

"The Source For Theater Happenings"

### TWO VENERABLE COMMUNITY THEATERS IN SOUTH PORTLAND

By Muriel Kenderdine

They both started out in Portland, ME, but for years now they have been presenting plays and musicals just a few blocks from each other in South Portland: Lyric Music Theater and Portland Players. Many actors and sometimes directors and tech people go back and forth between them.



The Cast of THE MOUSETRAP, **Portland Players** January 2011 production: [Standing] William McCue (Major Metcalf), Kristen Peters (Mollie Ralston), Joe Swenson (Giles Ralston), Vinny Taubner (Mr. Paravicini), and Charlie P. Marenghi (Det. Sgt. Trotter); [Seated] Heather Scamman (Miss Casewell), Betty Gravelle (Mrs. Boyle), and Shawn Reardon (Christopher Wren). *Photo by Mary Meserve* 

As the oldest community theater in Maine and the second oldest known in New England, **Portland Players**, founded in 1931, came first. Born as the **Portland Dramatic Guild** and aiming to raise funds for scholarships, the group's first show was a one-act EAST OF EDEN. Roger Vinton Snow, composer of the official Maine State Anthem, was its first president. According to their website history, in spite of remaining dark during World War II these thespians presented over 50 productions during their first 15 years, including plays by Shaw and Shakespeare as well as Gilbert & Sullivan operettas.

In the early 1950's some of the theatrically active Portlanders thought the time had come for establishing a company devoted to musical theater and formed Portland Lyric Theater. Their first production was KISS ME, KATE and after weeks of rehearsal at Three Arts Studio on High Street (where the Museum of Art is now located at Free & High Streets) it was performed in the Deering High School Auditorium in February 1954. [No matter what you may have read about this before, that was the date of the inaugural show - I was there! Also check out the poster in the theater lobby.] Sadie Nissen directed, a young Frank Catir was the music director, and Helena Jackson choreographed - Sadie and Helena ran the Three Arts Studio. In fact – it's hard for me to let go of this – I was also in the next 3 shows that Lyric did: CAROUSEL (as Carrie Pipperidge) in February 1955 at Deering High School, HMS PINAFORE in the fall of 1955 (in Frye Hall, now no

longer existing), and SOUTH PACIFIC in February 1956 at Deering, and then I left for California. So while it's doubtful there are any original Portland (Dramatic Guild) Players now living, there are a few of us still around who remember the early beginnings of what is now called **Lyric Music Theater.** 

One of those is **Lora Coffin**, who was in that first KISS ME, KATE as well as other subsequent shows and served for many years on Lyric's Board of Directors. She told me recently, "For CAROUSEL I worked on props with Priscilla Ferguson (Greg Titherington's aunt) and we went down to Commercial Street and got all the clam shells we could find, took them home, and scrubbed them clean in our bathtubs. We covered the stage with clam shells! That was also the show when Lou Levy played Jigger and had to smoke. But Lou didn't smoke and neither did I. The cigarettes I got for him had cork tips; one night he put the wrong end in his mouth and couldn't light it!" Lora is no longer physically active with Lyric but still contributes her help and support as the person who sends out the get well and sympathy cards to members.

Marion and Ralph Barnes were also charter members. They avoid Maine winters in Florida now but come back here in the summer months. Ralph writes, "Attending the first organizational meeting at Portland Lyric Theater was probably one of the most fortunate things we ever did. Community and regional theater have played a major role in our lives ever since. We appeared on stage mostly and worked backstage on other productions for the first 17 years of Lyric's existence. Two of my favorite roles were as the Poet in SONG OF NORWAY and the Caliph in KISMET. Marion's first solo role was Liat in SOUTH PACIFIC, and she subsequently appeared in many productions in roles such as Gladys in PAJAMA GAME and Ella in BELLS ARE RINGING. (Note: Ralph also played Ralph Rackstraw in that first HMS PINAFORE.)

"We then spent 20 years acting and directing plays at the North River Players in Norwell, Massachusetts, and actually took the lead in transforming what was the North River (social) Club that did annual 'revues' into a full-fledged community theater doing 3 to (now) 5 plays a year.

"Upon retiring about 12 years ago, we took our act to Florida. We are involved with the Venice Theater and are still active directing shows at the Lemon Bay Playhouse in Englewood. As the saying goes, 'birds of a feather flock together,' and we have found that theater has been the joy of our lives and has made friends for us wherever we've lived!"

Marion added, "Reminiscing reminds me about how different it is today – like when we did KISS ME, KATE and (the first) KISMET we had to dye long johns for the guys because today's tights had yet to be 'invented.' Remember those baggy knees?"

Ralph and Marion sometimes continue to use their talents here in Maine: they directed ANNIE for Lyric Music Theater in the early fall of 1998, and were part of the summer repertory company at The Theater at Monmouth in 2005 and 2007, appearing in THE GRAPES OF WRATH, TOM JONES, and MY THREE ANGELS.

Someone who went back and forth between Lyric and Portland Players was Linwood Dyer, who in more recent years directed and choreographed frequently at Lyric and even was their Artistic Director for a time until he retired for health reasons a few years ago. "I was in several plays at Players while I was in grammar school and high school," he said to me recently. "If they needed a boy to walk across the stage, I was available. Then later I did get some second leads." Meanwhile he took lessons at the Three Arts Studio until after high school when he went to New York and attended theater college. After he returned from NY he became Sadie's and Helena's right hand man, and kept the dance and theater classes going at the studio while they worked on Lyric's shows. Because of this it was 1957 before he actually got onto Lyric's stage in OKLAHOMA. After that he continued to work with both groups, sometimes on stage, sometimes designing sets. In addition, he had two years in summer stock on Peaks Island in a theater run by a New Yorker, and then began directing at least one show per season at Lyric and spent 11 summers as set designer at the Barnstormers, an Equity theater in Tamworth, NH. I remember Linwood many years ago as the villain in a melodrama on the Players' stage when he threatened the heroine, a young Fritzi Cohen (who started her acting career at Portland Players), while he was costumed in a black swallowtail coat with coat hangers somehow worked into the tails to make them impressively stand out! I remember Linwood on Lyric's stage more recently, too well, 20 years or so ago – as Applegate in DAMN YANKEES and Mr. Spettigue in WHERE'S CHARLEY. And, although at this stage of his life he may no longer be directing or acting, he is still very much involved with theater as he is in the process of cataloging and displaying his many years of collected memorabilia. Recently he showed me through the numerous rooms in his Scarborough home, each room with a different collection: Lyric Theater, Portland Players, programs, albums of press clippings, photos, play scripts, etc and, yes, the complete almost-20-years of issues of Cast & Crew (or it will be complete when we fill in a few gaps)! The plan is to bequeath his home as a theater museum and archives for interested people to come and do research. If you have something to contribute that he might have missed, do call him at (207) 774-4318.

Fritzi Cohen spoke to me last month remembering her days at Portland Players. She said, "When I got the job as theater critic with Channel 6, I had to stop doing theater because it was a conflict. But before that I had (leading) roles there every year for 10 years, starting with BORN YESTERDAY in the early 50's and then did it again 20 years later! In between there were so many plays — WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION, THREE MEN ON A HORSE, ANIMAL KINGDOM and more!" For a time Fritzi also had a career in professional theater in Boston and New York and was in the cast of the movie JAWS under the stage name of Fritzi Jane Courtney.

A young **Linda Lavin** also graced the Players' stage as the female lead in an original musical called FAIRHAIRED BOY by David Baker, an up and coming young composer who hoped

to take the show to NY. I don't know if he ever made it in the Big Apple, but Linda Lavin certainly did, a frequent Tony Award nominee and a Tony winner for BROADWAY BOUND as well as becoming nationally known on TV as Alice in the series of the same name.

Needing more room for rehearsing and for storage of costumes, props, and scenery, Lyric Music Theater had their first permanent home when they moved into a Stevens Avenue vacant movie theater known at the time as the Doll's House. Some performances were held there and some still at Deering High School. However, disaster struck in 1971 when an explosion and fire destroyed the theater. Temporary quarters were found on Middle Street in downtown Portland, and the group continued to present shows, sometimes dinner theater at Holiday Inn West, sometimes on the stage at Catherine McCauley School Auditorium. In 1977 they moved to their present location at 176 Sawyer Street in South Portland, a former church in need of somewhat extensive repairs. In fact, when it was time for the first show there to open, the fire department wouldn't allow it because the electrical outlets weren't up to code. At this point Portland Players, who by this time had moved to their present site at 420 Cottage Road in South Portland, came to the rescue and offered the use of their theater (later named the Phyllis Thaxter Theater for another Players alumna, who made it in Hollywood and is most widely known for her role in the first SUPERMAN movie)



RENT, **Lyric Music Theater** February 2011 production: Jennifer Curtis Miller (Maureen), Rebecca Rinaldi (Joanne), Brian McAloon (Benny), Thomas Jerome Smallwood (Collins), Tyler Beck (Angel), Jason Phillips (Mark), [standing] Chris Austin (Roger) and Celeste Green (Mimi). *Photo by Woody Leland* 

From 1970 until his untimely death in 1990 **Joe Thomas** was Artistic Director at Portland Players and continued to present five shows a season, including musical comedy. Since his passing, a variety of directors have taken the helm as has usually been the practice over the years at Lyric Music Theater as well.

I can't speak personally for what occurred at either theater during the 13 years I was away or even for the first 12 years after returning as a single parent with a small boy, but it was **Frank Catir** who got me back into theater. I ran into him in late 1981 at a Portland Stage performance at their old theater on Temple Street. By this time Sadie and Helena had retired from active theater work, but not Frank. He said he was going to be directing CAMELOT at Lyric Theater in 1982 and asked me to assist him with the music, which I had also done years before

with HMS PINAFORE. I said, "Oh, I don't think I can do that," but when I told my son, now in his mid teens, he said, "I think you should do it." So a couple of weeks later I saw Frank again, at Portland Players this time, and said, "I've changed my mind." And that's how it started again for me because guess what – someone dropped out of the cast and then I was in the show and at the beginning of a second career in theater that has lasted almost 30 years!

**Glenn Anderson** assisted Frank on that production of CAMELOT and went on to direct successfully at several theaters besides frequently being on stage in addition to his day job as a lawyer. Although he eventually stopped directing, since 1994 he has had roles in at least one of the summer musicals at Maine State Music Theatre and occasionally appears with Good Theater. [See the August 2008 issue of Cast & Crew at <a href="https://www.castandcrew.org">www.castandcrew.org</a>.]

The cast of that CAMELOT included the late **Kendall Libby** as Lancelot and **Ellen Faulkner** as Nimue as well as a teen-aged **Everett O'Neill**, who was my on-stage escort in many scenes and kindly kept me from literally breaking a leg in the blackouts – Everett has been involved in theater in NYC for many years now, sometimes on stage but frequently involved with set design and construction. By the way, because of the demand for tickets, that production of CAMELOT ran for an unprecedented, and I believe not repeated, five weeks through May. I would have been happy to go with it all summer, so pleased to be back on stage after thinking that part of my life was over for good!

From 1954 to 1967 when Portland Players moved to their present location in South Portland, they presented their plays in the New Portland Theatre, which was on Preble Street in Portland but was demolished in 1996, having fallen into disuse after almost 90 years of vaudeville and both community and touring professional theater, to make way for the drive-through window and parking lot of Maine Bank & Trust (now People's United Bank). In the June 1997 issue of Cast & Crew Herb Adams wrote an article tracing the building's history in A Last Goodbye To An Old Portland Theatre. [Historian and frequent state legislator Herb is no stranger to theater having graced the stage at both Lyric and Biddeford City Theater as Henry Higgins in MY FAIR LADY, at Lyric as Stephen Longfellow, father of Henry Wadsworth, in PORTLAND FANCY, an original musical by Linwood Dyer, and as Artemus Ward in his own traveling two-person show ARTEMUS WARD TONITE!]

The late **Cedric Thomas** (no relation to Joe, as far as I know) and his wife, **Marie**, also trod the boards in both South Portland theaters. Among many other roles, Cedric was in that first KISS ME, KATE as Lily/Kate's stuffed shirt fiancée, and Marie was in the 1982 CAMELOT. Cedric was so generous a supporter of Lyric that the Board of Directors honored him by naming the theater on Sawyer Street the Cedric Thomas Playhouse. Marie, still looking fabulous when I last saw her at St. Lawrence Arts Center a couple of years ago, now lives in Florida, as does **Victor Catir**, the late Frank Catir's younger brother and another original Lyric member.

A couple of actors who have graced both stages at least since 1979 are **David La Graffe** and **Claudia Hughes**, who met on the Portland Players stage in JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR and had their wedding there a few years later! They were both in that 1982 CAMELOT at Lyric, and their frequent on stage appearances at Players include WHO'S AFRAID OF

VIRGINIA WOOLF? (together as George and Martha) and David's as the demon barber in SWEENEY TODD twice, 19 years apart! David now is Artistic Director of Portland Playback Theatre and Lights Up Theatreworks. Claudia, after a number of years teaching and directing theater at Waynflete School, now devotes most of her time to visual art in her paintings.

Only a few years away from being a charter member, **Ellen Lefevre** arrived in Portland in 1957 and soon became involved with Lyric Music Theater and still is, both as a board member and performer having most recently been in the cast of THE PRODUCERS (2009). Favorite roles over the years have been Auntie Mame in MAME, Mama Rose in GYPSY, and her first big role at Lyric: Annie in ANNIE GET YOUR GUN. In fact, on December 4, 2010, at the final Saturday night show of this musical, once again part of Lyric's 2009/10 season, she was in attendance as was her Frank Butler, **Lloyd Knight**, and spotlights were shone on them in honor of their having performed the show over 50 years before! Ellen told me recently, "Lyric Theater has saved my emotional life in many ways through the friendships and support and continues to do so to this day."

A couple of young actors who started out here and have gone on to national fame are: Anna Kendrick, who performed at Lyric Music Theater, at the age of 12 was nominated for a Tony for her first Broadway role as Dinah in HIGH SOCIETY (the musical based on THE PHILADELPHIA STORY), and recently was nominated for an Oscar for her role in the movie UP IN THE AIR; and Christopher Fitzgerald, whose first stage appearance was at age 8 as the youngest child in OLIVER! at Portland Players, and has been nominated for and received numerous awards for Broadway roles, which have included Igor in the musical YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN, Og in FINIAN'S RAINBOW, and Launcelot Gobbo in THE MERCHANT OF VENICE, which just closed in January after a limited run and was chosen by NY Times critic Ben Brantley as one of the 10 Best Plays of 2010. Fitzgerald has also acted for a decade with the Williamstown Theatre Festival, most recently as Pseudolus in FORUM.

It's impossible to list all the actors, directors, and designers who have offered their talents and hard work at Lyric and Portland Players through the years, so please forgive me if your name is omitted. Directors who have recently worked in both theaters include:

**Michael Donovan** (sometimes also an actor) – Lyric's Feb.-Mar. 2011 RENT, THE PRODUCERS (2009), and RAGTIME (2006); at Portland Players the Nov. 2010 STEEL MAGNOLIAS, May 2010 WEST SIDE STORY, and BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS (2009)

**Raymond Dumont** (Maine State Music Theatre regular, who credits Linwood Dyer with giving him the confidence that he could do theater as a profession) – Lyric's Fall 2010 EVITA; Portland Players' March 2011 A CHORUS LINE

**Wil Kilroy** (USM Professor of Theater) – Lyric's Nov. 2010 ANNIE GET YOUR GUN; Portland Players' Nov. 2009 THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW

Mary Meserve – Lyric's Apr.-May 2011 KISS ME, KATE, the 2005 JEKYLL & HYDE; Portland Players' Jan. 2011 THE MOUSETRAP

Other Portland Players directors have included **Michael Rafkin**, founding artistic director of Mad Horse Theatre, with Mar. 2010 BAREFOOT IN THE PARK, LOST IN YONKERS, THE TALE OF THE ALLERGIST'S WIFE, and NOISES OFF among others; and **Janet Ross**, who directed the entire 1997-98 season of plays from JAQUES BREL in the fall to GREASE in the following spring.

Frequently directing recently at Lyric has been the husband/wife team of **Vince and Denise Knue** with Apr.-May 2010 GUYS AND DOLLS, CABARET, URINETOWN, and MAN OF LA MANCHA. Vince can be often seen on stage as well in such roles as Zoser in AIDA and Roger Debris in THE PRODUCERS, while Denise often contributes her costuming expertise.

Speaking of costumes, I have to mention **Louise Keezer**, who started out at Lyric on stage in FORUM and LIL ABNER, but then changed direction and since has costumed at both theaters, although most often at Lyric with probably 100 or more shows to her credit! *See Cast & Crew October 2008 issue*.

