

NEWS & CUES

a publication for and about the players guild of dearborn

Anna Dewey, Editor

Our 88th Season Opens: *The Miracle Worker*

This Friday, September 18th, you will witness a story that will pull at your heartstrings. You will be captive observers of several snapshots in the life of Helen Keller and the lives of those in her world. You may even be challenged to consider what it might have felt like to *be* Helen. She lived in a world of darkness and light, of silence, of vibrations...relying on her sense of touch and learning to trust her teacher to guide her.

Helen's teacher, Annie Sullivan, was not without personal struggle. Her troubled childhood with her brother (both orphans) in the asylum, bring flashbacks to Annie that are emotional and painful. Annie's own past makes her empathetic to Helen's needs. As Meg Kisch (who plays Annie) reflects, Annie is determined to get Helen out of her hell. She has the opportunity on several occasions to walk away from it all, but she doesn't. The scenes you will witness are dramatic. Sometimes Annie has to physically wrangle Helen. Meg knew that playing Annie would be emotional – but acknowledges it has proven physically challenging as well.

To physically prepare for the role of Helen, Madeline Baker (a 7th grader from Cabrini) was instructed by Director Kirk Haas to walk around her house blindfolded. Madeline's mom, Danielle, said that Madeline would disappear into the basement frequently to practice this. The cast also had another interesting dynamic to learn from. For this production, we are joined by new member Leah Scarpace, who not only served as Sign Language instructor, but is also performing in the show. Leah is deaf, and can read lips, but because of some blocking, occasionally requires nudges from the cast to signal her for cues. It "has been a test of [her] stage fright," Leah says, but she has "enjoyed the experience and the people [she has] met along with it."



Kirk has directed *The Miracle Worker* before (when Annie Sullivan was played by Debbie Pletzer and Captain Arthur Keller by Butch Plague) but this year's production will be different. For Kirk, a new cast always brings a different perspective and different light to the show. You will soon witness the artfulness, skill and talent that have gone into our season opener, and how the production team has worked to bring life to this script through lights, sound, silence and darkness.

If you have a child of your own, you will be moved. If you have a child with challenges, a disability or special needs, you will be moved. If you come to this show, you will be moved. Come to the show. And bring tissue.

StarShine Theatre Workshop This Summer

We had a great week August 10-14. Mary Beth Kinnell wrote and directed *The Prince with the Enormous Nose*. Nineteen young people with developmental disabilities from the Neighborhood Service Organization (NSO) participated. The participation of Guild members was critical in the success of the workshop. It also resulted in at least one staff member of NSO joining PGD.

This program has been going on every summer since 2010 (with the exception of during our major renovations of 2013). Numerous members have volunteered in different capacities, making it a great success.

submitted by John Sczomak



OUR MISSION

It shall be the purpose of the Guild to promote and foster community interest in good drama and all its forms; through group endeavors in the training of persons interested in theatrical arts— acting, directing, play production, scenery and costume design, and playwriting in apprentice workshops, youth productions, and actual presentation of plays by novices and experienced persons.

"YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY"

Kim Donovan	September 2
Sally Goodman	September 4
Loretta Bullock	September 12
Julie Sparrow	September 14
Meredith Ferry	September 15
Jeff Bartos	September 24
Maggie Kanclerz	September 25

Apologies to all you Virgos and Libras that I missed. We are currently working on inputting all member birthdays in our system!

MEMBER VOICES MATTER

Is there something or *someone* you'd like to see in the next edition of *News & Cues*? Contact Editor Anna Dewey at ahnatiuk@gmail.com with your suggestions or submissions by Mon. October 26, 2015.

Behind the Scenes with our Board: Shari Mayne, Membership Governor

If you haven't had a chance to meet Shari in person yet, you've almost certainly received a friendly hello from her in your inbox. For the past two years, Shari has been working hard to update all of your membership information and record your received dues into Vendini (our online ticket system, not Houdini's bank account), so that when you're ready to see a show - you get your free ticket! You've also heard from Shari when it's time to usher for performance dates.

A native of Dexter and current resident of Redford, Shari and her whole family come to Dearborn to be at the Guild. You've seen the handiwork of her husband, Mike, who has worked on sets and assisted backstage. Her son James Mayne has appeared onstage (and is currently in *The Miracle Worker*), has been stage manager, and has volunteered in numerous capacities. James recently married Guild member Marni Hack (resident photographer, prop-maker and Jill-of-all-trades, really). Shari and Mike have another son David, and their daughter is Sara Williams - Guild member, actor, and first-basewoman for the former PGD Softball Team. Sara is married to Ron Williams, Jr. (seasoned Guild actor and past Board Member), and just welcomed baby Oliver Williams into their family July 23rd.



