Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

March 2018

Dear theater family & friends,

It was this past October on Brookfield Day, an annual event to showcase all that Brookfield has to offer. My husband Andy and I had been at the theatre all day working on the set for "Noises Off!", giving building tours, and chaperoning our newest offering—the Spotlight Program for students ages 8 through 16, a program created and run by Brookfield High School student Purvi Dudhedia.

The day went really well and we were finishing with some set painting when a group of people wandered in the front door and, apologizing for the late hour, asked if we were still open. Of course we said yes!

It turned out that the group included family and friends of one of our founders, Tillie Ciccala. There I was, looking very messy and very tired. Tillie's daughter came up to me and said, "How much you must enjoy all you are doing—aren't we so lucky to be here!"

Yes, I feel very fortunate indeed to be part of such a wonderful place that is open to all who want to contribute to the arts and the community, a theatre that is dedicated to being a brave space where all voices can be heard and that seeks to offer audiences shows that are entertaining, fun, challenging, and thought provoking.

We have so many great plans for 2018! Along with an ambitious season of shows (The Lion In Winter, Other People's Money, Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, Andrew Lippa's Wild Party, and Suite Surrender), we are also planning many special events including "Fresh Baked Musicals" which will feature songs from new musicals including works by Stephen Schwartz, Michael John LaChiusa, and other contemporary musical theater composers. We are also hosting events including the Brookfield Film Festival and a film screening in conjunction with the Garner Players.

Our newest event is our first spring fundraising gala "Murder At The Banquet" on Friday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. at The Amber Room Colonnade in Danbury. Along with a full course meal, guests will take part in an interactive murder mystery directed by Nicole Veach and mentored by Brian deToma. Tickets for this event are \$85 each, \$150 per couple, \$600 for a table of 8, or \$700 for a table of 10. The evening will begin with passed hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and a silent auction. It promises to be a fun and delicious evening—we hope you'll join us!

More information about "Murder At The Banquet", our season shows, and events can be found on our newly updated web site BrookfieldTheatre.org.

As we begin our 61st year as an all volunteer non-profit organization, we hope you will join us in ensuring the future of this creative space for many years to come with your support! Subscriptions, memberships, and tickets to the gala are on sale in the gallery during intermission.

Enjoy the show, Lou Okell, President

Thank you to our 60th Anniversary Supporters

FRONT ROW CENTER \$2,500+

Rodney L. White Foundation

ORCHESTRA \$1,000-\$2,499

Eric & Tony Bosco-Schmidt Rick & Paget Haylon

PLATINUM \$500-\$999

Rebecca Pokorski • Novartis

GOLD \$250-\$499

Larry & Arlene Coleman

SILVER \$100-\$249

Javier Alvarado • Anthony Chiodo Mike & Stephanie Daniels • Desi & Brian Kelley Donald & Karlene Lombardo Jim & Kathy Sullivan • Steve Wright

BRONZE \$25-\$99

Anonymous
In memory of Edna M. Carroll
In memory of Elaine Pennarola Cyr
Joyce Schriebman

FRIENDS up to \$25

Carol deGiere • Molly Farrell-Savage • Barbara Locke Monica O'Brien • United Way of Greater Waterbury

IN-KIND SERVICES

Arkettype • Simpson & Vail

List current as of press time. We apologize for any errors or omissions.

The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community theater. Donations are tax deductible—please consult your tax professional.

Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to producing plays of the highest possible standards, offering educational opportunities and cultural arts for our community.

Be A 2018 Season Supporter

Front Row Center \$2,500+

- · a full page ad in all playbills
- TBTA Membership
- name recognition in all playbills
- · your logo on our web site
- recognition on all posters and flyers
- recognition in all theatre advertising

Orchestra \$1,000-\$2,499

- a full page ad in all playbills
- name recognition in all playbills
- $\bullet\,$ your logo & name on our web site
- TBTA Membership

Platinum \$500-\$999

- name recognition in all playbills
- your logo & name on our web site
- TBTA Membership

Gold \$250-\$499

- name recognition in all playbills
- · name recognition on our web site
- TBTA Membership

