

ROCHESTER
OPERA HOUSE
PRESENTS



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MAY 2-25

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THOMAS MEEHAN

Music by
CHARLES STROUSE

Lyrics by
MARTIN CHARNIN

Original Broadway Production Directed by **MARTIN CHARNIN**

Based on "Little Orphan Annie"®
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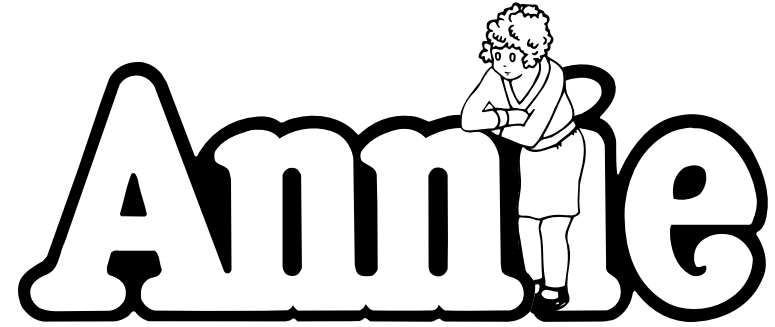
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KAREN & HARVEY BERNIER	IN LOVING MEMORY OF WAYNE COUNTRMAN
IN MEMORY OF JANET PELLEY	THE FAMILY OF JACK & DOTTIE DOUGLAS – KARL & MARIA DOUGLAS
IN MEMORY OF TERRY MCGARGHAN	MICHAEL TSOPAS & GARY MCGARGHAN
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FEATURING

CHARLOTTE VAN LEDTJE SCOTT H SEVERANCE JENNIFER TOWLE CHELSEA HERMANN BENJAMIN HANLEY BRIAR MOON
CHRIS BRADLEY BRAD REINKING TIMOTHY ALLEN HEATHER CONTI-CLARK SAM BENNETT SAM MCLAUGHLIN FINN GRAFF
EMILY BARTLEY KYRA ANTHONY ABIGAIL WEINEL KAYLEE MICHAEL FRANCESCA RICHARD JEWEL SOLOMON
HARPER SOLOMON CLARA CURTIS HARPER BURNS VIOLET BURNS MAIA LINCK WYNTER GOUMAS CALLIE THE DOG

MUSICAL DIRECTOR MILES BURNS	LIGHTING DESIGNER CHRISTIAN ARNOLD	STAGE MANAGERS GRADY SAVAGE & BILLIE BUTLER	ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER NICHOLAS TAVARES	SOUND DESIGNER NICK DONLIN
WIGS DESIGNER MOLLY SCOTT	SCENIC DESIGNER RIEN SCHLECHT	PRODUCTION MANAGER CHRISTIAN ARNOLD	COSTUMES RIEN SCHLECHT	PROPS JENRY TOWLE
PROJECTION DESIGNER CHRISTIAN ARNOLD				

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DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER
TARYN HERMAN

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
ANTHONY EJARQUE



CAST

Annie	CHARLOTTE VAN LEDTJE
Warbucks	SCOTT H SEVERANCE
Hannigan	JENNIFER TOWLE
Grace	CHELSEA HERMANN
Rooster	BENJAMIN HANLEY
Lily St. Regis	BRIAR MOON
Bundies/FDR/Ensemble	CHRIS BRADLEY
Drake/Dance Captain	BRAD REINKING
Bert Healy/Ensemble	TIMOTHY ALLEN
Ensemble/Lily US	HEATHER CONTI-CLARK
Ensemble	SAM BENNETT
Ensemble	SAM MCLAUGHLIN
Ensemble	FINN GRAFF
Ensemble	EMILY BARTLEY
Star to Be/Ensemble	KYRA ANTHONY
Ensemble/Hannigan US	ABIGAIL WEINEL
Ensemble/Grace US	KAYLEE MICHAEL
Pepper	FRANCESCA RICHARD
Duffy	JEWEL SOLOMON
Kate	HARPER SOLOMON
Tessie	CLARA CURTIS
Molly	HARPER BURNS
July/Annie US	VIOLET BURNS
Swing Orphan/July US	MAIA LINCK
Swing Orphan/July US	WYNTER GOUMAS
Sandy	CALLIE THE DOG

Understudies

ANNIE: Violet Burns; LILY: Heather Conti-Clark; HANNIGAN: Abigail Weinell;
GRACE: Kaylee Michael; JULY: Maia Linck, Wynter Goumas

RUN CREW

Stage Managers	GRADY SAVAGE / BILLIE BUTLER
Assistant Stage Manager	NICHOLAS TAVARES
Sound Engineer	NICK DONLIN
Spotlight Operators	CHRIS LETELLIER / ZSOFIA PERRON
Child Wrangler	MOLLY SCOTT

SPECIAL THANKS

The Governors Inn, Weathervane Theater, Sean MacDonald, UNH

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Maybe	ANNIE
It's the Hard-Knock Life	ANNIE AND THE ORPHANS
It's the Hard-Knock Life (Reprise)	THE ORPHANS
Tomorrow	ANNIE
We'd Like to Thank You, Herbert Hoover	SOPHIE, THE HOOVERVILLE-ITES
Little Girls	MISS HANNIGAN
Little Girls (Reprise)	MISS HANNIGAN
I Think I'm Gonna Like It Here	GRACE, ANNIE, DRAKE, CECILLE, ANNETTE, MRS. PUGH, OTHER SERVANTS
N.Y.C.	WARBUCKS, GRACE, ANNIE, A STAR TO BE AND NEW YORKERS
Easy Street	MISS HANNIGAN, ROOSTER, LILY
You Won't Be an Orphan For Long	GRACE, DRAKE, MRS. PUGH, CECILLE, ANNETTE, SERVANTS AND WARBUCKS

ACT TWO

You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile	BERT HEALY, CONNIE BOYLAN, RONNIE BOYLAN, BONNIE BOYLAN & "THE HOUR OF SMILES" FAMILY
You're....Smile (Reprise)	THE ORPHANS
Easy Street (Reprise)	MISS HANNIGAN, ROOSTER, LILY
Tomorrow (Cabinet Reprise)	ANNIE, FDR, WARBUCKS AND THE CABINET
Something Was Missing	WARBUCKS
I Don't Need Anything But You	GRACE, SERVANTS, WARBUCKS AND ANNIE
Maybe (Reprise)	ANNIE
A New Deal for Christmas	ANNIE, WARBUCKS, GRACE, FDR & THE STAFF



