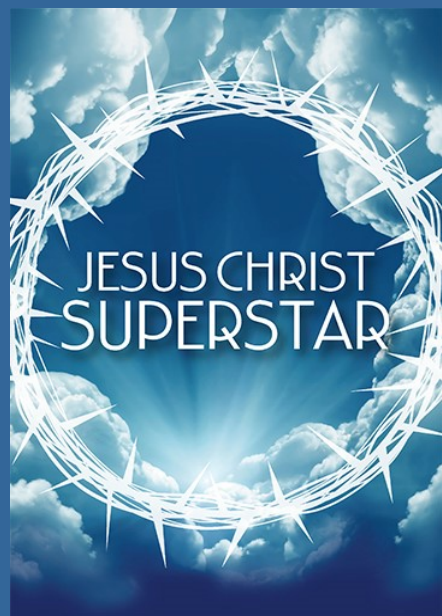




FLOODLIGHT

FEATURED PRODUCTION

June 2018



JULY 21 - AUGUST 11, 2018

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Lyrics by Tim Rice

Produced by
Margaret Evans-Joyce
and Robert Kraus

Directed by Jim Howard

Musical Direction by
Christopher A. Tomasino

Choreographed by Michael Page

LTA starts the 2018 - 2019 season with the global phenomenon that has been wowing audiences for over 40 years – the rock opera *Jesus Christ Superstar*! With music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice, this musical is a timeless work set against the backdrop of an extraordinary and universally-known series of events. Don't miss the chance to experience this dramatic and inspirational musical!

Co-Producers **Margaret Evans-Joyce** and **Robert Kraus** and Assistant Producer **Kelsey Yudice**, along with Director **Jim Howard**, Music Director **Christopher A. Tomasino**, Choreographer **Michael Page**, and Assistant Choreographer **Elizabeth Colandene** are proud to announce their cast: **Rishabh Bajekal** (Jesus Christ), **Carlos Ramirez** (Judas Iscariot), **Thea Simpson** (Mary Magdalene), **Michael Gale** (Peter), **Cody Boehm** (Simon Zealotes), **Ryaan Farhadl** (Caiaphas), **Hans Dettmar** (Pontius Pilate), **Andy Izquierdo** (King Herod), **Amy Laphorne** (Annas), **Rene Keith Flores** (Priest #1), **Emmy Kampe** (Priest #2), **Janae Witcher** (Dance Captain), **Rosemarie O'Connor**, **Katie Kellenberger**, **Alexandra Whittington**, **Tracey Lucas**, **Alyssa DeGrace**, **Cassie Truchsess**, and **Hilary Adams** (Female Ensemble), and **Michael Sarisky**, **Alex Lopez**, **Alex Savage**, **Mytheos Holt**, and **Tyrone Brown Sr.** (Male Ensemble).

The production staff includes Stage Managers **Joan Lada** and **Austin Fodrie**, assisted by **Steve Lada**, **Mary Ferrara**, **Helen Moreau**, and **Rob Cork**, Lighting Designers **Ken** and **Patti Crowley**, Master Electrician **Eileen Doherty**, Sound Designers **Alan Wray** and **Ruben Vellekoop**, Costume Designers **Kit Sibley** and **Jean Schlichting**, Wardrobe Chief **Robin Worthington**, Set Designer **Matt Liptak**, Set Builder **Tom O'Reilly**, Set Dresser **Carol Strachan**, Props Designer **Michelle Hall**, Hair and Makeup Designer **Cody Boehm**, Set Painter **Mona Wargo**, Double Tech Dinner Hosts **Carolyn** and **Frank Winters**, and Opening Night Party Caterers **Benny Robles** and **Ronnie Hardcastle**.

The Little Theatre of Alexandria

Russell Wyland, President

Maria Ciarrocchi, Governor for
Membership

Kirstin Apker, *Floodlight* Coordinator

Linda Wells, *Floodlight* Editor

Next Floodlight August 6th

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703-683-0496**

President's Column



Russell
Wyland

History on Their Minds

Jesus Christ Superstar was the first musical I ever saw. In the small town in northern Wisconsin where I grew up, there wasn't much theater. The local high school performed two shows per year (one musical, one straight show), and the NEA-supported "Community Concert" series occasionally brought a musical revue or light opera to us rural folks who didn't have many theatrical opportunities.

So when the movie version of *Superstar* was released, my mother announced that we would all go. I was about seven years old and, I suspect, it was the first PG-rated movie my mother allowed me to see. For Christmas that year, Santa brought the family the soundtrack of the movie: a two-album set that included vivid full-color pictures from the movie. I probably listened to that album 1,000 times and, in the process, learned every role. When I dabbled in acting in high school, I desperately wanted to perform as Judas, who (much to my mother's chagrin, I suppose) was my favorite character.

