



The Ovation

The Actorsingers Newsletter
P.O. Box 91
Nashua, NH 03061

Information on
both of these shows
inside!



Mark these ACTORSINGERS Dates on your calendar!!

***** Note the correct date of Info Nite for *Curtains* is Jan. 21 *****

(The date sent in the last Actorsingers E-mail was incorrect.)

January 18	Semi Annual Meeting - 6:30 Social - 7 pm Meeting
January 21	Info Nite – <i>Curtains</i> -7 pm
January 26	NH Theatre Awards – Stockbridge Theatre
January 27	Auditions – <i>Curtains</i> – 6 pm
January 28	Auditions – <i>Curtains</i> – 7 pm
January 30	Call Backs - <i>Curtains</i>
March 8, 9, 10	<i>Seussical Jr.</i> – Jr. Actorsingers - Court St. Theater
May 10, 11, 12	<i>Curtains</i> – Keefe Auditorium

Actorsingers Newsletter

OVATION

Jan 2013 Issue

Editor: Kerry Schneider

***** *Semi-Annual Meeting* *****
Friday, January 18, 2013

6:30 Social / 7:00 Meeting

Twice a year the Actorsingers hold a business meeting open to the general public. We strongly encourage all members to attend and discuss the important issues of the organization. Mark the date, **Friday, January 18**. This is your chance to be heard and express opinions on matters of relevance. We need a Quorum of the active members (those who have paid dues for at least 2 years and have participated in 1 Actorsingers function per year) in order to take any votes or action on an issue. Please plan to attend. We are only as strong as our membership. Everyone is welcome! Hear about upcoming Social functions and be the first to hear what our 2013/2014 Season will be!

Seussical, Jr. A Jr. Actorsingers Production!

Show Dates: March 8 (7pm) 9 (2 and 7 pm) and 10 (2 pm)
at the Janice B. Streeter Theater, 14 Court St., Nashua

Seussical Jr. is a whimsical musical based on the beloved classic characters by Dr. Seuss. If you have any questions, please contact the producers at jenn_shell@yahoo.com

Directed by **Carol Gorelick**
Musical Direction by **Julia Killey**
Choreography by **Martha Daniels Holland**
Producers: **Jen Morton** and **Michelle Morrison**

Tickets go on sale toward
the end of Jan. online at
www.actorsingers.org
at rehearsals or call:
(603) 320-1870



Seussical Jr. Cast List:

\$12/\$10/\$8 depending on section

Horton- **Ben Gorelick**

Gertrude McFuzz- **Emily Trubey**

The Cat In the Hat- **Maddie Kuchta**

Jojo- **Peter Murphy**

Mayzie LeBird- **Nicole Plummer**

Sour Kangaroo- **Becca Holland**

Young Kangaroo- **Mary Holland**

Mayor of Whoville- **Greg Nguyen**

Mrs. Mayor (Who)- **Emily Risteen**

Vlad Vladikoff- **Josh Booth**

Cindy Lou Who- **Samantha Parks**

Grinch/Who- **Alex Vaillancourt**

Bird Girls- **Kelly Frasca, Darcy Hinkle, Juliann Risteen**

Wickershams- **Mary Grabowski, Ben Morton**
Cayden Plummer, Dylan Quadros

Jungle Creatures- **Grace Morton, Sarah Ross, Ben Talty,**
Mia Taylor, Izzy Vaillancourt

Whos- **Jem Booth, Josh Booth, Gwen Davis,**
Grace Greenaway, Abbey Kotelly, Sophia Kotelly,
Kathleen Laramie, Hailey Sullivan, Emily Tibbitts

Curtains

Directors:

Larry Pizza and **Kim Cassetta** (Dramatics)

Judy Hayward (Music)

Bobby Fonacier (Choreography)



Info Nite - **Monday, January 21** – 7 pm. Hear what the show is about, learn what the vision is for the production, and find out how auditions will be run. Ask any questions and get a feel for the show. Everyone is welcome.

Auditions: Sunday, Jan. 27 at 6 pm and Monday, Jan. 28 at 7 pm. Come early to the Actorsingers Hall to warm up, sign in and learn a short dance routine. Please prepare a song that showcases your voice - approx. 32 bars of music (not to exceed 1 minute) and bring sheet music! More information about auditions will be posted on the Actorsingers website after the informational night. www.actorsingers.org

Call Backs: Wednesday, Jan. 30.

Once cast, everyone who performs on stage must be an Actorsingers member (Dues are \$10 Individual or \$15 Family and are valid through 6/30/13). You do NOT have to be a member to audition. Come with your friends and have fun!

