

The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

November 2018

Dear theater family & friends,

Great comedy is hard work! On behalf of the Board of Directors, many thanks to director Marilyn Olsen and the talented cast for bringing this funny farce to our audience. It has been such a pleasure working and laughing together with the production team and crew. We hope that you, our audience, enjoy the finished product!

Plans are underway for 2019 and we are so excited about what we have in store. Subscriptions are on sale now on-line and at the box office. Please consider supporting Brookfield Theatre with your subscription—you won't miss out on any shows, you'll save a bit of money, and you'll support the art and community of theatre!

In addition to our regular season, we offer many special events. Watch for upcoming free staged readings, special community events including the Brookfield Film Festival, our Spotlight Showcase on December 8 featuring the talented students of the Spotlight Program, and our Paddy's Gala Concert event on February 16, 2019. Sign up for emails thru the link on our web site www.BrookfieldTheatre.org

We thank you for supporting our 61st year as an all volunteer non-profit organization, providing a brave space for the arts. Brookfield Theatre relies on our loyal patrons to continue our work providing a creative center for the Brookfield community.

Enjoy the show,
Lou Okell, President

P.S. Please do not say the name of our Sept. show in the theatre—it's bad luck!

Thank you to our 2018 Supporters

FRONT ROW CENTER \$2,500+

**Rodney L. White Foundation
Ed Fitzpatrick & Sheri Bresson**

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 • Geraldine Hutchings

**Desi & Brian Kelley • Donald & Karlene Lombardo
Larry Stewart • 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 • Ben Lasser • 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.*

ADD YOUR NAME & SUPPORT LIVE COMMUNITY THEATRE!

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

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

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

- a full page ad in all playbills
- name recognition in all playbills
- 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

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:

Danielle Calabrese 2018 • Vermilion Novack 2018 • Purvi Dudhedia 2018

Julia Bogdanoff 2017 • Jenny Dear 2012 • 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 "Brookfield Theatre Scholarship Fund" on your check.

Donations are accepted on-line: 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.

SUITE SURRENDER

by **MICHAEL MCKEEVER**

directed by **MARILYN OLSEN**

produced by **SARAH DENN**

STARRING

Deborah Carlson* *Claudia McFadden*

Suzanne Powers *Athena Sinclair*

John Bachelder *Bernard Dunlap*

Brian DeToma *Pippet*

Monica M. O'Brien *Dora Del Rio*

Sam Bass *Francis*

Rigby Wilkins *Otis*

Elayne Gordon *Mrs. Osgood*

Ashley Brundage *Murphy*

SETTING

1942 at the Palm Beach Royale Hotel, Florida

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

**Deborah Carlson appears courtesy of Actors Equity Association.*

SUITE SURRENDER is presented through special arrangement with Playscripts.

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.

IN THE GALLERY

NOW SHOWING in our lobby gallery are the paintings of **Supriya Hermenze** of Danbury. Her work has been exhibited at the Ridgefield Guild of Artists, SCAN in Newtown, the Rowayton Art Center, and several restaurants in Bethel. More information is available in the gallery.

Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

Lou Okell, PRESIDENT • Rebecca Pokorski, VICE PRESIDENT • Andrew Okell, TREASURER.

DIRECTORS: Sarah Denn, Doreen Rafferty, Joy Tagliavento
Kylie Block (student representative)

Members & Subscribers

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

2018 Members

Aldis Alexander, Don Arsenault, Maureen Arsenault,
Amanda Bevacqua, Jacqueline Block, Danielle Calabrese,
David Chillemi, Donna Chillemi, Sarah Denn, Carol de Giere,
Ron Malyszka, Helen Malyszka, Monica O'Brien,
Andrew Okell, Lou Okell, Rebecca Pokorski, Doreen Rafferty,
Eileen Saluga, Rich Saluga, Chris Steers, Jeanne Steers,
Joy Tagliavento, Nicole Veach

Lifetime Members

Stephanie Skrok Daniels*, Bart Geissinger*, Gloria Laposka[§],
Barbara Locke, Wendell MacNeal, Imelda O'Gara Roth*,
Bill Possidento, Larry Stewart*, David Tuttle*

