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We apologize for any errors or omissions, List complete as of printer's deadline.

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Michael Burnett, *President & Artistic Director* Meg Jones, *Vice-President*
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Brian Casella (*Technical Director*), Kristin Hoose, Jean Jackson,
Gary Millar, Caitlin Nolan, Andrew Okell, Louisa Okell,
Sammy Panzarino, Rob Sniffin, Joy Tagliavento

Zach Jackson, *Junior Board Member*

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. Should an emergency arise, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

THE LARAMIE PROJECT

by Moisés Kaufman and members of Tectonic Theatre Project

COMPANY:

Matt Austin Michael Bobenhausen David Cheris
Maya Close DJ Deboben Emily Gallagher
Monica Gallagher Meg Jones Joseph Russo
Jessica Smith Rob Sniffin Kira Wallace

PRODUCTION STAFF:

Directed by: Michael Burnett
Produced by: Caitlin Nolan Ben Panzarino Joy Tagliavento
Stage Manager: Sammy Panzarino
Lighting Design: Justin Morgan
Set Design: Michael Burnett
Set Construction: Bob Lane, Victor Jackson
Light Board Operator: Victoria Howe
Lighting Technicians: Zoe Cohen, Chris Gillotte
Video: Greg Scalzo
Video Tech: Juliana Rodrigues
Costumes: Meg Jones, Sue Murray
Sound: Zach Jackson
Box Office: Carol Hoose

SPECIAL THANKS:

Picture People – Danbury Fair Mall

The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts, Inc.

March 2010

Dear TBTA Community:

First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our Board of Directors at TBTA—I am honored to be President of a theatre that understands the power of our medium in producing such a socially necessary piece. Last October, I was fortunate enough to see *The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later* in which the original members of Tectonic Theatre Project went back in to Laramie, Wyoming to re-interview the people of the town. Because the text is comprised of the actual words of the people of the town, the honesty that came through is incredibly profound. I knew instantly that we had a responsibility to stage the original production.

Secondly, I have to express my gratitude to our incredibly talented cast and production team. I have spent the last couple of months working with the most compassionate and driven group of individuals I could possibly imagine. They have given of their hearts and spirits, but most of all, their intent to present this challenging piece with honesty and integrity.

Lastly, I would like to thank you, the audience, for experiencing with us this very different form of theatre. Many of you will realize that this is not a piece about Laramie, but a reflection of all of our towns. This is also not a piece intended to change one's belief system. It is a piece that asks us to take a look at what we are willing to allow in our every day lives; to make us more acutely aware of our words and what seeds we are planting.

In the words of Father Rodger, our intent is to do our best to "say it correct." Doc O'Connor reminds us that "the whole thing, you see, the whole thing, ropes around HOPE."

My hope is that this is the beginning of a dialogue that will continue beyond our stage.

Peace,
Michael Burnett
President, TBTA

**Please note that for the sake of time, we have taken a three act play and combined it into two acts. For that reason Act I is significantly longer than Act II.*

SAFETY NOTE: For the safety of performers, flash photography is strictly prohibited. Copyright laws prohibit the recording of sound and video. Please turn off all electronic devices (cell phones, pagers, games, etc.) as they will conflict with our technical equipment. Please unwrap candies before the show begins and respect each other. This is *live theatre!*

TBTA Membership

TBTA Membership is still only \$20.00 and is a great way to show your support of our theatre. Benefits include: recognition in all programs and on our web site, 10% discount on opening night tickets, invitation to opening night parties and Members Only events, preferred seating at performances, and inclusion on our mailing list. *Why not join us today?*

TBTA Members 2010

Don Bergeron, Rosemary Bergeron, Michael Burnett,
Maureen Burnett, Mike Burnett, Mark H. Campbell,
Brian Casella, Anthony Chiodo, Maya Close, Carol Hoose,
Kristin Hoose, Steve Hoose, Courtney Jackson, Jean Jackson,
Victor Jackson, Zachary Jackson, Meg Jones, Rita Lane, Bob Lane,
Don Lombardo, Karlene Lombardo, Wesley Marchena,
Diane Millar, Gary Millar, Brenda Meola, Caitlin Nolan,
Andy Okell, Emma Okell, Lou Okell, Sammy Panzarino,
James Ryan, Billy Shields, Georgeann Shields, William Shields,
Zach Shields, Stephanie Skrok, Rob Sniffin, Joy Tagliavento,
Virginia Trinqué, Lynda Willingham