Breakdown of Characters in this Comic Musical Mystery Romp:

- **LIEUTENANT FRANK CIOFFI** (40s): Local Boston detective who is also a musical theatre aficionado. Aside from being exceptionally good at his job, he has also aspired to be a musical theatre performer his entire life. He falls in love with Niki.
- **NIKI HARRIS** (20s-early 30s): Pretty, naïve ingénue. Niki is a chorus girl/understudy in the chorus of the show-within-the-show during its Boston tryout. She aspires to make it as a performer on Broadway. She meets and falls in love with Dt. Frank Cioffi who is investigating a murder at the theatre.
- **GEORGIA HENDRICKS** (30s): Female half of our songwriting team. Ends up taking on the leading lady role.
- **CARMEN BERNSTEIN** (45-65): Brassy Broadway producer, unhappily married to Sidney.
- **AARON FOX** (40s): The composer of the show-within-the-show. His songwriting partner, Georgia, is also his wife from whom he's separated. He's a sexy, charming ladies man.
- **BOBBY PEPPER** (20s to early 30s): The choreographer and star male of the show within the show, he is Aaron's charming rival and the current boyfriend of Georgia.
- **CHRISTOPHER BELLING** (40-60): English director. Very camp. Very funny.
- **BAMBI BERNÉT** (Early 20s-early 30s): Performer in the chorus and daughter of Carmen, the lead producer. Hungry to work her way up to leading performer; some people think she was only hired because of her mother. An excellent dancer.
- **DARYL GRADY** (30s): A Theatre critic for the local Boston newspaper, he enjoys using the power he has to make or break shows during their out-of-town tryouts.
- **JOHNNY HARMON** (40s-50s): The Stage Manager of the show-within-the-show. Johnny is gruff but lovable. He keeps the company in line and on their toes throughout the rehearsal process.
- **OSCAR SHAPIRO** (45-65): The general manager and sole investor. An agreeable if slightly gruff man. He is always looking for any angle to find money.
- **SIDNEY BERNSTEIN** (Late 50s-Mid 60s): The co-producer of an out of town flop. Sidney is tough and self-serving.
- **JESSICA CRANSHAW** (30s-50s): Fading Hollywood star. A diva, who has no right to be one, she is a terrible singer and actress who stars in the show within a show and gets murdered on its opening night.
- **SASHA ILJINSKY** (30s-40s): The European conductor of the show within the show; can be played by the orchestra's actual conductor.
- **RANDY DEXTER** (20s-30s): One of the stars of the show within the show.
- **HARV FREMONT** (20s-30s): One of the stars of the show within the show, Randy's sidekick.
- **DETECTIVE O'FARRELL** (30s-40s): Cioffi's associate from the Boston Police Department, assists in the investigation.

The Actorsingers needs a Producer for *Curtains* and wants you to serve on a committee, sell tickets, work crew, audition and be a part of the show! Volunteer to work on Sets, Costumes, Props, Makeup, etc. We need you!!!! Be a part of the Actorsingers family. See a show from a different angle and help behind the scenes! It'll make you appreciate what the audience sees. Volunteer! Contact Secretary@actorsingers.org

The New Hampshire Theatre Awards – The 11th NH Theatre Awards are set for **Saturday, January 26, 2013** at the Stockbridge Theater in Derry. The Actorsingers recent productions of *Chicago* and *Annie* and the Teen show, *Grease*, are being considered for various honors. Can't wait to see those orphans from *Annie* reprise a number during the award show! Good luck to all who have been involved in these productions. Congratulations to all the nominees from every theater company! Thank you to **Amy Friedman** for organizing a group sale for Actorsingers. We usually have a big presence at this awards show. Although our Group sale is completed, contact Amy (AmyFriedman1@yahoo.com) if you need a ticket. She might have some returns.

News From the Board: The next **Board Meeting** will be held February 5, 2013

If you are using the hall during the winter months, **DO NOT SHUT OFF THE HEATERS!** Simply set them to low when you leave the building. Also, keep the doors on the second floor **CLOSED** at all times. Fire safety regulation.

It's never too early to volunteer to serve on The Nominating Committee or to serve on The Board. Please contact Secretary@actorsingers.org to throw your name in the ring. Thank you to all our volunteers.

