

THE LEGACY THEATRE
2022 SEASON



A
Christmas Carol

2021 Legacy Production
Photos: T. Charles Erickson

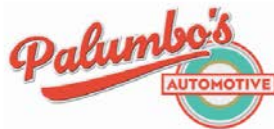
**“THERE IS NOTHING IN THE WORLD
SO IRRESISTIBLY CONTAGIOUS AS
LAUGHTER AND GOOD HUMOR.”**



When Dickens wrote those words, was he inspired by family gathered around the table for a Christmas Feast?

We think so. In that spirit, from all of us at Palumbo's Automotive and the entire Palumbo family - Peter, Julie and Fitz - we wish you joy and happiness during this Holiday Season. As Tiny Tim would say, "A Merry Christmas to us all; God bless us, every one!"

**BEST WISHES TO
THE CAST AND CREW FROM
THE ENTIRE PALUMBO FAMILY.**



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Letter from the Artistic Director



Dear Friends,

In this season of giving thanks and sharing merriment, it is with overwhelming gratitude that I extend a warm welcome to each of you inside the walls of this beautifully restored theater, made possible by the generosity and patronage of audience members such as you!

Theatre is created by ensemble, but that ensemble is not merely composed of the “players that strut and fret their hours upon the stage.” It is an ensemble that extends beyond actors, technical crew, writers, composers, and designers, into the theater seats, and out into the community. The “ensemble” is made complete with you, and we hope you feel our love and gratitude through our performances as we share the sweet sentiments of the season in the best ways we know how.

Cheers and merriment to you all, and wishing you a peaceful transition into the New Year, when we hope to see you again and again!

Warm wishes,

Keely Baisden Knudsen
Artistic Director & Co-Founder
Legacy Theatre

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Legacy Wi-Fi

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At This Theatre



c. 1890s



c. 1930s



c. 1930-1940s

- 1866 A small, non-denominational church was built at 128 Thimble Islands Road in the village of Stony Creek in Branford.
- 1900 A fire damaged the property.
- 1914 The land is sold to William Howd and the foundations were laid for a silent movie theater called Idle Hour Moving Pictures.
- 1923 A theater group belonging to the Stony Creek Church of Christ called the Parish Players was forming.
- 1928 The Parish Players purchased the movie theater space, and repurposed it to “live” theater for the first time. Productions included the world premiere of *Death Takes a Holiday* as well as *Private Lives*, *Merrily We Roll Along* and *Pygmalion*.
- 1938 Orson Welles wrote and directed a silent film to accompany his direction of William Gillette’s 1894 comedy *Too Much Johnson* at what was now the Stony Creek Theatre.
- 1946 The theater building became home to Panix/Materna-Line, Inc., a designer and manufacturer of corsets and the like.



Stony Creek Theatre production of *Too Much Johnson* (1938)

At This Theatre



1946



c. 1980s - 2010s



2021

1961 Grace Weil established the space as the Stony Creek Puppet Museum with life-sized Sicilian puppets direct from performances in Italy. Grace Weil's son, Jim, and Italian Salvatore Macri, were the next to put their mark on the theater. With their rare and cherished skills of puppetry, the Italian puppets came to life.

1970s-

2010s Classes and theater were in abundance under Jim Weil, Barry Fritz, the Alliance Theatre, Joe Davis and others. Passing on the legacy of theatre to others is a stronghold of the Legacy Theatre, which purchased this theater in 2013--and now you are part of its ongoing Legacy.

2021 Legacy Theatre, a repertory company with a conservatory arm, opened the restored theatre for performance and training. From nothing but a dream and a vision to now teams of committees, boards of directors and advisors, actors and teachers, this shoreline gem has been restored and revitalized. We at Legacy invite you to continue with us as we commemorate the past and spotlight the future of this special stage.



Jim Weil
(1960s-1970s)

Explore more about
AT THIS THEATRE
on the Legacy website!

Photos, video and more!

Scan This
QR Code:



Or visit
LegacyTheatreCT.org/history

WINTER 2023 CLASSES

Saturdays, January 14 - March 18



March 11th and 18th at the Legacy Theatre for Showcase Rehearsal (3/11) and Showcase Performance (3/18) during regular class times; all other classes at Branford Parks and Rec



9:15-10am

TODDLER TIME!

(Ages 3-5, taught by Chelsea Dacey)

Sing and Dance - each week a new theme! Princesses and Princes, Pajama Week, Rainbow Day, etc! Class will include singing and dancing with ribbons, learning pitch and notes, sing-a-longs, and make-believe games perfect for your toddler!

10:15-11am

FAIRY TALE MUSICAL

(Ages 6-11, taught by Chelsea Dacey)

Learn all about musicals and plays using classic and familiar Fairy Tales, while preparing to perform at the end of the session at the Legacy Theatre! All levels welcome.

11:15-12pm

AUDITIONING CLASS (FOR PLAYS/ MUSICALS!)