The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



CHARLOTTE
VAN LEDTJE



SCOTT H
SEVERANCE



JENNIFER
TOWLE



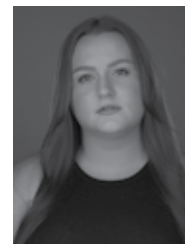
CHELSEA
HERMANN



KYRA
ANTHONY



ABIGAIL
WEINELL



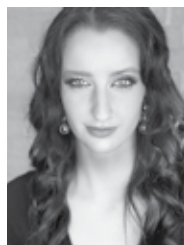
KAYLEE
MICHAEL



FRANCESCA
RICHARD



BENJAMIN
HANLEY



BRIAR
MOON



CHRIS
BRADLEY



BRAD
REINKING



JEWEL
SOLOMON



HARPER
SOLOMON



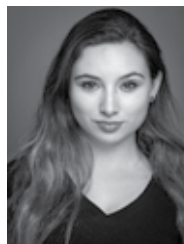
CLARA
CURTIS



HARPER
BURNS



TIMOTHY
ALLEN



HEATHER
CONTI-CLARK



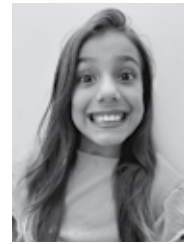
SAM
BENNETT



SAM
MCLAUGHLIN



VIOLET
BURNS



MAIA
LINCK



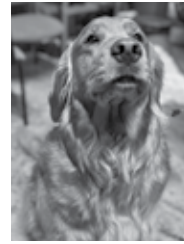
WYNTER
GOUMAS



FINN
GRAFF



EMILY
BARTLEY



CALLIE
THE DOG

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Little Orphan Annie, the comic strip made its debut 100 years ago, in August of 1924... and here we are now, telling her story again.

You might think a character born a century ago might not have relevance today, but as you watch tonight see how many parallels you can find between the show, set in 1933, and our current reality, 2025.

I think why we all still love, and come back to, Little Orphan Annie is because of her never ending optimism, her ability to always see the good in people, her constant reminder that no matter what, tomorrow is only a day away—so make the best of it.

She's not the typical heroine either—I can't take credit for this, and I am paraphrasing—but I'll never forget a conversation I had with another theatre colleague who pointed out that her "want song," typically much later into an act, opens the show. We know right away what Annie's objective is, and it's not the typical ingenue's wants, usually a rescue of sort or to champion at something. No, all Annie wants is to know that she is loved, that somewhere there is a place for her. She is not afraid to be bold and vulnerable, honest to her core.

I guess my hope for you tonight is, aside from taking away the tremendous performance this cast will give you, is to remember to be hopeful. To be optimistic. To cling tight to things that spark joy in you. And if you might have trouble with any of those, remember—tomorrow is only a day away.

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CHARLOTTE VAN LEDTJE (Annie) is delighted to make her debut at Rochester Opera House. *Matilda*: (Matilda, Winnepesaukee Playhouse), *Frozen*: (Young Elsa, Ogunquit Playhouse), *Sound of Music* (Brigitta Von Trapp, Ogunquit Playhouse), *White Christmas* (Susan Waverly, Maine State Music Theater), *Mary Poppins* (Jane Banks, Portland Players), *Aristocats* (Duchess, Ovation Theater Company), *The Nutcracker* (Clara, Portsmouth School of Ballet). A two-time National Dance Title Holder, Charlotte loves learning new ballet variations and taking contemporary classes. She feels so lucky to have an incredible dance family at Arrais Ballet in Needham, MA. She takes vocal lessons from the amazing Christina De Maio in Exeter, NH. Charlotte loves using her "documentary voice" to narrate her theater antics, is an avid reader of anything nonfiction, and enjoys sharing corny jokes with anyone who will listen. She sends heartbeeps and hugs to all her people and most especially she dedicates her *Annie* performances to her biggest fan, Nannie.

SCOTT H SEVERANCE (Warbucks) has over 450 professional credits as actor, director, producer and playwright during his multiple award-winning career. Scott has starred as Scrooge in national touring productions of *A Christmas Carol* for the past eleven years, including three times in his critically acclaimed one-man version. He has played the iconic role of Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof* in ten different professional productions (including ROH last summer) and earned standing ovations at every turn. Local appearances have included Harold in *The Full Monty* and White Dude in *The Toxic Avenger* (ROH), Max Prince in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (SRT), and Edna in *Hairspray* with Patrick Dorow Productions. A Boston area favorite for years, favorite roles include Major-General Stanley, King Arthur, Kris Kringle, Pseudolus, Benjamin Franklin, Oscar Madison, Don Quixote, and Nick Bottom. Film credits include *Fever Pitch* with Drew Barrymore and *Clear History* with Larry David. Scott will direct *The Little Mermaid* this summer at ROH.

JENRY TOWLE (Hannigan) (she/they) is over

the moon to be a part of Annie. Commuting from just over the bridge in Kittery, Jenry is a multi-hyphenate performing artist, and serves as Associate Artistic Director and the Director of Education for Rochester Opera House. Coming up, she will be serving as Combat Choreographer for *A Man of No Importance* at the Player's Ring, and then jumping into the summer season with theater camps at ROH and directing *The Producers!* Love to her husband Michael. Le jeu. Complicite. Disponibilite.

CHELSEA HERMANN (Grace) *Annie* holds a very special place in Chelsea's heart. Being one of the last memories she shared with her Dad, she began her professional theatre career as "Annie" nearly 25 years ago. Chelsea has performed around New England and across the country in over 50+ musicals since she was just 10 years old! Some of her favorite roles include Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde*, (Interlakes Summer Theatre) Sister Mary Robert in *Sister Act*, and Amber in *Hairspray!* (Patrick Dorow Productions) During the shutdown of 2020, Chelsea shifted gears out of New York City, to become a clinical herbalist here in NH. In her spare time, Chelsea holds a muggle job in finance, bringing a little sparkle to the office in whatever way she can! Always sending love to her nieces and nephews and to her sweet and actual sunshine, Sam. Enjoy the show!

BEN HANLEY (Rooster) is an alum of the University of New Hampshire with a BA in Dance. He's performed around the seacoast area for 10 years and was most recently seen on stage at the Opera House as Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Other notable credits include Action (*West Side Story*, SRT) Ash (*Evil Dead the Musical*, Firehouse) Mike (*A Chorus Line*, SRT) Skimbleshanks (*Cats*, SRT) Squidward (*The SpongeBob Musical*, ROH) and many more. Ig@ BennySHanley

BRIAR MOON (Lily St. Regis) is thrilled to be back at the Rochester Opera House alongside her incredibly talented cast mates! Recent credits include: *Bless the Lord Godspell* (The Rochester Opera

House), Narrator Understudy *Joseph* (The Seacoast Rep), Phantom *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (The Seacoast Rep), Fastrada in *Pippin* (Upside Arts), and The Witch *Into the Woods* (Upside Arts). Next up you can see Briar as Savannah *Freaky Friday* (Prescott Park Arts Festival.) Apart from performing, you can find Briar working as a counselor at Upside Arts kids' productions and summer day and overnight camps. A special shoutout to Taryn and Miles for being the best mentors a girl could ask for! Insta - @briarmoonmacdonald

CHRIS BRADLEY (Bundles/FDR/Ensemble) is a regular on the Opera House Stage. For almost 30 years Chris has been acting on the NH Seacoast stages, performing at many venues and winning numerous awards. Most recently the 2023 ArtPortNH Best Supporting Actor in a Musical for the roles of Uncle Fester (*Addams Family*) & Ted (*Disaster: The Musical*) both at The Rochester Opera House. Previous credits: Rochester Opera House: Earthworm (*James and the Giant Peach*), Cogsworth (*Beauty and the Beast*), Rabbi (*Fiddler on the Roof*). Seacoast Repertory Theatre: Roger DeBris (*The Producers*), Rod (*Avenue Q*) and The Lecturer (*Reefer Madness*) and The Firehouse Theatre Berthe (*Pippin*). As always he dedicates this performance and every performance to the memory of his mother. ENJOY THE SHOW!!!

