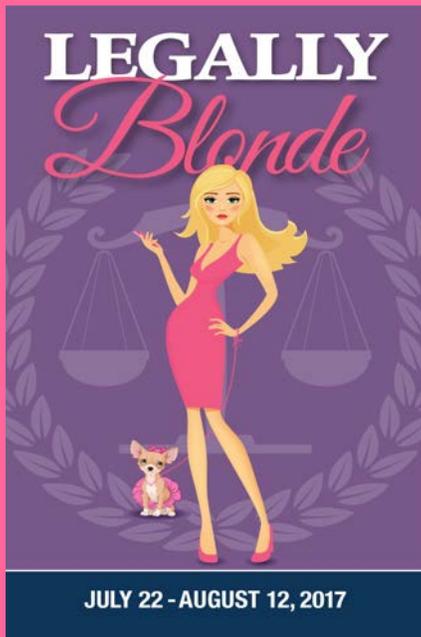




# FLOODLIGHT

## FEATURED PRODUCTION

June 2017



Book by  
Heather Hach

Music and Lyrics by  
Laurence O'Keefe  
and Nell Benjamin

Produced by  
Rae Edmonson and  
Mary Beth Smith-Toomey

Directed by  
Hans Bachmann

Musical Direction by  
Christopher Tomasino

Choreographed by  
Stefan Sittig

The producers of *Legally Blonde*, **Mary Beth Smith-Toomey** and **Rae Edmonson**, along with director **Hans Bachmann**, music director **Christopher A. Tomasino**, and choreographer **Stefan Sittig** are proud to announce the cast for this summer's musical extravaganza! Come with us while we roam the halls of Harvard Law School following Elle Woods, played by **Morgan Arrivillaga**; Emmett Forrest, played by **Kaylen Morgan**; Warner Huntington III, played by **Brendan Quinn**; Professor Callahan, played by **Shawn Cox**; and Vivienne Kensington, played by **Elizabeth Gillespie**. Elle's three close friends, also known as "the Greek Chorus," are Pilar, played by **Benita Adams**; Margot, played by **Rachel Cahoon**; and Serena, played by **Halle Kaufax**. Other key characters include our exercise maven Brooke Wyndham, played by **Heather Gifford**; our hairdresser Paulette Bonafonté, played by **Katherine Lipovsky**; and fellow law student Enid Hoopes, played by **Karen Kelleher**.

Our Delta Nu members are played by **Courtney Caliendo** (Kate and Chutney Wyndham, among other roles), **Ashley Kaplan** (Gaelen and Fitness Gal Gail, among other roles), **Carlie Smith** (Veronica and D.A. Joyce Riley, among other roles), and **Rebecca Weiss** (Leilani and Fitness Gal Gayle, among other roles). **Sean Garcia** is playing Kyle, Dewey, and Grandmaster Chad; **Maria Ciarrocchi** is playing Mom, Cat Lady, and select other roles; and **Katie Beth Hicks** is playing the Judge, Whitney, and several additional roles. To round out this great cast, our male ensemble includes **Dwayne Allen**, **Kurtis Carter**, **Chris Chapin**, **Marcelo Guzman**, and **Ryan Walker**, each playing numerous roles. Many of these cast members are new to LTA. We warmly welcome them as well as our returning cast members, and we know that you will enjoy *Legally Blonde*!

The production staff includes many familiar names and some new ones whom we are excited to welcome to LTA. Stage managing for us is the capable team of **Marg Soroos** and **Micheal O'Connor**, with ASMs

(continued on page 3)

### The Little Theatre of Alexandria

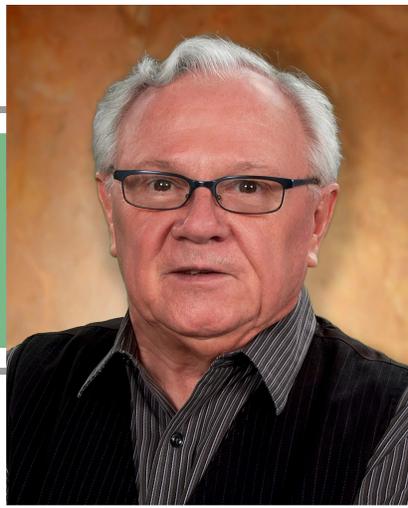
Lloyd Bittinger, President  
Maria Ciarrocchi, Governor for  
Membership  
Kirstin Apker, Floodlight  
Coordinator  
Linda Wells, Floodlight Editor  
*Next Floodlight August 7th*

