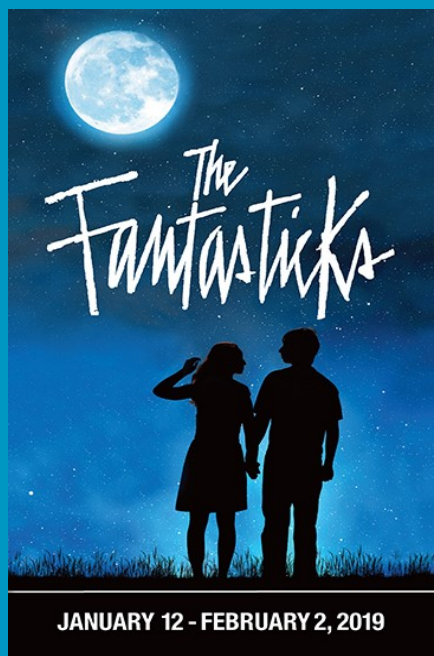




FLOODLIGHT

FEATURED PRODUCTION

December 2018



By Tom Jones
and Harvey Schmidt

Produced by
Sharon Field
and Rance Willis

Directed by
Eleanore Tapscott
Music Direction by
Paige Austin

Choreographed by
Jason Ellis

**Order Your
Tickets Now!**
Call the Box Office
703-683-0496

The Fantasticks invites you to try to remember a time when your greatest adventure was the first romance of your life. This funny and sentimental musical is the deceptively simple tale of a boy, a girl, and their meddling parents who nudge them toward marriage by pretending to keep them apart.

The production staff is already working hard in rehearsals. **Sharon Field** and **Rance Willis** are producing, with assistant producer **Tina Anderson**, and **Eleanore Tapscott** is directing. **Michael O'Connor** and **Sherry Clarke** are stage managing. **Paige Rammelkamp** is the musical director and **Jason Ellis** the choreographer. **Michael deBlois** is designing the set, with **Jim Hutzler** and **Jeff Nesmeyer** heading the set construction crew. **Luana Bossolo** will design and supervise the set painting. **Marzanne Claiborne** is designing the lights, with **Pam Leonowich** serving as the master electrician. **Alan Wray** will design the sound, and **Juliana Cofrancesco** is designing the costumes. **Robin Worthington** is designing the hair and makeup and handling the wardrobe. **Nick Friedlander** and **Charles Dragonette** are designing properties, and the latter will also decorate the set. **Michael deBlois** serves as photographer, and **Russell Wyland** will handle the rigging. The double tech dinner will be prepared and served by **Georges Jacques**, **Terri Hardt**, **Marsha Ward**, **Frank Winters**, and **Carolyn Winters**, and the opening night party will be catered by **Benny Robles** and **Ronnie Hardcastle**.

The cast includes **Christopher Overly** as El Gallo, **Matty Montes** as Matt, **Rachel Hogan** as Luisa, **Stephen Yednock** as Bellomy, **Janice Zucker** as Hucklebee, **Fred Lash** as Henry, **Matt Liptak** as Mortimer, and **Ilyana Rose** and **Lauren Sutton** as the Mutes.

Prepare to be enchanted by the universal themes and memorable songs of this long-running musical!

The Little Theatre of Alexandria

Russell Wyland, President

Maria Ciarrocchi, Governor for
Membership

Kirstin Apker, *Floodlight* Coordinator

Linda Wells, *Floodlight* Editor

Next Floodlight January 21st

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President's Column



Russell
Wyland

Time for New Year's Resolutions

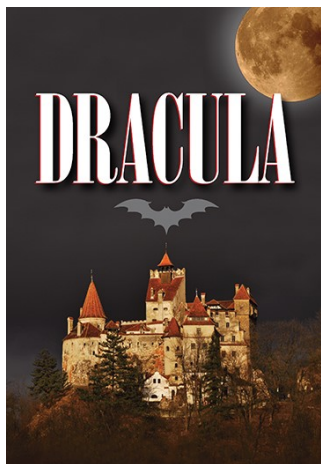
Regular readers of this column have already discovered that I am a fan of resolutions. I love the tradition of making resolutions on New Year's Day and at other important moments during the year. Here are my LTA-related resolutions for 2019:

