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presents



written by **Todd Kreidler**
produced by **Jacquel Tomlin** and **Alan Wray**
directed by **Adam Konowe**

MAR. 28 – APR. 18, 2026

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presents

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER

written by **Todd Kreidler**

produced by **Jacqueline Tomlin** and **Alan Wray**

directed by **Adam Konowe**

Guess Who's Coming To Dinner is produced by special arrangement with Playscripts Inc,
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The Little Theatre of Alexandria, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Public Performances: Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm

Sunday matinees at 2:00 pm

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Director's Notes

"Oh, that was a lifetime ago." Casual and figurative language becomes literal and temporal here. *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* debuted as a movie on December 11, 1967, nine months to the day before I was born.

As has been well documented, the movie was the last to feature Spencer Tracy, gravely ill, who died 17 days after his last scene was shot. The film's positive depiction of interracial love flew in the face of prevailing opinion and even the law. That number 17 nearly aligns with how many states had anti-miscegenation laws in 1967 until they were struck down by the Supreme Court in *Loving v. Virginia*. The theatrical version of this work did not debut until 2012 at True Colors Theatre in Atlanta, followed by D.C.'s own Arena Stage in 2013-2014, the latter another nice tie-in for us here at LTA, just across the Potomac River.

So far, so neatly convenient. Still, why revisit this work now when its central theme was settled nearly six decades ago by our nation's highest court? Consider the Shakespearean phrase "What's past is prologue," spoken by Antonio to Sebastian in Act 2, Scene 1 of *The Tempest* and later inscribed underneath the statue titled *Present* at the National Archives. What the former uses as justification for murder, the latter displays as allegory. History is the context for our present, and its path is seldom as linear as time itself.

Interracial marriage is settled law only to the extent that reproductive choice was seemingly deemed so more than half a century ago. As we know, the latter's status changed less than five years ago. Now spare a thought for the inherently perilous position of LGBTQ couples whose legal relationships, enabled by the Supreme Court in 2015, still face opposition analogous to what's debated in our play. Period piece or also prophecy?

For me, the lessons of this play mirror those above. Shakespeare teaches us that even the most immoral deeds can be justified through perceived grievance, personal or historical. Thus, reactionary prejudice and other forms of unchecked bias can malevolently deny basic freedoms, including those to live, love and marry. Best to heed Shakespeare while embracing the spirit of the National Archives. Learn from the past and acknowledge that progress sometimes requires wisdom, courage and even a leap of faith.

Adam Konowe
Director



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The Cast (in order of appearance)

Matilda “Tillie” Binks	Eleanore Tapscott
Hilary St. George	Gayle Nichols-Grimes
Christina Drayton	Rachael Hubbard
Matt Drayton	Bruce Alan Rauscher
Joanna Drayton	Megan Mohon
Dr. John Prentice	Justin Oratokhai
Monsignor Ryan	Marc Derks
John Prentice Sr.	Kevin Sockwell
Mary Prentice	Gayle Carney

TIME & SETTING

Set in the spring of 1967 in the home of the Draytons, a house on a hill in San Francisco. The action takes place over the course of a day.

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner is a play performed in two acts with one 15-minute intermission.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to Julie Fischer for being instrumental in helping prep all the carpentry work for the show.

PERFORMANCE PARTNERS IN ARTS

March 27, 2026 • Manumission/Councilman Chapman
April 1, 2026 • Northern VA Alumnae Panhellenic Association