(Ages 8 and up, taught by Chelsea Dacey)

Prepare your audition for your school or community play with Chelsea! Practice scenes, songs, and monologues for audition prep and just for fun!

12:15-1pm

SHAKESPEARE POPS!

(5th Grade and up, taught by Chelsea Dacey)

Scenes from Shakespeare with a modern twist: act the Bard's scenes and then recreate the classic tales in a contemporary style!

2-3pm (ongoing)

WHEEL LIFE THEATRE TROUPE

(All ages; taught by Julie Fitzpatrick and Keely Baisden Knudsen)

Join our group of actors who use assisted devices (and their buddies!) as we explore storytelling with original and classic works.

12-1:00pm

SHAKESPEARE AND THE VETERAN'S JOURNEY

(Taught by Mary Lou Lauricella)

A special class for Veterans curious about theater, who enjoy exploring Shakespeare and his relevance today. Vets will have the opportunity in this workshop to explore monologues and scenes drawn from Shakespeare's *Henry VI*, *Othello*, *Macbeth*, and *Richard III*. As the workshop progresses, classmates may interweave their own writings with the Shakespeare monologue of their choice. Their work will then be rehearsed and culminate in a performance at Legacy Theatre.

1:15-2:15pm

INTRO TO IMPROV

(Ages 16 and up, taught by Mary Lou Lauricella)

Enjoy the exploration of Improvisation in fun, supportive, and engaging exercises and scenes. This class will teach basic improv skills, helping one to get out of one's head, embrace spontaneity, sharpen listening skills, and build confidence. The final class meeting will showcase an hour of improv at the Legacy Theatre.

2:30-3:30pm

IMPROV: INTRO TO LONG FORM

Prerequisite: Legacy's Beginners Improv or past improv experience

(Taught by Mary Lou Lauricella)

This class will review the fundamentals of basic improv. Through exercises and scene work, this class will work to deepen themes, emotions, and characters - all necessary tools to stage long-form improv pieces. The final class meeting will showcase an hour of improv at the Legacy Theatre.

Register today at LegacyTheatreCT.org/classes



THE
LEGACY
THEATRE
Branford, CT



presents

A Christmas Carol

By KEELY BAISDEN KNUDSEN

Adapted from the book by CHARLES DICKENS

With Music by KEELY BAISDEN KNUDSEN and DAVID BELL

with

JAMES ANDREASSI* KEELY BAISDEN* KIERSTEN BJORK
BETZABETH CASTRO DAN FRYE CHRIS LEMIEUX*
TODD McNEEL ERICA PAJONAS JOSIAH ROWE
EMERY KNUDSEN LIVIANA KNUDSEN

Director KEELY BAISDEN KNUDSEN

Music Director DAVID BELL

Production Stage Manager T. RICK JONES*

Assistant Stage Manager LANE SHOEMAKER

Assistant Stage Manager & Wardrobe Assistant COLLEEN CALLAHAN

Scenic & Lighting Designer JAMIE BURNETT

Costume Coordinator JIMMY JOHANSMEYER

Sound Designer ADAM JACKSON

Master Carpenter RICH BURKAM

Scenic Painters DAVID SEPULVEDA & AMIE ZINER

Original Costume Design JUNE GOLD

A CHRISTMAS CAROL is presented by arrangement with Rewls Productions, LLC

Costumes provided in part by PANTOCHINO PRODUCTIONS.

PANTOCHINO PRODUCTIONS costumes originally designed for the stage by Jimmy Johansmeyer

A CHRISTMAS CAROL IS PERFORMED WITHOUT AN INTERMISSION



*Actors appear through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States

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Cast

(in alphabetical order by actor)

Scrooge	JAMES ANDREASSI
Mrs. Cratchit, Ghost of Christmas Past, Charity Woman One, Beggar Woman, Clock Chime Singer Three	KEELY BAISDEN
Fan, Mrs. Fezziwig, Charity Woman Two, Party Guest, Clock Chime Singer One, Martha Cratchit, Caroler	KIERSTEN BJORK
Belle, Scrooge's Niece, Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, Clock Chime Singer Two	BETZABETH CASTRO
Young Ebenezer, Fred, Gravedigger Two, Caroler	DAN FRYE
Marley, Fezziwig, Ghost of Christmas Present, Caroler	CHRIS LEMIEUX
Swing	TODD McNEEL
Swing	ERICA PAJONAS
Bob Cratchit, Gravedigger One	JOSIAH ROWE
Tiny Tim, Boy on Christmas Day, Caroler	EMERY KNUDSEN
Cratchit Daughter One, Caroler, Party Guest	LIVIANA KNUDSEN

