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The Winnipesaukee Playhouse 33 Footlight Circle, Meredith NH 03253 Tel. (603) 279-0333

#### www.winnipesaukeeplayhouse.org



# **For Your Information**

**Please** turn your cell phone and any other electronic devices completely off. Leaving them on silent or vibrate may interfere with our communication systems and interrupt the flow of the performance.

**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**.

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.

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.

Timothy L'Ecuyer Artistic Director Supporting the causes you care about and the communities we call home.

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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.

# 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.

#### **Professional Theatre for Young Audiences**

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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

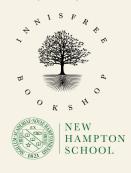
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# February 10-17: Sideways Stories from Wayside School

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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# PLATINUM GROUP

#### 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

#### theatre **KAPOW**

www.tKAPOW.com

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.

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The Winni Players Community Theatre uses live theatre to provide its members with opportunities for artistic expression, personal growth, and friendship. We build community through theatre.



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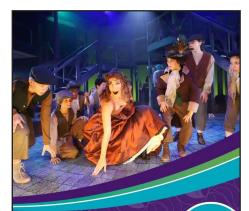


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\*Business NH Magazine (October 2022 issue). \*\*Reputation (Automotive Industry Reputation Report 2022

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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 The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Presents the Playhouse Education Department in

#### Mr. Burns, a post-electric play

By Anne Washburn Score by Michael Friedman Lyrics by Anne Washburn

*Mr. Burns, a post-electric play* is presented by arrangment with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Playwrights Horizons, Inc. produced the New York City premiere of the play off-Broadway in 2013.

Originally produced in June, 2012 by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington, DC, Howard Shalwitz, Artistic Director; Jeffrey Herrmann, Managing Director

*Mr. Burns* was Commissioned by The Civilians, New York, NY, Steven Cosson, Artistic Director

For the language of the remembering of the Simpsons' episode, Cape Feare, the author would like to credit the Civilians actors involved in the initial workshop: Quincy Tyler Bernstine, Maria Dizzia, Gibson Frazer, Matt Maher, Jennifer Morris, Colleen Werthmann, and Sam Breslin Wright.

# The Production Team

| Director            | Cory Lawson      |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Music Director      | Judy Hayward     |
| Stage Manager       | Zach Glennon     |
| Scenic Designer     | Ian Olsen        |
| Costume Designer    | Sherry Gardner   |
| Lighting Designer   | Becca Beaulieu   |
| Sound Designer      | Thom Beaulieu    |
| Dance Choreographer | Rebecca Gregoire |
| Fight Choreographer | Kyrie Ellison    |
| Props Coordinator   | Zach Glennon     |
| Backstage Crew      | Benjamin Rathjen |

## The Cast

| Sam, Mr. Burns, First FBI Agent | Stella Bamford   |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Jenny, Scratchy                 | Savannah Muzzey  |
| Colleen, Lisa                   | Cloud Walthall   |
| Quincy, Marge                   | Kinley McDonough |
| Gibson, Itchy                   | Ryker Cott       |
| Matt, Homer                     | Finley Brennan   |
| Maria, Bart, Second FBI Agent   | Abby Hunt        |
| Edna                            | Anna Cook        |

This play is set in the very near future.

Then 7 years after that.

Then 75 years after that.

There will be two 10-minute intermissions.

Note:

This production contains a short strobe-like effect, a water-based, non-allergenic haze effect, and the sounds of gunshots.