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The Crew

Producers	Jacqueline Tomlin, Alan Wray
Assistant Producer	Sean McCoy
Director	Adam Konowe
Assistant Director	Amanda Hobbs
Stage Managers	Jenny Libster, Michelle Rizzo
Intimacy Choreography	Ian Claar
Set Design	Tom O'Reilly
Master Carpenters	Shah Choudhury, Matthew Trowbridge Assisted by Jim Beals, Adam Beres, Sarah Epstein, Steve Hayes, Kayla Hinrichs, Ben Hsu, Paige Lambright, Steven Malone, Greg Matthes, Jeff Nesmeyer, Nick Sorenson, Ari Sambile, Caroline Sandiford, Victoria Schuermann, Karen Tucker, Pamela Rawe, Julius Rosenwald Ware II
Set Painting	Joyce McCue, Kathy Murphy Assisted by Zoe Arkude, Heidi Bowers, Sandra Carson, Leah Choudhury, Shannon Doyle, Lindsay Feinstein, John Fielding, Rebecca Harrison, Janet Kennelly, Patti Lee, Marissa Lustan, Steven Malone, Diane Nesmeyer, Ariane Sambile, Caroline Sandiford, Victoria Schuermann
Set Dressing	Brooke Angel Markley, Elliot Merker
Properties Design	Phyllis L. Johnson Assisted by Helen Bard-Sobola, Lynda Laha, James Lee, Karen Maline, Brooke Angel Markley, Valerie Mathews, Monique Morman, Emilie Pade, Carole Starke, Christine Tankersley
Lighting Design	Andrew Harasty
Master Electrician	Audrey Crowell Assisted by Silas Andrews, Lloyd Bittinger, Mike Jeansonne, Pam Leonowich, Micheal J. O'Connor, Donna Reynolds, Sherry Singer, Marg Soroos, Sydney Spradlin, John Van Voorhis, Julius Rosenwald Ware II
Sound Design	William Chrapcynski Assisted by Aram Cruise, Jean Morrow, Candace Mosely, Victoria Schuermann
Costume Design	Michelle Harris

For your own safety, look for your nearest EXIT. In case of emergency, WALK, DO NOT run, to the exit.

Wardrobe Coordination.....Maria Ciarrocchi
 Assisted by Beth Adler, Shelby Baker, Alisa Beyninson,
 Myra Francisco, Margaret Snow, Casey Wright

Hair/Makeup Design Kadira Coley

Rigging.....Paige Lambright

Double Tech DinnerFrank D. Shutts II
 Assisted by The Council of The Little Theatre of Alexandria

Audition Coordinators..... Anne Shively, Janice Zucker
 Assisted by Rita Costello, Robyn Gold, Zell Murphy, Jennifer Rohrer

Our special thanks to all those people whose names were not available when this program went to press. Look for additional volunteers on the video screen in the lobby.

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Meet the Cast (in alphabetical order)



Gayle Carney (Mary Prentice) is delighted to be making her LTA debut in *Guess Who's Coming To Dinner*. She has appeared in numerous shows spanning the DMV to New York City. Favorite shows include: Off-Broadway production *The Promised Land* (Dunvegan Productions); *Having Our Say*, *The Delany Sisters*, *Flyin' West* (Tapestry Theatre); *Ties That Bind* (Hartke Theatre); *The Old Settler* (Serenity Players). Thanks to all for your support.



Marc Derks (Monsignor Ryan) Once an active member of the Richmond theater community, Marc is excited to make his LTA debut. A freshly retired Foreign Service Officer, he has recently made mystery dinner appearances with Ovation West Theater Company. While overseas, Marc kept up his chops with improv in London and Frankfurt, staged readings, and the occasional 24-hour play festival.



Gayle Nichols-Grimes (Hilary St. George) is pleased to be back at LTA! Past productions include Carolyn Mallonee *City of Conversation* (DS); (VTC) - *Moon Over Buffalo* (as Ethel), *Death of a Salesman* (as Linda) and as Sister Aloysius Beauvier in *Doubt-A Parable* (PP); Juror Nine in *Twelve Angry Jurors*; Mrs. Boyle in *The Mousetrap*. She has received eight WATCH acting nominations, winning for *'night*, *Mother* (DS), *Dixie Swim Club* (PCP) and *Jeffrey* (DS).



Rachael Hubbard (Christina Drayton) is thrilled to be back at LTA, where she last played Phyllida Spotte-Hume in *The Explorers Club*. Past roles include Lotte Schoen (*Lettice and Lovage*), Veta Louise Simmons (*Harvey*), Amanda (*Private Lives*, RCP), Belinda Blair (*Noises Off*), Meg (*Leading Ladies*), Rosemary Mortimore (*It Runs in the Family*). Endless love to her husband, Mark; daughter, Georgianna, and Cavalier King Charles duo, London and Mr. Darcy.



