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The Assisted Listening System is made possible by a generous donation from The Maurice and Rhoda Miller Endowment Fund.

Please keep in touch! Visit our website at www.winnipesaukeeplayhouse.org to join our email list. You can also follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Dear Friends,

On behalf of everyone at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse, it is my great privilege to welcome you and thank you for joining us for the 2024 Season! I am constantly inspired by the remarkable passion of this community. I am grateful for the skilled artists who bring theatre to life on our stage, the intrepid staff members who create and maintain the structures and pathways underpinning the



work, the members of our dedicated board of trustees who see to the health and longevity of the organization, and especially you—the patrons who engage in the work with generosity, openness, and vigor.

Engaging with the arts, especially theatre, has always helped me wrestle with big questions. It does this by narrowing the aperture and challenging me to focus on specific human stories—both those that are familiar and those that are outside of my experience. A mentor of mine is fond of summarizing this by saying that "theatre is the gym for the empathy muscle." Tales of students in a ridiculous school surviving the antics of their outrageous teachers, members of a family in Northern Ireland trying to hold on to hope and each other in the midst of The Troubles, a play telling the story of the arrival of the literal devil... all of these stories can help transform the incomprehensibly large into something more navigable.

During an election year, I often find myself wrestling with big questions about power. As we take part in this important national debate, my thoughts can tend a little toward the metaphysical: How should an individual ethically obtain and use power? What do we give up when we prioritize seeking power? What restrictions should be imposed on it? Is there any way to prevent structural inequities from continually granting power to only a select few? I also think a lot about the obligations those in power have to those who lack it.

Then, typically, I roll over in bed and tell myself for the fifth time that I really need to go to sleep because I have to be awake in a few hours.

I don't expect any of us will walk out of the theatre today with simple, concrete answers to big questions about power or, frankly, anything else. But I know it's worth engaging in the conversation with openness and empathy. I'm so grateful we're here together to do that. Maybe the hours we spend here will equip us with a few new ways of talking with each other, something we can all use as Election Day draws closer.

Thank you for engaging with this work—for being part of this community.

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2024 SHOW LISTINGS PROFESSIONAL THEATRE

June 2I-July 6: Jersey Boys The Story of Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons Book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, Music by Bob Gaudio, Lyrics by Bob Crewe

A jukebox musical that's "just too good to be true!" With phenomenal music, memorable characters, and great storytelling, Jersey Boys follows the fascinating evolution of four blue-collar kids who became one of the greatest successes in pop-music history. Winner of both the Tony and Olivier Awards for Best Musical, the show features chart-topping hits including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," and more! Sponsored by:





July 11-20: Witch By Jen Silverman

The devil comes to town

This fiendishly funny and anachronistically contemporary play is a mature and inventive retelling of a Jacobean drama. The arrival of Scratch, the literal devil, tempts the residents of Edmonton to confront – and perhaps indulge – their darkest wishes... in exchange for their souls. Elizabeth should be his easiest target, having been labeled a "witch" and cast out by the town, but her soul is not so readily bought. Has the devil met his match?



2024 SHOW LISTINGS PROFESSIONAL THEATRE

July 25-August 3: La Cage aux Folles

Book by Harvey Fierstein, Music and Lyrics by Jerry Herman Based on the play by Jean Poiret

The Broadway smash hit musical comedy!

The "rather gaudy, but also rather grand" winner of six Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Score, and Best Book, La Cage aux Folles is a musical comedy about family that is filled with glitz, glamour, and drag queens! Based on the hit French farce that also inspired Hollywood's The Birdcage, this Broadway smash includes favorite songs like "I Am What I Am" and "The Best of Times." It encourages us all to stay true to ourselves.

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August 8-17: Richard III

By William Shakespeare

"Every tale condemns me for a villain"

Performed as a heated presidential election in the United States ramps up, the story of Shakespeare's most notorious antihero asks us to consider the price that we pay when we seek power. A small, powerful ensemble of actors brings this classic story to new life in a contemporary production that reverberates with fresh relevance.

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2024 SHOW LISTINGS PROFESSIONAL THEATRE

August 22-September I: In the Heights

Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda, Book by Quiara Alegría Hudes Conceived by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Lin-Manuel Miranda's first Broadway hit!

