

# The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts, Inc.

May 2007

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the second show of our 2007 season! You are in for a wonderful treat, and we are so proud of this cast and crew for putting together an amazing work of art for your enjoyment.

Every person involved with this show and who is associated with this theatre is a volunteer. The individuals you see on stage this evening have given up countless personal hours on weekends and nights to master their song and verse to provide you with a quality, professional performance. Please be sure to give back to them with wonderful cheers and applause!

I am also asking you to please, if you have not all ready, give back to this incredible historic place, this community theatre of 50 years! Five decades of performing arts and more have been given to this community by countless numbers of gifted and talented people. Your contributions are what make this place really thrive. Your ticket is appreciated, but it is the donor list that really makes things happen here. You all know what it costs to heat your homes, drive your cars, pay your electricity - well it is no different at this theatre home. As you know all those costs have increased significantly leaving us no other option but to raise our ticket price this year to maintain the bare essentials I mention.

So, I implore you to please do your part as a patron this evening and look at how you can financially help your theatre. Please support us personally and then ask if your company has a matching funds program. The best resource we have are the incredibly talented individuals who make our theatre come alive at each show, unfortunately the only resource that keeps us operational are the dollars you donate above and beyond the ticket sale. You are what will insure The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc will be around 50 years from now. Take it personally, think about your experience here this evening and think about how the arts transforms our world into a much more humane place to live! That simply cannot happen without your financial contributions.

My sincerest & deepest thanks to you all,



David J. Tuttle  
TBTA President

# TBTA 2006 Season Supporters

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### *THERE'S PLENTY OF ROOM:*

**Please use the form on the next page to send your check today. Thank you for supporting the arts in Brookfield!**

# The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts, Inc.

May 2007

Dear friends of the theatre,

It is a pleasure to address you as Artistic Director in this our golden anniversary season. For 50 years, TBTA has been providing our community with quality arts programming. This is no easy task and everyone who has contributed to this success, from cast and crews, to founders and boards, to patrons and donors, should stand and take a bow.

In our time, little seems to survive fifty years, especially a not for profit theatre company staffed by volunteers. Our theatre company has always been clear about who and what we are. Regardless of our name; Country Players, Brookfield Playhouse or TBTA, our mission has remained consistent in providing a space for performers to practice their craft. For fifty years we have remained respected as one of the finest community theatres in the state.

Artistically, I am proud of our past and believe we are headed in the right direction for the future. From our early days, I believe we have succeeded in presenting season after season of well rounded theatre and performance for our audiences. Under my direction, I have strived to present seasons which entice local performers, entertain audiences, challenge our minds, and occasionally push the envelope. Additionally, I feel it is my responsibility to insure that our young people know and appreciate the early plays and musicals that led us to now. I remind them that without Rogers and Hammerstein there would be no Sondheim.

This place has a way of making you want to stay...I had the privilege as a young teen to work with co-founders Tillie Ciccala and Dot French in *The Diary of Anne Frank*. I have worked extensively with Wendell MacNeal, both on and off stage. One of our early directors has been known to review a show now and again. Larry Stewart, Barbara Locke and Bill Possidento remain actively involved; the longevity of our members speaks volumes. The stories are amazing, from a young unknown Edward Albee having his *Zoo Story* read at TBTA, to Tommy the ghost, to the many people who have gone on to have careers in stage, film and dance. People come and go, but TBTA remains a safe place to let down our inner walls, expand creatively, take chances, and perhaps even be a star.

Our golden anniversary has something for everyone. Dramas that make us think, musicals that make us ooh and aah and comedies that make us laugh. Each show of this season is about believing, whether in miracles or underdogs, cats in hats or in ourselves. Dreams do come true...just look around.

Happy 50th Anniversary and hats off to TBTA! May we continue to work together to provide a magic place for our children and their children. See you at the 100th!