So it's not all about the actors and directors. You can't do theater without the tech and backstage people, again way too many to list them all! In the 50's and 60's the tech was mostly done by Harry and Richard Curran - Richard at Portland Players, Harry at both, but usually at Lyric. Their work even included electrics for the City of Portland. Linwood Dyer says, "I remember hanging the Christmas lights up and down Congress Street with Harry, climbing up the ladders and freezing our fingers!" For many years the late Bud Fisher spent at least part of every day at Lyric doing maintenance as well as tech. Vernon Kimball was the one who made it rain on stage for SINGIN' IN THE RAIN (it got a standing ovation at every performance!), while his wife, Polly Kimball, was the producer for many shows, both having gotten involved because their daughter, Ellen Kimball Munson, was so often a performer; sadly both Polly and Vernon are also no longer with us. In recent years Steve Lupien, another one who sometimes takes his turn on stage, has done set design and construction at both theaters, possibly more often at Players, while Donald Smith is perhaps the most frequent one in this capacity at Lyric. Don made his debut as a director at Lyric with the June fund raiser production of HARVEY in 2008.

And then there's stage management. Joanna Chantal has probably put in more hours in this capacity than anyone else in South Portland. For a Cast & Crew article on stage management a while back (December 2007) she told me, "I got into theater doing props at Lyric when I was 17. Then I was mistress for JOSEPH & THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT when Joe Thomas was directing it for Portland Players. There was no one available to stage manage, so I stepped in and took it on - someone else did the props! Since then I've probably worked 40 to 50 shows (she's added a lot more since this conversation), mostly at Players but also some at Biddeford City Theater and at Lyric Theater. I love it from the first rehearsal to the final strike. It's very rewarding to see the production come together with the set, the lights, costumes, and so on." Joanna has no interest in acting herself and says, "I prefer to do what I feel good doing, which is stage managing!"

We mustn't forget the other volunteers, too, who tend the box office like **Nancy Lupien**, who was president of Portland

Players for a number of years, but who could also usually be found answering the phone for reservations. Likewise **Lois Matthews** has handled this job at Lyric for many years. Another longtime supporter found occasionally on stage over the years but more often seen in the box office lately is **Don Drew**. And **Michele Danois** has been in charge of the ushers and the concession at Portland Players for longer than I can remember.

In fact, Michele, as she told me in January, has been a volunteer since the former Cape Movie Theater was taken over by Portland Players over 40 years ago! "I was a teenager," she said, "working at the playground next door. I had done some acting with the Children's Theatre of Maine, but when I saw them working on the building to get it ready, it seemed like a good opportunity to get started with them, helping with sets and other things. The experienced theater people like **Bob and Ginny Charlton** were so supportive of us kids, showing us how to hold a hammer, how to paint. The theater has become my second home. It has been a secure and defining place about who I am."

So in addition to the actors, directors, music directors, musicians, and the choreographers, hats off and a round of applause to all those who design, build and paint sets, not to mention taking them apart when the show is over, who hunt for props and dress the sets, who design the lighting and run the lights, who fit and sometimes make the costumes, who move sets and furniture on stage between scenes, answer the phones and sell and take tickets, usher you to your seat and give you the programs, man the concessions, sell ads for the programs to defray expenses, and the producers whose job is to see that all this takes place and publicity makes it to the right places!

At Lyric Music Theater the next show will be Jonathan Larson's critically acclaimed rock opera RENT, running February 18 – March 5, directed and choreographed by Michael Donovan and featuring as principals Chris Austin (Roger), Jason Phillips (Mark), Celeste Green (Mimi), Tyler Beck (Angel), Rebecca Rinaldi (Joanne), Jennifer Miller (Maureen), Thomas Smallwood (Collins), and Brian McAloon (Benny). Performances will be Friday & Saturday at 8, Sunday at 2:30 pm.

Michael Donovan, who is very busy, as you can imagine, getting RENT ready to open soon, recently told me, "I have been very fortunate in my 11 years in the Portland area, to largely spend my time working at both Portland Players and Lyric Music Theater. Having moved to Portland to continue developing my directing career, I was immediately welcomed into the ranks of both theaters. I had directed many shows south of Portland and was excited to begin developing relationships with the local community theaters. Both Lyric and Portland Players have given me amazing directorial opportunities, and both groups are to be applauded for their commitment to community theater and for their longevity in this uncertain theatrical climate. South Portland is lucky to have two amazing theaters in the same city, both of which offer cultural enrichness and community outreach."

**Brian McAloon** is an actor who has worked at both theaters in roles that include Nathan Detroit in GUYS AND DOLLS, Leo Bloom in THE PRODUCERS, Bobby in URINETOWN, and Dr. Sanderson in HARVEY at Lyric; Judas in GODSPELL, Doody in GREASE, and Dickon in THE SECRET GARDEN at Players. He recently told me, "The theater to me is an extended

family. It's a series of friends, people who you may go months or years without seeing, but invariably you can walk back into these people's lives as though no time has passed. I know some of the truest, most brutally honest friends, simply from performing with them. We all have our day jobs, our 'real lives', but what bonds us together is the desire and the thrill we take in performing and entertaining others. My theater family has held me up in some of the lowest periods of my life. They are selfless, caring, and warm people. I am grateful to have them in my life. That's what the true *community* in Community Theater means to me."

It's very clear that theater has a special place in the lives of those who participate in it. For me, too, it has been a place where during rehearsals and performances it was possible to be distanced from life's problems for a few hours. While I have only been actively involved in two shows at Portland Players, both before the death of Joe Thomas, I do feel a special bond with Lyric Music Theater; partly because I was there at its beginning and partly because it was Lyric that eventually got me back into theater, leading me to other opportunities as well. (That's why there's more about me in this article than usual.) For instance, dancer/teacher Selby Beebe saw me in that 1982 CAMELOT and said, "My father has written a new musical. You should audition." I did and that began an almost 30-year theater and extended-family relationship with composer Hank Beebe and his wife Nancy, who also were the first to give me paying jobs as an actor (as well as non-paying), and that in turn led to paying roles with other companies like Penobscot Theatre and The Theater at Monmouth. And, oh yeah, I got my very first commercial through someone from Portland Players whose day job was at a TV station. Being a part of theater not only gives you a feeling of family in the paying as well as the nonpaying "jobs", but it's also a network. If you read the bios in professional as well as community theater programs, notice how often the actors, directors, and designers have worked in the same theaters. (And before someone out there groans at all this sweetness and light because of a different kind of experience somewhere, let's be honest - because people are human, sometimes there may be someone in the cast or backstage whose behavior doesn't fit or want to fit in "the family feeling," but fortunately that is not the norm!)

Over at **Portland Players** Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP just closed a 3-week run on January 30. In the cast were Kristen Peters (Mollie Ralston), Joe Swenson (Giles Ralston), Shawn Reardon (Christopher Wren), Betty Gravelle (Mrs. Boyle), William McCue (Major Metcalf), Heather Scamman (Miss Casewell), Vinny Taubner (Mr. Paravicini), and Charlie Marenghi ( Det. Sgt. Trotter). **Mary Meserve** directed this classic mystery, which has been running continuously on the stage in London's West End since 1952 and has racked up more performances world wide than any other play of any kind in the so-called modern era! Her production team included set design by Steve Lupien, lighting by Matt Brann, costumes by Louise Keezer, and stage management by Joanna Chantal, who was also a producer along with Candyce Jamerson (Mary's Mom).

Mary Meserve started out on stage with The Children's Theatre of Maine, went on to Portland Players in THE KING AND I and CAROUSEL, and has had many roles at Lyric Music Theater including Peggy Sawyer in 42<sup>nd</sup> STREET (that's the lead – she

dances, too), Caroline Neville in TITANIC, Liz Imbrie in HIGH SOCIETY, and Nurse Kelly in HARVEY. Theater credits elsewhere include Smith College (her *alma mater*), L/A Community Little Theatre, and Bates College (Lorraine in A LIE OF THE MIND). Directing credits, in addition to those mentioned a few paragraphs ago, include DEATHTRAP at L/A CLT and CITY OF ANGELS, MAME, and VICTOR/VICTORIA at Lyric.

She echoes some of the sentiments already expressed, saying, "I have always had a passion for theater but my involvement at Lyric and Players goes beyond the opportunity to perform. Community theater brings people together and renews the art of live storytelling. Personally, it has given me a place to explore my creativity and grow as an actress and director, a chance to give back to the community, and a means to test and challenge myself to grow beyond what I initially thought was possible. What I value most though is that through community theater, I am part of one of the most caring, supportive families I could ever hope to find!"

"Back in the mid-60's when I started performing," adds **Candy Jamerson**, long involved on both sides of the footlights, "Lyric Music Theater and Portland Players were the only two venues for performing locally. They provided both a place to perform on stage as well as an avenue for learning all aspects of theater. Although there are numerous options now, what has kept me with the community theaters is, as the name reflects, the sense of community in the truest sense of the word. We come together to celebrate the art of theater and share it with our audiences, and in the process weave life-long friendships that nurture, support and grow with one another."

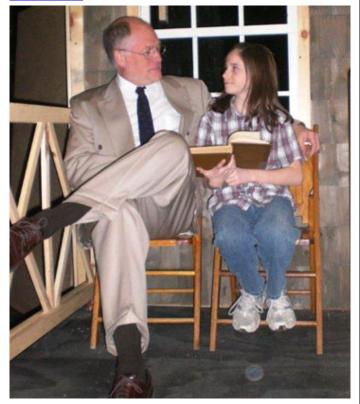
Upcoming at **Portland Players** is A CHORUS LINE in which 17 dancers are auditioning for 8 spots in a Broadway show with performances March 11 – 27, Friday & Saturday at 8, Sunday at 2:30 pm. **Ray Dumont** directs and choreographs. Some of those in the cast are Cory Bucknam (Cassie), Rodney Mondor (Zach), Christopher Hodgkin (Mike), Vincent Ratsavong (Richie), Matthew Begin (Paul), Greer Vachon (Maggie), Michaela Boissoneault (Val), Eileen Hanley (Diana), David Aaron Van Duyne (Don), Joseph Sibley (Larry), Trevor Bean (Greg), Justin Roux (Bobby), John Robinson (Al), Logan Rausch (Mark), Michelle Tham (Connie), Kristina Boissonneau (Sheila), Zoey Rausch (Judy), Alexandra Munier (Bebe), and Natalie Haberkamp (Kristine).

RENT – Feb. 18-Mar. 5
KISS ME, KATE – Apr. 22 – May 7
Lyric Music Theater
176 Sawyer St., So. Portland, ME
(207) 799-1421
www.lyricmusictheater.org
A CHORUS LINE – Mar. 11 – 27
SIDE SHOW – May 13 – 29
Portland Players
420 Cottage Rd., So. Portland, ME
(207) 799-7337
www.portlandplayers.org



# HEARD IN THE GREEN ROOM

Linda Britt directs TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, L/A Community **Little Theatre's** winter selection, which runs Feb. 4 – 13 at Great Falls East, 30 Academy St., Auburn, ME, Fri. & Sat. at 8, Sun. at 2, Thurs. Feb. 10 at 7:30. Heading the cast is Stan Spilecki as attorney Atticus Finch with Julia St. Laurent and Drew Masse as his children, Scout and Jeremy. Dante Baskett plays Dill, the Finch children's friend, and Luka Baskett is understudy for Scout. Also in the cast are Deidra Opfermann as housekeeper Calpurnia, Michelle Vasquez Jacobus as Miss Maudie and the Narrator, Andrea Quaid as Miss Stephanie, Rachel Morin as Mrs. Dubose, Boyd Scott as Tom Robinson, Danielle Sicotte as Mayella Ewell, Mark Hazard as Sheriff Heck Tate, Bob Greeley as Judge Taylor, Glenn Atkins as Rev. Sykes, Roger Philippon as Bob Ewell, Ronald Charest as Walter Cunningham, Harley Marshall as Mr. Gilmer, Phil Vampatella as Court Clerk, Travis Mayo as Boo Radley, and Nakesha Myrick and Paige Berube as townspeople. Ellen Peters is assistant director with Vicki Machado, stage manager; Bill Hamilton, scenic designer; Richard Martin, light designer, Pat Spilecki, costumer; Steve Mortimer, sound designer; Patricia Phillips, props and also the producer; Melody Driscoll, prompter; and Rachel Morin, publicist. (Be aware that some language may be offensive to our ears today but reflects the time and place.) Sentimental Journey will return with some of your favorite songs and performers Feb. 18 at 7, Feb. 19 at 2 & 8. Jan Crosson directs this fundraiser for CLT with musical direction by Courtney Babbidge (also at the piano), and Comedy Connections regular John Ater as MC. Vocalists include Max Ater, Sheldon Bird, Ron Bouffard, Crosson, Donna Griffin, Suzanne Rankin, Beth Saufler, and John Strong. In the pit with Babbidge will be Jamie Buonaiuto on guitar, Sheldon Bird on bass, and Tynan Nida on drums. Call (207) 783-0958 or visit www.laclt.com.



TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, **L/A Community Little Theatre**: Stan Spilecki (Atticus Finch) and Julia St. Laurent (his daughter, Scout). *Photo by Rachel Morin* 

**L/A Community Little Theatre** continues to negotiate with the City of Auburn in an attempt to save the building which has been their home for many years. It appears now that it may be possible for the

theater group to lease the part of the building it occupies, called Great Falls East, and sublease space to other tenants, while the other part of the building, Great Falls West, will be shut down, allowed to go without heat, and potentially could be demolished. Stay tuned!



ANIMALS OUT OF PAPER, **The Public Theatre**: Caroline Strong (Ilana) and Christopher Gerson (Andy) [Origami by Eva Szillery]

At **The Public Theatre**, 31 Maple St., Lewiston, ME, the New England premiere of the 2009 Off-Broadway hit ANIMALS OUT OF PAPER by Rajiv Joseph opened Jan. 28 and continues Feb. 3 – 6, Thurs. & Fri. at 7:30 pm, Sat. at 2 & 8, Sun. at 2. Janet Mitchko directed the play, which uses the Japanese art of origami as a metaphor in a humorous and uplifting examination of love, loss, and the healing power of art. In the cast are New York actors Caroline Strong as origami artist Ilana, Christopher Gerson as math teacher Andy, and Vandit Bhatt as Suresh, the brilliant, troubled teenage origami genius. Set design is by Michael Reidy, lighting design by Bart Garvey, and costume design by Jonna Klaiber. The show will feature special origami elements created by Maine origamist and Math professor Eva Szillery, as well as items from the New York production. An exhibit is also on display in the lobby. Call (207) 782-3200.

Next for this company will be HUMBLE BOY by Charlotte Jones, which will run Mar. 18 – 27, Thurs. & Fri. at 7:30, Sat. Mar. 19 at 8, Sat. Mar. 26 at 2 & 8, Sun. at 2. Felix Humble, a brilliant and bumbling astrophysicist, returns home after the sudden death of his beekeeping father to find his father's beloved beehive empty and his mother more interested in her nose job than his father's death. The play is said to combine Tom Stoppard's intelligence and Alan Ayckbourn's humor with a pinch of Hamlet! Call (207) 782-3200.

Also opening on Jan. 28 was THE WEDDING SINGER presented by **Windham Center Stage** at the Community Center, Windham, ME. It continues Feb. 4-6 & 11-13. Next will be PINOCCHIO Mar. 25-27, Apr. 1-3 & 8-10. Call (207) 893-2098.

**Old Port Playhouse**, 19 Temple St., Portland, ME, brought back by popular demand THE WIZARD OF OZ on Jan. 14, and it continues through Feb. 6, Fri. at 7:30, Sat. at 2 & 7:30, Sun. at 2. Gina Pardi returns as Dorothy. Others in the cast are Paul J. Bell, Jeffrey Caron, Jaymie Chamberlin, Scott Furrow, Larry Owens, and Lisa Rockwell.

Michael J. Tobin adapted the story and directed. Next will be CRAZY LIL' THING CALLED LOVE running Feb. 11-27, Fri. At 8, Sat. at 2 & 8, Sun. at 2. Call (207) 773-0333. This theater's December production of IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE as a radio play had a cast of 7 playing all the parts and was directed by Whitney Smith. In the cast were Jody McColman as George Bailey, Cheryl Reynolds as Mary, John Mosey as angel Clarence, Gina Pardi, Janelle Doak Mosey, and Logan Rausch, with Michael J. Tobin as narrator and master of sound effects.



PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, **The Theater Project**: Liz Chambers (Miss Elizabeth Bennet) and Ian Carlsen (Mr. Darcy). *Photo by Heather Perry* 

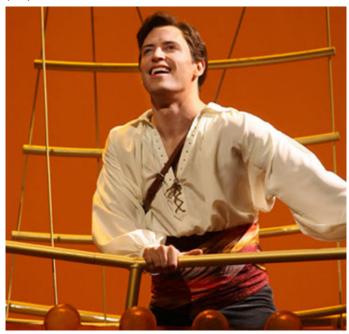
At The Theater Project, 14 School St., Brunswick, ME, the Professional Ensemble is presenting Winter Cabaret in repertory with PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, an adaptation of Jane Austen's classic novel. Opened Jan. 27, performances of PRIDE AND PREJUDICE continue Feb. 4, 6, 10, 12, 18 & 20. Christopher Price directed and designed the set. The cast includes Liz Chambers as Elizabeth Bennet, Ian Carlsen as Mr. Darcy, and Tootie Van Reenen as Mrs. Bennett. Jim Hall is the sound designer for both shows, creating parody songs for the Cabaret and Regency style dance music for the play. Winter Cabaret opened Jan. 28 and continues Feb. 3, 5, 11, 13, 17 & 19. Times for both will be Thurs. at 7:30, Fri. & Sat. at 8, and Sun. at 2. Next will be The Young Company in SHIFT by Charlotte Agell, adapted by Al Miller, Mar. 11 - 20. Call (207) 729-8584. Elise Hedblom, TPT alumna and now a teacher at the theater, directed local junior high students in the Young People's Theater December production of MS. SCROOGE, adapted from A Christmas Carol. And the teenagers of The Young Company held their annual fundraiser Improv-a-Thon on Jan. 8 from 1 – 6 pm, when there were always some members of the group on stage for the whole 5 hours.