Props Committee Update – Due to what appears to have been a “run” on props over the last few years, many of which never seem to make it back, the Board has established a new policy regarding the lending of Actorsingers props: **Tom Ritrovato** and **CZA** are the co-chairs for maintaining and controlling the props rooms for Actorsingers. Anyone interested in borrowing props or small set pieces must contact Tom at (603) 689-5954 or **CZA Catherine.Andruskevich@dechert.com** and arrange to sign out the items and sign off on their agreed upon return.

Thank you to the Social Committee for the fun “Wedding/Kitchen” shower in November and to **Joe Vago** and **Donna Metzger** for their roles as Bride (Joe!) and Groom (Donna!). The kitchen garnered many new supplies from this fun event.

Thank you also to **Laura Prior**, **Lauren Friedman** and **Joel Iwaskiewicz** who set up the **Bingo night** in December but ended up spending the evening cleaning nasty mold from the refrigerators which somehow had been off. Ugh!

Don't have any details yet on the **Annual After Holiday, Holiday Party/Spring Fling** but look for this purely social event coming sometime in March in the next edition of **The Ovation** or check the website for updates.

Annie - What a delightful show! Everyone involved in this production should pat themselves on the back. Kudos to all. Thank you to the entire cast and crew and all the newcomers who helped behind the scenes. Over 2,200 patrons enjoyed the performances! Since the show was performed over Veteran's Day weekend, The Actorsingers were proud to honor Veterans and those currently serving in the Military with **Free tickets**. Thank you to those who serve our country. We salute you! In the spirit of giving back to the community, The Actorsingers also gave **55 Free tickets** to The Boys and Girls Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and The Plus Company - all local charitable organizations.

Hats off to Producers **Steve Pierpont**, **Crystal Lewis** and **Gretchen Gray!** Producing a show is one of the hardest volunteer jobs in Community Theater. The Actorsingers thank those volunteers who offer to do this task. A well deserved round of applause also to Stage Manager **Steve Pierpont**, Master Carpenter **John McAllister**, and Technical Director **Dennis Schneider** and the entire backstage builders and crew for creating a gorgeous production. Go crew!

Ellie Risely, House Mgr. for *Annie*, gives a HUGE shout out and even bigger THANK YOU to the folks who helped usher and do concessions for the show. Hopefully you had fun doing it and will help again in May for *Curtains!*

*** A Special Benefit for Members Only! ***

Get \$3 off tickets to *CURTAINS!*

Until January 31, **Members** will get \$3.00 off every ticket they purchase online to our Spring show, *Curtains* via our website (www.actorsingers.org). Simply use the code **DIVA** for your discount. Hurry! This offer ends January 31! Regular prices are \$20 for Adults and \$18 for Seniors and Students. This discount can really add up to great savings!

An open letter (edited for space) from Ex-member **Janice Yancy** who was in 2 of our productions:

Dear Members of ACTORSINGERS,

Several years ago, I had my first experience being on stage in *Ragtime* with ActorSingers. I played the part of Sarah's Friend (who sang the moving song at the end of Act I). Then I was given a more prominent role in *How to Succeed in Business*. It was an eye opener for me, particularly about the gift I was born with...not earned, but born with. Personal circumstances kept me from returning to ActorSingers; however it is an experience I cherish.

My grand-daughter saw me in both shows (she was 9 years old then), and fell in love with Broadway musicals. She is now a BFA student at Salem State University studying theater. Ironically, she is in the cast of *Ragtime* at the Strand Theater in Boston (October). This is her first time on stage in a "paid gig". I am so pleased and proud that she had such a wonderful experience seeing the ActorSingers productions that she chose this as her profession. I wanted to let you know that the level of professionalism demonstrated by ActorSingers birthed something special for a nine year old African/Native American child. From me, thank you for the opportunity to experience my gift at a level I had not dared to think possible, and for giving a little girl the courage to take on the work of making this difficult profession something she can and will be successful with. Blessings, Janice Rawlings Yancy

An open letter (edited for space) from Subscriber, Jane Vondell:

Annie was a Great show! We did *Annie* in Andover about 30 years ago...**Alice and Ben Pascucci** were in it! I was thrilled to see many of my old friends and theater colleagues – **Amy Agostino, Tim Vincent, Rob Coughlin, Micky Molongosky and Ed and Dana Siegal**. I loved the music, choreography, sets and sound...the entire show!... and wish I could be in an "elderly" version! I look forward to *Curtains* in the spring. Sincerely, Jane Vondell

The Nashua Stroll – Organized by **Laura Prior** with musical direction and accompaniment by **Jamie Feinberg**, a group of talented vocalists representing The Actorsingers performed well-known show tunes and sang both familiar and new holiday tunes at this wonderful annual event. Thanks to: **Glen Grimard, Laura, Susan and Cheri Prior, Alex Hebert, Andrew Holland, Becky Rush, Joel Iwaskiewicz, Bill Mauser, Derek DeMarco, Suel-len Davidson, Lauren Friedman, Ruth Pack and Karen Thomas**.