Fast forward 45 years, and I still remember all the parts. Am I excited for LTA's production? You bet. I must apologize, however, to the audience members who sit near me. I might sing along.

Theater is all about making memories, and theater folks love to talk about their "first time": their first musical, their first role, their first visit to Broadway, their first design, et cetera. In the same way that individuals have personal theater histories that make their lives meaningful and rich, so too do troupes. The Little Theatre of Alexandria, perhaps more than most other troupes in the area, has an important history. Alas, many of LTA's memories have been lost. Many of us know parts of our story, but so much has been forgotten or lost or needs to be reassembled.

One of the initiatives that I foresee happening in the coming year is the LTA History Initiative – an effort to research, plan, and write the first substantial history of LTA. I am not talking about a helpful pamphlet or a few more paragraphs for our website, but a proper book that goes back into the LTA archives, draws on Alexandria's city archives and newspapers, and tracks down earlier members in an effort to really tell LTA's story. No other community theater troupe is in the position to do this, and no other troupe in our area has the longtime story to tell. Stay tuned.

And, while you're waiting, don't forget to see *Jesus Christ Superstar*. It's going to be a great show.

Russell Wyland, President

New Members

Rishabh Bajekal

Alex Lopez

Michael Sarisky

Cody Boehm

Tracey Lucas

Alex Savage

Alyssa DeGrace

Rosemarie O'Connor

Thea Simpson

Upcoming Auditions

August: Osage County is a Pulitzer- and Tony-winning play about the Weston family. Told almost in reversal, the history of the family is revealed when the three Weston daughters return home after their father, Beverly, goes missing. As they await the outcome, the past is revealed through the stories they tell, the accusations they make, and the futures they choose. Exploring how our past is our prologue, the play shows how difficult it is to escape our families of origin. Performed in three acts, it is dense and intense. Although tragic, it includes comedic relief.

For the Audition

Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Sides for callbacks will be provided on Monday, July 9th.

Pictures will be taken at auditions. See the LTA website to download the audition form. Bring your conflicts!

Rehearsal and Show Schedules

Rehearsals will begin immediately after casting. The rehearsal schedule is Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

All actors are required from Saturday, September 1st, through Friday, September 7th, for tech week. Times for Labor Day weekend are TBD.

Actor conflicts disclosed at auditions will be honored. All actors will not be called to all rehearsals. Unscheduled conflicts must be due to an emergency and approved by the producer.

Note special schedule: The show does not follow LTA's usual performance schedule and closes after the third weekend with strike on Sunday evening. Strike will be supported by LTA to ensure everyone can leave at a reasonable hour. All actors are required to participate in the strike.

Character Descriptions

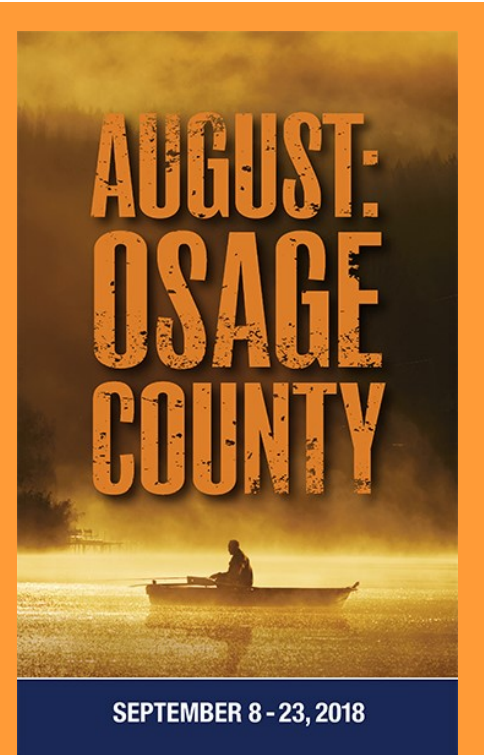
Beverly Weston: (Late 60s -70s) Intellectual, elegant, alcoholic. Once-successful poet. Has complex, unhealthy relationship with wife Violet. Appears in initial scene only, but hangs ghostlike over most of the play until it's discovered that he killed himself.

Violet Weston: (Late 60s -70s) Beverly's wife, an empty, broken person. Suffering from a violent childhood, addiction, and underlying mental illnesses, and also undergoing treatment for cancer.

Barbara: (40 - 55) Oldest daughter. Seeks truth and control while her husband and teen daughter are neglected and out of control. Able to see other people's problems, but not her own.

Bill: (40 - 55) Barbara's husband. University professor, separated from Barbara, having an affair with a student. Tired of dealing with his wife's family's problems and insensitive to them.

(continued on page 4)



Written by

Tracy Letts

Produced by

Lloyd Bittinger

Directed by

Susan Devine

Audition Dates

Saturday, July 7, 2018

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 8, 2018

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Callbacks

Tuesday, July 10, 2018

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

If you have any questions about this production, please contact our director, Susan Devine, at susandevine@cox.net.

