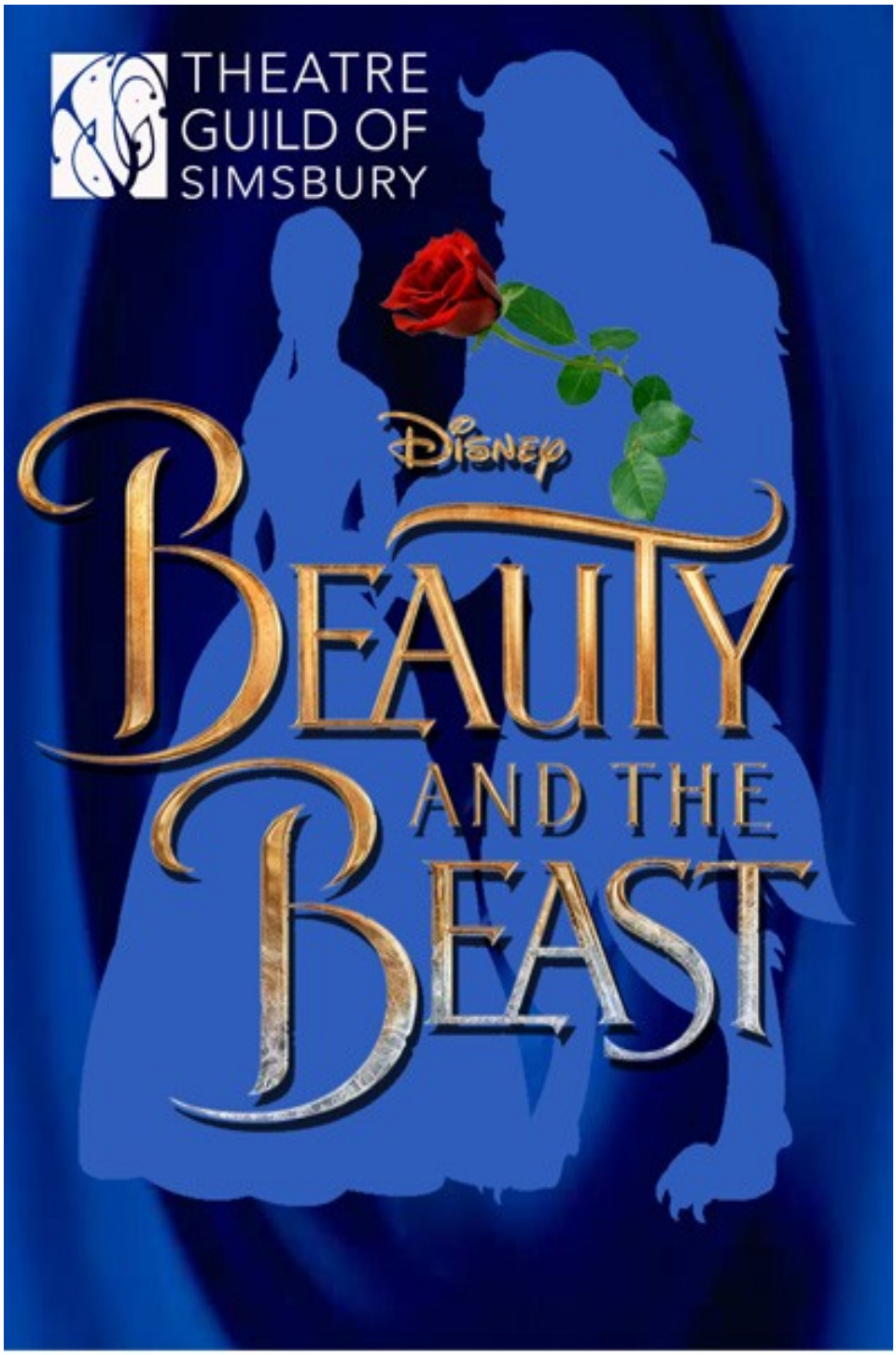

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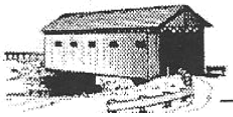

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1973	1776
1974	Kiss Me, Kate/ Rally Round The Flag
1975	The Most Happy Fella / George Washington Slept Here
1976	The Red Mill
1977	Anything Goes
1978	Kismet
1979	Hello Dolly
1980	Fiddler On The Roof
1981	Showboat
1982	Carousel
1983	Mame / The Good Doctor / Our Town
1984	Brigadoon
1985	My Fair Lady
1986	Camelot
1987	The Pajama Game
1988	Oklahoma / The Music Man
1989	Girl Crazy / The Dining Room
1990	42nd Street
1991	Me And My Girl
1992	Hello Dolly!
1993	Anything Goes / Adult Comedy
1994	Mame / An Evening Of Melodrama
1995	Best Little Whorehouse In Texas / Mother Goose O'Rama
1996	Crazy For You
1997	Will Rogers Follies
1998	George M! / An Evening Of Cabaret
1999	Fiddler On The Roof/ Cabaret 2000˜A Tribute To Frank Loesser
2000	How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying / Broadway From A-Z
2001	Sweet Charity / Broadway With A Beat Cabaret
2002	Annie Get Your Gun / Love Through The Ages Cabaret / Heart Suspended & Glory In The Flower
2003	My Fair Lady / Plaza Suite
2004	Miss Liberty / Night of January 16th
2005	Prelude To A Kiss / Cabaret / The Sound Of Music
2006	Rumors / Cabaret / The Pajama Game
2007	The Mousetrap / The Wizard Of Oz
2008	An Impeccable Larceny / Annie / Cabaret
2009	Over The River And Through The Woods / Thoroughly Modern Millie
2010	Kiss Me, Kate
2011	The Foreigner / Cabaret / Curtains
2012	Our Town / The Music Man
2013	Pride And Prejudice / 9 to 5: The Musical
2014	Almost, Maine / My Favorite Year
2015	Dearly Departed/The King and I
2016	The Dining Room

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The Bouchard Family
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DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

Disney-created stories are classics. They are stories we have all grown up with - whether it was Snow White, Cinderella, Bambi or Aladdin and the Little Mermaid. But Beauty and the Beast is one of Disney's newer classics, that was adapted from a 18th century French fable teaching us all how to see through the exterior to learn to love what is really important - the inner person.