**Past President §Deceased*

2018 Season Subscribers

Lynn Schoenmann & Ken Ayoub*, Joseph & Angela Barna*,
John & Anne Baron*, Eric & Tony Bosco-Schmidt*,
John Bottelsen*, Don Bovingloh, Melissa & Ed Carle*,
Anna & Roy Chan*, Anthony Chiodo, Larry & Arlene Coleman*,
Susan Davis*, Frank Esposito*, Jane Farnol, Mark Forlenza*,
Eric Forsberg*, Marianne Gaffey & Robin Montgomery*,
Peter & Laura Glen*, Diane & Martin Gucker*,
Wilda Hayes & Ronald Olsen*, Cathy & Bill Hunt*,
Emily & Greg Kelsey*, Mary Kilgore*, Susan Kilgore*,
Sonii Kollie, Donald & Karlene Lombardo*, Dana Masullo*,
Michael Matson*, Eileen & Pat McKeeney*, John McKenney*,
Marilyn Olsen, Tara Peterson, Brian & Kathy Reiff*,
Clint & Anne Rickards*, Craig David Rosen, Todd Santa Maria,
Sue & Les Slater*, Jeanne & Chris Steers*,
Christine & Richard 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.

BIOGRAPHIES

John Bachelder (Mr. DUNLAP) is happy to be making his debut here in Brookfield with this great comedy. Other area credits include Richard Burbage in THE LIVES OF SHAKESPEARE at the Players Club in NYC, Kerry in THE EXONERATED at the Bijou in Bridgeport, Mr. Lockhart in THE SEAFARER and Charles in NOVEMBER at Eastbound Theater in Milford, Macbeth in MACBETH in Stratford with the Putney Players, GOVORNER DANFORTH in THE CRUCIBLE, Victor Fleming in MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS, Col. Jessup in A FEW GOOD MEN, and Sherlock Holmes in SHERLOCK'S LAST CASE at the Westport Community Theater. his favorite productions are his sons Philip and Mickey, under the direction of his wife Marilyn Olsen.

Sam Bass (FRANCIS) is a local actor from Bethel and is incredibly excited to be part of SUITE SURRENDER and to be doing another show with Brookfield Theater after a two-and-a-half-year hiatus. Sam has been in shows such as THE FANTASTICKS, HAY FEVER, and THE PRODUCERS. He also teaches an improv class here at Brookfield Theater every Monday at 6PM—all are welcome! He thanks his family and friends for all the support.

Kylie Block (ASST DIRECTOR) is excited to be looking at this lovely show from a new perspective other than from the stage. You may have seen her here this past summer in SWEENEY TODD as part of the ensemble. She plans to be in many more shows to come. Thank you to Marilyn for inviting me into this position, thank you Mom for supporting me with this, and thank you to all the people who have given me rides to and from rehearsal!

Ashley Brundage (MURPHY) is extremely proud to be part of the amazing cast and crew of SUITE SURRENDER. She gives a big shout out to her husband, Johnnie, for encouraging her to return to the stage after a ten year semi-retirement. Ashley also thanks her family and friends for their continuous love and support...xoxo. Spare time activities include bringing her daughter, Harper, to ballet class, soccer, gymnastics and school all while imbibing copious amounts of coffee. A relentless overachiever, Ashley is also able to bake five-minute brownie mix in less than three minute at 3 in the morning. "Excuse me...I'm acting over here!"

Deborah Carlson: (CLAUDIA McFADDEN) has performed On & Off Broadway, in National Tours, Regional Theater and Television & Film for over 35 years. Having moved from NYC 2 years ago, Deborah is delighted to be playing Claudia in SUITE SURRENDER and to have become a part of the area's Theater Community. Recent regional work includes THE GLASS MENAGERIE (Amanda), LYING IN STATE (Edna), THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL (Carrie Watts - 2018 OnStage Theatre Awards Outstanding Actress nomination), and the direction of 2 plays in Ridgefield Theater Barn's ONE ACT FESTIVAL. Numerous Broadway, Off Broadway, National Tour, Regional, Film & TV, Commercials and professional teaching credits. Deborah's next professional role will be teaching "Acting Through the Body, Breath & Word" regionally this fall. Thanks to my husband, Errol and beautiful daughter Thea for their support and to Marilyn & Sarah for this wonderful opportunity.