(continued from page 3)

Jean: (Teens) Barbara's daughter who adopts inappropriate adult behaviors and acts out. Not intimidated or uncomfortable when Steve comes on to her. When Johnna rescues her from Steve, she becomes enraged at her parents.

Ivy: (35 - 45) Middle daughter. Overtly asexual. Covertly romantically involved with Little Charlie, her first cousin, who it is revealed is actually her half-brother. Desperate to escape her parents, she plans to move to New York with Little Charlie.

Karen: (30 - 45) Youngest daughter. Forces herself to believe she is happy now that she is engaged to Steve. Refuses to accept the reality and remains in her made-up world of happiness.

Mattie Fae: (55 - 70) Violet's sister. Married to Charlie. High-strung and busybody exterior that hides deep anxiety and fear. Protective of Violet. Uncaring and cruel towards her son, Little Charlie, who was conceived when she had an affair with Beverly.

Charlie Aiken: (55 - 70) Mattie Fae's husband. Kind, easy going, gentle. Constantly defends Little Charlie and shows frustration with Mattie Fae over her treatment of Little Charlie.

Little Charlie: (25 - 40) Mattie Fae's son who believes Charlie is his father. Dulled, numbed, and dimmed spirit. Lacking motivation, connection, and purpose, he becomes romantically involved with Ivy.

Johnna: (Late teens - early 20s) Cheyenne woman whom Beverly hires to take care of Violet. Impervious to the disrespect and prejudice displayed. Shows empathy for the family, especially Jean.

Steve: (30 - 45) Karen's fiancé. Snarky, shady, self-serving, lying business man. He smokes pot with Jean, who is 14 years old, in order to molest her.

Sheriff: (40s - 50s) Former high school friend of Barbara's. Warm, open, friendly.

Annual Meeting Highlights

At LTA's annual meeting on June 11th, outgoing Governor for Development **Jim Howard** presented this year's sole LTA Scholarship to **Cassie Cope** (acting). In accepting the award, Cassie thanked her mother for always supporting her and **Linda Wells**, her first musical theater teacher, for helping her get her start.

With regard to new business on the agenda, President **Russell Wyland** explained to those members in attendance the concerns pertaining to the parking restrictions recently imposed by the city on the single block opposite the theatre's main entrance on Wolfe Street. (See his column on page 5 for more details.) He then outlined the Board's plan of action moving forward and took questions and suggestions from the floor, emphasizing throughout the discussion that our goal should be to "make allies, not enemies."

Nine individuals were also elected to the Board of Governors, including **Russell Wyland**, President; **Susan Boyd**, Artistic Support; **David Hale**, Box Office; **Frank Shutts**, Building; **Sarah Holt**, Development; **Michael Baker**, Education; **Diedre Nicholson-Lamb**, Front of House; **Alan Wray**, Production; and **Rachel Alberts**, Public Relations.

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.

While the Board of Governors has several projects in front of it, the most pressing seem to be two aspects of the theatre's relationship with the City of Alexandria. First, and more immediately, Alexandria has recently imposed parking restrictions on the single block immediately across the street from the theatre on Wolfe Street. This particular block had a two-hour restriction already imposed, but the new restriction includes a requirement to pay for parking. To add insult to injury, Alexandria decided both to put the pay station on Union Street – almost six blocks away – and to require payment until 2:00 a.m. Choosing to require payment until 2:00 a.m. in front of a theatre that does most of its business in the evening (when the rest of Old Town has pay parking until 9:00 p.m.) is, the Board thinks, downright hostile to the arts in Alexandria.

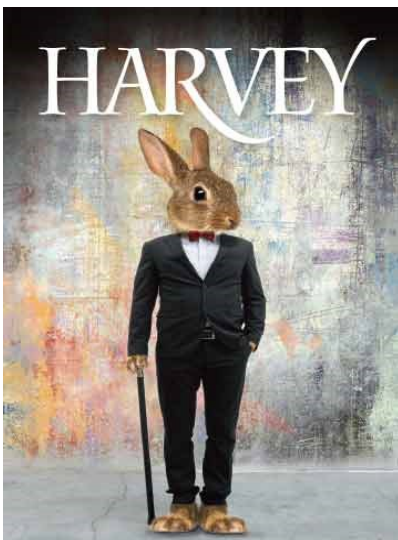
After much discussion, the Board decided that it will express this anti-arts interpretation to the city council, the mayor, and the parking enforcement office. Moreover, the President will be asking Alexandria newspapers to print letters to the editor from the Board. Finally, there was an effort at the annual meeting in June to encourage members to exercise their civic rights, and LTA helped members who attended the meeting to reach out to city officials. The Board realizes, however, that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Thus, the Board is investigating new ways to reach out to our neighbors and, perhaps, find other possible parking options in the neighborhood for patrons and volunteers.

