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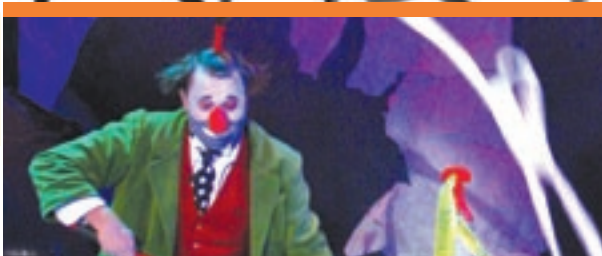
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4 Holiday Season 2008



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# Gateway PLAYHOUSE

PRESENTS

## a century of Christmas

Concept and Original Treatment  
**ROBIN JOY ALLAN**

Written By  
**ROBIN JOY ALLAN** with **DJ SALISBURY**

Song Selections  
**ROBIN JOY ALLAN & PATRICK Q. KELLY**

Arrangements  
**PATRICK Q. KELLY**

Additional Arrangements  
**SCOT WOLLEY & BRENT-ALAN HUFFMAN**

Starring  
**ASHLEY BETTON DONNA LYNNE CHAMPLIN ROBIN IRWIN  
ROBERT ANTHONY JONES CHRISTOPHER YATES**

With  
**MATTHEW SALMELA LINDSAY OLIVIA TRAVIS**

Featuring  
**T.J. HOWELL JENNY VIDBELL**

Producer  
**PAUL ALLAN**

Production Manager  
**BRIAN LOESCH**

Associate Producer  
**JEFF BELLANTE**

General Manager  
**GALE EDWARDS**

Artistic Director  
**ROBIN JOY ALLAN**

Company Manager  
**MICHAEL BAKER**

Technical Director  
**AD GARRETT**

Costume Coordinators  
**MARIANNE DOMINY  
with MEGAN MOORE**

Lighting Design  
**MARCIA MADEIRA**

Scenic/Projection Designer  
**KELLY TIGHE**

Production Stage Manager  
**DOM RUGGIERO**

Associate Choreographer  
**ANN COOLEY**

Musical Director  
**BRENT-ALAN HUFFMAN**

Directed & Choreographed by  
**DJ SALISBURY**

# CAST OF CHARACTERS

## PRINCIPALS

Ashley Betton\*, Donna Lynne Champlin\*, Robin Irwin\*,  
Robert Anthony Jones\*, Lindsay Olivia Travis, Christopher Yates\*

## ENSEMBLE

Jodi Adkins\*, Anne Bloemendal, Julie Boardman, Will Cohen, Aimee Cook,  
Ann Cooley\*, Erik Floor\*, Brittany Lewis\*, Elyse Madsen, Denise Molnar,  
John O'Malley\*, Vincent Ortega\*, Ashley Peacock, Candice Pennefather,  
Lindsey Ridgway, Leajato Robinson\*, Matthew Salmela, Kathryn Zimmer

## CHILDREN

Alexandra Accardi, Danielle Caracci, Alyssa Castellano, Alison Cordaro, Hayley Gillman,  
Colette Girardin, Matthew Hoffman, Ryan Koerber, Nolan Lyons, Connor Meehan,  
Dominick Mondì, Madison Mulvey, Kaela Murphy, Louie Rinaldi, Kaylee Spano,  
Kevin Spellman, Katherine St. George, Jillian Striffler, Rosemary Turner,  
Michelle Veintimilla, Louis G. Walker, Casey Wolter, Amy Woschnik

## MUSICIANS

Conductor / Keyboard .....BRENT-ALAN HUFFMAN  
Piano ..... BRENDAN WHITING  
Reeds .....MARK GATZ  
Reeds .....BOB DALPIAZ  
Trumpet .....JOE BOARDMAN  
Trombone.....DIANE HOFFMAN  
Guitar .....JOE LoSCHIAVO  
Bass.....CATHERINE O'MALLEY  
Percussion .....PETE DeSALVO



The Musicians employed in this production are members of the American Federation of Musicians.



\*Actors employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

**ssdc** The Director/Choreographer is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc., an independent national labor union.

**WARNING** – The photographing or sound recording of any performance is strictly prohibited. Gateway Playhouse offers a wireless sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired. Inquire at the box office for more information.

**FIRE NOTICE** — The exit indicated by a red light and sign nearest to the seat you occupy, is the shortest route to the outside. In the event of fire or other emergency, please do NOT run. WALK to that Exit. However, under normal circumstances, when leaving the Theatre, use the center rear exits. SMOKING is prohibited in the BUILDING, as required by the Suffolk County NO SMOKING Ordinance. Smoking in any area designated "No Smoking" renders the offenders subject to a fine, or imprisonment, or both.

Playbill Designed and Printed by Searles Graphics, Inc.



Jodi Adkins



Ashley Betton



Anne Bloemendal



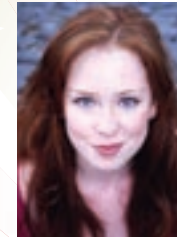
Julie Boardman



Will Cohen



Donna Lynne Champlin



Aimee Cook



Ann Cooley



Erik Floor



Robin Irwin



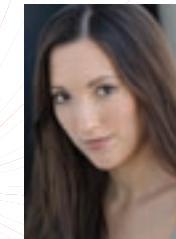
Robert Anthony Jones



Brittany Lewis



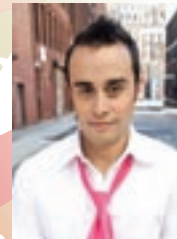
Elyse Madsen



Denise Molnar



John O'Malley



Vincent Ortega



Ashley Peacock



Candice Pennefather



Lindsey Ridgway



Leajato Amara Robinson



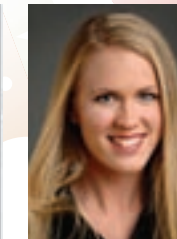
Matthew Salmela



Lindsay Olivia Travis



Christopher Yates



Kathryn Zimmer

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### CREDITS

ORIGINAL SCRIPT AND TREATMENT ..... ROBIN JOY ALLAN  
EDITED WITH ADDITIONAL DIALOGUE BY ..... DJ SALISBURY

### CONTRIBUTING AUTHORS:

Excerpts from A CHRISTMAS CAROL ..... CHARLES DICKENS  
Excerpts from CHRISTMAS MORNING AT CLANCEY'S ..... STEVE PORTER  
THE GIFT OF THE MAGI ..... adaptation of the classic short story by O.HENRY  
1970'S CHRISTMAS TREE SELLING SEGMENT .JULIEN SCHWAB with additional dialogue by RJA and DJS  
1980'S WISH LIST SEGMENT.....JULIEN SCHWAB, edited and adapted to video format by DJS