Bart Geissingner  
Artistic Director

## Production Staff

Director .....	Maureen Trotto
Musical Director .....	Joanne Archibald
Set Design .....	Duane Langenwalter
Co-Producers .....	Bill Possidento, Stephanie Skrok
Stage Manager .....	Stephanie Skrok
Choreographer .....	Todd Santa Maria
Costume Designer .....	Marian Miller
Seamstresses .....	Susan Gabriele, Beverly Regan, Karin Syminaton
Puppet Design .....	Dori Santos
Sound Design .....	Jay Austin
Sound Execution .....	Brian Casella, Toby Pettit
Lighting Design .....	Brian Casella
Lighting Execution .....	Brian Casella, Rob Onorato
Box Office Manager .....	Carol Hoose
Poster Design .....	Duane Langenwalter
Opening Night Party .....	The Mele Family

## Band

Joanne Archibald, Keyboards  
Mark Campbell, Bass  
John Pokorny, Percussion

## Special Thanks

to Events Party and Tent Rentals for the use of their truck for transporting set pieces.

**Please consider becoming a member today!**  
**Visit our website for more information:**  
**[www.brookfieldplayhouse.org](http://www.brookfieldplayhouse.org)**

## **TBTA Members 2007**

Joanne F. Archibald, Jay Austin, Matt Austin, Shawn Brown,  
Gordon Burgess, Jane Burgess, Mark Campbell, Brian Casella,  
Annie Casella, Mike Casella, Susan L. Chapin, Paul Mayer,  
Hilary Currie, Richard Damaso, Bernadette DeMunde,  
Peg Ellis, Norm Ellis, Tammy Dickerson, Richard B. Fisher  
DDS, Denise Fitzsimmons, Susan Gabriele, Bart Geissinger,  
Greg George, Lucy George, Elena C. Goletz, Bob Grossman,  
Toni Grossman, Clare Haney, Carol Hoose, Kristin Hoose,  
Steve Hoose, Nancy Hutchinson, Jimmy Johnson,  
Mary Jonker, Caitlin Keeler, Matthew Kelly, Barbara Kessler,  
Jackie Kettunen, Larry Kinnear, Suzanne Kinnear,  
Cathy Lasser, Howard Lasser, Kerry Manion,  
Florence Mahoney, William Martin, Judy Martinez, Lori Mele,  
Diane Millar, Gary Millar, Barbara Moissonnier, Ed Olena,  
Emma Okell, Virginia R Perrakakis, Connie Priftis, Leslie Reiter,  
Gene Rosen, Marilyn Rosen, James Ryan, Steven Schuldman,  
Edward Schwarzer, Lynn Sheehan, Thomas Sheehan,  
Billy Shields, Georgeann Shields, William Shields,  
Stephanie Skrok, Robert Sniffin, Marie Solazzo, Gary Spring,  
Stephanie Trolle, David Tuttle, Alexis M. Vournazos,  
David Walker-Price, Steven Wright, Joan Wyner,  
Calvin York, Susan York,

## **TBTA Lifetime Members**

Gloria Laposka, Barbara Locke,  
Wendell MacNeal, Imelda O'Gara-Roth,  
Bill Possidento, Larry Stewart

## **Biographies, cont'd.**

**Malone (Tillie).** She sings in her school chorus and has been seen with the Falls Village Children's Theater as well as Stage II players. In her spare time Alexis enjoys singing, dancing, and listening to all kinds of music. She would like to thank the cast and crew for their amazing work and send love to her mother. She would also like to thank her dad and brother for being a part of this show with her. Much love to her voice teacher and coach Anne Carlson. Special thanks to Catherine, Jimmy, Bonnie and the Jacques and Crisalli family's for coming and cheering her on. "Enjoy the Show."

**Austin Willoughby (CLOWN)** Austin was most recently seen with the Falls Village Children's Theater in *From Broadway To You*, where he was a featured soloist. His other performances include Fat Sam's Gang in *Bugsy Malone* at the Sherman Play House. When he is not performing, Austin enjoys playing the viola and piano. He loves school and his computer. He is happy to be performing with his sister and father. He would like to thank Maureen for this opportunity and give a "Way To Go" to the cast and crew.

**Bob Willoughby (STRONG-MAN)** Bob is making his stage debut. Though not a stranger to theater, he has chauffeured his theatrical children to many rehearsals and performances. He is excited to be acting with his son and daughter in *Carnival*. He would like to thank the director, cast and crew for this great opportunity.

**Joan Wyner (CLOWN)** Joan is again thrilled to be back at the TBTA for the third time. Prior roles include Luella Bennet in *The Diviners* and the mayor's wife in *Bye-Bye Birdie*. She has performed at her synagogue in *Fiddler on the Roof*, *A Murder Mystery* and *My Big Fat Jewish Wedding*. She is a psychotherapist in private practice and lives in Brookfield with her daughter Emily, a sophomore in high school and her son Zac, a freshman at Northeastern University. She thanks them both very much for their love, support and encouragement.

