

Actorsingers Newsletter



OVATION



August 2013 Issue

Editor: Kerry Schneider

Les Miserables

Directed by **Will McGregor**, Music Direction by **Judy Hayward**,
Choreography by **Bobby Fonacier**, Produced by **Cheryl Stocks**,
Technical Director: **Dennis Schneider**

Auditions – Actorsingers Hall, 219 Lake St, Nashua, NH.

Sunday, August 25 : **1-3 pm** - Children age 8-15

6-10 pm - Adults age 16+

Monday, August 26: **7-10 pm** - Adults age 16+

Please prepare 32 bars of a song in the style of the show with sheet music for the audition accompanist. The song should *not* be from Les Mis. There is no dance audition, reading, or monologue - the song is your whole audition. So select a song that demonstrates your ability to portray a character, as well as your strong vocal ability.

Auditions are first-come first-served (we do not schedule specific times). You may arrive at any time during the audition time period for your age group (8-15 or 16+) on Sunday or Monday, but please arrive before 9 pm if you can.

You can download an audition form (www.actorsingers.org) and fill it out in advance. We will take a photo and assign you an audition number when you hand in your completed form. Please truthfully indicate ALL conflicts.

Once cast, everyone who performs on stage must be an Actorsingers member (dues are \$10 Individual or \$15 Family and are valid through 6/30/14). You do NOT have to be a member to audition.

Callbacks Wed, Aug 28. Rehearsals will be Sun, Mon, and Wed evenings starting Sept 1.

Performances: Nov 8, 9, 10 *and* 15, 16, 17 at Keefe Auditorium, Nashua, NH. *Two Weekends!!!*

Send production questions to the Producer, Cheryl Stocks: cstock1@attglobal.net

This is one of the biggest shows Actorsingers has ever attempted. We need everyone's help - both in front and behind the scenes - to be successful. Please offer your services to The Producer, Cheryl Stocks. Thank you!!!



The following is a **Character breakdown** for those unfamiliar with the show. Ages are approximate:

JEAN VALJEAN - 35-40. Sings to B (high lyric baritone or tenor with strong low notes). A poor peasant who rises to affluence, he has great natural nobility and dignity. A powerful figure with a character of operatic size and passion. The voice needs to have a pop/rock sound or a classical sound of extraordinary textual clarity.

JAVERT - Baritone, sings to G. Policeman who relentlessly hunts Valjean. Ideally a large man. The ultimate “law and order” figure. Obsessed, to the point of irrationality, with a rigid and merciless moral code. He too is a character of operatic size and passion. Both belt voice and classical can suit this role but must have a darker quality than Valjean.

THENARDIER - Late 30s-40s. Strong comic character role. A crooked innkeeper, later a petty, amoral thief. Greedy, irreverent, selfish, boorish, vulgar. Baritone, sings to F sharp.

MARIUS - 20s. High baritone (sings to A) with a strong bottom (to A). A member of the revolutionary student movement. Attractive and romantic but in a sensitive, 19th century “byronic” way.

ENJOLRAS - 20s-early 30s. High baritone (to G sharp/A) very strong singer. Charismatic political figure. Leader of the revolutionary movement.

FANTINE - Late 20s, early 30s. Belt up to C, sings to E flat. Poor factory girl, struggling to support her fatherless daughter. Later is a pauper, a prostitute, a consumptive and a ghost. Earthy and poignant. Although finally defeated by circumstances, she should appear strong ... a survivor. She puts up a valiant fight against the horrors of her life.

COSETTE - 18-25 (the younger the better). Fantine’s daughter (first seen as and played by a child). Delicate, elegant, vulnerable and beautiful. Falls in love with and later marries Marius. Soprano (to high C) but a light, young “floating” sound, without heavy vibrato.

EPONINE - An enormous and beautiful belt voice, to C in belt (sings to E flat). Daughter of the Thenardiers but in no way behaves like them. Fired by an unrequited love for Marius. Small and waif-like. Hasn’t learned to disguise her emotions; wears her heart on her sleeve.