BRAD REINKING (Drake/Dance Captain) is so happy to return to ROH after appearing as Lumiere in *Beauty & the Beast* last summer! Brad is also a regular choreographer at ROH and recently choreographed the mainstage productions of *The Wizard of Oz*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Roch of Ages: The Mystery of the Musical Mystery*, and (upcoming!) *The Producers*. Regional credits include Trinity Repertory Company, North Shore Music Theatre, Commonwealth Shakespeare, Lyric Stage Company, The Hanover Theatre, Wheelock Family Theatre and many others. Brad holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Boston Conservatory at Berklee. He lives in Boston with his partner, Drew, and their

Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, Belle. For more info, please visit bradreinking.com

TIM ALLEN (Bert Healy/Ensemble) is grateful to once again be joining efforts with Taryn Herman who had directed a fabulous PPAF production of *ELF* during the winter of 2019 in which Tim thoroughly enjoyed playing the role of Mr. Greenway. Mr. Allen also has fond memories of several experiences here at the historic Rochester Opera House: Lord Farquaad in *SHREK*, Grandma Addams in *THE ADDAMS FAMILY* and Thurston Howell III in *GILLIGAN'S ISLAND*. Tim last appeared on stage as Herman in Biddeford City Theater's 2023 summer production of *SWEET CHARITY*, where he boldly proclaimed, "I Love to Cry at Weddings."

HEATHER CONTI-CLARK (Ensemble/Lily US) - graduated from Western Conn. State Univ. with her BFA in Musical Theater after having received her Associates Degree from Middlesex Comm. College. You would have seen her most recently in MRT's *A Christmas Carol* (Past/Future) SRT's *Frankenstein* (Elizabeth Lavenza/Fem. Creature) or at Rochester Opera House in *Godspell* (Learn Your Lessons). She was a part of the Seacoast Rep 2023 Company in *Rocky Horror* (Usherette/Columbia), *BatBoy* (Ruthie Taylor), *HAIR* (Crissy), *Newsies* (Spot Conlon), *Ghost* (Featured Dancer) and *Parade* (Iola Stover). Regional Credits: *The Crucible* (Abigail Williams) *The Sound of Music* (Liesl) *Sweeney Todd* (Beggar Woman) *Fun Home* (Medium Alison) *West Side Story* (Anybodys) *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy) *All Shook Up* (Miss Sandra) She is always grateful for her family's never ending love and support, and to Karen Oster for all of her chances to grow as a performer. "Never stop following your dreams" <3 *Won BroadwayWorld NH Theatre Awards "Best Supporting Performer in a Play" IG: heathercc01

SAMUEL BENNETT (Ensemble) is once again reminding you that he exists. While most of this cast is thrilled to be back at ROH or to be a part of Annie again,

Sam isn't. Instead, he's head over heels for these orphans, this cast, and his first time doing this show. A late addition, Sam may be more recognized as writing for and making up lines in the annual *Murder Mystery* here, Roofing with a *Fiddler*, Caroling some *Christmases*, or playing some Canadian lawmen in a few movies. Big thanks to Taryn for bringing this to life, Chelsea Hermann for dealing with and loving him daily, everybody here at the Opera House, and all of you for buying tickets and sharing in the love that is Theatre. Stick your chin up.

SAM MCLAUGHLIN (Ensemble) (He/Him) is so excited to be returning to the ROH stage for *Annie* this May! His other professional acting credits include *A Christmas Carol* at ROH (Fred Anderson), *The Spongebob Musical* at ROH (Perch Perkins), *Fiddler on the Roof* at ROH (Russian/Ensemble), *Beauty & the Beast* at ROH (Ensemble), and *The Wizard of Oz* at ROH (Ensemble). Other credits include: *Skazki: A Spell of Ice and Snow* at Boston Centre for the Arts with Mystic Evidence Productions (MD/Orchestration/Addtl. Music/Live Accompanist), *Roch of Ages: Murder Mystery* at ROH (MD/Keys), *The Wizard of Oz* at ROH (MD), *The Wizard of Oz Jr.* at ROH (MD), *SIX: Teen Edition* at ROH (MD). He's also performed in *Seussical* at SHS (Horton), *Disney's Descendants* at SHS (Prince Ben) and *The Music Man* at SHS (Quartet Bass). Sam would like to thank the *Annie* cast and crew for making this process so enjoyable, his loving family for supporting his every decision, and his friends for keeping him energized and laughing outside the theater!

FINN GRAFF (Ensemble) is beyond ecstatic to be making his Rochester Opera House debut with the lovely cast of *Annie*! Recent credits include: Phantom in *Rocky Horror* (Seacoast Repertory Theater), Benjamin/Brother Swing in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Seacoast Repertory Theater), Arsenal Guitarist/Ensemble in *Rock of Ages* (Seacoast Repertory Theater), and March Hare in *Untitled, Literally* (UNH Dance

Co.). Apart from performing, you can find Finn working on his undergraduate degree in Biology at the University New Hampshire! Insta - @finn.graff

EMILY BARTLEY (Ensemble) is a film and stage actor located in Maine. She is incredibly excited to have her ROH debut in *Annie*! She studied Musical Theatre and Dance at the Osher School of Music. Previous stage credits include: *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle, LCCT), *Little Women* (Jo March, AMT Co.), *The Sound of Music* (Nun/ Elsa Schraeder, Maine State Music Theater), *Cell Block 7* (Alyssa, Carousel Music Theatre), *Nine* (Claudia Nardi, USM). Previous film credits include: *Remnant* (Jennie), *tolerate it* (Hannah), *Under the Hood* (Hailey), *Daisy* (Daisy), and *Freddie* (Ollie), and was recently featured in two national commercials. IG: theemily_rose_bartley

KYRA ANTHONY (Star to Be/Ensemble) is excited to be making her Rochester Opera House debut! She graduated from Marymount Manhattan College with a BFA in Musical Theatre. Some of her favorite roles have been Winifred (*Once Upon a Mattress*), Robin Bush (*First Daughter Suite*), and Sandy (*Grease*). She would like to give a big thank you to her family for being so supportive during her performance journey! kyraanthony.com Instagram: @kyraant

ABIGAIL WEINEL (Ensemble/Hannigan US) Abigail is so excited to be back for her third show at The Rochester Opera House. She is an alumni of The National Theatre Institute. Past Credits include: Riverside Center: *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Ensemble/ Us. Herod/Annas,) Riverside Center: *Seussical* (Mayzie/Dance Captain,) Rochester Opera House: *Christmas Carol* (Mrs. Fezziwig/US. Present,) Rochester Opera House: *Beauty and the Beast* (Mrs. Potts,) Riverside Center: *The Wizard of Oz* (Ensemble/US. Witch,) Classic Theatre of Maryland: *Gypsy* (Mazeppa/Ensemble,) First Stage: *Quilters* (Ensemble,) Compass Rose: *The Wizard of Oz* (Lion/Aunt Em,) Virginia Musical Theatre: *The Full Monty*

(Vicki Nichols,) *Way Off Broadway: The Pajama Game* (Mae,) Theatre Harrisburg: *Newsies* (Medda Larkin,) and September Song: *Anything Goes* (Reno Sweeney.) @ AbigailWeinel on instagram

KAYLEE MICHAEL (Ensemble/Grace US) is very excited to be joining the cast of Annie at Rochester Opera House. Past credits include Marya D in *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812* at Tantrum Theater, Olive Ostrovsky in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and The Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*. Originally from Cincinnati, OH, Kaylee graduated with a BFA in Musical Theater from Ohio University. Thanks to her mom and dad for their continuing support.