**Deborah Carlson appears courtesy of Actors Equity Association.*

Sarah Denn (PRODUCER) has rarely stopped laughing since beginning work on SUITE SURRENDER. She is a member of the Board of Directors and holds

SUITE SURRENDER

by MICHAEL MCKEEVER

directed by MARILYN OLSEN

PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR Marilyn Olsen
PRODUCER Sarah Denn
STAGE MANAGER Anne Gardner
SET DESIGN Andrew Okell
COSTUME DESIGN Lizzie Varda
LIGHTING DESIGN David Jurman
SOUND DESIGN & EXECUTION Lou Okell
LIGHTING EXECUTION Sarah Denn
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/CREW Kylie Block
SET CONSTRUCTION & DECORATION Andrew Okell,
Bob Lane, Lou Okell,
Don Lombardo, Marilyn Olsen
HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHER Stephen Cihaneck
HOUSE MANAGER Andrew Okell
BOX OFFICE Deanna Rullan & volunteers
SRO/CONCESSIONS Joy Tagliavento & volunteers
OPENING NIGHT PARTY Andrew Okell

SPECIAL THANKS

Marilyn Olsen • Wigboys
Renee Purdy & The Warner Theatre Costume Shop
Sarah Fay—“Stardust” • Phoenix Stage —bellhop costumes

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.**

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.

BIOGRAPHIES

a degree in theatre from Goucher College. Sarah has acted as dramaturg, director, cast member, stage manager, advertising director, and designer on many productions in college and here at the Brookfield Theatre for the Arts. Special thanks to Lou and Andy Okell for going out of their way to support her every step of the way during this production.

Brian De Toma (MR. PIPPET) is very happy to be back on the Brookfield stage. He was last here in THE ODD COUPLE as Roy MANY moons ago! Some of his previous roles include Mr. Paravacini in THE MOUSETRAP, Titi Morelli in LEND ME A TENOR and he was last seen in Ridgefield Theatre Barn's ONE ACT FESTIVAL as Claude in "A Name By Any Other Name" Also a director, Brian has directed numerous musicals and straight plays. He had the privilege to direct the touching and acclaimed production of THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL for Town players of Newtown last year where he proudly serves in his second term as Chairman of the Board. Thanks to Marilyn for giving me the chance to "walk that little rat of a dog" and work with such an amazing cast and crew!

Anne Gardner (STAGE MANAGER) A native of London, England, Anne has been fortunate to be involved in numerous theatrical productions on both sides of the pond and stage. This is her second opportunity to Stage Manage at Brookfield (previously stage managing 'Other People's Money'), and again with an amazing cast and equally talented behind the scenes crew. Volunteering for this special gem in our community has been incredibly rewarding. Shout out to my everything—Neil, Sara and Simon.

Elayne Gordon (MRS. OSGOOD) was last seen this summer in the EAST/WEST ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL in "Hocking Murray". Two summers ago she appeared in "In Her Golden Years," which took first place at the festival and remains one of her favorite roles. Other favorites include Carmella in MULBERRY STREET at Curtain Call and Rebecca Nurse in the acclaimed Westport Community Theatre production of THE CRUCIBLE. She has also been seen at Curtain Call in DAYS OF WINE AND ROSES, WAITING IN THE WINGS, LITTLE WOMEN, THE MAN WHO CAME TO DINNER, MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET and THE HOT L BALTIMORE. Other area productions include THE MIRACLE WORKER, YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU, and THE PRISONER OF SECOND AVENUE, along with benefit performances of LOVE, LOSS AND WHAT I WORE and THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES. New York shows include FRANKENSTEIN, CHAMBER MUSIC, THE RUNNER STUMBLES, STORY THEATRE and POOR MURDERER. "Life, liberty and the pursuit of all who threaten it." —The U.S. Navy

David Jurman (LIGHTING DESIGN) 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 for the 2016 production of THE FANTASTICKS, and worked as vocal coach for 2017's performances of 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 the Brookfield Theater of the Arts. "Art and Music are essential to a well-rounded education."; "Music is love in search of a word."

BIOGRAPHIES

Bob Lane (SET BUILDER-2010 Volunteer of the Year) is happy to build another fine set with his set building sidekick. Bob thanks his teammates, his friends and family, and his savior...Rita. It's a good night for theater!

Don Lombardo (SET BUILDER-2015 Volunteer of the Year) is happy to be part of another great Brookfield set build. Thanks to his family for all their support.

Monica O'Brien (DORA DEL RIO) is thrilled to be back on stage at Brookfield. She was last here as Bea Sullivan in OTHER PEOPLE'S MONEY. Other Brookfield roles have been Big Mama in CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF and Ouiser in STEEL MAGNOLIAS. She also appeared in staged readings of THE RESCUE STATION and CHRISTMAS AT MACOMBER'S, original plays by Emmy award winning writer Ray Sipherd. Last year, Monica portrayed the real life Sunny Jacobs in THE EXONERATED at The Bijou Theater in Bridgeport, CT and had the honor of portraying a grief stricken mother, who lost her young daughter to an overdose, in the original play by Pamela Palmer Mutino SWISH: MARIA IN THE MOURNING at the Manhattan Repertory Theater. She is currently a member of The Role in the Hay players, an Improv troupe, at the Ridgefield Theater Barn, but her favorite "role", by far, has been a homeschooling mother to four awesome kids!