2 PIANOS 4 HANDS by Ted Dykstra & Richard Greenblatt opened at **Portland Stage Company** Jan. 25 and continues through Feb. 20 at 25A Forest Ave., Portland, ME. This play with music follows the "dynamic and comical journal of two boys into adulthood, their musical aspirations gleaming like the grand pianos that they play masterfully on stage from beginning to end." Tom Frey and Jeffrey Rockwell star. Next on the main stage will be THE CENTER OF GRAVITY (or The Disinvention of the Airplane) by Gregory Hischak, a different take on the Wright Brothers, running Mar. 1 – 20. Meanwhile in the Studio Series see THE REAL McGONAGALL by Willy

Holtzman and starring Mark Honan, running Feb. 10 - 27. Call (207) 774-0465.

Edward Albee's 2002 Tony and Drama Desk Award winning drama THE GOAT OR WHO IS SYLVIA? is the winter production of Mad Horse Theatre Company at Lucid Stage, 29 Baxter Blvd., Portland, ME, where it opened Jan. 20 and continues through Feb. 6. David Currier directed with lighting design by Tom Wyatt, costumes by Susan Thomas, props by John Speckman, and technical direction by Adam Gutgsell. In the cast are Christine Louise Marshall (Stevie), James Herrera (Martin), Jaimie Schwartz (Ross), and Benedetto Robinson (Billy). Shows are Thurs. - Sat. at 8 pm, Sun. at 2 pm (Thursday is pay-what-you-can). Meanwhile, the Dark Night Series returned Jan. 24 at 7:30 pm Mon. - Wed. and continues through Feb. 2 with Albee's THE PLAY ABOUT THE BABY. USM Professor of Theatre William Steele directed and in the cast are Chris Newcomb and Julie George-Carlson as Man and Woman and Jordan William and Julia Reddy as Boy and Girl. MHT's next main stage offering will be THE LATE HENRY MOSS by Sam Shepard, directed by Chris Horton, and running Mar. 10 - 27. Call (207) 899-3993 or buy tickets online at www.lucidstage.com.

Good Theater will stage the Maine premiere of MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS by Ron Hutchinson at St. Lawrence Arts Center, 76 Congress St., Portland, ME, Feb. 3 – 27. Performances of this sweet and funny play about *Gone With the Wind* will be Thurs. – Sat. at 7:30 pm, Sun. at 2, with an added Wed.show, Feb. 9, at 7 pm, and a Saturday matinee on Feb. 19 at 3. Brian P. Allen directs. In the cast are Stephen Underwood as producer David O. Selznick, who's not happy with the screenplay; Brent Askari as writer Ben Hecht and Tony Reilly as director, given 5 days to complete a new script (but Hecht hasn't read the novel); and Lynne McGhee as Selznick's put-upon secretary, Miss Poppenghul. The play is based on actual events recounted in Hecht's autobiography. Set is by Craig Robinson, lighting by Jamie Grant, costumes and stage management by Justin Cote. Call (207) 885-5883.



Broadway at Good Theater, Good Theater December production: Guest Star Sean Palmer as Prince Eric, the role he created for THE LITTLE MERMAID on Broadway

Christopher Shinn's DYING CITY, a finalist for a 2008 Pulitzer Prize in Drama, will be this winter's featured AEA production at **Stonington Opera House** on Deer Isle, ME, running Feb. 3 – 13, Thurs – Sat. at 7 pm, Sun. at 2 pm. Peter Richards, a lifelong summer resident in Stonington, directs this play, which asks "What happens when an unexpected visitor appears at your door?" Here, the visitor is the twin brother of the husband of a woman whose husband has been deployed

to Baghdad, and the story "unfolds in flashbacks of her husband and news of his twin, causing the painful events of the outside world to intrude upon the island of safety she has constructed to heal herself in the post-9/11 world." Therese Plaehn, daughter of Maine natives and herself a frequent visitor to Maine since the age of 10, plays the wife, while Juri Henley-Cohn plays the twin brothers. Both actors have degrees in theater from Harvard and/or American Repertory Theater and are part of the ART company. Set design is by Michael Reidy with costumes by Rebecca Lasky. Go to <a href="http://boxoffice.printtixusa.com/operahousearts/eventcalendar">http://boxoffice.printtixusa.com/operahousearts/eventcalendar</a> or call (207) 367-2788.

**Portland Playback Theatre Company** continues to playback stories from the audience in their *First Friday Series* at 7:30 pm Feb. 4 (Theme: *Affairs of the Heart*) & Mar. 4 at First Parish Church, Congress & Temple Streets, Portland, ME. David LaGraffe facilitates. FMI visit <a href="www.portlandplayback.com">www.portlandplayback.com</a> or call (207) 799-3489.

**Reindeer Group** returns with some community shows to bring awareness and raise money for R.A.M.P., Reindeer's Alternative Music Program, all at The American Legion Hall, Dunn St., Westbrook, ME. The first concert was an open-mic *Cabaret* on Jan. 21. On Feb. 4 at 7 pm there will be a *Coffee House* featuring acoustic performances by singer-songwriter Joel Carpenter, Louis Grassi, Nate Harvey, Izzy Jorgensen, Gabriella Latini, and Egor Mossalev. Next on Feb. 18 at 7 pm there will be another open-mic *Cabaret* with Louis Philippe at the piano and performers including Ellen and Mark Munson, Kathleen Peterson, Themia Raymond, Rita Smith, and cast members from past revues. Admission is free but reservations are suggested. Call (207) 857-9002.

R.A.M.P. was created a year ago by Louis Philippe, who also conceived and produced the highly popular Rock-Off competitions from their beginning in 1983. Philippe's goal is to create, produce and implement a music industry-based curriculum whereby Maine's Alternative Education students can earn academic credit for studying subjects such as Songwriting, The Recording Studio Experience, Marketing, Live Event Production, and Music Video Production. **Reindeer Group** has launched a campaign to raise \$145,000 to establish this unique project as an ongoing educational opportunity for AltEd communities across the state. Donations in any amount and program inquiries are welcome, as well as requests for speaker presentations. FMI visit www.keepMEcurrent.com/arts and entertainment/off-ramp.

The Early Evening Show returns to **Oddfellow Theater**, Rte. 117, Buckfield, ME, Feb. 4 & 5 and Mar. 4 & 5 at 7:30 pm. Also see TWO: Juggling and Physical Comedy on Feb. 19 at 2 & 7:30; *Odd Improv* on Mar. 18 & 19 at 7:30; and the Shoebox Tour 2011 with Jay Gilligan and West Peden on Mar. 24 at 7:30. Call (207) 336-3306.

The Romantic Songs of Kelly Caufield will be the February entertainment feature at **Anthony's Dinner Theater**, 151 Middle St., Portland, ME, and included will be a free rose for every lady all month! Call (207) 221-2267.

Acorn Productions continues their various ongoing series of programs: Naked Shakespeare in Sonnets & Soliloquies on Feb. 7 & Mar. 7 at the Wine Bar on Wharf St., Portland, ME; Readings of new scripts by local playwrights on Feb. 11 & 18 and Mar. 4 at 7:30 pm in the Acorn Studio Theatre, 90 Bridge St., Westbrook, ME; The Fairy Tale Players in JOJO DUBOIS MEETS HIS MATCH by DeLorme Taylor adapted from the Brothers Grimm story "Seven at One Blow" in the Studio Theatre Mar. 11 – 27. Call (207) 854-0065 or visit www.acorn-productions.org. The January 14 - 30 offering in Acorn's Studio Series was CRYING AT MOVIES based on John Manderino's memoir of the same name. Michel Levine directed and Paul Haley and Kerry Rasor starred. This also gave patrons the opportunity to enjoy the comfort of new seats provided by a grant from the Rines/Thompson Fund!

At **Lucid Stage**, 29 Baxter Blvd., Portland, ME, the February lineup includes: **James Hoban** in THOM PAIN (based on nothing) by Will Eno and directed by Adam Gutgsell Feb. 10 – 13 & 17 – 20; **Improv** 

Workshop with Davis Robinson of the Celebration Barn from 1-5pm on Feb. 12; Valentines Bazaar from 10 am – 4 pm on Feb. 13 with Crafts, Music, Raffles, and Family Entertainment; THE SOIREE with Amanda Houtari and Jake Brooks on Feb. 14: the Two Storytellers Michael Parent and Antonio Rocha on Feb. 19 & 20 at 2 pm; the Blue Lobster Troupe choral concert on Feb. 21 at 7:30 pm; Maine Freedom Trails celebrating the Black Freedom Movement and featuring HARRIET TUBMAN VISITS A THERAPIST written and directed by Carolyn Gage, Other Conversations of Color, and Freedom Songs by Mehuman Jonson at 7 pm on Feb. 25; HOUSE ON UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE vs. HOLLYWOOD, a staged reading of a play, produced by **Harlan Baker** at 8 pm on Feb. 26; and Secret Lives of Comedians with Brian Brinegar on Feb. 27 at 7:30 pm. Visit www.lucidstage.com or call (207) 899-3993. On Jan. 30, FOSSE (Figures of Speech Student Ensemble) performed PAUL BUNYAN at Lucid Stage.



CRYING AT MOVIES, **Acorn Productions** Studio Series January production:
Paul Haley between two Kerry Rasors

The 12-member ensemble of **FOSSE** opened their tour of PAUL BUNYAN in Freeport on Jan. 28. After the performance at Lucid Stage, the tour continues on Feb. 4 at Warren Memorial Library, 479 Main St., Westbrook, ME (in partnership with Westbrook-based **Acorn Productions**); and on Feb. 6 at Peaks Island School, 4 Church Ave., on Peaks Island, ME. FMI visit www.figures.org.

DIRTY BLONDE by Claudia Shear, a comedy with music about Mae West, takes the stage at **Penobscot Theatre** at the Opera House, 131 Main St., Bangor, ME, Feb. 9, 10, 16, 17 & 24 at 7 pm; Feb. 12 Gala at 5 pm; Feb. 11, 18, & 25 at 8 pm; Feb. 26 at 3 & 8 pm; Feb. 13, 20, 27 at 3 pm. Call (207) 942-3333 or visit <a href="www.penobscottheatre.org">www.penobscottheatre.org</a>. PLAID TIDINGS, the 2nd musical in a planned trilogy that started with FOREVER PLAID, turned out to be the highest grossing production in PTC's 37-year history. Scott R. C. Levy directed. The show ran in December repertory with THE VELVETEEN RABBIT, which was directed by Marcie Bramucci, PTC's managing director. Andrew Frodahl, PTC's technical director but also a member of Puppeteers of America, adapted the script, which uses a mixture of puppets and human actors. The cast included Jasmine Ireland as Vel the Rabbit, John Greenman as Timothy the wooden lion, and Michaud Stutzman as tin soldier Frederick.

Bangor-based **Ten Bucks Theatre Company** will stage EPIC PROPORTIONS by Larry Coen & David Crane in Comins Hall at the Eddington/Clifton Civic Center, Eddington, ME (10 miles from Brewer on Rte. 9), Feb. 10 – 12 & 17 – 19 at 7 pm, Feb. 13 & 20 at 2 pm. Arthur Morison directs this comedy about two brothers, Benny and Phil, who go to the Arizona desert to be extras in a huge Biblical epic; however, before you know it, Phil is directing and Benny is star-

ring! Complications arise when both fall in love with Louise, the assistant director. Visit <a href="www.tenbuckstheatre.com">www.tenbuckstheatre.com</a> or call (207) 884-1030.



The Cast of PLAID TIDINGS, **Penobscot Theatre** December production. *Photo by Michael Weston* 

Everyman Repertory Theatre will present 84 CHARING CROSS ROAD at the Rockport Opera House, Rockport, ME, Feb. 11 - 14. David Troup directs this play about Helen Hanff (played by Jen Hodgson), who, unable to find obscure classics and British literature titles in New York City, notices in the Saturday Review of Literature an ad placed by antiquarian booksellers at the above address in London. She contacts the shop manager, Frank Doel (played by Paul Hodgson), who fills her requests, and a long distance friendship evolves over time. Others in the cast are Ashley St. Pierre (Cecily Farr), Laurel Johnson (Megan Wells), and Scott Anthony Smith (William Humphries). Technical and production people for the play were lined up by regular season producer Carole Leporati before she left for warmer climes for the winter and include: set design by Ken Barnes, stage management by Aspen Jones, sound by Steve Bird, lighting by Brandon Koons, costumes by Cara Lauzon, props by Randall Merrifield, production producer John Bielenberg, and backstage crew Alan Hall, Jim Reitz, and Arthur Perry. Visit www.everymanrep.org. Also note that ERT has received from the Maine Community Foundation Expansion Arts Fund a grant to support its Drama in Schools project of a tour of Moliere's THE MISER in April and May. The production will be presented free during the school day at schools that include Camden Hills Regional High School, Belfast Area High School, Rockland District High School, and George's Valley High School. In addition, ERT has received a grant from the Maine Theater Fund of the Maine Community Foundation in support of its 2010-2011 season.



THE 39 STEPS. **The Everyman Repertory Theatre** 2010-11 Season Opener: Paul Hodgson (Hannay) and Jennifer Hodgson. *Photo by Scott Anthony Smith* 

John Cariani's ALMOST, MAINE will be staged by the **Studio Theatre of Bath** Feb. 11 – 13 and 18 – 20, Fri. & Sat. 7:30 pm, Sun. at 2 pm, at The Chocolate Church, 804 Washington St., Bath, ME. Direction is by Thom Watson and stage management by Bob Read. Playing multiple roles in the cast are Shirley Bernier, Christina Boyinton, Colin Kelley, Amie Marzen, April Purinton, Andy Shatto, Vince Shatto, Mimi Sorg, and Justin St. Louis. Plus, on Feb. 13 at 7:30 pm,

also at The Chocolate Church, Suzanne Rankin and Thom Watson will perform A. R. Gurney's LOVE LETTERS as they have in celebration of every Valentine's Day for 20 years! Call (207) 442-8455. [The two actors also presented this play on Jan. 29 at Lincoln Theater in Damariscotta at the reopening of the theater after two weeks of ceiling renovations.]

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DISCO DREAM adapted from Shakespeare by J. M. Watts will be on the main stage at **Waterville Opera House**, 93 Main St., Waterville, ME, Feb. 11 – 13 & 18 – 20, Fri. & Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2. In this version, Theseus, owner of the Athenian Disco, declares a celebration in honor of his approaching marriage. During the evening a magic flower causes mortals and fairies to fall in and out of love. Music will include disco's greatest hits and dancing by the Disco Fairy Dancers. Call (207) 873-7000 or visit <a href="https://www.operahouse.com">www.operahouse.com</a>.

Having lost their previous venue at the former Northstar Café necessitating a bit of a hiatus, **The Escapists** returned on Jan. 30 with an evening of improv and comedy on the stage at the Old Port Playhouse on Temple St. in Portland. Performers were Keith Anctil, Chris Fitze, R. J. McComish, Shane Van Vliet, Jen Whitley, and Eric Worthly. And now you can catch them on Feb. 12 at 7 pm on the stage at the Montgomery Theater, Morse High School, Bath, ME. FMI visit www.theescapists.net.

The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD Series continues at various locations with NIXON IN CHINA by John Adams Feb. 12; Gluck's IPHIGENIE EN TAURIDE Feb. 26 with Susan Graham, Placido Domingo, and Paul Groves; and Donizetti's LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR Mar. 19 with Natalie Dessay. Check dates and times at the venue near you. Here is contact information: **The Grand**, Ellsworth, ME, (207) 667-9500 or www.grandonline.org; The Music Hall, Portsmouth, NH, www.themusichall.org, (603) 436-2400; The Strand, Rockland, ME, (207) 594-0070, www.rocklandstrand.com,; Brunswick 10 Cinema, Cook's Corner, Brunswick, ME, , (207) 798-4505 ,www.wegoplaces.com; Lincoln County Community Theater, Damariscotta, ME, www.lcct.org, (207) 563-3434; Collins Center for the Arts, Orono, ME, www.collinscenterforthearts.com, (207) 581-1755; Eastman Performing Arts Center, Fryeburg, ME, www.fryeburgacademy.org, (207) 935-9232; Capitol Center for the Arts, Concord, NH, www.ccanh.com, (603) 225-1111.