FRANCESCA RICHARD (Pepper) is thrilled to return to the Rochester Opera House after making her debut in *Finding Nemo Junior* (Dory) in March 2024! Performing since the age of 5, this is her second year in the Jr. Conservatory Program at the Rochester Performing Arts Center (RPAC) and she sends a heartfelt "thank you" to her talented teachers and mentors for their encouragement, helpfulness, and guidance. ROH Experience; *Into the Woods Jr.* (Cinderella), *A Christmas Carol* (Grace Smythe), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Ensemble). Local theater (Ogunquit Playhouse): *Seussical Jr.* (Mrs. Mayor), *Finding Nemo Jr.* (Bloat), *Willy Wonka Kids* (Willy Wonka). Dover School District: *High School Musical Jr.* (Sharpay). She is grateful to her friends and family, especially mom and dad, for their constant love and support to chase her dreams!

JEWEL SOLOMON (Duffy) is so happy to be playing Duffy in this production of *Annie*. Her first role on stage was Gretl in *The Sound of Music* at the Opera House, which continues to be her favorite part ever! She was also in *A Christmas Carol* here this past December for her third year, this time playing Fan/Belinda Cratchit. Jewel is 10 and in the 4th grade at Garrison Elementary School. She and her sister, Harper, have been fortunate to be in many shows together, and are both currently

working on the RPAC Showstoppers class production of *Moana*, where Jewel is playing the iconic role of Moana! Jewel is also currently in *Frozen Jr.* with the Garrison Players, playing the part of Queen Iduna. Other recent favorite roles have been Ursula in *The Little Mermaid*, Gill in *Finding Nemo Jr.*, and Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*. She loves being on stage and wants to thank her family for encouraging her to do what she enjoys most!

HARPER SOLOMON (Kate) is so excited to be returning to the Rochester Opera House as Kate in *Annie*, after just playing Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol* (her favorite role ever) for her second year! She is also currently in two other productions with her sister, Jewel, playing Meow/Chief Tui's Guard in the RPAC Showstoppers class production of *Moana*, as well as *Frozen Jr.*, playing the role of Middle Elsa with the Garrison Players. Last summer, Harper played the part of Jack in *Into the Woods Jr.* here at the Opera House, and had such an incredible experience! Other recent favorite roles include the Lion/Munchkin & Toto in *The Wizard of Oz*, Lefou/Sultan in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Flounder in *The Little Mermaid*. Harper is 8 and in the 3rd grade at Garrison Elementary School. She loves drawing, singing, acting, her friends and family, and her cats Evan & Belle. She would like to thank her family for supporting her love of theatre!

CLARA CURTIS (Tessie) is ecstatic to be making her ROH debut! Regional: *Frozen* (Young Anna, Ogunquit Playhouse), *Sound of Music* (Gretl von Trapp, Ogunquit Playhouse), *Into the Woods* (Listening Child, Hackmatack Playhouse). Community Theatre: *Aristocats Kids* (Marie, Ovation Theatre Co), *Cinderella Jr.* (Younger Girl, Pine Street Players), *Finding Nemo Kids* (Pearl, PSP), *Drowsy Chaperone Jr.* (Featured Dancer, PSP), *Little Mermaid* (Sea Turtle, PSP). Clara studies dance at the MusicalArts Academy and voice with Christina DeMaio Voice Studio both of Exeter, NH. She is a 3rd grader from Brentwood, NH and is especially excited to be sharing the stage

with some of her best theatre friends.

HARPER BURNS (Molly) is so excited to be making her Rochester Opera House debut! Recent credits include Young Anna US/Hidden Folk in *Frozen* with Ogunquit Playhouse, Captain Hook in *Peter Pan, Jr* at The Word Barn, Dormouse in *Alice in Wonderland* with Upside Arts and Gingy in *Shrek, Jr* at The Word Barn. Harper studies gymnastics, dance, aerial silks and ukulele. She LOVES pigs and going to overnight camp every summer with Upside! She also wants to send a huge thanks to everyone involved for this amazing opportunity! All her love to her sister Violet, mom, dad and her dog Bella!

VIOLET BURNS (Judy/Annie US) is over the moon to be making her Rochester Opera House debut! Recent credits include Hidden Folk in *Frozen* with Ogunquit Playhouse, Violet Beauregarde in *Wonka, Jr* at LHS, Donkey in *Shrek, Jr* at The Word Barn, Emily in *ROE* at University of New Hampshire and Tigger in *Winnie the Pooh* at Upside Arts. Violet studies voice, aerial silks and hip hop. She is a lover of all things Disney, singing and spending two weeks of overnight camp every summer with Upside! She wants to thank everyone involved for this amazing opportunity and sends her love to her sister Harper, mom, dad and Bella! Enjoy the show!

MAIA LINCK (Swing Orphan/July US) is beyond excited to be a part of this amazing production of *Annie*. She has loved performing in *Beauty and the Beast Jr* as a narrator and a silly girl at RPAC, a child villager in *Beauty and the Beast Jr* at RMS, and Jonathon in this past winter's production of *A Christmas Carol* at ROH. She is a creative and energetic 4th grader who's always singing, acting, dancing, flipping around in gymnastics, kicking a soccer ball, playing the clarinet, or making some kind of art. She thanks her family, friends, teachers and actors for their continuous support and inspiration.

WYNTER (WINNIE) GOUMAS (Swing Orphan/July US) is thrilled to be a part of this production of *Annie* as a Swing Orphan and July's US. No stranger to ROH, this marks her

6th production and is excited to be sharing the stage with many talented actors here in her hometown. Most recently Winnie has acted in productions including *The Wizard of Oz* - Mainstage (Lollipop Guild, Munchkin), *Wizard of Oz Jr.*, (Ozian Guard, Ensemble) *James & The Giant Peach*, Professional Series (Youth Ensemble) *Addams Family - Young at Part* (Ancestor) and *Finding Nemo Jr.* (Kai / Nemo US) with the Rochester Performing & Arts Center. Other productions include: *Charlie Brown Christmas* (Charlie Brown) Epping Community Theatre, Epping, NH; *Beauty & the Beast Jr.* (LaFou) and *Mary Poppins* (Jane Banks) with the County Kids Theatre Co. in Caribou, ME. Tweedle-Dee (*Alice in Wonderland*) and Belinda (*Lady Pirates of the Caribbean*) in past productions at Studio 109 Dance, Voice & Drama in Gonic, NH and three productions at Chamberlain Street Elementary School with *The Most Epic Birthday Party Ever* (Ensemble), *Pure Imagination* (Belle, Gertrude Mc Fuzz) and *Madagascar Jr.* (Melman). A 4th grader at Chamberlain St. School in Rochester, NH; Winnie is excited for you to see the show and share the energy that you are about to see on stage. She would like to thank her Mom, Dad and sister Harleigh, her talented and inspiring directors, choreographers, vocal coach, teachers and friends for their support.

