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Please refrain from photography or recordings of any kind, as this violates our royalty agreements.

Please note that if you must, in an emergency, use the restrooms during the performance, our House Manager will return you to your seat at an appropriate break in the performance.

Please be sure you can hear us! For our theatre patrons who have experienced varying degrees of hearing impairment, please take advantage of our state-of-the-art **Assisted Listening System**.

For indoor performances: If you are a hearing aid user who has a tele-coil function in your hearing aid you will be able to access our system directly after turning on that function. You may need to contact your hearing aid provider to inquire about the tele-coil in your particular hearing aid and ensure that it has been activated and instructed on how to turn it on when you are in the theatre. For patrons without tele-coil hearing aids, we have a limited number of headsets available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please see the box office if you would like to use one.

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Dear Friends:

On behalf of Managing Director Thom Beaulieu, myself, and everyone at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse, thank you for joining us for our 20th season! All three departments of the Playhouse—professional, community, and education—have fantastic things planned for 2023 and I am honored to have the privilege of helping to



shepherd all of them to the stage in my first season as Artistic Director.

Marking our 20th season is an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the path that brought us here. It would be impossible for me to do so without mentioning the deep gratitude I have for the unflagging effort of my predecessor, Founding Artistic Director Neil Pankhurst. Working with him for the past nine years has prepared me to step up into this position in a way that nothing else could. I am additionally grateful for his continued support and can't wait to welcome him back to write and direct this year's holiday Panto *Cinderella*.

This season revives some Playhouse favorites: American classics, a smash hit ABBA jukebox musical, the poignant story of the friendship between a pig and a spider that many of us grew up loving, and more. It also honors and extends the Playhouse's long-standing tradition of bringing you an exciting variety of work transcending time, geography, and genre. Bringing all of this to life for you are talented teams of theatre artists, some of whose work you already know and love as well as extraordinary professionals, students, and community members sharing their work with us for the first time.

An anniversary like this is also an opportunity to turn our eyes to the future and think about what might be. This year's transitions in leadership, particularly the addition of Amanda Dickinson and Cory Lawson to our staff, have already had invigorating effects. In the coming months and years, we will also shake out the cobwebs by bringing you new programming, new initiatives, and news ways of bringing epic storytelling to our intimate spaces. We will also rededicate ourselves to what works best.

Whether you are a longtime Playhouse supporter or are joining us for the first time, we are thrilled that you have chosen to be part of our community. We are more excited than ever to walk into the future together.

--Timothy L'Ecuyer Artistic Director



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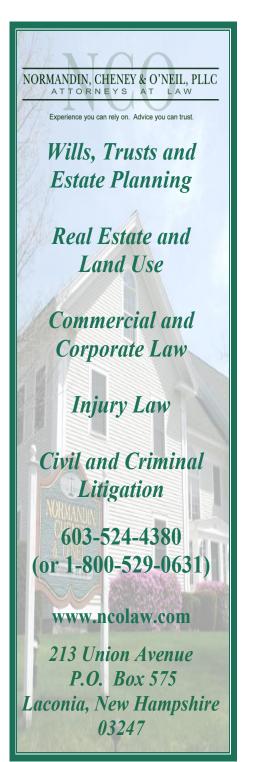
2024 Flex Pass \$220.00

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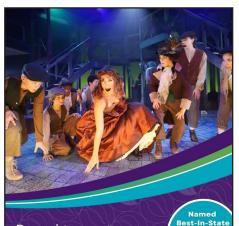
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The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Presents the Playhouse Professional Company in

CINDERELLA: A TRADITIONAL ENGLISH PANTO By Neil Pankhurst

The Production Team

Director	Neil Pankhurst
Music Director	Judy Hayward
Choreographer	Nicole Sullivan
Stage Manager	
Costume Designer	
Lighting Designer	John Findlay
Sound Designer	
Scenic Coordinator	Neil Pankhurst
Some Original Scenic Elements Crea	ted byAndrew Stuart
Costume Assistant/Wardrobe Supervi	isorNick Cochran
Props Supervisor	Lesley Pankhurst
Scenic Carpenter	
Scenic Charge Artist	Gwen Elise Higgins
Additional Sound Engineering	Christopher Renaud

Note: This production contains two short strobe-like effects at the end of Act 1.