The second concern is somewhat less urgent but, nevertheless, needs watching. LTA owns three storage garages in a seven-garage block between Wythe Street and Pendleton Street near Route 1 North. Alexandria plans to redevelop part of the block and, in the process, permanently limit access to the alley that runs in front of the garages. It will certainly be an inconvenience for LTA, but some of the garage owners will be seriously impacted. We are fortunate, therefore, that the other garage owners and nearby residents are eager to lead this fight, with some having already procured counsel for advice. As LTA's President, I have agreed to monitor the situation by attending meetings of the garage owners. At this point, moral support is all that is required.

LTA has enjoyed a long and productive relationship with the City of Alexandria, and the Board wants to make sure that this continues. Board members are very aware that we have both a responsibility to stick up for the theatre's best interests and to be a good partner to our community. It is a delicate balance, and the Board is eager to get it right.

Russell Wyland, President

Your Board of Governors at Work



Thank You from *Harvey*

Thank you to the wonderful hardworking cast and crew of LTA's *Harvey*. We couldn't have made our six-and-a-half-foot rabbit come alive without ALL of you!

Rachel Alberts and Bobbie Herbst, Co-Producers

Governor's Message Building

For the last six years, it has been my pleasure to serve as the Governor for Building. I am confident that whoever takes my place will find our aging building in good shape. During my tenure as governor, I have had the good fortune to work with an excellent building committee, including **Myke Taister, Carolyn Winters, Marian Holmes, Leslie Reed, and Mary Hutzler**. Also, a big thanks goes to our cleaning crew from **A & D Cleaning** and to our handyman **Gary Shifflet**.

Much is happening with the building right now.

- 1) The fire safety project grinds on slowly. Before work could begin, a small amount of asbestos used in the 1960s-era glue had to be abated and paint had to be tested for lead. However, water pipes have been run above the stage and, in the not-too-distant future, LTA will be a significantly safer place. The greater challenge has been scheduling work at a time when classes, rehearsals, and performances are happening. I want to thank the summer camp programs and the casts and crews of *The Nance* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* for being so accommodating.
- 2) The recent deluge of rain has exposed a few places where the roof needs repair. The roof is an ongoing challenge, and I would encourage anyone considering adding a flat roof to reconsider that idea.
- 3) Each year, there is a long list of areas that need to be painted, and that work will likely begin this fall, along with sanding and refinishing the stage.

Despite the work, LTA remains very lucky to have such an asset!

Please enjoy our building. Thank you for your kind words over the years, and please give your support to the new governor.

David Hale

Governor for Building

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Council Corner

We kicked off the 2018 - 2019 LTA season on June 3rd at Tempo. Vice Director **Tina Anderson** welcomed the following individuals as new members of the Council: **Kimberly Crago, Joel Durgavich, David Hale, Mark and Rachael Hubbard, Orrin Kee, Zell Murphy, Jeff Nesmeyer, and Micheal O'Connor.** These new members were recommended to join the Council because of the outstanding contributions they have made to LTA over many years.

The Shakespeare Garden looks terrific, and it is very gratifying to see patrons visiting the courtyard before shows, during intermissions, and after shows. **Lloyd Bittinger, Heather Sanderson, Tina Anderson, David McCullum, and Myke Taister** continue to work hard to make the garden a special place.

Our second "Buy a Brick" campaign is finished, and the new memorial bricks will be laid this month. Last year, we had five individuals who paid for a brick after our initial set of bricks was installed. However, the Council has no plans to continue this campaign in the future and will close the program so that bricks can no longer be purchased. Thanks to **Tina Anderson** and **Lloyd Bittinger** for their efforts on this project.

I want to thank **Sharon Field** for her service to the Council as our financial officer. She will be busy producing *The Fantasticks* with **Rance Willis**. This year our executive committee is **Tina Anderson**, Vice Director; **Lloyd Bittinger**, Financial Officer; **Margaret Evans-Joyce**, Secretary; and myself as Director.

Orson the Magnificent – The Magic of Orson Welles was a fun show. **Lars Klores** wrote and performed the piece, and our talented technical team was led by Producer **Mary Beth Smith-Toomey**, Stage Managers **Becca Heisner** and **Becky Patton**, Sound Designer **David Correia**, Projectionist **Marg Soroos**, and Lighting Designers **Ken** and **Patti Crowley**.

Carolyn Winters
LTA Council Director
The Arts Build Communities

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

6/29 – 7/1	DC Connection
7/7 – 7/8	<i>August: Osage</i> County auditions
7/13 – 7/22	NVTA One-Act Play Festival
7/21	<i>Jesus Christ</i> Superstar opens

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.....	Maria Ciarrocchi
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!