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# The King and I



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Music by **RICHARD RODGERS**                      Book and Lyrics by **OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II**

Based on "Anna and the King of Siam" by Margaret Landon

Original Choreography by Jerome Robbins

### **The King and I**

is presented through special arrangement with R & H Theatricals: [www.rnh.com](http://www.rnh.com)

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**Artistic Director** — Doreen Cohn

**Musical Director** — Willard Minton

**Technical Director / Sound Design** — Ken Jones

**Lighting Design** — Wes Baldwin

**Choreographer** — Terry Rowe

**Set Design** — Doreen Cohn / Ken Jones

**Costume Design** — Cindy Braunlich

**Assistant Director** — Karen Sidel

**Accompanist** — Carol Yachanian

**Props / Set Dressing** — Dian Pomeranz

**Stage Manager** — Karen Sidel

**Producer** — Doreen Cohn / Karen Sidel

## PREVIOUS PRODUCTIONS

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

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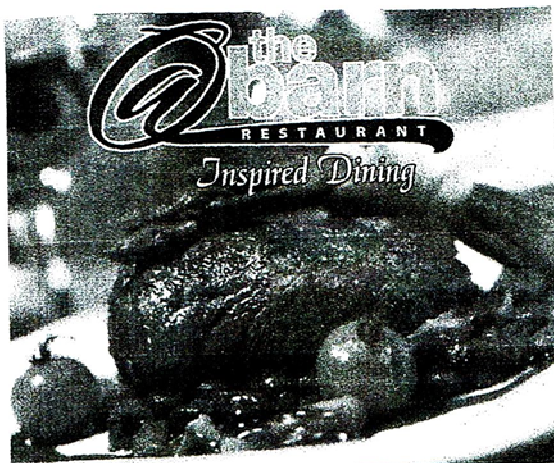
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10:00 PM to closing

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

*The King and I* is the fifth musical by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II. It is based on the 1944 novel *Anna and the King of Siam* by Margaret Landon, which is in turn derived from the memoirs of Anna Leonowens, governess to the children of King Mongkut of Siam in the early 1860s.



In 1950, veteran leading lady Gertrude Lawrence approached Rodgers and Hammerstein about writing a musical for her, based on Margaret Landon's book. At first they were reluctant. Unlike their previous musicals, this was a story in which no love interest involved the two leading characters, and which ends with the death of the hero.

Rex Harrison was their first choice to play the King, a role that he had played in the 1946 film made from Landon's book, but he was unavailable. They settled on the young actor Yul Brynner, which turned out to be a perfect choice. The musical premiered on March 29, 1951, at Broadway's St. James Theatre. It ran nearly three years, then the fourth longest-running Broadway musical in history.

The musical was an immediate hit, winning Tony Awards for Best Musical, Best Actress (for Lawrence) and Best Featured Actor (for Brynner). A hit London run and U.S. national tour followed, together with a 1956 film for which Brynner won an Academy Award. Brynner came to dominate his role, starring in a four-year national tour culminating in a 1985 Broadway run shortly before his death. Additional revivals on Broadway (1996, 2015) also won Tony Awards.

It is clear that Rodgers and Hammerstein met their challenge without equivocations. They created a picture of the East with dignity, and without resorting to any of the clichés previously portraying the Orient in musical theater. Controversial from the start, this story nevertheless continues to thrive: contrasting old and new, East and West, patriarchy with women's rights, freedom and slavery, fact mixed with exaggeration or even fiction.

And now, we proudly bring the story to you.

~ Doreen Cohn, Director

## **ABOUT THE GUILD**

Spanning over forty 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.

Community theater forges connections between people. Actors and tech people get involved, giving them an outlet for talents that otherwise get to shine only after work, after school, after they put the kids to bed. For most of us, theater is something we do AFTER we do our regular activities. Audiences get involved because they have a connection with someone in the show. Then they come back because they liked what they saw the first time. Those who support us through business and personal patronage understand that TGS provides a valuable community service that's worth nurturing. We thank you all for participating in the life and growth of TGS over the years. We couldn't do it without you.

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! Grow with us and make new friends along the way. We welcome anyone who wants to give theater a try, either onstage or backstage.

For more information check out our website: [www.theatreguildsimsbury.org](http://www.theatreguildsimsbury.org) or call us at 860.658.0666.

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## CAST

### In order of appearance

Captain Orton.....	Wilson Keithline
Louis Leonowens.....	Declan Smith
Anna Leonowens.....	Dana Culligan
The Interpreter.....	Charles Schoenfeld
The Kralahome.....	John Hampton
The King.....	Patrick R. Spadaccino
Lun Tha.....	James Gagne
Tuptim.....	Katie Stodd Knapp
Lady Thiang.....	Basema Hamied
Prince Chulalongkorn.....	Charlie Uthgenannt
Princess Ying Yaowalak.....	Yumeko S. Stern
Sir Edward Ramsey.....	Charles Schoenfeld
Fan Dancer.....	Nicole Marie
Deck Hands, Priests, Guards.....	Wilson Keithline, Richard R. Lavieri, John Schenkman