I am very honored for the trust TGS has put in me to direct this show. My vision is to be true to the story, in part by making the audience relate to the characters as real people, not just caricatures. I am very proud of the work our entire team has accomplished through the rehearsal process. My sincere thanks goes to my production co-leads Will, Tracy, Cindy, Doreen, Michael Hunter and Dian. Last, but never least (as she knows) our stage manager, Heidi, who has been invaluable during the rehearsal process, as well as Assistant Director, Randy, who was responsible for stage combat. This is a big show that requires the best team in the area and we all are going to make TGS very proud with this production and hope you enjoy this "tale as old as time." Tally ho!

~ Jane Cerosky

ABOUT THE GUILD

Spanning over 45 years with over 70 productions, involving more than 1,000 people and audience attendance close to 100,000! This just begins to tell the story of the Theatre Guild of Simsbury (TGS)...

Community theater forges connections between people, creating a new kind of "family." Regardless of how we spend our working lives, actors, musicians, dancers and more gather to pursue our common interest in creating live theater. And that common passion creates strong bonds among people whose paths might never have crossed.

Each year TGS produces a Broadway-style musical and a play, and enriches the community with these and other performances such as staged readings and Simsbury Celebrates shows. Our entire organization is successful due to the endless hours donated by volunteers.

Looking ahead to the future, we remain committed to bringing top-quality theater productions to our community. This continues to be our mission. Anyone who has the inclination to try theater should join us! We have a membership program with activities so that we can get to know each other better. Grow with us and make new friends along the way. We welcome anyone who wants to give theater a try, either onstage, back stage or behind the scenes!

For more information visit our website: **www.theatreguildsimsbury.org** or email us at theatreguildsimsbury@gmail.com

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PRODUCTION TEAM

Artistic Director..... **Jane Cerosky**

Set Designer..... **Doreen Cohn**

Music Director ..... **Willard Minton**

Choreographer..... **Tracy Funke**

Accompanist ..... **Beckie Wallace**

Fight Director..... **Randy Ronco**

Producers..... **Donna Sennott & Anna Vdovenko**

Lighting/Sound Design ..... **Michael Hunter**

Lighting Board Operator..... **Brendan Sullivan**

Sound..... **Simsbury High School students**

Costume Design..... **Cindy Braunlich** assisted by Alicia Henry, Beth Bouchard, Renee DeSalvatore, Marilyn Rotundo, Ginny Hetherington, & Tracy Weed

Makeup..... **Cindy Braunlich** assisted by Anna Vdovenko, Diana Yeisley, Roberta Quinn, Leslie Anderson & Melissa Veale

Hair/Wig Design ..... **Joel Silvestro**

Stage Manager..... **Heidi Bengraff**

Backstage Crew..... Nate Bouchard, Marc Bouchard, Renee DeSalvatore, Michael Hall, Rebecca Pardoe & Natalie Von Achen

Graphics/Webmaster..... **Doreen Cohn**

Program Design..... **Donna Sennott & Anna Vdovenko**

Photography..... **Anna Vdovenko** assisted by Melissa Richards

Props/Set Dressing..... **Dian Pomeranz** assisted by Rick Anderson, Heidi Bengraff, Cindy Braunlich, Margaret Campbell, Doreen Cohn, Renee DeSalvatore, Richard Korfel, Jill Rendeiro, Rick Rendeiro, John Schenkman, & Anna Vdovenko

Backstage Parents..... Shannon Krieger, Beth Bouchard, Kathleen Shuster & Amy Alamar

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PRODUCTION TEAM

House Manager ..... **Kristin Pomeroy**
Assisted by Jake Scatton, Lynne Bossart, Anna Vdovenko, Haley Latorre

Party Planning ..... **Kristin Pomeroy, Tracy Funke, Deb Thaler, Jenna Levitt**

Membership ..... **Melissa Veale, Penny Carroll, Tracy Weed**

Tickets ..... **Sarah Bedell, Rick Anderson**

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ORCHESTRA

Willard Minton, Music Director

Beckie Wallace, Rehearsal Accompanist

Karen D'Angelo.....Flute, Piccolo
Shelby Ryan.....Oboe, English Horn
Ted Cowles.....Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, Flute
Eric Tunkel.....Trumpet, Piccolo Trumpet
Kevin Cornell.....Trumpet
Matt Carley.....French Horn
Emily Burch.....French Horn
Mitch Friedman .....French Horn
Peter Minton..... Trombone
Jean Conner.....Violin
Tammy Niemann .....Violin
Holly Krouse..... Violin
Constance Perna..... Violin
Bobbie Beyer.....Violin
Julie Hassler ..... Cello
Lucas Marra..... Double Bass
Jack Summers..... Percussion
Beckie Wallace..... Keyboard
John Dressel.....Keyboard
Chris Weed.....Keyboard

A NOTE FROM THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR:

Each year I am asked "Where did this orchestra come from?" or "Where will you be playing next?" The marvelous orchestra you see and hear before you, like the cast, is assembled anew each year per the requirements of the show being performed.

It is a genuine privilege to work with the Theatre Guild, one of a very few community theater groups which allows the Music Director to use the full orchestra as called for in the original score. When I asked friends and colleagues if they would join the orchestra for this production, the response was an overwhelming "Yes!" These wonderful musicians play because they love theater and they enjoy making music with other like-minded and talented people.

Illustrating beautifully the *community* of people who come together to add beauty and professionalism to our community theater organization, our orchestra includes a CNC Machinist, a Therapist, two IT Systems Engineers, a School Bus Driver, an Artist, a Physician, a Home Improvement Consultant, an IT Director, two Music Teachers (Elementary/Middle School), a Bail Commissioner, a Violin Teacher/Performer, a Town Clerk, an Accountant, and a Photographer. Our retirees include a Theatre Instructor, a Teacher, a Software Engineer, a High School Choir and Band Director, and one who states "every day is a Saturday!" I know that you will be thrilled when you hear the music that this community of musicians creates. I couldn't be prouder of these wonderful friends.