Setting & Musical Numbers

London, England in the Victorian Era

<i>It's Christmas Time</i>	Company
<i>Humbug</i>	Young Ebenezer & Scrooge
<i>God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*</i>	Charity Woman 1 & 2
<i>Humbug</i> (Reprise)	Scrooge
<i>Clock Chime Bells One</i>	Clock Chime Singers 1 & 2
<i>Family Bonds</i>	Ghost Of Christmas Past
<i>Sussex Carol*</i>	Fezziwig, Mrs. Fezziwig, Belle, Young Ebenezer, And Party Guests
<i>Set You Free</i>	Belle
<i>Clock Chime Bells Two</i>	Clock Chime Singers 1 & 3
<i>The Streets are Lovely*</i>	Ghost Of Christmas Present
<i>Traveling Song*</i>	Ghost Of Christmas Present
<i>Our Souls and Friends</i>	Ghost Of Christmas Present
<i>Clock Chime Bells Three</i>	Clock Chime Singers 1 & 3
<i>Canney Take It</i>	Gravediggers 1 & 2
<i>Canney Take It</i> (Reprise)	Scrooge
<i>Our Tiny Tim / Silent Night, Holy Night*</i>	Cratchit & Mrs. Cratchit & Carolers
<i>Clock Chime Christmas Morning*</i>	Clock Chime Singers 1 & 3
<i>It's Christmas Time</i> (Reprise)	Company

All songs by Keely Baisden Knudsen and David Bell, except signified by *

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen (English traditional, Roxburghe collection)

Silent Night, Holy Night (Music by Frank Xaver Grover, lyrics by Joseph Mohr, 1818)

Sussex Carol (Luke Wadding, 1684)

Ding Dong Merrily on High (lyrics by George Radcliffe Woodward and music by Thoinot Arbeau, 1588)

Good Christian Men, Rejoice! (14th Century melody; lyrics by Heinrich Suso (1295-1366)

Who's Who



JAMES ANDREASSI (*Ebenezer Scrooge*) is delighted to be returning to Legacy Theatre, and to be part of Keely's production of *A Christmas Carol!* Jim has performed at theatres across the United States, including Palm Beach Dramaworks, Maltz Jupiter

Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre, American Repertory Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, Rep of St. Louis, Cleveland Playhouse, Shakespeare & Co., Pioneer Theatre Co., Lyric Stage of Boston, Merrimack Rep, Actors' Shakespeare Project, and Elm Shakespeare Co., among many others. In NYC he has performed at the Mint Theatre and the New York Theatre Workshop. Jim has taught acting, Shakespeare, and theatre studies at Southern Connecticut State University, Yale University, Quinnipiac University, and the Yale Center for British Art. Jim is the founder and artistic director emeritus of the Elm Shakespeare Company in New Haven, CT. He lives with his wife Margaret, their cats, Bambi and Rocco, and their exceptional dog, Winston, in Palm Coast, FL.



KEELY BAISDEN (*Mrs. Cratchit, Ghost of Christmas Past, Charity Woman, Beggar Woman, Clock Chime Singer*) To read Keely's bio, please view page 23.



KIERSTEN BJORK (*Fan, Mrs. Fezziwig, Charity Woman, Party Guest, Clock Chime Singer, Martha Cratchit, Caroler*) To read Kiersten's bio, please view page 23.



BETZABETH CASTRO (*Belle, Scrooge's Niece, Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come*) is a CT-based actor, singer, and teaching artist. Currently, she teaches improv to Capital Prep High Schoolers at Housatonic Community College. She recently performed in *An*

Evening of Old Time Radio Theatre, Halloween Horror with Capital Classics Theatre Company. Other recent credits include *Leonard the Leaf Dragon/Squwak* in Stage Partner's immersive theater experience *Off The Trail, The Romancers* (Sylvette) with Play With Your Food, *Sound of Music* (Maria) with Fairfield Center Stage, *Skeleton Crew* (Shanita) with Collective Consciousness Theater, and Westport Country Playhouse's New Works/New Voices series in Phenomenal Women+ Inspire.



DAN FRYE (*Young Ebenezer, Fred, Gravedigger, Caroler*) is thrilled to be returning to the Legacy stage. Earlier this year he took part in the Legacy Theatre's productions of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Snoopy) and *The Great Gatsby: A Live Radio Play* (Nick Carraway), as well as Pantochino Productions' *The Rocky Horror Show* (Brad), and Shoreline Theatre Company's *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip) and *Puffs* (The Narrator). He received a BFA in Acting from the University of South Dakota. He'd like to thank his parents for their relentless support.



EMERY KNUDSEN (*Tiny Tim, Boy on Christmas Day, Caroler*) began performing on the stage in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. She's also been cast as the title role in *The Little Mermaid*, as Peter Pan in *Peter and Wendy*, and as Tiny Tim, Boy on Christmas Day, Ensemble Child, and Caroler in Legacy's *A Christmas Carol* (2021). She enjoys singing, writing music and creating original stories and artwork for a comic series.