Andrew Okell (SET DESIGNER/SET BUILDER-2011 Volunteer of the Year) first started in theatre at the tender age of 8 in THE TIME MACHINE, ROBIN HOOD and some not so well known productions. Becoming less desirable on stage, set building and design became a better option. Numerous sets have been built and some designed over the last decade including LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS, I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT..., MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS (Rose Brand Best Amateur Set Design 2012), STEEL MAGNOLIAS, LION IN WINTER and a personal favorite NOISES OFF. Thank you to Brookfield theatre and building cohorts Bob Lane, Don Lombardo, and Larry Coleman for enabling me.

Lou Okell (PRODUCER-2009 Volunteer of the Year) thanks Marilyn, Sarah, and the entire cast and crew for their amazing talent and wonderful humor. It's been so much fun working on this show. Congrats to Sarah on a great job producing! Lou serves as president of the theatre and has produced, directed, designed, tech'd, and stage managed numerous shows. Thanks to Andy and Emma for their support & encouragement.

Marilyn Olsen (DIRECTOR) is thrilled to be back, this time in her directing debut at Brookfield Theatre for the Arts! You may have seen her this summer as Mrs. Lovett in SWEENEY TODD or in previous seasons as M'Lynn in STEEL MAGNOLIAS, The Witch in INTO THE WOODS, or Melissa Gardner in LOVE LETTERS. Other recent directing credits include an all-female IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST and DIAL M FOR MURDER. Other recent acting credits are Watson 2 in THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES, Titania in MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM, and Gertrude in HAMLET. You may also have seen her at Curtain Call as Mme Thenardier in LES MISERABLES, Madam Rose in GYPSY, Carlotta in FOLLIES, and Moss in an all-female GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS. A veteran of many CT stages, other favorites are Kate Miller in THE COVER OF LIFE, Maria Callas in MASTER CLASS, Norma Desmond in SUNSET BOULEVARD, and Blanche Dubois in STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE. Marilyn is a physician assistant in Waterbury. Special thanks go to the

BIOGRAPHIES

Brookfield Theatre Board of Directors for their support and belief in the magic of theatre and this crazy-talented cast and crew!!! Thanks also to husband John and her two favorite productions, sons Philip and Mickey, for supporting her creative side. *Ta gra agam duit!*

Suzanne Powers (ATHENA SINCLAIR) is excited to be making her Brookfield debut with SUITE SURRENDER. A frequent performer with several area theatre companies, Suzanne most recently appeared as the Angel Gabriel in the Theatreworks production of AN ACT OF GOD and as Cassie Cooper in RUMORS at New Haven Theatre Co. Other favorite credits include FOLLIES (Phyllis Stone), CURTAINS (Georgia Hendricks) and ASSASSINS (Sara Jane Moore) at the Warner Theatre, BILLY ELLIOT (Mrs. Wilkinson), YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN (Elizabeth Bennett) and THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK (Edith Frank) at the Thomaston Opera House, THE 39 STEPS (Annabella/Pamela/Margaret) at The Ridgefield Theatre Barn and WINTER WONDERETTES (Betty Jean Reynolds) and ENCHANTED APRIL (Rose Arnot) at Center Stage. Suzanne is a speech-language pathologist in Branford and Mom to CWRU junior, Jarrod.

Lizzie Varda (COSTUMER) is a junior at Immaculate High School. She was the costumer for the Brookfield Theatre's production of SWEENEY TODD. She has also been the costumer for her high schools productions of TWELFTH NIGHT which she also played a saloon girl; GREASE which she played Ms. Lynch and OUR TOWN which she played Mrs. Soames. She has also performed in shows such as HAMLET (Ophelia's maid), THE LION KING (Shenzi) and MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING (Lenonta). She thanks her parents and brother for their support, her friends at the IHS drama club for all their encouragement in costumes and theatre, and the incredibly talented cast and crew for bringing their gifts to the stage and making the experience so much fun.

Rigby Wilkins (OTIS) is excited to be participating in her second Brookfield Theater production. An Ohio native, Rigby took part in theater sporadically throughout high school and college before moving to Connecticut and launching her Brookfield debut as part of the ensemble in SWEENEY TODD. Rigby thanks her castmates and everyone on the production team for being welcoming and supportive, as well as her parents for pushing her to audition in the first place.

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.

Thank you for supporting our work—please help us spread the word!