The Cast (In order of appearance)

Lily/The Spirit of Ella's Mother	Kat Gold
Baron Basil Hardup	Jim Rogato
Ella	Sophia Kim
Buttons (The Bell Boy)	Seth Turner
Prince Charming	Teghan Marie Kelly
Dandini	Molly Chiffer
Baroness Sybil Hardup	Ashley Meeken
Philis	Robert Hooghkirk
Lydia	Nick Winkler

Dance Ensemble

Madden Bolduc, Reese Dutile, Kerry Forkell, Harper Hallett, Natasha Kharitonov, Audrey Manita, Sophie Pankhurst, Nicole Sullivan, Ellie Twaddell

> Thank you to: Kate Dugas

A Note from the Director

Cinderella is probably the most iconic of all the fairy stories. The notion of a "Cinderella Story" even entering the lexicon of common usage when referencing a person or team who - against all odds - achieves great success.

Back in the UK, *Cinderella* is probably the best-loved of all the pantos, but curiously differs from some of the usual expectation of what you might have come to expect from this Christmas entertainment.

Firstly, and maybe unexpectedly, far fewer people are coupled at the end of the show, as our attention is concentrated solely on the wedding of Charming and Cinderella. Secondly, it is the sole panto to have two principal boys - meaning female actors playing male roles, in the parts of Prince Charming and his equarry and best buddy, Dandini. Thirdly, it is the only panto to have two panto dames who play the ugly sisters.

This year the UK (and the world) lost two of the funniest and greatest female impersonators who frequently took on panto dame roles: Paul O'Grady - aka Lily Savage - and Barry Humphries, who created the Australian housewife Dame Edna Everage. So as the pair of them leave us, I am delighted to introduce you to two new dames!



Cinderella

Prologue - The Village Green, Little Charming-on-the-Wold		
Summer MedleyLily, Basil, Ensemble		
·		
Sc. 1 - The Village Green, Little Charming-on-the-Wold		
Mr. Blue SkyElla, Buttons, Ensemble		
PerfectButtons, Ella		
Sc. 2 - The Outskirts of the Village of Little Charming-on-the-Wold		
All I Care AboutCharming, Dandini		
Sc. 3 - Outside Stoneybroke Hall		
It's Raining MenPhilis, Lydia, Ensemble		
Sc. 4 - The Wood on the Outskirts of Little Charming-on-the-Wold		
Waltz of the Flowers from The NutcrackerDance Ensemble		
Barcarolle from <i>The Tales of Hoffman</i> Charming, Ella		
Sc. 5 - Outside Stoneybroke Hall		
This Ole HouseBasil, Buttons		
Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend/Material Girl		
Sybil, Philis, Lydia		
Prince CharmingPhilis, Lydia, Charming, Dandini		
Sc. 6 - The Kitchen at Stoneybroke Hall		
I Want to be HappyButtons, Ella, Ensemble		
T want to be Trappy		
15 Minute Intermission		
Sc. 1 - The Royal Palace Ballroom		
Gimme, Gimme, GimmeButtons, Charming, Philis,		
Lydia, Ensemble		
Dance the NightLily, Ella, Ensemble		
L.O.V.EDandini, Charming, Ella, Ensemble		
Sc. 2 - The Kitchen at Stoneybroke Hall		
Uptown GirlBasil and Sybil		
Mona LisaCharming, Ella		
Good as HellSybil, Philis, Lydia, Ensemble		
Sc. 3 - Outside of the palace		
Sc. 4 - The Royal Palace Ballroom		
Dance the NightFull Company		

From The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Department...

The Top Five Things YOU Should Know About Being in the Audience at a Pantomime...