LIVIANA KNUDSEN (*Cratchit Daughter, Caroler, Party Guest*) played a Mover in Legacy's inaugural production of *Barefoot in the Park*. She has also played Michael in *Peter and Wendy*, a fairy in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (which was Branford's first Shakespeare in the Park on the Town Green) and Sneezzy in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* at the Stony Creek Museum. She has also performed in *Alice in Wonderland* with GYFS and most recently was in Legacy Theatre's production of *A Christmas Carol*. She enjoys dancing Ballet, Lyric, and Tap and playing Bassoon in the Shoreline Youth Orchestra.



CHRIS LEMIEUX (*Marley, Fezziwig, Ghost of Christmas Present, Caroler*) is thrilled to be returning to Legacy's production of Christmas Carol. Legacy credits: *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Other favorite credits: *Comedy of Errors* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *The Producers* (Shoreline Theatre Company), and *Pocketmon!: A Pokemon Parody Musical* (LA Fringe Festival; Encore! Winner). Chris directs productions for Branford Parks and Recreation Shoreline Theatre Company. Recent directing credits with STC include: *The Wizard of Oz* and *Puffs*. This will be his first year as the director for Branford Walsh Intermediate School's spring musical. "Love to Mom, Dad, the teachers & mentors in my life who represent the true meaning of love and support."

Who's Who



TODD McNEEL (*Swing*) is thrilled to be making his Legacy Theatre debut in this classic holiday tale. Recent credits include *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Lyric Stage Boston), *Norma* (Boston Lyric Opera), *Le Nozze di Figaro* (Boston Opera Collaborative), *Tuck Everlasting* (Umbrella Stage Company), *Freedom Ride* (MassOpera/Chicago Opera Theatre), *Pagliacci* (Boston Lyric Opera), *Assassins* (Arts After Hours), *Ragtime* (Wheelock Family Theatre and The Company Theatre), *1776* (New Repertory Theatre), *Porgy and Bess* (Princeton Opera), *Little Women* (MassOpera), *Coal Creek* (Hartford Opera Theatre), *The Bremen Town Musicians* (Wildwood Parks for the Arts), and *Turandot* (Cincinnati Opera). McNeel is a recipient of the prestigious Emerging Talent Artist award from the Kurt Weill Foundation/Lote Lenya Competition for his performances in opera and musical theatre. When not on stage, he is the Manager of Marketing & Tourism at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Instagram: @toddy_mack



ERICA PAJONAS (*Swing*) Legacy Theater: *The Great Gatsby: A Live Radio Play* (Props Coordinator), *Deathtrap* (Props Coordinator & Assistant Stage Manager), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hippolyta & Mustardseed). Quinnipiac University: *Thebes: A New Musical* (Laius), *Proof* (Catherine), *Macbeth* (Lennox & Doctor, Props Master), *Thom Pain (based on nothing)* (Producer), *The Lifespan of a Fact* (Props Master), *Love & Information* (Ensemble), *Bad Jews* (Set Designer), *Seven Minutes in Heaven* (Run Crew), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Fairy) New Play Festival 2019: (Stage Manager, *Last Words*). Education: Quinnipiac University, Psychology and Theater double major. Awards: Alpha Psi Omega Theater Honors Society, Psi Chi Psychology Honors Society.



JOSIAH ROWE (*Bob Cratchit, Gravedigger*) is delighted to return to Legacy's stage and to the roles of Bob Cratchit and Actor 1. Josiah has become a Legacy regular, having also played Claudius in *Hamlet*, Custard in *The Tales of Custard the Dragon*, Porter Milgrim in *Deathtrap*, and Freddie Filmore/Tom Buchanan and others in *The Great Gatsby: A Live Radio Play*. Other past roles include *Atticus*, *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Landmark Community Theatre, Thomaston); Scarecrow, *The Wizard of Oz* (Thomaston Opera House); Bhaer, *Little Women*, Lefou, *Beauty and the Beast* (Hartford Children's Theatre); Kafee, *A Few Good Men* (Norris Little Theatre); and Pirate King, *Pirates of Penzance*, (Alliance Theatre). He has also appeared in *Amadeus*, *The Producers* (Warner Theatre); *Macbeth*, *Merry Wives of Windsor*, and *The Learned Ladies*

(Capital Classics). However, his favorite role is Daddy to Ashlin (10), Diana (8) and Verity (3). Deep love and gratitude to Erin.

DAVID BELL (*Music Director*) has been active for many years as a musician and actor. He previously served as music director for productions at the Ivoryton Playhouse, Whitney Players, and for several area schools. This is one of his first outings as a composer/arranger, and he has thoroughly enjoyed working with Keely and enhancing her beautiful melodies and lyrics. Dave's other identities include Minister of Music at Seymour Congregational Church, Accompanist for the Guilford Public School choruses, avid long-distance hiker and trails volunteer for various land conservation entities, and overall decent fellow.