Thank you to:

Alicia Beaulieu, Camaro Heaven, Community Players of Concord, Dana Gardner, Ruth Glennon, Moultonborough Academy

# The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Presents the Playhouse Education Department in

#### Sideways Stories from Wayside School

Adapted by John Olive Based on the novels by Louis Sachar

Performed by Special Arrangement with Susan Schulman Literary Agency 454 West 44th St. New York, N.Y. 10036

# The Production Team

| Director          | Patte Sarausky |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Stage Manager     | Judi Rogato    |
| Scenic Designer   | Ian Olsen      |
| Costume Designer  | Sherry Gardner |
| Lighting Designer | Becca Beaulieu |
| Sound Designer    | Thom Beaulieu  |
| Props Coordinator | Zach Glennon   |

## The Cast

| Mrs.Gorf/Mr. Gorf/Miss Valooosh            | Madeline Duncan   |
|--|-------------------|
| Myron                                      | Jypsy River       |
| Dameon                                     | Madi Jordan       |
| BeBe                                       | Ellie Feola       |
| Leslie                                     | Gabrielle Youssef |
| Rondi                                      | Hazel Walsh       |
| Louis/Mr. Pickle                           | Wyatt Woodsom     |
| Voice of Mrs. Kidswater/Miss Zarves        | Evelyn Walsh      |
| Mrs. Jewls                                 | Genevieve Youssef |
| Sammy/Leslie's Pigtails/Voice of Miss Mush | Finleigh Thompson |

The play takes place in the thirtieth floor classroom of Wayside School.

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Note: This production contains a short strobe-like effect.

Thank you to: CVS Gilford, Moultonborough Academy, Jim Rogato



# 2024 Subscriptions & Flex Passes

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#### 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.

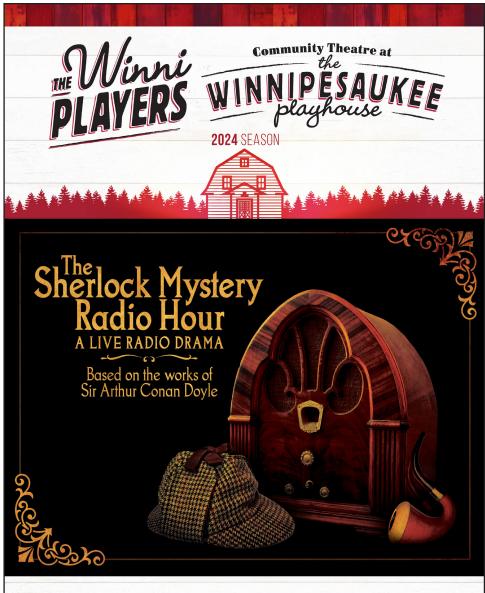
#### 2024 Flex Pass \$220.00

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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# FEBRUARY 22-25

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# A Note from the Director

*Mr. Burns, a post-electric play* is a play unlike any other. It is a unique exploration of human resilience, the power of storytelling, and the enduring nature of cultural narratives. The cast and creative team have had quite the journey delving into the imagination and thought-provoking world created by Anne Washburn.

*Mr. Burns* invites us to a post-apocalyptic world where survivors gather around a campfire, recounting episodes of *The Simpsons* to pass the time. This seemingly simple act is the vehicle for deeper exploration. The play challenges us to reflect on the very role of storytelling in our lives and the ways in which cultural touchstones shape our collective identity.

Washburn asks us to consider the transformative power of shared narratives, especially in times of crisis. As we witness the characters attempting to reconstruct an episode of *The Simpsons* from memory, we are confronted with questions about the malleability of truth, the nature of memory, and the subjective interpretation of our cultural heritage. What are the origins of ritual? Religion? What if we were set back to zero today? What would survive? The play's three-act structure, each set in a different period, allows us to explore these questions at length as we watch the evolution of the characters and the cultural references that define them.

I hope you leave the theatre entertained and with a renewed appreciation for the power of storytelling and the enduring spirit of art and human connection. After all, what is more human than sharing stories around a campfire? We hope you enjoy our campfire story today. Thank you for being a part of our post-electric world.