Responding to numerous requests, **Eepybird (Fritz Grobe and Stephen Voltz)** will give a presentation on their working method, *Creativity and Obsession: Taking Your Ideas From 1 to 100*, at 5:30 pm on Feb. 15 at King's Bridge Theatre, 12 Foss Rd., Lewiston, ME. For reservations call Oddfellow Theater at (207) 336-3306.

Portland Ovations brings the following entertainment to the Merrill Auditorium, Myrtle St., Portland, ME, in February and March: Doug Varone and Dancers on Feb. 16 at 7:30 pm; KNUFFLE BUNNY: A Cautionary Musical on Mar. 13 at 2 pm; the national Broadway tour of AVENUE Q on Mar. 24 at 7:30; and Imago Theatre in the family friendly ZOOZOO on Apr. 1 at 7. Call (207) 842-0800. The national tour of FIDDLER ON THE ROOF, which Portland Ovations brought here in January, featured Birdie Katz as Yenta. Ms. Katz has been a familiar figure on Maine stages including Maine State Music Theatre and Best of Broadway and Ed Reichert concerts, but this, now that her children are grown, is her first cross-country tour. And just by way of miscellaneous information, John Preece, who starred as Tevye and has performed the role over 3000 times, is, I believe, the first husband of Karen K. Edissi, formerly known to her many fans as K. K. Preece. When I interviewed her a few years ago, she mentioned getting a phone call from him.

Reba Short directs JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH for **The Children's Museum &Theatre of Maine**, 142 Free St., Portland, ME, with performances the weekends of Feb. 18 – Mar. 6. Call (207) 828-1234 Ext. 231.

Richard Bostwick directs KEY FOR TWO, a farce by John Chapman & Dave Freeman, for **Gaslight Theater** with performances Feb. Feb.

25-26 & Mar. 3-5 at 7:30 pm, Feb. 27 at 2 pm, in Hallowell City Hall Auditorium, Hallowell, ME. Divorcee Harriet solves her financial problems by entertaining two married gentlemen callers on different days of the week until her best friend arrives at the flat hotly pursued by her husband, causing confusion and mistaken identities. Call (207) 626-3698.

SYLVIA, A. R. Gurney's romantic comedy about marriage and a dog, will be offered by **New Surry Theatre** at the Town Hall, Blue Hill, ME, Mar. 11 – 12, 18 – 20, & 25 – 26. Rebecca Poole directs. Visit www.newsurrytheatre.org or call (207) 374-5556.

Ken Ludwig's farce LEND ME A TENOR will be staged by **ACAT** (**Aqua City Actors Theater**) in the Studio Theater at Waterville Opera House, 93 Main St., Waterville, ME, Mar. 11 – 13 & 18 – 20, Fri. & Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2. Michael Jimbo directs. Call (207) 580-6783 or visit www.acattheatre.org.

EDGES by Benj Posek & Justin Paul takes the stage at **City Theater**, 205 Main St., Biddeford, ME, Mar. 11-13 & 18-20. Linda Sturdivant directs this musical about four "burgeoning adults and their coming-of-age questions" about love, relationships, and meaning. Visit <a href="https://www.citytheater.org">www.citytheater.org</a> or call (207) 282-0849.

At the **Schoolhouse Arts Center**, Rte. 114 near intersection with Rte. 35 in Sebago Lake Village, Standish, ME, on Mar. 18 & 19 there will be a one-man show, MY MOTHER, MY FATHER AND MY MOTHER, with Mike Harris in the Black Box Theater. This is a benefit for the *Save Our Schoolhouse Fund*. Call (207) 642-3743 or visit <a href="https://www.schoolhousearts.org">www.schoolhousearts.org</a>.

Returning to **St. Lawrence Arts Center**, 76 Congress St., Portland, ME, at 7:30 pm on Mar. 22 will be MUSE OF FIRE, **David Katz**'s hilarious one-man show about his experience as a young conductor in training with a terrifying teacher who will stop at nothing to make him learn the wonder of great music! This was the last play directed by Tony Award-winning actor/director Charles Nelson Reilly. Call (207) 347-3075



MUSE OF FIRE on tour, St. Lawrence Arts Center: David Katz

**Portland Ballet** will present *By Request*, a program of audience favorites, Mar. 25 & 26 in the John Ford Theater at Portland High School, Portland, ME. Visit <a href="www.portlandballet.org">www.portlandballet.org</a> or call (207) 772-9671.

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM will be next for **Lincoln County Community Theater**, Damariscotta, ME, Mar. 25-27 and Apr. 1-3. Sue Ghoreyeb directs with musical direction by Sean Fleming. Call (207) 563-3424 or visit <u>www.lcct.org</u>.

**Harlan Baker** continues to tour his one-man show, which he also wrote, JIMMY HIGGINS: a Life in the Labor Movement. In January he presented it at Cape Elizabeth High School in Maine. Next he will be at the Labor Temple in Madison, Wisconsin on Mar. 31. Direction

was by Christopher Price. FMI visit <a href="www.harlanbaker.com">www.harlanbaker.com</a> (gigs calendar) or call (207) 712-0228.

**AIRE**'s (**American Irish Repertory Ensemble**) next production will be BRENDAN by Ronan Noone in the Studio Theater at Portland Stage, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, ME, Mar. 31 – Apr. 16. More about this in our next issue.

Also see our April issue for more about Heartwood Regional Theater Company's offering of THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA by Federico Garcia Lorca, which HRTC will present Apr.1 - 10 in the Skidompha Library, Damariscotta, ME. www.heartwoodtheater.org or (207) 563-1373. In this company's January 2011 Page to Stage Festival, also in the Skidompha Library and directed by Griff Braley, the following plays and actors were featured: FOUR QUARTETS by T. S. Eliot with John Farrell of Figures of Speech Theater and transitional compositions on flute and bass flute by Carl Dimow; THE BEGGAR'S OPERA by Vaclav Havel, a free-wheeling, highly politicized adaptation of John Gay's original 1728 work, with Kevin Kiley, John Adams, Alison Machaiek, Joe McGrann, Nancy-Grace Dersham, Nancy Durgin, Peter Christine, Laurie Brown, Earl Inman, Margo O'Leary, Deb Arter, Nick Buck, and Maggie Machaiek; LAST TRAIN TO NIBROC by Arlene Hutton with Elise Voigt and Steven Shema as May and Raleigh, who meet on a cross-country train ride and begin a life-long relationship.



LAST TRAIN TO NIBROC, **Heartwood Regional Theater Company** January *Page to Stage Festival:* Steve Shema and Elise Voigt

At the colleges, the **University of Southern Maine** Department of Theatre offers AIRSWIMMING by British playwright Charlotte Jones Feb. 3-6 at Russell Hall on the Gorham campus. "The play follows Persephone and Dora during the half-century they were imprisoned in St. Dymphna's Hospital for the Criminally Insane through their release into a shared apartment." Meghan Brodie directs. Next will be THE TRIUMPH OF LOVE in collaboration with the USM School of Music, running Mar. 11-20. Assunta Kent directs with musical direction by Edward Reichert. Call (207) 780-5151.

At Colby College in Waterville, ME, Stephen Sondheim's musical PUTTING IT TOGETHER will run Feb. 3 & 4 at 7:30 pm, Feb. 5 at 2 & 7:30. Lynne Conner, Chair of the Department of Theater & Dance, directs, with musical direction by Paul Machlin. Next will be A SOLDIER'S TALE by C. F. Ramuz and Igor Stravinsky at 7:30 on Mar. 12. Todd Coulter directs and choreographs; Jon Hallstrom will conduct. Call (207) 872-3388.

At the Maine Center for the Arts on the **University of Maine** campus at **Orono** the line-up includes: STAR TREK LIVE! on Feb. 6 at 11 am & 2 pm; the *Popovich Comedy Pet Theater* on Mar. 6 at 3 pm (if

this is that father & daughter team of trainers of cats, they are amazing); the national tour of GREASE on Mar. 15; and Imago Theatre with ZOOZOO on Apr. 3 at 3 pm. Call (207) 581-1755 or 1-800-MCA-TIXX.

At the University of New Hampshire in Durham there will be staged readings this month in repertory under the umbrella title The Season of Lust and Betrayal. DIVERTING DEVOTION by UNH alumnus Mike O'Malley and directed by Professor Deborah Kinghorn will be offered Feb. 15, 17, & 19 at 7 pm in the Hennessy Theatre. PHAEDRA by the Roman playwright Seneca, translated by UNH Classics Professor Scott Smith and directed by Professor David Richman, will run Feb. 16 & 18 at 7, Feb. 20 at 2 also in the Hennessy Theatre. The UNH Dance Company Spring Concert will be a double bill: WOUNDED DOVE, created and choreographed by C. Laurence Robertson, a dance tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. set to original music written and performed by Professor David Ripley, with an additional ballet piece accompanied on the piano by Professors Christopher and Arlene Kies; and THE WIZARD OF OZ, created and choreographed by Gay Nardone, following Dorothy and her friends tapping, leaping, and flying over the rainbow! Performances will be in the Johnson Theatre Mar. 30, 31 & Apr. 1 at 7 pm; Apr. 2 at 2 & 7; Apr. 3 at 2. Call (603) 862-2290, Mon-Fri 10 am - 4 pm or visit www.unhmub.com/ticket.

Professor and Department Chair Roger Bechtel directs VENUS by Suzan-Lori Parks for performances in the Wish Theater on the **Bowdoin College** campus, Brunswick, ME, Feb. 24 – 26, at 8 pm Thurs. & Fri., 2 & 8 pm Sat. Free but tickets required – call (207) 725-3253. Sam Shepard's A LIE OF THE MIND, directed by Sam Fichter for Masque & Gown, will be next in the Pickard Theater Mar. 3 – 5. Call (207) 725-3375.

**Bates College** in Lewiston, ME, will hold their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Dance Showcase at 7:30 pm on Feb. 12 at the **Franco-American Heritage Center**, 46 Cedar St., Lewiston. The program will feature performances by local and regional choreographers and dancers. Then in the Schaeffer Theater on the Bates campus Moliere's LEARNED LADIES will be staged Mar. 11, 12, 18 & 19 at 7:30, Mar. 13 & 20 at 2. Call (207) 786-6161.

From Dec. 9 – 12 the University of Maine at Farmington presented at the UMF Alumni Theater GOOD MEDICINE, a new play by Jayne Decker chronicling the experiences of a midwife/healer in the late 1800's. "Old Jenny provides care to childbearing women and herbalbased medicines to a needy but skeptical community in a small New England town. With the emerging century's new focus on modern medicine, a doctor comes into the community to challenge the townspeople's fragile trust in the midwife's skills and to convince them she is guilty of witchcraft." The performances of the ensemble cast were enhanced by songs, some of them original ones by local composers Seth Wegner and Hank Washburn. Ms. Decker, who directed, has also written other plays including STARS FALLING (2002 Maine Playwriting Award), JELLY MOONSHINE, SONGBIRD (a touring play about the Iraq war), and CRACKED SHELLS, a play about domestic violence which was commissioned by Franklin County Network's Peace in Our Families and was featured at the 2009 Maine Women's Studies Conference.

RADIUM GIRLS by D. W. Gregory was staged in December by **Husson University Theater** in the Gracie Theatre in Bangor, ME. The play is the story of Grace Fryer and other young women, mostly in their teens, who were stricken with radiation sickness from painting radium on the dials of watches at the Orange, N.J. factory of U. S. Radium Corp. Their long legal battle against the company "established the right of individual workers to sue employers because of labor abuses." Bangor's New England School of Communications student Mike Churchill directed. The cast included Alex Sleeper (Grace), Alicia Strusa (Kathryn), and Stephanie Getchell (Irene).

In Portsmouth, NH, at **The Players' Ring**, 105 Marcy St., the current show is LOVE/VDAY staged by **Back Alley Productions**, which opened Jan. 28 and continues weekends through Feb. 13. Next will be

**Post Script Productions** with 96 TEARS running Feb. 18 – Mar. 6; followed by **Emerson Kelly**'s production of THE PILLOWMAN with performances Mar. 11 – 27. <a href="www.playersring.org">www.playersring.org</a> or call (603) 436-8123. The Players' Ring in-house January production of A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE by Tennessee Williams was directed by Meredith Freeman-Caple and starred Constance Witman as Blanche, Christine Penney as Stella, Scott Caple as Stanley (and set designer), and Andy Fling as Mitch.

In addition to the Met Opera in HD, see The National Theatre of London in HD at **The Music Hall**, 28 Chestunut St., Portsmouth, in KING LEAR on Feb. 3 and FRANKENSTEIN on Mar. 17, both at 7 pm. Visit <a href="www.themusichall.org">www.themusichall.org</a>. (These plays may also be available at some of the other venues screening the Met Opera – check with the venue near you.)

THE DINING ROOM by A. R. Gurney takes the stage at **Garrison Players**, Rte 4, Rollinsford, NH, the weekends of Feb. 4 – 13, followed by HONK!, the musical about The Ugly Duckling, Mar. 18 – Apr. 3. Call (603) 750-4ART.

At **Seacoast Rep**, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth, ORPHANS will be presented the weekends of Feb. 4-27, followed by RABBIT HOLE, Mar. 10-Apr. 2. Call (603) 433-4472 or 1-800-639-7650.

SKIMMER & BUDGE will be offered by **Manchester Community Theatre Players** Feb. 10, 12 & 13 at the Jewish Federation Theatre, 698 Beech St., Manchester, NH. Call (603) 627-7679.

The season of **M & D Productions** continues with THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK Feb. 10-26 and Monty Python's SPAMALOT Mar. 10-20 at 1857 White Mtn Hwy, North Conway, NH. Call (603) 662-7591.

At 124 Bridge St., Manchester, NH, **Stage One Productions** will offer PLAYING DOCTOR Feb. 11 –13 and THE (Female) ODD COUPLE Mar. 18 – 20. Visit <u>www.stageoneproductions.net</u> or call (603) 669-5511.

**The Peacock Players**, 14 Court St., Nashua, NH, present Thornton Wilder's classic OUR TOWN the weekends of Feb. 11 – 20 and SCHOOLHOUSE LIVE ROCK! Mar. 18 – 27. Call (603) 886-7000.

**Winni Players** will stage ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST Feb. 11 – 13 & 18 – 20 at Winnipesaukee Playhouse, Weirs Beach, Laconia, NH. Shows will be at 7:30 on Fri. & Sat., at 2 pm on Sun. Call (603) 366-7377 or visit <a href="www.winniplayhouse.com">www.winniplayhouse.com</a>.

In Concord, NH, in addition to the Met Opera at various times, the **Capitol Center for the Arts** at 44 So. Main St., will bring you the New York Theatre Ballet's ALICE-IN-WONDERLAND on Feb. 16 and KNUFFLE BUNNY on Mar. 8. Call (603) 225-1111 or visit www.ccanh.com.

At **The Rochester Opera House**, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, NH, the lineup includes THE MUSICAL COMEDY MURDERS OF 1940 the weekends of Feb. 17 – 26; MY SON PINOCCHIO Mar. 11 – 12; and THE SUNSHINE BOYS Mar. 31 – Apr. 2. Call (603) 335-1992 or visit <a href="https://www.rochesteroperahouse.com">www.rochesteroperahouse.com</a>.

**The Palace Theatre**, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, NH, will bring you THE FOUR PIANO MEN the weekends of Feb. 18 – Mar. 5, Fri. & Sat. at 7:30, Sun. at 2, Mar. 5 at 2 & 7:30; and their youth production of SCHOOLHOUSE LIVE ROCK JR! on Mar. 2, 3, 10 & 11. Visit <a href="https://www.palacetheatre.org">www.palacetheatre.org</a> or call (603) 668-5588.

Enjoy dinner and/or dessert at **The Majestic Theatre**, 281 Cartier St., Manchester, NH, and see I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE Feb. 17 – 20; DEATH TRAP Mar. 11 – 13; and THE SUNSHINE BOYS Apr. 1 – 3. Call (603) 669-7469 or visit <a href="https://www.majestictheatre.net">www.majestictheatre.net</a>. The Majestic's Youth Ensemble presented THE HOBBIT Jan. 13 – 16.

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES is the late winter choice of **Actorsingers Jr.** with performances Mar. 11-13 at the Janice B. Streeter Theatre on Court St in Nashua. NH. Visit <u>www.actorsingers.org</u> or call

(603) 320-1870. (Directions to the theater may be found at www.actorsingers.org/driving.htm.)

**Milford Area Players**, Milford, NH, will stage John Cariani's ALMOST, MAINE the weekends of Mar. 18 – 27. Call (603) 673-2258 or visit www.milfordareaplayers.org.

The January production of Peter Shaffer's AMADEUS by the **New Hampshire Theatre Project** in Portsmouth, was directed by Genevieve Aichele and starred CJ Lewis in the title role and Blair Hundertmark as Salierei, with Sam Cistulli as Constanze.

