

Stephen Maher (Monsignor Ryan) returns to the TGS stage after playing Joey in *Sister Act* in 2017. Most recently he appeared in *Young Frankenstein* with West Hartford Community Theater. Other roles include Homer in *Morning's at Seven* and George Howard in *It Shoulda Been You* with the Farmington Valley Stage Company. Stephen could also be seen in *Jeekyll and Hyde*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, and *The Christmas Schooner* with the Connecticut Theater Company.

Jenna Nikirk (Joanna Drayton) is thrilled to be a part of this beautiful show with such wonderfully talented people. Jenna has performed in many musicals around CT, however, this is her very first venture into the world of non-musical theatre. Favorite roles include Gertrude in *Sensical*, Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Narrator in *Joseph and the...* and most recently, Mother Superior in *Sister Act*. A heartfelt thank you to Michael for entrusting her with Joanna and to her husband, Chris, for his unending love and support.

Jerrell Starling (Dr. John Prentice) of Hartford, is the nephew of former welterweight champion Marlon "The Magic Man" Starling and was trained in classical drama by Mrs. Frances Sharp. Starling has served as everything from keynote speaker (BB/BS) and televised writer, actor and director to state football champion (NC, CT) and syndicated musician-all by the age of nineteen. He is presently a group and personal trainer for BodyRoc FitLab in Avon and West Hartford, owner of multi-major platform label, Lost Art Music and proud father of a seven year old son.

Tracy Weed (Christina Drayton) During her 18 years with TGS, Tracy has served in many capacities, including director, board member, and costumer, but her favorite role is that of actor. Some of her favorite roles include Lily in *Annie*, Catherine in *The Foreigner*, Barbara in *Run For Your Wife* (Windsor Jesters), and Claire Gantz in *Rumors* (Castle Craig Players). Tracy is thrilled to be involved in a production that touts tolerance and acceptance, an important message that so many of us sometimes miss. Tracy is the owner of a jewelry design company, The Tiny Wren, and also enjoys photography and penning historical romance novels.

Michael Bolinski (Director) is a Waterbury native. He would like to thank the Theatre Guild of Simsbury for this opportunity. Directing credits include: *Leading Ladies*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Becky's New Car*, *The Play About The Baby*, *The Government Inspector*, *Arcadia* (Memphis Ostrander Award – Best Direction), *Striptease*, *Boston Marriage*, *Rabbit Hole*, *Endgame*, *The Dumbwaiter*, *Cymbeline*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Twelfth Night*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*. To the Silver Fox, his antics and love!



March 30. 31. April 6, 2019

Eno Memorial Hall, Simsbury, CT

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.

(www.playscripts.com)

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Director's Note

What does bravery look like today?
 What if we faced our fear,
 Acknowledged our biases,
 And shed the privilege
 That the chance of birth
 Affords one race over another
 And one gender over another?

What loving, just society would bloom then?

The Time: Spring, 1967

The Place: Drayton House, San Francisco, California

The Cast in Order of Appearance

Hilary St George.....Krista Lucas
 Matilda "Tillie" Binks.....Xenia Gray
 Christina Drayton.....Tracy Weed
 Matt Drayton.....Hal Chernoff
 Joanna Drayton.....Jenna Nikirk
 Dr John Prentice.....Jerrell Starling
 Monsignor Ryan.....Stephen Maher
 John Prentice Sr.....Lillard Lewis
 Mary Prentice.....Jacqueline Davis

The play is in 2 Acts, with a 15 minute intermission.

Flash photography and any video recording are strictly prohibited.

The Production Team:

Director.....Michael Bolinski
 Producers.....Donna Sennott, Nick Parisi
 Technical Director, Lighting/Sound Design, Makeup.....Jeff Schlichter
 Stage Managers.....Marie Simanski, Brian Elmer
 Set Dressing/Props.....Kristin Moresi
assisted by Dian Pomeranz, Deb Glass, Priscilla Hurley
 Costumer.....Tracy Weed, assisted by Deb Glass
 Stagehand.....Renee DeSalvatore
 Lighting Operators.....Anne Erickson, Chris Lilley
 Publicity.....Doreen Cohn, Darlene Davis
 Photographer and Social Media.....Anna Zuckerman Vdovenko
 Tickets.....Nick Parisi ,Sarah Bedell
 House Manager.....
 Additional Production Team Members—.....Rick Anderson,
Jacqueline Davis, Mags Campbell

Special Thanks Extended to:

Deacon Art Miller Shirley Mae Neu, Canton
 First Cathedral Church, Bloomfield Jerry Zalewsky, Suffield Players Inc
 Simsbury Senior Center Town of Simsbury

Go Ahead—Make a Scene! Get in on the fun and become a member! For more information go to www.theatreguildsimsbury.org

Hal Chernoff (Matt Drayton) is thrilled to be returning to the TGS stage, having recently played Johnny Sandwich in *Honeymoon in Vegas*. Among Hal's favorite credits are *Once* (Eamon), *Iolanthe* (Lord Chancellor), *Billy Elliott* (Jackie), *Sweeney Todd* (Judge Turpin), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Pirate King), *Avenue Q* (Brian), *The Little Mermaid* (King Triton), *Leading Ladies* (Leo/Maxine) and *A Chorus Line* (Don). A Simsbury resident, Hal wishes to thank the production team and fellow castmates.

Jacqueline Davis (Mary Prentice) has been an active member of the Journey Writers Inc. since 2013-writing and acting in original works. Favorite roles include Jordon Scott in *Reporter in Uprising: The Treavor Foster Story*, Bobbie Crotchet/Ghost of Christmas Present/Betsy Devos/Pretty Woman #3/Ad Promoter in *A Dystumpian Christmas Carol*, Joise in *The Golden Age Convalescent Home*, Portia Monroe in *Mother and Daughter-A Trio of Plays*, MaDear in *Jar The Floor* and Elderly Slave/Young Black Woman in *Ordinary People, Civil War Monologues*. She's thrilled to be a part of this relevant, timely play. Jacque' dedicates her performance in memory of her beloved mother, Maegetta Carter-Wright.

Xenia Gray (Tillie) is a graduate of the Philadelphia High School for the Creative and Performing Arts where she majored in Theater Arts with a focus on Drama, and a graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) as a Criminal Justice Major. While at VCU, Xenia continued to pursue her passion in acting as a member of the Johari Players. Her most recent productions include: Mrs. Dickson (*Intimate Apparel*) and Demetur (*Defrock You Too*). Xenia has performed and in several First Cathedral Christmas productions including *The Angle (Change Needed)*, Brenda (*Believe*), and Mona (*Soul Searchers*). Xenia would like to thank her family, friends and three handsome sons for their continued support. ENJOY THE SHOW!

Lillard R. Lewis, Sr. (John Prentice) was born in Chicago, Illinois. He is a graduate of Kentucky State and Worsham College. He has appeared in several plays throughout Connecticut, plays such as, Reflections, everything I miss at home 3 & 4, Family Ties and the Big Event. He was also in the movie "Fatherhood Skillz", Lillard is a member of The First Cathedral Church and is a regular participant of the Drama Ministry. Lillard has been married to his lovely wife Selma, for more than 40 years, they have 3 children and 8 grandchildren.

Krista Lucas (Hilary St. George) is delighted to collaborate with the cast and crew of this production in her debut with Theatre Guild Simsbury. She is set to reprise the role of Hilary later this spring at the Ivoryton Playhouse. Ps. 37:4.