Pantomime performances like the Winnipesaukee Playhouse's *Cinderella* are often thought of as being "very British," despite having spread to a number of other regions such as Australia, South Africa, Canada, and the United States. While it IS true that pantomime is most popular around the holidays in England, AND that most notable panto performers are British, AND EVEN that some individuals refer to this type of theatre as "British Pantomime," one of the most enjoyable parts about a panto performance is how much it is a mish-mash of many different things. Pantomime's origins are varied and its modern influences are changing all the time, so one production is never exactly like another. That said, here are (with a David Letterman style drum roll) the top five things YOU should know about being in the audience at a pantomime:

- 1. **You Will Recognize the Story!** Pantomime draws from well-known fables and fairy tales including *The Little Mermaid, Sleeping Beauty, Aladdin,* and *Cinderella*. Its stories are about good versus evil and love triumphant winning out over all odds—topics that are obviously still very popular in all types of storytelling today.
- 2. **You Will Recognize the Characters!** One of panto's most direct ancestors is the fast-paced slapstick Italian *Commedia dell'arte*, which was most known for its easily recognizable stock characters: young and innocent lovers, scheming servants, doddering professors. *Commedia* has had a recognizable influence on pantomime as well as contemporary movies, TV shows, cartoons, etc. Think about stock characters you might know from sitcoms: the dumb but loveable husband with the all knowing wife who holds the family together for him and their wisecracking kids.
- 3. You Will Recognize the Music! Another of panto's influences is England's Victorian Music Halls (similar to American Vaudeville) that featured a "variety show" of musical numbers, comedy acts, and novelty performers. This tradition is echoed in contemporary TV shows like Britain/America's Got Talent. Just as was done in Music Halls, Vaudeville, and as is done now for the entertainment of celebrity judges on network television, modern pantos always incorporate older familiar musical numbers (and parodies of them) as well as pop songs (and parodies of them).

- 4. **You May Recognize the Chorus!** Pantomime often features a chorus of young dancers and singers, sometimes called "the babes." In Victorian times, these performers often came from very poor backgrounds and were frequently the family's only breadwinners. The young chorus members in the Playhouse's panto are local dancers!
- You Will NOT Recognize That... Man? Woman!? One of the best 5. known pantomime traditions is the blurring of gender. The casting of a woman in the role of "the principal boy" is an idea with a direct connection to Victorian times and a custom called "breeches roles." It usually involved a woman playing a boy wearing pants (breeches). In a society where furniture legs were sometimes thought too risqué and had to be covered with skirts and where women's fashion included layers and layers of fabric, a woman playing a man caused a much bigger reaction than a man playing a woman when the audience could (gasp!) see the shape of her legs! The "pantomime dame," on the other hand is a tradition that connects back to Medieval and Shakespearean theatre where women's roles were played by men. This was originally done for decency sake, but the Music Halls adopted this tradition, as panto has, partly to poke fun at women's fashion. We still see it today, too. Think about Edna Turnblad in Hairspray or Agatha Trunchbull in Matilda the Musical. Widow Twankey, for example, has become a popular panto stock character. In a recent interview, Ian McKellan (Gandalf, Magneto) said that the Widow has been one of his favorite roles to play.

Source:

"The Magic of Pantomime." ITS BEHIND YOU DOT COM. Web. 14 Dec. 2014. http://www.its-behind-you.com. Website.



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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.



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



Dear Friends,

I have been able to depend on theatre my whole life. As a sensitive kid who could be shy, it gave me a way to relate to others, a way to feel accepted in a group. As an adult, it helps me wrestle with hard questions about the world and about myself—and helps me understand how people whose lives have been different than mine might navigate those same questions. While doing all of this, theatre also manages to provide soothing escapism and silly fun when I need it—which is often these days.

If you're reading this, I suspect that some or all of this rings true to you. I bet that you have also been able to depend on theatre at some point in your life. Today the Winnipesaukee Playhouse needs your financial support and I am hoping that we can depend on you.

As the COVID pandemic has receded and life has felt more "normal," many things have started getting back on track. Attendance at productions and corresponding ticket revenues ARE on their way back to pre-pandemic levels, but aren't there yet. Many of our financial challenges, meanwhile, have significantly intensified. Supplies and services essential to our work (such as lumber, utilities, insurance, and more) have ballooned in cost at a dizzying rate. While we are grateful to work on a beautiful campus our maintenance costs, for example, have literally doubled in the last few years. We need your help to prevent this from becoming an unsustainable situation.