RICH BURKAM (*Master Carpenter*) came to Connecticut to study music and music recording at UNH. He played in bands such as 4:20, Space Cushion, and Over The Line. His studies continued, learning to be a luthier under Barry Lipman and Chris Tatalias, giving him a taste for fine woodworking. Richard now owns a woodshop that makes fine furniture, in a space which is shared with lighting designer Jamie Burnett. Together they have built sets for many production companies, including Elm Shakespeare, Yale Baroque Opera Project, and many small black box theater productions.

JAMIE BURNETT (*Scenic/Lighting Designer*) is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University, recipient of the 2005 New Haven Arts award, and Founding member of The Elm Shakespeare Company. Lighting Designer at Elm Shakespeare for 26 years and Set Designer until 2009. Lighting Design credits include International Festival of Arts and Ideas 2018, *Requiem for an Electric Chair*; Iseman Theater 2017, *Never Stand Still*. CCT: *Skeleton Crew*, *Rasheeda Speaking*, *Jesus Hopped the A Train*, *Sunset Baby*, *Topdog/Underdog*. SCSU: *Stop Kiss*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Boyfriend* and *Our Country's Good*. SHU: *In The Heights*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Citywide Open Studios: New Haven Armory; Projects2k: Stamford Train Station Façade Lighting; Producer/Lighting Designer/Production Manager for *Terra Tractus (The Earth Moves)*, (2005) *Terra Mirabila*, (2001) *Terra Lumina* and *Terra Continuum* (1999); performed in the Stony Creek Granite Quarry; PNM's Branford *Luminata* (2010) lighting Branford Green Town Hall. His company, Luminous Environments, specializes in theater and TV studio renovations and public art installations involving specialized lighting. Recent projects: Branford HS Theater, Fairfield Community Theater, and Legacy Theatre.



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Who's Who

COLLEEN CALLAHAN (*Assistant Stage Manager & Wardrobe Assistant*) is excited to be joining the Legacy Theatre Team for the first time! She is a recent graduate of Western Connecticut State University with a degree in Theatre Arts. Selected Western Connecticut experience includes *Honey, I Shrunk the Plays* (Stage Manager), *Hand To God* (Assistant Costume Designer), *1940's Radio Hour* (Wardrobe Run Crew Head). Selected performance experience includes *WCSU Noises Off* (Dotty Otley), *WCSU The Resistible Rise Of Arturo Ui* (Betty Dullfeet), *WCSU In the Open* (Devon).

ADAM JACKSON (*Sound Designer*) is excited to be a part of Legacy's second season. Adam has worked on over 50 productions: Favorite acting credits include *Titanic* (J. Bruce Ismay '17), *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail* (Henry David Thoreau '17), *Shrek* (Farquaad '18), *A Christmas Carol* (Ebenezer Scrooge '18), and *The Addams Family* (Lucas Beineke and Gomez Addams - understudy, performed '19). Adam is a senior at Western Connecticut State University studying Music Education with a concentration in classical trombone. He works on the WCSU student crew and runs sound for The River Church in Danbury. Adam has done technical theatre design work for Shoreline Theatre Company, Walsh Intermediate School, Branford High School Fall Play and Spring Musical, Ivoryton Playhouse, WCSU Opera, and Elm Shakespeare Company.

JIMMY JOHANSMEYER (*Costume Coordinator*) is excited to be back at The Legacy Theatre, after being seen in *Just Desserts*. Most recent design credits include *The Great Gatsby: A Live Radio Play*, *Pirate Schmiratel*, *Rough Crossing*, *Saturday Night Fever*, *Newsies*, *The 39 Steps*, *La Cage Aux Folles* and *Footloose*. His work has also been seen at Cortland Repertory Theatre, Allenberry Playhouse, Penobscot Theatre Company, Downtown Cabaret Theatre, Gateway Playhouse, Theatreworks New Milford, Stamford Center for the Arts, The Emelin Theatre, Tampa's Gorilla Theatre, The Theater Barn and at Off-Broadway's American Theater for Actors. Jimmy is also co-founder and producer of the award-winning Pantochino Productions Inc. in Connecticut.

T. RICK JONES (*Production Stage Manager*) is delighted to be joining The Legacy Theatre for Christmas. Since 2018, he has been the Resident Stage Manager for White Heron Theatre Company in Nantucket, MA, where he was also the Production Manager. His career spans 30 years, with other credits including Regional: Lyric Stage Company of Boston (PSM); White Plains Performing Arts Center (PSM); Colonial Theatre – Shakespeare in the Park (PSM, Production Manager, Assistant Producer, Production Photographer); The Ivoryton Playhouse (PSM); Seven Angels Theatre (PSM). Off-Broadway: *Sessions: The Musical* (PSM); *A Night at the Carlyle* (PSM); *Yohen* (PSM). T. Rick is also the Managing Editor of the online outlet Daily Star Trek News and a Contributing Writer for *Sherlock Holmes Magazine*.