MADAME THENARDIER - 30s-early 40s. Tough, sharp, coarse, boorish, vulgar. Strong character comedienne role. Belter.

GAVROCHE: Boy, age 7 - 11. 52” tall or less. Spunky street urchin. Lots of personality. Sings very well.

YOUNG COSETTE and **YOUNG EPONINE**: Girls, age 7 - 11. 50” tall or less. Sweet innocent waifs. Pretty soprano voice.

ENSEMBLE (including children) - Varying in age and vocal range. Minor speaking roles and musical solos will be assigned to ensemble members. The ensemble is integral to the flow of the show.

NHCTA 2013 Festival Piece



Chuck Emmons will be directing the Actorsingers festival piece *Looks Get in the Way* by D. M. Larson.

The Festival will be the afternoon of Sept 7 in the Old Bedford Town Hall. There will be 4 shows with the first show starting at 1pm. More info available on the NHCTA facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/NHCTA-New-Hampshire-Community-Theatre-Association/451526090400>

Cast of *Looks Get in the Way*

- **Sidney**, Katelynn Devorak
- **Phil**, Adam Harding
- **Tony** TBD
- **Waiter/Waitress** TBD * Seeking male/female to play the waiter/waitress. The role has no lines, but is a fun physical comedic part with multiple entrances and interactions with other characters. Minimum memorization BUT maximum FUN. The play is at <http://freedrama.net/looksget.html>
Dan Merriman is the Technical Director and Mary Golding is the Stage Manager

The New Board of Directors 2013/2014

as voted by The Membership at the Annual Meeting

Donna O'Bryant Metzger - President

Tom Ritrovato – Vice President

Cheryl Stocks - Treasurer

Tony Breen - Recording Secretary

Evelynn Decker - Corresponding Secretary

Lou Duhamel – finishing 2nd year of term (for **Tom Ritrovato**)

Catherine Andruskevich (CZA) – finishing 2nd year of term

Lizzie Krahenbuhl – finishing 2nd year of term (for **Crystal Lewis**)

Amy Agostino – new 2 year term

Lindsay Vago – new 2 year term

Gretchen Gray – new 2 year term

News from the Board:

Thank you to **Tom Ritrovato** and his wonderful crew – **Evelynn Decker**, **John Franzini**, **Glen Grimard**, **Gretchen Gray**, **Eric Hill**, **Kerry Schneider** and Gracie, the Great Dane - who have been organizing and cleaning up the Props on Wednesday evenings. Come on down August 21 at 7 pm and join the “fun”!

Kudos to **Chuck Emmons** who trimmed all the shrubs in the parking lot at the Hall.

Thank you, **Glen Grimard**, for hosting the recent **Charades Night** on Tuesday, August 13. Looks like a fun time was had by all who attended.

The Dance Workshop that was supposed to take place on August 15, 22 and 29 has been postponed until October.

2014-2015 Season Survey – If you haven't already taken this survey online, please go to our Website and add your opinion on what shows you would like to see next season. Survey ends Sept. 1.

Bylaw and Policy and Procedure Committee Meeting – August 27 at 7:30pm

The first meeting of the new year was a success, but there is much to do to update the bylaws and procedures. We need input from you, our members! Please consider attending this important open meeting .

See you there, Lindsay Vago

Seeking Directors for Spring 2014 Show

The Actorsingers are looking for a Director, a Music Director, and a Choreographer for their spring 2014 show - Meredith Willson's *The Music Man* - to be staged May 9 -11 at Edmund Keefe Auditorium in Nashua. Interviews will take place on Tuesday, Sept 10th with the first interview slot at 7 PM. You may interview individually or as team. To set up an interview time please send resumes to Evelyn Decker at secretary@actorsingers.org by Tuesday September 3rd.

