



Curtain Call

SCHUYLerville COMMUNITY THEATER NEWSLETTER

Fall 2021

Curtain Call is Back!!

"Where have you been, O sage of the footlights and oracle of the backstage?

Busy, my friends, very busy. Your editor apologized for the long delay since you last glimpsed the pages of this erstwhile rag. But fear not, the interminable wait is over, so feast your eyes and mind on news of the theater that's just off-Broadway (by turning left on Spring Street)." ...excerpt from the Spring 1981 Schuylerville Community Theater Review Vol.2 No. 1



SCT in a Nutshell

SCT is excited to be back and performing a full season of community theater! In November, we tested Virtual Theater with an original production, 2020, *The World on Pause* live streamed on Facebook. A group of teens jumped on the virtual bandwagon and provided a Zoom Production of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. We were pretty proud of ourselves; we had ventured out into the 21st Century of digital theater! During the summer of 2021, our community enjoyed two fantastic performances. In July, the Children's Theater performed a magical production of *Matilda Jr*, expertly run by Executive Producer Donna Hillebrandt. In August, SCT featured Lisa Greenwald and Bill Howard in *Love Letters*, directed by SCT Board Member Tim Frost. We celebrated our 40th Anniversary (only 15 months late) at Longfellow's Restaurant. SCT Board Member Bonnie Thomas is directing *Barefoot in the Park* on November 5-7th at The Church of St. Peter Parish Center in Saratoga Springs. We eagerly await *Seussical* in the Spring of 2022 to be held at the Schuylerville High School! Watch our website at scttheater.org for audition information.

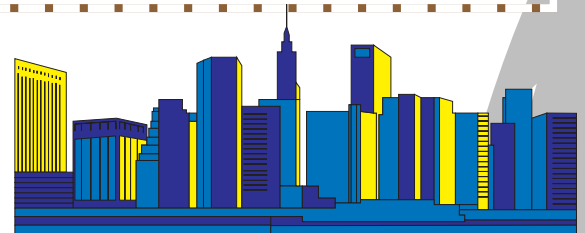
Barefoot in the Park

Be sure to mark your calendars for this production of Neil Simon's romantic comedy, *Barefoot in the Park*, to be held at The Church of St. Peter Parish Center (rear entrance), on Hamilton St., Saratoga Springs (please note the change in our usual venue) on Friday and Saturday November 5th and 6th at 7:30 PM; and Sunday November 7th at 2 PM. Proof of vaccination will be required at the door and face masks are required during the performances. Directed by: Bonnie Thomas the Neil Simon romantic comedy features Logan Haynes as Paul Bratter, a conservative lawyer who marries the vivacious Corie played by Jilian Reilly. The highly passionate relationship of this newlywed couple descends into comical discord in a five-flight New York City walk-up apartment. The supporting cast features Lisa Greenwald as Ethel Banks, Andy Greenwald as Victor Velasco and Brian Haynes and Donna Hillebrandt add to the cast as the Telephone Installer and the Delivery Person.

"Mounting a show during a pandemic has been particularly challenging," said Director Thomas. "But the enthusiasm of the cast to finally be back on stage again is amazing! I am thrilled with the talent and determination of this crew!" This show, appropriate for all ages, is guaranteed to make you laugh at the escapades of this newly married couple with the interfering mother and the colorful, eccentric neighbor. Reserve your tickets by calling 518-695-5480 or send an email to scttheater@scttheater.org. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students. This show is appropriate for all ages!

Tickets can be purchased using cash, charge or Venmo [@Donna-Hillebrandt](https://www.venmo.com/Donna-Hillebrandt).



First Virtual Theater SCT Production *2020, The World on Pause*

In November, 2020, in the middle of the pandemic, SCT ventured into another realm of the arts – Virtual Theater. *2020: The World on Pause* is an honest and sometimes humorous perspective into the many lives of individuals that were touched by COVID-19. The health care worker, the middle schooler trying to learn at home with Dad working remotely in the next room, the old man, the addict and even a dog and cat to name a few. An original play written by Pat Douglass, Drew Greenwald and Matthew Reichel featured Drew Greenwald and Logan Haynes in a number of powerful monologues telling the various stories of those impacted by the pandemic. Over 100 audience members virtually joined SCT and watched the performance dedicated individuals, families, friends and loved ones experiencing the effects of COVID-19. An extra applause was shared with the COVID-19 Heroes – the many tireless Health Care Workers, Educators, Essential Workers, all school children and their parents. Directed by Pat Douglass, *2020 The World on Pause* was a perfect distraction for those yearning for live theater. Keep your eyes on the website scttheater.org and Facebook for more information about a possible sequel.