Silver \$100-\$249

- · name recognition in all playbills
- TBTA Membership

Bronze \$25-\$99

• name recognition in all playbills

Show Sponsor: Sponsor an individual show or special event for \$2,000

- full page ad in the playbill, "Show Sponsor" noted
- recognition, including your logo, in show playbills and web site
- recognition on posters and flyers
- recognition in all show advertising

TBTA Scholarship Fund

We are proud to award a college scholarship each year to graduating high schoolers pursuing theater arts. **APPLICATIONS are due May 15** and are available at area high school guidance offices or by email from BrookfieldTheatreCT@gmail.com.

PAST RECIPIENTS INCLUDE:

Julia Bogdanoff 2017 • Jenny Dear / Zach Jackson 2012
Sammy Panzarino 2010 • Billy Shields 2007 • Travis Moore 2006
Rob Sniffin 2005 • Andrew Wheelock 2004

If you would like to be part of this giving tradition, please specify "TBTA Scholarship Fund" on your check.

Donations are accepted on-line at www.BrookfieldTheatre.org or by mail: Brookfield Theatre, P.O. Box 528, Brookfield, CT 06804

Name	Phone	
Address		
City, State, Zip		
	Donation Amount	
	Scholarship Fund	
	Total Enclosed	

Donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Please consult your tax advisor.

the LION in Winter

by James Goldman

directed by Jane Farnol

produced by Andrew Okell & Bob Lane

STARRING:

Vicki Sosbe • Bob Lussier

John Zanowiak • Ryan Wenke • Nico Apicella

Erin Shaughnessey • Patrick Kelly

Lou Okell • Ron Malyszka • David Jurman

THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION OR DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS ON ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED, A VIOLATION OF THE AUTHOR'S RIGHTS AND ACTIONABLE UNDER UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT LAW. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:

WWW.SAMUELFRENCH.COM/WHITEPAPER

For the safety of performers, the courtesy of patrons, and in compliance with copyright laws, the taking photos or recordings of any kind is strictly prohibited. **PLEASE TURN OFF ALL** non-essential electronic devices as they can interfere with our technical systems. **Patrons are welcome to text, tweet, or candy crush in the lobby.**

Members & Subscribers

Membership is still only \$20 and is a great way to support the theatre!

2018 Members

Aldis Alexander, Danielle Calabrese, Sarah Denn, John Duron, Carol de Giere, Jean A Jackson, Monica O'Brien, Andrew Okell, Lou Okell, Rebecca Pokorski, Doreen Rafferty, Eileen Saluga, Rich Saluga, Joy Tagliavento, Nicole Veach, Becky Venable

Lifetime Members

Stephanie Skrok Daniels, Bart Geissinger, Barbara Locke, Wendell MacNeal, Imelda O'Gara Roth, Bill Possidento, Larry Stewart, David Tuttle

2018 Season Subscribers

John Baron*, Eric & Tony Bosco-Schmidt*,
John Bottelsen*, Melissa & Ed Carle, Anna & Roy Chan*,
Anthony Chiodo, Larry & Arlene Coleman*, Susan Davis*,
Frank Esposito*, Mark Forlenza*, Eric Forsberg*,
Marianne Gaffey & Robin Montgomery*, Peter & Laura Glen*,
Diane Gucker, Wilda Hayes*, Cathy & Bill Hunt*, Greg Kelsey*,
Mary Kilgore*, Susan Kilgore*, Donald & Karlene Lombardo*,
Michael Matson*, Eileen & Pat McKeeney*, John McKenney*,
Tara Peterson, Brian & Kathy Reiff*, Clint & Anne Rickards*,
Sue & Les Slater*, Christine Volo*, Steve Wright*

*Subscription for Two

Gift of Theater Givers

Melissa Carle, Lena Negron, Lou Okell, Jane Saunders

Thank you for your support!

List current as of press time. We apologize for any errors or omissions.

