TBTA Membership

Membership is still only \$20.00 and is a great way to show support for the theatre. Join us today!

2013 Members

Robert Bassett, Don Bergeron, Rosemary Bergeron, Kerry Bulson,
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David J. Hatcherson, Carol Hoose, Kristin Hoose, Margaret Teed Jones,
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Thank you to our 2013 Season Subscribers

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Carli Tako, Richard & Diane Toth, Annette Tryon-Crozier,
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We apologize for any errors or omissions.

TBTA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Michael Burnett, President & Artistic Director Meg Jones, Vice-President Carol Hoose, Treasurer Kristin Hoose, Secretary

TBTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Kerry Bulson, Brian Casella (Technical Director), Sara Mariano, Andrew Okell, Lou Okell, Karen E. Steckler



book, music & lyrics by Jonathan Larson directed & choreographed by Michael Burnett musical direction by Nsangi Kariamu Produced by Kerry Bulson & Meg Jones

CAST

Mark Cohen	Rob Bassett	
Roger Davis	Bennett Cognato	
Mimi Marquez	Molly Rose Just	
Maureen Johnson	Lauren Brown	
Joanne Jefferson	Sara Mariano	
Tom Collins	Nick Kuell	
Angel Dumott Schunard	Torrey Thomas	
Benjamin Coffin III	John Mudgett	
Ensemble Ryan I	Bulson, Sydney Coelho	
Mallory Escott, Janice Gabriel, Kristin Hoose Christopher Hunter, Jessica Sciuto, Kezia Waters		

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

BAND

Keyboards Nsangi Kariamu
Lead Guitar Rich Conte
Rhythm Guitar Steven Cognato
Bass Dan Pacuk
Drums Andrew Gercak

For the safety of the performers and the courtesy of fellow patrons, the taking of photos of any kind is strictly forbidden. Copyright laws prohibit the recording of sound and video. Please turn off **ALL** phones, pagers, computer games and other electronic devices as they can interfere with our technical systems. **Patrons who are unwilling to turn off electronic devices are welcome to leave the theatre.**

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act 1

700 2
Tune Up #1
A - + - 2
Seasons of Love
Voice Mail #3 Mark's Mother & Alexi Darling Happy New Year B Mark, Roger, Mimi, Collins, Angel, Maureen, Joanne, & Benny
Take Me or Leave Me
Voice Mail #4
I'll Cover You (Reprise) Collins & Company Halloween
What You Own Roger & Mark Voice Mail #5 Roger's Mother, Mimi's Mother, Mr. Jefferson, & Mark's Mother
Finale A Preachers, Mark, Roger, Collins, Maureen, Joanne, & Mimi Your Eyes



PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER	Michael Burnett
Musical Director	Nsangi Kariamu
Vocal Director	Diane LaPine
Producers	Kerry Bulson & Meg Jones
LIGHTING DESIGN	Justin Morgan
Sound Design	Wendy Yung
SET DESIGN	Ellen Diker, Bob Lane
Costume Design	Meg Jones
STAGE MANAGER / PROPERTIES	Carol Martino
Director's Assistant	Crystal Schewe
SEAMSTRESS	Rebecca Pokorski
SET CONSTRUCTION	. Bob Lane, Andrew Okell,
	Emma Okell, Lou Okell
SET PAINTING/SET DECORATION E	Ellen Diker, Crystal Schewe,
	Courtney Tanner
Assistant Stage Manager	Jenny Dear
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR	Jill Hancock
Master Electrician/Spot Operator	
Sound Assistants	amie Bishop, Nicola Gillotte
Box Office	
SRO/Concessions	Joy Tagliavento
OPENING NIGHT PARTY	Kristin Hoose

SPECIAL THANKS

A Common Ground, Seth Baldwin, Danbury H.S. Productions, Chris Gillotte, New Milford Thrift Mart, Kelly Scott, Karen Steckler, Len & Lorraine Toscano, Windhorse Acupuncture

EMERGENCY FIRE NOTICE

Please observe the **EXIT** sign nearest to the seat which you occupy. It is the shortest route to the exterior of the building. Should an emergency arise, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.



Graphics · Printing · Publishing · Internet

Congratulates TBTA on 56 years of community service through the arts.