### Small House of Uncle Thomas Ballet

Eliza.....	Kathy Dayton
George.....	Kim Campagne
Simon of Legree.....	Terri Schulman
Little Eva.....	Yumeko S. Stern
Topsy.....	Melissa Veale
Uncle Thomas.....	Nicole Marie
Royal Dancer.....	Margaret Afheldt
Royal Dancer.....	Jacquelyn Chase

### Royal Wives (\*Royal Dancers)

Margaret Afheldt\*  
 Keira Brown  
 Margaret Campbell  
 Kim Campagna\*  
 Jacquelyn Chase\*  
 Kathy Dayton\*  
 Nicole Marie\*  
 Meena Rajesh  
 Melissa Richards  
 Gretchen Sausville  
 Terri Schulman\*  
 Lalitha Shivaswamy  
 Melissa Veale\*  
 Diana Yeisley

### Royal Children

Teddy Alamar  
 Alexandra Bouchard  
 Franklin Brown  
 Frances Caley  
 Nannette L. Chatman  
 Savoy McMahon  
 Lily Richards  
 Taylor Schuster  
 Leila Schoenfeld  
 Ava Shiman  
 Yumeko S. Stern  
 Avery Swanson  
 Carter Swanson  
 Carmine A. Trovato  
 Jenna VanRyn

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Artistic Director .....	Doreen Cohn
Technical Director .....	Ken Jones
Music Director .....	Willard Minton
Choreographer .....	Terry Rowe
Accompanist .....	Carol Yachanin
Assistant Director .....	Karen Sidel
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Set Construction .....	John Carroll/Rick Anderson
Lighting Design .....	Wes Baldwin
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Program Design .....	Karen Sidel
Photography .....	Anne Zuckerman-Vdovenko, Beth Bouchard



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## ORCHESTRA

Willard Minton, Music Director  
Carol Yachanin, Rehearsal Accompanist

Karen D'Angelo	Flute
Patricia Minton	Flute, Piccolo
Shelby Ryan	Oboe, English Horn
Weston Boyd	Clarinet
Al Kennedy	Clarinet
Ted Cowles	Clarinet, Bass Clarinet
Alicia Simonetti-Shpur	Bassoon
Eric Tunkel	Trumpet
Kevin Cornell	Trumpet
David Carpenter	Trumpet
Matt Carley	French Horn
Emily Burch	French Horn
Mitch Friedman	French Horn
William Kirkwood	Trombone
Peter Minton	Trombone, Tuba
Jean Conner	Violin
Tammy Niemann	Violin
Holly Krouse	Violin
Constance Perna	Violin
Roberta Beyer	Violin
Rob Lindauer	Viola
Nancy Najarian	Viola
Julie Hassler	Cello
Lucas Marra	Double Bass
Jack Summers	Percussion
Carol Yachanin	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. “The King & I” orchestra is one of symphonic proportions, and this evening we play the same Robert Russell Bennett orchestration that was played opening night on Broadway on March 29, 1951.

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 School Bus Driver, a Certified Financial Planner, a CNC Machinist, a Bail Commissioner, a Therapist/Paraprofessional, an Assistant Town Clerk, an IT Systems Engineer, a Free-lance Violinist, a Nephrologist & Internist, an Energy Improvement Consultant, a Graphic Artist, an Accountant, an IT Engineer, four Music Educators (elementary and middle school vocal, instrumental and general music), and an Insurance Agency Risk Manager. Our Retirees include an Accounting Assistant, an IBM Consultant, a Physician Assistant, a Software Development Engineer, a Sales Recruiter, a Teacher, a Security Consultant, a High School Music Teacher, and a Financial Analyst who now drives for Middlewood of Farmington.

I could not be prouder of these friends. Enjoy the show!

~Willard Minton

**ALEX--CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR STAGE DEBUT!**

We are so proud of you! ❤️ Love, Dad, Mom & Nate

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Margaret Afheldt (Royal Wife/Dancer)** is thrilled to be a part of her second musical with TGS, *The King and I*, surrounded by talented people both big and small. She loved being up on stage and working with a great community of people last fall, in the production of *My Favorite Year*. Margaret trained as a physical therapist and fitness instructor, but has always enjoyed theatre, dance, music and fine arts.



**Teddy Alamar (Royal Prince)** is a huge fan of the dramatic and performing arts and is excited to join TGS for his CT debut! Teddy is a third-grade student at Roaring Brook School in Avon. As a Flamenco dancer, he performed in Santa Barbara's Old Spanish Days for three years in a row and was a featured dancer at Washington DC's Atlas Performing Arts Center's Intersections Festival. Teddy is dedicating his performance to his grandparents who often take him to live theatre and are supporting him in this adventure.



**Alexandra Bouchard (Royal Princess)** This is Alex's first performance with TGS, and her first time on a big stage, but she has previously starred as the First Little Pig in her summer camp production of *The Three Little Pigs*. When she is not on stage, she enjoys gymnastics, cheerleading and lacrosse. She spent two years dancing with New England Dance. She currently lives in Simsbury with her parents and brother. She'd like to thank her family for their love and support.