### MUSIC CREDITS

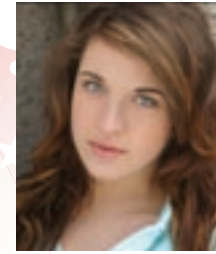
#### ACT I

"A Century of Christmas".....Scot Wolley, DJ Salsbury  
"Oh Little Town of Bethlehem Rag".....Scot Wolley  
"Button up your Overcoat"..... deSylva, Brown & Henderson  
"Toyland" ..... Victor Herbert, Glen MacDonough  
1930's Instrumental .....Patrick Q. Kelly  
"Winter Wonderland" ..... Dick Smith, Felix Bernard  
"Little Jack Frost" ..... Al Stillman, Seger Ellis  
"White Christmas"..... Irving Berlin  
"I'll Be Seeing You".....Irving Kahal, Sammy Fain  
"I'll Be Home For Christmas" .....Kim Gannon,Walter Kent  
"Mele Kalikimaka" .....Robert Alexander Anderson  
"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" ..... Johnny Marks  
"Jingle Bell Rock" ..... Joe Beal, Jim Boothe  
"Frosty the Snowman" ..... Steve Nelson, Jack Rollins  
"Blue Christmas"..... Billy Hayes, Jay Johnson  
"Hark The Herald Angels Sing" .....Charles Wesley  
"Silent Night".....Franz Xavier Gruber, Josef Mohr  
"O, Holy Night".....Adolphe Adam

#### ACT II

"Christmas is Coming" .....Vince Guaraldi  
"It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" ..... Meredith Wilson  
"Sleigh Ride" Performed by Andy Williams.....Mitchell Parish,  
Leroy Anderson  
"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" Hugh Martin, Ralph Blane  
"Happy Christmas, War is Over".....John Lennon  
"Jerusalem of Gold" .....Naomi Shemer  
"River" ..... Joni Mitchell  
"Christmas Wrapping" .....Recorded by the Waitresses,  
written by Chris Bulter  
"Hazy Shade of Winter" ..... Recorded by the Bangles, written by  
Simon and Garfunkle  
"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" ..... Johnny Marks  
"Carol of the Bells" .....Adapted by Peter J. Wilhousky,  
by Mykola Dmytrovich Leontovych  
"All I Want for Christmas is You" .....Mariah Carey  
"The Christmas Song"..... Mel Torme, Bob Wells

# THE YOUTH ENSEMBLE



Danielle Carlacci



Dominick Mondì



Kaela Murphy



Kevin Spellman



Michelle Veintimilla



Top row- Amy Woschnik, Alyssa Castellano, Louie Rinaldi, Casey Wolter  
2nd row- Alexandra Accardi, Madison Mulvey, Jillian Striffler, Ryan Koerber, Colette Girardin  
3rd row- Matthew Hoffman, Connor Meehan, Kaylee Spano, Rosemary Turner, Hayley Gillman, Louis G. Walker  
Bottom row- Katherine St. George, Nolan Lyons, Alison Cordaro



# SYNOPSIS OF SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS



## ACT I

"A Century of Christmas" ..... FULL COMPANY

### TURN OF THE CENTURY

"Deck the Halls/Ding Dong Merrily On High" ..... ENSEMBLE

"I Saw Three Ships" ..... FULL COMPANY

### 1910's – VAUDEVILLE HOUSE

"Juggler's Act" ..... T.J. HOWELL

"Christmas Morning At Clancey's" ..... ROBERT ANTHONY JONES\*, ROBIN IRWIN\*,  
RYAN KOERBER, MATTHEW HOFFMAN,  
LOUIS G. WALKER, ALISON CORDARO

"Button up your Overcoat" ..... DONNA LYNNE CHAMPLIN\*

### 1920's – MUSIC HALL

"Toyland" ..... FEMALE ENSEMBLE

"Louise's Barn Yard Review" ..... JENNY VIDBELL

### 1930's – GIFT OF THE MAGI

"Winter Wonderland" ..... MATTHEW SALMELA & LINDSAY OLIVIA TRAVIS,  
ERIK FLOOR\*, JODI ADKINS\*, JOHN O'MALLEY\*, ANN COOLEY\*

### 1940's – U.S.O. SHOW

"Little Jack Frost" ..... ASHLEY BETTON\*

"White Christmas" ..... VINCENT ORTEGA\*

"Swingin' Drummer Boy" ..... ROBERT ANTHONY JONES\*

"I'll Be Seeing You"/"I'll Be Home For Christmas" ..... DONNA LYNNE CHAMPLIN\* &  
MATTHEW SALMELA

### 1950's – MIAMI RADIO STATION/MIAMI SUBURB

"Mele Kalikimaka" ..... JOHN O'MALLEY\*, ERIK FLOOR\*, LEAJATO ROBINSON\*

"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" ..... LINDSAY OLIVIA TRAVIS, ERIK FLOOR\*,  
LEAJATO ROBINSON\*

"Jingle Bell Rock" ..... CHRISTOPHER YATES\*, DONNA LYNNE CHAMPLIN\*,  
KAELA MURPHY, CONNOR MEEHAN

"Frosty the Snowman" ..... KAELA MURPHY & CONNOR MEEHAN

"Blue Christmas" ..... CHRISTOPHER YATES\* & DONNA LYNNE CHAMPLIN\*

### NATIVITY SEQUENCE

"Silent Night" ..... NATIVITY CHILDREN

"O, Holy Night" ..... AUDIENCE

"O, Holy Night" Reprise ..... ROBIN IRWIN\* AND FULL COMPANY

## ACT II

Entre'Acte ..... ORCHESTRA

### 1960's – LIVING ROOM/T.V. SPECIAL

"It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" ..... ROBERT ANTHONY JONES\* & ROBIN IRWIN\*