Shari's theater interest began when she worked on costumes for her daughter Sara's first show in the 6th grade. Flash forward to 2008 and Sara (with Ron Williams, Jr.) was again instrumental in keeping the theater passion alive, by introducing Shari and Mike to the Guild. Thanks, Sara! Since then, Shari has worked on costumes, produced, and was "sorta on stage once" - but you'll have to ask her about that one. This will be her third year as Membership Governor.

So what does a membership governor do?

Shari mails out and collects all those membership forms that you've filled out. This season she has entered info from over 181 of you. Thanks for including your birthdays so we can begin celebrating you (or thanking your parents). As mentioned, all the dues get entered into the online ticketing system and then you become eligible for those free tickets (1 per show during our regular season) that are such a valuable perk of being a member. If your dues haven't been received and entered, the all-accurate Vendini won't let you redeem your ticket. If for some reason you are having trouble redeeming your ticket, please have the ticket office (313-561-TKTS) check for a different spelling of your name. Occasionally there will be a spelling error, but not typically a member status error.

Shari is also working on a new welcome packet along with recruiting "greeters" who can meet and greet our new members of the Guild. Remember

when you were new? I bet you can pinpoint some of the people who really made you feel welcome. BE that person for someone else.

Another way to join the Membership Committee (see how I did that?) is to usher for our shows! It's a fun way to meet many of our seasoned and new ticket holders and to reconnect with members you haven't seen in a while. Come 60 minutes prior to the show and turn on that charm as you pass out programs and walk people down the aisle. If you enjoy being the head honcho, sign up for head usher and get more brownie points. If you're staying for the show that night anyway, you may as well! Watch for notices from Shari to sign up.

When Shari is not sending emails to you, her full-time career is teaching 2nd grade in Livonia. (Credit to Eastern Michigan University for her undergrad and Oakland University for her Masters) In any additional free time, Shari loves crafting. She does scrapbooking, enjoys making cards, sews and knits.

The Guild is fortunate to have a lot of *family* members who are very active, and Shari Mayne and her crew are a great example. When asked what *keeps* her at the Guild, Shari said, "my family and the new family at the Guild." And that, my friends, is what the Guild is all about.

Favorite Guild Show: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*

What would you like the Guild to do?
"Any show where families can come and have fun!"

Onstage or Off? She would love to be onstage – in a non-speaking part!

Follow us on **Facebook** for insider news, announcements and continued drama...

Join "**Players Guild of Dearborn**" (closed group) for our members only

STAY TUNED...

- Work on *White Christmas* set pieces will commence with the opening of *The Miracle Worker*. Build Blitz will be the weekend of October 15–17. This is a great way to fulfill your production requirement for the season. Hint, hint.
- The MCACA (Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs) has completed grant review and grant awards will be announced September 18th in Lansing. The Guild submitted a grant request for a partial upgrade of stage rigging. The grant award of 2014 resulted in the purchase of new sound equipment. Fingers crossed!

LABEL THIS!



On the evening of August 3rd, 21 people came together to stick labels on over 5000 postcards advertising *The Miracle Worker*. The postcards were all stamped and ready for mailing in about 90 minutes. In many cases it was a "family affair." Rebecca Scott was there with her daughter, Emma. Sue Suchyta brought her son, Mike. Mary Ann Lawler and her daughter, Laura Manrique, were a team. Lisa and Jamie Paschke are both speed labelers. So were Lisa and Shannon Bingham. Lois Sczomak and her mother, Onerva Grant, labeled a big bunch of cards. Mary and Tom Davis were a husband and wife team.

Others helping to label were Victor Hydel, Christina Bertucci, Alia Elhadj, Tom Sparrow, and Mike Moseley.

Dave Wood, Dave Kanclerz, Richard Moore, and Kevin Rider carried the mailing trays from the Clubroom to Moseley's car. Many thanks to all.

submitted by Tom Sparrow

Join the Script Committee (for a day)!

The Script committee is looking for title suggestions for shows for the 2016–17 season and we are seeking member input: **What plays and musicals do you think the committee should consider for the next season at the Guild?**

Currently, the Guild produces a 5-show season with 3 plays and 2 musicals.