TBTA Lifetime Members

Bart Geissinger, Gloria Laposka, Barbara Locke,
Wendell MacNeal, Imelda O'Gara Roth,
Bill Possidento, Larry Stewart

Season Subscribers

Thank you to our 2010 Season Subscribers

Don Ballman, Don & Rosemary Bergeron, Jim & Margie Blansfield,
Mark Cherry, Emma Goetz, Eugene Goetz, Jerry Goetz, Steve Hoose,
Judy & Denis Larkin, Donald & Karlene Lombardo, Judy Lee,
Arlene Leonard (2), Judith Mangan, Beverly Meyer, Jennifer Sheaffer,
William & Georgeann Shields, Cliff & Marie Walker, Dale & Carol Walker

**SAVE THE DATE: *The Paddy Awards will now
be held on Saturday, April 10, 2010!***

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

A Common Ground, Danbury, CT

Danbury High School Productions

Windhorse Acupuncture, Danbury, CT

Molton Java, Bethel, CT

Don Ballman

Mary Beth Rassulo

Ben Wallace

TBTA Scholarship Fund

We are proud to award a scholarship annually to a graduating high school senior that has been part of the TBTA community.

PAST RECIPIENTS INCLUDE:

Billy Shields 2007 • Travis Moore 2006
Rob Sniffin 2005 • Andrew Wheelock 2004

If you would like to be part of this giving tradition, please send your donation to **TBTA—Scholarship Fund**, P.O. Box 528, Brookfield, CT 06804.

Decibel Dilemma

The FCC has issued new regulations for the use of wireless microphones. These regulations, that are reserving certain frequencies for emergency use only, mean that half of our wireless microphones will not be useable as of June 12 of this year. With such short notice, this is not an expense the theatre can incur on its own.

TBTA needs to ask for your help: Help your family and friends by sharing what we love about this truly community focused theatre. Help your business by placing an ad in our programs.

To replace our wireless microphones, we will need more funds from advertising and donations and, more importantly, we need more ticket sales—isn't that what theatre is all about? So please **be helpful & share!**

BIOGRAPHIES

Matt Austin (COMPANY) is happy, excited, thrilled, overjoyed and elated that he got a new thesaurus and also to be returning to TBTA. He was most recently seen here unsuccessfully saving the world from a man-eating plant in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Some of his favorite roles include Harold Hill in *The Music Man*, Tevye in *Fiddler*, and Eva Peron in *Evita*. He has never played these roles, but enjoys them a lot. In his spare time he enjoys writing about himself in the third person. Many thanks to his family and friends. Special thanks to Michael for trusting that he can be serious for 2 hours.

Michael Bobenhausen (COMPANY) is a new actor who was discovered in Ms. NeJame's Speech Arts class at DHS where Michael is currently a member of Theater Productions. He was in the "flight crew" for DHS's performance of *Peter Pan*. Besides the student production of *The Canterbury Tales*, this marks his first show. Michael looks forward to playing the role of Sitting Bull in DHS's upcoming *Annie Get Your Gun*.

Michael Burnett (DIRECTOR) is proud to have recently stepped in as president of TBTA where he has had the honor of directing *Seussical* and *Pippin*. He has been seen on stage professionally in *42nd Street*, *Mame*, *Sugar Babies* and *the water falls*. He has also been involved in theatre for the Deaf at Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. Michael has been working with Danbury High School Productions for the last 13 years and is also the owner of Windhorse Acupuncture Center for Eastern Healing Arts. This is not only for Matt but for all who are silenced by prejudice and hate. Thanks Mom, our ANGELS are out every night for many reasons.

David Cheris (COMPANY) is excited to be a part of his first, and extremely special, production with TBTA. He has spent the last several years directing for The Scene Stealers, a Westchester theatre company for which he is also acting president. *The Laramie Project* is David's first role on stage since 2001 when he appeared as Clive in *See How They Run*. His other

acting credits include roles in *Italian American Reconciliation*, *Godspell*, *West Side Story*, and *A School for Scandal*. David would like to thank Jill for telling him about this production; Michael for giving him the opportunity; and his family and friends, especially Mike.