In the Heights tells the story of a vibrant Latinx community in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood – a place where the coffee from the corner bodega is light and sweet, the windows are always open, and the breeze carries the rhythm of three generations of music. It's also a community on the brink of change, full of hopes, dreams and pressures, where the biggest struggles can be deciding which traditions you take with you, and which ones you leave behind.

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October 19, 26-27: A Year with Frog and Toad

Music by Robert Reale, Book and Lyrics by Willie Reale Based on the books by Arnold Lobel

A timeless story of friendship

Arnold Lobel's well-loved books have been turned into a whimsical show following two great friends – the cheerful, popular Frog and the rather grumpy Toad – through four fun-filled seasons. With an upbeat score and lots of laughs, **A Year with Frog and Toad** is the ultimate family musical.

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2024 SHOW LISTINGS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

February 9-18: Mr. Burns, a post-electric play

By Anne Washburn, Score by Michael Friedman, Lyrics by Anne Washburn

A tale of survival... and the enduring power of The Simpsons

In this dark comedy, a group of post-apocalyptic survivors make sense of an environment that no longer makes sense by recreating their vanished world through storytelling (some of it featuring Bart Simpson), turning the pop culture of our era into the mythology of the future. Performed by students ages 13-18

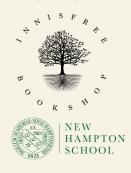
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February 10-17: Sideways Stories from Wayside School

Adapted by John Olive, Based on the novels by Louis Sachar

The silliest stories from the strangest school! This hilarious play based on Louis Sachar's beloved book series explores the happenings at Wayside School, which is kind of a strange place. It's thirty stories high with only one classroom per story. (Well, actually, only twenty-nine stories high, because Miss Zarves on the 19th floor doesn't exist.) Whether it's teachers turning students into apples or the cow hiding in the classrooms, all is not normal at this mysterious school. Performed by students ages 8-13. Sponsored by:



🛆 DELTA DENTAL

2024 SHOW LISTINGS GONNUNITY THEATRE

February 22-25: The Sherlock Mystery Radio Hour A Live Radio Drama Based on the works of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

A Yearly Tradition!

The Winni Players' annual live radio play is back! Step back in time to when radio was king and the family gathered around it for their favorite dramas. This year you will get transported into the captivating world of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson. Join us for an evening filled with suspense, deduction, and intrigue as we present two riveting radio-play adventures featuring the great detective himself: "The Case of the Haunted Chateau" and "The Case of the Iron Box".

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April 25-28: The Ferryman By Jez Butterworth

A "fiercely gripping play." - The New York Times County Armagh, Northern Ireland, 1981. The Carney farmhouse is a hive of activity with preparations for the annual harvest. A day of hard work on the land and a traditional night of feasting and celebration lie ahead. But this year they will be interrupted by a visitor. Winner of the Tony Award for Best Play, it's a powerful exploration of humanity's resilience and the unspoken secrets of Ireland's past.

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2024 SHOW LISTINGS SPECIAL EVENTS

March 1-3: On the Exhale By Martin Zimmerman

When tragedy strikes, take a breath and get a grip When a senseless act of violence changes her life forever, a liberal college professor finds herself inexplicably drawn to the very weapon used to perpetrate the crime--and to the irresistible feeling of power that comes from holding life and death in her hands. Peering down the barrel of a uniquely American crisis, she begins to suspect that when it comes to gun violence, we're all part of the problem. This is the New Hampshire premiere of Martín Zimmerman's gripping play, which draws you into the white-hot center of our country's most urgent debate. Presented by

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About theatreKAPOW theatreKAPOW (<u>www.tkapow.com</u>) develops ensemble productions of great dramatic literature to explore the human experience and inspire and challenge both artist and audience. We put stories on stage and create a safe space to start conversations to begin to heal communities, families, and hearts.

November 16: ImprovOlympics!

Join teams from local non-profit organizations for a night of improv comedy and fundraising! This popular event will pit local amateur comedians against each other in a **Whose Line Is It Anyway?** battle to make you laugh and raise funds for worthy local causes.

Are you associated with a local non-profit and would like to get involved? Email info@winniplayhouse.org to find out how you can put a team together!