Season goals are to sell season subscriptions to current and new patrons and to offer a great artistic selection to our members to participate on and off stage!

Please join us in the clubroom at the Guild on **Saturday, September 19 from 1–3pm**. We want to hear what shows you would like to produce, act or sing in, costume, light and invite everyone you know to attend at our theater!

Any questions, please send them to pgdscriptcomm@gmail.com. Thanks! Script Committee – *submitted by Angela Keller Pelc*

Future Guildlings!

Meet: **Joseph Patrick Donovan**

Born: June 22, 2015 at 4:32 pm

Costume Measurements: 7lbs 1oz, 19.5"

Proud Stage Parents: Claire and John Donovan

Doting Grandparents: Kim and Joe Donovan

Fan club: Caitlin, Molly and Maura Donovan



"We were so excited that John and Claire continued (for a 3rd generation) the tradition of the son naming his first son after the grandfather. Joe felt very honored to have a namesake. Another interesting tidbit, Joey was born on Lisa Andres's birthday - as you know she founded the Guildlings - their son Nick was best man at John & Claire's wedding. Kind of fitting that a baby of an original Guildling (at 5 years old, John played Baby Bear in the first Guildling show) has helped to keep our connection to a family we are so very close to."

— Kim Donovan

Meet: **Oliver Michael Williams**

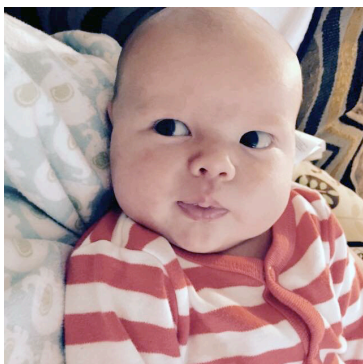
Born: July 23, 2015

Costume Measurements: 7lbs 9oz, 20"

Proud Stage Parents: Sara and Ron Williams, Jr.

Doting Grandparents: Shari and Mike Mayne

Fan club: David, James and Marni Mayne



Who Was Your First?

"I actually have two. **Dave Reynolds** and **Helen Liljegren**.

"Dave Reynolds is the first person I would say welcomed me to the Guild but not as a member. I had planned a sizeable group purchase for Sacred Heart to see *The King and I* and we asked and were allowed to have an afterglow in the clubroom. I had very little concept of what a community theater was about... The night of the event Dave was the very cordial person who was there as we set up and as we cleaned up. Beginning to end, just in the background, but such a pleasant man, and I experienced him again, some years later when as director, Dave cast 5 year-old Daniel in the chorus of the musical *Oliver*.

"Dave continued to be that person at the Guild who I never said no to when he asked me to paint. He was a welcoming face no matter how long I was separated from the Guild. Always a hug, never a "where have you been?" He was the face of Guild friendliness."

And what about Helen? Do tell...

"... *Oliver* was my entry as a member to the Guild and a set painter, under the tutelage of the talented Helen Liljegren. So I would say Helen was the first member who I worked with/under at the Guild. We had met prior to that when son Joey was in the chorus of (again) *Oliver* at Dearborn High with her son Mark. Helen encouraged me to paint on *Oliver*. She put great confidence in my ability to help."

— Mary Beth Oravec

And who was yours?

"The first show I did at the Guild was *The Music Man* in 1998. Although everyone was friendly and welcoming, **Bob Ballard** the music director was my first that stood out to me. His demeanor, his talent, his ability to teach the music and his sense of humor...and [he] was still a no nonsense guy when it came to rehearsals. I learned to respect him and grow very fond of him."



— Mark Byars

Have a juicy story to tell? Email yours to Anna Dewey at abnatiuk@gmail.com subject line "Who Was Your First?" and it may appear in the next News&Cues!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Dave Kanclerz

Meet Dave. The Chancellor of Polish Beer. So hear me out. If you've ever butchered Dave's last name, you can redeem yourself and get it right with this simple theorem:

If Kanclerz sounds like "cancelers" in English (which it does),
and Kanclerz means Chancellor in Polish (which it does),
and Poland brews a refreshing beer called *Kanclerz* in the Kaszuby region (also true),
 THEN you will never forget Dave's last name, and you now know what he really spends his time Googling up in the light booth.