OUR HISTORY

The Country Players of Brookfield was founded in 1957 by Tillie Ciccala and Dot French. Plays were initially performed in church halls and school auditoriums. After a school complained about an actor appearing on stage with no shirt, it became clear that the band of players needed a home of its own. After refurbishing this building (originally the Curtis school gym built in 1907), it has been the permanent home of Brookfield's community theater. The organization eventually grew to include a wide range of cultural offerings and, in 2003, changed its name to "Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc." (shortened to TBTA or Brookfield Theatre) to reflect this commitment. The gallery lobby was dedicated in 2005 under the leadership of Bart Geissinger. This year marks our 61st year as an all-volunteer, non-profit organization providing quality live shows, cultural events, and educational workshops for the community.

"The Lion In Winter"

by James Goldman

directed by Jane Farnol

CAST

Vicki Sosbe Eleai	nor of Aquitaine, Queen of England	
Bob Lussier	Henry II, King of England	
John Zanowiak	. Richard Lionheart, the oldest son	
Ryan Wenke	Geoffrey, the middle son	
Nico Apicella	John, the youngest son	
Erin Shaughnessy	Alais Capet, a French Princess	
Patrick Kelly	Philip Capet, King of France	
Lou Okell	Lady-in-Waiting	
Ron Malyszka	Squire	
David Jurman	Squire	

SETTING

Henry's castle at Chinon, France—Christmas 1183 AD

There will be a 15 minute intermissions.

"THE LION IN WINTER" is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

IN THE GALLERY

Kathleen L'Hommedieu is a world-class rower, Master Gardener, and landscape painter studying under Ira Barkoff. Her paintings have been exhibited throughout the region and reside in collections in New York, Connecticut, and North Carolina.

Jeanne Steers is a professional artist and a graduate of RISD. She is exhibiting pieces from her series "Visage": Life comes at us fast and furiously.

So much comes at us in life, and builds up over time to form our attitudes and beliefs and in essence who we think we've become. Visage offers an opportunity to step back and gain a new perspective on the process we call life and remember who we truly are, our essence, our oneness. It is about embracing our true selves. Visage is about our connection.... the connection of all of us... all humans... our humanity.

This work provides the opportunity to harmonize oneself through a visual connection that will take you to the depths of your being, soothing and reconciling ones true self....Creating order out of chaos.

These paintings are Reiki infused with the intention to provide healing energy to all who encounter them.

The current show can be viewed from March 6-25. An Artists' Reception will be held on Saturday, March 17 from 5 to 7 pm. Gallery hours are evenings and weekends by appointment or during showtimes.

"The Lion In Winter"

by James Goldman

directed by Jane Farnol

PRODUCTION CREW

Director Jane Farnol
Producers Bob Lane, Andrew Okell
Stage Manager Sarah Denn
Set Design Andrew Okell, Bob Lane
Costume Design Rebecca Pokorski
Costumer Vermilion Novak
LIGHTING DESIGN Nick Kaye
Sound Design Lou Okell
Lighting Execution Joe Cebollero
Sound Execution/Effects Andrew Okell
Set Construction Andrew Okell, Bob Lane, Emma Okell, Lou Okell
Set Decoration Ella Deakin, Sarah Denn, Jane Farnol, Vermilion Novak, Andrew Okell, Lou Okell, Erin Shaughnessy, Dylan Sosbe
Ian Sosbe, Keira Sosbe, Vicki Sosbe
House Manager Dannie Calabrese
House Photographer Stephen Cihanek
Box Office Deanna Rullan & Jean A. Jackson
SRO/Concessions TBTA Volunteers
OPENING NIGHT PARTY Bob Lane. Monica O'Brien. Andrew Okell

SPECIAL THANKS

Arkettype • Steve Cihanek • DB Productions • David Jurman Lee's Antiques • New Milford Theatreworks • Monica O'Brien Emma Okell • Suzi Pettibone • St. Andrews Church, Kent • Frank Wargo

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. In the unlikely event of an emergency, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