**Franklin Brown (Royal Prince)** is eight years old and is excited to be in his first musical! He lives in Simsbury with his father, little brother, and his mother who is also in *The King and I*. He has taken three theater classes and enjoys being in the Two Coyotes Nature Program at Holcomb Farm.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Keira Brown (Royal Wife/Singer)** performs several shows daily at Tariffville Elementary School, where she teaches young musicians to perform, understand, and enjoy the arts. *The King and I* is Keira's first theater experience since appearing in *South Pacific* in high school, and she is excited to be working with the people of TGS. Keira lives with her husband and sons in Tariffville.



**Frances Caley (Royal Princess)** Frances is excited to be returning to musical theater after participating in local productions of *Annie* and *Oliver* in recent years. When not in school in the fifth grade in Granby, she can be found upside down around the house or at gymnastics practice where she is a member of the Level Four team at Whip City Gymnastics.



**Kim Campagna (Royal Wife/Dancer)** Kim is thrilled to be in another show with TGS. Previously Kim appeared as a dancer and ensemble member in *My Favorite Year*, *9 to 5*, *The Music Man*, *Curtains*, *Kiss Me, Kate*, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Kim is CFO and co-owner of Novare Electronics, LLC, a residential and commercial electronics business in Avon. She also is the Accounting and Payroll Manager at AllStar Therapy, LLC in Avon. Kim would like to thank her wonderful family: Bill, Cassie, Max and Olivia for all of their love and support.



**Margaret Campbell (Royal Wife)** This is Margaret's first journey, hopefully among many more, with TGS. An RN, former Professional Women's Football player, and ranch owner, Margaret appeared last winter as "Robin" in *The Memory Palace* with the Good Company Theater in Granby. Her other credits include *The Pajama Game* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. She is also proud to be part of the "flight team" that flew the kids in the Good Company Theater /Granby Memorial High School production of *Peter Pan*. "I am very grateful to Doreen for this 'royal' opportunity!" As well, thank you to Iris for giving me the wings to do this show.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Jacquelyn Chase (Royal Wife)** This is Jackie's first appearance on the TGS Stage! Her other theatre experiences include *Godspell*, *Our Town*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Footloose*, and her favorite role as Mary Warren in *The Crucible*. When she's not doing theatre, Jackie enjoys playing soccer, skiing, and attempting to speak Chinese.



**Nannette Chatman (Royal Princess)** Nanette is in the sixth grade at Thompson Brook School in Avon. She has acted in commercials and been in two other productions at school—*Little Mermaid, Jr.* and *Aladdin, Jr.* Nanette sings in the Connecticut Children's Choir, and has also been playing the violin since first grade. "I'm happy to be a part of this musical because I can get more theater experience. When I grow up, I either want to be a fashion designer or a veterinarian because I love animals, especially my dog, Lizzie."



**Dana Culligan (Anna)** Dana began her TGS career tapping in the dance corps of our 1990 production of *42nd Street*. Favorite shows include *Curtains* (Georgia Hendricks) and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Alice). Playing the role of Anna is a great honor and a dream come true. Heartfelt thanks go out to this very talented cast and stage crew. (Special shout-outs to Cindy, costumer extraordinaire, and her right-hand-man Chris, for all the fun of letting me play dress-up!) When not onstage in a large skirt, Dana can be found adorning others as a founding Style Mentor with adornable.u accessories. To Mark, Caitlin and Ryan: this experience wouldn't be possible without your love, support and inspiration. Thanks for being you, and for letting me be me!

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Kathy Dayton (Royal Wife/Dancer)** Kathy is always excited to be on stage with TGS...it's her home away from home. Favorite roles include Bambi in *Curtains* and a tap-dancing stenographer in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. She is a secretary in two elementary schools in Bristol. She thanks her wonderful family for allowing her to just be "Kathy" during rehearsals and show time!



**James Gagne (Lun Tha)** Jamie owes all this to Melissa Veale, who "encouraged" him to join the cast over drinks after a softball game, and he is super thrilled to be here! He was also thrilled to discover that his seventh grade math teacher who failed him on his math project is also part of this production! This is his first performance since his stage debut as Gus the Theater Cat at Canton Elementary School when he was eight years old. In his spare time, he enjoys sqwerking to Tom Jones, which is a combination of twerking while shooting a squirt gun. He is also an avid collector of My Little Pony and Jem and the Holograms. And the rest is history...



**Basema Hamied (Lady Thiang)** Basema is excited to appear in her first production with the Theatre Guild of Simsbury. She has appeared in many shows, including *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (Hedy LaRue), *Guys and Dolls* (Sarah Brown), *High School Musical* (Sharpay), *Pirates of Penzance*, *The Hobbit*, LTM's Musical Review of 2012 and more. Basema has also studied with The Hartford Stage and participated in the yearly Actor's Showcase, performing in plays such as *Blackbird* and *Wolfman*. When not rehearsing or performing, she is a singer/songwriter who records original pieces and is also an artist and tattoo designer.



## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**John Hampton (Kralahome)** John is a life-long resident of Simsbury, born and raised in Tariffville. He attended Tariffville School, St. Mary's School and Northwest Catholic High School, graduating from the University of Hartford. Growing up in a musical household of seven children, John played piano, cello and studied voice, performing in a number of plays and musicals in high school. His favorite role was that of Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha*. This is John's second performance with the Theatre Guild, having appeared in *9 to 5: The Musical* in 2013. When not acting as Siam's Prime Minister, you can find John at the State Capitol in Hartford serving as Simsbury's State Representative.



**Wilson Keithline (Captain Orton)** This is my fifth musical with TGS. These musicals together with three stage shows confirm that TGS has captured me hook, line and sinker. I invite all who read this to join our happy family; but I caution you, if you do so you will also likely get hooked as I did. When not busy in my law office, I find that it is an honor and a joy to be in show business.



**Katie Stodd Knapp (Tuptim)** is proud to make her debut with TGS! Most recently, she appeared as "Meredith" in Farmington Valley Stage Company's *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*. Before moving to CT, she worked as a performer and musical director regionally and in New York City, with companies such as The National Theatre for Children, Troupe America, and The Public Theater. Favorite roles include Maria (*West Side Story*), Hodel (*Fiddler on the Roof*), and Trinculo (*The Tempest*). Offstage, you can find her behind the piano at the Newington Children's Theatre Company, and at South Windsor High School teaching English.



**Richard R. Lavieri (Royal Priest)** is an attorney practicing and living in Winsted. This is Richard's first appearance with TGS; however, he has been in many community theater productions over the years, including *South Pacific*, *1776*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Annie* and *Evita* with The Pleasant Valley Players, and *Funny Girl* with The Canton Players. After a 30-year hiatus, Richard most recently appeared in the Warner Stage's production of *Hello Dolly*. Richard has three grown children and two young grandsons who keep life exciting.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Nicole Marie (Royal Wife/Dancer)** Nicole has loved dance, especially tap, all her life and has a history of performing in a variety of choreography showcases in NJ, in a cabaret at sea, and with several community theaters. She has been performing with TGS since 2009. Nicole is currently a vascular technologist at Hartford Hospital and is happy to be able to work with and dance alongside so many great friends in this production. "Six red hearts, three bear hugs, and sunshine. Love, Nikkeh."



**Savoy Janet McMahon (Royal Princess)** Savoy is honored to be making her TGS debut! Savoy is a third grader at Squadron Line Elementary School in Simsbury with her twin sister Brighton. Savoy enjoys singing and practices often with her big sister Montana and privately with her vocal instructor, Mrs. Lisa Grant. When Savoy is not singing, you will find her at the rink as she is an avid ice hockey player. Savoy also has a passion for art and horseback riding. Savoy is definitely a comedian as she always knows how to make everyone laugh. Mom and dad are extremely proud of her!

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Lily Richards (Royal Princess)** makes her stage debut with *The King and I*. She is very excited to be in this show! Lily loves singing and dancing and acting. She lives with her mom and dad and sister and brother in Simsbury and is in third grade at Tootin' Hills Elementary School. She also enjoys doing gymnastics and playing soccer. Lily hopes this is the first of many, many shows that she will be in and is thankful for the opportunity to be in *The King and I*.



**Melissa Richards (Royal Wife)** performed her first show with TGS in *Rumors* (2006) and is thrilled to make her second appearance this year in *The King and I*, alongside her eight-year old daughter Lily! A stage veteran, Melissa has performed in many shows, including *Working*, *Little Mary Sunshine*, *JB*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Into the Woods*, *Annie Warbucks*, *Children of a Lesser God*, and *Man of La Mancha*. Melissa and her husband Steve live in Simsbury with their two daughters Emmalee and Lily, and their son Micah, who is also a musician and an athlete. Melissa is also a photographer and the owner of MJR Photography.



**gretchen Sausville (Royal Wife)** gretchen is thrilled to be back on stage after a three-year hiatus. She has worked with TGS, West Hartford Community Theater, and is a founding member of Good Company Theater in Granby. Most recent credits include *The Crucible*, *Abracadabra*, *Annie*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate*, and *Sensical*. When not on stage, she is a pastor in West Hartford and a frequent traveler.



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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**John Schenkman (Guard/Deck Hand)** has frequently participated in productions by the Theatre Guild of Simsbury. He played Norvall in the recent spring production of *Dearly Departed*, participated in the spring productions of *Our Town* and *The Foreigner*, and in several of the fall musicals; *The Sound of Music*, *The Pajama Game*, *Annie*, *Kiss Me*, *Kate*. John has also served as a member of the TGS Board of Directors for a number of years.



**Charles Schoenfeld (Sir Edward Ramsey/Interpreter)** has performed with 15 different theatre groups around the state of Connecticut. He has also contributed as a playwright, director, and fight choreographer. Favorite roles include Sherlock Holmes (*The Strange Case of Alice Faulkner*), George Bailey (*It's a Wonderful Life*), William Gillette (*The Game's Afoot*), Lord Goring (*An Ideal Husband*), and Mr. Darcy (TGS production of *Pride & Prejudice*). Charles is delighted to be sharing the stage with his daughter, Leila, for the second time.