Dave is a Dearborn guy. He's been here since he was 5, and attended the Howe, Stout, Edsel Ford progression of Dearborn Public Schools. Now his kids are doing the same. Lily (age 13) and Claire (age 11) are at Stout (8th and 6th grade, respectively), and Maggie (age 6) is in 1st grade at Snow. Dave and his wife Laura have been married for 14 years. They met at work (over the phone initially) and started a phone relationship until they met in person. Dave still works at the same retail sporting goods company where they met.

Dave is the youngest of 9 kids. He doesn't like talking about himself, so that was the end of the interview.

If you really want to get him to open up though, you can succeed with two topics: guitars and the Guild.

Guitars: Dave is a self-taught guitar player and has been playing since 1979 (though doesn't necessarily like to strum for an audience). He recently bought a red Epiphone P93 Riviera guitar that is worth seeing. Being the youngest of 9, he was exposed to a wide range of musical tastes. There's really no type of music he doesn't like. When he pops in a CD, he enjoys listening for the musicianship of the band more than anything. He digs the keyboards, especially the Hammond B3. Some favorite bands are Luna, Pink Floyd, The Who, The Rolling Stones, and Stone Roses, who have a sweet song named "Lily" like his daughter.



The Guild: Dave's daughter, Lily, was the one who got him involved at the Guild. As a member of the Honors Choir (with Jim Walters), Lily got to participate in the production of *The King and I* at Edsel Ford. (She was the one who got to approach the King because she could whistle!) Through that production, Dave met Diane Cliff and Mary Timpf, who each invited him to try out the Guild. Lily's first show here was *Willy Wonka, Jr.* with the Guildlings, and Dave jumped right in, running sound for the show.

Prior to learning the new soundboard, Dave had experience with GarageBand and ran sound for a buddy's bar band. He also just really enjoys playing around with gears, knobs, toys and gadgets. If you're someone who is interested in learning about how the sound equipment works at the Guild, you just "sit down and go", says Dave. "You learn as you're doing it." Every run he has learned something new, if not many things. Chris Boudreau and Dave Reynolds, Jr. have been instrumental in teaching Dave his craft. Since becoming a member during *Willy Wonka, Jr.*, he can't remember a show he hasn't been involved with in one way or another.

When asked what keeps him coming back to the Guild to work on shows, Dave said for the "great group of people". His daughter Lily became good friends with Molly Boudreau during *Joseph...* and he and Chris Boudreau are good friends so it's a great family. He loves everybody here. Why else would he hang around the Guild at 5pm on Labor Day weekend? To talk about Polish beer. To run cues. To prep for a great upcoming show. When you come to see *The Miracle Worker*, turn around in your seat and wave up at the light booth to King Dave.

FUN DAVE DATA:

Top 3 Guild shows he's worked on:

1. *Joseph...*, Dave Reynolds, Jr. told him to run the moving lights, all 140 of them. "For someone to trust me to that kind of show, 4 months in . . . that's awesome."
2. *Spamalot* – hilarious content and fun projections for "Bright Side"

3. *39 Steps* – Dave got involved with Alan Elias early on for this show. He first figured out how to record into the computer and do voiceovers and how to source all the sound effects. It was a pretty complicated show, which was what made it fun. There were about 140 sound cues and 150 lights. It took two people just to run sound. Ross, Tiffany, Sarah and Alex were the 4 characters in that show onstage - and they called Chris and Dave the 5th character. It was a great experience.

Onstage or Off: Off

Musical or Straight show: Musical. More for him to do. "*39 Steps* ran like a musical."

What shows would you like the Guild to do? *Young Frankenstein*, *Hairspray*, *Hair*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*

WANT ADS

STAGE CREW MEMBERS: Needed for *White Christmas*. Work on a team under direction of Stage Manager during performances doing scene/set changes, prop handling, running flies, odd jobs to help show run smoothly. Must be available for Tech Week and show dates (see included flyer). If interested contact Co-Producer Ron Williams, Jr. at verbalkint7@aol.com.

SCENIC PAINTERS: Needed for *White Christmas* once set is finalized and build begins. Artists of all strokes contact John Sczomak at bulldog813@aol.com if interested.

WAYS AND MEANS: Volunteers needed to sell 50/50 tickets on show dates prior to curtain and during intermission. Also seeking members to run the concessions in the clubroom during intermissions. Interested members contact Frann Stempel at 734-752-3774.