Freeport Shakespeare Festival, Freeport, ME, has announced the design team for the summer production of TWELFTH NIGHT: Scenic and Lighting Design by Michael Reidy, Costume Design by Julia Doughty, and Production and Technical Management by Eric Sawyer. As previously announced, Dennis McLernon (last year's Prospero in THE TEMPEST) will direct. In other news FSF Shakespeare's Kids hit the stage on Jan. 15 for an introduction to text work, movement, and team building under the guidance of directo/actor/teacher Lon Church. And the new Freeport Factory Stage will become a year-round performance space for FSF on Depot Street in the heart of downtown Freeport. The black box theater seats about 130 and will be the venue for a variety of theatrical offerings. For continuing information, visit <a href="https://www.freeportshakespearefestival.org">www.freeportshakespearefestival.org</a>.

In January from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup>, there was an exhibition of the dance photography of **Arthur Fink** at The Danforth, 163 Danforth St., Portland, ME. At the artist's reception on Jan. 13 dancer **Karen Montanaro** was featured, sharing her own improvisational works.

At the Stonington Opera House, Deer Isle, ME, on Jan. 20 readers from the Deer Isle-Stonington High School presented selections from RED, the Book, edited by Amy Goldwasser, a 2007 collection of personal essays by 58 of the next generation of writers - teenage girls from diverse backgrounds and upbringings - on what fires up their lives today. Deer Isle-Stonington junior Esther Adams selected, edited, and directed the program of monologues, which was part of the Opera House Arts Our Own Community Playreading Series. In the cast were 9th graders Amy Bolton, Asia Eaton, and Sasha Zembrusky, and juniors Emily Cormier and Autumn Robbins. On Dec. 18 OHA offered a festive evening of Stories to Celebrate the Dark and Bring Back the Light featuring readings of classics and original stories by community members: Dylan Thomas's A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS IN WALES read by Robert Burke; Truman Capote's A CHRISTMAS MEMORY read by Mickey Jacobs; THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE OF JONATHAN TOOMEY, a modern children's story by Amanda Poyant; THE LOATHLY BRIDE, a solstice tale from the Arthurian cycle of stories by Judith Jerome; MITTENS FOR MR. TODD, a new story by Marnie Crowell; and MY NAME IS CLAUS, a new story by Cherie Mason.

Also in December at the Bridgton Academy Chapel, Bridgton, ME, actor/director **Will Rhys** presented his one-man adaptation of Dickens's A CHRISTMAS CAROL, using a bare stage and a minimum of props: a couple of chairs, a stool, and a lectern. The performance on Dec. 17 was a benefit for the Lakes Environmental Association and Maine lakes.

The cast of **Maine State Ballet's** Nov-Dec. THE NUTCRACKER included Elizabeth Dragoni as Clara, James Herrera of Mad Horse Theatre as Uncle Drosselmeyer, and Christine Louise Marshall, also of MHT, as Mother Ginger.

Vivid Motion's NUTCRACKER BURLESQUE at St. Lawrence Arts Center in Portland in December featured Amy Gieseke as Clara. Choreographers for this dance spoof of the famous ballet were Emily Zack-Farrell, Brigitte Paulus, Byron Nilsen, and Amy Gieseke. Joseph Paulus was music director at the piano, with Jason Leone on drums, Chad Sclove on bass, and Ted Millington on guitar. The production was directed by Rachel Stults Veinot.

**Shoestring Theatre,** based in Portland, ME, gave three performances of a 30-minute version of A CHRISTMAS CAROL on Dec. 11 at L. L. Bean Discovery Park in Freeport, ME.

A single performance on a December night brought the Maine premiere of an adults-only different take on the holidays with THE EIGHT REINDEER MONOLOGUES by Jeff Goode at **The Grand** in Ellsworth, ME. Jason Hodgdon directed and played Dasher. Others in the cast were Jennywren Walker (Vixen), Arthur Morison (Comet), Troy Pennell (Donner), Michelle Violette (Blitzen), Brent Askari (Cupid), Burke Brimmer (Prancer), and Sara Sheppard (Dancer). Comedian Bob Marley was co-producer.

Monmouth Community Players staged INFIDELITIES, a farce by Billy Van Zandt and Jane Milmore, Jan 21 – 23 & 28 – 30 in Cumston Hall, Monmouth, ME. Mike Clements and Jodi Harvey directed, with Josie French and Rich Howard, co-producers; Karen Dolley LaPlante, costumes; Jake Junkins, sound engineer; and stage management by Linda Duarte. Music was performed by Charlee Black and friends. In the cast were Mel Morrison (Harold Stang), Emma Davis (Kelly Carroll), Jim Lattin (Alex), Ron Veno (Chip), and Anna Doyle, Cassidy Small, Heidi Holst, Kerstin Schkrioba, Matt Blais, and Patty Vieta

**Cheryl Hamilton** is touring CHECKERED FLOORS, which she wrote and performs. "The floor represents the patchwork of refugees and natives in the Lewiston-Auburn neighborhoods where she worked during the beginning of the Somali migration to the area." Ms. Hamilton started out wanting to perform with *Up With People*, but later experiences with sexual assault and other life downturns are woven into "her growing understanding of the trauma that many refugees have known in their journey from old to new homes." James Bunzli directed. Recent performances were at the Old Port Playhouse in Portland, ME, Jan. 6–9, and at the Frontier Café in Brunswick Jan. 26–28.

Federico Garcia Lorca's tragedy BLOOD WEDDING was performed at **SPACE Gallery**, Congress St., Portland, Jan. 13 – 15. Director Tess Van Horn moved the setting from Spain to a small town in Maine with appropriate shanty-esque settings of the play's songs performed by the band Hersey State. In the cast were Amanda Houtari as the Bride; Michael Dix Thomas as the Groom, whose father had been killed by a man from the Felix family; Patricia Mew as the Groom's grieving mother; and Nicholas Schroeder as Leonardo, a member of the Felix family and the Bride's former lover now married to her cousin played by Amanda Painter, but unable to forget his former love. Others in the ensemble cast were Peter Brown, Laura Chakravarty Box, Annie Larmon, Dena Riegel, Ian Carlsen, Joe Bearor, Deirdre Fulton, Andrew Sawyer, and Claire Guyer.



BLOOD WEDDING, **SPACE Gallery** January production: Nicholas Schroeder (Leonardo) and Amanda Houtari (Bride). *Photo by Tom Wyatt* 

Cathy Plourde, Executive Director of **Add Verb Productions**, has announced that Add Verb is now a program of the University of New England and will be housed in the Westbrook College of Health Professionals in Portland. On Jan. 19 there was an open rehearsal in UNE's Ludke Auditorium as a new cast begins to tour with MAJOR MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGH (a call to action for the health care sector and its role in detecting and preventing violence), also written by Ms. Plourde. Abigail Killeen and Sally Wood are the new actors in this play. FMI visit <a href="www.addverbproductions.com">www.addverbproductions.com</a>, call (207) 772-1167, or email <a href="mailto:chall4@une.edu">chall4@une.edu</a>.

RUDDIGORE was the G & S choice this year by the **Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Hancock County** Jan. 28 – 30 at The Grand in Ellsworth, ME.

On Jan. 29 at McAuley High School Auditorium in Portland, ME, Baraka, Emilia Dahlin, Amanda Houtari, and Kate Schrock, among others, performed in *Girls Night Out!*, a fundraiser to support performances of **A Company of Girls**. FMI about this group call (207) 874-2107 or email <a href="mailto:info@acompanyofgirls.org">info@acompanyofgirls.org</a>.

In **Rangeley**, ME, the season's *Winter Diva* production, coordinated by Carolyn Smith and Terry Martin, took place Jan. 28 – 30 offering "a wild show of comedy, dance, and singing." The performances at Moose Alley were a benefit for the Rangeley Lakes Regional School's graduating class of 2011.

Mystery for Hire ensemble including Dan, Denise, and Katie Marois performed ZELDA AND ZOE'S SPIRITS OF SUSPICION (about two psychic sisters) on Jan. 22 at Events on Broadway in South Portland, ME. The actors presented their strange characters in the fast action murder mystery during the breaks of a four-course dinner, inviting the audience to guess "who-done-it." Visit <a href="https://www.mysteryforhire.com">www.mysteryforhire.com</a> for more information about this company.

Mary Chase's HARVEY (about that invisible 6-foot rabbit) was staged by **Sandy River Players** Jan. 14 – 23 at UM Farmington's Alumni Theater, Farmington, ME. Dan Woodward directed, and the cast included Dan Robbins, Deb Mason, Robin Lisherness, Mark Lemos, Rebekkah Church, and Natalie Bean.

The **Ogunquit Playhouse**, Rte. One, Ogunquit, ME, received the Award for Outstanding Achievement in American Theatre from the New England Theatre Conference at their 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, held in November in New Haven, CT. The Playhouse was recognized as one of the most important cultural landmarks in New England.

Winners of the 2010 **Portland Phoenix 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Short-Film Festival** held in November were: *Film of the Year* – EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN directed by Roger McCord; *Best Comedy* – FLIPPY DAY directed by Michael Panenka; *Best Documentary* – directed by David Camlin & Petra Simmons; *Best Drama* – BAIT directed by Mark Hensley; *Best Music Video* – THE GROOVE MERCHANT: TRAVELING SALESMAN directed by Brian Graham, John MacClaine & Mark Tipton; *Best Production* – SHE FEAST directed by Nate LaChance.

Local actor **Erik Moody** was in SHE FEAST but has had a number of other indie films recently to include on his resume: Leading man in Allen Baldwin's UP UP DOWN DOWN; Co-lead in Barry & Karen Dodd's RAGGED ISLE; A BOUNTY FOR SUSANNAH; FORENSICS: THE NEW VOICES; and THE EARTHWORM MIRACLE.

James Mixon of Topsham, ME, has wrapped his latest project, a feature film titled LOST IN THE WORLD, and is now in post production. The female lead was played by Los Angeles-based Kandis Erickson, who was shown the script by her friend Alice Brooks, the cinematographer for the film, fell in love with the character, and crossed the country to play the part. Mixon, who wrote the script and directed, makes his debut as an actor in the leading male role, which is based mostly on his own experiences.

During the cold days of January paintings by playwright/author/artist **Sandra Dutton** of Boothbay Harbor, ME, were displayed and for sale

at Bootstraps Gallery in Rockland, ME. This selection of artworks was titled *The Circus Comes to Boothbay*. "It was blistering hot when the circus came to town," said Ms. Dutton. A portion of any art and books sold through the Bootstraps Gallery benefits a family in need served through Oasis Services, LLC, a home and personal care agency. FMI on Sandra Dutton visit <a href="https://www.SandraDutton.com">www.SandraDutton.com</a>.

**Sue Yandell**, seen on stage most recently in A CHRISTMAS CAROL at Portland Stage Company, is off to Africa again for six weeks in her capacity as a Registered Nurse for a return stint at an HIV Clinic.

New England Youth Theater of Brunswick, ME, has changed its name to **New England Regional Theater Company** and recently held a spaghetti dinner, with scenes from Disney's MULAN JR. as entertainment, to raise funds for their 2011 season. See our Theater Listings for the list of shows, all to be performed in the Montgomery Theater at Morse High School in Bath.

Muriel Kenderdine



EVITA, **Lyric Music Theater** September/October 2009: Kristin Riley (Evita). *Photo by Mary Meserve* 



The Cast of STEEL MAGNOLIAS, **Portland Players**, November 2010: Julie Michals (Ouiser), Alexandra Christie (Clairee), Rebecca Rinaldi (M'Lynn), Grace Foster (Shelby), Jamie Lupien (Annelle), and Jana Ausplande (Truvy). *Photo by Woody Leland* 



ROLES OF A LIFETIME, **Oxford Hills Music & Performing Arts Assoc.** (**OHMPAA**) November production: Sally Jones and chorus in *No Time At All* from PIPPIN

### ALPHABETICAL THEATER LISTINGS

Acadia Repertory Theatre (Summer) Prof. Non-Equity Box 106, Somesville, Mt. Desert, ME 04660 (207) 244-7260 Cheryl Willis & Andrew Mayer, Art. Directors Kenneth Stack, Exec. Director www.acadiarep.com email: art@acadiarep.com

ACAT Theatre - Community Waterville Opera House, Artspace Theater 93 Main St. Waterville, ME 04901 (207) 580-6783 http://www.acattheatre.org

LEND ME A TENOR – Mar. 11 – 20 PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE-June 3 - 12

Acorn Productions – Prof./Equity Guest Artists 90 Bridge St., Westbrook, ME Mailing: P. O. Box 304, Westbrook, ME 04098 (207) 854-0065 Michael Levine, Prod. Dir. <u>www.acorn-productions.org</u> FTP=Fairy Tale Players

Sonnets & Soliloquies (@ Wine Bar)) – Feb. 7, Mar. 7 JOJO DUBOIS MEETS HIS MATCH (FTP)-Mar. 11 - 27 Best of Fest, Vol. II (ST) – Apr. 1 – 20 Maine Playwrights Festival – Apr. 14 – May 1 @ St.L. Riverbank Shakespeare Festival: ANTONY & CLEO-PATRA, CORIOLANUS, CYMBELINE – May 5 – 22 RAPUNZEL (FTP) – June 3 – 19 Naked Shakespeare at Battery Steele, P.I. June 25-26

ACT ONE (Artists' Collaborative Theatre of NewEngland)

– Prof. Non-Equity, West End Studio
Theatre, 959 Islington Street, Portsmouth, NH
Stephanie Voss Nugent (603) 329-6025

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

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES (Jr.Actorsingers)-Mar. 11-13 GUYS AND DOLLS – May  $20-22,\,2011$ 

ADD VERB Productions Arts & Education, Prof/Non-Equity Touring & Theater in Education. P. O. Box 3853, Portland, ME 04104 (207) 772-1167 Fax (207) 772-1166 Cathy Plourde, Ex. Director cathy@addverbproductions.com www.addverbproductions.org chall4@une.edu

Touring pieces on specific issues. Commission for new scripts, or bring in to assist in script development for your education/outreach programs. Train & conduct workshops on building community through theater or using theater as classroom or social change tool. FMI contact above. Current touring productions, 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.)

A MAJOR MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGH (violence prevention. Health care audience, conferences, trainings)

Advice To The Players – Prof/Community P. O. Box 52 North Sandwich, NH 03259 (603) 986-6253 Rebecca Boyden - Managing Director www.advicetotheplaters.org

American Irish Repertory Ensemble (AIRE) – Prof. Portland, ME (207)799-5327 <u>www.airetheater.com</u> Tony Reilly – Art. Director, Susan Reilly – Managing Dir.

BRENDAN - Mar. 31 - Apr. 16 @ PSC Studio Theater

Anthony's Dinner Theater & Cabaret 151 Middle St., Portland, ME (207) 221-2267 www.anthonysdinnertheater.com

Romantic Songs of Kelly Caufield - Sats. In Feb.