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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Leila Schoenfeld (Royal Princess)** is very happy to be in *The King and I*. She is in fifth grade and has been in her father's play *Truth in Fiction* as Emma, and *Miracle on 34th Street* as Susan, both with the Suffield Players. Leila was raised by her mother and father, who are talking cats. They taught her the ways of acting, reading, and devouring tuna. She would like to thank Mittens and Fluffy for raising her and packing tuna in her lunch every day for school. She also thanks her friends Devita and Teresa for their support.



**Terri Schulman (Royal Wife/Dancer)** Terri has been teaching math for 30 years. She has been choreographing and directing musicals since 1985 at Thompson Brook School in Avon, Avon High School, Cheshire Youth Theater, Sedgwick Middle School in West Hartford, Canton Middle and High Schools and The Ethel Walker School in Simsbury. Shows include *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, *Beauty and the Beast Jr.*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Oliver*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Willy Wonka*, *Les Miserable*, *Annie Jr.* and *Aladdin Jr.* Terri also enjoys dancing on stage and has performed in several musicals, including *Curtains*, *My Favorite Year*, *9 to 5*, *Fiddler on The Roof*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Annie* and *The Music Man*.



**Taylor Schuster (Royal Princess)** Taylor loves to perform for her family and friends, and is thrilled to be making her debut on stage in *The King and I*. Taylor is a fourth 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 an avid animal lover. She loves to attend TGS rehearsals and is so excited to be a part of this performance!



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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Ava Shiman (Royal Princess)** is thrilled to be part of *The King and I* cast in what will be her very first TGS production. Ava, a fourth grader at Squadron Line School, is the “middle meatball” between her older sister, Maddy, and younger brother, Joey. When not making up productions on the small stage her Grandfather, Pop Pop, made for her and her siblings, she enjoys playing with the Simsbury Strikers travel soccer team and swimming with the Hop Meadow Dolphins. Ava cannot wait to wear her wig, costume, and perform on such an impressive stage for a wonderful audience.



**Lalitha Shivaswamy (Royal Wife)** Lalitha's very first audition was the result of a nudge from her husband. To conclusively prove once and for all that she could never sing and had not a musical bone in her body, she auditioned for Handel's *Messiah* while living with her family in Korea. Four performances later including a Gilbert and Sullivan opera with her daughter, this chastened former non-singer now follows her daughter around and auditions as she is told. She is thrilled to be a part of the Theatre Guild of Simsbury and loves the beautiful energy of this cast and crew.



**Meena Rajesh (Royal Wife/Dancer)** is a student at Central School, Simsbury. She has lived in Singapore and Korea and has attended a total of six schools. She most recently performed in a Gilbert and Sullivan opera in Seoul. She loves to sing and goes about most of her day with a melody stuck in her head. The only things she loves more than singing are bunny rabbits, stuffed toys and math. Her current ambitions are to win an internship at a doggie day care, and to learn to sort and stack books at the Simsbury Public Library.

★ ★ Knock 'em dead, Charlie! ★  
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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Declan Smith (Louis)** Declan is thrilled to make his debut with TGS in *The King and I*. He has performed for the past several years with Connecticut Family Theatre and the Bristow School summer program. His favorite roles include Lord Farquaad in *Shrek the Musical*, Jack in *Into the Woods*, Rooster in *Annie*, and Sebastian in *The Little Mermaid*. Declan is a sixth grader at Sedgwick Middle School in West Hartford, but his true passion is musical theater. He is grateful for this opportunity to work with, and learn from, such a talented group of artists.



**Patrick R. Spadaccino (The King)** has participated in theatre all his life. He's played roles in shows like *The Music Man*, *My Fair Lady*, and *The Sound of Music*. He wrote, directed, composed and played the title role in a stage adaptation of *Scrooge*, which ran four years and raised money for food banks. *The King and I* is his third show with TGS, and he's enjoyed being back among so many good friends. Patrick thanks his wife Natalie and puppy Jovie for their encouragement; his friends and family for attending this production; and TGS for all the great memories.

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Yumeko Stern (Royal Princess Ying Yaowalak/Royal Dancer)** Yumeko is excited to join the cast of *The King and I*. Previous credits include *Shrek The Musical* (Dragon) for SRO, *Gypsy* (Baby Louise) for CTC, *South Pacific* (Ngaga) for LTM, *Peter Pan* (Principal Lost Boys) for WSC; *Fiddler on the Roof* (Shprintze) for LTM; *Annie Kids* (Tessie), *The Little Mermaid Jr.* (Flounder) for The C.A.S.T., Love and gratitude to Steven Cirillo, Ryan Binder, Patrick Wickham, Dance Progression, cherished family in US & Japan. Special thanks to **Doreen Cohen, Will Minton, Terry Rowe**, for giving me this wonderful opportunity.

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST




**Avery Swanson (Royal Princess)** Avery is making her stage debut as the youngest member of *The King and I* 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, she enjoys art, gymnastics, dancing, skiing, and is a green belt in Taekwondo. Tickets to see *Aladdin* on Broadway is the only birthday gift this kindergartener wants. She loves everything princess-related and is excited to play one on stage.



