boothbayoperahouse.org.

WORKNOT, a collaborative of artists of various genres, has been presenting their annual show at Portland's SPACE Gallery as part of that venue's 3rd annual Artists Curating Artists Series in January-February. Paintings, sculptures, dancing, clowning, puppetry and more interact and evolve. Artists include Colleen Kinsella, Kelly Nesbitt, Tim Folland, Flora Jennings, Beth Nixon, and Buffy Miller.

Tony-nominated Maine actor and playwright **John Cariani's** comedy ALMOST, MAINE opened January 12 in an Off-Broadway run at the Daryl Roth Theatre, 101 E. 15th Street in NYC. Gabriel Barre, who directed the play's premiere at Portland Stage Company, directed. The cast includes Todd Cerveris, Justin Hagan, Miriam Shor, and Finnerty Steeves. For more information, visit www.almostmaine.com.

Anthony's Italian Kitchen continues to present WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD: THE WORLD OF BROADWAY on Friday and Saturday nights with dinner at 151 Middle Street, Portland. Call (207) 774-8668.

The **Alvin Ailey II Dance Company** performed at the Strom Auditorium in Camden, ME, on January 29.

From Eileen Avery came a notice that Gorham High School and Windham High School Drama Clubs have collaborated on an evening of one-act plays, CHECK, PLEASE by Jonathan Rand (GHS) and CRYING OUT by Matthew Hunt (WHS), first presented at Gorham High School on February 4, with a reprise scheduled for March 4 at Windham High School. CHECK, PLEASE is concerned with blind dates, while CRYING OUT deals with the difficulties of teenage life. GHS will also participate with their play in the Maine Principals' Association **Maine Drama Competition Regional Festival** at Cape Elizabeth High School March 10 – 11. Advancing schools will compete at the State Drama Festival March 24 – 25 at Camden Hills Regional High School.

Richard Bostwick will direct THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND, the farce by Tom Stoppard, for Hallowell, ME's **Gaslight Theater** for performances in May and possibly later as well. More about this in our April issue. You can also visit their website at www.gaslighttheater.org.

Honey Tree Films, the film-making company of Dana Packard and Jennifer Porter's **The Originals**, has announced that, thanks to a collaboration between HTF and Pro-Active Entertainment, their film MR. BARRINGTON will be available on DVD nationwide in video rental stores and also for purchase online and in retail stores beginning April 25. So, ask your favorite video rental store to order it, or if you subscribe to NetFlix or another rental service, Dana asks, "Please request MR. BARRINGTON!" Also, Dana has been asked by *MovieMaker Magazine* to contribute an article on Independent Film Distribution for their Spring issue. FMI visit www.mrbarrington.com.

HBO's **EMPIRE FALLS**, filmed in Maine, mostly in Waterville and with many Maine actors included in the filming, won the **Golden Globe Award** for best Miniseries or movie.

USM grad **Thomas Derrah** continues his long career with the prestigious **American Repertory Theatre** in Cambridge, Mass., most recently as Chebutykin in Chekhov's **THREE SISTERS**.

Maine native **Brenda Nasberg Jepson** has returned to Maine and is making documentary films after about 14 years in Europe learning to make them. She recently finished one titled **THE STORY OF THE ACADIANS** about the British-forced exile of French settlers from Nova Scotia. She has also helped a group of students from the Caribou Regional Technology Center (where she is a part-time instructor) as they made a film about German POWs held in Aroostook County during World War II. Ms. Jepson's film company is Crown of Maine Productions, Inc. She lives near Stockholm, ME, north of Caribou, and is currently working on a film called **OLD MAINE SWEDISH FARM**, which includes interviews in Swedish (with English subtitles) with some of the last Swedish speakers in Maine's Swedish Colony. She hopes in the future to make a documentary about Native Americans, who she feels have been pushed to the edge of society.

NTWH (National Theatre Workshop of the Handicapped) has announced the schedule for their summer workshops in Belfast, ME. They will begin June 16 and run through August 18. NTWH was founded on December 7, 1977 by Brother Rick Curry, S.J. and will celebrate its 30th anniversary next year. For more information and the complete schedule, visit www.ntwh.org.

AIRE (American Irish Repertory Ensemble) has announced that their spring play will be **PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD** by John M. Synge, probably in May. Sean O'Casey's **JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK** will follow in November. AIRE's critically acclaimed play performances are usually at Portland Performing Arts Center's Studio Theater. However, they usually have something special for St. Patrick's Day at another venue, so watch the papers!

Eve and Joe Cimmet hosted their annual Miss America-themed party the night of the pageant in January. This time portions of the party were broadcast on Country Music Television, which was televising the pageant. Robert Towle, producer of the Miss Maine Pageant, heard that CMT was looking for a party to feature and told them about the Cimmets!

Carolyn Gage sent out her annual Solstice Letter in December with thanks for all those who had helped make her plays successful in 2005, including the filming of **UGLY DUCKLINGS**, which was also performed at **Colby College**, and performances of **THE POORLY-WRITTEN PLAY FESTIVAL** at the 2005 **Acorn Productions Maine Festival of Short Plays**. She has had several more plays accepted for publication: **HARRIET TUBMAN VISITS A THERAPIST**, **DRUM LESSON**, and **A LABOR PLAY**.

This month Caitlin Shetterly, Artistic Director of **Winter Harbor Theatre Company**, with help from the Maine Humanities Council and The Maine Charity Fund, is teaching a month-long intensive study of Shakespeare's **ROMEO AND JULIET** at the Long Creek Youth Development in South Portland, ME.

In November **Peg Tierney** vacationed in Australia and while in Sydney, visited actress/director **Jane Bergeron** in her present life as a café owner in that city. Jane, who founded and was the Artistic Director of Vintage Repertory Company here in Portland, starts teaching theater part-time at the local university branch this month.

Also in November, **Patricia Davis** finished making 30 booster seat cushions for Lyric Music Theater's smaller patrons just in time for the opening of Disney's **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**. Pat has

frequently performed on stage at both Lyric Music Theater and Portland Players.

Lyric Music Theater has announced their 2006-7 season: **THE KING AND I**, directed by Christopher Benoit; **JOSEPH AND ...DREAMCOAT**, directed by Michael Donovan; **SWEET CHARITY**, directed by Ray Dumont; and **MAN OF LA MANCHA**, directed by Vince Knue.