WRITERS, INTERVIEWERS & PROOFREADERS: Spot an error in this issue? I want you on my team for future publications of *News & Cues*. Team wanted to gather content for articles, interview members, and proofread written copy before print. Can commit for one or several issues. If interested in any of these jobs contact *News & Cues* Editor, Anna Dewey at ahnatiuk@gmail.com.

QUALIFIED LEAD: Many of you work or know the business manager of a business that may be interested in advertising with us to promote their business to be recognized for supporting the arts. Your role is simple. Provide Richard Moore with the business name and individual to contact. Richard will follow through. Let him know if he should mention you during his interview. Respond to: Programs@Playersguildofdearborn.org

In Loving Memory



The Guild lost one of its stars this summer with the passing of John Calder. John was a fixture at the Guild for many years, serving as Stage Governor and was the long-time Building Chair. Many members know John as one the first people they met at the Guild. He had a welcoming presence and a genuine interest in the variety of people who make up the Guild family. John was one of those individuals who looked for ways to help. He spent countless hours building sets and engaged in the maintenance tasks that keep the theater running. He was fun to be around and he was a great teacher. We are blessed to have Mary, his wife and partner in crime, as an equally strong presence. During the recent build blitz/clean-up day, we did a John Calder Memorial Lunch of hot dogs with all the fixings, which were his forbidden foods that he nonetheless seemed to take great pleasure in on special occasions.

"I cut it three times and it's still too short." – John Calder

Written by John Sczomak

2015 – 2016 Board of Governors

President – Mike Moseley
president@playersguildofdearborn.org

Vice President – John Sczomak
bulldog813@aol.com

Secretary – Patti Martin
pdjones@umich.edu

Treasurer – Tracey Boudreau
budacatering@comcast.net

Casting – Bob Jones
bobcatblue@aol.com

Costumes – Inez Hernandez
buhale1997@yahoo.com

House/Hospitality – Tim Carney
carneytj@wwcsd.net

Lights/Sound – Dave Reynolds
david@thelightingguy.net

Makeup – Lindel Salow
polar1912@comcast.net

Membership – Shari Mayne
ShariMayne@yahoo.com

Production – Chris Boudreau
kingofdbn@comcast.net

Programs and Advertising – Richard Moore
richard_W_moore@wowway.com

Properties – Diane Cliff
dianehcliff@gmail.com

Publicity – Tom Sparrow
sparrow.thomas@gmail.com

Script – Angela Keller-Pelc
akeller2@comcast.net

Stage – John Sczomak
bulldog813@aol.com

Script – Megan Lizbinski
malizbinski@aol.com

Ways and Means – Frann Stempel
ilovemybabies5@gmail.com

Building – David Wood
inspwood@att.net

Finance – Ken Kilgore
krwice@hotmail.com

CTAM – Jeff Bartos
jeffb1965@yahoo.com

DCAC – Sue Suchyta
sue.suchyta@yahoo.com

DATA – Carissa Madley
cmmadley@gmail.com

Historian – Jeff Bartos
jeffb1965@yahoo.com

Guildlings – Greg Viscomi
gviscomi@aol.com

Governors' Notes

Tickets: The Ticket Committee has sold 878 season ticket packages. That amounts to 4,390 pre-sold tickets for our upcoming season!

– Megan Lizbinski

Treasurer: Regarding Reimbursements - Please fill out a reimbursement form for any Guild purchases. They are found just inside the office to the right of the door in the slots on the wall. No one will be reimbursed without this form and it needs to be signed by a Governor. Please remember that the Guild DOES NOT pay sales tax, nor do we reimburse for it. There are Tax Exempt forms in the slots on the wall of the office.

– Tracey Boudreau



Mark Your Calendars 2015

- Thursday, Sept. 17 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open
- Friday, Sept. 18 8pm Opening Night *The Miracle Worker*
- Saturday, Sept. 19 1pm Script Committee Open Meeting
8pm *The Miracle Worker*
- Sunday, Sept. 20 2:30pm *The Miracle Worker*
- Monday, Sept. 21 6:30pm AUDITIONS *White Christmas*
- Tuesday, Sept. 22 6:30pm AUDITIONS *White Christmas*
- Thursday, Sept. 24 7pm Stage Night / 7pm Box Office Open
- Friday, Sept. 25 8pm *The Miracle Worker*
- Saturday, Sept. 26 8pm *The Miracle Worker*
- Sunday, Sept. 27 2:30pm *The Miracle Worker*
- Tuesday, Sept. 29 7:30pm Board Meeting

Coming Up...