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**703-683-0496**

## President's Column



## Lloyd Bittinger

As this is being published, we at The Little Theatre of Alexandria have marked the passing of our theatre year (July 1st through June 30th) at our annual meeting and have moved on to the next year. During the year just passed we have had many projects, programs, a great season that was a success in many ways, and some challenges. Among those challenges, we have addressed issues concerning ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance, which included construction of the special access ramp. We now are pretty much in a holding pattern, as we have implemented all ADA issues that we are able to do at this time.

Another of our recent challenges was on the personnel side. As you are probably already aware, **Virginia Lacey**, our former Business Manager, has retired and is planning to move soon to South Carolina. Virginia was with us for almost 12 years, and she did an excellent job throughout her tenure. She not only was an excellent “face of LTA” in dealing with members and the public, but she always supported the theatre in every way possible, including working with members of the Board of Governors. Virginia was recognized during the reception at the recent annual meeting, with many friends and associates coming to say goodbye and wish her well, as well as at the beginning of the business meeting with a special recognition and thanks from members, friends, and the Board of Governors.

Did you know that although The Little Theatre is indeed a volunteer organization, we actually have two paid employees? They are the Business Manager and the Box Office Manager. Both employees work a standardized shift and receive benefits through the theatre.

We take this opportunity to introduce our new Business Manager, **Tina McCrea**. Tina has served at The Little Theatre as the Box Office Manager for over 12 years, and like Virginia, she has always done an excellent job representing the theatre with the public and supporting theatre activities. We welcome Tina into this new capacity and promise her our support as we go forward. We are confident that she will do well, as she always has, and will be successful in her new role.

Lastly on the personnel side, we also take this opportunity to introduce **Crissy Wilke** as our new Box Office Manager. Several months ago a selection committee was formed by the Board of Governors, and we conducted extensive interviews after having received approximately 50 applications for the position. Many of those who applied had extensive experience with theaters, and box office management in particular. Following numerous interviews, Crissy was selected for a number of reasons, many of them having to do with the committee’s thinking that her personality fit in well with our culture. She also had valuable experience that could easily lend itself to her success, including a broad base of knowledge of social media, which is one of our focuses for the future of The Little Theatre.

Again, we take this opportunity to thank Virginia for a job well done, with a wish for great success and happiness as she relocates. She has told me that she plans to become a member of LTA in the future and that on some of her returns to the area, she will support various activities as a volunteer. We also welcome Tina and Crissy to their new positions, promise our support for their success, and wish them all the best. Please welcome them to these roles when you have the opportunity.

**Lloyd Bittinger, President**  
*All for Love of Theatre!*

# Upcoming Auditions

*Driving Miss Daisy* is the first play in Alfred Uhry's *Atlanta Trilogy* and was followed by *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* and *Parade*. The play was inspired by Uhry's grandmother, who had to give up driving because of a car accident and hired a chauffeur who remained in that role for 25 years. Daisy is a crotchety elderly white Southern Jewish woman, whose son Boolie interviews Hoke, an unemployed African-American, for the position of Daisy's chauffeur. Though they are initially wary of each other, Hoke puts up with Miss Daisy with dignity. Having been a teacher, Miss Daisy teaches Hoke to read. Over the next 25 years they form a friendly bond, with Miss Daisy inviting Hoke to accompany her to a dinner for Martin Luther King, Jr.

This Pulitzer Prize-winning play won the 1988 Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Off Broadway Play, Best Actress – Play, and Best Director – Play. Uhry adapted his play into a screenplay for the 1989 movie starring Jessica Tandy, Morgan Freeman, and Dan Aykroyd, all of whom were nominated for Academy Awards, with Tandy winning the Oscar for Best Actress in a Leading Role.

## For the Audition

Please bring an accurate list of rehearsal conflicts with you to the audition.