Maine native **Kate Aldrich**, who sang the title role last July in PORTopera's **CARMEN** returns to give a Recital on February 23 at 7:30 pm in Hannaford Hall in the Abromson Center on the USM Portland campus. The program is a benefit for PORTopera. Call (207) 780-5951.

Janis Stevens, who has performed leading roles at The Theater at Monmouth for a number of seasons, played the title role in **BECOMING JULIA MORGAN** by Belinda Taylor, which premiered January 14 – February 5 at Sacramento's California Stage. The play, directed by Ray Tatar, is about the life and times of the great California architect, designer of San Simeon for William Randolph Hearst and more than 800 public buildings. Others in the cast were James C. Anderson as Hearst, Grace Crow as Marion Davies, and Peter Playdon as everyone else! California Stage in mid-town Sacramento is dedicated to producing new works by California playwrights.

TonyAward-winning Portland resident **Christopher Akerlind** has designed the lighting for a new Broadway play which is receiving rave reviews, **RABBIT HOLE** by David Lindsay-Abaire (not in his usual style) about mourning the death of a child. The *New York Times* reviewer said, if you miss this one, "You might miss some of the most revealingly nuanced acting to be seen on a stage or screen this year." A production of Manhattan Theater Club, it is being performed at the Biltmore Theater, 261 West 47th Street, with Cynthia Nixon, Tyne Daly, John Slattery, Mary Catherine Garrison, and John Gallagher, Jr., and directed by Daniel Sullivan (PROOF). Call 212-239-6200.

The theater community has lost Robert Lalumiere, aka **Bobby Laine**, who died December 21. Bobby Laine could sing and play the piano at the same time and entertained southern Maine for more than 50 years. He was a favorite of actor singers, who would drop by to sing along with him at the piano at The Bridgeway Restaurant in South Portland, where he performed for 15 years until he fell ill in October.

The theater community also lost **Bill** (Albert W.) **Dawkins** on December 30. A native of New Jersey, Bill lived in New York state for many years before retiring to South Portland, ME, in 1985. During his years in St. Albans, NY, he was the advisor for the Senior Christian Endeavor Society at the St. Albans Presbyterian Church, and that is where he met Harriet, who later became his wife. He directed over 40 plays and performed in dozens of community and professional theater productions while in New York. After coming to Maine he no longer directed but continued acting at Portland Players, where his roles were in plays such as **DEATH OF A SALESMAN**, **AMADEUS**, **BROADWAY BOUND**, **LIFE WITH FATHER**, and **MY FAIR LADY**. A highlight of his career came when he and Harriet (an actress who has performed many leading roles with such groups as Portland Players) played Elwyn and Alma Adamson in the 2001 movie **IN THE BEDROOM**, which was filmed in Maine and starred Sissy Spacek. A celebration of his life was held on January 14 at the First Congregational Church in South Portland. We offer our sympathy to Harriet and her family.

Muriel Kenderdine

ALPHABETICAL THEATER LISTINGS – February, 2006

Acadia Repertory Theatre (Summer) Prof. Non-Equity
Box 106, Somesville, Mt. Desert, ME 04660 (207) 244-7260 Kenneth Stack, Art. Dir.
www.acadiarep.com email: arep@acadia.net

ACAT Theatre - Community
Waterville Opera House, Artspace Theater
93 Main St. Waterville, ME 04901
(207) 580-6783 <http://www.acattheatre.org>
email: acatanswers@hotmail.com

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST – Mar. 30 – Apr. 8
TINY ISLAND – June 15 – 23
THE DINING ROOM – Sept. 14 – 23
COMPLEAT WKS OF SHKSPRE, ABR.-Nov. 2-11

Acorn Productions – Prof. Non Equity
P. O. Box 44, Portland, ME 04112
Michael Levine – Artistic Director
(207) 766-3386 mikeliz@maine.rr.com
www.acorn-productions.org

Naked Shakespeare – Varying schedule
POWER GRABS – Week of March 15
Maine Short Play Festival – Mar. 23 – Apr. 2
The Cassandra Project – May 31 – June 3

Act One Summer Theatre, Hampton, NH
Winnacunnet Park Ave., Hampton, NH
(603) 926-2281

Actorsingers – Community Theater
Actorsingers Hall, 219 Lake St., Nashua, NH
(603) 320-1870 www.actorsingers.org

CATS – May 5 – 7, 2006 at Edmund Keefe Auditorium

ADD VERB Productions, Prof/Non-Equity Touring & Theater in Education.
P. O. Box 3853 Portland, ME 04104-3853
(207) 653-4554 Cathy Plourde, Director
cathy.plourde@att.net

Touring pieces on specific issues. Commission for new scripts, or bring in to assist in script development for your education/outreach programs. Available for workshops and training on building community through theater or using theater as classroom or social change tool. FMI contact above.

Current touring production, appearing regionally and nationally:

YOU THE MAN (one-man show on dating violence, sexual assault and unhealthy relationships. Conferences, Colleges, High Schools.)

THE THIN LINE (one-woman show on eating disorders. Conferences, Colleges, High Schools and Middle Schools.)
MONEY TALKS (two person piece on financial literacy. 8th grade through adult.)

BUTT OF COURSE

COOKIN' WITH TYPHOID MARY (By Carolyn Gage)

Advice To The Players – Prof/Community
P. O. Box 52 North Sandwich, NH 03259 (603) 677-2739
Carolyn Nesbitt – Producing Director

ROMEO & JULIET – Mar. 23 – 26

American Irish Repertory Ensemble (AIRE)
Portland, ME (207) 799-5327

Tony Reilly – Art. Director, Susan Reilly – Managing Dir.

PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD – Spring 2006 at PPAC Studio Theater

Arts in Motion/Mt. Washington Valley Cultural Arts Center Educ/Prod. Co./Community Theater
P.O. Box 2619 Conway, NH 03818-2619
(603) 447-1866 Nancy Steen Greenblatt & Glenn Noble, Co-Fndrs and Dirs.