Meghan Mohon (Joanna Drayton) is thrilled to be returning to LTA. A dedicated volunteer at the theater, she also performed in *The Explorers Club* in 2024. Outside of LTA, she works for the Virginia CIT Coalition and is a university professor and occasional D&D podcaster with COR Actual Play. In her free time, she enjoys fun and games with friends and family, her excitable dog, and various creative and nerdy hobbies!



Justin Oratokhai (Dr. John Prentice) holds a B.F.A. in acting from Towson University, where he honed his skills. He continues his training under his present coach Vera Katz. Justin continues to pursue his passion for acting, seeking out challenging and diverse roles that allow him to showcase his talent and versatility. <https://justinoratokhai.com/>. IG: justinohiozoje



Bruce Alan Rauscher (Matt Drayton) began performing during high school doing magic shows and producing short films. Favorite roles include Joseph Merrick in *The Elephant Man*, Alan Strang in *Equus*, The Bastard in *King John*, Alan Turing in *Breaking the Code*, Edgar in *King Lear*, Gary/Roger in *Noises Off*, Rev. Hal in *The Crucible*, Edward III in *Edward III* and Col. Chipman in *The Andersonville Trial* (Helen Hayes nomination for Best Actor).



Kevin Sockwell (John Prentice Sr.) returns to the LTA stage having last performed as Hoke in *Driving Miss Daisy*. He was also the director of last summer's *Kinky Boots* at LTA. Kevin is a four-time WATCH Award nominee, having won two such awards. He hopes you enjoy the show!



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Meet the Cast (continued)



Eleanore Tapscott (Matilda “Tillie” Binks) is a NOVA-based actor and director and current LTA board member. Recent acting credits include Sue Bayliss in *All My Sons* (Arts Theatre Factory) and Margaret (u/s) in *POTUS* (NST). Recent directing credits include the RGA Outstanding Production Award for *Alabama Story* (CP) and the WATCH-nominated *The Mousetrap* (PPF). “We are more alike, my friends, than we are unlike.”