We are happy to have been part of the past 25!

www.arkett.com

BIOGRAPHIES

Rob Bassett (Mark Cohen) is excited to return to the stage of this wonderful theatre! Previous credits at TBTA include 'Ryan Kendall' in 8, 'Jack' in Into The Woods and 'Woof' in HAIR. Thanks to the cast, crew, Michael, Diane, and the production team for this journey; and to Jonathan Larson—for creating something that has made such an impact and touched so many people. While challenging, this entire process has been more than worth it—so he thanks YOU, the audience, for being here to experience this with him. And of course—Rob sends much, much, love and gratitude to his parents, family, and friends. "I die without you."

Lauren Brown (Maureen Johnson) This is Lauren's third summer with TBTA. Past credits here include Sheila in *Hair* and Catherine in *Pippin*. A strong advocate for the performing arts herself, Lauren is thrilled to be making her Alphabet City debut as Maureen Johnson alongside her fellow bohemians. "Thank you Mom, Dad, Erick, Father (Michael Burnett) and great friends for your love and support! Which way to the stage?"

Michael Burnett (Director) is thrilled to have the opportunity and challenge of sharing the legacy left to us by Jonathan Larson. Michael is currently an English and poetry teacher at Danbury High School where he directs and choreographs for DHS Productions. He has taught dance and choreographed for Ona-May's School of Dance, CCSU, and Gallaudet University in addition to A Common Ground (which offers amazing opportunities in the arts right here in our local area). Michael has been directing at TBTA since 2007 and is currently serving as president and artistic director. He is most proud of staging shows that leave the audience with more questions than answers—more call to action than pure entertainment. Special thanks to the entire cast, crew and production team for sharing this challenging journey and especially for being a group of people who really understand moments and measuring a life in love.

Kerry Bulson (Producer) is thrilled to be producing her first show at TBTA! She thanks Michael for entrusting her with this show and is grateful to the Board of Directors for welcoming her to the TBTA family! From 2005 to 2011, Kerry could be seen performing in the Danbury Music Centre's annual Nutcracker. She thanks her incredibly supportive husband Frank and her two most important productions- her sons, Scott & Ryan. She has been floored by the love and openness shown by this incredible cast, who will remain in her heart always. She has loved sharing this experience with Ryan, whose dancing never ceases to take her breath away.

Ryan Bulson (Ensemble) will be entering his junior year at The Hartt School as a Dance major. He is thrilled to be back home at TBTA, after sharing the stage with the amazing cast of *HAIR* last summer. He has performed with DHS Productions (*Beauty & The*

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Beast, Annie Get Your Gun), Musicals at Richter and the Danbury Music Centre Nutcracker (*Prince, Cavalier*) and recently studied with the Joffrey Ballet. Ryan is grateful to once again share the stage with some of his best friends and to be under the watchful eye of both his favorite producer (a.k.a. Mom) and bohemian leader Mr. Michael Burnett.

Sydney Coelho (Ensemble) is a recently graduated senior from Danbury High and feels so lucky to spend her last summer home with this cast and crew. Credits include *Footloose* (Ariel Moore), *Into the Woods* (Little Red), *Hairspray* (Tracy Turnblad), *Urinetown* (Little Becky), and other DHS Productions and shows here at TBTA. She plans to study Music Education at Hofstra University in the fall. She sends a huge thank you to everyone involved in this show, and to her parents who continually support her in everything she does.

Bennett Cognato (Roger Davis) is happy as a clam that Michael keeps tolerating his presence at TBTA. Previous credits include David Boies in 8 (2013), Berger in *Hair* (2012), Emcee in *Cabaret* (2011) and Van in *Dog Sees God* (2011). Bennett would like to especially thank the fabulous, talented, and lovely Lauren Brown for being an amazing friend and mentor. Shout out to the great Sara Mariano, his besties at Molly's Overnight Daycare, Nick Kuell for staying alive this time around, brother Steven on guitar as well as endless kisses and hugs for friends, family ("thanks for not making me pay *RENT*"), and the entire cast, crew, pit and production team. Enjoy!