Arundel Barn Playhouse Prof. /Equity Guest Artists
(Summer) 53 Old Post Road, Arundel, ME 04046
Adrienne Grant, Artistic Director
Admin: (207) 985-5553 Box Office: (207) 985-5552

Bangor Community Theater
90 Wiley St. Bangor, ME 04401
(207)942-0000 Michael and Penny Weinstein

Barnstormers Theatre (Summer) Prof Equity
Main Street, P. O. Box 434, Tamworth, NH 03886
(603) 323-8500 Bob Shea, Artistic Dir. Clayton Phillips,
Prod. Art. Dir. Office: (603) 323-8661
www.barnstormertheatre.com

GYPSY - June 30 – Jul. 8
BREAKING LEGS - Jul. 11 – 15
DIRTY BLONDE - Jul. 18 – 22
OUR TOWN – Jul. 25 – 29
SLEUTH - Aug. 1 – 5
THE LION IN WINTER – Aug. 8 – 12
PROOF - Aug. 15 – 19
URINETOWN – Aug. 22 – Sept. 2

Bates College Theater Dept.
Lewiston, ME 04240 (207)786-6187
Box office: (207)786-6161 Martin Andrucki
POPCORN – Mar. 10 – 19 (Adults only)
Bates Modern Dance Spring Concert – Mar.31 – Apr. 2
(Both in Schaeffer Theatre)

The Belfast Maskers - Community Theater
P.O. Box 1017, Belfast, ME 04915 (207) 338-9668
Aynne Ames, Artistic Director
www.belfastmaskertheater.com

ONCE UPON A MATTRESS – Apr. 6 - 16

Biddeford City Theater - Community Theater
205 Main St., P.O. Box 993
Biddeford, ME 04005 (207) 282-0849
Steve Burnette, Producing Director
www.citytheater.org

An Evening of Comedy with Bob Marley – Feb., 18
FOOLS - Apr. 21 – May 9

Boothbay Harbor, The Opera House At – Professional
P. O. Box 800, Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538
(207) 633-6855 Box Office (207) 633-5159
Kate Schrock, Programming Director
www.boothbayoperahouse.org

Bowdoin College
Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 725-3375

CHEKHOV Vaudevilles – Feb. 23 – 25 (Wish)
Masque & Gown Spring Show – Mar. 2 – 4 (Pickard)
Bowdoin Dance Group Spring Concert – Apr. 20 – 22 (Pickard)

Camden Civic Theatre
Community Theater - Camden Opera House
Elm St., P.O. Box 362, Camden, ME 04843
Box Office: (207)236-2281 Jean Friedman-White, Pres.
www.camdencivictheatre.com

HAMLET – Feb. 10 - 18

Carousel Music Theater (Summer)
Prof. Non-Equity/Dinner Theater/Musicals
P.O. Box 665, Boothbay Harbor, ME 04538
(207) 633-5297 or 800-757-5297 (ME only)
www.carouselmusictheatre.com

Cauldron & Labrys Productions
160 Dartmouth St., #1, Portland, ME 04103
(207) 774-4231 Carolyn Gage – Artistic Dir.
carolyn@carolyngage.com

Celebration Barn Theater
Theater School/Workshops
Stock Farm Rd. (off Rte. 117) South Paris,
ME 04281 (207)743-8452

Center for Cultural Exchange
One Longfellow Sq., Portland, ME (207) 761-1545

Chamber Theatre of Maine Prof. Non-Equity/Touring
Box 372, Thomaston, ME 04861
(207)354-8807 Erika Pfander Art. Dir.

Children's Theatre of Maine
P.O. Box 1011, Portland, ME 04104
(Theater at 317 Marginal Way)
Box Office: (207) 828-0617
(207)878-2774 Pamela DiPasquale, Art. Dir.

Stacy L. Begin, Managing Dir.
www.childrenstheatremaine.org

MISS NELSON IS MISSING – Feb. 10-Mar. 12
PRODIGY – Apr. 13 @ Merrill Aud., Portland
MASQUE OF BEAUTY AND THE BEAST – May 6-27
(also touring – edctm@maine.rr.com FMI)
MADELINE'S RESCUE – July 5 – Aug. 4

Chocolate Church Arts Center Community Theater
804 Washington St., Bath, ME 04530
(207)442-8455 Suzanne Lufkin Weiss, Exec. Dir.
Mark McNeil, Assoc. Dir.
www.chocolatechurcharts.org
email: chocolate@suscom-maine.net

WESTSIDE STORY – Mar. 17 - 26

The Classics Company - Prof./Non-Equity/Touring
P. O. Box 1281, Dover, NH 03821 (603) 743-3796
Jewel Davis, Artistic Director (603) 749-4071

SIMPLY SHAKESPEARE - Touring High Schools - Libraries, etc.

Colby College Theater Dept. Waterville, ME 04901
(207) 859-4535 - Box Office
(207) 872-3388 - Theater Dept.

ROUGH MAGIC – Three Nights of Terribly True Stories – Feb. 9 – 11
AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE – Mar. 16 – 18
Colby Dance Theater – Apr. 27 - 29

Community Little Theatre – Lewiston-Auburn
Performing Arts Ctr., Great Falls School,
Academy St., P.O. Box 262, Auburn, ME 04212
(207) 783-0958
www.laact.com Box Office email: laact@hotmail.com
Newsletter email: backstagewhispers@hotmail.com

GRAND HOTEL – Mar. 10-19
A Night At The Tonys (Concert Benefit) – April 22-23
THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK – Jun. 2-11
MAME – Aug. 11-20

A Company of Girls – (East End Children's Workshop)
10 Mayo Street, Portland, ME 04101
(207) 874-2107, Odelle Bowman, Director

Concord Community Players –Community
Concord City Auditorium, Prince Street, Concord, NH
(603) 225-6078 www.newwww.com/org/players

INHERIT THE WIND – Feb. 16 – 18
ROMEO AND JULIET – May 4 - 6

Criterion Theatre
35 Cottage St., Bar Harbor, ME (207) 288-3441
www.criteriontheatre.com

Crossroads Youth Center
Saco/Biddeford, ME Deb Landry, Dir. (207) 838-2146
director@crossroadsyouthcenter.org
www.crossroadsyouthcenter.org

CINDERELLA – Spring 2006

Deertrees Theatre
P.O. Box 577, Harrison, ME 04040
(207)583-6747 - Box Office
Lee Bearnse, Exec. Dir. (207) 647-2111
www.deertreestheatre.org deertrees@usa.net