~Willard Minton

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Teddy Alamar (Ensemble) is a huge fan of the performing arts and is honored to join this production! Teddy is a 4th grader in Avon. As a Flamenco dancer, he performed in Santa Barbara's Old Spanish Days for four years and was a featured dancer at Washington DC's Atlas Performing Arts Center's Intersections Festival. Recent stage performances were TGS's *The King and I* and the FVS's *Hoax.* Teddy is dedicating his performance to his sister & brother who support him in all his adventures.

Rick Anderson (Maurice) has had the great honor of being a regular in TGS for over a dozen years now. My TGS shows are added to a long list of other shows, in fact so many, that I have begun to appear onstage with mature adults who were just children in earlier shows (including one in B&B). Daddy Warbucks will remain one of my all-time favorite roles. In this show, Maurice will be a treasured joy as well, where his warmth and non-crazy eccentricity are an interesting acting combination. To add to the happiness of being in this show, my greatest supporter, Leslie, is also in this show - break a leg, Les.

Rachel Armstrong (Ensemble) is thrilled to be joining TGS for this year's production of *Beauty and the Beast!* This is her first musical and she couldn't be happier joining for one of her favorite shows. Rachel is a dance instructor at Terpsichore Dance and Theatre and Studio A. She would like to thank her family and friends, especially Melissa and Armando for their patience and support.

Leslie Auer-Anderson (Ensemble) is happily retired in Simsbury with her very talented husband Rick (Maurice). She has been with the Simsbury Theater Guild since 2008 in roles such as Alma (*The Music Man),* a Boylan Sister *(Annie),* a Muzzy Boy *(Thoroughly Modern Millie),* a Bianca Girl *(Kiss Me Kate)* and a Maxford House Singer *(Curtains).* She loves gardening, time with her family, vegetarian cooking, walking rescue dogs, and definitely singing!

Eleanor Baillargeon (Ensemble) is excited to be making her debut with TGS in her first full musical production! Ellie has most recently appeared as Fairy Godmother in *A Hairy Tale* with her school and *Matilda* in an excerpt from Matilda with Nutmeg's Dance and Theater Company. Ellie has absolutely loved being a part of this great cast, and all that goes with performing in a show of this scale! Thank you to TGS for igniting her love for musicals with such a positive experience!

Alex Bouchard (Ensemble) is very excited to be returning to the stage for her second show with TGS! She loved being in *The King and I* as a Royal Princess last year. In addition to theatre, Alex keeps busy with lacrosse, basketball, cheerleading, singing, playing the clarinet and gymnastics. She lives in Simsbury and is currently in 6th grade. Alex looks forward to more great shows, and hopes you enjoy the production!

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Kim Campagna (Ensemble) is thrilled to be in her 8th musical with TGS. Favorite roles include a tap dancing stenographer (*Thoroughly Modern Millie)* and a Maxford House coffee cup (*My Favorite Year*). Kim is CFO & co-owner of Novare Electronics; a residential and commercial electronics business in Avon. She also is the Accounting and Payroll Manager at Swallowing Diagnostics and Blue Fox Enterprises. Kim would like to thank her wonderful family: Bill, Cassie, Max, Olivia, and her mom and dad for all of their love and support.

John Carroll (Ensemble, Fight Scene Beast) is up for his first at bat at TGS. Prior to this Beauty, he was heavily involved with 'Space Nymphos from Uranus' by Bill Arnold. For fun, he composes classical music and music for theater, in violation of the Geneva Convention.

Dana Culligan (Ensemble) is appearing in her 11th TGS production, and again, the best part is being onstage with great friends! Most recently seen as Anna in last year's production of *The King and I,* other favorites include *Curtains* (Georgia Hendricks), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Alice), and *42nd Street.* When not onstage, Dana is busy adorning others as a personal Style Mentor with adornable.u accessories. Shout out to my wonderful husband Mark, and my fellow thespians Caitlin and Ryan, all of whom I love even more than Outlander. (Yes, really!)

Kathy Dayton (Babette) is appearing in her 9th musical with TGS and considers this her home away from home. She is so excited to play the role of Babette... Ooh, la la! Kathy works as an elementary school secretary in Bristol. A special thanks to Ken, Harrison and Parker for putting up with me and listening to my French accent for the last few months whether they wanted to or not!

Mary L. deManbey (Mrs. Potts) is delighted to make her TGS debut. She's performed with Producing Guild, Little Theater Manchester, Broadbrook Opera House, Thomaston Opera House, and cites favorite roles as Bella (*Lost in Yonkers),* Sally *(Follies),* Amnesia *(Nunsense),* Desiree *(A Little Night Music),* Irene Molloy *(Hello Dolly),* Gooch *(Mame),* Mother Abbess *(Sound of Music),* and Meg *(Crimes of the Heart).* An accomplished pianist, she says her most difficult role was playing piano for *West Side Story.*

Laura Garger (Ensemble) has performed in and/or produced many TGS musicals and plays since first arriving on the Connecticut scene in 2004. Favorite TGS shows include *The Wizard of Oz, Annie, Curtains, The Music Man, 9 to 5,* and *My Favorite Year.* Laura has appeared in other theatre productions including *Working* (Kate), *Godspell* (Robin), *Sex Please, We're Sixty!* (Hilary), and *All Night Strut.* Laura made her directorial debut at FVSC with *The Guys* and will be directing *Love Letters* next year. Thanks to all friends and family who support live theater - especially my loving family, Greg, Caroline and Katherine!

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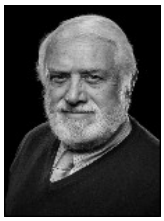
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Al Girard (LeFou) is proud to be back with TGS after portraying Benjy Stone (*My Favorite Year*). He recently was a featured performer in *Forbidden Broadway (*FVSC) and Papa Shrek/Pig/Guard/Knight in *Shrek* (LTM). Other favorite roles: Joe (*9 to 5: The Musical*), Captain Walker (*Tommy*)**,** and Charlie Brown *(You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown).* Al works as a Service Consultant at The Hartford and Choir Director at St. Mary's Church in Coventry. He serves as President of the East Hartford Summer Youth Festival. Many thanks to my mom, dad and friends for always supporting me! The greatest thing about theatre is not only performing on stage, creating characters, pleasing audiences - it is meeting new friends.