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

**Arundel Barn Playhouse** Prof. /Equity Guest Artists (Summer) 53 Old Post Road, Arundel, ME 04046 Adrienne Grant, Artistic Director Admin: (207) 985-5553 Box Off: (207) 985-5552 <a href="www.arundelbarnplayhouse.com">www.arundelbarnplayhouse.com</a>

Barnstormers Theatre - Prof Equity 100 Main Street, P. O. Box 434, Tamworth, NH 03886 (603) 323-8500 Bob Shea, Artistic Dir. Office: (603) 323-8661 www.barnstormerstheatre.org **Bates College Theater Dept.** 

Lewiston, ME 04240 Box office: (207) 786-6161 Martin Andrucki (207) 786-6187 www.bates.edu S = Schaeffer Theater; G = Gannett

LEARNED LADIES (S) – Mar. 11 – 20 Modern Dance Company (S) – Apr. 1 - 4 Theater Production Workshop (G) – May 19 – 22 Short Term Dance Variety Show (S) – May 25

**The Belfast Maskers** - Community Theater P.O. Box 1017, Belfast, ME 04915 (207) 338-9668 Aynne Ames, Art.Dir. www.belfastmaskerstheater.com

ART - May 12 - 21

Biddeford City Theater – Community Theater 205 Main St.,P.O.Box 993, Biddeford, ME 04005 (207) 282-0849 <u>www.citytheater.org</u> Linda Sturdiyant, Artistic Director

EDGES – Mar. 11 – 20 ALWAYS, PATSY CLINE – Apr. 29 – May 15 GYPSY – Jul. 22 – Aug. 7 DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER – Nov. 11 - 20

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

**Boothbay Playhouse** www.boothbayplayhouse.com
Rte. 27, P.O.Box 577,Boothbay, ME
(207) 633-3379 Susan Domeyer, Owner/Producer

Bossov Ballet Theatre www.bossovballet.com 295 Main St., Pittsfield, ME 04967 (207) 487-6360 Andrei Bossov, Artistic Director

**Bowdoin College** http://academic.bowdoin.edu
Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 725-3375
P = Pickard W = Wish

VENUS (W) – Feb. 24 – 26 A LIE OF THE MIND (P) – Mar. 3 – 5 Gala Dance Festival – Apr. 9, 10, & 13 – 16 An Evening of Dance (P) – Apr. 27-28

**Bucksport Community Theatre** 

100 Mills Lane, Bucksport, ME (207)469-8992 www.bucksporttheatre.org

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

ROMEO AND JULIET – April QUILTERS – July PETER PAN – August DIRTY WORK AT THE CROSSROADS – Oct. at Watts Hall. Thomaston

Capitol Center for the Arts www.ccanh.com 44 So. Main St., Concord, NH (603) 225-1111

Met Opera (Varying dates & times) to May 14 NY Theatre Ballet's ALICE-IN-WONDERLAND – Feb. 16

KNUFFLE BUNNY – Mar. 8 SPRING AWAKENING (Nat'l Tour) – Apr. 5 Imago Theatre ZooZoo – Apr. 10-11 HAMLET (Shakespeare & Co.) – Apr. 19 at 10 am Neil Berg's 101 YRS OF BRDWAY-Apr 19 @ 7:30 pm

Cauldron & Labrys Productions

160 Dartmouth St., #1, Portland, ME 04103 (207) 774-4231 Carolyn Gage – Artistic Dir.

Celebration Barn Theater - Theater School/Workshops 190 Stock Farm Rd. (off Rte. 117) South Paris, ME 04281 (207) 743-8452 <a href="www.CelebrationBarn.com">www.CelebrationBarn.com</a> Email: <a href="mailto:info@celebrationbarn">info@celebrationbarn</a> Amanda Houtari, Exec.Dir

Center Theatre for Performing Arts, 20 E. Main St. P.O.Box 441, Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426 (207) 564-8943 . www.centertheatre.org

ANNE OF GREEN GABLES - TBA

**Chamber Theatre of Maine** Box 372, Thomaston, ME 04861 (207) 354-8807 Erika Pfander Art. Dir.

Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine

142 Free St, Portland, ME 04101 (207) 828-1234 Reba Short, Art.Dir. www.kitetails.org

JAMES & THE GIANT PEACH – Feb. 18 – Mar. 6 WINNIE THE POOH – Apr. 21 – May 1

**Chocolate Church Arts Center** 

804 Washington St., Bath, ME 04530 (207)442-8455 www.chocolatechurcharts.org Barbara Bowers, Exec.Dir

ALMOST, MAINE (**Studio Th**) – Feb. 11 – 20 THE WHO'S TOMMY (**Studio Th**) – May 13 - 22

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

SIMPLY SHAKESPEARE - Touring H.S., Libraries, etc

Colby College Theater Dept., Waterville, ME 04901 (207) 859-4535 – Box Office: 872-3388-Theater Dept. www.colby.edu/theater

PUTTING IT TOGETHER (Musical) – Feb. 3 – 5 THE SOLDIER'S TALE – Mar. 12 THE CUCHULAINCYCLE – Apr. 8 - 10 The New Works Festival – Apr. 15 - 17

 $Community\ Little\ The atre-Lewiston/Auburn$ 

Great Falls East, 30 Academy St., P.O Box 262, Auburn, ME 04212 (207) 783-0958 www.laCLT.com
Box Office email: boxoffice@laclt.com

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – Feb. 4 – 13 Sentimental Journey – Feb. 18 & 19 BLOOD BROTHERS – Apr. 8 – 17 WAIT UNTIL DARK – June 17 – 26 JEKYLL & HYDE – Aug. 5 - 14

A Company of Girls – (Children's Workshop/Theater) P.O.Box 7527, Portland, ME 04112 (207) 874-2107, Odelle Bowman, Exec. Director www.acompanyofgirls.org

Concord Community Players –Community Concord City Aud., Prince Street, Concord, NH P.O.Box 681, Concord, NH 03302 (603) 224-4905

**Deertrees Theatre** 

P.O. Box 577, Harrison, ME 04040 (207)583-6747 -Box Office <u>www.deertreestheatre.org</u> Bill Felts, Exec. Dir. (207) 647-2111

CINDERELLA (Lake Region CT) June 17 - 26

Denmark Arts Center – Community 50 W. Main St. (Rte. 160), Denmark, ME (207) 452-2412

Singers Workshop w/Lillian Morse (207) 452-2057)

Eastport Arts Center - Stage East - Community Theater 36 Washington St., Eastport, ME 04631 Box Office: (207) 853-4650 Michael R. Brown, Pres. (207) 454-8026 mrbrown64@msn.com www.stageeast.org

**Encore at The Point (Sebago)**—Prof-Summer—Casco,ME Deb Doherty, Dir. (207) 655-3821 <a href="www.pointsebago.com">www.pointsebago.com</a>

Weekly shows include HONK!, THE COMEDY WEDDING, and more

The Escapists - Comedy/Improv
Portland, ME www.theescapists.net

**Everyman Repertory Theatre** – Prof. P.O. Box 938, Rockport, ME 04856

www.everymanrep.org

Paul Hodgson, Artistic Director (207) 236-0173

84 CHARING CROSS RD - Feb. 11 – 20 THE MISER-Apr//May School Tour & Rockport Opera House May 13 - 22

Fenix Theatre Company – Prof.
Portland, ME Rob Cameron, Exec. Artistic Dir.
www.fenixtheatre.org . (207) 400-6223

**Figures of Speech** - Prof. Non-Equity/Touring 77 Durham Rd., Freeport, ME 04032 John & Carol Farrell (207) 865-6355 <a href="www.figures.org/">www.figures.org/</a> FAR EAST – Tales from China & Japan – Touring PAUL BUNYAN (FOSSE)- Feb. 4 (Westbrook) & Feb. 6 (Peaks Island)

Franco-American Heritage Center

46 Cedar St., P.O.Box 1627, Lewiston, ME 04241-1627 (207) 783-1585

Bates College Modern Dance Showcase - Feb. 12

Freeport Community Players – Community Theater P.O Box 483, Freeport, ME 04032 (207)865-2220 Elizabeth Guffey, Managing/Artistic Dir..www.fcponline.org

PIRATES OF PENZANCE (G & S) – Jul. 14 – 31 THE FOREIGNER – Sep. 15 – Oct. 2

Freeport Family Performing Arts – Community Freeport, ME (207) 415-6251 Tim Ryan

PETER PAN – Apr. 15 - 24

Freeport Shakespeare Festival (Prof.) P.O. Box 13, Freeport, ME 04032 (207) 865-9299 Julie George-Carlson, Producing Artistic Director www.freeportshakespearefestival.org

TWELFTH NIGHT - Summer 2011

**Garrison Players** – Community Theater Rte 4, Rollinsford, NH (603) 516-4919 Box Office: (603) 750-4ART <u>www.garrisonplayers.org</u>

THE DINING ROOM – Feb. 4 – 13 HONK! – Mar. 18 – Apr. 3 DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER – June 3 - 12

Gaslight Theater - Community Theater
P.O. Box 345, Hallowell, ME 04347 (207)626-3698
Richard Bostwick, Gen. Mgr www.gaslighttheater.org

KEY FOR TWO – Feb. 25 – Mar. 5 Evening of One Acts – April IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST-May 27-Jun.4 AND THEN THERE WERE NONE – Aug. 26 – Sep. 3 CINDERELLA (R & H) – Nov. 11 - 20

Jackson Gillman – 'Stand Up Chameleon' P.O. Box 41, Onset, MA 02558 (508) 295-0886 http://jacksongillman.com Touring

Guest artist at Seanachie Nights, Portland, ME - Mar. 21

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

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS – Feb. 3 - 27 BEDROOM FARCE – Mar. 10 – Apr. 13

The Grand Auditorium - Community 165-167 Main St., - P.O. Box 941 Ellsworth, ME 04605 Zoe Alexis Scott, Executive Director (207) 667-9500, (207) 667-5911 <a href="www.grandonline.org">www.grandonline.org</a>

Met Opera Live in HD:
NIXON IN CHINA – Feb. 12
IPHIGENIE EN TAURIDE (w/ Susan Graham & Placido Domingo) – Feb. 26
LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR (w/Natalie Dessay)-Mar. 19
LE COMTE ORY (w/Juan Diego Florez) – Apr. 9
CAPRICCIO (w/Renee Fleming) – Apr. 23
IL TROVATORE – Apr. 30
DIE WALKURE – May 14

Hackmatack Playhouse (Summer) Prof.Non-Equity 538 School Street, Berwick, ME 03901 (207)698-1807 Michael Guptill, Exec. Producer Sharon Hilton, Art. Dir. <a href="https://www.hackmatack.org">www.hackmatack.org</a>

TEN NIGHTS IN A BARROOM – June 29 – Jul. 2 A FUNNY THING .... FORUM – Jul. 6 – 23 SINGIN' IN THE RAIN – Jul. 27 – Aug. 13 THE 39 STEPS – Aug. 17 – Sep. 3

**The Hampstead Players** – Touring, Prof. Children's Theater. 1053 N. Barnstead Rd, Ctr Barnstead, NH 03225 (603)776-6044 Kathy Preston, Owner; Michael Phillips, A.D.

#### **Harpswell Community Theater**

Centennial Hall, Rte. 123, Harpswell Center, ME (207) 833-6260 Betty Erswell, Founder/Producer

Heartwood Regional Theater Co.

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

(S = Skidompha Library) (P = Parker B. Poe Theater)

HOUSE OF BERNARD ALBA (St.Reading-S)-Apr. 1-10 METAMORPHOSIS (P) – May 5-15 SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE (P)-Jul.1-17

Hope Hoffman's Town Hall Theater – Community Bowdoinham, ME www.hopehoffman.com Touring Dance, Music, & Comedy Shows – website FMI

Johnson Hall Performing Arts Center

Professsional & Community Shows for all ages & Tours 280 Water Street, P.O. Box 777, Gardiner, ME 04345 (207) 582-7144 Judy Lloyd, Exec.Dir Denise Reehl. Artistic Dir. <a href="https://www.johnsonhall.org">www.johnsonhall.org</a>

King's Bridge Theatre – Prof. Non-Equity Admin. Office 9 Foss Rd., Lewiston, ME 04240 Perfs at Vineyard Aud., 12 Foss Rd. (207) 784-9500 www.kingsbridgetheatre.org

Creativity & Obsession (Eepybird) - Feb. 15 at 5:30

Lake Region Community Theater

Bridgton, ME Anne Miller (207) 627-4989 <u>www.lrctme.org</u> (207) 655-7317 632-1410

CINDERELLA (At Deertrees) - June 17 - 26

**Lakewood Theater/Curtain Up Enterprises** (Summer) Community Theater RFD #1, Box 1780, Skowhegan 04976 (207) 474-7176 <a href="www.lakewoodtheater.org">www.lakewoodtheater.org</a>

**Lamoine Community Arts** – Community Theater Lamoine, ME Carol Korty, Pres. (207) 667-4441

**Leddy Center for the Performing Arts** 131-133 Main St., P.O.Box 929, Epping, NH 03042 (603) 679-2781 <u>www.leddycenter.org</u>

JANE EYRE – Apr. 1 – 10 THE MUSIC MAN – Jul. 8 – 24 AMAHL & GIFT OF THE MAGI – Dec. 2 - 11

Legacy Theater Company – Community P.O. Box 653, Saco, ME 04072 Steve Burnette, Producing Director Email: <a href="legacytheater@roadrunner.com">legacytheater@roadrunner.com</a>

**Lincoln County Community Theater** 

P.O. Box 237, Damariscotta, ME 04543 <a href="www.lcct.org">www.lcct.org</a> Andrew Fenniman, Exec.Dir. Box office: (207) 563-3424

Met Opera Live –to May 14 [see The Grand for details but check individual dates]
A FUNNY THING...FORUM– Mar. 25 – Apr. 3
ON GOLDEN POND – May 13 – 22
YOU'RE GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN–Jul.29–Aug.6
RABBIT HOLE – Nov. 11 - 20

Lucid Stage www.lucidstage.com

29 Baxter Blvd, Portland, ME (207) 807-7320 Adam Gutgsell & Liz McMahon

THE GOAT.. WHO IS SYLVIA (Mad Horse)-Jan.20-Feb.6

THE BABY (MHT Dark Night) M, T, W Jan. 24 – Feb. 2 The Disciples Comedy Show – Feb. 8 THOM PAIN (James Hoban) – Feb. 10 – 20 Improv Workshop w/Davis Robinson (CB): 1 – 5 Feb. 12 THE SOIREE (Celebration Barn w/A. Houtari – Feb. 14 Storytellers Michael Parent & Antonio Rocha - Feb. 19-20 Blue Lobster Troupe Concert – Feb. 21 HARRIET TUBMAN VISITS THERAPIST (Gage)-Feb.

25
HUAC vs HOLLYWOOD (Play–H.Baker)-Feb.26
Secret Lives of Comedians – Feb. 27
THE LATE HENRY MOSS (Mad Horse) – Mar. 10 – 27
LADY (The Magnificent Liars) – Apr. 8 – 9
Comedy Festival – Apr. 15 - 17
SPRING AWAKENING (Mad Horse) – May 5 – 22
ONCE IN A BLUE MOON & MY GAY SON'S
WEDDING (Pearwater Productions) – June 9 – 26

Lyric Music Theater - Community Theater 176 Sawyer St., So. Portland, ME 04106 (207)799-1421, 799-6509 Lin. Dyer, Art. Dir.Emeritus Bruce Merrill, Pres. <a href="https://www.lyricmusictheater.org">www.lyricmusictheater.org</a>

RENT – Feb. 18 – Mar. 5 KISS ME, KATE – Apr. 22 – May 7 THE BUTLER DID IT (Fundraiser) - June

M&D PRODUCTIONS – Community
P.O. Box 1147, Conway, NH 03818
Mark DeLancey & Ken Martin (603) 662-7591
www.yourtheatre.com mdproductions@netzero.net

DIARY OF ANNE FRANK – Feb. 10 – 26 Monty Python's SPAMALOT – Mar. 10 – 20 FIVE WOMEN WEARING SAME DRESS-Apr.14-30 TALLEY'S FOLLY – June 9 – 25 GOD OF CARNAGE – Jul. 7 – 23 THE ODD COUPLE (Female) – Aug. 11 - 27

Mad Horse Theatre Company Prof. Non-Equity Box 9715-748, Portland, ME 04104 (207) 730-2389 Christine Marshall, Art. Dir. <u>www.madhorse.com</u>

THE GOAT OR WHO IS SYLVIA – Jan. 20 – Feb. 6

Dark Night Series: THE PLAY ABOUT THE BABYMon-Wed Jan. 24 – Feb. 2

THE LATE HENRY MOSS – Mar. 10 – 27

SPRING AWAKENING (The Original) –Apr. 28 – May 15

Maine(Collins) Center for the Arts UMO, Orono,ME 04469 (207)581-1110; Box Off: 581-1755 or 800-MCA-TIXX www.umaine.edu/thearts/events.htm and Maine Masque Theater (M =Minsky; H = Hauck) UMO, Orono, ME 04473 (207)581-1963 800-622-8499 (Box Office) www.umaine.edu/spa

Opera Live from the Met 2010-11 Season – to May 14
[see The Grand for detail but check dates]
STAR TREK LIVE! – Feb. 6 at 11 am & 2 pm
Popovich Comedy Pet Theater – Mar. 6 at 3 pm
GREASE (Nat'1 Tour) – Mar. 15
ZooZoo Imago Theatre – Apr. 3 at 3 pm
SPRING AWAKENING (Nat'1 Tour) – May 1

**Maine State Ballet** 

348 US Route 1, Falmouth, Maine 04105 (207) 781-7MSB <u>www.mainestateballet.org</u> Linda MacArthur Miele – Artistic Director

SLEEPING BEAUTY - Mar./Apr.

Maine State Music Theatre (Summer) Prof. Equity P.O. Box 656, Brunswick, ME 04011 www.msmt.org (207)725-8769 Steven Peterson, Exec. Artistic Director

THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES – June 8 – 25 ANNIE – June 29 – Jul. 16 XANADU – Jul. 20 – Aug. 6 TBA – Aug. 10 - 27

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

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

I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT,etc – Feb. 17 – 20 DEATH TRAP – Mar. 11 – 13 THE SUNSHINE BOYS – Apr. 1 – 3 OVER THE TAVERN – May 13 - 15

**Manchester Community Theatre Players** 

Jewish Federation Theatre, 698 Beech St., Manchester, NH 03104 (603) 627-7679 <a href="https://www.mctp.info">www.mctp.info</a> <a href="https://www.mctp.info">and</a>

Second Stage Professional Company Manchester, NH (603) 627-8787

SKIMMER & BUDGE - Feb. 10, 12, 13

Marsh River Theater (Community – summer to fall) Rte. 139 Monroe Hwy, Brooks, ME (207) 722-4110 www.marshrivertheater.co

MeACT (Maine Assoc. of Community Theaters)
P.O. Box 489, Monmouth, ME 04259 <a href="www.meact.org">www.meact.org</a>
Doree Austin, Pres.

Midcoast Family Theatre Company – Community Outreach pgm of Pen Bay YMCA, 116 Union St., Rockport, ME (207)542-6791 Sally B. Landsburg.Kate Fletcher

The Traveling Theatre – Touring Senior Readers' Theatre; Teen Readers' Theatre

Midcoast Youth Theater - Community

P.O.Box 43, Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 751-2619 Henry Eichman, Pres. www.youth-theater.org email: henry@youth-theater.org

Milford Area Players – Community Theater Box 193,Milford, NH 03055 (603) 673-2258 www.milfordareaplayers.org

ALMOST, MAINE – Mar. 18 – 27 AND THEN THERE WERE NONE – Oct. 14 – 23, 2011

**Monmouth Community Players** - Community Theater P.O Box 359, Momnouth, ME 04259 Duane Glover, Chair

STORYBOOK ENDING, VOL. II. - Apr.