SCT Scholarship News

Since the first Scholarship Winner in 1980, SCT has distributed over \$43,000 to graduating seniors attending a 2 or 4-year college program to study Music, Dance, Drama or Theater Arts. Years 2020 and 2021 was no different despite the pandemic!! Thanks to long-time SCT member and former Scholarship Winner, Christopher Tucker and his technology skills, the committee was able to virtually audition the candidates and select the following deserving seniors.

In June of 2020, Lison Tunick received the \$500 **SCT Vickie Wolfe Memorial Scholarship**. Lison graduated from Glens Falls High School and is the daughter of Joseph Strauss and Stephanie Ruel. She is attending NYU Tisch in the fall seeking an Education degree in Drama/Musical Theater.

The 2020 **Bryon McKim Memorial Scholarship** in the amount of \$350 was awarded to Alexa Rahman, daughter of Bernard and Marisa Rahman of Saratoga Springs. Alexa, a graduate of Saratoga Springs High School is attending Ithaca College for a Vocal Performance degree. Alexa strives to become an opera singer.

Emmalee Stark was the recipient of the \$500 **SCT Vickie Wolfe Memorial Scholarship** in June 2021. Emmalee is the daughter of Scott and Marianne Stark of Hudson Falls. Upon graduating from Hudson Falls High School, Stark is seeking a degree in Theater Arts with a concentration in Musical Theater at Long Island University Post.

Asa Dupras, was awarded the \$500 2021 **Katherine R. Hopkins Memorial Scholarship**. Asa graduated from Schuylerville Central High School and is the son of Pember and Sarah Dupras. He is pursuing a BFA in Musical Theater at Emerson College.

The SCT Scholarship program is solely funded by donations and fundraising activities. We are always looking for contributions. Applications for the June 2022 Class will be available on the SCT Website in February.

Children's Theater

A very talented group of young performers from the SCT Children's Theater Workshop defied the challenges of the pandemic and performed *Matilda, Jr* in the outdoor pavilion of the American Legion Hall in Schuylerville. Donning masks for rehearsals and respecting Social Distancing, the thespians had a fabulous time working on learning lines, choreography and blocking. They participated in building sets, gathering and making props and choosing costumes. The mask requirements for school-aged children were lifted just in time for opening day. They performed for an audience sitting in lawn chairs applauding loudly after each musical number. Applause! Applause! to our young thespians!



Help Wanted

Looking for something to do and enjoy theater at the same time!! SCT needs volunteers to work the box office, usher, distribute programs, run concessions and greet our theater audiences. Please contact SCT Board Member Donna Dodd-Thomas at donnadoddthomas@aol.com to join the Hospitality/Lobby Team! No experience needed; training is provided!

Do you find it difficult to sit still and like to build and create? Mark Booth is always looking for more members for the Set Building Team! We provide the materials, you get to come and build! Painters, Scenic Artists are needed to finish the set and there are many job opportunities to participate on the Production Crew. For a fun short-term commitment, we are also always looking for people to help with stage crew, costumes or props.

The Director/Play Selection committee has opening for Directors (both plays and musicals), Musical Directors, and Choreographers. If interested, send an email to scttheater@scttheater.org or contact Bonnie Thomas at thomasbpc@hotmail.com.