2024 SHOW LISTINGS EDUCATIONAL AND COMMUNITY THEATRE

December 11-15: Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical

Book by Dennis Kelly, Music & Lyrics by Tim Minchin

Sometimes you have to be a little bit naughty! In 2010, Dahl's beloved children's book leapt to the stage bringing his characters to life with dynamic songs and innovative staging, winning 16 Best Musical awards! It's the inspiring story of an extraordinary girl with an unbounded imagination who proves that, despite the odds, you can do anything you put your mind to.



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Performed by local adults and students ages 8 and above.

The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Department promotes the developmentally

appropriate acquisition of theatrical skills, fosters a life-long appreciation of the technique, history, and literature of theatre and its ancillary fields of study, and—above all seeks to inspire its students to use theatre as a tool to develop empathy, with which they may explore and come to better understand the world.

ART



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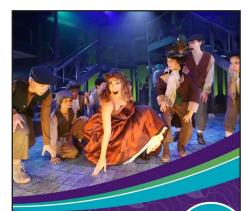


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*Business NH Magazine (October 2022 issue). **Reputation (Automotive Industry Reputation Report 2022

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The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Department promotes the developmentally appropriate acquisition of theatrical skills, fosters a life-long appreciation of the technique, history, and literature of theatre and its ancillary fields of study, and—above all seeks to inspire its students to use theatre as a tool to develop empathy, with which they may explore and come to better understand the world.





Educational Programming at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse includes:

- -Four fully realized productions annually for students ages 8-18
- -Summer camps for students ages 5-12
- -Focused summer training for students ages 13-18
- -Classes and workshops for participants of all ages
- -Post-performance talkbacks
- -The Symposium Series
- -Backstage tours
- -Informative articles in playbills
- -Teacher training
- -College internships
- -Theatre and arts education advocacy





For more information... winnipesaukeeplayhouse.org/education education@winniplayhouse.org

2024 Subscriptions & Flex Passes

2024 All Access Pass \$325.00

One ticket to each of the 13 productions/events in the 2024 season (including the special events: *On the Exhale* and *ImprovOlympics*). Additional 10% discount on all other tickets purchased for 2024 productions/events.

2024 Professional Summer Pass \$210.00

One ticket to each of the five (5) professional productions (*Jersey Boys, Witch, La Cage aux Folles, Richard III, In the Heights*). Additional 5% discount on all other tickets purchased for 2024 productions/events.

2024 Professional Summer Balcony Pass \$115.00

One ticket to each of the five (5) professional productions (*Jersey Boys, Witch, La Cage aux Folles, Richard III, In the Heights*). Seating is limited to the front row of the balcony only. Additional 5% discount on all other tickets purchased for 2024 productions/events.

2024 Flex Pass \$220.00 Five tickets to use however you like. Mix and match performances or productions in any combination.

*The Fine Print:

Passes (and any associated discounts) are not redeemable for rentals or other events produced by a third party. Seats must be reserved in advance and are subject to availability. There are no additional fees associated with redeeming subscription passes. Any unused portion of subscription passes may not be redeemed for cash or credit to your account.

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The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Presents the Winni Players Community Theatre in

The Sherlock Mystery Radio Hour: A Live Radio Drama

Based on "The Case of the Haunted Chateau" and "The Case of the Iron Box" by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

The Production Team

Directors	Sam Ducharme and Debbi Finkelstein
Stage Manager	Emily Close
	Amanda Dickinson
Sound Designer	Sam Ducharme
-	Timothy L'Ecuyer

The Cast

Sherlock Holmes	William Johnston
Dr. John Watson	Hazel Heywood
Bill Forman	Heather Williams
Vicomte De Verlon, Wife, Foley Artist	Kelly Bennett
Walter, Gaston	Brendan Berube
Angus	Raymond Chambers
Sandy, Foley Artist	Robin Dorff
Murdoch, Susie	Nicole Gauvreau
Ian, Thomas, Station Master	Lore Heywood
Herbert	Mary Morehouse Rogers
Dorothy, Mrs. Gibson	Jennifer Simon
Porter, Foley Artist	Mary White

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

The production team dedicates this performance to Steven Bennett.

theatre **KAPOW On the** Exhale by Martín Zimmerman When tragedy strikes, take a breath and get a grip 2023

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March 1 and 2 at 7:30pm March 3 at 2:00pm



www.tKAPOW.com

A Note from the Director

"The stage is set, the curtain rises, we are ready to begin." --Sherlock Holmes

I love a good mystery, I always have. From classic whodunits from the likes of Agatha Christie and, of course, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, to more modern takes from Stephen King and Truman Capote, the process of eliminating the impossible and finding whatever improbable remaining truth has always been very appealing to me, like putting in the last piece of a nearly-complete jigsaw puzzle.