LANE SHOEMAKER (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is a shoreline local from Madison who is very excited to be working on their first production at Legacy Theatre and to be assistant stage managing for the first time! They graduated this past May with their BA in Theatre Tech and Design from WCSU where they had the chance to work on many productions in many different positions with their main focuses being props and scenic painting.

DAVID SEPULVEDA (*Scenic Artist*) David's theatrical set designs and scenic painting skills were honed during theatrical productions at a Stamford, Connecticut public school where he taught art education for 36 years. He holds a Master's Degree from NYU in Studio Art. After retiring from teaching, he continued producing theatrical sets and scenic painting at various local and regional theaters, including Regional Center for the Arts, Bregamos Community Theater, and Collective Consciousness Theatre in New Haven. David's network has appeared at Long Wharf Theater's Stage Two, Iseman Theater at Yale, Hartbeat Ensemble's Carriage House Theater, Norwich Arts Center, and most recently at Legacy Theater, where he worked on several productions for Legacy Theater's first season.

AMIE ZINER (*Scenic Artist*) has been making fine art, commissions, and commercial illustration for more than 50 years. She grew up in a family of artists, writers and craftsmen. Ziner sold her first commercial illustration when she was 13. Amie attended Pratt Institute in NYC, SUNY Purchase, and later graduated from Goddard College. She is the children's book illustrator of "There Once Was A Sky Full of Stars", and wrote and illustrated "Jennifer Ellen Watermelon". She has shown her work at libraries, galleries and schools in NY State and in CT. Ziner is a frequent participant at CityWide Open Studios. Amie Ziner has worked with David Sepulveda doing murals, banners, and theatrical sets for several years; for Junta New Haven, Bregamos Community Theater, Collective Consciousness Theater, and others. She recently retired from being a Park Ranger to spend more time making art. She worked most recently at Legacy Theater, where she worked on several productions for Legacy Theater's first season.

SPECIAL THANKS FOR A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Callie Liberatore, Maeve Cunningham,
Saviah Knudsen, Nancy Smith, June Gold,
Julianne Alberty, Rebecca Goodheart,
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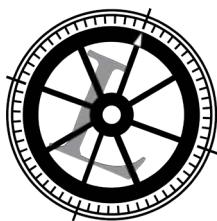
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Legacy Who's Who



KEELY BAIDEN KNUDSEN (*Artistic Director & Co-Founder*) An award winning director, Keely has performed, directed, and choreographed internationally in plays, musicals, operas, and dance companies in hundreds of theatrical productions

and has performed in 48 of the United States and in the UK. Realizing her vision of a new theater company on the Connecticut Shoreline, Keely's ideals of inspiring, inclusive work that uplifts the human spirit and connects communities formalized in the creation of the Legacy Theatre with Co-Founder Stephanie Stiefel Williams, a performing colleague and dear friend. Keely has directed, choreographed, and taught a myriad of performing arts courses at such institutions as Quinnipiac University, Yale University, Fairfield University, Hartt School of Drama, Southern Connecticut State University, Westminster College, and was the Director of Education of New Haven's acclaimed Elm Shakespeare Company for several years. Additionally a composer/lyricist and playwright, she is currently collaborating on two musicals and is a member of ASCAP. Her directing has been heralded by the Arts Paper as "...visually striking, emotionally moving" and "captivating" and of her direction of *Hamlet* it was said, "Knudsen has made the notoriously difficult Shakespearean language accessible." Her creation of the Wheel Life Theatre Troupe has been an especially rewarding program as she acts and directs with those who ambulate with crutches and wheelchairs. Her BFA is from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, at which she graduated first in the class, and she received her Masters Degree in Drama on full scholarship from The Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow. Keely, her husband Brian, and five children (Saviah, Liviana, Wynter, Emery, and Reeves) reside in Guilford, CT, where she thoroughly enjoys running the Legacy with a tremendous staff and community support.



STEPHANIE STIEFEL WILLIAMS (*Co-Founder & Chairperson of the Board*) is an active and versatile performer in musicals, concerts, and plays and has appeared in numerous locations throughout the Northeast. A member of Actor's Equity Association, she has appeared professionally in a variety of roles at venues such as Broadway's Marriott Marquis, Legacy Theatre, Hartford Stage Company, Foxwoods' Fox Theatre, Atlantic City's Tropicana, Turning Stone Casino, and the Garde Arts Center. Among these roles, her favorites include Aldonza in *Man of La Mancha*, Anita in *West Side Story*, Lola in *Damn Yankees*, Maria in *The Sound of Music*, and Guenevere in *Camelot*. Although her professional focus has been in musical theatre,