Thank you to all who represented The Actorsingers and cheers to all who came and listened at The Stroll!

Condolences

to **The Lovering Family** on the death of Kathy's Sister

In and About Town – The whole **Conard Family (Grace, Pat and Rod)** got into the Holiday spirit by doing *A Christmas Carol* together with Peacock Players. Also in the show was **Val Psoinos**, who is getting very excited about her upcoming wedding. **Cheri Birch** will be in the comedy, *Boeing, Boeing* with the Concord Players. *Fiddler on the Roof* at Acting Out Theatre in MA boasts **Ed Siegal** as Tevye. Best of luck to Ed and **Amy Agostino** who both began new jobs recently. Our own Annie, **Julia Yameen**, wasted no time after our show *Annie* and was just in North Shore's *A Christmas Carol*. Congratulations to **Nicole Ste Croix** whose original song, *A Promise*, won a Silver Award from a contest at radio station Beat 101. **Sarah Vasques** was Annie – no, not *that* Annie, but the maid Annie in *It's a Wonderful Life* at the Amato Center. Congratulations to **Ann Siglin** on becoming a Grandmother again. **Jordan Friedman** was recently selected from Nashua High South to participate in the Jazz All-State Festival. Good luck in your new home, **Don Smith-Weiss**. Glad to hear **Steve Harper** is feeling better after contracting a nasty infection which lead to minor surgery and his having to drop out of the cast of *Pirates of Penzance* with Stagecoach productions. Seems that show was spooked. **Martha Daniels Holland** had to step in at the last minute for **Kathy Goreham** when Kathy's son was rushed to the hospital! (He's okay now). Actually making it through that show were **Marc Murai, Laura Prior, Andrew Holland** and **Emma Benson** who were directed by **Judy Hayward**, with Musical Direction by **Michele Henderson** and choreography by **Martha Daniels Holland**. **Gretchen Gray** and **Leo Choquette** handled Props duty. Congratulations to **Diana Hill** who is expecting her first child in the spring. **Daniel Schwartzberg** let his angst show in *Les Miz* with the Peacock Players. **Barb** and **Alan Amaral's** daughter, **Louisa**, performed in the Palace Jr.'s *Pocohantas* and *A Christmas Carol* and will be doing *Oliver*. Busy little Bee! Ex-member, **Sal Lizard**, has written a book – *Being Santa Claus* – which is getting positive reviews. When he did shows with us, everyone thought he *was* Santa with his flowing white beard and hair. Only good wishes and positive thoughts go out to **Josh Friedman**. **Michele Henderson** and **Bill Carey** (Carey and Henderson Vocal Studios) are producing the opera, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* in Chelmsford. **Gretchen Gray's** son, Kenny, co-directed a night of improv for Derryfield Repertory Theatre that also included Actorsinger folks, **Adam Gray** and **Daniel Schwartzberg**. It was really funny and they have already been approached to do other gigs in the area this summer! Ex-member/subscriber **Irene Gordon** who, for years, was involved with *The Actorsingers Chorus*, recently passed away. Godspeed to **Rachel Scott** and her family who are on a 6 month mission to Africa and other third world countries. **Allan Hunter** was in Majestic Theatre's *The Gift of the Magi* in December. Nashua High South's *Singin' in the Rain* will be directed by **Laura Prior** and **Joel Iwaskiewicz**. This will be their second year of helming the High School production. **Tina Cassidy** can breathe a sigh of relief now that her first stint as Artistic Director of the Northern Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* is over. A belated Happy 55th Anniversary to **Ben** and **Alice Pascucci** who celebrated this occasion during the run of *Annie*. Glad to see that **Tom Ritrovado** wasn't too banged up after a fall down the steps in the Actorsingers Hall during move in for *Annie*. Just a number of scrapes, bruises and swollen appendages which took a while to heal. Feel better hugs to all those suffering from colds and flu this season.

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, a Wonderous Solstice, an Energizing Kwanzaa, a Fun Festivus and a Joyous New Year! Until next time... news? call Kerry (603) 888-2837 or E-mail ActingKer@aol.com

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In this time of economic cutbacks it's heartening to see companies supporting the Arts. Thank You!

Remember to check our Web site www.Actorsingers.org for detailed up to the minute information