After several radio play acting credits under my belt here at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse over the past few years, this time around I was ready for a new challenge, and as I write this director's note in anticipation of opening night, I certainly believe I found what I was looking for. Sharing the director's chair with another creative mind was a really fun and exciting process, and collaborating with Debbi to help breathe life into our shared vision of what this show could be has been a wonderful experience.

How fortunate we were to find a group of actors--some new blood mixed in with old familiar faces--that from the very first read-through, left me with a huge smile on my face because I knew we had the makings of a fantastic show on our hands. With this production you're about to watch and enjoy, we were presented with a unique challenge from the get-go: how do you take iconic characters and breathe new life into them in a way that is entertaining and original, while remaining true to the heart of those characters? I'm confident that we solved this mystery, but I will leave the final judgment to you.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share with you my directorial debut here at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse, and for your continued support of these wonderful community theatre productions. Now, sit back, relax, but be prepared--the game is afoot!

--Sam Ducharme

A Note from the Director

As a theater kid I bucked convention and had a dinner theater murder mystery at my Bat Mitzvah, rather than the traditional dance party expected by my peers. In case you're wondering, 902-uh-oh was the name of the particular performance. Each table at the reception was named for a different detective, and my table was the Sherlock Holmes table. Years later, here I am co-directing two Sherlock Holmes radio shows in what almost feels like a full-circle moment. Twelve year old me would be very impressed.

I started directing shows in college and found that, as much as I come alive on stage, I enjoy the process a lot more than anything else I had done in theatre up to that point. I really enjoy digging into each and every character with actors while putting all the pieces together of what becomes a full-fledged performance. Since moving to NH in 2020, I haven't done very much directing and was thrilled when the opportunity to direct this show presented itself. My first radio show at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse was in 2022 and I was determined to be part of the next one, as I had so much fun working with the wonderful cast assembled by Margaret Lundberg, who has directed many of the radio shows here. As a member of the *Miracle on 34th Street* radio show cast, I met my future co-director, as well as even more fabulous and fun actors.

Together, Sam and I have done our best to continue what Margaret had shown us through her directing. I am thrilled with the cast we have assembled, not just because they are all incredibly talented and come to play, but because they are funny and keep me thoroughly entertained. Our rehearsals have been laugh riots, but also a place of safety, where each of us can be ourselves. As you watch (or listen) to these two Sherlock stories, I hope you find the humor and the heart that this cast has brought to each of their characters. I am so proud of all that we have accomplished together and I am honored to be able to share that with all of you. So sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

--Debbi Finkelstein

From The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Department...

With his brilliant mind and keen powers of deduction, Sherlock Holmes has fascinated and entertained readers for well over a century. He first appeared in A Study in Scarlet, written by Conan Doyle in 1887, and now continues to star in a wide array of adaptations from film and television to comics and music. The detective's influence extends beyond literature, shaping the world of forensic science and becoming a cultural touchstone synonymous with deductive reasoning. The theatrical journey of Sherlock Holmes began in 1899 with the first known stage adaptation, Sherlock Holmes, debuting at the Star Theatre in Buffalo, New York. Since then, the detective has been brought to life by numerous actors, each contributing a unique flavor to the iconic character. The allure of Holmes's deductive prowess and, perhaps most importantly, the chemistry between Holmes and his faithful companion, Dr. John H. Watson, are in large part what continues to drive audiences to seek out Sherlock in whatever medium they can find him. The Sherlock radio plays are one of his most popular formats, and we are excited to be able to offer those to you once again tonight. Enjoy watching (and listening) to the legend himself; good luck seeing if you can beat him to the punch!