**For the safety of the performers and the courtesy of fellow patrons the use of flash photography is strictly forbidden. Copyright laws prohibit the recording of sound and video. Please turn off all phones, pagers, computer games, and other distractions. Please unwrap candies before the show begins and respect each other. This is live theatre.**

## Biographies, cont'd.

accolades for creating, sculpting, and doing the voice-over for the Wicked Itch for Lanacane. Her TV work lead to sculpting for the toy industry and eventually to inventing. Maureen is co-inventor of the popular boys action figure line Sectaurs, manufactured by Coleco in 1985. She wrote the original story for Sectaurs and was commissioned by Coleco to write the treatment for the screenplay, *Search for the Hyve*. She served as creative consultant for the five part cartoon mini-series of Sectaurs also based on her treatment *Search for the Hyve*. She participated in virtually every phase of the production from voice casting, to music, to editing. She also is co-inventor of Boglins, released by Mattel at Toy Fair 1988.

Maureen has written numerous treatments for TV and film including several pilot concepts for Viacom. *The Adventures of Melody Moon* based on Maureen's original story was optioned by Lorimar Telepictures. Maureen's storytelling ability has led to several public speaking engagements including, the keynote address for the American Association of Arts Managers Conference. For over 15 years, Maureen has written original pieces and made masks for performance artist Graciela Binaghi. Maureen and Graciela were honored by being asked to create an original performance piece to celebrate the opening of the Rockefeller Wing at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

In 1984 and 1988 Maureen was invited to participate in the group shows *Staged Stages*, *Alice*, and *Look Who Else Through the Looking Glass* and *93 Holiday Greetings & wishes for '94* at the Steinbaum Krauss Gallery in Manhattan. Maureen was a member of the faculty at FIT [Fashion Institute of Technology] where she taught Toy Design. She is also working on a play about growing up in an Italian neighborhood in Cleveland, Ohio in the 1950's, entitled *Mr. Panito's Band*. In recent years Thin Air has expanded into new markets. She along with her partners Duane Langenwalter and Laureen Trotto, have had added Garden Zone and Georgia Pacific to their already prestigious client list.

**Tim Walsh (MARCO)** After an immensely joyous experience being a part of *The Diviners* here at TBTA, Tim is honored to be back so soon, once again working with such a wonderful group of people. He is a graduate of Western Connecticut State University's Theatre Arts program. He has also had the pleasure of being a performer at the New York Renaissance Faire, where he hopes to once again find himself this summer. Tim is happy to now add magic to the list of many skills that he practices in his spare time with varying degrees of success. This list also includes juggling, unicycling, puppet making, hat manipulation, making balloon animals, and playing the bamboo flute. He thanks his loving wife, Cassandra, for her kindness, love, and for putting up with balls bouncing, wheel wobbling, fake fur flying, derbies dropping, balloons bursting, and shrill sounds shrieking all over the apartment.

**Alexis Willoughby (OLGA THE SNAKE CHARMER)** Is a Freshmen at New Milford High School where she was most recently seen in *Guys & Dolls* (Misslon Band). Other performances include: *Stuart Little the Musical* (Angie), *From Broadway to You* (featured Soloist), *Mint Juleps Part I* (Rosetta) and *Bugsy*

# CARNIVAL

## CAST

listed alphabetically

B. F. Schlegel	Stephen DiRocco
Paul	Joe Efferen
Lili	Allyson Makuch
Rosalie	Lori Mele
Jacquot	Joel Romanelli
Marco the Magnificent	Tim Walsh
Roustabout	Dan Berlingeri
Dr. Glass	Shawn Brown
Bluebird Girl	Hilary Currie
Bluebird Girl	Zoe DeStories
Clown	Megan Gonzalez
Roustabout	Zach Gordon
Clown	Matt Hoeffel
Siamese Twin	Jackie Hoolehan
Siamese Twin	Maggie Hoolehan
Wardrobe Mistress	Meg Jones
Clown	Sheridan Jones
Bluebird Girl	Caitlin Keeler
Bearded Lady	Barb Kessler
Acrobat	Alison Kron
Dancing Bear	Catherine McCollian
Bluebird Girl	Katie McMorran
Bear Tamer	KumKum Modwel
Grobert	Ed O'Lena
Roustabout	Billy Shields
Olga the Snake Charmer	Alexis Willoughby
Clown	Austin Willoughby
Strong-Man	Bob Willoughby
Clown	Joan Wyner