RENY'S: The Musical – June 22-25

Deviant/goods – Prof.
80 Roberts St., #1, Portland, ME 04102 (207) 409-6763
Co-Artistic Directors: Jamalieh Haley and Tavia Lin Gilbert
www.the-deviantgoods.org

Dorset Playhouse – Prof/Equity
Dorset, VT (802) 867-5777
John Nattiviera, Producing Director

Eastport Arts Center - Stage East - Community Theater :
Dana & Water Streets, Eastport, ME 04631
(207)853-4747 Brian Schuth, President
www.stageeast.org

Figures of Speech - Prof. Non-Equity/Touring

77 Durham Rd., Freeport, ME 04032 John & Carol Farrell (207) 865-6355 www.figures.org/

Louis Frederick

P. O. Box 40, Portland, ME 04112
(207) 874-6301

Freeport Community Players – Community Theater

P.O Box 483, So. Freeport, ME 04032
(207) 865-2220, Elizabeth Guffey, President
www.fcponline.org

A MEMO FROM JUPITER – Feb.12 @ Azure Café
CHAPTER TWO – Apr. 20-30
WHO PUSHED HUMPTY DUMPTY? – June 29-Jul.9
MAN OF LA MANCHA – Aug. 10-20
RADIO III – Dec. 2-3

Garrison Players – Community Theater
650 Portland Ave., Dover, NH (603) 750-4ART
www.garrisonplayers.org

ON GOLDEN POND – Mar. 17 – 26
QUILTERS – May 4 – 21

Gaslight Theater - Community Theater
P.O. Box 345, Hallowell, ME 04347
(207)626-3698

Kelly J. Arata, General Manager
www.gaslighttheater.org

THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND - May

Girl Power Productions – Community Theater
3200 Atlantic Highway, Waldoboro, ME 04572
(207) 785-5244 Jeff & Jessie Payson

Jackson Gillman – ‘Stand Up Chameleon’
22 Huckleberry Lane, Mt. Desert, ME 04660
(207) 244-3838

Good Theater Productions – (Prof./Non-Equity)
at St. Lawrence Arts & Community Center
76 Congress St. Portland, ME.
Brian P. Allen – Art. Dir (207) 885-5883
www.goodtheater.com

THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD – Feb. 16-Mar. 12,
2006

ENCHANTED APRIL – Apr. 13-May 7

Hackmatack Playhouse (Summer)

Prof. Non-Equity
538 School Street, Berwick, ME 03901
(207)698-1807 Michael Guptill, Exec. Producer
Sharon Hilton, Artistic Director
www.hackmatack.org

IDA'S HAVING A YARD SALE – June 16-17
JOSEPH AND ...DREAMCOAT – June 22-July 8
OLIVER! - July 12 – 24
COMPLEAT WKS OF SHKSPERE – Aug.2-12
THE SECRET GARDEN - Aug. 16-26
THE OLD MAID & THE THIEF (NE Chamber Opera Society) – Sept. 1-2

The Hampstead Players – Touring, Prof.
Children's Theater.
1053 N. Barnstead Road
Center Barnstead, NH 03225-3955 (603) 776-6045

Heartwood Regional Theatre Co.

P. O. Box 1115, Damariscotta, ME 04543
(207) 563-1373 Griff Braley – Art. Dir.
www.heartwoodtheater.org

THE UNVARNISHED TRUTH (@ Lincoln Acad. PAC,
Newcastle) – July
SPOON RIVER ANTHOLOGY – Fall '06

Hope Hoffman's Town Hall Theater – Community
Bowdoinham, ME www.hopehoffman.com

Touring Dance, Music, and Comedy Shows – Bowdoinham
Town Hall; Johnson Hall, Gardiner; Brunswick – May, Jul.,
Sep., Nov. and Jan., Feb., Apr., Jun. 2005

Mel Howards Productions – Community Theater
(207) 929-6676 mhowards@sacoriver.net

interActors – Professional/Non Equity
102 Exchange St., #202, Portland, ME 04101
John Bryson (207) 253-8068

Performances at The Stadium, 504 Congress St., Portland,
Fridays and Saturdays.

Johnson Hall Productions - Community Theater
P.O. Box 777, Gardiner, ME 04345 (207) 582-7144

TALES from Bros. GRIMM (Open Book)-May 20-21

King's Bridge Theatre (Community)
Lithu Hall, 387 Lisbon St., Lewiston, ME
(207) 212-1841 www.kingsbridgetheatre.org

Lake Region Community Theater
Bridgton, ME (207) 693-3864

Lake Region Summer Theatre
Meredith, NH (800) 643-9993

Lakewood Theater/Curtain Up Enterprises (Summer)
Community Theater RFD #1, Box 1780, Skowhegan 04976
(207)474-7176
(207) 474-5253 Susan Quinn – Pres.

Lanyard Theatre Company (Prof.)
Bath, ME
Kevin O'Leary, Artistic Director

Last Resort Players – Professional/Non Equity
P. O. Box 261 Phippsburg, ME 04562
(207) 389-1759 Dennis Doiron – Art. Dir. & Producer

Lincoln Co. Civic Lt. Opera & Drama Assoc.
RFD #1, Box 680, N. Whitefield, ME 04353
Douglas Wright, Art. Dir.

Lincoln County Community Theater
P.O. Box 237, Damariscotta, ME 04543-0237
Sue Ghoreyeb Box office: (207) 563-3424

Dead of Winter Series - Thru Mar.
PLAZA SUITE – May
OKLAHOMA - Summer

Lucid Stage Productions – Prof./Non-Equity
Portland, ME Adam Gutsell, Art. Dir. (207) 415-3074

Lyric Music Theater - Community Theater
176 Sawyer St., So. Portland, ME 04106
(207)799-1421, 799-6509 Lynwood Dyer, Art. Dir.
www.lyricmusictheater.com

BEST LITTLE WHOREHSE IN TX – Feb. 17-Mar. 5
RAGTIME – Apr. 28-May 14, 2006

M&D PRODUCTIONS – Community
P.O. Box 1147, Conway, NH 03818
Mark DeLancey & Ken Martin (603) 356-4449
www.yourtheatre.com mdproductions@netzero.net

CLOSER – Mar. 10 – 25
HOT 'N THROBBING – May 12 – 27
DOUBT – Jul. 7 – 22
FROZEN – Sep. 1 - 16
VOICE OF THE VALLEY – Oct. 7,14,21,28

Mad Horse Theatre Company Prof. Non-Equity
Box 9715-343, Portland, ME 04104
Andrew Sokoloff, Art. Dir. (207) 730-2389
www.madhorse.com

BABY w/THE BATHWATER – Jan.26 – Feb. 19
ROSEN. & GUILD. ARE DEAD – April 13 – May 7

Maine Center for the Arts
UMO, Orono, ME 04469-5746
(207)581-1755 or 800-MCA-TIXX

Maine Grand Opera Company
P. O. Box 656, Camden, ME 04843
Karen Eisenhauer, Artistic Dir.