**Carter Swanson (Royal Prince)** *The King and I* is Carter's first stage production, which will be followed by a part in the musical ensemble of *The Gift* taking place at Valley Community Baptist Church in December. Some of his favorite activities are gymnastics, hip hop class, skiing, and being part of the Olympic Taekwondo Team. He recently saw *The Lion King* on Broadway and is excited to be on stage with one of his four siblings, Avery. Carter loves history and enjoys making people smile, so being a prince of Siam is this second grader's dream come true.



**Carmine Trovato (Royal Prince)** Carmine is 10 years old. This is Carmine's first show with TGS. He lives with his parents, two brothers, a sister, and three pets. He enjoys swimming, wrestling, running and hanging out with family and friends. Carmine has a special talent in music. He is currently learning to play the saxophone, studies piano at Martocchio Music, and is a member of Central Singers at school. He is excited to be working with such a talented cast and crew.



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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Charlie Uthgenannt (Prince Chululongkorn)** is thrilled to make his debut with TGS in *The King and I*. Some of his most memorable roles include Cornelius Hackl in *Hello, Dolly!*, the Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz* and Harold Hill in *The Music Man*. In addition to musical theatre, Charlie enjoys studying classical music in both flute and voice. Charlie would like to thank his mom, dad, sisters and grandparents for their continued support. He's grateful for all his music teachers. Special thanks to Jack Pott, Greig Shearer, Carolyn Weiser and the Wiggin family of New England Music Camp.




**Jenna Rose VanRyn (Royal Princess)** Jenna is nine-years old and lives in Granby. She enjoys theater, dance, singing, meditation, drumming circles and Tibetan singing bowls. She has enjoyed working with Good Company Theater and Red Door Theater, as well as the Albany Berkshire Ballet, where she progressed from Mouse to Clown to Angel in three successive productions of *Nutcracker*. She presently dances with Terpsichore in Simsbury and Nutmegs in Southwick. She is proud to hold the title of USA Ambassador Miss Northern Connecticut Jr. Preteen, a Community Service based National Pageant system. She is very excited for this performance with such a wonderful cast and crew.



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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



**Melissa Veale (Royal Wife/Dancer)** Melissa is excited to perform in TGS's fall show and as always, had a blast rehearsing with the cast! She most recently performed at the Farmington Valley Stage Company where she portrayed the role of "Trisha" in *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*. She is an attorney in New Britain and enjoys running, hiking, reading, cooking, playing softball, and spending her free time with her husband, Andrew, and their dog Phoebe.



**Diana Yeisley (Royal Wife/Singing Wife)** Diana is excited to join the cast of *The King and I* in her TGS debut, and is having fun with the entire cast. Although she has not been onstage in a musical in years, Diana has recently taken on the role of Director in the youth productions of *The Magical Land of Oz*, *Peter Pan*, and the upcoming *Annie, Jr.* She has also headlined in two showcases at The Palace Theater in Waterbury, singing several jazz and holiday numbers. She would like to thank her husband Jonathan, and children Carter and Sarah, for supporting her in her love of theatre.



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## ACT ONE

### Scene 1: The Deck of the "Cho Phya," Bangkok Harbor

*I Whistle a Happy Tune* ..... Anna & Louis

### Scene 2: A Palace Corridor

*Vignettes and Dance* ..... Royal Dancers

### Scene 3: The King's Study, Royal Palace

*My Lord and Master* ..... Tuptim

*Hello, Young Lovers* ..... Anna

*March of the Siamese Children* ..... Royal Children

### Scene 4: The Palace Grounds

*A Puzzlement* ..... King

### Scene 5: The Schoolroom, Royal Palace

*The Royal Bangkok Academy*..... The King's Children, Wives

*Getting to Know You* ..... Anna, Wives, Children

*We Kiss in a Shadow*..... Lun Tha, Tuptim

### Scene 6: A Palace Corridor

*Reprise: A Puzzlement*..... Chulalongkorn, Louis

### Scene 7: Anna's Bedroom

*Shall I Tell You What I Think of You?*..... Anna

*Something Wonderful* ..... Lady Thiang

### Scene 8: Palace Corridor

*Reprise: Something Wonderful*..... Lady Thiang

### Scene 9: The King's Study, Royal Palace

*Finale Act I* ..... King, Company



*Intermission - 15 minutes*

*Refreshments and Theatre Grams are available in the lobby*

## ACT TWO

### Scene 1: The Schoolroom, Royal Palace

*Western People Funny* ..... Lady Thiang, Wives

### Scene 2: The Palace Grounds

*I Have Dreamed* ..... Lun Tha, Tuptim

*Reprise: Hello, Young Lovers* ..... Anna

### Scene 3: The Theatre Pavilion, Royal Palace

*Ballet: The Small House of Uncle Thomas* ..... Tuptim,  
Royal Singers, Royal Dancers