## Biographies

**Joanne F. Archibald** (MUSIC DIRECTOR) is delighted to be working at Brookfield Theater for the Arts again. Joanne has been involved with this theater since the late '70's and has always enjoyed working with the talented people here. In the past, Joanne has accompanied for Musicals at Richter, Sherman Theater, Immanuel Lutheran Players, Crime and Merriment Mystery Dinner Theater, Ridgefield Theater, Brewster High School, Danbury High School, Opera at Westconn and the NATS and NYSSMA vocal competitions. Currently, Joanne is Organist/Music Director at St. James' Episcopal Church in Danbury. She directs two vocal groups and a handbell/chime choir. This past July she directed a week-long music camp at St. James' for elementary-high school students. Joanne received her BS in Music Education from WCSU and will be attending a graduate class at Yale School of Sacred Music this summer. She hopes to receive her Master of Church Music degree in the near future. Joanne is a handbell soloist and has performed concerts and workshops in several states along the Eastern seaboard. She teaches piano, organ and keyboard in Danbury. She is grateful to God for the many blessings in her life, especially her son, Daniel, and daughter, Heather. **GO RED SOX!!**

**Jay Austin** (TECH) This is Jay's third season as a tech director at TBTA. Jay has been a part of the TBTA family for five years filling many different positions helping to make the shows go on. He especially wishes to thank his son Matt for his inspiration and wit, his daughter Kaitlyn and wife Gloria for all their support, understanding and love, the cast and crew of this TBTA production for their friendship, love, humor and enlightenment. "Try to succeed in everything you do and happiness will always find you."

**Dan Berlinger** (ROUSTABOUT) Dan started off his acting pursuit by attending the Connecticut Conservatory for Performing Arts in New Milford for 2 years, where he studied vocals, acting, jazz and tap dancing. While there, he starred as Tevya in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Dan also took part in Newtown High School's Summer Theater Connection as the Prince in *Cinderella* and in NHS production of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* as Linus. Other productions have included *A Thurbur Carnival*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and *Into the Woods*. Most recently, Dan has been a part of productions at Richter Park in *Phantom* and *The Sound of Music*. Dan would like to thank his family and friends for supporting his interests and is thrilled to take part in *Carnival* as a Roustabout.

**Shawn Brown** (DR. GLASS) has been a part of many theatrical productions including *Jesus Christ Superstar* (an apostle, a leper, and a mob member), *Man of LaMancha* (Juan the Muleteer), *Beyond Therapy* (Dr. Stewart Framingham), *Bye Bye Birdie* (the Mayor/Bartender), and most recently *Pump Boys and Dinettes* (Jim). He would like to thank his son Ian for all his love support and inspiration.

**Brian Casella** (LIGHTING DESIGNER) has been the lighting technical director at TBTA for the past 3 years and has designed lighting and sound for over 22 Theatrical Productions at TBTA as well as Brookfield High School. He is currently studying Technical Theatre at Western Connecticut State University. Brian would like to thank the crew for all their hard work and his family and Tobi for their constant encouragement and support.

## Biographies, cont'd.

**Joel Romanelli** (JACQUOT) has been singing all his life, including recent stints in the Connecticut Choral Society and the Connecticut Master Chorale. This, however, is the first time he's spoken on stage since third grade when he played Mozart in a school production. His only other area stage credit is as a chorus member in *Pippin* at the Sherman Playhouse.

**Todd Santa Maria** (CHOREOGRAPHER) Todd has performed, choreographed, directed, and staged managed with theater groups all over the east coast. Although this will be his first time choreographing for TBTA, he appeared onstage here two summers ago as "Andrew" in *Beyond Therapy*. Since then, he has performed in *Ghost of a Chance: The Strange Case of E. Scrooge* with TheatreWorks in New Milford and *The Laramie Project* with Little Theater of Manchester. He has also choreographed numerous productions including: *Disney's Beauty & the Beast*, *West Side Story*, *Grease*, *Hello Dolly!*, and *Footloose*. Todd will spend the summer and early autumn months choreographing productions of *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, and *Disney's High School Musical*.