"Sleigh Ride" ..... FEMALE ENSEMBLE

T.V. Juggler ..... T. J. HOWELL

"Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" ..... DONNA LYNNE CHAMPLIN\*

"We Need a Little Christmas" ..... JODI ADKINS\*, ANNE BLOEMENDAL,  
AIMEE COOK, BRITTANY LEWIS\*, DENISE MOLNAR

### 1970's – TREE SELLER'S PROTEST/ANTI-XMAS

"Happy Christmas (War is Over)" ..... ENSEMBLE

"Jerusalem of Gold" ..... MATTHEW SALMELA

"River" ..... LINDSAY OLIVIA TRAVIS with ROBIN IRWIN\* & ASHLEY BETTON\*

"O Tannenbaum" ..... ENSEMBLE

"Hooked on Christmas" Disco Dance ..... LEAJATO ROBINSON\* & ANN COOLEY\*,  
JOHN O'MALLEY\* & CANDICE PENNEFATHER,  
VINCENT ORTEGA\* & JULIE BOARDMAN

### 1980's – MATERIAL 'WE' MTV MUSIC VIDEO

"Christmas Wrapping" ..... DONNA LYNNE CHAMPLIN\*, WILL COHEN,  
ANNE BLOEMENDAL, JODI ADKINS\*, KATHRYN ZIMMER

"Hazy Shade of Winter" ..... ROBIN IRWIN\*, VINCENT ORTEGA\*, DOMINICK MONDI,  
DANIELLE CARLACCI, MATTHEW SALMELA & ENSEMBLE

### 1990's SAVE THE MUSIC PROGRAM

"Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" ..... LEAJATO ROBINSON & WILL COHEN

"All I Want for Christmas" ..... MICHELLE VEINTIMILLA & ASHLEY BETTON\*

"The Christmas Song" ..... ERIK FLOOR\*, WILL COHEN, LEAJATO ROBINSON\*,  
JOHN O'MALLEY\*, VINCENT ORTEGA\*, ASHLEY BETTON\*,  
ALYSSA CASTELLANO, COLETTE GIRARDIN,  
LOUIE RINALDI, MICHELLE VEINTIMILLA

### ENCORE

"Here Comes Santa Claus" ..... FULL COMPANY

"We Wish You a Merry Christmas" ..... FULL COMPANY

\*Denotes Member of ACTORS' EQUITY



**JODI ADKINS** (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be back at Gateway for the wonderful holiday season! Regional credits include *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Singin' In the Rain*, *42nd St.*, *West Side Story*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Cabaret*. Jodi is a graduate of Point Park College and a member of the Pretty Girls of Dance Company. Much love to Brian!

**ASHLEY BETTON** (*Principal*) is happy to be back with her Gateway family. You may remember her as Deena Jones in Gateway's production of *Dreamgirls*. Other credits include Nancy in *Oliver*, Velma in *Chicago*, and Maggie in *The Gut Girls*. Ashley is a proud member of Actors Equity and received her BA from the University of Northern Colorado. She would like to thank Mom, Dad, Jonathan and Matt for a fantastic year.

**ANNE BLOEMENDAL** (*Ensemble*) Anne is excited to be back at Gateway for The Holiday Spectacular. She was last seen in *The Producers*, *Show Boat*, *Will Roger's Follies* and *A Christmas Carol* and is happy to be returning again. She is a Minnesota native and a 2003 graduate of AMDA, NYC. She's very happy to be back in the USA after touring Asia with *42nd Street* the musical last year. Past favorite productions include *A Chorus Line* (Judy), *Annie* (Lily St. Regis), *Cabaret* (Frenchie) and *Evita* (Ensemble). She sends many thanks to Paul, Robin, DJ and Ann, all her love to her awesome Mom and Dad for their constant support and love and all glory to Jesus!

**JULIE BOARDMAN** (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to join the Gateway family. National Tours: *42nd Street* (Diane Lorimer), *To Richard*

*Rodgers, With Love* (The Young Americans). Other credits: *Joseph & the... (Narrator)*, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hodel), *Big River* (Mary Jane), among others. Proud graduate of the University of Southern California. A big thank you to my family & friends for all of their love and support. Happy Holidays!!

**WILL COHEN** (*Ensemble*) is so truly excited to be back at Gateway with everyone for his second production. Gateway Playhouse: *The Producers* (Jack Lapidus/ u/s Franz). Will also recently completed the First National Tour of *A Year With Frog and Toad* (Toad). Regional/ NYC: *Crazy For You* (Mingo), *Grease* (Roger), *Into the Woods* (Baker), *Ragtime* (Houdini), *She Loves Me* (Arpad), *Gypsy* (Yonkers), *Sugar* (Spats), and *Merrily We Roll Along* (Tyler) at such theatres as the Ogunquit Playhouse, Lyric Stage Company, Naples Dinner Theatre, and the Publick Theatre of Boston. Training: Broadway Theatre Project (Ann Reinking), New York University Bachelor of Music/ vocal performance. Thank you to Mom, Dad, the rest of the fam, friends and especially Robin, Michael, DJ, and everyone else at the playhouse for welcoming me back!

**DONNA LYNNE CHAMPLIN** (*Principal*) Broadway: *Sweeney Todd*, *Hollywood Arms*, *By Jeeves*, *James Joyce's The Dead*, Master Class at the MET. Off Broadway: *Dark at the Top of The Stairs* (OBIE award), *Bury The Dead*, *Love Jerry* (NYMF "Best Actress"), *Marcy In The Galaxy*, *Flight of the Lawnchair Man* (NYMF "Best Actress"), *Albertine*, *Carnegie Hall's Very Warm For May*, *Encore's Bloomer Girl*. Film/TV: "My Father's Will," "The Audition," "The Dark Half," "Law And Order," "The Tony Awards," "Regis and Kelly," "The View." Training: Carnegie Mellon and Oxford Universities; Princess Grace Grant winner. Thanks DJ and happy holidays everyone! [www.donnalynnechamplin.com](http://www.donnalynnechamplin.com).