Ryan Wenke (Geoffrey) has regional credits that include Si Crowell in the critically acclaimed production of *Our Town* (dir. David Cromer) at Huntington Theatre Company (Elliot Norton Award for Best Production), and Benvolio in Brown Box Theater's touring production of *Romeo and Juliet*. Ryan was previously seen locally at Ridgefield Theater Barn as Jared in *Body Awareness* (dir. Maryann Arcoleo-Koltun), Ben Fowles in *Farragut North* (dir. Cathy Fitzpatrick Linder) and as Chris Foster in *Becky's New Car* (dir. Sherry Asch). Film work includes *Manchester by the Sea* (dir. Kenneth Lonergan), *Bridge of Spies* (dir. Steven Spielberg), and *The Way Way Back* (dir. Nat Faxon & Jim Rash). Mr. Wenke graduated from Emerson College with a BA in Acting and works at the Prospector Theater in Ridgefield.

John Zanowiak (RICHARD) is happy to be making his debut at Brookfield Theater. He has previously been seen at Town Players of Newtown as NICK CRISTANO in *Over the River and Through the Woods,* TED COTTON in *Murder Among Friends* and DAVID GRANGER in *Design for Murder.* John has also performed at RTB where he portrayed private BLAKE CHRISTIANSEN in the war epic *The Tomb.* Last summer he played MATT in an independent film called *Wandering Off,* which premiered at the L.A. Femme Film Festival in Los Angeles. John most recently collaborated with his writer/director brother on the short film *The Showdown* playing as the gunslinger DAMIAN (www.thesh owdownmovie.com). John would like to thank his family and friends for all of their support, and sends a special shout out to his godson Darius.



An Interactive Murder Mystery Fundraising Gala

Friday, April 13th at 7:00 pm

The Amber Room Colonnade

Cocktail Attire

Appetizers • Full Cash Bar (cash only please)

Full Service Dinner with Choice of Entree

Prime Rib, Chicken Framcese, or Vegetarian (chef's choice)

\$85 each • \$150 per couple • Table of 8 for \$600 • Table of 10 for \$700 Tickets at www.BrookfieldTheatre.org/#events

RSVP by April 4, 2018. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

Nico Apicella (John) began acting at the age of 8. He has performed in various shows at The Gary The Olivia Theatre at the Abbey of Regina Laudis including as Mossy Hart in Act One, Jim in The Actor, Huck Finn at the Gala, Jake in Annie Get Your Gun, and Jerome in South Pacific. Nico performed a soliloquy from Hamlet in A Celebration of Jivamukti Yoga Founders, played Pyramus from A Midsummer Nights Dream, and various scenes from Romeo & Juliet and Hamlet at the Pathways Players. Film credits include QUINNETUKUT, a celebration of Native American Culture at the Institute for American Indian Studies, Mason in Return to Dance, and Young George in By George. Nico is a full fledged blacksmith apprentice working on chainmaille armor and knives. He holds 2 black belts in Tae Quan Doe and works hard at the family Alpaca Farm Sanctuary. Nico thanks and sends love to his acting teacher Mother Dolores Hart and his blacksmithing teacher Mother Anastasia for their amazing and brilliant guidance and support. He is thrilled to be working at Brookfield Theatre.

Sarah Denn (STAGE **Manager)** couldn't be more excited to be working with the talented cast and crew of *Lion in Winter*. She is a member of the Board of Directors and holds a degree in theatre from Goucher College. Sarah has acted as dramaturg, director, cast member, stage manager, advertising director, and Greek-mask- designer and constructor for several college productions and worked on 2017's *FROST/NIXON* here at Brookfield Theatre. Catch her in the upcoming *Murder At the Banquet* murder-mystery dinner theatre fundraiser event on April 13th at the Amber Room. Never catch her playing guitar because she is terrible at it. Special thanks to Lou and Andy Okell and Bob Lane for going out of their way to support her every step of the way at TBTA.