As all nonprofit organizations do, we rely on the generosity of you—our community—to bridge this gap. I am asking you to consider making a <u>vitally needed</u> financial contribution to help ensure the Winnipesaukee Playhouse is able continue the work on which we all depend.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Timothy L'Ecuyer Artistic Director

The Winnipesaukee Playhouse



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The Cast



Molly Chiffer (Dandini) (she/her) is over the moon and through the roof to be back at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse for some raucous fun in this fairytale. A Connecticut native turned Californian (Fight On, USC Trojans!), Molly is now a New York based performer and director. Favorite credits include: Laura in the Playhouse's production of *The Glass Menagerie* earlier this season, *Bad*

Sister (New York Theatre Festival), Petra (A Little Night Music), and the Playhouse's Sleeping Beauty: A Traditional English Panto (Prince Philip). Most Recent Directing Credit: The Prom at the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts. www.mollychiffer.com IG: @jeezmollylouise.



Kat Gold (Lily/The Spirit of Ella's Mother) is excited to return to the Playhouse after her performance as Matron Mama Morton in *Chicago* (NHTA Award Nominee). Select previous credits: *Cinderella* (Theatre By The Sea, BroadwayWorld RI Best Supporting Actress Nominee), *La Cage aux Folles* (Arizona Broadway Theatre), *Disenchanted!* (MNM Theatre Company), *Kinky Boots* (Slow Burn Theatre Company), *Nine* (Broward Stage Door Theatre, Silver Palm Award Winner and Carbonell Award Best Supporting Actress Nominee). Her performance is dedicated to Sydney and Erick.



Robert Hooghkirk (Philis) is delighted to be back at the Playhouse this season! Previous credits at the Playhouse: Agatha Christie's Murder On The Orient Express, Sweeney Todd, Corduroy, Sleeping Beauty: A Traditional English Panto, Oliver!, and Robin Hood. Favorite credits include: the national tour of SPAMILTON: An American Musical Parody (King George III), The Golden Girls Musical Parody: Pride Edition (Dorothy Zbornak), and The Ninth Guest (Peter Daly). He has performed with Disney Cruise Lines, The Link Theatre, FC Bergman, Lexington Children's Theatre, and Chamber Theatre of Boston. TV Pilot: A Class Act (Randy) with

Morbid Little Girl Productions. Thanks to all the artists/creative minds on and off stage!



Teghan Marie Kelly (Prince Charming) is at the Playhouse this holiday season with BELLS ON! The Boston-based actor feels so blessed to spend the holidays with family and friends here in the Lakes Region. Most recently, you saw her as Mary Debenham in *Murder on the Orient Express* and Sophie in *Mamma Mia!* This theatre holds a special place in her heart; she could not be more elated to be on this stage once more! She would not be standing here today without the unconditional love and support of her family and dear friends, so THANK YOU to them. Now, enjoy this beautiful English tradition brought to life in Meredith!

The Cast



Sophia Kim (Ella) (she/her) is thrilled to be a part of this production and make her professional debut with this company! So much love to those who have been a part of her journey these past two years. Love to Carrie, Desi, and her family.



Ashley Meeken (Baroness Sybil Hardup) is thrilled to return to the Winnipesaukee Playhouse this season! In 2019 she played Velma in *Chicago* earning a New Hampshire Theatre Award for Best Actress, in 2020 she played Soccer Mom in the Education Department's production of *The Wolves*, in 2021 she starred in the one-woman musical *Tell Me on a Sunday*, in 2022 she

played Nancy in *Lionel Bart's Oliver*, and in 2023 played Donna in *Mamma Mia!* Ashley's training includes studying theatre and dance at the Walnut Hill School for the Arts in Natick, MA. Ashley earned her B.F.A. in Musical Theatre from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Some of Ashley's professional credits include performing in the musical *Chicago* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland, singing with the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra on PBS, and performing at NYC's Lincoln Center. Ashley traveled the world as the company manager and principal singer for Jean Ann Ryan Productions on Norwegian Cruise Line and P&O Ventura Cruise Lines. Since returning back to NH, Ashley has performed with the Lakes Region Symphony Orchestra and played numerous roles locally. Her favorite roles include Dorothy Brock in *42nd Street*, Irene Molloy in *Hello Dolly*, Fantine in *Les Miserables*, Cassie in *A Chorus Line*, and the iconic role of Eva Peron in *Evita*. Ashley is the proud owner/director of The Studio at Meredith Bay, a center for dance and performing arts in Meredith, NH.