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

Music & Drama Company – Community P. O. Box 704, Londonderry, NH 03053 (603) 669-9975 www.madco.org

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

Metropolitan Opera Live- to May 14 [see The Grand but check individual dates] Nat'l Theatre London in HD: KING LEAR Feb. 3; FRANKENSTEIN Mar. 17; THE CHERRY ORCHARD June 30

#### Nashua Theatre Guild

14 Court St., P.O. Box 137, Nashua NH 03061 (603) 320-2530 www.nashuatheatreguild.org

THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER - Apr. 7 - 10

Nasson Community Center & Little Theater-Community 457 Main St., Springvale, ME 04083 (207) 324-5657 Robert Jones, Admin. Director www.nassoncc.org

Harlem Rockets - Feb. 13 at 3 pm

NETC (New England Theatre Conference) 215 Knob Hill Dr., Hamden, CT 06518 (617) 851-8535 <u>www.netconline.org</u>

New England Regional Theater Company Studio 48 Performing Arts Center, 20 Davis St., Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 798-6966 www.newenglandyouththeater.org Perfs. at Montgomery Theater, Morse H.S., Bath

THE SOUND OF MUSIC – Spring FOOTLOOSE – Summer JOSEPH ... DREAMCOAT – Fall THE NUTCRACKER (Youth Ensemble) - Dec

New Hampshire Shakespeare Festival Prof.Non-Equity P. O. Box 91 Deerfield, NH (603) 666-9088

New Hampshire Theatre Project- Educational/Touring P.O Box 6507,Portsmouth,NH 03802 (603)431-6644 Genevieve Aichele, Art. Dir www.nhtheatreproject.org

ARLINGTON (Studio Production) – Apr. 1-10 FOREST SECRETS: FAIRY HOUSE MYSTERY-Apr.2-10

AS YOU LIKE IT - May 13 - 22

 New London Barn Playhouse
 (Summer) Prof. Non-Equity

 84 Main St., P.O Box 285, New London, NH 03257

 (603)526-6710, 526-4631; Box Off. 526-6570

 Carol Dunne – Art. Dir.
 www.nlbarn.com

New Surry RepertoryTheatre & Acting School P.O.Box 1597, Blue Hill, ME 04614 (207) 374-5057 Bill Raiten, Art.Director <u>www.newsurrytheatre.org</u>

SYLVIA – Mar. 11 – 26 THE WIZARD OF OZ – Aug. 4 - 20

North Country Center for the Arts– Prof. Jean's Playhouse (formerly Papermill Theatre) P.O.Box 1060, Lincoln, NH 03251 Box Office: (603)745-2141; Admin. (603)745-6032 Kate Arecchi, Artistic Dir. Kim Frydman, Exec. Dir. Summer rep: I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE; ALMOST, MAINE; and RENT

Northeast Shakespeare Ensemble (NESE)
P.O.Box 1559,New London,NH 03257 (603)526-8251 Box
Office (603) 735-6870 www.nesetheatre.org

Northport Music Theater (Prof.) 851 Atlantic Hwy, Rte 1, Northport, ME (207) 338-8383 Ruth Gelsinger, Producing Artistic Director www.northportmusictheater.com

Oddfellow Theater - Prof. Non-Equity/Community P. O. Box 127, Route 117, Buckfield, ME 04220 (207) 336-3306 - Michael & Kim Miclon www.oddfellow.com

Early Evening Show – Feb. 4-5, Mar/ 4-5, Apr. 1-2 TWO: Juggling & Physical Comedy-Feb. 19 2 & 7:30 Odd Improv – Mar. 18 – 19 Shoebox Tour 2011 – Mar. 24 Amanda Houtari & CB Ensemble – Apr. 15 - 16

Ogunquit Playhouse (Summer)-Prof. Equity P.O. Box 915, Ogunquit, ME 03907 (207)646-5511 Bradford Kenney, Exec. Artistic Dir. www.ogunquitplayhouse.org.

Old Port Playhouse – Prof. 19 Temple St., Portland, ME (207) 773-0333 www.oldportplayhouse.com Michael J. Tobin & Jeff Caron, Co-Art. Dirs.

THE WIZARD OF OZ – Jan. 14 – Feb. 6 CRAZY LIL' THING CALLED LOVE – Feb. 11-27

**Open Book Players** – Readers Theater Ensemble Gardiner, ME (207)582-5717 Lucy Rioux, Art.Dir. www.openbookplayers.org

Open Waters Theatre ArtsProductions
Portland, ME Jennie Hahn jhahn@open-waters.org
www.open-waters.org

OF FARMS AND FABLES - Aug.

 Opera North
 www.operanorth.org

 Lebanon Opera House, 20 West Park St., Lebanon, NH

 03766 (603) 448-4141
 Box Office: (603) 448-0400

**The Originals** - Prof. Equity Special Appearance P.O. Box 661, Bar Mills, ME 04004 (207) 929-5412 Dana Packard and Jennifer Porter Saco River Grange Hall, Bar Mills

Ossipee Trail Arts Center, Rte 25, near Standish/ Limington line (207)839-DANS www.ossipeetrailarts.org

Out of the Box Theater – Community Theater Lewiston, ME (207) 784-0903 Linda Britt & Stan Spilecki

Oxford Hills Music and Perf. Arts Assoc. – Community P.O.Box 131,Norway, ME 04268 www.ohmpaa.org

Palace Theatre - Prof./Equity Guest Artists 80 Hanover St. - P.O. Box 3006, Manchester, NH 03105 (603) 668-5588 <a href="www.palacetheatre.org">www.palacetheatre.org</a>

THE FOUR PIANO MEN – Feb. 18 – Mar. 5 SCHOOLHOUSE LIVE ROCK JR! (Youth) – Mar. 2 – 11  $42^{\rm nd}$  STREET – Mar. 25 – Apr. 9 HAIRSPRAY – Apr. 29 – May 14

Peacock Players, 14 Court St., Nashua, NH 03060 Box Office: (603) 886-7000 Gen. Tel: (603) 889-2330 www.peacockplayers.org

OUR TOWN - Feb. 11 – 20 SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE – Mar. 18 – 27 SEUSSICAL The Musical – May 13 - 22

Penobscot Theatre – Prof. /Equity Guest Artists
131 Main St.(Bangor Opera House), Bangor, ME 04401
(207) 942-3333 Admin. (207) 947-6618
Scott R.C.Levy,Prod.Art.Dir. www.penobscottheatre.org

DIRTY BLONDE – Feb. 9 – 27 TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD – Mar. 30 – Apr. 17 GREAT AM. TRAILER PARK MUSICAL – Jun. 1 – 19 Northern Writes New Play Festival – June 21 – Jul. 3 '11

**Players' Ring,** 105 Marcy St.,Portsmouth,NH 03801 (603) 436-8123 <a href="https://www.playersring.org">www.playersring.org</a>

LOVE/VDAY (Back Alley Prods)- Jan. 28 – Feb.13 96 TEARS (Post Script Prods) – Feb.18 – Mar. 6 THE PILLOWMAN (Emerson Kelly) – Mar. 11 – 27 LARGO DESOLATO (Generic Theater) – Apr. 1 – 17 ONE FLEW..CUCKOO'S NEST(Traubert )-Apr.22-May

BILOXI BLUES (**Thrift Shop Prods**) – May 13 – 29 THE TEMPEST (**Players Ring**) - June 3 - 19

**The Playhouse** – A Theater for Children, Munjoy Hill, Portland, ME (207) 253-5125 Erica Thompson, Art. Dir. Di

**Poland Players** – Community Poland, ME D'Arcy Robinson (207) 998-5400, Ext. 218

**Pontine Movement Theatre**, 135 McDonough St. P.O. Box 1437, Portsmouth, NH 03802 (603) 436-6660 Marguerite Matthews, Greg Gathers

Portland Ballet www.portlandballet.org 517 Forest Avenue, Portland, ME 04101 (207) 772-9671 Eugenia O'Brien, Artistic Director

By Request – Mar. 25-26 at John Ford Aud. AROUND THE WORLD WITH FLAT STANLEY-The Case of the Red Shoes – Apr. 9, Westbrook PAC

Portland Opera Repertory Theatre – Prof. P. O. Box 7733, Portland, ME 04112-7733 (207) 842-0800 <u>www.portopera.org</u>

LA FILLE DU REGIMENT - July

Portland Ovations (formerly PCA)-Prof, Touring 50 Monument Sq., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Portland, ME 04101 (207) 773-3150 Tix (207) 842-0800 www.portlandovations.org

Doug Varone & Dancers – Feb. 16 KNUFFLE BUNNY: A Cautionary Musical - Mar. 13 AVENUE Q (Nat'l Tour) – Mar. 24 ZooZoo (Imago Theatre) – Apr. 1 THE MIKADO (NY G & S Players) – Apr. 17

Portland Playback Theatre

Portland, ME (207) 799-3489 <u>dlagrafl@maine.rr.com</u> David La Graffe, Art. Dir. <u>www.portlandplayback.com</u>

First Friday Performance Series: Feb. 4, Mar. 4 @ First Parish Church, Congress St., Portland

Portland Players – Community Theater 420 Cottage Rd., So. Portland, ME 04106 Joseph A. Swenson, President (207) 799-7337 Fax: (207) 767-6208 <a href="www.portlandplayers.org">www.portlandplayers.org</a>

A CHORUS LINE – Mar. 11 - 27 SIDE SHOW – May 13 - 29

Portland Stage Company -Prof./Equity 25A Forest Ave., P.O. Box 1458, Portland, ME 04104 (207)774-1043 Box Office: (207) 774-0465 <a href="https://www.portlandstage.com">www.portlandstage.com</a> Anita Stewart, Artistic Dir. MS=Main Stage S=Studio Theater

2 PIANOS, 4 HANDS (MS) – Jan. 25 – Feb. 20 THE REAL McGONAGALL (S) – Feb. 10 - 27 THE CENTER OF GRAVITY (MS) –Mar. 1 – 20 HALPERN & JOHNSON (MS) – Mar. 29 – Apr. 24 THE SYRINGA TREE (MS) – May 3 – 22 Little Festival of the Unexpected (S) – May 10 - 14

Portland Symphony Orchestra

P.O. Box 3573, Portland, ME 04104 Ari Solotoff, Ex.Dir. Robert Moody, Music Dir. www.portlandsymphony.org

Prescott Park Arts Festival (Summer) P.O. Box 4370, Portsmouth, NH (603) 436-2848 www.prescottpark.org

**Presque Isle Community Players,** P.O. Box 373, Presque Isle, ME 04769 (207) 762-1351

The Public Theatre - Prof. Equity, 31 Maple St., Lewiston, ME 04240 (207) 782-3200, Office: 782-2211 Christopher Schario, Artistic Dir. www.thepublictheatre.org

ANIMALS OUT OF PAPER – Jan. 28 – Feb. 6 HUMBLE BOY – Mar. 18-27 BEAU JEST – May 6-15

Rangeley Friends of the Arts – Community & Tours P.O.Box 333, Rangeley, ME 04970 AllenWicken,.Art Coord. allenwicken@yahoo.com www.rangeleymaine.com

The Riverbend Players – Community P.O. Box 340, Bucksport, ME 04416 (207) 469-5885 Suzi Leeman, President

River Company – Prof./Non-Equity Skidompha Library/Porter Meeting Hall P.O.Box 101, Damariscotta, ME 04543 Andrea Handel, Pres. adumonster@gmail.com Reservations: (207) 563-8116

#### **Robinson Ballet Company**

Brewer, ME 04412 (207) 989-7226 Art. Dirs: Keith Robinson and Maureen Lynch Julie Arnold Lisnet, Manag.Dir. www.robinsonballet.org

### The Rochester Opera House

31 Wakefield St., Rochester, NH (603) 335-1992 www.rochesteroperahouse.com

MUSICAL COMEDY MURDERS OF 1940 -Feb. 17 – 26 MY SON PINOCCHIO – Mar. 11 – 12 THE SUNSHINE BOYS – Mar. 31 – Apr. 2 CINDERELLA – Apr. 29 – May 1

Rumford Assoc. for Advancement of Performing Arts Rumford, ME -Community Th.Judy Kuhn (207)364-7242

Sandy River Players - Community Theater P.O. Box 709, Farmington, ME 04938 Jayne Decker, Art. Dir. sandyriverplayers@hotmail.com

Sanford Maine Stage – Community P.O. Box 486, Springvale, ME 04083 (207)324-8227 www.sanfordmainestage.org

Schoodic Arts Meetinghouse Theatre Lab-Community Hammond Hall, Winter Harbor, ME (207) 963-2569

Schoolhouse Arts Center - Community & Children's Theater Rte. 114, 1/2 blk No. of Rte. 35 P.O. Box 140, Standish ME 04084-0140 (207) 642-3743 www.schoolhousearts.org

MY MOTHER, MY FATHER & MY MOTHER-Mar.18-19

Rown & Martin's LAUGH-IN – Apr. 1 - 17 GODSPELL JR. (Youth) – Apr. 29 – May 1 Truly Talented Kids Show – May 20 -22

Seacoast Repertory Theatre - Prof. Non-Equity 125 Bow St. Portsmouth, NH 03801 (603)433-4472 Box Office: 1-800-639-7650 www.seacoastrep.org

ORPHANS – Feb. 4 – 27 RABBIT HOLE – Mar. 10 – Apr. 2 MAN OF LA MANCHA – Apr. 22 – May 15 HAIRSPRAY – Jul. 22 – Aug. 28

Seaglass Performing Arts - Community Theater P.O. Box 265, Kennebunk, ME 04043 (207)985-8747 Jean Strazdes, Art. Dir. www.seaglassperformingarts.org

TRIAL BY JURY in Concert - May 14 & 15

Southern Aroostook Cultural Arts Project, Visions at 66 Main St.-P.O. Box 382, Houlton, ME 04730 (207)521-3130 www.artsaroostook.org Susan J. York (207) 532-2727

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

PLAYING DOCTOR – Feb. 11 – 13 THE FEMALE ODD COUPLE – Mar. 18 – 20 George Piehl & Friends – Apr. 16 - 17

Stage Source of Boston,Boston Theater Network Equity & Non-Equity, 88 Tremont St., Suite 714, Boston, MA 02108 (617) 720-6066 www.stagesource.org

### St. Lawrence Arts Center

76 Congress Street, Portland (207) 775-5568 www.stlawrencearts.org Deidre Nice, Exec. Dir. (GT = Good Theater)

MOONLIGHT & MAGNOLIAS (**GT**) – Feb. 3 – 27 BEDROOM FARCE (**GT**) – Mar. 10 – Apr. 3 MUSE OF FIRE (**David Katz**) – Mar. 22 Maine Playwrights Festival (**Acorn**) – Apr. 14 – May 1

Stonington Opera House - Community/Prof. Tours One Opera House Lane, P. O. Box 56, Stonington, ME 04681 (207) 367-2788 <u>www.operahousearts.org</u> Linda Nelson – Exec. Dir., Judith Jerome - Artistic Dir

Studio Theatre of Bath – Community Theater P. O. Box 710 Bath, ME 04530 (207) 443-1606 Thom Watson – Pres. www.studiotheatreofbath.com

ALMOST, MAINE – Feb. 11 - 20 LOVE LETTERS – Feb. 13 at 7:30 The Who's TOMMY – May 13 - 22

Summer Theatre in Meredith Village (Prof.)
P.O. Box 837, Meredith, NH 03253 1-888-245-6374
Nancy Barry, Producing Dir. www.interlakestheatre.com

#### **Ten Bucks Theatre Company**

Mailing address: 300 French St, Bangor, ME 04401 (207) 884-1030 <a href="https://www.tenbuckstheatre.com">www.tenbuckstheatre.com</a> Julie Arnold Lisnet, Pres.

EPIC PROPORTIONS – Feb. 10-20 HAMLET – Jul/Aug ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST – Nov.

