

# News from the Hall

Spring 2019

## Curtains

*Gatesinger Company Ltd. presents the musical comedy whodunnit April 5-13.*

It's the brassy, bright, and promising year of 1959. Boston's Colonial Theatre is host to the opening night performance of a new musical. When the leading lady (Lauren Maddock) mysteriously dies on stage, the entire cast and crew are suspects. Enter a local detective (Kit Hohenboken), who just happens to be a musical theatre fan!

Was it the feuding songwriting team Georgia Hendricks (Rivkah Wright) and/or Aaron Fox (Jon Wright)? Was it the almost-too-innocent ingenue Niki Harris (Autumn Pollock) or the ambitious chorine Bambi Bernet (Kate Winslow)? Maybe it was brash producer Carmen Bernstein (Bonnie Moore Krzyzanowski) or her philandering husband Sidney (Dean Johnson)?

Rounding out the list of suspects are Morgan Bates, Susan Costa, Shannon DeRose, Wyatt Doremus, Audrone Gecas, Kevin Hayes, Cirrus Hanna, Mindy Heid, Lonnie Hohenboken, Tamara Kelly, John L'Hommedieu, Mike Mulberry, Sue Mulberry, Larissa Myhowich, Caleb Nagel, Ellen Pollatta, Alec Richardson, Mackenzie G. Wood, and Steve Wood.

*Curtains* is directed by Lois Fiegl with choreography by Katrina Kaplin. A full pit band will be conducted by Andy Kittleson.

**Tickets and information at [gateshall.com](http://gateshall.com), 315-589-3326, or use the order form on page 5!**



The cast of *Curtains*



*Gates Hall, home to community theatre since 1867.*

## President's Message *To Be a Part Of.....*

John L'Hommedieu, President  
Gatesinger Board of Directors

*"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."*  
Sherry Anderson

The heartbeat of any not-for-profit organization is the people who give their time, talents, and energy to the cause of the organization. For the Gatesinger Company, the scope of that "heartbeat" goes beyond those beautiful singers and dancers on the stage, to include the wonderfully talented players of instruments that add to the grandeur of the song being performed. The heartbeat includes the folks with the steady hand that paint the scenery and sew the costume. The skilled energetic box office worker. The parents who donated their time and power tools to help secure the risers to provide a safe space for their children to fulfill their dreams.

Angela, the YouTheater cookie Mom for the past few years, Anne, Anne, Ann, and Dan, the Gatesinger reps on the Gates Hall Team. Jamie, Katrina and Nan who work hard to help others look better. Jeremy, who allows us to store set pieces in his barn, and so many others.

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# Announcing.....

2019 Summer Show

## *The Yeomen of the Guard*

*Directed by Wayne Vander Byl*

Auditions announced for this  
Gilbert & Sullivan masterpiece

Auditions for Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Yeomen of the Guard* will be held at Gates Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Monday March 25 and Thursday March 28. Anyone interested in auditioning may attend either one of the audition dates. Please come prepared to sing a song from a Gilbert & Sullivan operetta that will demonstrate your vocal range and artistry - if possible, from *The Yeomen of the Guard* and the specific role you are interested in. Please provide a copy of the score of your audition piece for the accompanist. Short script readings will be provided. Chorus members need not audition, but may join the cast by attending the first chorus rehearsal.

Many consider *The Yeomen of the Guard* to be the greatest achievement of the collaboration between William S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan. The plot involves an unjust death sentence against Col. Fairfax (tenor); treachery by Sgt. Merrill (bass), and his daughter Phoebe (soprano) and son Leonard (tenor), to free Fairfax; a mercenary wedding of Fairfax and Elsie Maynard (Soprano); a fictitious chase contrived by Wilfred Shadbolt (bass) and Jack Point (baritone); and the amorous designs of Dame Carruthers (contralto) on Sgt. Merrill. The schemes are unmasked by Carruthers' niece Kate (soprano), resulting in three uneasy marriages and the collapse of Jack Point from a broken heart.