she also has been engaged frequently as a concert soloist, as well as an a cappella ensemble singer. Locally, Stephanie is a proud founder, repertory member, and trustee president at Legacy Theatre where she recently starred in the critically acclaimed 2022 production of *I Do! I Do!*. Last year, she was a featured performer in Legacy's *Barefoot in the Park* and she recently appeared as a featured vocalist in the wildly popular *Mack is Back!*. In addition to her work with Legacy, Stephanie sits on the Performing Arts Advisory Council at the University of Notre Dame and has been a member of the Board of Trustees at the Goodspeed Opera House. She has become involved on a producing level with critically-acclaimed productions of *Gypsy* and *Showboat* in London's West End, the revival of *Sweeney Todd* in New York, and Broadway's *Escape to Margaritaville*. As a former Miss Connecticut, she represented our state at the Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City. She holds a Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, from Fairfield University and a Juris Doctorate with honors from the University of Connecticut School of Law. Stephanie is the proud mother of two adult children, Valerie and Rick, and lives in Guilford with her wonderful husband, Luke.



KIERSTEN BJORK (*Theatre Manager*) is thrilled to be a part of the Legacy team as Theatre Manager. She is a 2021 graduate of Fairfield University, graduating summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with degrees in Theatre and English. In addition to her work

with Legacy, Kiersten does freelance theatre work for the Quick Center for the Arts and Theatre Fairfield. She is also a performer, having most recently played the role of June/"Squish" in *Chicago* with Shoreline Theatre Company and Ink the Cat in Legacy's production of *The Tales of Custard the Dragon*. Other favorite performing credits include Legacy Theatre's *A Christmas Carol* (Fan/Mrs. Fezziwig/Others) and *Joan Joyce* (Young Joan Joyce – BroadwayWorld CT Regional Theatre Nomination: Best Performer in a Musical), and Theatre Fairfield's *The Spitfire Grill* (Percy), [*title of show*] (Susan – BroadwayWorld CT Regional Theatre Nomination: Best Performer in a Streaming Musical), *Woman and Scarecrow* (Auntie Ah – BroadwayWorld CT Regional Theatre Nomination: Best Performer in a Streaming Play), *Titus Andronicus* (Demetrius), *Fortinbras* (Laertes), and *Authenticity* (Alice). Kiersten's credits also include director, scenic designer, master carpenter, board operator, stage manager, assistant stage manager, and runner on numerous productions over the past several years, with favorites being *I Do! I Do!* (ASM, Legacy Theatre) and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (Master Carpenter, Theatre Fairfield).

Legacy Who's Who



SARAH PERO (*Production Manager*)

Born and raised in New Haven, CT, Sarah has been involved with local community and professional theatre for 20+ years. Acting at the age of 10, and directing at 16, Sarah received her BFA in Theatre, with a concentration in directing from the University of Rhode Island. Right after college, Sarah was a part-time drama teacher in New Haven Public Schools and also taught theatre classes with Performing Arts Programs (South Windsor, CT). Sarah then worked at the Music Theatre of CT (Norwalk, CT) School of Performing Arts, wearing many hats as Administrative Manager, Teaching Artist, Director, Music Director, and Choreographer for the school. Sarah also managed the Box Office and was the Resident Sound Designer for MTC's Professional Main Stage. Following MTC, Sarah worked as Administrative Manager at the Downtown Cabaret Theatre (Bridgeport, CT). As a Production Stage Manager for various Theatre Productions in Rhode Island and Connecticut, some of her favorites include: *Tick, Tick Boom!*; *Little Women: The Musical*; and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. Most recently, Sarah served as the Production Stage Manager for *I Do! I Do!* and multiple Legacy productions in the 2021 season. Sarah is thrilled to officially join the Legacy team as Production Manager.



ANNE RUNOLFFSSON (*Development Manager*) has entertained audiences worldwide for the past 35 years. A veteran of the stage and concert venues, her Broadway and National tour appearances include: *Phantom of the Opera* (Carlotta), *Victor/Victoria* (Stand-

by for Julie Andrews and Liza Minnelli), *Les Misérables* (Fantine), *Cyrano: The Musical* (Roxane), *The Secret Garden* (Lil), *Aspects of Love*, and James Joyce's *The Dead* (Gretta). As a soloist, Anne has performed at such iconic venues as The Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, Radio City Music Hall (with tenor Jose Carreras), The O2 Arena (London, with Julie Andrews), The Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), The Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap and countless others. Anne was awarded New York City's prestigious MAC award for Best Female Singer. Her cabaret appearances include *Birdland*, *54 Below*, *The Green Room 42*, *92nd Street Y*, *The Russian Tea Room*, *Rainbow and Stars*, and Hollywood's *Cinegrill and Gardenia*. Show recordings include: *Les Misérables* International Cast, *Listen to My Heart*, and *You Oughta Be On Broadway*, and a solo album "At Sea." Anne co-wrote and performs in two shows with singer/actress daughter Tess Adams: *The Story Goes On: A Broadway Family Journey* and *Heroine's Song*. Anne made her directorial debut in December 2021 in Los

Angeles with *My Unauthorized Hallmark Movie Musical*. She has also appeared on NBC's *The Blacklist*. Anne is principal partner of Runolfsson Entertainment which includes "Sing With Anne," a vocal coaching practice. She has taught voice and performance at the Orange County School for the Arts in California and New York University.