Maine Masque Theater
UMO, Orono, ME 04473 (207)581-1963
800-622-8499 – Box Office www.umaine.edu/spa

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR – Feb. 17-26
AMERICAN BUFFALO & BOSTON MARRIAGE – Apr.
12-16 at Hauck Auditorium

Maine State Ballet
348 US Route 1, Falmouth, Maine 04105
(207) 781-7MSB
Linda MacArthur Miele – Artistic Director
www.maine.stateballet.org

SWAN LAKE – May 20-21 @ Merrill Auditorium

Maine State Music Theater (Summer)
Prof. Equity P.O. Box 656, Brunswick, ME 04011
(207)725-8769 Charles Abbott, Art. Dir.
www.msmt.org

SOUTH PACIFIC - June 7 – 24
Disney's BEAUTY & THE BEAST June 28-July 15
AIDA July 19-Aug. 5
THE FULL MONTY – Aug. 9 - 26

Maine Theatre Guild - Community Theater
P.O. Box 776, Rockland, ME 04941
Kevin Dowling, Pres. (207) 596-0287

Main Street Entertainment & Mystery for Hire
Prof/Non Equity, Dan & Denise Marois, Poland, ME
(207) 998-2472 www.mysteryforhire.com

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater, Improv Comedy, & Stage
Productions.

Majestic Theatre – Community Theater
281 Cartier St., Manchester, NH
Admin (603) 644-8155 – Box Office (603) 669-7469
www.majestictheatre.net

FOREVER PLAID – March
HONEYMOON CRUISE - April
GREATER TUNA – May
WE THE PEOPLE – June
WEST SIDE STORY – July
THE MOUSETRAP – Aug.
LIGHT UP THE SKY – Sept.

Maplewhet Productions
80 Massachusetts Ave., So. Portland, ME 04106
(207) 761-0122
Rhonda Carlson and Kevan Patriquin

Marsh River Theater, Brooks, ME (Summer)
NE School of Communications, One College Circle,
Bangor, ME 04401 (207) 941-7176
George E. Wildey, Pres. NESCom.

MeACT (Maine Assoc. of Community Theaters)
P.O. Box 489, Monmouth, ME 04259
www.meact.org Foner Curtis, Pres.(207) 594-4982
email: foner.curtis@cambrex.com

Merrymeeting Community Players – Community
Brunswick, ME (207) 721-9228

Mill Pond Ctr for the Arts - Prof. Non-Equity
50 Newmarket Rd., Durham, NH 03824
(603) 868-8999 (Box Office)
www.millpondcenter.org
Email: millpondcenter@verizon.net

Monmouth Community Players - Community Theater
P.O Box 359, Monmouth, ME 04259
(207) 441-1998 Kathleen Nation, Art. Dir.
www.monmouthcommunityplayers.org

INTO THE WOODS – Mar. 17-26

Mt. Washington Valley Theatre Co. (Summer)
Prof. Non-Equity Eastern Slope Theater
Box 265, No. Conway, NH 03860 (603)356-5776
Linda Pinkham – Art. Dir.

Music & Drama Company – Community
P. O. Box 704, Londonderry, NH 03053
(603) 434-2180 www.madco.org

INTO THE WOODS - May 4 – 6 @ Adams Memorial
Opera House

The Music Hall – Prof.
28 Chestnut Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801
Box Office (603) 436-2400, Admin. (603) 433-3100
www.themusichall.org

Nashua Theatre Guild
14 Court St., Nashua NH 03060 (603) 880-0243

NIGHT OF ONE ACTS – Feb. 23 – 28
DEATHTRAP – Apr. 6 - 16

National Theatre Workshop of the Handicapped
(NTWH) Belfast, ME John Spalla, Dean
www.ntwh.org

Machias, ME 04654 (207)255-3313

Stage One Productions - Prof. Non-Equity/Dinner
124 Bridge St., Manchester, NH 03101
(603)699-5511 George F. Piehl

PLAZA SUITE – Feb. 10 – 12
THE UNDERPANTS – Mar. 17 - 19

Stage Source of Boston

Boston Theater Network Equity & Non-Equity
88 Tremont St., Boston, MA 02108 (617)720-6066

St. Lawrence Arts Center

76 Congress Street, Portland
(207) 775-5568 (Friends of St. Lawrence)
www.stlawrencearts.org

THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD (GT) – Feb. 16-
Mar. 12, 2006
ENCHANTED APRIL (GT) – Apr. 13-May 7

Stonington Opera House - Community/Prof. Tours
P. O. Box 56, Stonington, ME 04681 (207) 367-2788
www.operahousearts.org
Linda Nelson – Executive Dir.
Judith Kerome & Carol Espey – Co. Art. Dir.
Linda Pattie – Mkt. Dir.

Studio Theatre of Bath – Community Theater @ Historic
Winter Street Church, 880 Washington St.
P. O. Box 710 Bath, ME 04530 (207) 443-2418
Thom Watson – Pres.
www.studiotheatreofbath.com

VISITING MR. GREEN – May., 2006

Ten Bucks Theatre Company
Bangor/Brewer (207) 990-4940

Theatre 101 – Prof./Non-Equity
Portland, ME (207) 799-1459 Julie Carlson, Producer

The Grand Auditorium - Community
165-167 Main St., - P.O. Box 941 Ellsworth, ME 04605
(207) 667-9500, (207) 667-5911
www.grandonline.org

HMS PINAFORE & TRIAL BY JURY – Jul.13-16

The Reasonably Affordable Theatrical Co. (TRATCO)
Prof./Non Equity
P. O. Box 1402, Kennebunk, ME 04043(207) 967-8633
Dan Pleva, Exe. Dir. Steve Burnett, Art. Dir.