If you have a black and white headshot and acting résumé, you may bring them with you. However, auditionees may be asked to have their picture taken by the LTA photographer.

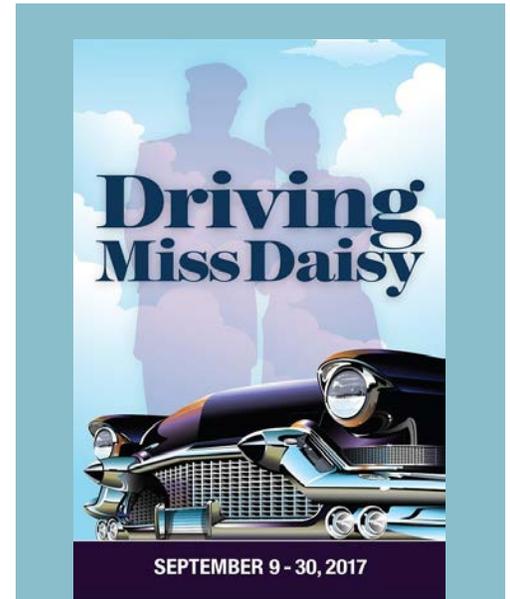
## Role Summaries

**Daisy Wertham:** Female, Southern accent, Jewish, ages from 72 to 97

**Hoke Coleburn:** Male, chauffeur, African-American, ages from 60 to 85

**Boolie Wertham:** Male, Daisy's son, Southern accent, ages from 40 to 65

If you would like to help with this production or if you have questions, please contact producer Carol Strachan at [cazeveandwe@hotmail.com](mailto:cazeveandwe@hotmail.com).



Written by  
Alfred Uhry

Produced by  
Carol Strachan

Directed by  
Jim Howard

## Audition Dates

Saturday, July 15, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 16, 2017

7:00 p.m.

## Callbacks

Tuesday, July 18, 2017

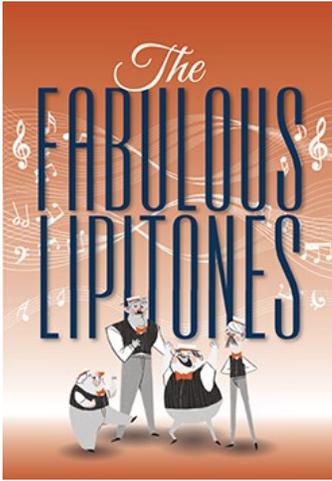
7:00 p.m.

(continued from page 1)

**Eileen Doherty, Maggie Landis, Sherry Singer, and Adrian Steel.** Set design and construction are by **Dan Remmers**, costume design is by **Jean Schlichting** and **Kit Sibley**, lighting design is by **Ken and Patti Crowley**, sound design is by **Alan Wray**, set decoration and props design are by **Kirstin Apker** and **Jocelyn Steiner**, set painting is by **Shelby Baker**, the master electrician is **Pam Lenowich**, makeup design is by **Larissa Norris**, hair design and wigs are by **Heather Hicks**, rigging is by **Russ Wyland**, and the wardrobe mistress is **Sarah Gale**.

Finally, the rehearsal and show pianist is **Matt Jeffrey**, the photographer is **Matt Liptak**, the double tech dinner will be served by **Carolyn** and **Frank Winters**, and our opening night party will be catered by **Becky's Catering**.

If you want to be a part of this production and work on the crew, please contact producer Mary Beth Smith-Toomey at [mbstoomey@yahoo.com](mailto:mbstoomey@yahoo.com).



# Thank You from *The Fabulous Lipitones*

On behalf of Director **Chuck Leonard**, we would like to thank all the actors, designers, and crew for their work and dedication on this show and making it so incredibly fabulous. It was truly a team effort, and it was a great pleasure to work with such an amazing and talented group of designers, cast, and crew. This was such a fun and relevant show, and everyone’s vision and collaboration created a comical barbershop quartet, Ohio style. We’ve still got “Hop, hop, hop little bunny ...” stuck in our heads. And just remember song number 185, “it’s about a goat,” and the moves ...