--Cory Lawson Director of Education and Community Engagement

Sherlock Facts!

1. Sherlock was first called Sherrinford

Originally, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle named the sleuth Sherrinford but changed his mind – perhaps because there were well-known Nottingham cricketers called Sherwin and Shacklock, and the author was a big fan of the sport.

2. John Watson was nearly called Ormand Stacker

There are notes in the Museum of London that suggest both characters might have had very different names.

3. Holmes was inspired by a teacher

Conan Doyle was so impressed by Dr Joseph Bell, a lecturer at the University of Edinburgh, who could diagnose patients on sight, that he based Sherlock's skills of perception on him.

4. A Study in Scarlet wasn't popular

His first adventure was rejected by several publishers and printed in Beeton's Christmas Annual, which was not a success.

5. Sherlock Holmes is the most popular film character

...or at least, the most popular human character! He's been in 226 films while Dracula has been in 239!

6. And he's been on film for more than 100 years

With the first silent version - Sherlock Holmes Baffled - made in 1900.

7. Sherlock never says 'Elementary, my dear Watson'

It feels like everything we know is a lie! While the detective says 'elementary' and 'my dear Watson' several times, he never puts the two together.

8. Mycroft Holmes is only in two stories

Although he's often given a bigger role in TV shows and films, Sherlock's brother Mycroft actually only appears in The Greek Interpreter and The Bruce-Partington Plans.

9. Queen Victoria was a Sherlock fan

In the story The Bruce-Partington Plans, Sherlock is invited to Windsor to meet Queen Victoria in recognition of his services, and is presented with an emerald tiepin.

10. Conan Doyle tried to kill Sherlock Holmes because he was bored

After two years of writing the popular stories, the author was sick of the detective, and complained 'it takes my mind from other things'.

11. Watson and Holmes win at chess

In the 1969 Oxford-Cambridge chess match, Oxford players called Watson and Holmes both won their games.

12. The Sherlock Holmes Museum isn't at 221b Baker Street

It's actually at number 239. The Audacity!

13. Sherlock's IQ is 190

Or at least that's what a man called John Radford estimates in his book The Intelligence of Sherlock Holmes and other Three-Pipe Problems. The average is between 100 and 110, while Einstein's was 160.

14. Sherlock Holmes is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry

Yes, despite being a fictional character, the RSC offered him a fellowship in 2002, and presented his award to Dr John Watson (a real man who is also a fellow!) in front of the statue of Holmes outside Baker Street station.

15. The Speckled Band is the most popular Sherlock Holmes story

Not only was it Conan Doyle's favorite, but it frequently tops reader polls.

White, Lorna. "Interesting Facts about Sherlock Holmes." *Yours*, 22 Mar. 2022, www.yours.co.uk/leisure/celebrity-tv/15-facts-about-sherlock-holmes/.



The Ferryman By Jez Butterworth

APRIL 25-28

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The Cast



Kelly Bennett (Vicomte De Verlon, Wife, Foley Artist) is pleased to be returning to the Winnipesaukee Playhouse for the 2024 radio drama. This production marks the 5th performance she has worked on at the Playhouse and the 4th radio play she has been in. She is dedicating her performance to her father Steven who passed away this February.



Brendan Berube (Walter, Gaston) is returning to the Playhouse stage for the fourth time, having previously appeared as Henry Saunders in *Lend Me a Tenor*, the Constable in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and as multiple characters in last year's radio show, *Miracle on 34th Street*. He also proudly serves on the Winni Players Committee, as well as the Board of Directors for The Streetcar Company in Laconia, and has appeared in numerous productions for Streetcar, the Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, and the Pittsfield Players. When not on stage, you'll find him dotting i's and crossing t's (literally) as Managing Editor of The Meredith

News and other weekly newspapers published locally by Salmon Press.



Dr. Raymond ("Ray") Chambers (Angus) is a recent arrival from Georgia. Previously he had a lead in *Everybody Loves Opal* and choreographed *South Pacific* for a small community theatre. He developed his appreciation for live theatre while living in England.