CALLIE THE DOG (Sandy) is paws-ively ecstatic to emBARK on her first theatre adventure! She is a 5 year old Golden Retriever and has four siblings. Hobbies include chasing tennis balls, napping and belly rubs. Enjoy the show!



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PRODUCTION TEAM

ANTHONY EJARQUE (Executive Producer/Producing Artistic Director)

is a trained classical actor with Off-Broadway, regional, television, film, and nationally-touring theatre credits. He has been involved in all aspects of theatre, including performing, directing, and producing. He has presented more than 2000 concerts, theatrical shows, and events. He served as Associate Producer of The Ensemble Studio Theater in NY as well as Assistant to Walter Bobbie on Broadway productions of *Footloose* and *Chicago*. He also has over 30 years of business experience owning and operating The Governor's Inn, a 20-room hotel with two onsite restaurants. He has been associated with The Rochester Opera House since renovation efforts began in 1997. He has served as Executive Director for over 15 years. Anthony is a graduate of The University of New Hampshire (UNH and KSC), did graduate work at Columbia University and also studied at The University of Salamanca, Spain and The National Shakespeare Conservatory in New York City. He is a proud member of The Screen Actor's Guild/AFTRA and Actor's Equity Association. He is most proud of his 16 year old daughter Anabella and 12 year old son Antonio!

TARYN HERMAN (Director/Choreographer)

is thrilled to be back at Rochester Opera House, most recently serving as director/choreographer for last summer's *Beauty and the Beast*. Other recent directing credits include *Disaster!* with ROH, *Into the Woods* with Hackmatack Playhouse and *The Addams Family* with Weathervane Theatre. Taryn is a theatre and dance educator in Exeter with MusicalArts. Having grown up watching *Annie* on VHS nearly every day, this is a dream for her! And the icing on the cake is getting to share it with her family, Miles, Harper and Violet. Her dog, Bella, declined the role of Sandy.

CHRISTIAN ARNOLD (Production Manager, Lighting & Projection Designer)

is an award winning Lighting Designer based in Eliot, ME, and is blessed to call ROH a home as resident Lighting Designer for the past year. Lighting Design credits include; *Rock of Ages*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Rocky Horror Picture Show* (SRT); *Godspell* (ROH); *The Addams Family* (ROH); Prescott Park Arts Festival Summer Concert Series 2022-2024; *2024 Murder Mystery* (ROH); *Moonglow* (The Players Ring & Firehouse); *Places You Go* (Hatbox); Seacoast Rep. Drag Series; *Holy and Unruly* (Hatbox); *Thirst for Freedom* (NHTP); and *Garden of Z* (NHTP). Christian is also the Executive Producer and lead commentator for Atlantic Pro Wrestling based in Newburyport, MA, and is the Audio / Visual Specialist at The Music Hall in Portsmouth, NH.

BILLIE BUTLER (Stage Manager) is a creative producer with over three decades of experience in theatre, music, and event production from creation to full realization. They are deeply rooted in the Seacoast of NH's vibrant arts and music scene and have dedicated their career to fostering inclusive spaces where diverse voices are always celebrated. They have been seen on the ROH many times over the last so many decades. Most recently directing and music directing *SpongeBob the Musical* in 2023 here at the Opera House. When not crafting new theatrical works, they are smashing the patriarchy with their band Bitter Pill, or hanging out at home with their wife Paula and their two cats, Minerva and Zelda.

NICK TAVARES (Assistant Stage Manager)

is thrilled to be collaborating alongside a powerhouse cast and crew, and is grateful and excited for you to see all the hard work and skill put into crafting this show! He is a seacoast teaching artist, the drama director at Marshwood Middle School, and has performed from Boston to Poland, ME! He thanks his family: Mom,

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MILES BURNS (Musical Director), a seacoast area playwright, composer, musician, musical director and artistic director has spent the last 15 years doing his part to cultivate and enrich the arts and arts education throughout the Seacoast. Miles has collaborated on over 30 new musicals for kids to which he is credited for book, music and lyrics. His work has been performed on stage in a number of elementary, middle and high schools. In addition, his work has been produced at The Seacoast Repertory Theatre, Emerson College, The Players Ring, Patrick Dorow Productions and Weathervane Theatre. As a musician and musical director, Miles has had the pleasure of working at various schools and venues throughout the region including Interlakes Theater, The Rochester Opera House, Portsmouth High School and Prescott Park Arts Festival to name a few. He served the community for over ten years while employed with The Seacoast Repertory Theatre in various roles including Youth Music Director, Director of Youth Programming, Associate Artistic Director and Artistic Director. As Artistic Director, Miles cultivated award winning directors, actors and programming for four years. He is also a co-founder of Upside Arts, a theatrical production company for Seacoast area youth and teens that aims to build confidence, sense of self, and empathy through thoughtful, original, and creative storytelling. Miles lives in Portsmouth with his two daughters, Violet and Harper, and his wife, Taryn. He is thankful every day for his beautiful family.

JENRY TOWLE (Props) Commuting from just over the bridge in Kittery, Jenry is an actor, technician, educator, combat/intimacy director, and currently serves as the Associate Artistic Director and Director of Education for the Rochester Opera House. She holds degrees in Music,

Theater Performance, & Technical Theater & Design. Jenry spent a greater part of her early career touring the country in a two-person panto version of *A Christmas Carol*, and has written over 8 stage adaptations of the story. So much humbling thankfulness to Brad, Samuel, Nick, Victoria, and Christian! Le jeu. Complicite. Disponibilite.

NICKOLAS DONLIN (Sound Designer) is a film composer, producer, and award winning sound designer, and house sound engineer for the Rochester Opera House. He was last heard mixing ROH's productions of *A Christmas Carol*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Godspell*. He would like to thank his best friend and wife Victoria, their cats Trixie and Bilbo, and the cast and crew of *Annie*. He hopes you enjoy the show!