Seeking Proposals for Children's 2014 Show



The Actorsingers is seeking proposals for their next children's production (ages 8 -13) that will be staged March 7-9, 2014 at Janice B. Streeter Theatre, Nashua. Proposals will be heard in the evening Tuesday, Oct 1st. To set up an interview time please send resumes and show you will be proposing to Evelyn Decker at secretary@actorsingers.org by Tuesday September 24th.

Membership Dues are Due! (Fiscal year runs from July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014)

Please mail your dues (either \$10 for an individual or \$15 for a Family) to:
Kerry Schneider, 32 Clearview Dr., Nashua, NH 03062

Welcome to all our new members from the cast of *Urinetown* and Congratulations for a job well done!

If you are not a Life Member, cast member of *Urinetown*, or paid your dues at the Annual meeting, your dues are now due. Please take a minute and write your checks so your membership will stay current. Thank you!

A Million Thank You's to **Silvia Harper** who layed out the format for the 2013/14 show brochures and to **Debbie Grass** for helping **Kerry Schneider** seal, label and mail almost 5,000 of them!

In and About Town – Lots of people busy doing theater over the summer...**Craig Plummer** was in *1776* with Bedford Off Broadway, directed by **Marc Murai**, who also wrote and will Direct *The Magic of Movies and Television, a musical tribute* at the Concord City Auditorium in November. Nashua Theater Guild's *The Merchant of Venice* featured **Glen Grimard**. **Laura Prior** made a beautiful Fairy Godmother in Majestic's *Cinderella*. **Lauren Friedman** was in Not Your Mom's Musical Theater's *Songs of 1983...Something Wonderful I Missed* in addition to performing in *Annie* at Prescott Park all summer. **Don LaDuke** was in *Damn Yankees* at the Leddy Center. Over at Derryfield Repertory Theater, **Sarah Wenrich** and **Daniel** and **Nathaniel Schwartzberg** were in *Hairspray*. **Amy Agostino** tackled singing in *A Sondheim Cabaret* for an entertaining evening in Lawrence, MA. **Bill Mauser** sang with The NH Symphony Chorus at Holman Stadium in Nashua last weekend. "Soar with Wings" to all our Voices of Hope participants in the Annual Fall Gala on Sept. 7 when they'll be performing *Unfinished: A Celebration of Singers and Songwriters Gone Too Soon*. **Will McGregor** has been invited to perform *City of Bones*, the show he Directed for NTG, at the New Orleans Fringe Festival. Good luck in your new homes **Craig Brennan**, **Val Psoinos Nelson**, **Barb Amaral** and **Nicole Ste Croix**. Congrats to **Paul** and **Donna Metzger**, **Daryl O'Bryant** and **Eric Skoglund** who recently participated in a Cruise for Life Cancer Fundraiser by sailing from Boston to Provincetown and back...43 Nautical miles. Sail on! **Beth Fenske** is serving on the Board of the new Theater company, The NH Theatre Factory. Good luck to **Cheri Birch** who is starting a new job at the Hollis Montessori School. A warm, wonderful Congratulations to **Laura Prior** and **Joel Iwaskiewicz** on their recent engagement! And last, but not least, a hearty Actorsingers Congratulations to **Gail Ward** and **Joe Reilly**, who will tie the knot the beginning of September!

Until next time... news? call Kerry (603) 888-2837 or E-mail ActingKer@aol.com

The Ovation

c/o The Actorsingers
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Nashua, NH 03061

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Mark these ACTORSINGERS Dates on your calendar!!

- * **August 21 – Props Room Cleanup – 7 pm**
- * **August 25 – Auditions for *Les Miserables* - 1-3 pm Children
6-10 pm Adults**
- * **August 26 – Auditions for *Les Miserables* - 7-10 pm Adults**
- * **August 27 - Bylaws and Policy Committee Meeting 7:30 – open to all**
- * **August 28 - Call Backs for *Les Miserables***
- * **September 7 – NHCTA Festival**
- * **September 10 – Directors Interviews for *The Music Man***

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