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**Gatesinger Company, Ltd.**

**2019-2020 Season**

## ***The Yeomen of the Guard*** ***Or, The Merryman and His Maid***

Directed by Wayne Vander Byl

**July 19-21, 2019**

*Music by Arthur Sullivan*

*Lyrics by W.S. Gilbert*

YouTheatre

***Frank Loesser and***  
***Frank Burrows'***

## ***How to Succeed in*** ***Business Without*** ***Really Trying***

Directed by Karen Skerrett Smith

**November 22 - December 1, 2019**

*Book by Abe Burrows, Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert*

*Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser*

*Based upon the book by Shepherd Mead*

*Originally presented by Cy Feuer and Ernest H. Martin in*  
*Association with Frank Productions*

## ***Into the Woods***

Directed by Karen Skerrett Smith

**April 24 - May 3, 2020**

*Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim*

*Book by James Lapine*

*Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine*

## *No, No, Nanette*

### YouTheatre show wraps with high praise and great memories

On November 25, YouTheatre's *No, No, Nanette* concluded its two-weekend run at Gates Hall. The cast shares why they enjoy participating in YouTheatre.

"I always love meeting new people and getting to see old friends," says 8th grader Audrey Erwin, "and I love how accepting everyone is here at the Hall."

"I just really enjoy being surrounded by people that share my interests and make me feel like part of a group" adds sophomore Lydia Wyble.



"Being around people who are just as motivated to be there and passionate about theater" is what made *No, No, Nanette* special for newcomer and senior Shealyn Shattuck.

"I love the bonds and new friendships that are formed here at Gates Hall!!!!," says 8th grader Olivia Tarquinio.

"The best thing about being a part of a performance at Gates Hall is the friends I have made," says senior Melanie Higgins. "Everyone I work with here is super nice and I am very comfortable with them. I hope we all stay close!"

The Board of Directors would like to thank the *No, No, Nanette* production team: choreographer Jaime Akerley, director Greg Maddock, producer Dan Montondo, and music director Eric Thompson, for their time, dedication, and talent.

Thank you to set artist Tammy Buehler, set constructor Steve Mullin, and light designer Caleb Nagel. Thank you to musicians Arsen Jamkotchian, JP Record, and Scott Smith. Thank you to Dusty Hayz, Erica Hernandez, Emily Howard, Lauren Maddock, and A Magical Journey Thru Stages for your donations of props and costumes.

#### *Yeomen, continued from page 2*

The first two rehearsals for principals will be Thursdays April 4 and 11 at 7:00 p.m. The first chorus rehearsal will be Sunday April 14 at 2:00 p.m. Thereafter, regular rehearsals will be on Thursdays and Sundays with the exceptions of Easter Sunday April 21 and Independence Day July 4. Performances will be on Friday July 19 and Saturday July 20 at 8:00 p.m., and on Sunday July 21 at 3:00 p.m.

Director Wayne Vander Byl will be assisted by Marcia Sheremeta as music director/accompanist. If you have any questions about auditions or the production schedule, please contact Wayne by phone/text at 315-576-9685 or by email at [vanderbyl@rochester.rr.com](mailto:vanderbyl@rochester.rr.com)

#### *President's Message, con't from p. 1*

We ask a great deal of all of you who are involved in show production, and we need more! We need people to march in parades and carry banners, people to share their organizational skills as show producers, or to keep track of props for a show, and people to fold and label our newsletter.

Monetary donations help keep heat in the building and provide the means for another season to be staged and you'll NEVER hear us politely decline a financial donation. But the donation of time, talent and energy is priceless.

#### Want to help?

Please talk to any Gatesinger cast or crew member, or email us at [gatesinger.company.ltd@gmail.com](mailto:gatesinger.company.ltd@gmail.com)



*"The lessons I learned went far beyond the parameters of the stage. One of the many lessons that theatre has taught me is to never say never."*

## Karen Skerrett Smith

In the fall of 1976, I was a shy, uncertain teen, unknowingly seeking an outlet for the big personality that desperately wanted to break out. My brother talked me into auditioning for a play at his high school, and I landed the role of Major Margaret "Hot Lips" Houlihan in *MASH*. The director saw through my timid facade, and helped me find my inner diva. That was the beginning of a love affair with theater that has spanned over four decades.

Jump forward a few months, to the summer of '77, when my family up and moved to Williamson. It didn't take long for me to find Gates Hall and my new Gatesinger family. Before the days of YouTheatre and before there was a Board of Directors, there was David E. Cooper (a.k.a. Coop), Mary Alice Henry, Mariliz Jennerich and Nan. Many memories were made. I learned and I grew, as a performer and as a person. The lessons I learned went far beyond the parameters of the stage. One of the many lessons that theater has taught me is to never say never. I did, once upon a time. "I will NEVER direct, produce, paint sets, or sit on the Board!" Well, I have done all of those, and more!