### Scene 4: The King's Library, Royal Palace

*Song of the King* ..... King, Anna

*Shall We Dance?* ..... Anna, King

### Scene 5: Palace Corridor, Months Later

### Scene 6: The King's Study, Royal Palace

*Reprise: I Whistle a Happy Tune* ..... Anna

*Finale Ultimo (Something Wonderful)* ..... Orchestra



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## DIRECTORS



### **Doreen A. Cohn (Artistic Director/Co-Set Designer)**

Doreen has been involved with TGS for over 25 years onstage, as well as behind the scenes. From set designer to Board member, 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 as well as the program director for Avon Summer Theater. In addition to her work in Avon, she has taught theater and directed productions for numerous school systems, organizations, and community theater groups, including Ethel Walker School, Simsbury Summer Theater, the New Britain Museum of American Art, New Britain Rep, Canton Benefit Productions, CIGNA Theater, Bloomfield Youth Theater, as well as for Simsbury and Canton High Schools. “I am thrilled to work with such a talented and dedicated cast on this year’s production of *The King and I*.”



**Willard Minton (Music Director)** Will 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, the Valley Swing Shift Big Band and the Harmonious Brass Choir. He also plays in the Capitol Winds at UHart, the rock band Vinyl Vortex, and the Thomaston Jazz Orchestra. Will has also played in or music directed many musicals for other groups throughout area. He and his wife, Patty, live in Barkhamsted. They have three children and eight grandchildren. Will is thrilled to have his wife and son playing in the orchestra for this show and he extends a large THANK YOU to the cast, crew, orchestra, rehearsal accompanist Carol Yachanin, and the rest of the production staff for their wonderful work to bring this beautiful production of *The King and I* to the TGS audience.

## DIRECTORS




**Ken Jones (Technical Director/Co-Set Designer/Sound Designer)** This is Ken's 10th TGS production. He has directed and taught theater craft in the area since 2003 for a variety of projects, including over 35 musicals. He is also VP/Director of Theater Operations at Farmington Valley Stage Company. He lives by the credo, "Enthusiastically share what you know, and eagerly learn what you don't." This has served him (and his crews) well, and he is grateful to all those who have shared their knowledge, creativity, and unique perspectives. Ken lives in Canton with his unwaveringly supportive and understanding wife, Jane




**Carol Yachanin (Accompanist)** has been teaching Music for 33 years in the states of Michigan, Washington, Texas, and, for the past 22 years at Sedgwick Middle School in West Hartford. Carol has facilitated district workshops, taught at multiple summer music camps and is active as a free-lance accompanist and church musician. In her free time she enjoys cooking, getting together with friends, visiting with family in Michigan, traveling with her guys, Mike and Michael etcetera, etcetera, etcetera.

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## DIRECTORS



**Terry Rowe (Choreographer)** Terry has performed in many Theatre Guild shows and this will be her eighth time choreographing for the group. Terry has just retired from owning Terry's School of Dance for 31 years. Terry's students have performed all over, including 2 cruise ships, Universal Studios and seven times in Disney World, as well as taking several top honors at local competitions. She has also choreographed for many other local schools and theater groups including Kingswood Oxford high school, Canton High, Simsbury High, Avon Summer Theater, Thompson Brook, Suffield Players and Summer Place Players. Terry is thrilled to be working with this amazing cast of old and new friends. Nowadays, when not doing choreography, you can find her behind the desk at Avon Hair Company in Avon.



**Cindy Braunlich (Costume Design)** Cindy 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 Farmington Valley Stage 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."





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**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.



**Karen Sidel (Assistant Director/Stage Manager)** Karen met TGS in 2003 and has been actively involved since then, acting, directing, and serving on the Board, currently as President. Fav roles include Jessica Cranshaw (and the world's oldest mermaid) in *Curtains*, Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit*, Eleanor in *The Lion in Winter*, Auntie Em in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Mrs. Bennet in *Pride & Prejudice*, Veta Louise in *Harvey*, Cynthia Muldoon in *The Real Inspector Hound*, and Myrtle Webb in *Our Town*. Thanks and love to Barry for putting up with my need to do this.

**Joel Silvestro (Wig and Hair Design)** Joel is back for his seventh show with TGS, having previously designed hair and wigs for *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Kiss Me, Kate*, *Curtains*, *The Music Man*, *9 to 5: The Musical* and *My Favorite Year*. 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.



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Love, Mom, Dad,  
Adam and Tina

Yumeko Stern, a rising star



*We are proud of you!*



Uncle Mike and Grandma



**Diana,**

**You are THE BEST WIFE in my book!**

**I love seeing you perform!!**

***Have a blast!!!***

**♥ Love, Jonathan ♥**

★ ★

**Taylor,**

**We are so proud of you! Break a leg!**

**Love,**

**Mommy, Daddy, Justine & Sydney**

★ ★



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## **Ava Shiman**

You make us smile!



Break a leg! (but not your arm again. Please!)

Xoxo, Daddy, Mommy, Maddy & Joey



## Cindy—

Congratulations on costuming another fantastic show!

We are so proud of you!