Robin Dorff (Sandy, Foley Artist) is grateful to be making his first appearance with the Winni Players along with his very first-ever stint as a foley actor. Local credits include roles with ETC in *Gypsy* (Pop, Announcer, Phil), *Guys and Dolls* (Gangster), and *Annie* (FDR and Bundles) and with Interlakes' Summer Theatre productions of *Fiddler on the Roof* (Nachem) and *Ragtime* (Henry Ford). Regional credits include: *Hamlet* (Polonius), *Spelling Bee* (Panch), *Peter Pan* (Smee), *Beauty and the Beast* (Maurice), *Fantasticks* (Bellomy), *1776* (Lee and Hancock), *Shenandoah* (Rev. Byrd), and the title role in *Mister Roberts*.



Nicole Gauvreau (Murdoch, Susie) is delighted to be back with the Winni Players after appearing in *Fiddler on the Roof* in 2023. They developed an early love of Golden Age radio dramas through WAMU's The Big Broadcast, so trying out for a radio play using 1940s scripts was a no brainer. Nicole is the Youth Services Librarian at Pease Public Library in Plymouth, and can be found doing funny voices for storytime and library D&D campaigns. Outside of work and performing, Nicole enjoys ballet (dancing and watching), watching operas, sewing, and baking.

The Cast



Hazel Heywood (Dr. John Watson) is ecstatic to not only be on stage for his second radio play, but to cross Watson off his acting bucket list! When he's not participating in the monthly play reading group or public holiday readings (come join us!!!), or serving on the Winni Players Committee, Hazel is an artist of many mediums as part of the NH LGBTQ+ art group Queerlective. He would like to thank his spouse Lore for all their support during a very busy start to the new year, his supervisor Sue for letting him leave early for auditions, and

everyone in the cast for their indomitable spirit and amazing senses of humor. Here's to the chaos Muppets!



Lore Heywood (Ian, Thomas, Station Master) is thrilled to be back in the cast for this year's Radio Play. Other past loved roles with the Winni Players have been Foley and Gina in *Miracle on 34th Street*, Annabella in *Hitchcock Radio Hour*, Evie O'Hanlon in *Yes, Virginia There is a Santa Claus*, multiple roles in *Lost World/ Journey to the Center of the Earth*, Nancy in *M*A*S*H**, and a gaggle of Newsboys. Beyond the Playhouse, they've had the honor of performing in the Powerhouse Theatre Garden Festival. They'd like to thank their wonderful husband Hazel for being the most

supportive and talented spouse. The entire cast and crew have been a joy to work with and made every rehearsal more fun than should be allowed! Finally, thank you for coming to our show. The audience breathes life into live performances. Without you, none of this would be possible.



William Johnston (Sherlock Holmes) is thrilled to be joining the Winnipesaukee Playbouse for his first performance with the company. William has been previously seen at Barnstormers Theater as Dr. Graham in *Black Coffee* and as Valentine in Castle Hill production of *Arcadia* at the Crane Estate in Ipswich. Will recently portrayed Dr. John Collins Warren in Intramersive's live and immersive show *Sinew and Soul* at the House of Seven Gables. Will is a semi-professional actor from Sandwich, NH who enjoys making ice cream and cheese at his family's creamery and traveling with his wife.



Mary Morehouse Rogers (Herbert) is excited to return for the 6th time since joining the Winni Players in 2020. She appeared in *Sorry Wrong Number, The Hitchhiker, Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus, Vintage Hitchcock,* and *Miracle on 34th Street.* The incredible cast and crew has continued to be supportive each and every time! She is sincerely grateful to Debbi and Sam for their wonderful directing and patience! Off stage, Mary and her husband, Dave, live in Hillsborough, NH. She is a Realtor with Berkshire Hathaway Verani Realty in Concord, NH. Mary is

grateful for the love and support of family and friends--especially her husband Dave for agreeing to join her in this experience that started on a crazy whim in 2020! She hopes you enjoy the show as much as the Players did rehearsing for it (sometimes too much fun!)