**AIMEE COOK** (*Ensemble*) is ecstatic to be returning to Gateway for a fourth season, which past shows include *Sugar*, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. She is originally from Ottawa, Canada where she was a member of the Le Jazz Hot Dance Company for three years. Aimee has also entered into the world of film where she has played the supporting role of Jamie, opposite Aaron Lazar, in the short 'The Shallow End of the Ocean,' which was an official selection of the 2007 Golden Wagon Film Festival as well as in the 2008 WOW New York Film Festival. She was also the Casting Director for the short 'The Roofer,' which has recently been submitted to the big festivals across the country, and she is currently co-writing her first feature screenplay! Aimee is a graduate of The American Musical and Dramatic Academy as well as of The New School University with a BFA in Musical Theatre. Tons of love and thanks goes out to Mum, Dad, Rebecca, Aaron and friends. One million and one thanks to the Gateway Family!

**ANN COOLEY** (*Associate Choreographer, Dance Captain*) Happy to be back in Bellport! Recently Ms. Cooley was involved in casting the Kennedy Centers upcoming production of *Rag Time* and California Music Theatres 08 season. National tours and regional productions include *Gypsy*, *Evita*, *Will Rogers Follies*, *A Funny Thing Happened ... Forum*, *Victor/Victoria*, *42nd Street*, *The Producers*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Sugar*, *SchoolHouse Rock*, *Nothing Like a Dame*, *Broadway Bares*, *Free to Be You and Me - R Family Cruise* and "The Big Gay Sketch Show" on the LOGO Network. Ann is thrilled to be involved in this wonderful holiday gem after enjoying a 14-year career with the Radio City Rockettes as a line captain and choreographer. Some career highlights include receiving a standing ovation for her work at Carnegie Hall and Avery Fisher Hall and performing with Hugh



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Jackman at the Tony's. Many thanks to DJ and The Gateway Family!

**ERIK FLOOR** (*Ensemble*) is thankful to be back at Gateway! Regional credits include: *Singin' in the Rain*, *The Producers*, *The Will Rogers Follies*, *Crazy Love* (premier), *Pal Joey*, *Sugar*, *Dames at Sea*, *West Side Story*, *Urban Cowboy*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Nat. Commercials: Target, Shoe Carnival. In association with the Entertainment Design Group out of Atlanta, GA, Erik has been featured in numerous industrials in GA, NC, IN, IL, and NV. He is a proud native of Chicago, and Millikin Alum. THANK YOU to Gateway for their support as well as the amazing cast and crew, CTG, and his amazing family!! Erik is a proud member of Actor's Equity. [www.erikfloor.com](http://www.erikfloor.com)

**T. J. HOWELL** (*Juggler/Unicyclist*) T.J. and his wife Gayle join *Holiday Spectacular A Century of Christmas* from Baraboo, WI. Their unique act has taken them worldwide. T.J. has been a professional entertainer for over 30 years. He has performed in a variety of venues including Tropicana Hotel & Casino (Atlantic City, NJ), Holland American, Coastal Dolphin, Princess Cruise Lines, Busch Gardens (Tampa, FL), Houston Astor World Amusement Park (Houston, TX), Showboat Dinner Theater (Clearwater, FL), Marco Polo Hotel (Miami, FL), Osmond Family Theater (Branson, MO), Ocean Park Hong Kong (HK, China) and Beau Rivage Casino (Biloxi, MS).

**ROBIN IRWIN** (*Principal*) has appeared on Broadway and National Tours, regional and off-Broadway theaters and television. She has sung with symphony orchestras from Tokyo to Berlin and has done voice overs for everything from baby food to chain saws. She is receiving her Masters in Directing from Roosevelt University.

**ROBERT ANTHONY JONES** (*Principal*) is thrilled to be returning to his favorite place to spend Christmas! He was last seen at Gateway as Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol*. Off-Broadway/NYC: *The Wild Party* (Gold)-Columbia Stages, *Naughty Marietta* (Simon)-Musicals Tonight!, *Man of La Mancha* (Sancho)-Gallery Players, *Dorian Gray* (Henry Wotton)-York Theatre, *The Prince and the Pauper* (Original Cast-Lamb's Theatre/Original Cast Recording-Jay Records/itunes). Regional: *The Producers* (Max Bialystock, West Virginia Public Theatre), *Chicago* (Amos, Riverside Theatre), *The Odd Couple* (Speed, Fireside Theatre), and *Titanic* (Etches-Virginia Musical Theatre). Special thanks to all you wonderful Gateway folks. Lots of love to the family and Tootie! For mom and dedicated to dad. [www.robertanthonyjones.com](http://www.robertanthonyjones.com)

**BRITTANY LEWIS** (*Ensemble*) After graduating from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy she toured the U.S. and Canada with the Solid Gold Dance Party. Recent credits include *42nd Street* (Northshore Music Theatre), *Best Little Whorehouse* (Cortland Rep.), *The Producers* (Arts Center of Coastal Carolina), and *Disco Fever* with K.C. and the Sunshine Band at the Greek Theater in L.A.

**ELYSE MADSEN** (*Ensemble*) was a dance major at Hunter College and holds a BFA in Arts Management, with a concentration in dance, from Long Island University. She has performed at the Clark Theater, Lincoln Center, the Tilles Arts Center, Long Island University Little Theatre and at the Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse. Ms. Madsen has also spent time in Maui, Hawaii, where she had trained with Tilt Contemporary Dance Company. Recent performances in Orlando, Florida, include Cirque USA, AntiGravity, Seaworld, Universal Studios and Disney Cruise Lines.

**DENISE MOLNAR** (*Ensemble*) is excited to return to Gateway for the Christmas season after making her debut here this summer in *The Will Rogers Follies*. Denise Molnar received her BFA in Dance from Marymount Manhattan College in New York City. Originally from New Jersey, Denise has traveled the world as a dancer, dance captain, and stager aboard Norwegian Cruise Lines as part of the Jean Ann Ryan Company. She has appeared regionally in musicals including *The Producers*, *Showboat*, *Anything Goes*, and *New Girl in Town*. Denise has also had the pleasure to perform as a first company member of the New Jersey Tap Ensemble. She is thrilled to be a part of this production! Thanks to family and friends for their love and support. Thanks to the cast and crew at Gateway for everything!