Steven Cognato (Guitar/Keyboards) is proud to be earning his first musical credit at TBTA having already acted in four productions here. He studies Music with a concentration in Musical Theatre at Manhattanville College and is a rising senior. A budding multi-instrumentalist, Steven's first love is singing, especially jazz standards, musical theatre, and German lieder. Foremost thanks go to Bennett for the opportunity, Mom and Dad, Michael Burnett, Nsangi, Mark Cherry, Beverly Meyer, and Shelby.

Rich Conte (Guitar) This TBTA production of *RENT* is Rich's debut theater score performance. Music has been part of Rich's life since he picked up the guitar as a child. In addition to performing in a variety of original and cover bands over the years, he has worked as both a live sound engineer and a recording engineer and maintains a personal studio in his home. He currently resides in Bethel where he teaches guitar. Rich's thanks and acknowledgement go to the TBTA Team; the members of his current band, Crosstown; Danbury singer/songwriter Ryan Stottle; and especially to his daughter, Melody.

Jenny Dear (Assistant Stage Manager) is so thrilled to be returning to TBTA after her freshman year at SUNY Purchase where she is studying Stage Management. This is her third year with TBTA and she has loved EVERY minute of it. She sends so much love to everyone

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mates and the crew for helping him out of his shell, and for making him comfortable in his own skin. "I'll cover you with a thousand sweet kisses."

Kezia Waters (Ensemble) is excited to be working with TBTA for the first time. He is a current Musical Theatre major at WCSU. Past credits, roles and training include internship at Shakesperience Inc., Albert Peterson in Bye Bye Birdie, Caterpillar in Alice in Wonderland Manhattan Project, Lawn Boy in Charm School the Musical He has been coached by Broadway actors Julio Matos Agustin and Elizabeth Parkinson. His dance coach is Jill Hancock and his vocal coach is Sonja Williams.

Wendy Yung (Sound Design) is incredibly grateful to be a part of *RENT*, her second TBTA show. She is currently a student at DHS and her past shows include *Urinetown*, *Hairspray*, *Hair*, and *Footloose*. She thanks her mentors, Justin, Jamie, and Michael for their trust and guidance, Nicola and Courtney for their love and support, and all the rest of these beautiful bohemians for their talent and dedication. "Remember: no day but today!"

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(Milton Gatch/TV Announcer), *Harvey* (Dr. William Chumley), *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble), *Joseph...* (Ensemble), and *Jekyll and Hyde* (Bisset). John would like to thank his family and friends for their support, and his cast, band, and production team for putting together such a wonderful show and giving him an opportunity that he will cherish forever. "Forget regret, or life is yours to miss."

Dan Pacuk (Bass) This is Dan's first show at TBTA. He was a part of WCSU's production of the Who's *Tommy* and New Fairfield High School's production of *Hello Dolly*. Dan currently teaches at New Milford Music Center and is a member of the Danbury Symphony Orchestra.

Crystal Schewe (Director's Assistant) Crystal has recently returned to the area after a 9-month apprenticeship with Hartford Stage's education department teaching theatre across the state. Crystal directed two elementary school productions, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Alice in Wonderland*, and is excited to be working with adult actors! Crystal has also performed in several local productions, her favorites being *HAIR* (TBTA), *Songs for a New World* (Newtown Black Box), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Ives Concert Park) and is often seen making things up with *17 Debacles*, TBTA's resident improv troupe. She would like to thank this beautiful cast and crew for helping her measure her life in love.

Jessica Sciuto (Ensemble) This is Jessica's debut at TBTA! She has performed in the DHS Productions of The Wiz, Seussical and The Music Man and has also been in Hansel and Gretel and Cosi Fan Tutti with Danbury Hat City Opera. Jessica is President of an all girls a cappella group called Martini Glass A Cappella, now in their tenth year! A preschool teacher by day, she is an avid XBOX gamer at night. She is incredibly excited for her first show at TBTA!

Courtney Tanner (Spotlight Operator) is happy to be back for her second season at TBTA. Previous technical credits include *HAIR*, *Into The Woods*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, and *Be A Good Little Widow*. A DHS alumni, she has also been given the opportunity to be a part of the productions of *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Urinetown*, and *Hairspray*. Courtney would like to thank the cast and crew of *RENT* for making this journey a powerful and unforgettable one. Courtney would also like to thank her friends and family for their everlasting support. "Peace and Love."