- I resolve to **work as an usher or house manager** more often in 2019. It's where LTA greets the public, and I want to make sure LTA visitors know how much we appreciate them.
- I resolve to **smile and say thank-you more often** to our volunteers. Members give their valuable time and energy to LTA, and their "paychecks" are smiles and expressions of thanks.
- I resolve to **bring at least one non-LTA friend to see a show**. Most of our volunteers and audience members come to LTA for the first time because they know someone.
- I resolve to **be open to new talent and new thinking**. As someone who has been involved at LTA for almost 30 years, I am keenly aware that I can be stuck in traditional ways of doing things.
- I resolve to **sing the praises of Tina and Crissy**, our business office manager and box office manager respectively. I do this already, but they are our secret to success.
- I resolve to **attend and support LTA's other theatrical endeavors** – e.g., one acts, cabarets, improv shows, and showcases. LTA is so much more than great classes and professional-level mainstage productions.

These are all "doable," and I hope they inspire you to develop your own LTA-related resolutions.

See you in 2019!

Russell Wyland, President



Thank You from *Dracula*

Now that Dracula has retreated permanently to his coffin, we would like to thank everyone who lent their talents to this complex and compelling production and made Director **Jennifer Lyman**'s seductive and spooky vision come to life – and undeath. Thank you to our dedicated and talented designers and stage managers and their crews for their amazing hard work and creativity! We'd also like to thank our exceptional cast and their accent coach for delivering such wonderful performances in an assortment of English, Eastern European, and Dutch accents. Finally, thank you to everyone who came to see *Dracula* and to those who attended our Halloween party and participated in the costume contest. This show could not have been such a success without all of you, and we are truly grateful to have had your support.

Charlotte Corneliusen and Nick Friedlander, Co-Producers

New Members

Alex Eskew

Patrick Fritz

Rachel Hogan

Ilyana Rose-Davila

Lauren Sutton

Stephen Yednock

Scottish Christmas Walk 2018

On December 1st, members of **Heather Sanderson**'s youth theater classes and their parents, plus other generous volunteers, represented The Little Theatre of Alexandria in the annual Scottish Christmas Walk through Old Town. **Sarah Holt**, Governor for Development, coordinated their participation in the parade. Thanks to our marchers for braving the rain to represent LTA with enthusiasm!



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.

LTA Award Winners 2017 – 2018

Excellence in Sound Design

David Correia and David Hale for *The Nance*

Excellence in Props Design

Kirstin Apker for *The Nance*

Excellence in Costume Design

Jean Schlichting and Kit Sibley for *The Nance*

Excellence in Lighting Design

Ken and Patti Crowley for *The Nance*

Excellence in Set Design

Dan Remmers for *The Nance*

Excellence in Set Painting

Stacey Becker for *Anne of Green Gables*

Excellence in Set Construction

Jim Hutzler and Jeff Nesmeyer for *Harvey*

Excellence in Set Decoration

Jocelyn Steiner and Matt Liptak for *Harvey*

Excellence in Makeup Design

Larissa Norris for *Legally Blonde*

Excellence in Hair Design

Heather Hicks for *Legally Blonde*

Best Bit Role

David Featherston as E.J. Lofgren in *Harvey*

Best Performance in a Minor Role

Danielle Comer as Joan in *The Nance*

Best Junior Performance

Anna Maria Shockley as Diana Barry in *Anne of Green Gables*

Best Supporting Role in a Musical

Tony Gilbert as Matthew Cuthbert in *Anne of Green Gables*

Best Supporting Role in a Play

Jack B. Stein as Efram in *The Nance*

Best Lead Role in a Musical

Cassie Cope as Anne Shirley in *Anne of Green Gables*

Best Lead Role in a Play

Chuck Dluhy as Chauncey Miles in *The Nance*

Best Musical Director

Christopher A. Tomasino for *The Nance*

Best Choreography

Stefan Sittig for *Legally Blonde*

Best Director

Frank D. Shutts II for *The Nance*

Overall Production

The Nance

Mary Beth Smith-Toomey, Producer

Frank D. Shutts II, Director

Junior Technical Excellence

Maggie Landis

Outstanding New Member

Joel Durgavich

Long and Exceptional Service in a Single Department

Kira Hogan

Outstanding Service to LTA

Michael J. Baker, Jr.