Jim Rogato (Baron Basil Hardup) has been performing with the Winnipesaukee Playhouse for almost 20 years and is proud to be a part of this production. Whether it is a community or professional production, it is always a positive experience and a great show. Favorite roles have been John Proctor in *The Crucible*, Brundibar in *Brundibar*, Capt. Hook in *Peter Pan*, Sir Bedevere in *Spamalot*, Pseudolus in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way*

to the Forum, Adolpho in *The Drowsy Chaperone* along with many dramatic roles in *Our Town, 12 Angry Men, Of Mice and Men, The Guys, The Diary of Anne Frank,* and many more. Jim can also be seen performing with his DooWop group The Rocklin Daddios all over New England. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show.



Seth Turner (Buttons) is an actor/singer based out of New York City and recently graduated from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. Most recently he was in a regional production of *Spring Awakening* at the Roxy regional theatre in Clarksville TN. Enjoy the show! Insta: seth.turnerrr

The Cast



Nick Winkler (Lydia) is thrilled to return to the Playhouse after spending the summer as the Properties Supervisor. They are currently based out of Atlanta. Favorite past roles include Man #2 (*Songs for a New World*), Lefou (*Beauty and the Beast*), and Arpad (*She Loves Me*). Nick graduated from Saint Mary's Univesity of Minnesota with a B.A. in Musical Theatre. Nick would like to thank the wonderful staff at the Playhouse, their parents, family, friends and their partner for all of the love and support someone could ask for.

Dance Ensemble



Madden Bolduc is a seventh grader at Moultonborough Academy, and he lives in Meredith, NH with his family. Madden loves all things theater and dance and has seven years of dance training. He is ecstatic to be making his professional debut in *Cinderella*. Most recently he was Mendel in *Fiddler On The Roof* with The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Department. Favorite past roles

include: Jack Kelly (*Newsies Jr.*), Sven (*Frozen Jr.*), Baloo (*Jungle Book Kids*), Manager/Mr. Greenway (*Elf Jr.*), Fritz/Rat King (*The Nutcracker*), Eric (*Matilda Jr.*) and many more. He just wrapped up his master class with Interlakes Theatre after spending a busy summer in the box office with them. He hopes to one day pursue a career in musical theatre. Shoutout to Luci and her mom.



Reese Dutile is a sixth grader at Inter-Lakes Elementary School and a dancer at The Studio at Meredith Bay. She started dancing at 4 years old and has loved it ever since. Reese has been a member of the Studio's competition team for the last three years and has won many group and individual awards including "Broadway Bound." Reese has previously performed in *Annie* and *Home for the Holidays*. In her free time, she likes hanging out with her twin sister and her dogs. She also loves skiing and playing basketball with friends. She's excited to be part of *Cinderella* and thanks her friends and family for all their love and support.



Kerry Forkell is excited to be part of her very first production at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse! Her passion is dance and she has been dancing at The Studio at Meredith Bay for 5 of her 9 years. Kerry is a hardworking 4th grader at Inter-Lakes Elementary School. She loves skiing, swimming, and drawing. She'd like to send a heartfelt thank you to her friends, family, and dance family for their love and support.

Dance Ensemble



Harper Hallett is a 9 year old who dances at The Studio at Meredith Bay and currently takes classes in ballet, modern, contemporary, tap, jazz, musical theatre and competes with their performance group. Harper is in fourth grade at Inter-Lakes Elementary School. Outside of school and dance she enjoys practicing aerial poses on her silks and spending time with her friends and family. Harper is very excited to be a dancer in *Cinderella*.