The Cast



Jennifer Simon (Dorothy, Mrs. Gibson) is ecstatic to be back behind the radio mic after playing Susie in *Miracle on 34th Street*. She has worked with the Winnipesaukee Playhouse in various capacities since she was cast as Elizabeth Proctor in the Winni Players inaugural production, *The Crucible*. Jennifer has been a director, stage manager, and teacher in the Education and Community branches and is currently a part of the Front of House staff. Other venues she has worked with include: North Shore Music Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, Walnut Hill School,

Peacock Players, Stagecoach Productions, Meadowbrook (Bank NH Pavilion), and The Hampton Playhouse. Some favorite projects include; *Joseph... Technicolor Dreamcoat, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Proof, Honk! The Musical, Peter Pan* with Kathy Rigby, *Chekhov One-Acts*, and *Altar Boyz*. Jennifer also sits on the Executive Board to the NH affiliate of the National Education Association where she works for the betterment of Education Support Professionals.



Mary White (Porter, Foley Artist) is excited to debut in her first show at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse as a foley artist. Since she was a child she has been active in the arts: taking voice lessons and singing in chorus. Currently she is a cantor at St. Charles Borromeo in Meredith. On the side she has also done voice acting online. She has also used a lot of these skills in addition to writing for her own project *Before The Whispers*, a podcast series set to air this summer. Mary currently lives with her siblings and parents in Campton and has a fluffy white cat named Snowball.



Heather Williams (Bill Forman) is thrilled to be joining the company of *The Sherlock Mystery Radio Hour* for her first production at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse, and the first stage play in which she has participated since moving to NH at the end of 2019. Much of Heather's stage experience took place in her home state of Texas where a few of her favorite roles included: Anna Petrovna in *Wild Honey*, Joyce in *Body Awareness*, Penelope in *The Odyssey*, Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Mrs.

Thistletwat in *Avenue Q*. In her free time, Heather loves White Mountain hiking, local bookstore browsing, and farmers market strolling in all of NH's stunning seasons.

The Production Team

Emily Close (Stage Manager) By day Emily is a mild mannered receptionist at your local doctors office, but by night she transforms into a cue calling, prop setting, organizing super hero! This is Emily's first time working with the Winnipesaukee Playhouse.

Sam Ducharme (Director and Sound Designer) is very excited for his (co-)directorial debut at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse! After performing onstage for over twenty years, some favorite past roles include Enjolras in *Les Miserables*, Reverend Hale in *The Crucible*, Herr Schultz in *Cabaret*, and James O'Hanlon in *Yes Virginia, There is a Santa Claus*, and Fred Gailey in *Miracle on 34th Street*. Offstage, Sam can be found working in his local elementary school library, camping and hiking throughout the state of New Hampshire, and testing out new tabletop roleplaying games with friends. Sam would like to thank his friends and family for their ongoing support of his creative endeavors.

Debbi Finkelstein (Director) was in the last two radio shows and is thrilled to be directing her first show (and hopefully not her last) at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse. Debbi has been directing for over 20 years, most notably with The Gazebo Players of Medfield and Natick Drama Workshop in Massachusetts. As much as she likes being on stage, she is much more comfortable in a director's chair and is honored to have shared that chair with Sam for this production (although not literally). Debbi wants to thank the entire cast and crew for making this such a fun experience for her!



Visit us at winnipesaukeeplayhouse.org/education or Scan this Code! Questions? education@winniplayhouse.org / 603-279-0333

Permanent Staff

Thom Beaulieu (Managing Director/Sound Designer) is pleased to be a part of the staff at the Playhouse. An award-winning lighting and sound designer, Thom holds a BFA in Drama from Carnegie Mellon University's School of Drama, as well as an MS in Physics from Georgia State University. He enjoys golf, boating, and poker, and lives in New Hampton with his wife Meredith and daughter Molly.

Amanda Dickinson (Production Manager) holds a Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing from Elmira College and a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology from The MGH Institute of Health Professions, and has been a practicing medical Speech-Language Pathologist for 18 years. She first came to the Playhouse in 2017 as a community theatre actor, and has gone on to work in technical theatre across all three divisions of the organization. Amanda joined the permanent Playhouse staff as Production Manager in 2023.

Donna Findlay (Bookkeeper) joined the Playhouse in 2015 after retiring from a 21 year career at a public utility in Manchester, NH and spending 5 years as a paraeducator in the Inter-Lakes School District here in Meredith. She gives unending love and gratitude to Jim, Cortland, John, and grandson Jimmy.