The Theater at Monmouth Prof. Equity/Shakespeare &
Other Classics, Cumston Hall, P.O. Box 385,
Monmouth, ME 04259
(207) 933-9999, 933-2952
David Greenham, Producing Dir.; Sally Wood –
Artistic Dir. www.theateratmonmouth.org

Touring HENRY V Jan-Feb 2006
Summer repertory: THE TEMPEST, OTHELLO, THE
FANTASTICKS, and CHARLEY'S AUNT

The Theater Project - Prof. Non-Equity/
Young Peoples Theater &. Second Stage

Community Theater - 14 School St., Brunswick, ME 04011
(207) 729-8584 - Al Miller, Art. Dir
www.theaterproject.com

Winter Cabaret (Prof. Ensemble) – Jan. 27 – Feb. 12
Production Class Show – Feb. 17 – 18
AS YOU LIKE IT (Young Co.) – Mar. 17 – 26
CAFÉ - Apr. 7 – 8
ARNOLD ARCHEOPTERYX & THE WAY THE
WORLD BEGAN (Production Class) – Apr. 14 – 15
A Noel Coward Comedy (Prof. Co.) May 4 – 21
VOICES IN THE MIRROR (Young Co.) June 2 – 24

Three Leaf Productions (Prof. Non-Equity)
82 Church St, Belfast, ME 04915 (207) 338-8947
Deborah Derecktor – Artistic Director

Two Lights Theatre Ensemble
Portland, ME (207) 653-9065 Sean Demers – Art. Dir.
www.twolights.org

University of Maine at Farmington
Alumni Theater, Academy St.
Farmington, ME (207)778-7465

University of Maine at Machias
9 O'Brien Ave., Machias, ME (207)255-3313
(207) 255-1401

University of New Hampshire
Paul Creative Arts Center
Durham, NH (603)862-2290, (603) 862-2150
www.unhnmub.com. Hennessey Theatre (HT) Johnson
Theatre (J)

Touring PETER AND THE WOLF Feb.1-May 8
THE PALESTINIAN – (J) – Feb. 15 – 19
Dance Company Concert (J) – Mar.29-Apr. 2
THE NASTIEST DRINK IN THE WORLD (HT) –
Apr. 19 – 23
Musical Theatre Showcase (HT) – Apr. 25

USM Theater Dept. Russell Hall, College Ave. Gorham,
ME 04038 (207)780-5480
Box Office: (207) 780-5555
www.usm.maine.edu/theater

Student Written One-Acts Feb. 16 – 19
BLOOD BROTHERS – Mar. 17 – 26
DANCE USM! – Apr. 27 - 30

Veronica Sacred Theatre
Portland, ME Frederica Chapman – Dir. (207) 828-1200

Waldo Theatre - Community
P. O. Box 587, 916 Main St., Waldoboro (207) 832-6060
Diane Walsh, Artistic Dir. www.waldotheatre.org

LIE, CHEAT & GENUFLECT – Opens Feb. 3
THE FANTASTICKS – Apr. 7-9, 14-15

Waterville Opera House
93 Main Street, Third Floor. Tom Misner
P. O. Box 14, Waterville, ME 04903 (207)873-5381
Box Office: (207) 873-7000 www.operahouse.org
Main Stage – MS - Studio Theater – S

FAME – The Musical (MS) Feb. 10-18

Annual Variety Show (MS) Mar. 18
ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST (ACAT – S) –
Mar. 30 – Apr. 8
OKLAHOMA! (MS) Apr. 28-May 6
ROUNDING THIRD (MS) – May 26-June 4
TINY ISLAND (ACAT – S) – June 15 – 23
THE DINING ROOM (ACAT – S) – Sept. 14 – 23
COMPLEAT WKS SHKSPRE ABR. (ACAT- S) Nov.2 -11

Wayside Theatre – Community
Wayside Grange, North Dexter Road, Dexter, ME
(207) 924-8813
Jane Woodman – Art. Dir.

SHENANDOAH – TBA
.MORNING'S AT SEVEN – TBA

Weathervane Theatre (Summer)
Prof. Equity & Non-Equity Res. Rep.
39 Jefferson Rd., Whitefield, NH 03598
Jacque Stewart, Artistic Director
www.weathervanetheatre.org

Weston Playhouse – Prof./Equity
Weston, VT Steve Stettler, Producing Dir.
(802) 824-5288 www.westonplayhouse.org

Wide Open Mind Productions
Portland, ME Jason Wilkins
www.wideopenmind.info

SHAMELESS! (New Musical) - May

Windham Center Stage - Community Theater
P.O. Box 529, Windham, ME 04062
Matthew Ryder – Art. Dir.. (207) 939-5919

THE WIZARD OF OZ - TBA

**Winnepesaukee Playhouse & Performing Arts
Education Center**– Prof. & Comm. P. O. Box 5201,
Laconia, NH 03247 Bryan Halperin – Exec. Dir. Neil
Pankhurst – Art. Dir. (603) 366-7377
www.winniplayhouse.com

Winnie Players Community Theater:
OUR TOWN Feb. 3 – 12
TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD Mar. 31–Apr. 9
BABY May 12 – 21

Winter Harbor Theatre Co.
P. O. Box 8176, Portland, ME 04104
Portland, ME (207) 775-3174
Caitlin Shetterly, Artistic Dir.

Winterport Open Stage - Community Theater
P.O. Box 5, Winterport, ME 04496-0045
(207)223-2501 Reed Farrar, Art. Dir.

Yellow Taxi Productions
Playhouse 101, 14 Court St., Nashua, NH
(603) 626-5606, ext. 2 www.yellowtaxiproductions.org

2006 SUSAN MCINTYRE PLAY FESTIVAL – Mar. 1 – 4
@ Pinkerton Academy Black Box, Derry, NH
TENDER – Mar. 9 – 11 in Nashua
LANTERNS ON LAMAR – Mar. 10 –11 in Nashua

All information is up to date as of press time. CAST & CREW suggests you call to confirm.