--Cory Lawson Mr. Burns, a post-electric play



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# A Note from the Director

When I was teaching at Belmont Elementary School in the 1980s, I would often see the third and fourth graders walking around carrying *Sideways Stories from Wayside School* books. They seemed very popular, but I was mainly involved with second grade level books. It wasn't until 2024 that I finally got to read a book from the series. Now I know why they were so popular. What kid wouldn't love visiting Wayside School and meeting the colorful characters of the story? We meet Mrs. Gorf who loves changing students into apples. We wonder about a mysterious Miss Zarves who may or may not teach on the 19th floor (Is there even a 19th floor?) Miss Jewls joins in Scene 2 and is the kind teacher every child wants the new teacher to be.

In this production half of the cast members are playing two characters. It has been a fun experience to watch them work on various vocal and physical choices to make each character special and different. I think adults often don't realize how capable the younger actors can be if given the chance to develop their own characters. My role was to make suggestions or pose questions to think about when they showed me their character choices. I believe the 7 to 12 year old youth productions are definitely a training ground for the teen shows the Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Department produces. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful program in the Lakes Region.

Sit back, relax, and welcome to the Wayside School. Spoiler alert: if you are scared of rats and are sitting in the front row, you might want to run AND change your seats before the show starts.

-- Patte Sarausky Sideways Stories from Wayside School



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# From The Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Department...

The Simpsons Fun Facts About the World's Favorite Four-Fingered, Yellow Family:

1. The Simpsons family is made up of five characters: Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa, and Maggie. Matt Groening created the show and the characters, naming them after members of his own family.

2. The Simpsons first aired on December 17, 1989.

3. Bart is one of the most well-known characters in the world, but few people know his full name. Bartholomew Jojo Simpson was more commonly known as Bart, an anagram of the word 'brat'.

4. Danny Elfman composed the famous *Simpsons* theme tune in 1989. It took him just two days to finalize.

5. God is the only character who has five fingers.

6. The most downloaded GPS voice in the world is Homer Simpson's.

7. The Oxford Dictionary decided that the word "d'oh" should be added, and it entered the most popular dictionary in 2001.

8. If you were hoping to buy the rights to *The Simpsons* any time soon, you should think again. Disney/Fox owns the rights for a while yet, and it will be 2082 before they are up for grabs again.

9. On February 9, 1997, The Simpsons aired its 167th episode, which made it the longest-running animated series in TV history.

10. *The Simpsons* was named the best series of the entire twenty-first century by Time magazine in 1999.

11. *The Simpsons* has been running for longer than any other scripted prime-time TV series.

12. *The Simpsons* was named the best series of the entire twenty-first century by Time magazine in 1999.

## ...fnomfnegoukee Playhouse Education Department...

Hi! My names is Leslie and I am writing this note because I have to. Mrs. Jewls said something about not listening and discipline. BUT this will be fun because I'm supposed to tell you about the coolest school ever. SO just to start.....

WAYSIDE SCHOOL IS THE BEST SCHOOL IN THE WORLD!! It's such a great school that Mr. Sachar started writing books about us a long, long long time ago in 1978. They even made a TV show about us on Wickelodeon, but I wasn't allowed to watch it.

Mrs. Jewls says more than 15 million people read about our school, which is a lot! We tried to count to 15 million, but most of us stopped after 300. Rondi is still going, though, and yesterday was up to 108,004.

Did you know we have our own math book, too? Sideways Arithmetic from Wayside School. I'm already good at math, so it didn't help me... but it helped Bebe! She still can't count to 15 million, but she's closer now.

You probably know that Wayside School is built straight up, one classroom on each floor. All the classrooms are great but the 30th floor is the best! We are the highest up so we can have the longest races down to the school yard. (I would have won yesterday, but the cow got in my way passing the 19th floor.)

Oh yeah, the 19th floor is Miss Zarves' floor, and they don't exist. I think of all my favorite things that don't exist (Bigfoot, Loch Ness Monster, Birds) the 19th floor is my favorite!

We do some really fun things here, too! You should try them out at your school or house! We make our own instruments. I made a krullwart yesterday with floss and a toilet paper roll! Look around your home and make your own instruments using what you can find. Give it a name and start practicing!