Lots of love, ♥

Bob, Amanda, Will & Misty

**RH&A**

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★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Break a leg, Declan!**  
*We are soooo proud!*  
**Love,**  
**Mom, Bill, Ryan, Leila, Brendan**



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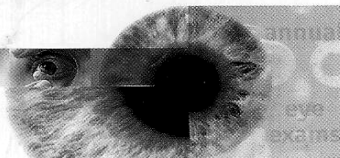


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Theatre Guild of Simsbury would like to express special thanks to:

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Town of Simsbury  
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Simsbury Senior Center  
Simsbury United Methodist Church  
Markus Lehofer, Abigail's  
Bill Campagna  
The Hartford Stage Company  
SLOCO  
Farmington Valley Stage Company  
Mark Kravitz and Kingswood Oxford

Moonyean Fields  
Barbara Piscopo and Staff at Thomaston  
Opera House  
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Greater Hartford Arts Council  
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# CTMA

Community Theatre Management Association

*Fostering Communication and Co-operation*

*Among Theatre Groups in CT & MA*



Show	Theater Group	Dates
The Odd Couple	Wilbraham United Players	Nov 6 - 15
Jesus Christ Superstar	Exit 7 Players	Nov 6 - 21
Shrek the Musical	Little Theater of Manchester	Nov 6 - 22
Nice Work If You Can...	Warner Theatre	Nov 7 - 15
Man of La Mancha	Opera House Players	Nov 13 - 29
Lysistrata	Hole in the Wall Theater	Nov 13 - Dec 5
The King and I	Theatre Guild of Simsbury	Nov 14 - 23
Mary Poppins	St. Michaels Players	Nov 19 - 22
Charolette's Web	Warner Theatre	Nov 20 - 22
Carousel!	West Hartford Community	Nov 20 - 22
It's a Wonderful Life	Westfield Theatre Group	Dec 4 - 12
It's a Wonderful Life	Farmington Valley Stage	Dec 5 & 13
It's a Wonderful Life	Little Theater of Manchester	Dec 19 - 20
Trio of Short Plays	Farmington Valley Stage	Jan 22 - 24
Lint, The Musical	Hole in the Wall Theater	Jan 22 - Feb 13
Avenue Q	Opera House Players	Feb 5 - 21
Rock of Ages	Warner Theatre	Feb 6 - 14
Night Sky	Suffield Players	Feb 11 - 27
Fool For Love	Farmington Valley Stage	Feb 12 - 14
New Short Plays...	Exit 7 Players	Feb 19 - 28
The Jungle Book	Warner Theatre	Feb 27 - 29



Exit 7 Players (Ludlow, MA)	<a href="http://exit7players.org">exit7players.org</a>
Farmington Valley Stage Company (Canton, CT)	<a href="http://fvstage.org">fvstage.org</a>
Good Company Theater (Granby, CT)	<a href="http://goodcompanytheaterct.org">goodcompanytheaterct.org</a>
Hole in the Wall Theater (New Britain, CT)	<a href="http://hitw.org">hitw.org</a>
Little Theater of Manchester (Manchester, CT)	<a href="http://cheneyhall.org">cheneyhall.org</a>
Opera House Players (Broad Brook, CT)	<a href="http://operahouseplayers.org">operahouseplayers.org</a>
Somers Village Players (Somers, CT)	<a href="http://somersvillageplayers.org">somersvillageplayers.org</a>
Suffield Players (Suffield, CT)	<a href="http://suffieldplayers.org">suffieldplayers.org</a>
St. Michaels Players (East Longmeadow, MA)	<a href="http://stmichaelsplayers.wix.com/stmichaelsplayers">stmichaelsplayers.wix.com/stmichaelsplayers</a>
Theatre Guild of Hampden (Hampden, MA)	<a href="http://theatreguildofhampden.org">theatreguildofhampden.org</a>
Theatre Guild of Simsbury (Simsbury, CT)	<a href="http://theatreguildsimsbury.org">theatreguildsimsbury.org</a>
Unity House Players (Springfield, MA)	<a href="http://uusgs.org">uusgs.org</a>
Warner Theatre (Torrington, CT)	<a href="http://warnertheatre.org">warnertheatre.org</a>
Westfield Theatre Group (Westfield, MA)	<a href="http://westfieldtheatregroup.com">westfieldtheatregroup.com</a>
West Hartford Community Theater (West Hartford, CT)	<a href="http://whtheater.org">whtheater.org</a>
Wilbraham United Players (Wilbraham, MA)	<a href="http://wilbrahamunitedplayers.com">wilbrahamunitedplayers.com</a>

*The show must go on!*

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## ***Our 2016 Season***

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### **The Dining Room**

By A. R. Gurney, Jr

*The Dining Room*, is a comedy of manners, set in a single dining room where 18 scenes from different households overlap and intertwine. Each story is focused on a different family (during different time periods), each of which has in its possession the same dining room furniture set, manufactured in 1898.

**Auditions - January, 2016**  
**Performances - April, 2016**

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Based on the Academy-Award winning animated feature, the stage version includes all of the wonderful songs written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice. The original Broadway production ran for over 13 years and was nominated for 9 TONY Awards including Best Musical.

**Auditions - June, 2016**  
**Performances - November, 2016**

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