Jane Farnol (Director) was born in England and trained at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA). Her New York acting credits include Teresa in Brendan Behan's *The Hostage* at the Sheridan Square Playhouse, the chorus in *The Trojan Women* at Circle in the Square, and Ann in the Broadway production of *Hail Scrawdyke!* directed by Alan Arkin. At the American Shakespeare Festival Theatre in Stratford, CT, her roles ranged from Titania to Lady Macbeth. On television, Jane had running roles on *The Guiding Light* and *As the World Turns*. Jane's movie *The Colonial Naturalist* is shown as a permanent feature at Colonial Williamsburg. She was Dave Garroway's assistant at WCBS Radio and Executive Director of Lee Theodore's American Dance Machine. Since moving to Connecticut, Jane has directed some thirty-one plays in fifteen years. She is overjoyed to be back at Brookfield with a superb production staff and a marvelous cast for *The Lion in Winter*.

David Jurman (Squire) Has been involved in music, and some theater since first grade. He has worked as lighting tech, set construction, and effects for groups such as Sacred Heart Theater, Old Polka Dot Play House (on Pleasure Beach), and Monroe's Country Collage Players. He joined the Brookfield Theater as Vocal Director in 2016 for *The Fantastiks* and worked as vocal coach for last suumer's *Damn Yankees*. David has had the honor of singing under the direction of Sir David Willcocks, John Rutter, George Kent, and Willie Zwadeski. At present David sings with Tina Heidrich and the Connecticut Master Chorale and is a member of the Nova Scotia Choral Federation. He is thrilled to be supporting and working with Brookfield Theater. He is the Musical Director for Brookfield's new teen Spotlight Program which will be performing *Alice In Wondreland, Jr.* on June 1, 2 & 3. "Art and Music are essential to a well-rounded education" "Music is love in search of a word."

Nick Kaye (Lighting Design) Although this is his first time at Brookfield, Nick has been designing lights for the past seven years at various theaters in Fairfield County. Nick has also been seen on stage at TBTA, most recently as John Birt in Peter Morgan's *Frost/Nixon*, directed by Dana O'Neal and as various German guards in Martin Sherman's *Bent* directed by Will Jeffries. Nick is directing and compiling sounds for the RTB One Acts (March 9-31). Other activities include Set Design and Building (most recently for August Wilson's *Fences* at RTB) and serving on the board at Town Players in Newtown. Nick would like to thank Jane and Lou for trusting him with this wonderful opportunity. If you enjoy the show, tell your friends and please come again.

Patrick Kelly (Philip) studied the Meisner technique at Maggie Flanigan studio and John Desotelle studio, respectively. His past roles include Marvin Hudgeons in *Dark of The Moon* at Sherman Playhouse, John Smith in *Run For Your Wife* at Milford's Eastbound theatre, Matt in *Now Or Later*, a political comedy-drama by Christopher Shinn with the Stratford based Square One Theatre Company. Other roles include Damis in *Tartuffe*, Lawrence in *Calendar Girls*, Tom in *Round and Round the Garden*. He was an actor/dancer in the ensemble of Wilton Playshop's, *Chicago*. He feels fortunate and grateful for the opportunity to play Philip here at Brookfield Theatre.

Bob Lane (Producer/Set Fabricator-2010 Volunteer of the Year) is happy to produce again with the usual suspects. He produced last season's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, also with his set building sidekick. Bob thanks his teammates, his friends and family, and his savior...Rita. It's a good night for theater!

Bob Lussier (King Henry II) is thrilled to be back at Brookfield Theatre and is so excited and honored to be able to play the role of Henry. He was last seen here in 2009 as the Dentist in Little Shop of Horrors. Some of his past roles over the years include Javert in Les Miserables, Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol, Richard Hannay in The 39 Steps, Sir Galahad in Spamalot and Luther Billis in South Pacific. A big Thank You to Jane for entrusting this role to me, and Break A Leg to the entire cast and crew!! "All my love to my real life Queen, my wife Sue for her never ending support!" Bob would like to dedicate this show to the memory of an old friend and mentor, Mr. Gary McMahon who he shared the stage with in 1985 in another production of The Lion in Winter. "This one's for you Gary. I hope I make you proud!

Ron Malyszka (Squire) couldn't be more pleased than to be working with Jane Farnol again and with such a great cast and production staff in this production of *The Lion In Winter*. Ron was recently seen here, last fall, as Selsdon in *Noises Off.* Other Brookfield credits include: *The Fantasticks, And Then There Were None, Tuesdays with Morie, Harvey, An Inspector Calls, Spider's Web,* and *Dial M for Murder.* Ron will also be performing in the upcoming fundraising gala *Murder at the Banquet* at the Amber Room on April 13.