**Billy Shields** (ROUSTABOUT) is more than thrilled to be back on the TBTA stage in *Carnival*. Other TBTA shows Billy has been involved with are *Man of La Mancha*, *Beyond Therapy*, *Cinderella Goes Disco*, *Songs For A New World*, *Bye-Bye Birdie*, *Assassins*, and *I Think I Can*. Most Recently, Billy was seen as Cornelius Hackl in *Hello, Dolly!*, performed at Brookfield High School. Other BHS shows Billy has done include *Damn Yankees*, *Charley's Aunt*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Exit the Body*. Billy would like to thank his family (at home and at TBTA) and all of his friends who continue to support him and come to his shows. And to the cast and crew of *Carnival*, he says, "Break a leg!"

**Stephanie Skrok** (CO-PRODUCER/STAGE MANAGER) This is the second production at TBTA that Stephanie has been involved in (Stage Manager, *Assassins*). A member of the TBTA Board of Directors, Stephanie has come to love being involved with community theater. The cast and crew are a wonderful group of individuals, each bringing unique characteristics to their roles. Stephanie would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication to this show.

**Maureen Theresa Trotto** (DIRECTOR) is the guiding force behind Thin Air, a partnership formed to create and produce new and exciting concepts for TV, film, theatre and toys. She is a graduate of the Carnegie Mellon University Drama Department in Theatrical Design, and has served as a member of the Executive Board of the CMU Alumni Association. Maureen was a member of the faculty at North Carolina School of the Arts for five years where she taught on both high school and undergraduate levels and also served as the Director of the N.C.S.A. Visual Arts Program in Florence, Italy. While in North Carolina she co-founded a successful theatre company The North Carolina Theatre Ensemble. Maureen's talents span several arts. She has achieved professional success in storytelling, writing, directing, sculpting, theatrical design and toy design. Among her many honors and awards is the Eugene O'Neill Award for "Best Director" in 1973. After leaving teaching in 1976 she became a free-lance theatrical sculptor and designed professionally for theatre, dance, and commercial television. She won

## Biographies, cont'd.

**Katie McMorran** (BLUEBIRD GIRL) Katie is extremely excited to be a part of *Carnival*! This marks her third musical; she appeared as Dorothy in Newtown Middle School's *Wizard of Oz* and also played an alligator in *Seussical* on the NMS stage. Katie performed in two cabarets at the Summer Musical Theatre Workshop at Newtown High School and in the 2004 Company Summer Program at the Hartt School of Music. She'd like to thank her wonderful family, friends, and voice teacher Diana Canova for all their support. Enjoy the show!

**Lori Mele** (ROSALIE) is very excited to be back on the TBTA stage this season! Her other credits include: *Assassins* (Sarah Jane Moore), *Master Class* (Sharon Graham), and *Bye-Bye Birdie*, all at TBTA, as well as *The Rocky Horror Show* (Janet), *Songs for a New World*, *Company* (Jenny), *Pterodactyls* (Emma), *Two by Two* (Goldie), and *Guy and Dolls* (Adelaide). A member of the Board of Directors, Lori is very grateful to TBTA for all that it has done for her over the past year. Lori is a Spanish teacher at Westover School in Middlebury, CT and would like to thank her students and colleagues for their support of her theatrical endeavors. She would also like to thank Maureen for this wonderful experience, and her parents and brother for their undying encouragement and involvement in this part of her life.

**KumKum Modwel** (ANIMAL TAMER) KumKum has a range of experience in both music and dramatic performance. She was given the Best Actress Award in Delhi, India for her role as Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Other performances include *The Changeling* and *Henry V*. She has performed in *Carmina Burana* and the *Messiah*, as well as many musical works by Gilbert & Sullivan and Rodgers & Hammerstein. After being on stage in both India and the United Arab Emirates, this is her first venture on the stage in the USA.

**Ed O'Lena** (GROBERT) Ed is thrilled to be on stage for the first time at TBTA. He has worked behind the scenes as Co-Producer of *The Diviners* and on the sets of *The Food Chain*, *Beyond Therapy*, *Assassins* and *I Think I Can*. Recently, Ed has taken on the position of the Head of Building and Grounds here at TBTA. Ed has sung in several choirs over the past 20 years and in 1995 toured Italy with his church choir, performing for an audience with Pope John Paul II. Ed would like to thank his kids, Megz, Brendan and Molly for their support, Clare for believing in me and Maureen, Bill and Stephanie for this great experience.