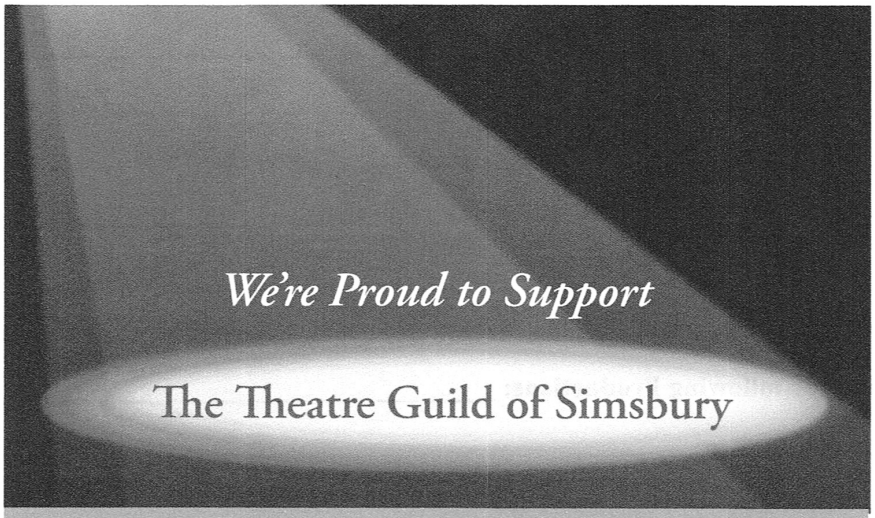
Art Hetherington (Ensemble) is a veteran of 30+ years of community theatre. This is Art's 16th show with TGS. He has also appeared with the Women's Club of Westfield, MA., the Canton Benefit Productions, Miss Porter School, the Repertory Theatre of New Britain, The Tabernacle Summer Theatre of Martha's Vineyard, as well as many church musicals. Art especially enjoys this show as it has rekindled many fond memories of earlier times.

Ginny Hetherington (Ensemble) has been performing in shows since childhood. She is a retired teacher with a love of children and the theatre. Having directed over 35 children's musicals, as well as, several adult shows, she continues to direct and produce musicals at Martha's Vineyard where she and her husband spend their summers. Her last show was *Annie, Jr.* in August. Besides several shows with TGS, she has performed with the Women's Club in Westfield, the Canton Benefit, and the Repertory Theatre of New Britain. It is a pleasure to work with such a talented cast and crew.

Noel-Marie Karvoski (Ensemble) is delighted to be a part of the talented cast and crew of *Beauty and the Beast!* Recent credits include Maud Dunlop (*The Music Man*) at Ellington Community Theatre, Sister Robert Anne (*Nunsense*) at Good Company Theatre, and Lucille (*Dearly Departed*) with TGS, Shirley Markowitz (*The Producers*) with West Hartford Community Theatre, and The Fairy Godmother (*Shrek, The Musical*) at LTM. In her spare time, Noel-Marie enjoys practicing standup comedy routines on her cats, traveling, antiquing, and making jewelry. 143 a bushel and a peck M&M, K+8. *Remember, wherever you go, there you are.*



Wilson Keithline (Ensemble) is performing in his sixth musical with TGS. These musicals together with three stage shows confirm that TGS has captured me hook, line and sinker. He invites all who read this to join our happy family and get hooked as he did. " When not busy in my law office, I find that it is an honor and a joy to be in show business."



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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Kimberly Korfel (Belle) is honored to be a part of this fantastic group for her first TGS production! By day, Kim works for McLean Care right here in town, as a therapist and instructor for the rehabilitation and wellness programs. Her passion for musicals has presented her with many opportunities over the years including studying musical theater performance at the Hartt School and working on various projects at both the community and professional levels. Returning to her home town of Simsbury, and bringing to life this beloved character, in this timeless musical has been an absolute dream! She would like to dedicate her performance to her loving husband Rich. "Without your dedication to our family, I would not be here in this role today!"

Teagan Kreiger (Chip) is 10 years old and lives in Glastonbury Connecticut. She is in 4th grade and has been performing onstage since the age of five when she was cast as little Cosette in *Les Miserables* at The Barn Playhouse in New Hampshire. She has performed in over 10 musical productions since then. Some of her favorites are *A Christmas Carol* at Hartford Stage and *Shrek* at both Colchester Community Theater and Little Theater of Manchester. She dreams of dancing, singing and acting her whole life. "Thank you for giving me the chance to be a teacup :) and enjoy the show."

Jenna Levitt (Madame de la Grande Bouche) is so excited to return to the TGS stage for this production of *Beauty and the Beast.* Favorite roles include Carmen Bernstein in *Curtains* (with TGS), Gertrude McFuzz in *Seussical*, Narrator in *Joseph* and Aldonza in *Man of La Mancha*. Jenna would like to thank the directors and TGS for the opportunity to slip into the enchanted world of *Beauty and the Beast* and release her inner opera diva! Congratulations to a wonderful cast and crew- it has been a joy to be a part of this with you all.

Mary Munsell (Ensemble) is performing in her first production with TGS, but not her first time on stage. In previous years, she has been working with the Red Door Theater on productions of *Flapper* and *Christmas Unwrapped.* She was also in the ensemble for SLOCO's Gilbert and Sullivan *ala Carte.* She's excited for her debut with TGS!

Steve O'Brien (Cogsworth) is thrilled to be back with the TGS musical family. Steve's past TGS musical roles include: Captain Von Trapp (*The Sound of Music),* The Cowardly Lion *(The Wizard of Oz),* Trevor Graydon III *(Thoroughly Modern Millie),* and Lieutenant Frank Cioffi *(Curtains).* Steve has also appeared with the TGS Studio Theater as Ray Bud *(Dearly Departed),* Doc Gibbs *(Our Town),* Ken *(Rumors*), and multiple roles in *Almost Maine.* To the wonderful cast and inspiring production team of *Beauty and the Beast*: thanks for a wild ride and great friendships! All my love to Kathryn-Ann, Liam and Rory.