**JOHN O'MALLEY** (*Ensemble*) is happy to be returning to and enjoying this holly jolly holiday with the Gateway family. He was last seen as a dancing granny in Gateway's, and Westchester Broadway's, *The Producers* (Swing, Carmen Ghia u/s). John also recently finished serving as choreographer for the not-for-profit Counting Squares Theater, of which he is also a founding member. Other credits include *Seven Brides* (Carousel Dinner Theater), *Pearl* (The Kennedy Center), *The Next Stage Project* (NY City Center), *The Hoop Dee Doo Revue* (Walt Disney World), Holland America Cruise Line, Disney Cruise Line and many more. Big thanks to Paul, Robin and Michael for bringing me back, DJ, and Raynor van der Merwe, the queen of all Christmas shows!

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**VINCENT ORTEGA** (*Ensemble*) is a Proud Member of Actors Equity. Last seen here at Gateway Playhouse in *The Wedding Singer* (George US/Dance Captain). Broadway/Tours: *Mamma Mia* (Pepper/Eddie US), *A Chorus Line* (Mark). Regional: *Big River* (Huck), *Babes in Arms* (Peter) *Reprise!*, *Gidget* (World premiere directed by Francis Ford Coppola). Film/TV: "Confessions of a Shopaholic" (2009), "MTV", "Regis and Kelly", "SNL", "Law and Order", "30 Rock". Danced with tons of names like Ricky Martin, Christina Aguilera, Jennifer Hudson, Britney Spears, Lady Gaga, Rihanna and many more. Vince would like to wish you a Happy Holiday season and would like to extend his love to this talented cast and crew and his family and friends.

**ASHLEY PEACOCK** (*Ensemble*) is excited to join the Gateway family! National/International tours: Irving Berlin's *I Love a Piano* (Eileen) *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* N. America, *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* Asia (Gladys). Other Credits: *Trojan Women* (Cassandra), *The Good Doctor* (Julia), *Chicago* (Annie), *Uncommon Women* (Samantha). Ashley sends her love and thanks to family, friends and Ivan. ILY!! Peace.

**CANDICE PENNEFATHER** (*Ensemble*) is incredibly happy to return to Gateway after being part of this past summers' *The Producers*, and *Sugar* from 2005. Other favorite credits include *Hair* (Jeanie), *Cats* (Jennyanydots/Jellylorum), the title character in *Jerome Kern's Sleeping Beauty*, and touring around Asia with *42nd Street*. Candice is a graduate of the Indiana University School of Music with a degree in voice performance, and now resides in NYC. Much love and Merry Christmas to all!  
[www.candicepennefather.com](http://www.candicepennefather.com)

**LINDSEY RIDGWAY** (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be making her Gateway Debut. A recent graduate of the Millikin University Theatre Program, she was last seen as a finalist on

## Who's Who

MTV's "Legally Blonde The Musical: The Search for Elle Woods." Regional credits include *Singin' in the Rain*, *White Christmas*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Blast from the Past*, *Godspell* and *Dames at Sea*. She is a proud Chicago native and sends many thanks to the loves in her life for encouraging her to follow her heart! Happy Holidays!

**LEAJATO AMARA ROBINSON** (*Ensemble*) A.E.A. member, a native of Wisconsin, is a four-year graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy (IAA) and a graduate of the Juilliard School with a BFA in Dance. He has worked with distinguished dance choreographers such as Paul Taylor, Elisa Monte, and has performed in Europe and the United States as a professional dancer. Other credits: *MusicalsTonight/NYC* (Shinbone Alley). Regional: North Shore Music Theatre *Crazy For You*, Gateway Playhouse *Dreamgirls* and *Gentleman Prefer Blondes*, North Carolina Theatre *Annie Get Your Gun*, Carousel Dinner Theatre *Damn Yankees*, and The Depot Theatre *Pippin* "Lead Player". Tours: Tap Dogs, American/European Tours, and Las Vegas Stratosphere Hotel. Thanks to God, Dad, Mom, Michael Kalinyen and Robert Brown.

**MATTHEW SALMELA** (*Principal*) is happy to return to Gateway where he was recently seen in *The Wedding Singer*. Matthew holds a BFA in Musical Theatre Performance from the University of Minnesota, Duluth and now resides in NYC. Previous credits include: *The Beast* (*Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, Red Mountain Theater Co.) Huck Finn (*Big River*, Lake City Theater Co.), Anthony (*Sweeney Todd*), Phillip (*The Philanthropist*), Sky Masterson (*Guys and Dolls*), and the title role in *Pippin*. Matt would like to thank his family and Paula for their selfless love and support.

**LINDSAY OLIVIA TRAVIS** (*Principal*) is excited to be returning to Gateway for the holidays! She was last seen "sparkling" on the stage as an usherette in *The Producers* here

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at Gateway. Favorite regional roles include: *Annie* (Grace), *Cabaret* (Texas), *Oklahoma* (Laurey), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Gloria) and *Grease* (u/s Sandy perf.). Thanks to the incredible Gateway staff, and much love to my hero and the cutest math teacher in the world, my husband Chris.

**JENNY VIDBELL** (*Louise*) Jenny Vidbell is a third generation animal trainer taught by her Grandfather Al Vidbel who was an elephant trainer. She performed with her Grandparent's circus for several years before taking over the business in 2000. After her family show closed in 2004 she continued performing across America in many different productions. All of her dogs are rescues and travel with her wherever she goes. She trains her dogs with lots of patience and hot dogs! This is Jenny's 3rd appearance in a Gateway production and her and the animals are very excited to be back on stage!