Thank you to **Luana Bossolo**, assistant producer, and to our stage managers, **Lynn Lacey** and **Melissa Dunlap**, for their talent and devotion, and to our wonderful ASMs, **Dennis Crosby**, **Eileen Doherty**, **Mary Ferrara**, **Sherry Singer**, and **Shannon Starcher**. Thanks also to **Jim Hutzler** and **Jeff Nesmeyer** for their amazing set

construction, **Matt Liptak** for an impressive set design, **Jocelyn Steiner** for set dressing, **Luana Bossolo** and **Mary Hutzler** for set painting, **Leslie Reed** for properties design, **Marzanne Claiborne** for lighting design, master electricians **Pam Leonowich** and **Micheal O’Conner**, **Janice Rivera** for sound design, **Jean Schlichting** and **Kit Sibley** for costume design, **Jamie Blake** for wardrobe, **Howard Soroos** for photography, **Elizabeth Blake** for the double tech dinner, **Eddie Page** and crew for the opening night party, **Russell Wyland** for rigging, **Grace Manly Machanic** for choreography, **Abbie Desrosiers** and **James Myers** for musical direction, and **Marje Palmieri** for vocal coaching at the auditions.

Go Team Fab!

**Jamie Blake** and **Rebecca Sheehy**, Co-Producers

## Annual Meeting Highlights

At LTA’s annual meeting on June 12th, the Board of Governors gave special recognition to **Virginia Lacey**, LTA’s recently retired Business Manager, for her many years of exemplary service and dedication to the theatre. Fittingly, her friends and colleagues who were in attendance afforded her not just one, but two well-deserved standing ovations. **Jim Howard**, Governor for Development, then presented two talented young ladies with the annual LTA Scholarships. **Rebecca Balough** (technical support) and **Clare Baker** (acting) each received an award of \$1,000. Six individuals were also elected to the Board of Governors, including **Russell Wyland**, President; **Rae Edmonson**, Box Office; **Michael Baker**, Education; **Maria Ciarocchi**, Membership; **Ashley Amidon**, Seasonal Planning; and **Robert Kraus**, Technical Support. There were no candidates for Governor for Front of House, so the position will be filled by the board at a later date.

**Virginia Lacey**, LTA’s Business Manager Emeritus, addresses the gathering at the annual meeting as LTA President **Lloyd Bittinger** looks on. Photo by Crissy Wilke.



## Planning Your Gift

Have you considered including The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) as a beneficiary of your estate? LTA can suggest tools that will assist you in making plans that will support the artistic and education programs of the theatre in the future, as well as provide your estate with tax benefits. Supporters of LTA who make planned gifts are invited to be members of *The LTA Legacy Society*. *The LTA Legacy Society* recognizes those who have demonstrated their concern for the long-term well-being of LTA by notifying us of their bequest or other planned gift. For additional information, please call Tina McCrea at 703-683-5778 ext. 2 or email [Tina@thelittletheatre.com](mailto:Tina@thelittletheatre.com).

Your Board of Governors continues to meet on the third Wednesday of each month. Here are many of the issues on the table that are being managed by your board.