Matthew Hutchens (Technical Director) started at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse originally as a carpenter for 2021 season. He has stuck with us since then as the assistant technical director for 2022 and became the technical director in 2023. Matthew's goals as the technical director are to teach others while also creating beautiful sets for the stage.



info@nmsvc.com

Permanent Staff

Cory Lawson (Mr. Burns Director/Director of Education and Community Engagement) is a professional actor, director, and theatre educator. He is currently working on his dissertation for his Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Fine Arts at Texas Tech University, where his research is in theatre festivals and devised works. He has devised and performed in several shows with the Dutch theatre company Orkater, both in Amsterdam and New York City. Cory has also created work with The Living Theatre and helped to found Ready Set Go Theatre, which created the world's first Shakespeare Webisodes. In 2021, he was named National Artist of the Year at the St Louis Fringe. As an actor and director, Cory's work has been seen professionally in New York, in regional theatres across the country, and on-screen in various television episodes and commercials. Cory holds his MFA in acting from The New School for Drama and a BA in Theatre: Performance and Dramaturgy from Roanoke College. He has served as the Associate Director of Education and Outreach at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the Artistic Director of The Burktech Players (a neurodiverse theatre company in Lubbock, Texas), and the Director of The Wallace Weekend Players in Levelland, Texas. Most recently, Cory co-founded and served as the Artistic Director of The Outside In Festival, a new nonprofit Theatre Festival showcasing devised works through the fostering and presentation of both national and international artists.

Timothy L'Ecuyer [he/him/his] (Artistic Director) is a theatre director and teaching artist with an interest in work that sits at the intersection of things: the collision of the classical and the contemporary, the mundane and the eternal, the academic and the immediate. He has been the Artistic Director of the Winnipesaukee Playhouse since 2023 and previously served as Director of Education since 2014. His directing credits at the Playhouse include The 39 Steps, Red, Grace and Glorie, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Rocky Horror Show, Mary's Wedding, California Suite, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised], Shout! The Mod Musical, Sweeney Todd, and fourteen productions with the Education Department. Mr. L'Ecuyer has BAs in theatre and English from Keene State College as well as an MA and MFA in theatre education and applied theatre from Emerson College. He is a former president of the New Hampshire Educational Theatre Guild, an Equity stage manager, and a Teaching Lecturer in the Music, Theatre and Dance Department at Plymouth State University, where he teaches arts management, acting, and dramatic literature. Directing at PSU: Our Town, An Enemy of the People, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, and Urinetown. He has worked with many New Hampshire and Boston area theatres including American Stage Festival, Barnstormers, theatre KAPOW, Peacock Players, StageCoach Productions, Greater Boston Stage Company, the Nora Theatre Company, and Underground Railway Theater. timothylecuyer.com

Lesley Pankhurst (Patron and Company Services Director) is one of the founders of the Winnipesaukee Playhouse. Lesley is a graduate of Wellesley College with an MA in Arts Administration and Cultural Policy from Goldsmiths College, University of London. In addition to serving as the Marketing Director of the Playhouse for its first 13 years, she has also designed costumes for many of its productions and has twice been the recipient of the NH Theatre Award for Best Professional Costume Design for *Two Rooms* (2007) and *The Glass Menagerie* (2008). She is the proud mom to her daughter, Sophie, cat Sasha, and wife to the proudly retired Neil.

Thanks

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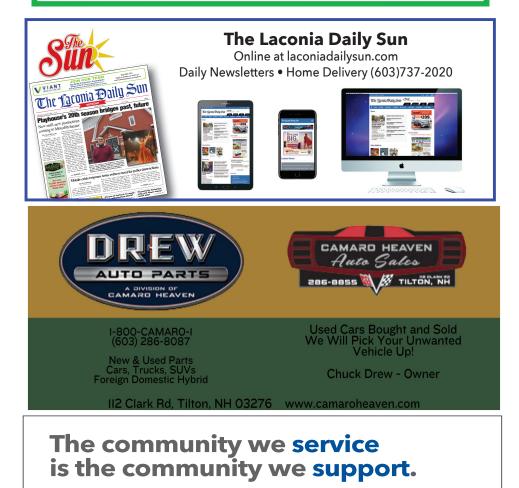


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