We write poems too about our favorite colors. You should try it! (By the way do you know anything that thymes with periwinkle??)

We also love to dance with Miss Valooosh. Well not dance...Tango! You should Tango, too. It helps if you hold a rose in your mouth...but wash it first!

Oh, and since you came to see our play today, you could try writing a play about your friends and your school, too! Then I could come and see you, and you could teach me all about YOUR life.

Ok I have to go. Mrs. Jewls said "places" which means the show is about to start. Thanks for coming!

## The Cast - Mr, Burns, a post-electric play



**Stella Bamford** (Sam, Mr. Burns, First FBI Agent) is a senior at Belmont High School and is excited to be in this production of the unique musical, *Mr. Burns*. She has been participating in theater since third grade and has been in many memorable shows. Her favorite roles were Maria in *Twelfth Night*, #46 in *The Wolves*, and Yvette in *Clue*. Some other shows she enjoyed doing were *Aida*, *Grease*, *The Addams Family*, and *Spoon River*. Stella loves dancing, fashion, and food! She's happy to be part of an amazing cast and present a great performance, so please... Enjoy the show!



Finley Brennan (Matt, Homer) is an 8th grader who loves theatre and has always wanted to work in film. Favorite roles include Peter Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* (Jean's Playhouse), Billy Ray in *On Golden Pond* (Jean's Playhouse), Malvolio in *Twelfth Night* (The Winnipesaukee Playhouse), Hamlet in *Sugar-coated Shakespeare* (Theatre Under The Stars), and ensemble in *Carousel* (ETC). Finley is very excited to be returning to the Winnipesaukee Playhouse for *Mr. Burns*.



**Anna Cook** (Edna) Meet Anna Cook! Anna has been a part of over 35 theatre productions in the past, but this is her second with the Winnipesaukee Playhouse and she couldn't be more thrilled. She has 13 years of dance experience and has been participating in local theatre productions since fourth grade. You may have recently seen her playing the role of Hodel in the Playhouse's recent production of *Fiddler On The Roof*! She is excited to bring Edna to life in this production of *Mr.Burns*. She hopes you enjoy the show!



**Ryker Cott** (Gibson, Itchy) decided to do this play because he loves *The Simpsons*. He's very excited to play Gibson.



**Abby Hunt** (Maria, Bart, Second FBI Agent) has been doing theatre at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse since 2012 and is very excited to be a part of this production. On the side, they play acoustic, electric, bass guitar and sing. We thank you all for coming and hope you enjoy our show!

## The Cast - Mr, Burns, a post-electric play



**Kinley McDonough** (Quincy, Marge) is very excited to make her acting debut in *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play.* She is in 8th grade at Wentworth Elementary School, and enjoys acting in her school productions. When she is not in school, Kinley enjoy snowboarding and playing video games with friends. You will find her at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse Theater Camp in the summer. She wants to thank her parents for always driving her to rehearsals.



**Savannah Muzzey** (Jenny, Scratchy) is thrilled to be joining the Winnipesaukee Playhouse for her second production with the Education Department. Though she has been sharing her theatrical passion for 10+ years, she's most recently played Antony in Queen Mab Shakespeare's production of *Antony & Cleopatra* and Scrooge in Newfound Regional High School's production of *A Christmas Carol.* Savannah is so happy to be a part of the challenge and quirkiness of *Mr. Burns, a post-electric play* and is delighted to be surrounded by such a wonderful team once again.



**Cloud Walthall** (Colleen, Lisa) began her love for performing in Kindergarten. Her experiences include *Androcles and the Lion*, Shakespeare's *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Emperor's New Clothes*, and *Oliver Twist*. Her work with the Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Dept. includes *Stuart Little*, *Narnia*, *The Jungle Book*, *The Ash girl*, *Harriet the spy*, *Urinetown*, and *Twelfth Night*. Cloud also helps with set construction and tech crew at her school. When Cloud isn't participating in plays, her interests include volleyball, swimming, reading, writing, Karate, drawing, track, and cooking.