- ◆ **Jean Coyle** and **Becky Patton** presented their producers' report to the board following LTA's production of *Key for Two*. The show was a big hit with audiences and received many positive reviews.
- ◆ The Buy a Brick campaign sponsored by the LTA Council continues on track. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Shakespeare Garden, in which the bricks will be featured, is scheduled on Wednesday, June 14th. As reported by **Tina Anderson**, representing the Council, the mayor of Alexandria, **Allison Silberberg**, will attend the ceremony.
- ◆ The Director Selection Committee, chaired by **Ken** and **Patti Crowley**, made a recommendation to the board for a director for the first show of the 2018 - 2019 season. The first show is always approved well in advance in order to kick off the following season. The board discussed the recommendation and will announce the director at a later date.
- ◆ LTA's Summer Camp Director, **Michael Page**, made a presentation to the board about the upcoming camp sessions. This program has proven to be highly successful and involves many people to plan and coordinate the camp. The board thanks Michael and all of his team for always doing an excellent job with the summer camp.
- ◆ Following several months of review and planning, Treasurer **David Hale** submitted his report from the Budget Committee proposing the new budget for 2017 - 2018. The board unanimously approved the new budget.
- ◆ **Maria Ciarrocchi**, Governor for Membership, reported that the Millennial Committee continues to work with another Alexandria group called Through the Fourth Wall in planning future theatrical productions in Alexandria. This is an exciting outreach endeavor that should ultimately promote LTA as a contributing partner in these productions.
- ◆ The Governor for Artistic Support, **Beverley Benda**, reported that she had been having problems maintaining the inventory of wigs used by the theatre as the storage cabinets seemed to have had faulty locks. The handyman that LTA employs has changed the locks, and the wig inventory seems to be much more secure now.
- ◆ **Brendan Quinn** was approved by the board as the new Inventory Control Chair under the Governor for Front of House, **Jean Coyle**. Brendan has been facilitating the inventory activities for the past several months.
- ◆ The Governor for Technical Support, **Robert Kraus**, is now working with the One-Act Play Reading Committee, chaired by **Bonnie Jourdan**, on plans to participate in the One-Act Competition presented by the Northern Virginia Theatre Alliance (NVTA).
- ◆ **Jean Coyle**, Governor for Front of House, has been working on development of an emergency action plan (EAP) and has submitted a proposal to the board for approval. The plan is currently under review and will be discussed at the next board meeting.
- ◆ A new schedule for play selection will be implemented soon to advance the decision-making process so that LTA can announce the next season sooner than usual in order to begin the process of appointing directors and producers. **Frank Shutts**, Governor for Seasonal Planning, and **Margaret Evans-Joyce**, Governor for Production, will develop the new schedule to be approved by the board.

There are many other projects and activities going on throughout the theatre. These are just a few that the board is currently working on. Please feel free to discuss any of these projects with or ask questions of any member of the board.

**Lloyd Bittinger**, President  
*All for Love of Theatre!*

## Your Board of Governors at Work

# Governor's Message

## Membership

I wanted to use my article this month to talk about the exciting work our Millennial Committee is doing.

What exactly is a Millennial Committee, you ask? I always say that we call it the Millennial Committee because we haven't yet come up with a better name for it. The LTA Millennial Committee aims to provide events and programs geared towards actors, techies, audience members, and lovers of theater aged 18 - 40.

Basically, we want to find ways to introduce our fantastic LTA community to the next generation of volunteers and subscribers.

How are we doing this?

- Last summer we held a cabaret on a Sunday afternoon that showcased millennial talent.
- This past spring we started our bi-annual New Voices series, which provides a platform for unknown playwrights and new directors by staging original plays directed by millennials. Following our wildly successful inaugural event (over 100 attendees in one evening!), we will be presenting a two-night Halloween-themed performance on October 27th and 28th. Stay tuned for more details.
- Recently we have partnered with Through the Fourth Wall (TT4W) on the upcoming workshop of the brand new immersive musical *19!* TT4W is the local immersive media company responsible for *A Dream Within A Dream: Madness (Poe)*, which was performed at the Torpedo Factory last fall.

The workshop of *19* will take place on November 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at The Lyceum in Old Town. Via TT4W, here's a sneak peek of what to expect:

*19* is yet another original TT4W stage production. It is our most ambitious project to date, and we are partnering with the historic Little Theatre of Alexandria to produce it. *19* is the story of the mostly forgotten saga behind the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This amendment gave women the right to vote. Our show blends an incredibly heroic lost history, modern music, moving images, and aspects of immersive and interactive theater.

More information coming soon!

Just to be clear, while some of these projects utilize millennial-age folks to create them, we welcome audience members of all ages to see them come to life.

This is just a little snapshot of what we've been working on. As always, we welcome any ideas and feedback. Please feel free to email me at [mariabelle22@gmail.com](mailto:mariabelle22@gmail.com) about anything related to LTA membership.

Thank you for your support!

**Maria Ciarrocchi**

Governor for Membership

## Broadway Beltresses

After a successful cabaret last summer, the Millennial Committee is making it an annual event! This year's cabaret, Broadway Beltresses, celebrates the fierceness of females. It will take place at LTA on Sunday, July 30th, at 6:30 p.m., following the matinee performance of *Legally Blonde*. Auditions for singers will be held on Saturday, July 8th, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please email [ltamillennial@gmail.com](mailto:ltamillennial@gmail.com) if you have any questions about this free event!