Theater Abbreviations Used in LTA Playbills

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| ACCT – Aldersgate Church Community Theater | GMU – George Mason University | RLT – Rockville Little Theatre |
| ACHS Theater – Alexandria City High School Theater | GSP – Good Shepherd Players | RMT – Rockville Musical Theatre |
| ACT – Alexandria Children’s Theatre | GWU – George Washington University | RTP – Rooftop Productions |
| AMDA – The American Music and Dance Academy | HBP – Hard Bargain Players | SAG-AFTRA – Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists |
| AP – Anacostia Playhouse | IATSE – International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees | SBCT – South Bend Civic Theatre |
| APAC – Atlas Performing Arts Center | KAT – Kensington Arts Theatre | SCT – Springfield Community Theater |
| AS – Arena Stage | KCP – Kentland Community Players | SDC – Stage Directors and Choreographers Society |
| ASGT – Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre | KT – Keegan Theatre Company | SMP – St Mark’s Players |
| ATA – Actor’s Theater at the ArtFactory | LCPS – Loudoun County Public Schools | SP – Sterling Playmakers |
| ATMTC – Adventure Theatre MTC | LMP – Laurel Mill Playhouse | SSS – Silver Spring Stage |
| BCT – Bowie Community Theatre | LTA – The Little Theatre of Alexandria | ST – Signature Theatre |
| BIHS – Bishop Ireton High School | LTC – Landless Theatre Company | STC – Shakespeare Theatre Company |
| BST – Baltimore Shakespeare | MCP – McLean Community Players | SCTC – StageCoach Theatre Company |
| CC – Creative Cauldron | MP – Montgomery Playhouse | STL – Studio Theatre |
| CCP – Chevy Chase Players | MTA – McLean Theatre Alliance (now MCP) | TACT – The American Century Theater |
| CFTC – City of Fairfax Theatre Company | MVCCT – Mount Vernon Community Children’s Theatre | TAP – The Arlington Players |
| CP – Colonial Players of Annapolis | NOVA – Northern Virginia | TAT – The Alliance Theatre |
| CRT – Castaways Repertory Theatre | NNS – NOVA Nightsky Theatre | TBP – The British Players |
| CT – Chalice Theater | NST – NextStop Theatre | TCP – Tantallon Community Players |
| DMV – District/Maryland/Virginia | NVCC – Northern Virginia Community College | TTL – The Theatre Lab |
| DTC – Damascus Theater Company | NVP – Northern Virginia Players | 2FT – Second Flight Theatre |
| DS – Dominion Stage | NVTA – Northern Virginia Theatre Alliance | 2SP – 2nd Star Productions |
| ES – Encore Stage | OTC – Olney Theater Center | VC – Vpstart Crow |
| ESP – Elden Street Players (now NST) | PCP – Port City Playhouse | VTC – Vienna Theater Company |
| FCPS – Fairfax County Public Schools | PGLT – Prince George’s Little Theatre | WAC – Workhouse Arts Center |
| FCT – Fauquier Community Theatre | PPF – Providence Players of Fairfax | WATCH – Washington Area Theatre Community Honors |
| FP – Foundry Players (now CCDC) | PTP – Port Tobacco Players | WOB – Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre |
| FST – 1st Stage Tysons | PWLT – Prince William Little Theatre | WS – Washington Savoyards |
| FT – Ford’s Theatre | RCDT – Riverside Center Dinner Theatre | ZS – Zemfira Stage |
| GAC – Greenbelt Arts Center | RCP – Reston Community Players | |
| GFP – Great Falls Players (now MCP) | RCPA – Riverside Center for the Performing Arts | |
| | RHT – Round House Theatre | |

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Meet the Crew (in alphabetical order)

Shah Choudhury (Co-Master Carpenter) was pleased to build this set with Julie, Matthew and the fabulous set build volunteers. He has worked on many sets since 2017, including several that have been nominated for WATCH Awards, including LTA's 2024 *Jekyll & Hyde* (WATCH winner). Shah enjoys working with power tools and encourages anyone who wants to use power tools to volunteer to build future sets.

William Chrapcynski (Sound Design) has previously worked with LTA on *The Explorers Club* and has also worked on numerous shows with RCP, including *Boeing Boeing* and *Superior Donuts*, as well as *Moonlight and Magnolias*. It is easy to spot William with a portable recorder in hand, always hunting for the next sound to capture for his next project.

Maria Ciarrocchi (Wardrobe Coordination) is happy to be behind the scenes for once, helping with wardrobe! She has been fortunate to tread the boards as an actor in the area for over a decade. Thanks to everyone on and off stage for making LTA such a magical place.

Ian Claar (Intimacy Choreography) Previous intimacy work: *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *The Explorers Club*, *Mary Stuart* (LTA); *Einstein's Wife*, *Marlene*, *The Body of a Woman* (EP); *Murder on the Orient Express* (WAC); *She Kills Monsters*, *The Producers*, *The Prom*, *Murder on the Orient Express*, *Boeing Boeing*, *Newsies* (RP); *Sweeney Todd*, *Moon Over Buffalo* (RLT). Ian is a proud member of I.A.T.S.E. and SDC. LightsAndFights.com

Kadira Coley (Hair/Makeup Design) is delighted to work at LTA again. She currently serves as LTA's Governor of Membership, acting onstage, designing hair and makeup, producing and stage managing. Kadira has been nominated for awards by WATCH and LTA for her hair designs. She works for the City of Alexandria and sings with Alexandria Singers. Kadira is thankful for everyone in her village and sends love to her angel-in-heaven, Chin.

Audrey Crowell (Master Electrician) has had theatre as part of her life for over 25 years and is thrilled to be supporting her 14th show at LTA! Audrey found her passion for lighting by majoring in theatre at a magnet high school in Florida and finds every opportunity to continue to learn this art form. Special thanks to Ken, Smokey Lincoln and Tui for their love and support!