LTA Community Partner Award

Gadsby's Tavern

MVP Awards

Legally Blonde - Sarah Gale and Maggie Landis

Driving Miss Daisy - Jennifer Crier Johnston

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike - Howard Vincent

Kurtz and Lynn Lacey

A Christmas Carol - Nick Friedlander and Eli Alexander

Anne of Green Gables - Jay Bartol and Charlotte

Corneliusen

The Audience - Eli Alexander and Meg Jewett

Harvey - Frank Pasqualino

The Nance - Sarah Gale and Matthew Popkin



The winners who were present to receive their awards gather onstage for a group shot after the show.

Photo by Keith Waters

Honoring a Community Partner

Those who attended LTA's annual Awards Night in early November or the sponsored performance of *A Christmas Carol* on December 4th will know that 2018 marks the first year that the Board of Governors honored an Alexandria organization for being an outstanding community partner. With the creation of this new award category, the Board acknowledges two important truths: 1) LTA doesn't do what it does without the support of other organizations in the community, and 2) LTA is a better and stronger place when it is connected to other community institutions.

The winner of the 2018 Community Partnership Award was Gadsby's Tavern. Governor for Development **Sarah Holt** and President **Russell Wyland** presented the award to **Gretchen Bulova**, Acting Director of the Office of Historic Alexandria, and **Kay Zerwick**, President of the Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society.

Longtime members and students of LTA history will know that Gadsby's nurtured LTA in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. LTA's Colonial Revivals at Gadsby's were city-wide events, opportunities to see and be seen. They also helped our troupe put aside money to purchase our current building. Since that time, the two organizations have continued to support each other. Gadsby's is a great first recipient of this honor.

In other business, the Board continues to plan. President Wyland announced that LTA would again seek donations to support the cost of its ongoing capital improvements. Governor Holt arranged for LTA to again be a part of the George Washington Birthday Celebration and parade on February 18th. Governor for Building **Frank Shutts** announced that the floor of the Green Room has been repaired and the public areas would be undergoing routine maintenance during the spring. Governor for Education **Mike Baker** presented the slate of spring classes and reported that enrollment has been brisk. Prompted by Governor for Front of House **De Nicholson-Lamb**, the Board passed a policy of limiting animals in LTA's facilities to trained service dogs as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Russell Wyland, President

Your Board of Governors at Work



You Can't Take It With You Auditions

Off-beat, quirky, and downright hilarious, this Pulitzer Prize-winner has stood the test of time. It follows two families whose lives are thrown together when their children become engaged. This idealistic take on life, family, and love reinforces the idea that you can only live life to the fullest by doing whatever makes you happy.

Auditions for this production were held before this issue of the *Floodlight* went to press. The *Floodlight* Coordinator regrets any inconvenience to our readers.

Written by
Moss Hart
and George S. Kaufman

Produced by
Jamie Blake
and Eileen Doherty

Directed by
Stephen Jarrett

Audition Dates

December 8 and 9, 2018



Governor's Message Membership

WE NEED YOU!

Our members and volunteers are the lifeblood of our theatre! No other community theater in the region produces as many shows as LTA, which means that we need a small army of volunteers for each show to make the magic happen. As you can imagine, it's not always easy to find all the volunteers we need for each show, so that's why I am using my article this month to highlight ways to volunteer at LTA.

If you're reading this and have always wanted to get more involved with LTA, then look no further! We've got volunteer opportunities for every skill set and time commitment. Also, please feel free to share this with any of your friends and/or family who would be interested.