Natasha Kharitonov has been avidly dancing and acting since she was young. She has danced with Alton Dance Academy for 11 years. Her previous shows with the Winnipesaukee Playhouse were Oliver! and Sleeping Beauty: A Traditional English Panto. Some of her favorite past roles have been Dorothy in The Magical Land of Oz, and Jojo in Seussical the Musical. She is beyond thrilled to be dancing on stage again for this year's panto!



Audrey Manita began her dancing journey at two years old. She quickly realized it was more than just a dance class. For her it was her passion. She has spent the last eleven years practicing many styles of dance, street jazz being her favorite. When she is not in the studio, she enjoys spending her time being creative with arts and crafts, and baking. She loves animals and aspires to become a veterinarian.



Sophie Pankhurst is a second year music industry major at Northeastern University. She is the only performer to appear in every panto at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse! She thanks her dad for sneaking her into rehearsals around classes and finals. Favorite past roles include Margo in *Legally Blonde* and Bird Girl in *Seussical the Musical* (NUStage Musical Theatre Co.), Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Molly Aster in *Peter and the Starcatcher* (New Hampton School), and Little Becky Two Shoes in *Urinetown*, Roger in *Lord of the Flies*, and Dinah Lord in *High Society* (Winnipesaukee Playhouse).



Nicole Sullivan (Choreographer) is a nineteen year old dancer, dance teacher, and choreographer. She has been dancing for a total of fifteen years and acting for eight years. She recently graduated from Inter-Lakes High School in June of 2022. Nicole has been in Aladdin (2014), Snow White (2017), The Little Mermaid (2018), Beauty and the Beast (2019), and Sleeping Beauty (2022). Nicole dances and teaches for The Studio at Meredith Bay in Meredith, NH. Sleeping Beauty was the first show she has choreographed and she is very excited to choreograph Cinderella as well! She has

won various awards including Miss Showbiz 2018 as well as a choreography award from Starquest dance competition this past year. Nicole is thrilled to choreograph this silly pantomime, as-well as dance in the show! Nicole hopes everyone enjoys the production of *Cinderella*!

Dance Ensemble



Ellie Twaddell A dancer of five years, Ellie dances for The Studio at Meredith Bay, where she takes classes in modern, contemporary, lyrical, ballet, tap, jazz, street jazz, and musical theatre. She is also in her third year as a member of The Studio's Performance Group. Ellie is 11 years old and is currently in middle school at Acton Academy in Laconia. In her free time she enjoys spending time with friends and family, Scouting, and playing lacrosse for multiple select and elite teams. Ellie is very excited to be dancing in *Cinderella*, her first Winnipesaukee Playhouse production!

The Production Team

Nick Cochran (Costume Assistant/Wardrobe Supervisor) is a Chicago-based Costume Designer, Actor, and Artist. After studying Theatrical Design, and Acting at Plymouth State University, Nick began to work at several regional theaters most frequently here at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse. His most recent show was last summer designing *The Conference of the Birds*. Apart from the Playhouse Nick most recently designed *Clue The Musical, The Spitfire Grille*, and *Leader of the Pack* at Post Playhouse in Nebraska. He worked on the wardrobe crew for The Goodman Theatre's production of *The Cherry Orchard* back in Chicago. Nick is so happy to be back once more at the Playhouse!

Francesca Endres (Stage Manager) (she/her) is an NYC based performer and stage manager. Past stage management credits include: *Find Your Way* (Woman in Motion), *On This Wondrous Sea* (APAP Showcase), *Daughter of Society* (NY Theatre Festival), and *Free to Be* (Elizabeth Troxler). She would like to thank her friends and family for all of their support and for getting her this amazing opportunity. She is thrilled to have been given the chance to work on this piece.

Francisco Fialho (Scenic Carpenter) is a newly graduated theatre technician/carpenter. Francisco has built a number of sets, previously working on shows at Keene State College as both a shop hand and run crew.