Maya Close (COMPANY) is a recent graduate of Connecticut College with a BA in Human Development and a certificate in Elementary Education; she plans to return to graduate school to pursue her Masters in Special Education. Favorite roles include Hero in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Tricia in *Dog Sees God*, Lead Dancer in *Pippin*, Cindy Ella in *Cindy Ella's Goin' to the Ball...Baby!*, Bird Girl in *Seussical the Musical* and *The Vagina Monologues*. Maya would like to thank the cast for being brave enough to question multiple perspectives, including their own. May you always have a piece of Angel Action to take part in. See you for *Laramie! the Musical*.

DJ Deboen (COMPANY), singer-songwriter, is very excited and honored to be in his second production at TBTA. Previous credits include, Horton in *Suessical the Musical* at both TBTA and DHS. Special thanks to Michael Burnett. Wallace—I Love You!

Emily Gallagher (COMPANY) has a BFA in theatre from NYU. She was most recently seen in Aristophanes' *The Clouds* at the American Theatre for Actors, *The Vagina Monologues* off-Broadway at New World Stages, and *Seussical the Musical* here at TBTA. It's not often that one gets to do what they love with the people they love and Emily feels truly blessed to be a part of such an incredible production with such an incredible cast. She thanks her amazing director, and friend, Mr. Michael, for believing in her enough to cast her (even though she had to commute from NYC); Sue for giving her wings; Sammy for his patience; Kira, D, Cags, Mrs. Austin, Rob, Monica, Mrs. Sniffin and everyone else who drove her to and from the train station and theatre six times a week; and the entire TBTA community who helped make this amazing production a reality. For 'Da Mama': my true wings.

BIOGRAPHIES

Monica Gallagher (COMPANY) This is Monica's fourth time on the TBTA stage. She has also been seen in *Seussical*, *Pippin* and *Much Ado About Nothing*. She also performed at Musicals at Richter as well as on the DHS stage. She is a senior Urban and Community Studies major at the University of Connecticut. Many thanks to her family, friends and Liz for accommodating her crazy schedule!

Chris Gillotte (LIGHTING TECH) lives in Danbury and is the oldest of four. Along with stage crew, Boy Scouts and playing frisbee have been his other passions. Chris has worked in stage crews for DHS productions since his freshman year and for TBTA's production of *Pippin*. Currently in his senior year at DHS, Chris hopes to pursue a career in Technical Theater/Filming.

Victoria Howe (LIGHT BOARD) is returning to TBTA after having been part of the stage crew for *Peter Pan*. She is currently a senior at DHS and plans to continue working with TBTA while she attends college. Along with her regular studies, she will also pursue a minor in theatre. She thanks Michael and the entire cast for this wonderful experience and performance.

Zach Jackson (SOUND) is a sophomore at DHS, and, as of January is the newest Junior Board Member here at the theatre. Since 2007, Zach has performed in *Seussical*, *The Golden Cabaret* and *Pippin* at TBTA. This is Zach's third time as a production crew member and he is glad to have the opportunity to work both on stage and behind the scenes. Zach wishes to thank Michael and the cast and congratulates them on an outstanding show.

Meg Jones (COMPANY) is honored to be a member of this important show. She is no stranger to the stage at TBTA and has been seen in *Pippin*, *Spoon River Anthology*, *Peter Pan* and *The Odd Couple*. She is a member of the Board of Directors and runs the Costume Department. *The Laramie Project* has been a sobering and humbling experience. Its message runs wide and deep. Her hope is that many

of you will take it and pass it on. Calling ALL angels....

Justin Morgan (LIGHTING DESIGN) is a graduate of DHS and UConn where he earned his BFA in design/technical theatre. He worked professionally in technical theatre and live entertainment for several years before becoming a technology education teacher at DHS in 2004. He has been Technical Director and Lighting Designer for DHS for more than 12 productions and was Lighting Designer for TBTA's production of *Pippin*.

Caitlin Nolan (PRODUCER) is proud to be producing *The Laramie Project* as a TBTA Board Member. She is a dance instructor at Lori's Center Stage in Danbury and a teacher at The Sandbox Daycare. She has also been fortunate enough to perform in two shows here at TBTA, *Pippin* and *Seussical* as well as choreographing for *Much Ado About Nothing*. Caitlin would like to congratulate the cast of for being totally committed to this incredible piece and it's message.