RIEN SCHLECHT (Scenic Designer, Costumes) After graduating with degrees in Criminal Profiling and Costume Design, Rien started working at The Weathervane Theatre in Whitefield, NH and is always so happy to return to the mountains. Her favorite Weathervane costume and set designs include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (NH Theatre Award), *Guys and Dolls* (NH Theatre Award), *Sweeney Todd* (NH Theatre Award), *Memphis* (NHTA nom), *The King and I* (NHTA nom), *Blood Brothers*, *Eurydice*, *Buyer and Cellar*, *Cabaret* (NHTA), and *Everybody's Talking About Jamie* (NHTA nom). Her New York theatre credits include *The Mysteries at The Flea* (Drama Desk nom), *The Woodsman* at New World Stages, and the stage and film productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Julie Taymor, multiple shows with Out of the Box Theatrics, including the Drama Desk-nominated *Baby!*, thirteen seasons with Theatre For A New Audience, Radio City, Mark Morris Ballet, and many other theatres on and off Broadway. She has also designed for TV and film including *The Jinx* for HBO. Thank you for supporting live theatre!



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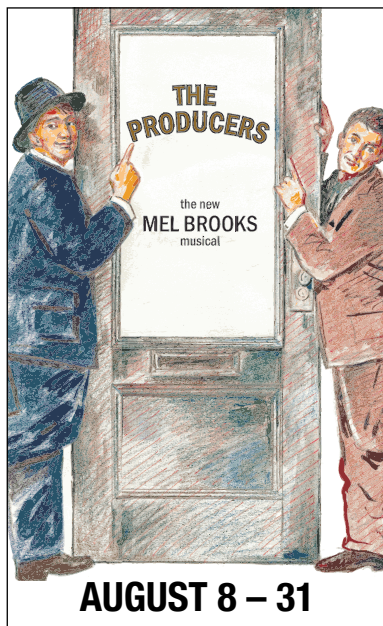
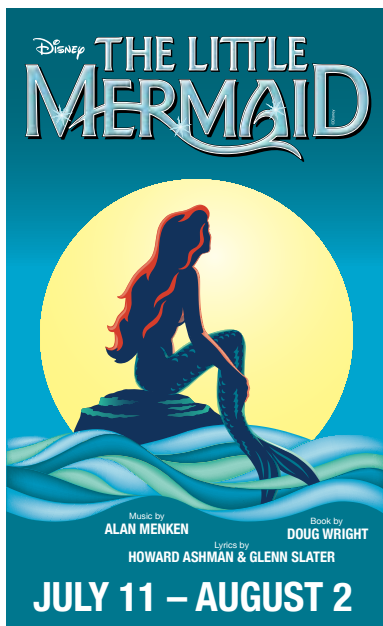


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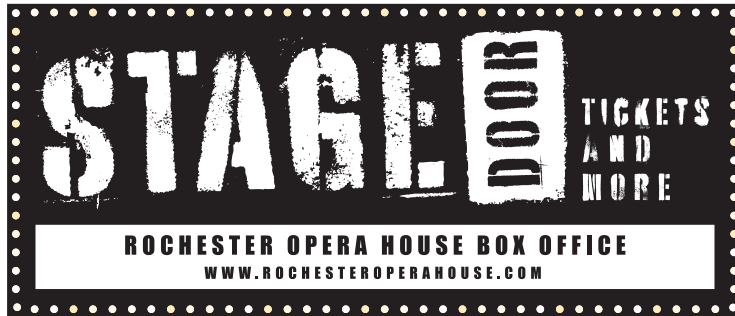
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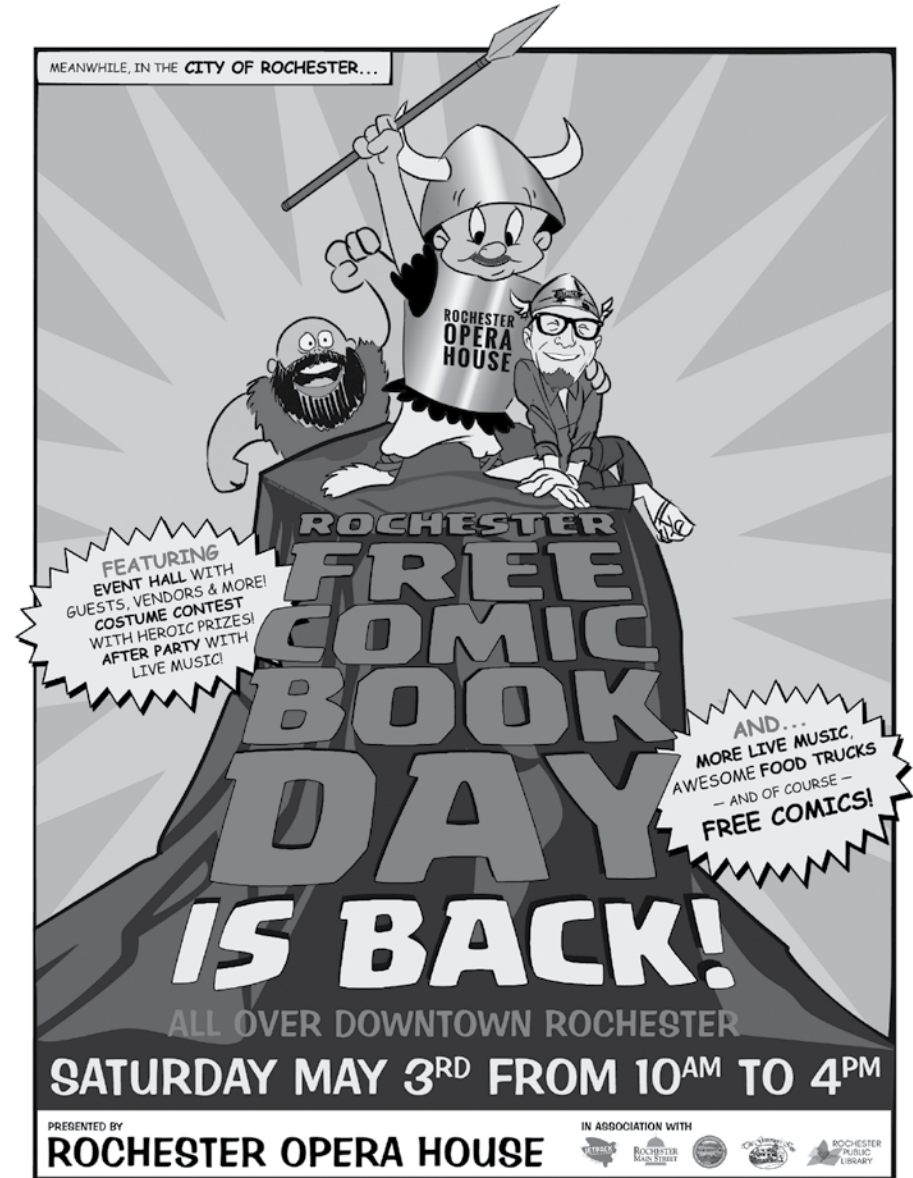
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NE FIDDLE ENSEMBLE

Sat, May 31 at 6:30PM

The Fiddle Ensemble is a 501c3 community orchestra made up of approximately 100 musicians of all ages and abilities playing a variety of acoustic instruments - including fiddle, guitar, banjo, mandolin, upright bass, harp, accordion and more! Each year, we arrange several tunes and singing songs of different genres, including Celtic, Swing, Bluegrass, Folk, Blues, Country, and Cajun music.