**CHRISTOPHER YATES** (*Principal*) performed at Gateway as Josh in *Big*, Cornelius in *Hello Dolly*, George Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life*. Recent productions include *Bound in a Nutshell* at the Cherry Lane Theater with the 08 NYC Fringe Festival; *Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* at Bickford Stage, NJ; *Jaques Brel*; *The Miracle Worker* and *The Miser* at Olney Theatre Center, MD; *Sylvia* at Emelin Theatre, NY; *Serenading Louie* and

*One Shoe Off* at Schoolhouse Theatre, NY; *An American Daughter* and *How I Learned to Drive* at The Women's Theatre Company, NJ. Other Regional: La Jolla Playhouse, CA; Barrington Stage, MA; Theatre Virginia; Theatre North Carolina; Goodspeed Opera House, CT; Northern Theatre, VT and The Shakespeare Theatre, NJ. Off Broadway: *Hysterical Blindness*; *Fixing Frank*; and *Enter the Guardsman*. National tours include *Les Miserables*, *Blood Brothers*, *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Drood*.

**KATHRYN ZIMMER** (*Ensemble*) Gateway Playhouse debut. A 2007 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, she holds a BFA in Dance with a concentration in choreography and performance. While at UNCG, she performed many modern/contemporary works. In 2008, she danced for Jean Ann Ryan Productions on Norwegian Cruise Lines, the Pearl. She has also performed with Tara Girls, a precision kickline directed by Rockette, Tara Memi. A graduate of Smithtown High School, she trained for 14 years at the June Claire School of Dance and in 2005 coordinated the Dance Program at Mark Country Day Camp in Bay Shore. She is most grateful for the support of her loving family and friends.

**DJ SALISBURY** (*Director/Choreographer*) DJ has worked nationwide for theaters that include Papermill Playhouse, ArtsCenter of Coastal Carolina, West Virginia Public, Dallas Summer Musicals, TOTS-Atlanta, Sacramento Music Circus and Riverside Theatre Florida. Among his favorite experiences as Director-Choreographer: *Man of La Mancha*, *Into The Woods*, *The Wizard of Oz* (Gateway) *La Cage Aux Folles* (Gateway), *The Full Monty*, *Evita* (Gateway), *Ragtime* and *The Century of Christmas* (Gateway). Choreographic fun: *A Funny Thing ... Forum*, *Hello, Dolly!*, ABC's "Dancing with the Stars" Road Trip (and the Rachael Ray Show "Soap Star Dance Off") and a new version of *Cats* (Gateway) to name

a few. Since acting as Dance Assistant for Tommy Tune and Jeff Calhoun on *The Will Rogers Follies*, DJ has endeavored to focus on the development of new works. Some of the new musicals he's helped bring to the stage (wearing this or that hat) include Off-Broadway's *Zombie Prom*, *Long Road Home*, *Femme Fatale* (starring Sara Ramirez of *Grey's Anatomy*), *Super Chix*, *I Love a Piano*, and a peck of projects as mentor/dramaturg. Conversation starter credits: dance captain and swing for *The Wizard of Oz* (starring Roseanne Barr); book and lyrics for *The Man Who Would Be King* with composer Neil Berg (Off-Broadway's *The Prince and the Pauper*); head writer for the Emmy winning 2007 Oklahoma state Centennial TV special featuring Reba McEntyre, Vince Gill, and Harry Connick, Jr. His specialty lyrics for corporate industrials have made Sherwin Williams paint scintillating, Suzuki outboard motors sexy, and Rite Aid Drugstores a laugh riot.

**BRENT-ALAN HUFFMAN** (*Music Director*) is the Music Supervisor for Disney's *Beauty And The Beast* in Mexico City, also having conducted the Broadway and National Touring companies. In addition, B-A has worked on the Broadway and U.S. touring productions of *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Sister Act* (World Premiere), *The Lion King*, *Carousel*, *Grease!*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, and Disney's *The Little Mermaid*. He served as Production Music Coordinator for ABC Television's *The Music Man* starring Matthew Broderick, as well as Associate Music Producer for NBC/Hallmark's television movie *A Christmas Carol*, starring Kelsey Grammer. Brent-Alan's singing voice can be heard on the Disney motion picture *Enchanted*, and he appears in the pilot episode of ABC's "Cupid" in January 2009. A nominee for "Outstanding Music Director" by the 2008 NAACP Theatre Awards for his work on *Sister Act*, *the Musical*, B-A is Music Director/Conductor of the upcoming Broadway musical *Leap of Faith*.

**MARCIA MADEIRA** (*Lighting Designer*) is pleased to spend another Christmas season with the Gateway Family designing her 22nd production. Her favorites include: *Sugar*, *42nd Street*, *On the Town*, *Swing*, *Millie*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *West Side Story*, *The Will Rogers Follies*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Recently she designed her eighth and ninth ice shows for Royal Caribbean, Strings and Freeze Frame for the new largest cruise ship in the world, The Independence of the Seas. She received a Tony nomination and won the Drama Desk Award for *Nine* directed by Tommy Tune with Raul Julia. Other Broadway designs include *My One and Only* with Tommy Tune and Twiggy; *Marilyn*, *An American Fable* with Allison Reed and Scott Bakula; and *The Music Man* with Dick van Dyke. Off-Broadway designs include: *Side by Side by Sondheim* at the Dicapo Opera Theatre; *Cloud 9* directed by Tommy Tune; *Privates On Parade* with Jim Dale and Simon Jones directed by Larry Carpenter, choreography by Daniel Pelzig; and *The Transposed Heads* at Lincoln Center, written and directed by Julie Taymor.


**KELLY JAMES TIGHE** (*Additional Scenic/Projection Designer*) Off-Broadway: *Almost Heaven*, *The Fantasticks*, *The Time of Mendel's Trouble*. National Tours: *Movin' Out*, *Mooseltoe*, *Almost Heaven*. Kelly has been the resident designer at the Gateway Playhouse since 2005. Gateway favorites include: *Aida*,



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*The Full Monty, Sweet Charity, and My Way.* Regional: Contra Costa Musical Theater, Diablo Light Opera Co., Center Repertory Co., Carousel Dinner Theater, Cherry County Playhouse. Awards: Dean Goodman Critics Choice, Drama League, Shellie, San Francisco Bay Area Outer Critics Circle. Upcoming: *Cats* (National Tour), *Around the World in 80 Days* (San Jose Repertory), *Bare* (Professional West Coast premiere).