Torrey Thomas (ANGEL **D**UMOTT **S**CHUNARD) This is Torrey's first show at TBTA. Playing the role of Angel is an honor and his dream role. Angel is an inspiration to Torrey and he feels privileged to be able to hopefully inspire others with his performance. A 28-year-old singer, he has sung in Disney World and received the state's highest award for Voice & Performing Arts. Torrey previously performed in the musical *Tommy*. He thanks Michael, Kerry, Meg, his fellow cast

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here tonight, especially this amazing and talented cast and crew of *RENT* for all the wonderful memories!

Mallory Escott (Ensemble) is proud to be going on her second season here at TBTA. Last season she had the pleasure of gracing the stage in *HAIR*. In addition to TBTA, she most recently sang back-up for Nadirah Shakoor during her *Nod to the Storyteller* CD release party in Las Vegas, but most notably she has been part of several of Jimmy Buffett's tours singing backup. Mallory wishes to thank her fiancé, John for loving and supporting her and allowing her to chase her dream. 11/13.

Janice Gabriel (Ensemble) is beyond excited to be back on stage at TBTA. *RENT* has played such a huge role in her theatrical career and she is so excited that she has been given the chance to play on stage with the most amazing group of people. By day she is a teacher and at night performs with many local theaters. She would like to thank Michael, Meg, Kerry, and Diane for this incredible opportunity. "NO DAY BUT TODAY!!!!! Break a leg cast and crew!"

Andrew Gercak (Drums) This is Andrew's first show at TBTA. He will be a senior at DHS where he is an active member of the school's music program and has performed with several ensembles and activities involving the music department including *Hairspray* and *Footloose*, drum set and percussion accompaniment for choir and orchestra, drumline section leader for the DHS Marching Hatters, and drummer for the DHS jazz band. He currently studies under Chris Parker for drum set and Robert Ondek for other percussion. Outside of percussion, Gercak, as friends call him, enjoys swimming, calculus, and learning traditionally tonal instruments.

Nicola Gillotte (Sound Assistant) is happy to be in this lovely production of *RENT*, one of many shows she has been a part of at TBTA. She just graduated from DHS this past June and will attend WCSU in fall. Past shows include *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Urinetown*, *Hairspray*, *Thou Shalt Not Dance*, *Into The Woods*, *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, *Be a Good Little Widow*, and *Footloose*! She thanks everyone who has helped her and also been there for her on the way, Courtney, Wendy, Justin, Stephen, Jamie and many, many more!

Kristin Hoose (Ensemble) currently resides in Danbury and is a senior marketing manager for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's national office in White Plains, NY. Recent TBTA roles include: Crissy in HAIR, Sylvia in Sylvia and CB's Sister in Dog Sees God. Past producing credits: Dead Man's Cell Phone, Joseph..., Love Letters, Harvey, Spoon River Anthology, Bye Bye Birdie, Beyond Therapy and The Food Chain (TBTA). Kristin would like to thank Michael, the cast, the crew and the production team for helping make one of her dreams come true. Much love to her family for their continued support.

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Christopher Hunter (Ensemble) is thrilled to join the cast of *RENT* for his second TBTA show. Previous credits include *HAIR*, *Into the Woods*, and *Smokey Joe's Cafe*. Chris is a rising sophomore at Columbia University where he studies Economics and Music. He thanks you all for coming and hopes you enjoy this AMAZING show!

Meg Jones (Producer/Costume Design) is very happy to be involved in this production. *RENT* has held a special place in her heart since her first trip to the Nederlander, where she had the privilege to see the original cast more than once...twice...ten times....Since that time she managed to share the love of this show with both of her daughters, Catherine & Sheridan. Each of whom visited the Nederlander before the show closed. Meg has been in charge of costume design for many shows at TBTA. She has also been seen on stage, as well as producer, during the past 5 seasons. She hopes that this show will remind you all that life and friendships are precious and—in fact—we are the lucky ones....