- Fri.– Sun. Oct. 2-4 *The Miracle Worker*
- Thurs. –Sat. Oct. 15-17 BUILD BLITZ *White Christmas*

Q & A Column

How do I reserve my membership tickets online?

1. Log onto our website
www.playersguildofdearborn.org
2. Click on the "Buy Tickets" button.
3. You will be able to select your show, the date, and your seats. After you've done that click "Proceed to Payment".
4. On the next screen click "Redeem Benefits".
5. We've set this up so that members can use their email address as their log in. On the next page members should enter their email address and first and last name. Members without an email address in their patron record will not be able to order online. Click "Search".
6. Members will see the number of benefits they have available. Everyone will start the season with 5. As they redeem their tickets this number will dwindle. Members need to change the quantity from 0 to 1 and click "Apply Benefits".
7. They will be required to enter the information on the following page and then click "Submit".
8. To receive their tickets, members will have to get to the "Process Order" page. This is located after the request for additional donations.
9. Click "Process \$0.00 Order" to complete the transaction.

Need the visuals that go with? Contact Megan for a copy of the instructions with pictures!

— Megan Lizbinski, Ticket Governor

Curtain Call: On Other Stages

Alan Elias as Frederick/Phillip in *Noises Off*

The Village Players (Birmingham)

Show dates: Sept. 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 2015 (8pm) / Sept. 6, 13, 20, 2015 (2pm)

www.birminghamvillageplayers.com

Tom Hissong, Anne Morgan, Dee Morrison, Kerry (Butch) Plague, Annette Ripper, Mark Ripper, Melissa Ripper

in *Man of La Mancha*

Barefoot Productions (Plymouth)

Show dates: Sept. 18, 19, 25, 26, Oct. 2, 3, 2015 (8pm) / Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 2015 (2pm)

www.justgobarefoot.com

Kori Bielaniec as Gloria in *Boeing Boeing*

Farmington Players (Farmington Hills)

Show dates: Sept. 25, 26, Oct. 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 2015 (8pm) / Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 2015 (2pm)

www.farmingtonplayers.org

Did I miss your show? Post it on our Facebook page so we can support you!

Recently Closed

Random Acts of Theatre 2015

Dearborn Area Theatre Association (DATA)

Sept. 11–12, 2015 at the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

Congratulations to current and former members:

R. Darrow Bernick, Dianne Bernick, J.C.H Bernick, Matt Calder, Corey Chambless, Leah Cooley, Rich Bulleri, Jeff Flannery, Lark Haunert, Madelyn Kaplan, Carissa Madley, Paul Morgan, Mike Moseley, Michael Suchyta



Performances:

November 13–15, 20–22, 27–29,
and December 4–6, 2015

Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.
Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Audition Dates:

Monday, September 21 and
Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Auditions will be held at the Players Guild
of Dearborn, 21730 Madison, Dearborn,
Michigan 48124.

Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Auditions will begin at 7:30 p.m.

You must be registered to audition.

You only need to attend one night of
auditions. You may come both nights,
but may not be asked to read on the
second night.

Audition Forms and Conflict Calendars are
available on the website for downloading.
Visit www.playersguildofdearborn.org

direction by

Brian Townsend

assisted by

Mike Moseley

music direction by

Paul Abbott

choreography by

Jenny McPherson

produced by

Ron Williams, Jr. and
Marc Walentowicz



music and lyrics by Irving Berlin
book by David Ives and Paul Blake

based on the Paramount Pictures film written for the screen by
Norman Krasna, Norman Panama, and Melvin Frank

produced in cooperation with the Rogers and Hammerstein Organization

Make it a Christmas you'll never forget with this spectacular festive
feel-good musical based on the much loved movie classic! Two ex-
army pals team up with a pair of sisters to put on a show to save a
remote Vermont ski lodge that's fallen on hard times. A little mischief,
a few misunderstandings and a whole lot of romance are the perfect
excuse for a magical evening of laughter, tears and breathtaking dance
numbers, all set to a lavish score of Irving Berlin classics.

**For character descriptions and additional
audition information, please see side 2**

Audition Notice

PLEASE NOTE: The ages listed are the characters' ages, not necessarily the required age of the actor. All actors will be asked to participate in singing and dancing auditions (with the exception of General Waverly), as well as perform cold readings from the script. Please dress for movement. Those with tap background should bring their tap shoes.