ROIL cast members November tour: L-R Paul Miller, Tessy Seward, Hannah Legerton, Derek Converse, Christopher Reiling, Seth Berner, Joanna Horton, and Peter Brown

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

ACORN PRODUCTIONS, Portland, ME. Classes for actors taught by Acorn Productions Director Michael Levine at West End Dance and Yoga Studio, 155 Brackett St., Portland (3rd floor above the Fresh Approach Market) FMI call (207) 766-3386 or visit: www.acorn-productions.org.

ACTING CLASSES with Rachel Flehinger: Advanced Acting, Improv Comedy, and Beginning Acting in her private studio in Portland. FMI call (207) 750-5140 or visit: www.stopdropandrole.com.

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

CENTRE OF MOVEMENT School of Performing Arts, 19 State St., Gorham, ME 04038. (207) 839-3267. Dance lessons for children & adults and musical plays. FMI call Vicki Lloyd at above number..

CHERYL GREELEY THEATRA-DANCE STUDIO, 875 Broadway, So. Portland, ME. (207) 767-1353. Tap, ballet, jazz, ballroom, drama, singing.

CHILDREN'S THEATRE OF MAINE, Portland. Classes & workshops for ages 3 and up in the Maine Dramatic Institute, October to May. FMI call (207) 878-2774 or visit: www.childrenstheatre.biz.

CITY DANCE, 408 Broadway, So. Portland and 196 U.S. Rte One, Falmouth, ME. Tap, ballet, jazz, street funk, pre-school. FMI call (207) 767-0870.

DANCE FOR CHILDREN with Betsy Melarkey Dunphy. Ages 4 – 16. Classes in Creative Movement, Modern, Tap, and Theater at Elm St. Church, So. Portland, ME. For brochure & information, call (207) 799-3273.

DRAMA KIDS INTERNATIONAL, classes throughout the year in Portland, So. Portland, Westbrook, Scarborough & Yarmouth. For schedule & times, visit: www.dramakids.com and click on Locations/Maine/Go. FMI call Director Melissa Bornmann at (207) 879-4228.

DROUIN DANCE CENTER at Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge Street, Suite 325, Westbrook, ME. All types of dance. Ages 3 – Adult, Beginners – Advanced. 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. FMI call above number. Email: studio@gottadance2.com.

HOPE HOFFMAN'S TOWN HALL THEATER, Bowdoinham, ME. Dance, music, and comedy classes for all ages. Also see: www.hopehoffman.com/classes.htm.

KING'S BRIDGE THEATRE, 389 Lisbon St., Lewiston, ME. Classes in Beginning Acting for Adults, Improv for Adults, Imagination Station for ages 6 – 8, and Theatre Play for ages 9 – 13. FMI call (207) 577-6157 or visit www.kingsbridgetheatre.org.

LAKEWOOD YOUNG PERFORMERS CAMP, near Skowhegan, ME. Act One for ages 10 & up Jul.31 – Aug. 12; Act Two for ages 6 & older Aug. 14 – 26; Teens & Tech Jul. 5 – 15; each closes with a public performance. Teens, Tech & Tour goes on the road to area nursing homes & assisted living centers Jul. 17 – 21. FMI call Jeffrey Quinn at (207) 474-7176.

M & D PRODUCTIONS, No. Conway, NH. Classes in Basic Theatre, Singing for Musical Theatre, The Classics Scene Study, all for teens & adults; Lights, Kamera, Kids for ages 7 – 12. FMI email: info@yourtheatre.com, or call (603) 356-4449.

MAPLE WHEAT CTR FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS, So. Portland, ME. Classes in theater, music, and dance for children 3-18. Rhonda Carlson & Kevan Patriquin, Artistic Directors; Andrea Pike, Dance. FMI call (207) 773-5945.

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

NEW DANCE STUDIO, 61 Pleasant St., Portland, ME. Modern Dance, Ballet for Modern Dancers, Improv, Creative Movement, ages 3 – adult. Call (207) 780-0554.

PARADIGM CLASSES in DANCE & MOVEMENT in Harrison and other locations. For dates and places, call Julee Applegarth at (207) 637-2097 or email julee@paradigm-arts.com.

THE PASSIONATE PLAYER Workshop for Actors: challenging actors to be real on stage. Instructor: Lisa Stathoplos. FMI call (207) 646-3389 or email: lstathoplos@yorkschoools.org.

PENOBSCOT THEATRE, 131 Main St., Bangor, ME. Intern programs, Shakspeare in the Schools, Storytelling for gr. 4-8—call (207) 947-6618. Summer Theater Workshops ages 7 – 22, registration begins Feb. 9, call (207) 942-3333.

PONTINE MOVEMENT THEATRE, McDonough St. Studio, Portsmouth, NH. Classes with M. Marguerite Mathews and Gregory Gathers. Call (603) 436-6660 or email: pontineh@ultranet.com.

PORTLAND FENCING CENTER, 90 Bridge St., Suite 410, Westbrook, ME. Taught by Nancy Reynolds. FMI call (207) 856-1048.

PORTLAND SCHOOL OF BALLET, 517 Forest Ave., Portland, ME 04101. Call for schedule & information (207) 772-9671.

SACOPEE VALLEY PERFORMING ARTS, Limington, ME. Classes/programs for kids ages 4-19: Children's Theater Ensemble, Teen Repertory Theater & more. FMI call Alice Alexander at (207) 637-2944 or email: piperalex39@hotmail.com.

SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER, Rte. 114 near intersection with Rte. 35, Sebago Lake, ME. Classes for ages 4 and up in theater, music, & more; also Adult Improv. FMI call (207) 642-3743 or log onto: www.schoolhousearts.org.

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.

STARLIGHT ACTING INSTITUTE, Gorham, ME. "Energize! A Holistic Approach to Acting" classes with Emmanuelle Chaulet Also individual RYSE and Energize! sessions in Gorham on Saturdays – By appointments only. FMI check www.starlightacting.org. Call (207) 839-9819 for appointment.