40th Anniversary Celebration Gala

In 1980, Susan Reynolds had a great idea to start a community theater in her hometown of Schuylerville. She reached out to Bill Howard, a friend with theater experience, and a general meeting attracted 70 interested people. Schuylerville Community Theater was born and SCT's first musical, *Mame* was a huge success! Jump ahead 40 years and it was time to celebrate. A committee was formed to plan the 40th Anniversary Gala (which ended up being one of the longest standing committees in the history of SCT while one date for the gala after another was postponed). On October 3rd, just 15 months after the first date, over 40 people gathered at Longfellow's Restaurant in Saratoga Springs, mixed and mingled, shared SCT stories, perused Programs, Photo Albums and Posters from 40 plus years of plays, musicals, comedy nights, children's theater, all produced by SCT. Partygoers were treated to an incredible buffet followed by entertainment with Suzanne Cohen, Beverly Foster Seinberg, Trent and Delaney Sano, Stephanie Willis, Donna Hillebrandt, ending with a rendition of *It's a Wonderful World* sung by the long-standing SCT Theater-to Go Ensemble, Bill and Bonnie Thomas, Dale Brockway and Christopher Tucker.



Emcees Bill and Bonnie Thomas and Lorraine Thompson presented the SCT Awards. The Budding Twig Award was presented to Delaney Sano and Annette Reitano was the recipient of the coveted Branch Award. A special Lifetime Membership Award was given to a very deserving Christopher Tucker. The night was a great way to acknowledge and celebrate 40 plus years of Schuylerville Community Theater providing quality theater to Schuylerville and the surrounding areas.

A Word from our Editor

In My Eyes: With Fall quickly approaching, and restrictions on businesses loosening a little, we start to see life springing back to its furiously fast pace. There is more traffic on the roads, more people out and about, and a sense of making up for what seems like "lost time." In my career, there is a level of business that is sometimes tough to keep up. So many friends have gotten married, had children, completed amazing house projects (especially Bonnie's HGTV-style renovations!). I look back on these past months and think how much life is quickly speeding up again.

On a lovely evening in June, SCT Past President Lorraine Thompson, welcomed the SCT Board Members and distinguished guests to her beautiful yard in Schuylerville for the Annual Organizational Meeting. What struck me as so special was to see this gathering of friends meeting in person for the first time in eighteen months to bring back Community Theater to Schuylerville. There were many plans made, and lots of laughter and fun stories shared.

After the meeting, I got to thinking about how great it is to be connected to this very important group of friends. It meant so much to stop, enjoy a beautiful evening, and pause for a moment in the rushed work week. Theater is something that means so much to each member of our SCT family. Maybe the way through this pandemic is to think about what and who we hold dear in our lives and what is important to focus on. In my eyes, it is these relationships where we focus on using our talents to help others come together in our community.

Young Teens and Another Virtual Adventure

Another SCT venture into Virtual Theater was a fantastic production of *A Charlie Brown Christmas* by a talented group of young thespians directed by Kathryn Capalbo. The performers auditioned via Zoom, rehearsed remotely and provided the audience with an incredible rendition of *A Charlie Brown Christmas* all on the Internet! It was a very enjoyable production.

Chatting with Kathryn Capalbo:

We caught up with Kathryn about what she is up to these days. Kathryn loves directing because she loves to see the teamwork between actors and actresses as well as their creativity. "It's very enjoyable for me watching someone who is unsure of acting blossom into their character on stage. I love creating a safe place for all to enjoy learning about all aspects of the theatrical arts," she commented. Most recently, Kathryn portrayed Janie Stewart in Bunbury Players' staged reading of *Finding Home*, an original work written and directed by SCT Board Member Timothy Frost.

When she is not on stage (or directing), you can find her at Troy High School as a Teaching Assistant. Outside of work, Kathryn hangs out with family and friends.

Visit our website:

scttheater.org

or follow on



Curtain Call is a newsletter of the Schuylerville Community Theater, P.O. Box 143, Schuylerville, NY, 12871. SCT is a non-profit community volunteer musical and theater arts organization. SCT is governed by an elected Board of Directors.

Editorial Staff:

Sarah Cordts, Donna Hillebrandt,
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Lorraine Thompson



**SCT Board of Directors
2021/2022**

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Attorney - William Thomas, Esq.



COMING ATTRACTIONS



BAREFOOT IN THE PARK - NOV 5TH, 6TH & 7TH

MEMORY TREES LIGHTING CEREMONY DEC 5TH

SPRING 2022 - SEUSSICAL

Check the Web: WWW.SCTTHEATER.ORG



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