**Bill Possidento** (DIRECTOR) I have been at TBTA for the last 35 years and have been involved with every aspect putting a show together. My main interest now being directing. Personal favorites are: *Assassins*, *Company*, *Putting it Together* and *Jacques Brel is...* This production of *Carnival* has been exceptional. I would like to thank each and everyone of them for making this experience a joy. A special thanks to Barbara Kessler and David Tuttle, without their tireless effort and devotion I would have been lost.

## Biographies, cont'd.

**Hilary Currie** (BLUEBIRD GIRL) is ecstatic to be on the TBTA stage once again. Hilary was previously seen in *The Diviners* as Jennie Mae. Hilary is a home-schooled junior. She will be attending Naugatuck Community College for her senior year of high school. Hilary would like to thank Maureen and the entire cast for making *Carnival* such a wonderful experience. She also thanks her friends and family for their never ending love and support.

**Zoe DeStories** (BLUEBIRD GIRL) Zoe is a freshman at Newtown High School. Although this is her first performance at the Brookfield Theater, she has been in several community shows in the area. Most recently, she appeared in *Oliver!* and *Seussical the Musical*. She wishes to thank Maureen for the opportunity of performing in *Carnival*. Good luck cast and crew!

**Stephen DiRocco** (BF SCHLEGEL) Ladies and gentlemen, Stephen takes great pleasure in appearing for the first time in the main tent of the Brookfield Theatre for the Arts. He is proud to be working with the incomparable cast and magnificent crew who have thrilled him with their *Pep! Spirit! And Vitality!* His most recent work includes *Nicely, Nicely in Guys & Dolls* (SDP); *Dr. Einstein in Arsenic and Old Lace* (TCNC); *Mr. Applegate in Damn Yankees* and *Mr. Etches in Titanic* (Richter); *CG Powell in the Gilbert & Sullivan adaptation Pirates and Angelo in Christmas on Mulberry St.* (Curtain Call); *Lycus in A Funny Thing Happened...* (Ridgefield); and *Dr. Armstrong in And then There were None* (Wilton & Pawling).

**Joe Efferen** (PAUL) is thrilled to be making his Brookfield Theatre debut with *Carnival*. He feels very privileged and thankful to be Paul. Many thanks to Maureen and Joanne, and everyone at the Brookfield Theater. Kudos to such a talented and dedicated group of people in and around the show. Locally Joe has been seen in Ridgefield Theater Barn's production of *Forum*, *Titanic* with Musicals at Richter, and Mortimer in the New Canaan production of *Arsenic and Old Lace*. Joe has also appeared as Paul in *Moon Over Buffalo*, George Bowman in *Mulberry St.* and as a Pirate in the aptly named *Pirates!* All with Curtain Call in Stamford. Joe is thankful to all those who have helped him along the way.

**Meagan Gonzalez** (CLOWN) has done many shows, and *Carnival* is on her list of favorites. Meagan has performed *Seussical the Musical* and *The Wizard of Oz* for her school, Newtown Middle School, and she has also been in other shows as well. She would like to thank her parents, her brother Matt, and her friends for always being there for her, and her amazing directors and producers who have put the show together so greatly.

**Zach Gordon** (ROUSTABOUT) This is Zach's first show on the TBTA stage and he is thrilled to be a part of *Carnival*. Some of his previous roles include *The Doctor in A Streetcar Named Desire*, Ensemble in *Into the Woods* and *How To Succeed In Business*, and an on stage Foley Artist in *A Thurbur Carnival*. Zach would like to thank his parents and brother for all their support. He would also like to thank his director, producer, cast, and all who have worked on this show for giving him such a great experience.

## Biographies, cont'd.

**Matt Hoeffel** (CLOWN) This is Matthew's fourth show and he is absolutely ecstatic about performing in *Carnival!* He is part of the Clown Kazoo Duo. He was also the Scarecrow in the NMS production of *The Wizard Of Oz*. In addition he was in *A Magical Musical Review* which was put on by the Newtown High School Summer Musical Theatre Workshop. And he starred in *Broadway Rocks!* A show put on by the New Milford TheatreWorks Company. Matthew would like to thank his director Maureen for giving him this opportunity, and his fellow actors and actresses for being completely spectacular and talented role models! Enjoy the show!