**DOM RUGGIERO** (*Production Stage Manager*) Dom Ruggiero, a member of Actors Equity, has been stage managing for the past 27 years. Broadway PSM credits include *The Gathering* starring Hal Linden, *Borscht Belt on Broadway* starring Bruce Adler and Mal Z. Lawrence, and *Ain't That a Kick in the Head – the Music of Sammy Cahn* directed by Chet Walker. 1st National Tours include: *The Cole Porter Songbook* starring Melba Moore,

*The Irving Berlin Songbook* starring Carole Lawrence, *Greetings! Shalom Aleichem Lives* starring Judy Kaye, Bruce Adler and Theo Bikel. Dom has stage managed across the US, Europe, South America and Australia with *Ain't Misbehavin*, *Phantom*, *Anything Goes*, and *Song & Dance* among many others. He is no stranger to the Gateway Playhouse, having begun his involvement 20 years ago with his production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, which he also directed. Dom has directed numerous shows for Gateway, most notably the 4 productions of *Phantom*, *Tommy*, *Cabaret*, and *Once on This Island*. Dom also directed Gateway Playhouse's production of *Beauty and the Beast* this past summer.

**ROBIN JOY ALLAN** (*Casting and Artistic Director/Creator*) has been the Casting Director at Gateway for the last thirteen years. Five years ago, she became the Artistic Director

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## Who's Who

at Gateway. Prior to moving back home into the wonderland setting of her childhood, she did thrive in Corporate America, spending five years in Los Angeles, casting several TV pilots, MOW's and feature films. You'll find her name on the feature films; *Parenthood*, *When Harry Met Sally*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Side Out* and *Ghost*. Along with her Artistic and Casting Director duties, she is the force behind Gateway's Acting School Division, where she teaches the advanced classes. This is her most passionate work. Her daughter, Hayley, inspires her every day. She hopes her effort is good enough to honor her family, and their amazing effort all these years to bring theatre with integrity to Long Island.

**PAUL ALLAN** (*Producer*) has been involved in theatre since before he can remember. In the early days of Gateway, he spent his summers following around his grandfather

who had his hands full trying to make ends meet - running a theatre in the 60's. Paul grew up here, looking forward to each summer and being able to do more each year. By the time he was a teenager he was beginning to take charge of maintaining this 7 acre complex as well as becoming an integral part of the back stage crew. In the 80's as a young Gateway producer, Paul spent part of the winter months working in NY on many off-Broadway shows - serving as technical supervisor, production manager, and/or show carpenter. At the same time he co-founded a touring company whose shows traveled throughout the US and other countries worldwide. The set rental company was also founded at this time and Gateway scenery is constantly being trucked to various theatres across the country. The main focus, though, is still the productions he produces here for our patrons. \*

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O Holy night, the stars are brightly shining

It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth

Long lay the world in sin and error pining

Till He appeared and the soul felt His worth

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!

O night divine! O night when Christ was born!

O night divine! O night, O night divine!

# CHRISTMAS MELODIES

By Dan Boutwell

*In searching the Internet doing research for this year's show, we came across this article, reprinted here with the author's permission. It seems right in tune... Enjoy.*

It amazes me when I realize that I have accumulated over a half-century of Christmas memories. I have even endured the dreaded question, "What was Christmas like when you were a little boy, Grandpa?" I always thought that question was asked of other people--you know, older folk. However, I find that I can no longer avoid it. I suppose that I must be thankful for the fact that I can remember them or at least most of them.

I was there for all of them, and my wife, Linda, has shared over half of them with me. I suppose that one of the significant things that surfaces as I recall these Christmas events is the music. There has always been music at Christmas. It is interesting that the Christmas tunes come earlier every year. They tend to advance on the calendar with the commercial shopping season. But that really does not bother me, for I am ready for those melodies.

The melodies of Christmas envelop me like the very air I breathe during this season. They blend with my moods and often are a party to my emotions at that time, which ranges from reverent to joyous to just plain funny. They sneak into my semi-consciousness, for they often arrive when I'm driving or shopping or working with the music in the background. These Christmas melodies thrust memories of my past to the forefront of my conscious existence. There is no logic as to chronology. They present themselves as part of my early childhood, my adolescence, and my adult years--however, in no particular order at all.

My childhood comes to mind when I hear "Frosty the Snowman", as sung by Burl Ives. My goodness, only Gene Autry can really sing "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer." Anyone else is simply an imitator. Can you believe it? I remember Tennessee Ernie Ford singing "Silent Night." Don't ask me why, but I always want to break out in a chorus of "Sixteen Tons" right

after. I remember Gentleman Jim Reeves singing "Silver Bells." You may not recall, but I remember hearing Judy Garland singing "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." (A note here: I realize that at about this time some of the younger folk may be saying, "Who in the world are these people?" Just bear in mind that these are my memories after all.)

Through my adolescent and teen years I remember my parents listening to Perry Como, Tony Bennett, and Andy Williams singing songs like: "Do You Hear What I Hear?", "Adeste Fideles", and "Home For The Holidays." This in itself is an amazing thing because country/western was the music of preference in our house. As a teenager I remember hearing Brenda Lee singing "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree." And, then there was Elvis, who sang a number of Christmas tunes. I always remember him singing "Blue Christmas"--remember? "...it'll be a blue, blue, blue Christmas." Where I lived in Oklahoma, the closest that we came to speaking Spanish was to order tacos at a Mexican restaurant. However, "Feliz Navidad" sung by Jose Feliciano had us all singing in Spanish, at least for those few words. I suppose that it was about that time that I first heard "The Little Drummer Boy." I liked it the first time that I heard it, and I still do. Although, it isn't quite the same when played as "elevator music" over the department store speaker system.

Then there were the novelty tunes, like the Chipmunks singing "Christmas Don't Be Late." It really becomes irritating when that song gets stuck in your mind in perpetual replay and you sing it over and over again all day long. I must admit that my favorite Christmas novelty melody is "Snoopy and the Red Baron Christmas" as sung by the Royal Guardsmen, which undoubtedly is their only claim to fame. Now, I don't know who sang it, but I remember hearing "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" by

some kid with a real country 'twang.' I suspect the same kid probably did "All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth." Unfortunately, try as I might, I will never forget "Jingle Bells" as sung by those obnoxious barking dogs.