John Findlay (Lighting Designer) Graduate of Plymouth State University, NH. B.A. Theatre Arts, Focus in Lighting Design and Acting. Twelfth Night, Narnia, Beauty and the Beast, Deadly Murder (Winnipesaukee Playhouse), Sweet Charity, Stage Kiss, Contemporary Dance Ensemble (Plymouth State University), The Voice Of Broadway (Theatre [Untitled]), Numerous Cabarets for Forestburgh Playhouse. Production Electrician Off Broadway: The Other Josh Cohen, Touring: South Pacific, An American in Paris, Regional: Murder For Two (The Cape Playhouse). Many thanks to Mom!

Judy Hayward (Music Director) holds a BFA in Piano Performance from LA Tech Univ. and a Master's degree from the Univ. of Oregon in Arts Administration. She has music directed for numerous theaters, both professional and community, from coast to coast. In the Northeast, Judy has music directed for Winnipesaukee Playhouse, Seacoast Rep, StageCoach Productions, Actorsingers, Stoneham Theater (MA), among others. Judy received the NH Theatre Award for music direction for Winnipesaukee Playhouse's productions of *The Fantasticks!* and *Chicago*. In addition, she was music director for their productions of *Shout!*, *Dani Girl, Tell Me On a Sunday, Jesus Christ Superstar, [title of show], 25th Annual Putnum County Spelling Bee, Joseph...Dreamcoat, Godspell, Peter and the Starcatcher, Cabaret, High Society, Aida, Carrie, Urinetown, and the holiday Pantos.*

The Production Team

Gwen Elise Higgins (Scenic Artist) is a traveling artist from Midcoast Maine. B.A in Theatre from University of New Hampshire. Previous painting/scenic design credits include Penobscot Theatre Company, Winnipesaukee Playhouse, Seacoast Repertory Theatre, Prescott Park Arts Festival, and more. www.gehiggins.com

Samuel Maynard (Sound Designer) is ecstatic to be making his Winnipesaukee Playhouse debut! He is originally from Illinois, but moved to New York City to continue his education in Production and Design for Stage and Screen at Pace University. Recent credits include: *Living and Breathing, Romeo and Juliet*, and *Two Sisters and a Piano* at Two River Theater. Samuel would like to thank his partner, Colin, and his family for their unconditional love and support. Website: samuelmaynard.com

Neil Pankhurst (Playwright/Director) is a founding member and former Artistic Director of the Winnipesaukee Playhouse. He was born, raised and educated in the UK, coming to NH in 2003. He has a BA and Post Graduate Certificate of Education in Drama from the University of Wales and an MA in Arts Education (Drama) from The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London. From 1988 - 2002 he taught and directed or produced over 100 productions around the London area. For the Winni Players Neil's direction has included: *The Crucible*, The Servant of Two Masters, 12 Ångry Men, Caucasian Chalk Circle, The House of Bernarda Alba, Big River, All My Sons, and The Government Inspector. For the Education Department he has directed Grimm Fairy Tales, Voyage Around the World, and The Comedy of Errors. For the professional company his direction has included Proof, The Woman in Black, Stones in His Pockets, The Glass Menagerie, Around the World in 80 Days, Sleuth, Blithe Spirit, The Tempest, Gigi, The Mousetrap, Sherlock Holmes, The 39 Steps, The Importance of Being Earnest, Aladdin, The Business of Murder, Jesus Christ Superstar, Table Manners, Sleeping Beauty, Tilting Ground, Peter and the Starcatcher, Living Together, The Waltz, Jack and the Beanstalk, The Hound of the Baskervilles, Round and Round the Garden, Snow White, Charley's Aunt, Ghost the Musical, The Little Mermaid, Insignificance, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Beauty and the Beast, and Betrayal. He has been fortunate enough to win ten NH Theatre Awards including four for Best Professional Direction - The Woman in Black (2007), The Glass Menagerie (2009), Around the World in 80 Days (2010), and The Waltz (2016). He has directed for Plymouth State University and M&D Productions in N. Conway, designed lights for Advice to the Players and has served as an adjudicator for the NHETG. He is now retired and lives in both Meredith, NH and Somerset, England.