CAST

Townspeople:

Belle ..... Kimberly Korfel
Gaston ..... Geoff Ruckdeschel
LeFou ..... Al Girard
Maurice ..... Rick Anderson
Monsieur D'Arque ..... Rick Rendeiro
Silly Girls ..... Taylor Tomlinson, Melissa Veale, Tracy Weed

Palace:

Beast ..... Patrick R. Spadaccino
Mrs. Potts ..... Mary deManbey
Chip ..... Teagan Krieger
Lumiere ..... Nick Parisi
Cogsworth ..... Steve O'Brien
Madame de la Grande Bouche ..... Jenna Levitt
Babette ..... Kathy Dayton
Beast (Fight Scene) ..... John Carroll

Featured Dancers:

Wolves: Rachel Armstrong, Kim Campagna, Dana Culligan, Laura Garger and Karen Sidel

Can-Can Napkins: Rachel Armstrong, Kim Campagna, Dana Culligan, Mary Munsell, Taylor Tomlinson, Melissa Veale and Tracy Weed

Company:

Teddy Alamar
Leslie Anderson
Rachel Armstrong
Eleanor Baillargeon
Alexandra Bouchard
Kim Campagna
John Carroll
Dana Culligan
Laura Garger
Art Hetherington
Ginny Hetherington
Noel-Marie Karvoski
Wilson Keithline
Mary Munsell
Ray Paquet
Roberta Quinn
Jill Rendeiro
Rick Rendeiro
Brian Rucci
Taylor Schuster
Karen Sidel
Avery Swanson
Carter Swanson
Deb Thaler
Diana Yeisley

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Overture/Prologue ..... Orchestra
Belle ..... Belle, Gaston, LeFou, Silly Girls, Company
No Matter What ..... Maurice, Belle
No Matter What (Reprise) ..... Maurice
Me ..... Gaston
Belle (Reprise) ..... Belle
Home ..... Belle
Home (Reprise) ..... Mrs. Potts
Gaston ..... LeFou, Gaston, Silly Girls, Company
Gaston (Reprise) ..... Gaston, LeFou
How Long Must This Go On? ..... Beast
Be Our Guest ..... Lumiere, Mrs. Potts, Company
If I Can't Love Her ..... Beast

ACT TWO

Entr'acte ..... Orchestra
Something There ..... Belle, Beast, Lumiere, Mrs. Potts, Cogsworth
Human Again ..... Lumiere, Mrs. Potts, Chip, Madame de la Grande Bouche, Cogsworth, Babette, Enchanted Castle
Maison Des Lunes ..... Gaston, LeFou, Monsieur D'Arque
Beauty and the Beast ..... Mrs. Potts
If I Can't Love Her ..... Beast
A Change in Me ..... Belle
The Mob Song ..... Gaston, Company
The Battle/Fight on The Tower ..... Company
Home (Reprise) ..... Belle
Transformation/Finale ..... Prince, Belle, Company

There will be one 15 minute intermission between acts.
Refreshments, Light-up Roses, and Bravo-Grams are available in the lobby.

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Ray Paquet (Ensemble) is excited to be back for a fifth season with TGS. Recent performances include *Kiss Me Kate, Curtains, 9 to 5 The Musical, and My Favorite Year.* It's wonderful to work with such a talented cast and crew.

Nick Parisi (Lumiere) has been doing musical theatre since 1972, where he was featured singing the Sammy Davis Jr. version of *The Candy Man* in that memorable production called *Cowboy on the Moon.* He has a passion for bringing this art form to life. He's appeared in too many shows to mention (musical and otherwise). Some of his favorites include *Guys and Dolls* (Nicely Johnson), *West Side Story* (Arab), and *The Foreigner* (Ellard Sims). He is thrilled to be playing Lumiere – especially since this is the first show his grandson will see his 'Pops' performing. "I am so happy to be at an age in my life where character roles can be plentiful - they are a blast to perform! I believe that God gives you a talent and expects you to use it and shine. What a wonderful picture that statement portrays, especially for a character that is a candlestick!"

Roberta Quinn (Ensemble) has appeared on stage recently in a lead role with the Farmington Valley Stage in *Hoax* as the uber-conservative southern Senator Lucinda Henderson. She has also appeared with TGS as Lady Catherine DuBourgh in *Pride and Prejudice,* a trio singer in *Thoroughly Modern Millie,* in *My Favorite Year,* and *Curtains.* She is a senior counsel specializing in design and construction law. Roberta thanks her wonderful husband, Bill, a fab singer and actor.

Jill Rendeiro (Ensemble) is delighted to step out of her comfort zone and into the ensemble of *Beauty and the Beast* for her very first show! She would like to thank her husband Rick (Monsieur D'Arque) and her many friends, both old and new, among the cast for their encouragement and support. She also thanks Tracy, Will, and Jane for their patience with a total novice. Jill is an attorney with the firm of Brenner, Saltzman & Wallman, LLP in New Haven, and is the proud mother of three grown children, Chris, Greg and Caroline.

Rick Rendeiro (Monsieur D'Arque) is excited to be back with TGS and thanks Jane, Tracy and Will for their help. This is Rick's 3rd production with TGS; he was Morning Woody in *9 to 5 The Musical* and The Choreographer in *My Favorite Year.* He performed in the Simsbury Historical Society's Cemetery Walk (John Chester Eno). He is excited to have his wife Jill join him in the cast; they live in Avon and have three lovely adult children. Rick is a partner of Kroll, McNamara, Evans & Delehanty, LLP and thanks his partners for their bemused support. He invites everybody to come over to the D'Arque Side.

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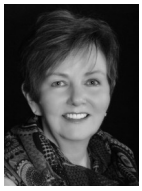
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Brian Rucci (Ensemble) was last seen with Theatre Guild of Simsbury as King Kaiser in *My Favorite Year.* He has also been involved with other area theaters including Little Theatre of Manchester, Suffield Players, and Opera House Players (Broad Brook). Favorite roles include: Lord Farquaad (*Shrek*), Lawrence (*Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*), Harold Hill (*The Music Man*), Fred/Petruchio (*Kiss Me, Kate*), Ellard (*The Foreigner*), and Fredrick (*Noises Off*). When not performing, Brian is an actuary at Travelers. He thanks his wife, Amy, and their children, Emma, Lizzy, and Jonathan, for their love and support.