## The Cast - Sideways Stories from Wayside School



**Madeline Duncan** (Mrs.Gorf/Mr. Gorf /Miss Valooosh) is a 6th grader at Sant Bani School who loves to bake, read, and do theatre. She lives in New Hampton with her family, two cats, a dog, and two fish. Madeline has previously performed in *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good Very Bad Day, James and the Giant Peach, Alice in Wonderland,* and *Charlotte's Web*.



**Ellie Feola** (BeBe) is currently a 6th grader at Laconia Middle School. She had her Winnipesaukee Playhouse debut with *Charlotte's Web*. Before that she has been involved with The Streetcar Company and SKYT. Ellie has been in a variety of youth shows; *Elf Jr, Alice in Wonderland*, and *Lion King Jr*. Her most recent Streetcar production was in 2023, as Ida, in the production of *Passage into Fear*. Off stage Ellie enjoys drawing and creative crafts.



**Madi Jordan** (Dameon) is 9 years old and in 4th grade. Her hobbies include spending time with her sister, doing gymnastics, art, crafts, and singing and dancing. She got a taste for acting in *Charlotte's Web* last year. This will be her second performance playing the role of Damon, and they both share a dislike of math.



**Jypsy River** (Myron) is learning to ski this winter as well as competing in rock climbing. She is also currently working on playing the Beast in *Beauty and the Beast*. She has two sisters, a twin brother and two amazing dogs. Jypsy loves to draw and read and discuss big books with her extraordinary friends.



**Finleigh Thompson** (Sammy/Leslie's Pigtails/Voice of Miss Mush) is a third grader at New Hampton Community School. She loves art, axolotls, hip hop dancing, jumping on her trampoline, traveling, hanging out with friends and performing on stage. She enjoyed attending the Winnipesaukee Playhouse theatre camp the last two summers. This is her third production.

## <u> The Cast - Sideways Stories from Wayside School</u>



**Evelyn Gail Walsh** (Voice of Mrs. Kidswater/Miss Zarves ) is an 11-year-old 6th grader at Newfound Middle School. She has a cat named Cactus and loves outer space and sloths. She has appeared previously in *The Velveteen Rabbit, Charlotte's Web*, and *Alexander and the Terrible Horrible No Good Very Bad Day* with the Winnipesauke Playhouse Education Department as well as *James and the Giant Peach* at New Hampton School. In her free time, she enjoys playing video games and collecting stuffed animals.



**Hazel Walsh** (Rondi) is a fourth grader at New Hampton Community School. She has been in several shows with the Winnipesaukee Playhouse Education Department, including *The Velveteen Rabbit, Charlotte's Web, Fiddler on the Roof,* and *Alexander and the Terrible Horrible No Good Very Bad Day.* Last year she also performed in *James and the Giant Peach* at New Hampton School. In her free time, Hazel enjoys watching anime, reading, and seeing friends and family. Hazel loves shopping, doing well in school, and theatre. She is happy to bedoing her fifth show here at the Playhouse.



Wyatt Woodsom (Louis/Mr. Pickle) is a 5th grader at Belmont Middle School. In his spare time he likes to repair computers and play. This is his first show on a major stage like the Winnipesaukee Playhouse. He hopes to do more in the future since this one is so much fun!



**Gabrielle Youssef** (Leslie) In real life, Gabrielle will find herself an audience to dance, sing, perform magic tricks, and use her humor on, so it's no surprise to anyone that she has found her passion in theatre. Gabrielle is a vivacious 9 year old from Laconia who loves her sister Genevieve, brother Julian, mom, dad and dog Sadie. When she isn't acting, she is usually teaching a rowdy crowd of invisible students in the playroom. She is happy to be back after performing here as Mrs. Zuckerman in *Charlottes Web*, and in Streetcar's *The Jungle Book*.