DW (Costume Designer) Theatrical work has appeared regionally across the country. NYC design credits include NYMF, NYC FRINGE, Theatre Row, The Mint, Cherry Lane, APAC, Prospect Theatre Company, Gallery Players, The Gym @ Judson Church, etc... Broadway Associate & Assistant Credits include: *RACE*, Everyday Rapture, Cinderella, The Threepenny Opera, The Apple Tree, The Wedding Singer. Feature Film Designs include: Little Sister and Peter & Vandy. Styles for Broadway.com. Guest stylist for The Skivvies. Resident Designer at the New York Film Academy and The Actors Sudio Drama School.

Permanent Staff

Thom Beaulieu (Managing Director) 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.

RJ Bogues (Assistant Technical Director) is excited to be here for his first season as an ATD, as well as his third season at the Playhouse. He is a WCSU alumni originally from small town New Fairfield, CT. He has worked previously as a carpenter in UBU at WCSU, *Spamalot* at Musicals at Richter, and *Godspell* at ACT of CT, with some small technical director credits in *Shrek the Musical* at Musicals at Richter, and *The Nightman Cometh* at CCSU. Randal has also acted on occasion, appearing in shows such as *Glorious!* (Bellhop 1) in the Playhouse's 2021 season. He thanks you for coming, and hopes that you will enjoy what the Winnipesaukee Playhouse's 20th Season has to offer!

Amanda Dickinson (Production Manager) came to the Playhouse from a background in healthcare, having practiced medical Speech-Language Pathology for 18 years. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Speech and Hearing from Elmira College in New York, and a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology from The MGH Institute of Health Professions in Boston. After joining the Playhouse in 2017 as a community theatre actor, Amanda went on to work with the Professional Company and the WP Education Department, while also serving for five years on the Winni Players Community Theatre steering committee. Favorite Playhouse credits include M*A*S*H (Bridget), Company (Assistant Stage Manager), Steel Magnolias (Producer, Properties Coordinator), The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised] (Wardrobe Supervisor/Running Crew), The Wolves (Stage Manager), Oedipus Rex (Stage Manager), and [title of show] (Stage Manager). 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 is now the technical director for 2023. Matthew's goals, as the technical director, are to teach others while also creating beautiful sets for the stage. This will be his first full season as a TD.





Permanent Staff

Cory Lawson (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. As an actor and director, Cory's work has been seen professionally in New York as well as in regional theatres across the country. He has also appeared on screen in national commercials and various television episodes. 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. He's thrilled to join the leadership team at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse and is looking forward to meeting and working with everyone in the community.

Timothy L'Ecuyer (he/him/his) (Artistic Director) is thrilled and grateful to begin a new chapter at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse, having previously served as Director of Education from 2014 to 2022. 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 directed 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. He would like to thank his parents, Peter and Linda L'Ecuyer for (among many other things) supporting the Playhouse in NH Gives this year. He'd also like to thank the following people for their support: Gail Barrett, Laurie Felgate, Daniel Patterson, Mike Richardson, Sharon and Terry Richardson, Renée Speltz, Thomas Staley, and Laura Stephan. timothylecuyer.com

Lesley Pankhurst (Patron and Company Services Director/Props Supervisor) 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. Much love and appreciation to Lyn Osborne Winter.



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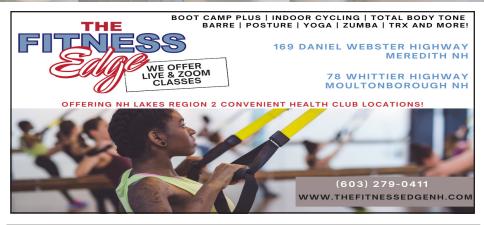
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About the Artist

Emily's love for clay started in high school and intensified during her studies at the University of New Hampshire. Wernig graduated Summa Cum Laude from the UNH in May 2018 with a BFA in ceramics and drawing. Emily has had her work exhibited at the Portsmouth Music and Art Center, Bedrock Gardens, UNH Museum of Art and Sotheby's. Post-grad, Emily taught at The Bascom Center for the Visual Arts in Highlands, North Carolina as the Ceramic Teaching Resident. She worked in the Dave Drake Studio Barn, under the direction of Frank Vickery, teaching classes and assisting with general studio upkeep. She now resides in New Hampshire, making and selling her pottery, as well as teaching ceramics at UNH.





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