Andrew Harasty (Lighting Design) is doing his first design with LTA, although he did appear onstage with LTA in last year's production of *Kinky Boots*. Other notable lighting credits include *Woman in Black* (RLT), *The Secret Garden* (PWLT), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (MP), *Cabaret* (ATA) and *Clyde's* (WAC), which was Helen Hayes Recommended. Recently he debuted as a director for KCP's *A Man for All Seasons*, to much critical acclaim.

Michelle Harris (Costume Design) is thrilled to be costuming her second production at LTA, previously earning a WATCH nomination for costume design for *The Explorers Club*. She has been the costumer for shows at ACCT (*The Outsider*, *Hay Fever*), VTC (*Unnecessary Farce*, *Rumors*) and CT (*Seussical*, *Tuck Everlasting*). Michelle teaches science at Wakefield High School in Arlington, serving as the costumer for the Wakefield Players for the last 11 years.

Amanda Hobbs (Assistant Director) is so excited to be a part of the production team of *Guess Who's Coming To Dinner*. What a fantastic experience it is to be working with so many talented people. To LTA: Thank you again for the incredible experience. To my friends and family: Thank you for all the love, faith and support. Enjoy the show!

Phyllis L. Johnson (Properties Design) has volunteered at Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) since 2016. Her first play was *West Side Story* (lighting). She has volunteered in various capacities: makeup, lighting, wardrobe, props and set design. But near and dear to her are all things props.

Meet the Crew (continued)

Adam Konowe (Director) has directed more than 20 plays, including *The Explorers Club* for LTA last season. Past favorites include the 2019 multi-WATCH Award-winning *Time Stands Still*, as well as *Murder in Green Meadows*, *An Experiment With an Air Pump*, *The Alchemist* and *Cat's-Paw*. Adam has been directing for 35 years, first at the University of Rochester under the late Mervyn Willis, who previously worked with Laurence Olivier and others.

Paige Lambright (Rigging) is excited to join her sixth show with LTA. She is no stranger to backstage, having worked on many sets and been part of the stage crew for many others, most notably *The Play That Goes Wrong* and master carpenter for *A Christmas Carol* (2025). She wants to thank everyone for their support and all the people who have helped her grow her love for theater!

Jenny Libster (Co-Stage Manager) recently helped support the LTA staged reading productions and helped with the LTA One-Acts. She is excited to be returning to help on a mainstage LTA production.

Brooke Angel Markley (Co-Set Dresser/Properties Mentor) has worked on many LTA shows as both a set designer and a props mistress—and is excited to work again with Elliot Merker! Much thanks to her props buddies Phyllis, James, Emilie, Valarie, Jack, Donna, Carol, Marget—and so many more. Special thanks to Joseph Wallen for the inspirational thrift trips, and her husband, Scott, for their support.

Sean McCoy (Assistant Producer) is excited to make his LTA debut! A professional actor turned cinematographer, Sean has enjoyed using his storytelling skills to highlight the hard work of the cast and crew for *Guess Who's Coming To Dinner*. When Sean is not making art, he's trolling his partner, Maia, and his cocker spaniel named Alfie. Sean is grateful for the endless support of his family and friends. seancmccoy.com

Joyce McCue (Co-Set Painter) has been painting sets and scenery for three years. She was Co-Set Painting Designer for *A Christmas Carol* 2025 (LTA). Joyce is looking forward to doing more “behind the scenes” work.

Elliot Merker (Co-Set Dresser) is a historian and educator by day and a theatrical jack-of-all-trades by night, having performed, coordinated stunts and action, provided costumes, built props, performed music and helped out on many productions for both stage and screen. Elliot is happy to be returning to LTA for the second time after helping with *The Explorers Club* to help dress the set for *Guess Who’s Coming To Dinner*.

Kathy Murphy (Co-Set Painter) has a decade of set painting and two WATCH Awards and is happy to help bring this wonderful play to LTA along with the talented co-painter, Joyce McCue. LTA is an inspiring place to practice hands-on theater crafts. Many thanks to the LTA corps of volunteers!