**Genevieve Youssef** (Mrs. Jewls) is a graceful and compassionate 11 year old from Laconia. She discovered her passion for theater when she took the stage for Powerhouse's *A Christmas Carol* in 2022. Since then, she has starred as Charlotte in the Winnipesaukee Playhouse's *Charlotte's Web*, appeared in the Streetcar Company's *The Jungle Book*, played Amanda Thripp in Interlakes Summer Theater's *Matilda*, and most recently was Shprintze in the Playhouse's *Fiddler on the Roof*. When she isn't on the stage, she can be found taking a dance or acro class, playing

her clarinet, listening to Taylor Swift, or writing a story. She is thrilled to be back on the stage in this production of a fun book come to life!

### The Production Team

**Rebecca Beaulieu** (Lighting Designer) is delighted to be light designing the show that's sideways and the no electricity play. A lighting designer, production manager, and audio engineer, she travels across the country in a variety of roles for many festivals, shows, and events. Becca is happy to land back in her home state of New Hampshire at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse where she was but a wee intern in 2017.

Kyrie Ellison (Mr. Burns Fight Choreographer) is a performance maker, intimacy/ fight choreographer, and theatrical educator based in New Hampshire. Her work utilizes the choreographic, through stage combat and movement, to build femme communal spaces & speculative narratives to confront oppressive forms. She's curious about the stories we tell each other to "just get through it" and how they relate to the fairy tales and tropes made popular by writers. She is passionate about the facilitation of safe spaces for artists, audiences, and creatives to engage with their communities, both locally and globally. Her work has been seen on stage at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse, Bank of New Hampshire Stage (theatreKAPOW), and Sarah Lawrence College. She's ecstatic to be working with Winnipesaukee Playhouse on another performance. Currently, she works as the Assistant Director of Theatre at New Hampton School. Past credits include, but are not limited to *The Thanksgiving* Play (theatreKAPOW), Sweeney Todd (Winnipesaukee Playhouse), Tiny Beautiful Things (theatreKAPOW), Ken Ludwig's Lend Me a Tenor (Winnipesaukee Playhouse), Mr. Wolf (theatreKAPOW), Breadcrumbs (theatreKAPOW), Weekend Warrior (Sarah Lawrence College), Athena (Sarah Lawrence College), Small Mouth Sounds (Sarah Lawrence College), Spring Awakening (Russell Sage College), and Cabaret (Russell Sage College). www.ellisonarts.com

**Sherry Gardner** (Costume Designer) began to help out backstage at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse 15 years ago when her children participated in the Education Program. Since then she has made costumes, props, and been the stage manager for numerous shows at the Playhouse, at Powerhouse Theatre Collaborative, and at area high schools. She lives in Gilford with her family.

**Zach Glennon** (*Mr. Burns* Stage Manager/Props Coordinator) is very excited to be making a return to the Winnipesaukee Education Department here at the Playhouse. He is excited to be dusting off his Stage Management skills for *Mr. Burns* and his props skills for *Mr. Burns* and *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*. During his brief hiatus he earned a Masters of Education in Integrated Arts from Plymouth State, while starting his career as a Technology Education Teacher at Moultonborough Academy. He has been working with the Education Department since 2015 and has worked on almost 60 shows between the Education, Community, and Professional branches at the Playhouse since 2014.