**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,Prod.Dir. <a href="www.theateratmonmouth.org">www.theateratmonmouth.org</a>

THE RELUCTANT DRAGON – Spring Tour 2011 Season: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, KING LEAR, ROOM SERVICE, BLITHE SPIRIT, (Fall) ON THE 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY

The Theater Project - Prof. Non-Equity/Equity Guest Young Peoples Theater & Community Theater 14 School St., Brunswick, ME 04011 (207) 729-8584 - Al Miller, Art. Dir www.theaterproject.com

Winter Cabaret & PRIDE AND PREJUDICE (Prof. Ensemble) in Repertory – Jan. 21 – Feb. 20 SHIFT (Young Company) – Mar. 11 – 20 CHARLOTTE'S WEB (Young People's Theater)-Apr. 8-10

Voices in the Mirror (Young Company) – June 3 – 5 Boxers, A Collection of Shorts (Young Co.Camp)-Jul.29-30 TWELFTH NIGHT (Young Company) – Aug. 5 – 14 HARRIET THE SPY (Young People's Theater)-Aug. 19-21

Theatre Under the Stars (Prof.)
3 Noon Peak Rd, Waterville Valley, NH (603)

3 Noon Peak Rd., Waterville Valley, NH (603) 726-0098 www.shakespeareinthevalley.com

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

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

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

University of New Hampshire Durham, NH (603) 862-2290, (603) 862-0093 www.unh.edu/theatre-dance

Hennessey Theatre (H) Johnson Theatre (J)

Staged Readings in Rep (H): The Season of Lust & Betrayal - DIVERTING DEVOTION Feb. 15, 17, 19; PHAEDRA – Feb. 16, 18 & 20 Dance Company Concert: WOUNDED DOVE & THE WIZARD OF OZ (J) – Mar. 30 – Apr. 3 MUSEUM (H) – Apr. 19 - 23

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

AIRSWIMMING – Feb. 3-6TRIUMPH OF LOVE (W/School of Music) – Mar. 11-20HARVEY – Apr. 22 – May 1

UU Theater – Community
UU Church, 169 Pleasant St., Aburun, ME
Toby Haber baywest@roadrunner.com

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

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK – Apr. 8 – 17 BUFFALO HILL – Spring ALMOST, MAINE – Jul. 29 – Aug. 7 LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS – Oct. 21 – 30 A CHRISTMAS STORY – Dec. 16 - 18

Vivid Motion, Inc. Dance Company P.O.Box 1417, Westbrook, ME 04098 www.vividmotion.org

Hollywood Dreams - Apr. 8-10 @ St. Lawrence Arts

Waldo Theatre - Community

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

Waterville Opera House www.operahouse.com
93 Main Street, 3rd Floor. Diane Bryan, Exec. Dir.
Waterville, ME 04901 (207)873-5381, Tix 873-7000
Main Stage – MS - Studio Theater – S

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DISCO DREAM (MS) – Feb.11–20
LEND ME A TENOR (ACAT) (S) – Mar. 11 – 20
VISITING MR. GREEN (S) – May 6 – 15
PICASSO AT THE LAPIN AGILE(ACAT)(S)-June.3-12

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

Weathervane Theater (Summer)
Prof. Equity & Non-Equity Res. Rep., Rte 3
39 Jefferson Rd., P.O.Box 127, Whitefield, NH 03598
(603) 838-6072 Jacques Stewart, Artistic Director
www.weathervanetheatre.org

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

THE WEDDING SINGER – Jan. 28 – Feb. 13 PINOCCHIO – Mar. 25 – Apr. 10

Winnipesaukee Playhouse & Performing Arts and Education Center– Prof. & Comm. P. O. Box 5201, Laconia, NH 03247 Bryan Halperin–Ex..Dir, Neil Pankhurst–Art.Dir. (603)366-7377 <a href="https://www.winniplayhouse.com">www.winniplayhouse.com</a>

Winni Players:

ONE FLEW OVER CUCKOO'S NEST – Feb. 11 – 20 FANTASTIC MR. FOX – Apr. 1 – 10 INCIDENT AT VICHY (Staged Reading) – Apr. 30 Playwriting Project Festival of One-Acts – May 5 - 15

Winterblue Theatre, Portland,ME – Non-Equity
Mailing: 157 Mussey St. #1, So. Portland, ME 04106
(207) 400-6338 Lon Church, Artistic Director
www.winterbluetheatre.com lonchurch@gmail.com

Winterport Open Stage - Community Theater P.O. Box 5, Winterport, ME 04496-0045 (207)223-2501 Jenny Hart & Jeri Misler, Co-Presidents www.winterportopenstage.com

**Yellow Taxi Productions** - Prof. /Equity 14 Court St., P.O. Box 1515, Nashua,NH(603)791-4558 Suzanne Delle, Art. Dir.www.yellowtaxiproductions.org

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

### Cast & Crew

How to reach us:

www.castandcrew.org castandcrewnewsletter@yahoo.com 207 - 799 - 3392

P.O. Box 1031, Portland, ME 04104

# CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

ACORN ACTING ACADEMY, school of Acorn Productions. Classes for children and adults FMI see <a href="www.acorn-productions.org">www.acorn-productions.org</a> for schedule & registration or call (207) 854-0065

**After School ARTS**, 31 Lafayette St., Portland, ME. An after school arts enrichment for children ages 5 – 12. Erica Thompson, Artistic Director. For class listings visit <a href="https://www.theschoolhouseonmunjoyhill.com">www.theschoolhouseonmunjoyhill.com</a>.

AYNNE AMES, BELFAST MASKERS Artistic Dir., State Chair Kennedy Ctr Am. College Theater Fest., offers classes in Belfast, ME, for teens/adults: theater history, script study, audition prep. New classes for adults begin in March. (207) 338-9836 or <a href="maskers@roadrunner.com">maskers@roadrunner.com</a>.

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

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

**CELEBRATION BARN** is offering two winter workshops in Portland, ME: *Intro to Eccentric Performing* Jan. 28 – 30 with Avner Eisenberg & Julie Goell (details on this were in the December issue of C & C); and *Improv* with Davis Robinson Feb. 12, 1 – 5 pm at Lucid Stage, 29 Baxter Blvd. Portland. All experience levels. FMI email Amanda Houtari at mandy@celebrationbarn.com.

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

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

CITY DANCE, 408 Broadway, So. Portland & 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.

**DROUIN DANCE CENTER** at Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge Street, Suite 325, Westbrook, ME. All types dance age 3–adult, beginners–advanced. Visit <a href="https://www.drouindancecenter.com">www.drouindancecenter.com</a> or call (207) 854-2221 FMI.

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

**HOPE HOFFMAN'S TOWN HALL THEATER**, Bowdoinham, ME. Dance, music, & comedy for all ages. <a href="www.hopehoffman.com/classes.htm">www.hopehoffman.com/classes.htm</a>. FMI call (207) 332-3459 or visit <a href="www.hopehoffman.org">www.hopehoffman.org</a>.

**IMPROV COMEDY WITH RACHEL FLEHINGER**, class learning improv based on audience suggestions for 8 weeks on Thurs. starting Feb. 24 and culminating in a show, 6 – 8 pm at Constellation Gallery. FMI call (207) 221-3511.

**LEDDY CTR FOR PERFORMING ARTS**, 131-133 Main St., Epping, NH Classes in musical theater for ages 6 – 17. FMI visit <a href="www.leddycenter.org">www.leddycenter.org</a> or call (603) 679-2781

**LIGHTS UP THEATRE WORKS** classes in theater/improv for children and improv for adults taught by David La Graffe at the New Church auditorium, Portland, ME. New class of *Improv for Everybody* for late teens & adults just started Jan. 26. Call (207) 799-3489 or email <a href="mailto:lightsup1@maine.rr.com">lightsup1@maine.rr.com</a> or call (207) 799-3489. <a href="https://www.lightsuptheatreworks.com">www.lightsuptheatreworks.com</a>.

**LUCID STAGE**, 29 Baxter Bld., Portland, ME.. Music lessons in fiddle or guitar for all ages, children & adults, private or group, all levels, with Hope Hoffman: (207) 332-3459 or <a href="www.hopehoffman.org">www.hopehoffman.org</a>. Acting Improv for Adults with Rachel Flehinger; email <a href="Liz@lucidstage.com">Liz@lucidstage.com</a> or call (207) 807-7320. Call (207) 671-5078 or email <a href="Adam@lucidstage.com">Adam@lucidstage.com</a>.

MAINE SINGERS' ATELIER – Lab-style classes for singers; Prepare concert and/or audition material with Julie Goell.Classes at 21 Chestnut St., Portland, ME. FMI call (207) 766-2945 or 807-6666 or email juliegoell@gmail.com.

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

**MAJESTIC ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ARTS**, 281 Cartier St., Manchester, NH, will have new classes for ages 4 – 18 starting the week of

Jan. 31 plus the Glee Club for ages 8 – 12 under direction of Robert Dionne. To register call (603) 669-7469 or email Karen@majestictheatre.net..

**MERRYMEETING ADULT EDUCATION**, Brunswick, ME , offers the workshop *Theater Improv for Everyone: A Winter Acting Adventure*, suitable for actors and non-actors, taught by actor/director Al D'Andrea, veteran of 30 years professional work in NYC and LA. The workshop runs for 6 weeks at Brunswick H. S. and started Jan. 25. FMI call (207) 729-7323 Est. 1, or visit <a href="https://www.merrymeeting.org">www.merrymeeting.org</a>.

**PENOBSCOT THEATRE**, 131 Main St, Bangor, ME. Intern programs, Shakespeare in the Schools, Storytelling for gr. 4-8. Youth Theatre Program for ages 8 – 14; PTC Dramatic Academy: Acting Studio for adults; Musical Theater. Email: <a href="mailto:education.@penobscottheatre.org">education.@penobscottheatre.org</a> or call (207) 942-3333.

**PONTINE MOVEMENT THEATRE**, McDonough St. Studio, Portsmouth, NH.Classes with M.M.Mathews & G. Gathers. <a href="mailto:pontineh@ultranet.com">pontineh@ultranet.com</a>.

**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. (Portland Ballet home) Call for sched. information (207) 772-9671

**PORTLAND STAGE COMPANY Theater for Kids**, 25A Forest Ave., Portland, ME: *Imaginations Take Flight* Feb. 5, 12, 19 & 26; Vacation Theater Camp Feb. 22 – 24. Call (207) 774-1043 Ext.117 or email <a href="mailto:theaterforkids@portlandstage.org">theaterforkids@portlandstage.org</a>. www.portlandstage.org

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

SCARBOROUGH DANCE CENTER. Oakhill Plaza, Rte 1, Scarborough, ME. Classes for all ages in ballet, tap, jazz, modern, Irish, etc. Melissa Willey, Dir. Visit <a href="https://www.scarboroughdancecenter.com">www.scarboroughdancecenter.com</a> or call (207) 883-4569.

**SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER**, Rte. 114 just no. of Rte. 35, Sebago Lake, ME. Classes and workshops for children & adults. FMI (207) 642-3743 or visit: <a href="www.schoolhousearts.org">www.schoolhousearts.org</a>.

SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL THEATER classes, include Clown Skills, with Michael Lane Trautman at Breakwater School, 856 Brighton Ave., Portland, ME. FMI (207) 450-5342 or <a href="mailto:info@michaeltrautman.com">info@michaeltrautman.com</a>.

**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.

STAGES: The Performing Arts Academy for Kids, 24 Mosher St., So. Portland, ME 04106. Theater classes for pre-school thru high school. 15-20 productions per year. Actors Workshop with filmmaker Kate Kaminski & Betsy Carson on Feb. 12 – 13. FMI (207) 510-6050. www.stagesacademy.com

**STARLIGHT ACTING INSTITUTE**, Gorham, ME. "Energize! A Holistic Approach to Acting" and individual RYSE by appointment .(207)839-9819 <a href="https://www.starlightacting.org">www.starlightacting.org</a>

**TERPSICORE DANCE**, 798 Main St., Southside Plaza, So. Portland, ME. Classes for age 3- to adult; drop in classes for Jazz & Dance Fitness. Musical theater dance classes. Maria Tzianabas, Director. (207) 518-9384

**THE THEATER PROJECT**, 14 School St., Brunswick, ME. Theater classes for children & youth. FMI call (207) 729-8584 or visit www.theaterproject.com.

VIVID MOTION, INC. Free company classes Wednesdays 6:45-8:15 pm at Acorn Studios, Dana Warp Mill, 90 Bridge St., Westbrook, ME. www.vividmotion.org

**WATERVILLE OPERA HOUSE & ARTSPACE**, 93 Main St., 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Waterville, ME. Classes in Movement, Yoga, Dance, & theater camps during summer & school breaks. FMI call (207) 873-5381.



# **AUDITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES**

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

**ACTORSINGERS**, 219 Lake St., Nashua, NH, will audition for GUYS AND DOLLS on Feb. 20, 6 – 10 pm, & Feb. 21, 7 – 10 pm at Actorsingers Hall at above address (enter the building by the small door in back). Open to anyone 16 or older as of the audition date. Everyone cast will be required to become a member of Actorsingers. No monologues required – readings from sides from the script with time to study the lines. Dress comfortably for basic dance combination & wear appropriate shoes. Prepare 16 bars of music in musical theater genre but not from the show—bring sheet music, accompanist provided. Rehearsals start Mar. 6 and will be Sun., Wed., and most Mon. evenings. Tech week May 15-19, performances May 20 – 22. Paul Metzger directs with music direction by Judy Hayward and choreography by Jessica Scalese. FMI visit www.actorsingers.org.

**FREEPORT FAMILY PERFORMING ARTS**, Freeport, ME, will audition for PETER PAN, a non-musical adaptation of J. M. Barrie's novel, on Feb. 13, noon – 4 pm, & Feb. 14, 6:30 – 9 pm, at Freeport Performing Arts Center, 30 Holbrook St., Freeport. Auditions are open to everyone, ages 7 yrs old to adults, and entire families are encouraged to audition and participate. Be prepared to read from the script. Everyone auditioning will be offered a role! Tim Ryan directs. Show dates Apr. 15 – 17 & 22 – 24. FFPA is currently looking for show sponsors & underwriters. FMI on all the above email *TimRyan65@roadrunner.com* or call (207) 415-6251.

.FREEPORT SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL, Freeport, ME, will hold Equity and non-Equity auditions in early March. Visit <a href="https://www.freeportshakespearefestival.org">www.freeportshakespearefestival.org</a> for dates & times. Members of Actors Equity Association should check the Equity Hotline for an announcement by Feb. 1.

**LAKE REGION COMMUNITY THEATER**, Bridgton/Naples, ME will audition for CINDERELLA Mar. 25 at 6 pm & Mar. 27 at 5 pm at Lake Region High School, Naples. Rehearsals will be at Lake Region H.S. Performances will be June 17 – 19 & 24 – 26 at Deertrees Theatre, Harrison, ME.

**LEDDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**, 131-133 Main St., Epping, NH, will audition for THE MUSIC MAN on Feb. 12, 9 am – 5 pm. Rehearsals begin May 1 & are on Sun. at 1 and Tues. & Thurs. at 6. Need children ages 6 – 16 and men & women of all ages. All roles open. Show dates July 8-10, 13-17, 20-24. <a href="https://www.leddycenter.org">www.leddycenter.org</a>

LINCOLN COUNTY COMMUNITY THEATER, Damariscotta, ME is seeking stage directors, choreographers, music directors, designers, and stage managers for the following plays in their 2011 season: Ernest Thompson's ON GOLDEN POND scheduled for performances May 13 – 22 with rehearsals beginning in late March or early April; YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN in a multi-generational production to run July 29 – Aug. 6 with rehearsals beginning in mid-June; David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize winning RABBIT HOLE to run Nov. 11 – 20 with rehearsals starting in mid-September. If you have questions, email <a href="mailto:Season@LCCT.org">Season@LCCT.org</a>. To submit a statement of interest with supporting materials such as a resume, send to above address or by regular mail to Lincoln County Community Theater, PO Box 237, Damariscotta, ME 04543, Attn:

Show Committee. **Deadline for submission is March 1, 2011.** If you have already expressed verbal interest to members of the committee, you need not reapply but will be contacted for an interview. [Also welcome are those who might be interested in serving as an apprentice to any of the staff positions – submit a letter of interest.] **www.lcct.org** (207) 563-3424

**OUT OF THE BOX THEATER COMPANY** is accepting original plays for staged readings in their *Write Out of the Box* series to give playwrights the chance to hear their words and get feedback from the audience. Playwrights may submit scripts to Out of the Box Theater Company, 39 Wellman St., Lewiston, ME 04240 for consideration.

**PENOBSCOT THEATRE COMPANY**, Bangor, ME, is accepting submissions for *Northern Writes 2011*, their 5<sup>th</sup> annual new play festival, which will take place June 24 – July 3. For guidelines visit *www.penobscottheatre.org*. Submissions must be postmarked by Feb. 14, 2011 and mailed to: Northern Writes/Penobscot Theatre. 115 Main St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Bangor, ME 04401.

**SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER**, Rte 114 near intersection with Rte 35, Sebago Lake Village, Standish, ME, is looking for directors and shows for upcoming seasons. If you are interested in applying as a director or would like to propose a show, contact the Programming Committee at *programming@schoolhousearts.org* or (207) 642-3743.

**STAGE SOURCE**, The Greater Boston Theatre Alliance, 88 Tremont St., Boston, MA, 2011 auditions are expected to be in June with a late April registration deadline. Non-AEA performers must be a member to audition, which means a membership fee. FMI visit <a href="https://www.stagesource.org">www.stagesource.org</a> or call (617) 720-6066.

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

### **Editor:**

Muriel Kenderdine

### **Contributing Writers:**

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### **Deadlines For April 2011 Issue:**

Articles, Photos, and Related Content: March 23, 2011 Auditions Only: March 25, 2011

### File Submission Guidelines

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

**Images:** Please e-mail images as JPEG, GIF, or TIF files. If you need to use another format, please contact us.

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