THE CORVETTES

Fri, Jun 6 at 8:00PM

The Corvettes Doo Wop Revue is dedicated to preserving and performing the greatest music ever made - the music of the 1950's Doo Wop era. From New Hampshire to New Orleans and Virginia to Vegas, The Corvettes perform the great music of the Doo Wop era with a fresh new energy. In the tradition of legendary Doo Wop revivalists Sha Na Na, every Corvettes show is an all out a Doo Wop Celebration!

MAGICAL MYSTERY DOORS

Sat, Jun 7 at 8:00PM

Magical Mystery Doors is a tribute act that blends and layers the music of three legendary bands to create something new and unique for music fans everywhere. The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, and The Doors. These three iconic groups have changed the face of music as we know it. Their songs have become part of our history - timeless tunes from each of these historic bands over the course of the night. The songs you know, the songs you love, the songs you sing at the top of your lungs! their daily distractions in this immersive and mesmerizing show.



VYNTYGE SKYNYRD AND BEAUTIFUL LOSERS

Fri, Jun 13 at 8:00PM

Vyntye Skynyrd celebrates the 1970s era of Lynyrd Skynyrd by replicating the music as it was originally done. They capture the fire and heart of the band, as well as the soul of their fearless leader Ronnie Van Zant. You'll be transported back to 1977 where you'll hear all the classic Skynyrd favorites such as Sweet Home Alabama, Saturday Night Special, Gimme Three Steps, and of course you can yell "FREEBIRD" all you like because you will in fact get it!

Bob Seger tribute Beautiful Losers is as good as it gets, vocally, musically, sonically and dynamically. With an endless crop of hits to pick from, they are no doubt be the BEST Bob Seger tribute band in the land!



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TUSK: THE CLASSIC FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE

Thu, Jun 19 at 8:00PM

Tusk, The Ultimate Fleetwood Mac Tribute, has been criss-crossing the country since 2008 delivering an unparalleled live experience. Tusk's chemistry and synergy are undeniable, and they have cultivated every note and gesture to recreate the iconic sound and style of Fleetwood Mac. Their dedication to authenticity is unmatched. And the band's original, dynamic lights and visuals, created specifically for their shows, add an extra layer of excitement.

7EMPEST: TOOL TRIBUTE

Fri, Jun 20 at 8:00 PM

This is 7empest: a TOOL Tribute band based out of Boston. Formed in the early and eerie months of the Covid-19 Pandemic, 7empest is made up of a group of passionate, experienced musicians driven by our love for the music of TOOL. They bring the live experience of TOOL's entire discography to the New England live music scene. They bring the unbridled energy of the early years combined with the psychedelic visual art and videos straight from TOOL's recent live tours. This is TOOL the way it was meant to be experienced.



YELLOW BRICK ROAD: A TRIBUTE TO ELTON JOHN

Sat, Jun 21 at 8:00PM

There is no other performer who looks and sounds so much like Elton John, nor any tribute act that provides the experience of being at an Elton John concert the way Gerald Brann and Yellow Brick Road do. Brann not only bears an uncanny resemblance to the international superstar — complete with gap-toothed smile and many of his mannerisms — but recreates Elton John's vocals and playing to a tee.

BLUE COLLAR MEN: THE MUSIC OF STYX WITH PANORAMA

Fri, Jun 27 at 8:00PM

Blue Collar Men is a tribute to the Music of Styx. The band consists of 5 experienced musicians each bringing a reverence for Styx's legacy, with a mission to faithfully represent Styx's music in live performance.

Panorama are dedicated to recreating the magic of The CARS LIVE! They skillfully recreate the arrangements with passion and accuracy, transporting the you back to the time when spinning LPs ruled the airwaves and new wave music shook the concert halls with excitement.



AD/HD – THE AC/DC EXPERIENCE

Sat, Jun 28 at 8:00PM

Experience the hard-rocking sound and electrifying performance of AC/DC live with AD/HD The AC/DC Experience! Playing all the Bon Scott and Brian Johnson classics, as well as deep cuts that will bring the die-hards to their feet, AD/HD The AC/DC Experience delivers a high-voltage show that's a must-see for any AC/DC fan.



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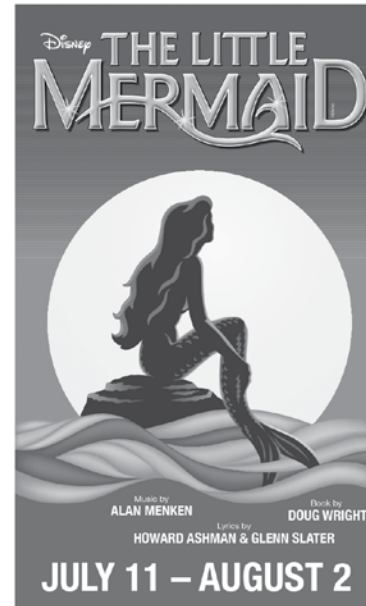
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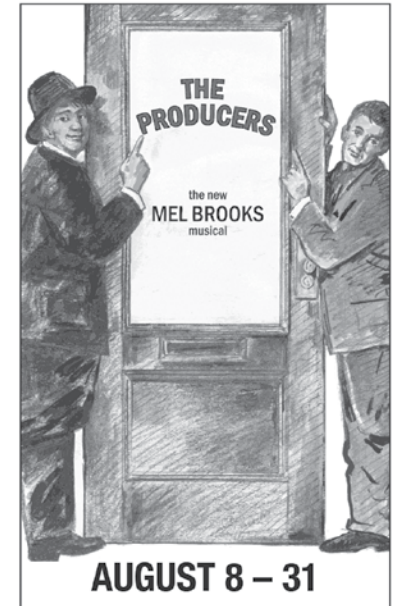
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Welcome to the Rochester Opera House's 27th season! We are delighted that you have chosen the Rochester Opera House as the recipient of your trust in the power of performance. It is our hope that you will find a home in our house. We strive to offer a program that provides experiences for all members of our community, regardless of age, income, or experience.

With generous support from the City of Rochester, the State of New Hampshire, many community minded sponsors and countless volunteers, the 117 year-old opera house boldly continues its mission of presenting and producing world class concerts, theatre and community events for the whole family.

Our expanded season now includes six professional mainstage musicals, national tours, regional comedy, dance, and civic events as well a flat-floor dance and cabaret series. Rochester Opera House continues to grow its educational program by offering more opportunities for area youth and teens. It is my abiding vision for a more diverse and inclusive environment where we can foster the dreams of our students and imaginations of our patrons.

Together, we can ensure a bright future for this important cultural arts venue, as we continue to work on restoration and theater improvements. We need your support! Our historic theatre is a not-for-profit organization that depends on people like you. With your new or renewal *Friends of ROH* membership, we can continue to bring the joys of the performing arts to you and your children. Please consider becoming a Friend. Join us today!

Hope to see you at the theater!

Anthony Ejarque
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Rochester Performance & Arts Center, made possible by Holy Rosary Credit Union and Rochester Opera House, is a not-for-profit arts organization that combines versatile studio and performance spaces, art gallery and comprehensive arts and educational programming for adults, teens, and students in a comfortable and uniquely supportive environment.