THE THEATER PROJECT, 14 School St., Brunswick, ME. Ongoing classes & workshops. Some scholarships may be available. "Brown Bag Theater" workshops Feb. 21–23 for grades 3-5. Register by Feb. 17. FMI visit www.theaterproject.com or call (207) 729-8584.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE Dept. of Theater & Dance Drama Day on March 31 at 10 am in the Paul Creative Arts Center, Durham, NH – a field trip opportunity for schools grades 2 - 12– includes morning performance of CELTIC ROOTS and INTRIGUES (Dance and commedia dell'arte) Advance reservations required. FMI, call 603-862-2150.

WARREN KIDS, Warren Memorial Library, 479 Main St., Westbrook, ME 04092. Theater classes for ages 6 – 18. David LaGraffe, Instructor. FMI contact: warrenkidsandteens@yahoo.com or call Ann Bagala at 650-3789.

WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE & ARTSPACE, 93 Main St., 3rd floor, Waterville, ME. Classes in Creative Movement, Yoga, Dance, and theater. Missoula Children's theater camps during summer & school breaks. FMI call (207) 873-5381.

WINTERHARBOR THEATRE CO., Portland, ME. Classes for children and Scene Study & Technique classes for adults, taught by Caitlin Shetterly at St. Lawrence Arts & Community Center, Portland. FMI call (207) 775-3174.

AUDITIONS

We try to bring you all the audition information available. However, theaters may set their own audition dates after we go to print with one issue and/or announce and complete the audition process before we go to print with the next issue. Therefore, we suggest that along with your CAST & CREW newsletter, you always consult your newspaper listing and/or the individual theater as well (see Theater Listings for telephone numbers & websites).

AIRE (American Irish Repertory Ensemble), Portland, ME. Seeking a WARDROBE person who is handy with a needle to work with the company on a regular basis. He/she will be responsible for helping to find or build costumes and maintain them during the run of a show. FMI, call (207) 799-5327.

BIDDEFORD CITY THEATER, 205 Main St., Biddeford, ME. Auditions Feb. 25 & 26, 1 – 5 pm at the theater for FOOLS by Neil Simon. 7 men, 3 women. Producing Director Steve Burnette directs. Performances for 3 weekends beginning Apr. 21; rehearsals start in March. For appointments or information call (207) 282-0849.

COMMUNITY LITTLE THEATRE, Auburn, ME. Closed auditions for THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK dramatized by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett, by appointment only, in the evening starting at 6 pm on March 12 & 13, at Great Falls Performing Arts Center, Academy Street. 4 men, 3 women, 3 teens (2 girls and 1 boy). Be prepared with a 2-1.2 minute monologue and for reading from the script. Lee Griswold directs. Performances June 2 – 11, including 2 student matinees on May 31 & June 1. Call (207) 783-0958 for appointment.

FREEPORT COMMUNITY PLAYERS, Freeport, ME. Auditions for CHAPTER TWO by Neil Simon on Feb. 26 and 27 at 6 pm at Freeport High School in the AP room. 2 men (brothers, late 30's – early 50's) & 2 women (late 20's – early 40's) Readings from script (sides). Rehearsals begin March 6. Directed by Barbara Buck. Performances April 20 – 30 at Freeport Performing Arts Center. FMI contact Barbara Buck at onesong1@yahoo.com.

FREEPORT COMMUNITY PLAYERS. Auditions for MAN OF LA MANCHA on May 15 and 16 at 6 pm. Details will be posted on website www.fcponline.org when available. Performances Aug. 10 – 20 at Freeport Performing Arts Center.

FREEPORT COMMUNITY PLAYERS. If you are interested in being a READER at one of their play readings, or if you have a SCRIPT to submit for consideration as a new work to be showcased, call (207) 865-2220.

LAKEWOOD THEATER, near Skowhegan, ME. Auditions for summer season at the Margaret Chase Smith School, Heselton St., Skowhegan: musicals on March 18 & 19; other plays on March 25 & 26; callbacks April 1; first call on April 8. Season opens May 25: IF THE SHOE FITS, THE HOUSE OF SEVEN GABLES, A LITTLE QUICKIE, OVER MY DEAD BODY, MIXED NUTS, CALAMITY JANE (musical), SARAH: PLAIN AND TALL, STAND BY YOUR MAN (musical), and DUCK SOUP. FMI visit www.lakewoodtheater.org.

OPEN BOOK PLAYERS (Readers Theater Ensemble), Gardiner, ME. Auditions for TALES FROM THE BROTHERS GRIMM on April 23; performances May 20 – 21 at Johnson Hall, Gardiner. FMI call Artistic Director Lucy Rioux at (207) 582-5717 or email her at owilde@noctem.org.

OPEN BOOK PLAYERS, Gardiner, ME. Playwrights: If you have an original work in any stage of development, and you would like to explore how it sounds with live actors, bring along a few pages with enough copies for your cast. FMI call (207) 582-3366.

PORTLAND PLAYERS, 420 Cottage Rd., South Portland, ME. Auditions for GYPSY on Feb. 4 at 2 pm and Feb. 6 at 6:30 pm, callbacks Feb. 7 at 6:30 pm, all at the theater, for children and adult parts (need boys ages 11 – 15). Be prepared to sing a song (bring music, accompanist provided), move to a dance routine taught at the audition, and read from script (adults) or improvise (children). Directed by Kevan Patriquin and Rhonda Carlson. Performances May 12 – 28. FMI, see website: www.portlandplayers.org, or call box office at (207) 799-7337.

PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY is accepting scripts for the Clauder Competition, a playwriting contest to identify promising new works by New England playwrights. The winner will receive \$2000 and a full production at PSC with a professional director, designers, and actors. Entries will be accepted through March 1, 2006.

WINDHAM CENTER STAGE is seeking directors for their next season, and specifically a director for the annual winter children's production. WCST originated in 1974 with the purpose of exposing children to the dramatic arts and bringing theater to the community as a family project. It is the only theater with the policy that every child who auditions gets a part. So this is a unique opportunity for a qualified person who enjoys working with children ages 8 – 14 in an all-children production or an adult/mixed cast in the annual musical. FMI call Mary Wassick at (207) 892-6122.



PETER AND THE WOLF, UNH Department of Theatre & Dance: Top, L-R, Jonathan Roth, Matthew Frazier, Brandon Lavin, Colleen Lewis; Bottom, Andrea Benton, Laurie Ewer

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