Some of the names of the melodies escape my memory--like the one sung by Willie Nelson that has the words, "pretty papers, pretty ribbons of blue." And, there is the one by Perry Como that goes, "I heard the bells on Christmas day." I'm sure you remember those names instantly, I don't. However, the melodies and the messages that they leave in my heart are ever present, even when I just think about them.

This brings to mind the songs that I can't sing simply because I cannot remember the words all the way through--songs such as "The Twelve Days of Christmas." My "maids a milkin'" always get confused with the "geese a layin'" or the "horns a honkin'." See what I mean? I firmly believe that some songs are listening songs only. Some of these Christmas melodies are not intended for the common man to vocalize. These are songs that should only be attempted by professionals. The melodies are all familiar, but the cadence and the skill needed to sing them are lost on me--songs like "Ring Ring the Bells." Forget it, I'll just listen and remember.

It is also quite interesting that these musical memories are sometimes associated with the generation of my parents and other relatives who heard these melodies before I was born. It is disheartening that there are young people today who do not know who Bing Crosby was. But I recognize him instantly when I hear "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas." When I hear "I'll be Home for Christmas" I think of my father as a young Marine on a ship on his way to the Battle of Okinawa in the not so white Pacific, during World War II. And, I think of my uncle as a young 82nd Airborne in-

fantryman in a cold and snowy field in France during the Battle of the Bulge. Those memories always give me pause to give thanks for what they did for me on that Christmas day before I was born.

The Christmas spirit is enhanced with the memories of melodies that speak to the real meaning of Christmas. I remember singing "Away in a Manger" as a child. It warms my soul to hear my own grandkids sing it today. "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing," "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear," and "Joy to the World" have never sounded better to me than when I stand among the congregation of my church and celebrate the Lord's birth with song. It causes me to remember a little country Church in Carney, Oklahoma, where the voices were not always in tune but their hearts and spirits were. I can remember Nat King Cole singing "O Holy Night." It still makes the hair on the back of my neck stand up when I hear the "Hallelujah Chorus"--"King of kings and Lord of lords, hallelujah, hallelujah." Surely this gift of music, which is one of the greatest gifts that mankind has ever received, is at its very best when it proclaims the love of God and His gift to us of His Son.

This Christmas season I have purposed, in my heart, to listen a little more intently to the songs of Christmas. With each and every melody there is attached a memory. I believe that Christmas is about memories. I know that the music of Christmas, whether a jingle, a song, or a chorus causes memories. I will remember the melodies of my childhood and my adolescence, as well as those being formed in my present. I count myself fortunate indeed to be able to hear the melodies resulting from that one precious event in time. And it is even more moving to be able to know the Christ of Christmas, who created the song.\*



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# GATEWAY PLAYHOUSE STAFF

## ADMINISTRATIVE

Executive Producer ..... Ruth Allan  
 Producer ..... Paul Allan  
 Associate Producer ..... Jeff Bellante  
 General Manager ..... Gale Edwards  
 Company Manager ..... Michael Baker  
 Musician Contractor ..... Jeff Hoffman  
 Assistant to the Producer ..... Keith Llewellyn  
 Company Management Intern ..... Stefan Schuette

## ARTISTIC

Artistic/Casting Director ..... Robin Joy Allan  
 Director/Choreographer ..... DJ Salisbury  
 Associate Choreographer ..... Ann Cooley  
 Musical Director ..... Brent-Alan Huffman  
 Lighting Designer ..... Marcia Madeira  
 Projection Design ..... Kelly James Tighe  
 Costume Coordinator ..... Marianne Dominy, Megan Moore  
 Assistant Lighting Designer ..... Brian Loesch  
 Sound Consultant ..... Cody Spencer  
 Assistant Musical Director ..... Brendan Whiting  
 Production Photographer ..... Jeff Bellante

## BOX OFFICE

Box Office Manager ..... Laurie Parr  
 Director of Group Sales ..... Annmarie Allan  
 Group Sales ..... Claire Ward  
 House Manager ..... Joanne Famiglietti  
 Box Office Staff ..... Nadine Hazard, Diane Koerber,  
 Meredith J. Kinee, Stefan Schuette,  
 Dawn Walsh, Alex Zuchowski

## PRODUCTION

Production Manager ..... Brian Loesch  
 Production Stage Manager ..... Dom Ruggiero  
 Technical Director ..... AD Garrett  
 Wardrobe Supervisor ..... Marianne Dominy  
 Master Electrician/Media Coordinator ..... Spencer Padilla  
 Sound Engineer ..... Rhys Dawson  
 Wig Supervisor ..... Brittney E. Griffith  
 Assistant Stage Manager ..... Patricia Mason  
 Assistant Master Electrician ..... Justin Hoffman  
 Deck Chief ..... Corey Kloos  
 Deck Chief ..... Brittany Fahner  
 Props ..... Olivia Gagne  
 Technicians ..... Izsac Fleenor, Richard Haug, AJ Lebbons,  
 Keith Reilly, Cade Spencer  
 Wardrobe Assistants ..... Marybeth Irons, Megan Moore  
 Stitcher ..... Christina Hurtado  
 General Technician Intern ..... Brendan Smith  
 Wardrobe Intern ..... Stephen Szymanski  
 Sound Intern ..... Kevin Schaefer

## FACILITIES

Facilities and Grounds Manager ..... The Don Harrison  
 Concessions Manager ..... Carl DeMasi  
 Cleaning Contractor ..... Fiori Enterprises, Inc.  
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 House Staff ..... Martin Maningo,  
 Rudolph Mikkelson, Eric Burt  
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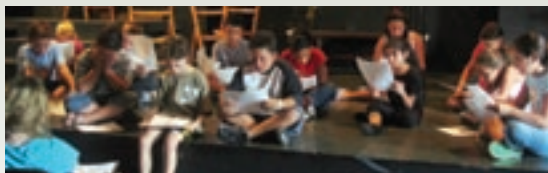
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