Ben Panzarino (PRODUCER) is thrilled to be back in America working on another Brookfield production after recently returning from studies abroad in The Netherlands. He is currently a junior at WCSU double-majoring in Marketing and Media Production. On stage, Ben has been seen as Danny Zuko in *Grease*, The Cowardly Lion in *The Wizard of Oz*, Tommy Djlis in *The Music Man*, and as a Wickersham Brother in *Seussical*, among others. Ben has no idea what career he will pursue but is taking suggestions. He sends his love to his mom, dad, three brothers and four animals.

Sammy Panzarino (STAGE MANAGER) is thrilled to be back at TBTA with *The Laramie Project*. He most recently produced *Much Ado About Nothing*. Other TBTA credits include *Pippin*, *Little Women*, *A Golden Cabaret*, *Seussical*, *I Think I Can*, and *Assassins*. Sammy would like to thank Michael and the cast and production team of *The Laramie Project*. Break a leg!

BIOGRAPHIES

Joseph Russo (COMPANY) is very happy to be making his debut at TBTA with this production. He has been involved in local theater since 1997. Favorite roles include Freddy Eynsford-Hill (*Pygmalion*), Beethoven (*Dog Sees God*) and Bob Cratchit (*Ghost of a Chance*). Directing credits include *Auntie Mame*, *Boeing-Boeing*, *All About Eve* (staged readings), *See Dick...*, *Salome*, and *Suddenly Last Summer*, as well as a co-director of the non-Equity tour of *Tea at Five*, among others. A playwright and member of the New York Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences since 2007, Joseph's award-winning works have been seen at The Hartford Stage Company and the HBO Studios in NYC. Special thanks to his family, Bill, Jane, Meg and Michael.

Greg Scalzo (VIDEO) has been working with film, video and digital media since his days as a student at DHS where he now shares his knowledge with the next generation of creative young people as a teacher. Greg has been creating and overseeing videos of theatrical productions for more than ten years in addition to shooting local special events and private functions professionally. He has also appeared on stage; most notably as Vince Fontaine in *Grease* and Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast*.

Jessica Smith (COMPANY) A graduate of The Boston Conservatory with a degree in vocal performance, Jessica works as a professional singer, director, music director and voice teacher. Jessica enjoys performing locally, and was seen this fall in *Much Ado About Nothing* here at TBTA. Other recent productions include *A Chorus Line*, *Funny Girl* and *Wonderful Town* (Musicals at Richter, Danbury) and *A Little Night Music* (TheatreWorks, New Milford). Special thanks to Michael Burnett, whose compassion and integrity have given us this incredible experience. Thank you.

Rob Sniffin (COMPANY) is honored to be part of such an important piece. He has previously been seen at TBTA in *Pippin* (Pippin) and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, as well as having directed

Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* this past fall. Other favorites include *Brigadoon* (Tommy), *Julius Caesar* (Mark Antony), and many more. Thanks particularly to the lovely ladies who helped him get through this process, and to the cast as a whole for being such beautiful and free people. This time, not only in memory of Charlie NeJame, but for everyone who ever faced adversity and injustice. Our Lights burn for you.

Joy Tagliavento (PRODUCER) feels honored & privileged to be part of such an important, influential show—and very grateful to Michael for the ticket that resulted in her involvement in *Laramie*. Her recent work at TBTA includes *Pippin* and assistant directing *Much Ado About Nothing*. She has performed in, co-directed, produced and stage managed dozens of shows including many community theatre productions, and has worked professionally for the Chamber Opera Theatre of New York in NYC, the Actors Repertory Company of CT and the Candlewood Playhouse in New Fairfield. When she isn't at her job or at the theatre, you can find her tending to sick or orphaned animals in her capacity as a licensed wildlife rehabilitator. Joy is delighted to be sharing another theatre experience with her daughter Maya—and gives all thanks to her mom for being the angel in her life.

Kira E. Wallace (COMPANY) is so excited to be back at Brookfield for her dramatic debut in *The Laramie Project*! She graduated from DHS in 2006 and is now attending WCSU studying to become a nurse, and currently works at The Sandbox Daycare Center. Previous credits include *Seussical* (Bird Girl) and *Pippin* (Fastrade) here at TBTA and *The Music Man* at DHS (Marian Paroo). She is honored to be a part of this stunning cast. "Thank you to the entire cast, crew, and production, to Mom and Dad, Levi, Willson, and the rest of my unconditionally loving and supportive family; but especially to Michael Burnett. Thank you Sensei, for always believing in me and being the soul reason I will forever 'keep the channel open.' Break A Leg & Love Everything. I Love You D!"