I guess I'm not your typical candidate for a Spotlight article. I don't have a degree in theater, dance or design. I have never ventured into professional theater, but I have been content with community theater in the greater Rochester area. I love performing, and I always will. But, in my experience with the Gatesingers, I have found a greater love. Every time I direct a show, I discover something new in myself. I grow and learn and develop personally, as well as professionally. I think my greatest strength as a director is helping my actors connect with, and bring out, their characters. When all is said and done, and the show is on stage, I want to see each person's character shine through. That is my greatest satisfaction.

This fall, I will have the opportunity to direct YouTheatre once again. I am thrilled to be bringing *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* to Gates Hall! A fun and fantastic show, "H2\$" is packed with lively song and dance. For me, YouTheatre is the perfect blend of my theater experience and my career in education.

That's all for now. Check back with me in a few years. I am a work in progress. Until then...see you at the Hall!

### **Birthday Fundraiser**

Two of our members recently held Facebook fundraisers for their birthdays and raised nearly \$900 for the Gatesinger Company, Ltd. Would you like to help out in this way, too?

On the top line of Facebook, near your name, click on "Create," and then on "Fundraiser," which is at the bottom of the drop-down menu. Follow the directions step-by-step, and voila! you can ask your friends and family to give donations to the Gatesinger Company, Ltd., too!

# Curtains

## TICKET ORDER & PATRON DONATION FORM

All performances at Gates Hall, Pultneyville, NY

**ADULTS \$14.00**

**STUDENTS/SENIORS (65 and over) \$12.00**

Fri., Apr. 5<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm: # Adults = \_\_\_\_\_ # Seniors = \_\_\_\_\_ # Students = \_\_\_\_\_

Sat., Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm: # Adults = \_\_\_\_\_ # Seniors = \_\_\_\_\_ # Students = \_\_\_\_\_

Sun., Apr. 7<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 pm: # Adults = \_\_\_\_\_ # Seniors = \_\_\_\_\_ # Students = \_\_\_\_\_

Fri., Apr. 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm: # Adults = \_\_\_\_\_ # Seniors = \_\_\_\_\_ # Students = \_\_\_\_\_

Sat., Apr. 13<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 pm: # Adults = \_\_\_\_\_ # Seniors = \_\_\_\_\_ # Students = \_\_\_\_\_

Sat., Apr. 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm: # Adults = \_\_\_\_\_ # Seniors = \_\_\_\_\_ # Students = \_\_\_\_\_

### Gatesinger Patron Donations:

- Become an **In the Spotlight** contributor—you'll receive two complimentary tickets to the show of your choice.
- If you plan to see our entire season of shows, become a **Center Stage** contributor and receive two complimentary tickets to a year of Gatesinger shows

Stage Door Johnny/Jenny	Up to \$25
Starstruck	\$25 - \$99
In the Spotlight	\$100 - \$249
Center Stage	\$250 & over

(The Gatesinger Company, Ltd. is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.)

Amount of Patron Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount for Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name to** appear in patron section of program: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(All mail orders will be confirmed by phone upon receipt.)

Make checks payable to: Gatesinger Company, Ltd.

Send to: Gatesinger Company, Ltd., PO Box 95, Pultneyville, NY 14538

You can also pay by credit card by calling the box office at  
315-589-3326 or online at [www.gateshall.com](http://www.gateshall.com)

The Gatesinger Company, Ltd.  
P.O. Box 95  
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*Visit us at:*

[www.gateshall.com](http://www.gateshall.com)

and on Facebook

## 2018-19 Board of Directors

President:	John L'Hommedieu
Vice President:	Christine Nagel
Secretary:	Mackenzie G. Wood
Treasurer:	Anne Vander Byl
Members:	Gregory Maddock Steve Mullin Karen Nail
YouTheatre Liaison:	Alandra Kunz

## ***Inside:***

***2019 Spring Show***

***Curtains***

***April 5-13***

***Tickets on Sale Now!***

***Plus:***

***Summer Show Audition Information  
2019-2020 Season Announcement***