Geoff Ruckdeschel (Gaston) is excited to be performing again with the TGS family and is especially honored to be cast in his first principle role! He has appeared with TGS as Scungilli (*My Favorite Year)* and Dwayne *(9 to 5 The Musical).* Geoff has been active in various productions including the Warner Theater in his hometown of Torrington in *Rock of Ages* and *Nice Work if You Can Get It.* An Account Executive for UPS, he also enjoys his most important role, being "Uncle Geoff" to his five beautiful nieces and nephews. Geoff is grateful for the tremendous support from his family, customers and friends from Windsor Locks. Thank you to Jane, Tracy and Will for trusting me to create this character and to Randy for all your help. To the cast, it has been a wonderful experience - no one loves this cast like Gaston! Special thanks to C.

Taylor Schuster (Ensemble) loves to perform for her family and friends, and is so excited to be a part of *Beauty and the Beast*! Taylor had the time of her life in her stage debut in TGS's *The King and I* last fall. Taylor is a fifth grader at Tariffville School who, in addition to acting, loves to play soccer, swim, ski, and play with her friends. Taylor also plays the violin and is starting to play the clarinet, and is an avid animal lover. She loves to attend TGS rehearsals and is so excited to be a part of this performance!



Karen Sidel (Ensemble) has been actively involved with TGS since 2003–acting, directing, and serving on the Board. Fav roles include Jessica Cranshaw in *Curtains,* Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit,* Eleanor in *The Lion in Winter,* and Auntie Em in *The Wizard of Oz.* She's having fun being part of this terrific show. Thanks and love to Barry for putting up with my need to do this.

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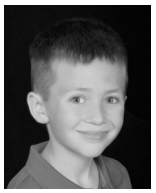
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Patrick R. Spadaccino (the Beast/Prince) has participated in theatre all his life. He's played roles in shows like *The Sound of Music, My Fair Lady,* and *The King and I.* He also wrote, directed and played the title role in a stage adaptation of Scrooge, which raised money for local food banks. *Beauty and the Beast* is his fourth show with TGS. When he's not performing, Patrick designs websites, is writing his second novel, enjoys photography, and takes long walks with his dog, Jovie. Patrick thanks his wife Natalie for her constant encouragement, his friends and family for attending this production, and TGS for all the great memories.

Avery Swanson (Ensemble) After her debut as a princess of Siam in *The King and I* last year, Avery is returning to the stage as the youngest member of the *Beauty and the Beast* cast. In a few weeks, she'll be risen from the dead as part of *The Gift* musical at Valley Community Baptist Church in Avon, CT. Besides acting, Avery enjoys art, swimming, skiing, is a high red belt in Taekwondo, and on the gymnastics team.

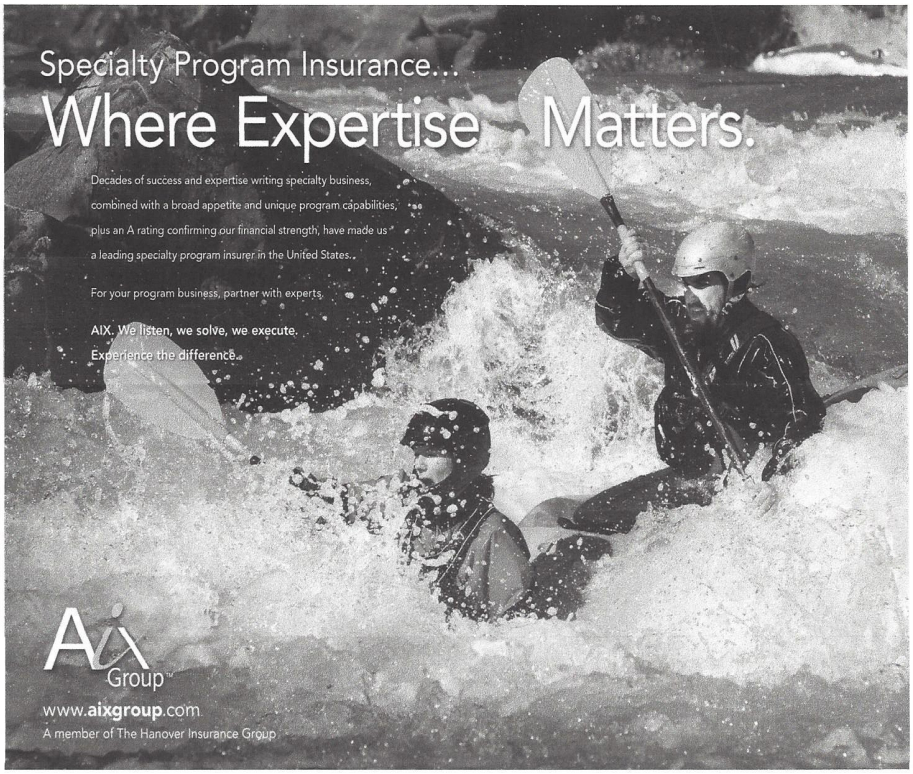


Carter Swanson (Ensemble) *Beauty and the Beast* is Carter's second TGS production; last year he played a prince and also Buddha in *The King and I.* He'll also be appearing as a shepherd boy and in the king's entourage of *The Gift* taking place at Valley Community Baptist Church in December. When not on stage, Carter can be found doing gymnastics, Taekwondo, snow/ water sports, and on the boys' gymnastics team.

Taylor Tomlinson (Silly Girl) is excited to be back on the TGS stage for the second time after playing an orphan in TGS's *Annie,*10 years ago! Since then, Taylor has continued to sing her heart out in acapella groups. Her favorites including *Cape Harmony*, Cape Cod's professional female acapella group, and *The Sweetest Key*, right here in CT. Taylor is a 9th grade Literature teacher at Achievement First in Hartford, and wants to give a shout out to all her students, as well as her friends and family for their love and support!

Deb Thaler (Ensemble) is thrilled to be returning to TGS for *Beauty and The Beast.* Last seen at TGS in *Pajama Game* as Mae and in the ensemble of *The Wizard of Oz.* Deb has been featured in New Britain as Yente (*Fiddler)* and more recently in the ensemble of *Company* at LTM and the staged reading of Jacque LeMarre's new play Honey LaBrea - The Lonely Thetan, as the evil Maggie at Playhouse on Park in West Hartford. Thanks to Jane and Tracy for this great opportunity.