## Council Corner

At our meeting on June 11th, we will welcome new council members **Mary and Jim Hutzler, Ira Forstater, Sherry Singer, Kacie Greenwood, and Heather Sanderson**. These individuals were asked to be members because of their dedication and service to LTA. We welcome you!

The dedication of the Shakespeare Garden is scheduled for June 14th. Alexandria's Mayor **Allison Silberberg**, a supporter of the arts, will be there to cut the ribbon. Thank you to Governors **Maria Ciarrocchi, Jean Coyle, and Rachel Alberts** for planning this event, and to **Heather Sanderson** for directing her Shakespeare Tots in a performance to precede the mayor's arrival. Also, special thanks to **Tina Anderson** for her work coordinating events taking place in the garden and for being the Acting Secretary to the board while I was basking in the sun in Florida during the month of May.

This year's executive committee consists of **Tina Anderson**, Vice Director; **Sharon Field**, Financial Officer; and **Margaret Evans-Joyce**, Secretary. In July, the four of us will start taking a look at our Policies and Procedures manual, planning an event for council members in the Shakespeare Garden, and discussing projects for the forthcoming year. We ask council members to be thinking about what type of projects would serve LTA.

Each year, we decorate the theatre for the holidays. This year, you don't have to get up at the crack of dawn. We will be decorating from noon to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 18th. We will be taking down the decorations on Saturday, January 6th, between noon and 3:00 p.m. Our September meeting will be Sunday, September 17th. Mark these dates on your calendar!

### Carolyn Winters

LTA Council Director

*The Arts Build Communities*

## New Members

Jill Crispino

Virginia Lacey

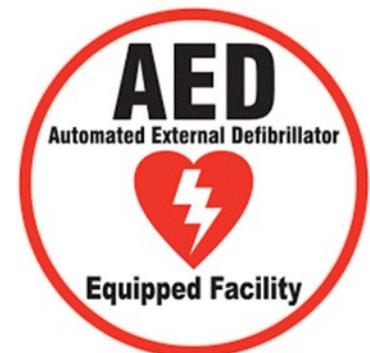
Stephen McDonnell

## In Case of Emergency

Did you know that in case of an emergency, LTA has three AEDs (automated external defibrillators)?

They are located as follows:

- 1) in the lobby, near the Council (Green) Room
- 2) in the cast entrance hallway, near the backstage door
- 3) in the Alexandria Academy, on the first floor



**The Little Theatre of Alexandria**  
**600 Wolfe Street**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314**

Box Office: 703-683-0496

Business Office: 703-683-5778 x2

Fax: 703-683-1378

[www.thelittletheatre.com](http://www.thelittletheatre.com)

## Mark Your Calendars

7/15 - 7/16 Auditions for *Driving Miss Daisy*  
7/22 *Legally Blonde* opens  
7/23 Celebration of Life  
7/30 Broadway Beltsesses cabaret

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors, under the direction of the President, is responsible for managing the affairs and operations of The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

The Governors for the 2016 – 2017 season are:

President.....Lloyd Bittinger  
Governor for Artistic Support.....Beverley Benda  
Governor for Box Office.....Rae Edmonson  
Governor for Building.....David Hale  
Governor for Development.....Jim Howard  
Governor for Education.....Michael J. Baker, Jr.  
Governor for Front of House.....Jean Coyle  
Governor for Membership.....Maria Ciarrocchi  
Governor for Production.....Margaret Evans-Joyce  
Governor for Public Relations.....Rachel Alberts  
Governor for Seasonal Planning.....Frank Shutts II  
Governor for Technical Support.....Robert Kraus

Additional officers are:

President Pro-Tem.....Rachel Alberts  
Treasurer.....David Hale  
Board Secretary.....Carolyn Winters  
Executive Secretary.....Ashley Amidon  
LTA Council Director.....Carolyn Winters

## Volunteer Info

**Did you know that it takes the time and talent of nearly 150 volunteers to stage each production?**

**For more information on volunteering at LTA, please contact:**

**Maria Ciarrocchi,  
Governor for Membership**  
[mariabelle22@gmail.com](mailto:mariabelle22@gmail.com)

**Thank you for your service!**