BOB WALLACE (mid to late 30s, crooning Baritone, must move well) – A major singing star, Bob is the guiding force behind the song and dance team of Wallace and Davis. He wears his fame easily and is a born leader, but has trouble when it comes to social and romantic interaction — he's always focused on the act. Despite this occasional brusque demeanor, he is a kind and principled guy who needs love to crack him open.

AUDITION SONG: "Happy Holiday/Let Yourself Go" (starting at "Happy holiday..." through "Happy holidays to you.")

PHIL DAVIS (early to mid 30s, Bari-tenor, strong dancer) – Phil is the fun-loving, go-getting comedian of the team of Wallace and Davis. He's an irrepressible clown, a great schmoozer, and an incorrigible ladies' man. He wants the best for everybody, especially if he's able to get a little something for himself along the way. Physical comedy is a plus.

AUDITION SONG: "Happy Holiday/Let Yourself Go" (starting at "Happy holiday..." and ending with "Happy holidays to you.")

BETTY HAYNES (mid to late 20s, rich chest mix with Soprano extension, must move well) – The sensible and (perhaps overly) responsible half of The Haynes Sisters song-and-dance act. While she dreams of becoming a star, she avoids stealing the spotlight all for herself. Betty is principled, strong and devoted to her younger sister. Even though she is protective, her warmth shines through when the right chords are struck.

AUDITION SONG: "Sisters" (starting at "Sisters..." through "She wore the dress and I stayed home.")

JUDY HAYNES (early 20s, chest mix, strong dancer) – The younger sister of The Haynes Sisters team. She is a schemer in her own right, in spite of (or thanks in part to) her sweet demeanor. She has a sparkle in her eye, sexy and flirt, especially when she's connecting the dots of the plan running through her head.

AUDITION SONG: "Sisters" (starting at "Sisters..." through "She wore the dress and I stayed home.")

GENERAL HENRY WAVERLY (late 50s to early 60s, aside from some basic movement and one line, this is a non-singing role) – A retired U.S. Army General, adjusting to civilian life after lengthy service in World War II. Once a powerful leader, he now runs a struggling inn in Vermont. He is a bit of a curmudgeon, but also a man of pride, principle and dignity. And he desperately wants the Army to take him back.

MARTHA WATSON (late 40s to mid 60s, clarion belt voice) – Formerly the Broadway star Martha "The Megaphone" Watson, Martha is now General Waverly's housekeeper at the inn, running his life as much as the inn itself. She is dry, wry and wisecracking but totally bighearted. An irrepressible meddler with great comic timing.

AUDITION SONG: "Let Me Sing and I'm Happy" (starting at "Let me sing..." through "can start you crying and I'm happy.")

SUSAN WAVERLY (10 to 13 years old, belt voice, must move well) – The General's granddaughter, a lovable and outgoing young lady. She is wise beyond her years and cares deeply about her grandfather. She gets bitten by the showbiz bug and proves herself the ultimate child performer.

AUDITION SONG: "Let Me Sing and I'm Happy" (Reprise) (starting at "Let me sing..." through "laughing I'm happy.")

RALPH SHELDRAKE (mid to late 30s, Baritone) – Bob and Phil's fast-talking Army buddy. He's now a major television executive with the Ed Sullivan Show.

AUDITION SONG: "The Old Man" (starting at "We'll follow the old man..." through "wherever he wants to stay.")

THE COMPANY (ALL VOCAL PARTS)

The company will be fully integrated into the show. From this team of actors, dancers and singers will emerge the following:

Rita and Rhonda (mid 20s to early 30s) – Two star chorus girls in Bob and Phil's show. Brash, sexy and fun, but not the brightest.

Ezekiel Foster (mid 50s to 60s) – The perfect specimen of a reserved New Englander, who helps out around the inn, in his own way, in his own good time.

Mike the Stage Manager (mid 20s to late 30s) – Slightly over-dramatic and completely hysterical, but he always gets the job done. He is never without his whistle and clipboard to keep things in order.

Tessie – Bob and Phil's extremely efficient assistant.

Cigarette Girl
Clubgoers and Regency Room Patrons
Train Passengers and Inn Guests
Show Chorus Performers
Train Conductor
Seamstresses
Dance Captain

AUDITION SONG: "White Christmas" (starting at "I'm dreaming of a..." through "sleigh bells in the snow." [Bob's part])