COLIN SHEEHAN (*Producer of Broadway Concert Series and Community Arts Coordinator*) is a local arts enthusiast and serves as the Arts, Culture & Special Events Coordinator for the Town of Branford, Director of The Branford High School Performing Arts'

Spring Musical, and Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of Branford Parks and Recreation Shoreline Theatre Company. He graduated from Branford High School and continued his studies at Wagner College with a B.A. in Theatre and Speech Performance. In 2003, he made his Broadway debut in the closing night production of *Les Misérables*. In '99, Colin appeared numerous times on *The Rosie O'Donnell Show* and worked for three seasons on *The Wendy Williams Show*. Colin has produced, directed, hosted, and performed in the tri-state area and abroad with Broadway Cruises, Nickelodeon Cruises, and R Family Vacations Cruises. Colin is a philanthropist and has hosted, produced and raised funds and awareness for many organizations in Branford and beyond.



MARY LEE WEBER (*Marketing and Community Outreach*) is a Marketing and Communications consultant who has lived in Branford since 1988. She held the position of Director of Marketing and Community Development for the ABC affiliate WTNH-8 for 17 years

where she was responsible for non-traditional revenue and community partnerships. With a local creative team she Executive Produced a short documentary for the Stony Creek Museum called *Born at The Water's Edge*. It features interviews and information about the Thimble Islands and the history of Stony Creek including brief segments about Legacy Theatre, the Stony Creek Fife and Drum Corps and the Quarry. Mary Lee also helped with the Legacy Theatre productions while they were in residence at the Stony Creek Museum in 2018-19. She joined Legacy to help with Marketing and Community Outreach and is thrilled to play even a small part in helping Legacy bring theatre back to Stony Creek.

Legacy Who's Who



JEFF ZEITLIN (*Front of House Manager*)

A long-time resident of Guilford, CT, Jeff's love of theatre was taken to the next level when his daughter was a part of the Guilford High School Theatre Arts program. Jeff served as a Board Member of the school's Theatre Arts Parents Support. He then became the Box Office Manager and Front of House Advisor for GHSTA. He continues in that volunteer role today. Along with his wife, Alyson, he was an usher at The Ivoryton Playhouse. Most recently, he was a House Manager at The Katherine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center ("The Kate") in Old Saybrook. He first became aware of The Legacy Theatre when attending a couple of fundraisers a few years ago. He was taken by the plans for the historic building and the prospect of bringing high quality Broadway productions and performers to the shoreline. Jeff's community involvement also extends to Guilford A Better Chance where he is a member of the Board of Directors. When not at the theatre, Jeff is Loyalty Manager for IKEA in New Haven, focusing on Public and Community Relations. Jeff looks forward to welcoming theatre-goers from near and far to The Legacy Theatre!



NICK FETHERSTON (*Box Office Assistant*)

is thrilled to be a part of the Legacy team. He is an actor and theater lover, currently living in Hamden, CT. Nick graduated from Quinnipiac University in 2021 with his degree in theater and is also an alumnus of The National Theater Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. Nick's previous work with Legacy includes playing Rosencrantz in the 2018 production of *Hamlet* on the Guilford Green and playing Lysander in the 2019 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on the Branford Green. His most recent credit was playing Don John and The Sexton in *Much Ado About Nothing* with Capital Classics in West Hartford. He is so excited to be taking the next step in his theater journey with Legacy.

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Artistic Director & Co-Founder	KEELY BAISDEN KNUDSEN
Co-Founder	STEPHANIE STIEFEL WILLIAMS
Theatre Manager	KIERSTEN BJORK
Production Manager	SARAH PERO
Development Manager	ANNE RUNOLFSSON
Producer of Broadway Concert Series & Community Arts Coordinator	COLIN SHEEHAN
Marketing and Community Outreach	MARY LEE WEBER
Front of House Manager & COVID Safety Manager	JEFF ZEITLIN
Box Office Assistant	NICK FETHERSTON
Front of House Alternates	CHRIS LEMIEUX, KELSEY MULLIGAN, KENNY PELPHREY, NICK FETHERSTON
Graphic Designer	JOE LANDRY
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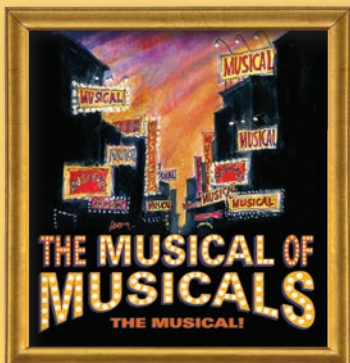
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