Melissa Veale (Silly Girl) is thrilled to be on the stage again with TGS! Melissa is an attorney in New Britain by day, but her real passion is theater! This real life "Silly Girl" wants to send out a special thanks to her biggest fans: her husband, Andrew and her dog, Phoebe. *C'est la vie!*



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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Tracy Weed (Silly Girl) has been with TGS for 15 years, taking on every possible role except tech crew! She currently serves as co-chair on the Membership Committee. She has waited a very long time to be in her beloved *Beauty and the Beast*, and she's delighted to share the experience with her husband, Chris, on keyboard in the pit. In her off-stage time, she is owner of both TWeed Photography and The Tiny Wren, her handmade, vintage-inspired jewelry line.

Diana Yeisley (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back on stage and part of the enchanting cast of *Beauty and the Beast*. Diana made her TGS debut as a singing wife in *The King and I*. She is enjoying her new role on the TGS Board and has been involved in many productions, including *The Music Man* and award-winning *The Lion King Jr.* at HJMS. She has directed several youth productions and has headlined in two vocal showcases at The Palace Theater. She loves performing and thanks her husband, Jonathan, and children, Carter and Sarah, for supporting her and her love of music and theatre.

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DIRECTORS & PRODUCTION

Jane Cerosky (Artistic Director) Jane has performed and directed in the Hartford area for over 25 years. Directing credits include: *The Producers, Nunsense, Anything Goes* (at Little Theatre of Manchester) as well as *Chicago, Secret Garden, Kiss Me, Kate, Oklahoma!,* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* for Manchester Musical Players. Acting credits include Joanne in *Company* (LTM), Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* (LTM), Sister Hubert in *Nunsense,* (Suffield Players) Sarah in *No Way to Treat a Lady* (LTM), Carrie in *Carousel (MMP),* and Princess Puffer *in The Mystery of Edwin Drood (MMP).* Jane currently lives in Glastonbury with her husband Gregg and is also a board member of the CT Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and President of the Hartford chapter of the Providence College Alumni Association.

Willard Minton (Music Director) has been making music with TGS since 1982. He played in the pit for many years and since 2001 has been privileged to serve as Music Director. A retired HS Choir and Band Director, Will currently directs a church choir in Winsted and the Harmonious Brass Choir. He also plays in the Capitol Winds at UHart and the Thomaston Jazz Orchestra. He and his wife, Patty, live in Barkhamsted. They have three children and eight grandchildren. Will is thrilled to have his son playing in the orchestra for this show and he extends a large THANK YOU to the cast, crew, orchestra, rehearsal accompanist Beckie Wallace, the entire Simsbury High School staff and the rest of the TGS production personnel for their wonderful work to bring this beautiful production of *Beauty and the Beast* to the TGS audience.

Tracy Funke (Choreographer) is thrilled to be a part of such an amazing cast and creative team. You may have seen Tracy onstage with TGS in such roles as Miss Dorothy in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Katherine/Lilly Vanessi in *Kiss Me Kate*, Alice in *My Favorite Year*, among others. Tracy is excited to be switching up roles from performer to choreographer this year, and is thankful to the cast for all of their hard work on this "beast" of a show. Tracy can be seen performing and choreographing in several CT theaters and schools, and is thankful she gets to do what she loves with amazing friends, teachers, and performers.

Heidi Bengraff (Stage Manager) first joined TGS in 1990 as a tapper in *42nd Street* and has worked on- or back-stage in most fall productions ever since. She brings years of theater experience working with numerous youth and adult groups in the Hartford area including the MMP, LTM, Montage Theater, Simsbury Summer Theater, FVSC stage managing and producing. Heidi also studied voice and dance, performing in the chorus of MMP and TGS productions. She is delighted to be back working with Jane, Tracy, Will and the talented production team and cast of B&TB, and thanks Bill for his continued love and support.

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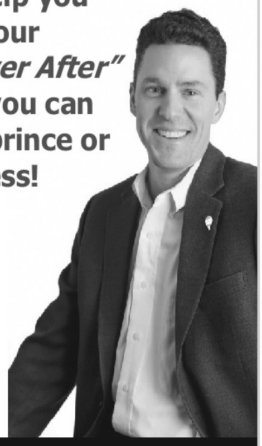

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DIRECTORS & PRODUCTION

Doreen A. Cohn (Set Designer) has been involved with TGS for over 25 years onstage, as well as behind the scenes. From director and set designer to her current position as vice president, TGS has always been her "theater home." Retired from the Avon Public Schools, Doreen is now the Executive Director for the Farmington Valley Stage Company in Collinsville, CT. She has taught theater, designed sets, and directed productions for numerous school systems, organizations, and community theater groups, including TGS, Ethel Walker School, SST, the New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain Rep, Canton Benefit, CIGNA Theater, Bloomfield Youth Theater, as well as for Avon, Simsbury and Canton High Schools.

Randy Ronco (Fight Direction) Typically seen on stage, Randy is delighted to be supporting TGS from a technical perspective on this production. He has had the pleasure of training in stage combat with David Leong and served as Artistic Director for Montage Theater Company for 11 years.

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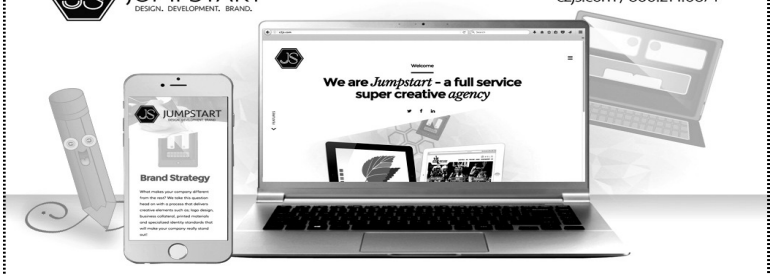

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DIRECTORS & PRODUCTION

Joel Silvestro (Wig and Hair Design) is back for his 8th show with TGS, having previously designed hair and wigs for *9 to 5: The Musical* , *My Favorite Year,* and *The King and I.* Joel has worked with various theater groups throughout Connecticut, including Ivoryton Playhouse, Hole in the Wall Theater, Cheney Hall, LTM and local high schools. Joel has his own salon, Joel's of Kensington.