Tom O’Reilly (Set Design) appreciates the opportunity to design another set for LTA, particularly for this powerful show. He is still learning this craft, after years of set construction with multiple WATCH Awards. Credits include *The Nance* (LTA), *Man of La Mancha* (TAP), *A Little Night Music* (RCP) and more than a dozen shows with the multigenerational Chalice Theatre.

Michelle Rizzo (Co-Stage Manager) is working with LTA for the first time! She stage managed for *James and the Giant Peach* (MVCCT) last fall as well as some original plays with Reston CC (Young Actors Theater). Michelle has an acting degree from GMU that she uses both onstage and off. She became a substitute teacher for LCPS and wants to further her knowledge in theater and leading. Please enjoy!!

For your own safety, look for your nearest EXIT. In case of emergency, WALK, DO NOT run, to the exit.

Meet the Crew (continued)

Jacquel Tomlin (Co-Producer) made her stage debut as Alpha Campbell Jackson in *The Nacirema Society* (LTA). She is the recipient of the LTA 2025 Most Outstanding New Member Award, served as the Assistant Director for *The Play That Goes Wrong* (LTA) and directed *A Social Event* during an LTA actor’s showcase. She is thrilled to be involved in another production and grateful to her family for their continued support.

Matthew Trowbridge (Co-Master Carpenter) is excited to be leading his second build with LTA. He has been active in theater for over a dozen years in a range of backstage and design roles. Favorite past productions include *A Christmas Carol* (2025, LTA), *Urinetown: The Musical* (Case Western Reserve University) and *A Streetcar Named Desire* (SBTC). Matthew would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers who helped build this amazing set.



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Alan Wray (Co-Producer) is excited to be working with Adam and with Jacquel. Alan has co-produced at LTA *Prelude to a Kiss*, *Party to Murder* and *Sister Act*. He most recently co-designed the sound for *A Christmas Carol*. Additionally for LTA, he designed *The Play That Goes Wrong* (LTA Award), *The Producers* (WATCH Award), *Picnic* (WATCH nomination), *33 Variations* (LTA Award) and the chilling *Widdershins* (LTA Award).



Thank You!

LTA wishes to recognize and thank all of the volunteers who have given their time and talents by helping with house managing, ushering, or working in the box office for our previous production of *School of Rock*.

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Coming in May

THE LITTLE THEATRE OF ALEXANDRIA PRESENTS



MAY 16 - JUNE 6, 2026

Music & Lyrics by
**Lisa Lambert and
Greg Morrison**

Book by
**Bob Martin and
Don McKellar**

Original Broadway production of The Drowsy Chaperone produced by Kevin McCollum, Roy Miller, Bob Boyett, Stephanie McClelland, Barbara Freitag, and Jill Furman.

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE
Is presented through special arrangement
with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials
are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com

Directed by Krissy McGregor

Box Office 703-683-0496
www.thelittletheatre.com

Donors from December 2025 through December 2026

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Judy Ebner
Robin Gold
Kathleen C. Larsh
Anna Lloyd
Meredith Ludwig
Susan Miller
James Morrison
Eric Northman
Heidi Scharlat

Colonists

Anonymous
Magdalena and Scott Boyle
Cynthia Jarrin
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If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution online, visit www.thelittletheatre.com and click on opportunities, then donations. You may also contact the business office at 703-683-5778, ext. 2 and donate by phone.

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Rev 3.6.26

The Council of the Little Theatre of Alexandria is a group of dedicated members who support financial projects for the theatre and provide numerous social events with dinners, receptions, and other member gatherings. The Council promotes and supports volunteerism throughout the theatre to ensure continued success in all areas, i.e., backstage, front of house, box office, etc.; we also provide need-based scholarship funding to support numerous adult and youth educational programs within the theatre. The Council is proud to sponsor the Shakespeare Garden which has become a community favorite with many stopping in just to relax and "waste my time in it."