Vermilion Novak (Costumer) is a creative Brookfield homeschooler who helped to costume last season's *Damn Yankees* and costume designed *Noises Off!* She plans to further her studies in costume design in England. She also sells her creations at her etsy shop: CloakedInSerendipity.

Andrew Okell (PRODUCER/SET DESIGNER-2011 Volunteer of the Year) thanks his wonderful daughter, Emma, for introducing him to theater. By day he runs his own graphics & printing business (arkett.com). He hopes you will tell everyone about the show so that he can return to build many more sets with "Bob da Builder" Lane and his growing band of set building co-horts.

Lou Okell (Lady-In-Watting/Sound Design) serves as president of Brookfield Theatre and is so thankful to Jane for her kindness, leadership, and talent! Lou produced, sound designed, worked tech, and stage managed numerous shows. She directed *A Memory, A Monologue, A Rant, and A Prayer* last spring and appeared as Rebecca Nurse in the staged reading of *The Crucible* (dir. Rebecca Pokorski). Many thanks to Andy, Bob, Sarah, and the rest of the production team for keeping everything running smoothly. Much gratitude to the very talented cast for all their work in bringing this show to life and for their friendship. *Extra thanks to my dear Emma—so sorry your vacation coincided with hell week!*

Rebecca Pokorski (Costume Design) When it was decided that *The Lion in Winter* would be the season opener, Rebecca jumped at the chance to be the costume designer. Rebecca has a degree in costume design from SUNY Fredonia and has a special interest in the construction of costumes from the medieval period. Previous to her current incarnation Rebecca costumed in professional/regional theatre from 1994-2006 at the Mac-Haydn Theatre in Chatham, NY, the Buffalo Shakespeare in the Park, the Wisconsin Shakespeare Festival and the Tennessee Repertory Theatre in Nashville before moving onto the costume world of Broadway with credits such as *Dream, Miss Saigon, Jeckyl and Hyde* and finally *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* as well as working with the Royal Ballet at the Met. Rebecca now spends her time not only behind the sewing machine but also on stage as an actor/singer/dancer. You may have seen her as Meg in *Damn Yankees* and in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* on stage at TBTA. She resides here in Brookfield with her beautiful and talented daughter, Eden.

Erin Shaughnessy (Alais Capet) is very pleased to be making her stage debut at Brookfield Theatre. A current student at WCSU studying Theatre Performance, Erin is no stranger to the stage. She has been performing since the age of 5 and has been in numerous productions in theatres all over Connecticut. Favorite roles include Gloria Hawkins (Boeing, Boeing), Mandy Bloom (Time Stands Still), Ginger (Zombie Prom) at Theatreworks New Milford, and Laurel (The Chalk Garden) at Sherman Playhouse. Having just made her debut on national television in the Investigation Discovery Channel's popular show Evil Lives Here, Erin is intent on pursuing a career in performance arts. She is grateful to Jane for inviting her to be a part of this tremendous show and for always encouraging her in her acting. She especially wants to thank the cast and our extraordinary production crew for making this experience one of the best she's ever had working in theatre. Love to Mom, Dad, and Jake. Thank you for your endless support on my journey to making my dreams come true.

Vicki Sosbe (Eleanor) has been rehearsing for this role for years and she has the tiara to prove it. Bringing the role of Eleanor to life ticks yet another box off her theatrical bucket list, following her most recent role of Amanda in *Private Lives*. Additional roles include Dr. Emma Brookner in *The Normal Heart*, Gretchen in *Boeing Boeing*, Christine in Bad Seed, Mrs. Manningham in *Gaslight* and Charlie in *Goodbye*, Charlie in which she starred opposite Mr. Lussier here at TBTA. She would not be here without her real life King, Kevin, her three young heirs, and her matriarch-in-law, Phyllis. Thank you for all you do to allow me to do what I love.