Our location on North Main Street in downtown Rochester provides a safe community for young performers to develop confidence, character and creativity. We offer a number of programs designed to suit particular interests, including courses in the practices and processes of creating music, dance, art, theatre and live performances.

Whether you're a beginner, student, teen, or adult, our programming boasts a powerful combination of intimate art facilities/studio space and a passionate faculty of artists, directors, and performers devoted to making sure every student succeeds.



Performance Space

Our intimate and multi-purpose performance space is the perfect location for dance/singing recitals, live music, recording and so much more. This community space also allows for creative collaboration between local arts-related nonprofits like the Rochester Museum of Fine Arts, Sole City Dance, and more.



Recording Studios

Our unique combination of state-of-the-art audio equipment, a comfortable studio atmosphere, and experienced producers and engineers makes us a distinguished production leader on the seacoast. We provide artists, producers and musicians with the fundamental tools to achieve successful recordings.



Classes, Camps, Workshops

RPAC offers year round programming for students of all ages in performance arts, music, and dance/movement. From specialty workshops, to semester long programs, to vacation and summer camps - we provide instruction for students of any ability, and fosters a supportive environment to imagine, inspire, and create.

Naming Opportunities

Sponsoring a room or studio in our new building is a great way to make a special gift of lasting significance to the Performance & Arts Center. Rooms and studios are available for sponsorship at various donation levels.

Sponsor Us

Sponsoring our programming and educational series in the Performance & Arts Center is a great way to support the arts community. We have sponsorships available at various levels.

Individual & Family Contributors

Our Arts for All mission continues to grow and thrive because of the support from individual contributors. Individual and family contributions are crucial to the growth and success of our Performance & Arts Center. We have Individual and Family sponsorships available at various donation levels.



Private and Group Lessons

We offer quality classes, lessons, and private sessions in an environment dedicated to excellence in the arts. Students of all ages, levels, and backgrounds can immerse themselves in private and group instruction for voice, guitar, bass, drums, piano, brass, woodwinds, and more.



Studio To Stage

This program is a workshop for young musicians looking to take practice to the next level, and learn to turn their hobby into a career. They will work with industry pros in crucial areas like stagecraft, performance technique, songwriting, and studio production, with opportunities for hands-on industry experience at ROH events. Recommended for intermediate to advanced players 14 years old and up.



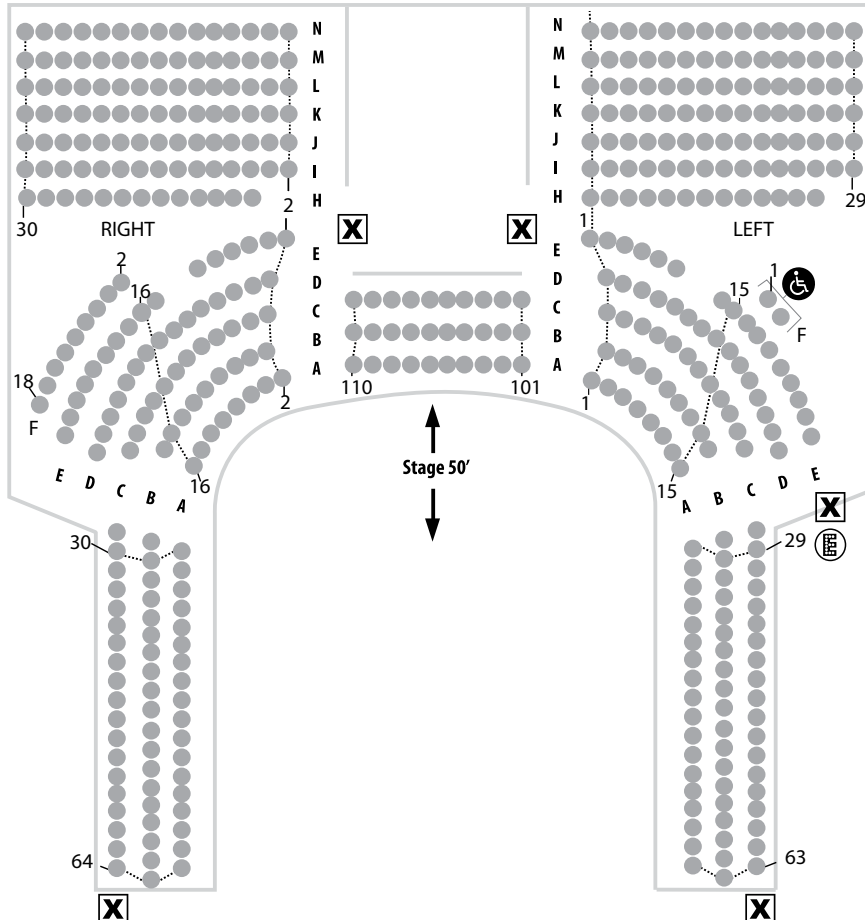
Community Events and Rentals

The HRCU Main Street Stage is home to performances from our programs, but also available for public and community performances. Renting the RPAC space for your event helps support our annual programming and scholarship funding. Our community events have expanded to RPAC to include our new PorchFest Artist series and food drives throughout the year.

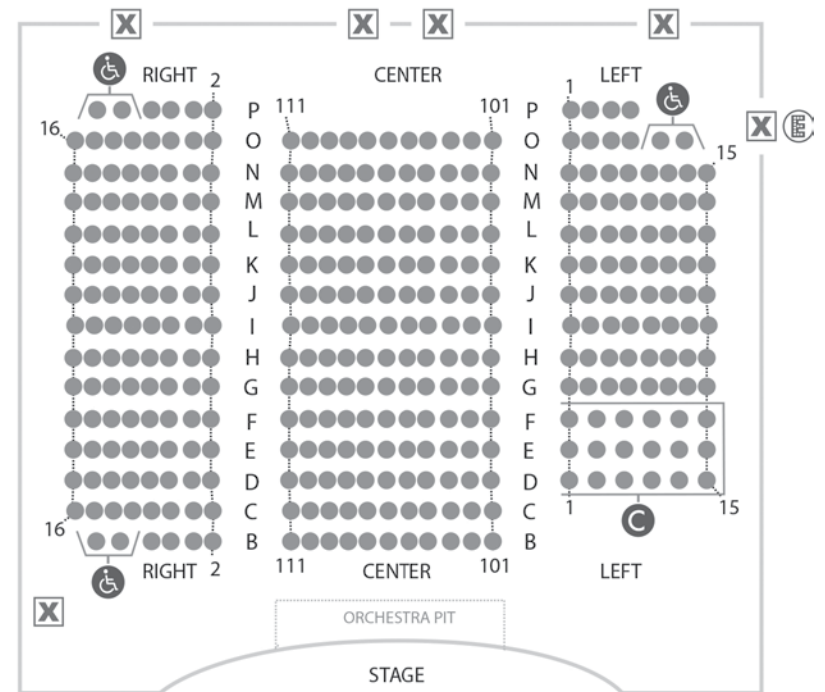
Seating Chart



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