**Rebecca Gregoire** (*Mr. Burns* Dance Choreographer) - aka Ms. Becky - has been teaching dance at Edgewater Academy of Dance for 20+ years and is now the new Owner/Director. Her passion for dance shows through performances and awards her choreography has received. Ms. Becky expanded her teaching skills in 2014 by joining the Dance department at Plymouth State University. Ms. Becky also loves teaching at the Winnipesaukee Playhouse. She choreographed the Winnipesaukee Playhouse productions of *Pippi Longstocking, Narnia*, and *Alexander and the Terrible Horrible No Good Very Bad Day*. Ms. Becky has been a teacher at the summer camp program for the Winnipesaukee Playhouse for many years and just last year took the roll of the camp administrator. The most fun and exciting experience she had was

### **The Production Team**

being a back up dancer for Weird Al at The Bank Of New Hampshire Pavilion. Her choreography was also featured in an opening act for Selena Gomez. She recently choreographed a piece that was featured in a Recycled Percussion Show. Ms. Becky's choreography has also been featured at a Monarchs Hockey Game and the Muskrats baseball Game. She has also been a part of the New Hampshire Dance Movement for 6 years. Ms. Becky currently resides in Laconia with her husband, Wayne, of 16 years and her 15 year old child, Peyton. Ms. Becky loves to be involved in the community so she involved herself with the PTO when Peyton began going to Elm Street School and quickly became the coordinator for the PTO. Becky's child moved up to the middle school so Becky moved up as well to be the PTO coordinator for the middle school. Now that Peyton is in the Marching band in High school Becky became the vice president of the Band booster for Laconia High School. Ms. Becky recently became a part of the Lakeport TIF advisory board. This board brings excess revenue back into the community for improvements.

**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 the 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], The 25th Annual Putnum County Spelling Bee, Joseph...Dreamcoat, Godspell, Peter and the Starcatcher, Cabaret, High Society, Aida, Carrie, Urinetown, and the holiday Pantos.* 

**Ian Olsen** (Scenic Designer) is so excited for his Winnipesaukee Playhouse debut! Hi Mom! He received his MFA in scenic design from Texas Tech University, undergraduate Hartwick College. Shout out to The National Theater Institute. Recent select credits include: *Simply Simone*, Lincoln Community Playhouse; *The Seagull*, FutureHome Productions; *You're NOT Sick*, Corpus Productions.

**Judi Rogato** (*Sideways Stories* Stage Manager) is pleased to have been part of her first Education Dept production from the beginning to the end. It was a very positive experience working with the youth. She believes there are some very talented cast members as you will see. As usual, Patte is a delight to work with in any capacity. Enjoy the show.

**Patte Sarausky** (*Sideways Stories* Director) is currently a retired teacher. She taught for thirty-seven years in schools throughout the Lakes Region and earned her Master's Degree from Lesley University in Creativity in Curriculum. Patte was the director of the drama program for Belmont Elementary School for 30 years. She has also done choreography for Belmont High School, Streetcar Company, and One Light Theatre. Patte enjoys being the Drama Teacher for Camp 1 at the Playhouse's Summer Theater Camp. She became involved in theatre in sixth grade when she was cast as Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel*. At the Playhouse she has been seen in *Our Town, Momologues, Father of the Bride, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Odd Couple (Female Version), Company*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Past Playhouse directing credits include *The Jungle Book, Harriet the Spy*, and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Her favorite part of theater is experiencing the process of a show's progress from auditions to the final product and seeing the cast come together to support each other.

### 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.

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### **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

Thank you for recognizing that art matters. It takes everyone working together to continue to create great theatre.

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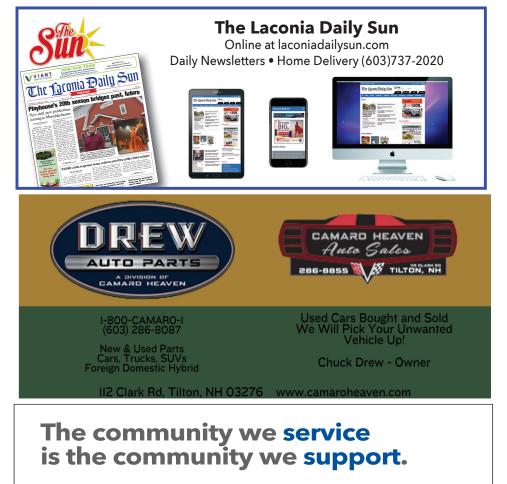


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