The easiest way to jump right in is to serve as an usher. It's easy and fun and only involves a two-hour commitment. Plus, as long as the show isn't sold out, you get to see it for free! As LTA performs Tuesdays through Sundays, that's a lot of shows that need ushers, and there's almost always a spot open. You can even sign up online here:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/2385096/false#/invitation>.

If your preference is to be backstage rather than in the front of the house, then we've got opportunities for that, too. Each show needs props, wardrobe, and lighting and sound crews. This typically involves coming to training during tech week, then you can sign up for as many or as few performances as fit into your schedule.

The secret to getting involved here at LTA is that you just need to email the show producers, and they will put you in contact with the correct person. Here's a list of the current season's producers:

http://thelittletheatre.com/2018_19-season/.

Thanks for your support of LTA! Please feel free to email me at mariabelle22@gmail.com about anything related to LTA membership.

Maria Ciarrocchi
Governor for Membership

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Council Corner

The holiday festivities will soon be over, and come Saturday, January 5th, we will be removing all the holiday decorations. So put that date on your calendar to come and help our merry band of Council members from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Can we lure you in with a light lunch?

That's a busy weekend for me as Frank and I are helping with the double tech dinner on January 6th. Council members **Rance Willis** and **Sharon Field** are producing *The Fantasticks*. And guess who is assistant producer? Why, it is Vice Director **Tina Anderson**. Also, Council members **Ronnie Hardcastle** and **Benny Robles** are doing the opening night party. Kudos to the rest of our Council members who are working on the show! We are an active group.

Our next meeting isn't until March 31st. Details will be available around the first of March.

Our fiscal year begins June 1st. What does that mean to you?

- The last show your Council tickets are good for is *The Savannah Disputation*.
- Membership renewals will be sent out at the beginning of April and are due May 15th.

- If you have tickets to *A Fox on the Fairway* and you have not paid your Council dues, you will be asked to pay for your tickets.

Our Vice Director and Recording Secretary positions are up for re-election. We will be voting at the March 31st meeting. If you are interested in running, contact **Rance Willis**.

Council members are invited to submit the names of individuals whom you feel would be good Council members. It is important that they are active members of LTA. Council members currently receive complimentary tickets to each show at LTA. This is a valuable benefit given to those of us involved in working at LTA in all capacities!

Carolyn Winters

LTA Council Director

The Arts Build Communities

P.S. Thanks to the Council elves who decorated LTA for the holidays: **Tina Anderson, Rance Willis, Lloyd Bittinger, Heather Sanderson, Eileen Doherty, Kimberly Crago, Kacie Greenwood, Margaret Evans-Joyce, Frank and Carolyn Winters, Art and Margaret Snow, Joel Durgavich, and Donna Hauprich.**

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

Mark Your Calendars

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 1/5 | LTA Council takes down holiday decor |
| 1/12 | <i>The Fantasticks</i> opens |
| 2/23 | <i>You Can't Take It With You</i> opens |
| 3/2 - 3/3 | <i>The Savannah Disputation</i> auditions |
| 3/31 | LTA Council meeting |

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 2018 – 2019 season are:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| President..... | Russell Wyland |
| Governor for Artistic Support..... | Susan Boyd |
| Governor for Box Office..... | David Hale |
| Governor for Building..... | Frank D. Shutts II |
| Governor for Development..... | Sarah Holt |
| Governor for Education..... | Michael J. Baker, Jr. |
| Governor for Front of House..... | Diedre Nicholson-Lamb |
| Governor for Membership..... | Maria Ciarrocchi |
| Governor for Production..... | Alan Wray |
| Governor for Public Relations..... | Rachel Alberts |
| Governor for Seasonal Planning..... | Ashley Amidon |
| Governor for Technical Support..... | Robert Kraus |

Additional officers are:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| President Pro-Tem..... | Rachel Alberts |
| Treasurer..... | David Hale |
| Board Secretary..... | Carolyn Winters |
| Executive Secretary..... | Jamie Blake |
| 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

Thank you for your service!