Molly Rose Just (Mimi Marquez) is thrilled to be performing for the first time at TBTA. Playing Mimi in *RENT* has been a therapeutic learning experience and it is something that she will always carry with her. She would like to thank Jake, Ben, Maggie, and Gigi, and she wouldn't have gotten through this summer without Bennett, Torrey, Rob, and Mallory. Thank you to Nicky, without him she wouldn't have been introduced to *RENT* 12 years ago! Thank you to Michael for staging this show and always having the courage to put serious issues out in the open. "To the entire cast and crew, thank you. You all have brought such joy to my life! GIVE IN TO LOVE!"

Nsangi Kariamu (Musical Director) is a rising junior at NYU majoring in music education. She has played piano for 13 years and currently studies under Dr. Fabio Gardenal. Although she primarily focuses on classical piano, Nsangi also enjoys playing piano and violin for pit orchestras. Past shows include *Peter Pan, Annie Get Your Gun, Children of Eden*, and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Nsangi is also a dancer and performer of West Afrikan dance, and has danced with the Kariamu Drum and Dance troupe for 15 years. As a longtime *RENT*-head, Nsangi is very excited to be a part of this show and wishes the best of luck to everyone involved.

Nick Kuell (Tom Collins) is extremely excited to be performing in *RENT* during his 5th summer at TBTA. Recently, he appeared as Claude Hooper Bukowski in *HAIR*. When not performing at TBTA, he studies English at UConn in hopes of becoming a teacher, and sings with the all-male acapella group "Conn-Men," who just finished recording their sophomore album (for booking info or information on getting the new cd, contact connmen@gmail.com). He has always loved the music of *RENT* and the character of Collins, and is thrilled to be able to give the role his all.

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Diane LaPine (Vocal Director) is a veteran TBTA performer having appeared as Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret* and Berthe in *Pippin*. She studied voice with the late Neville Landor and for many years enjoyed a career as a professional vocalist and vocal coach. For the past 17 years, Diane has been a full-time Broker/Realtor and owns Cornerstone CT Realty here in Brookfield along with her husband Jim, who also is a professional saxophonist. Diane has served as vocal director for DHS spring musicals (*Grease. Beauty and the Beast, Peter Pan, Annie Get Your Gun, Urinetown, Hairspray and Footloose*) and at TBTA (*Pippin, Once on This Island*). Diane has two children, daughter Jaimie, a Berklee graduate currently teaching music in Estes Park, CO and a son Gregory, a Junior at WSCU majoring in Jazz Studies/Saxophone. Diane is enjoying being a part of this production of *RENT*!

Sara Mariano (Joanne Jefferson) is still pinching herself daily to ensure playing her dream role is not in fact a dream! Topping off the experience is falling in love with this incredibly talented cast and crew. Her previous roles at TBTA include Rona Lisa Peretti in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and Marcy in Dog Sees God. She also co-produced Hair last summer and looks forward to co-producing I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change this fall. Much love to her husband Joe, son Martin and family and friends for their encouragement and support. This and every performance is dedicated to Sara's Uncle Stephen Garamone, whose life was taken too soon by AIDS in 1995. "Measure your life in love."

Carol Martino (Stage Manager/Props) is stage managing her ninth show at TBTA. Previous shows include *Once on this Island, Book of Liz, Cabaret, Moonlight & Magnolias, Hair,* and *Be a Good Little Widow.* She truly enjoys the amazingly talented people she gets to work with on each show. Special thanks to her husband, John, who always encourages her in every endeavor. Enjoy!

Justin Morgan (Lighting Designer) *RENT* marks Justin's eighth design at TBTA. Some of his favorites include, *Hair, Once On This Island*, and *Dog Sees God*. Justin is a graduate of UConn, where he obtained his BFA in design/technical theatre. He had worked professionally in technical theatre and live entertainment for several years before becoming a teacher with Danbury Public Schools in 2004. Justin has been the Technical Director and Lighting Designer for DHS Productions for over 15 musicals. He would like to thank the entire TBTA family for the opportunity to work with such talented and beautiful people.

John Mudgett (Benjamin Coffin III) is honored to be a part of TBTA's production of *RENT*, which happens to be his dream show. This is both his first show at TBTA and his first show outside of high school. Previous credits include *How To Succeed in Business...*