Beckie Wallace (Accompanist) has played the piano for numerous musical productions and is thrilled to be making her debut with the Theatre Guild of Simsbury. Beckie is a music educator who spent many years teaching choral music at Daniel Hand High School in Madison, CT. Currently she enjoys running her photography business, Tilley & Rose Photography, and teaching private voice and piano lessons. She and her husband Chris live in Torrington with their three beautiful daughters. She would like to thank musical director Will Minton and the rest of the TGS company for making this one of the best theatrical experiences she has ever had the privilege to be a part of!

DIRECTORS & PRODUCTION

Cindy Braunlich (Costume Design) has been a costume designer for community theatre and high school groups in Connecticut and New Jersey for over 13 years. Her theater involvement began with a call from her Church Music Director asking her to chaperone a high school tour of *Once On This Island*, and "Oh by the way, would you like to do costumes?" She was hooked. This is Cindy's sixth musical with TGS. She's excited to work with this great cast and crew. She also works as costume designer for FVSC and has also worked with Avon Summer Theatre, Canton and Avon High Schools. Cindy has also been known to dabble in hair, make-up, props and set dressing on rare occasions. Thanks to my family for supporting me in my "other job."

Dian Pomeranz (Set Dressing/Props) Dian enjoys working behind the scenes to help create the magic that happens on stage. She has chaired the Props and Set Dressing Committees for a variety of productions, designed sets and promotional materials for TGS studio and musical productions and worked as assistant director for TGS's *The Foreigner*, *Our Town* and *Dearly Departed*. Dian also has enjoyed being on stage as a member of the musical ensemble casts from *The Wizard of Oz* to *9 to 5: The Musical*. Most recently, she has also dressed sets for the Farmington Valley Stage Company in Collinsville.

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The Heidi Chronicles	Westfield Theatre Group	Oct 14 - 29
Little Women the Musical	Exit 7 Players	Oct 21 - Nov 6
Pirates of Penzance	Wilbraham United Players	Oct 28 - Nov 6
Unnecessary Farce	Playhouse on Park	Nov 2 - 20
Oklahoma	Little Theatre of Manchester	Nov 4 - 20
Beauty and the Beast	Warner Stage	Nov 5 - 13
Beauty and the Beast	West Hartford Comm. Theater	Nov 11 - 20
Ruddigore	Valley Light Opera	Nov 11 - 20
Beauty and the Beast	Theatre Guild of Simsbury	Nov 12 - 20
Beauty and the Beast	St. Michael's Players	Nov 17 - 20
My Fair Lady	Opera House Players	Nov 11 - 27
Christmas Twist	Suffield Players	Dec 2 - 4
The Gift of the Magi	Westfield Theatre Group	Dec 2 - 10
Christmas Carol: Concert	Exit 7 Players	Dec 9 - 18
Charlie Brown Xmas	Warner Stage	Dec 10 - 18
[title of show]	Playhouse on Park	Jan 11 - 29
Shrek	Amherst Leisure Services	Jan 12 - 22
Tommy	Warner Stage	Feb 4 - 12
5 Women Wearing .. Same Dress	Suffield Players	Feb 9 - 25
Steel Magnolias	Exit 7 Players	Feb 10 - 19
The Robber Bridegroom	Opera House Players	Feb 10 - 26
A Moon for the Misbegotten	Playhouse on Park	Feb 15 - Mar 5

Amherst Leisure Services Community Theater (Amherst, MA)	www.alsct.org
Exit 7 Players (Ludlow, MA)	exit7players.org
Farmington Valley Stage Company (Canton, CT)	fvstage.org
Good Company Theater (Granby, CT)	goodcompanytheaterct.org
Hole in the Wall Theater (New Britain, CT)	hitw.org
Little Theatre of Manchester (Manchester, CT)	cheneyhall.org
Opera House Players (Broad Brook, CT)	operahouseplayers.org
Panache Productions (Springfield, MA)	panachecitystage.com
Playhouse on Park (West Hartford, CT)	playhouseonpark.org
Somers Village Players (Somers, CT)	somersvillageplayers.org
Suffield Players (Suffield, CT)	suffieldplayers.org
St. Michaels Players (East Longmeadow, MA)	stmichaelsplayers.wix.com/stmichaelsplayers
Theatre Guild of Hampden (Hampden, MA)	theatreguildofhampden.org
Theatre Guild of Simsbury (Simsbury, CT)	theatreguildsimsbury.org
Unity House Players (Springfield, MA)	uuspringfield.org
Valley Light Opera (Northampton, MA)	vlo.org
Warner Stage (Torrington, CT)	warnertheatre.org
Westfield Theatre Group (Westfield, MA)	westfieldtheatregroup.com
West Hartford Community Theater (West Hartford, CT)	whtheater.org
Wilbraham United Players (Wilbraham, MA)	wilbrahamunitedplayers.com

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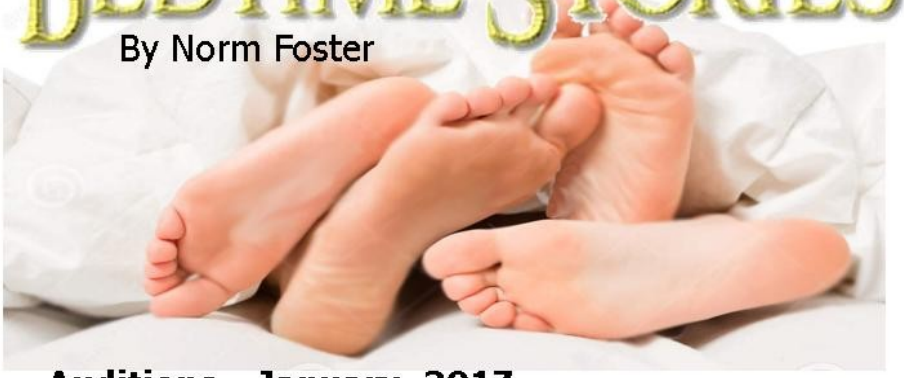

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