**Jackie Hoolehan** (SIAMESE TWIN) is an eighth grader at Newtown Middle School. This is her first play, but not the first time on stage. Outside of school, Jackie enjoys ballet and has performed extensively with Newtown Centre of Classical Ballet. She thanks everyone for the opportunity for her to be in this play, and she wishes all the cast and crew good luck!

**Maggie Hoolehan** (SIAMESE TWIN) is an eighth grader at Newtown Middle School. She is ecstatic about being in her first play, and sharing the experience with her twin sister Jackie. Maggie enjoys being with her friends, school, and competitive swimming. She would like to wish the cast and crew best of luck and break a leg!

**Meg Jones** (WARDROBE MISTRESS) is excited to make her debut at Brookfield Theatre for the Arts. She has not seen the stage since college! Meg spends her days teaching first grade at Hill and Plain School in New Milford. She is also a professional watercolor painter and teaches this art to adults. Meg is also a mother to Sheridan (10) and Catherine (14), and cares for a menagerie of animals. Thanks to Catherine and Sheridan for encouraging her to audition—instead of just being the "theatre mom." Thanks, also, to the cast and crew of *Carnival*. Break a leg!

**Sheridan Jones** (CLOWN) is a fifth grader at Sarah Noble Intermediate School in New Milford. She was recently seen in *SARAH NOBLE REMEMBERS*, a part of New Milford's 300 birthday. She was also seen in *CAROUSEL* at the Thomaston Opera House. In her spare time, Sheridan enjoys basketball, sculpting and drawing. She is also a poet and has been published in *The Anthology of Poetry by Young Americans*. Sheridan wishes to thank Lenka O'Connor for encouraging her to become an actor. She also thanks her friends and family for supporting her.

**Barbara Kessler** (BEARDED LADY) As a child, Barbara wanted to run away and join the circus! Now she gets to run away, have a great time performing with and for with friends, and still get to sleep in her own bed. What could be better? Barb was last seen on stage at TBTA as Mrs. McAfee in *Bye-Bye Birdie*, and in the ensemble of *Man of La Mancha*. Last season she co-produced *Assassins*. She currently serves on the TBTA Board as membership chair. (Members are the lifeblood of TBTA, buy a membership tonight!) Barb has also played Jenny in *Company*, Frau Schmidt in *Sound of Music*, and will be playing Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof* this summer. Many thanks to

## Biographies, cont'd.

voice teacher Jackie Gaudet, of Newtown Music studio, for giving me the courage to find and follow my bliss. And all my love to Mom and Dad for their generous and unending support.

**Allison Kron** (ACROBAT) is a sixth grader at Reed Intermediate School in Newtown and is excited to take part in the Brookfield Playhouse. She recently appeared in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* where she was a forest fairy and danced in a gymnastics duet. Last year she had a solo, "You're Never Fully Dressed without a Smile," in *A Broadway Medley*. She currently trains at Dance, Etc in Hip Hop and musical theater. She has previous experience in jazz and ballet and was on the Gymnastics Revolution gymnastics' team for three years.

**Duane E Langenwaller** (SCENIC DESIGNER) Duane graduated from the North Carolina School of the Arts in Scenic design. After designing & Technical Directing many NYC productions he became an ASID interior designer working throughout the metropolitan area in his own firm, Enchanted Visions. Twenty three years ago, with his wife, Maureen T. Trotto (herein known as the director) and her sister, Laureen Trotto, founded Thin Air, LLC... where toys, packaging, graphics & product design all seem to appear out of Thin Air. His spare time is occupied with digital art, iaido, singing & a book of waka poetry to be titled *Few Words*, a hundred waka. He is thrilled to have this brief foray back into theatre, working with his ever lovely wife.

**Allyson Makuch** (LILI) is a sophomore at Newtown High School and can not in words express her true elation to be a part of *Carnival*. She has just recently been seen in *Into the Woods* as Florinda, and has participated in the productions of *How to Succeed*, *Oliver* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Outside of theatre her passions are ecology and agriculture. She would like to thank the cast and crew for this enlightening experience, and her family and friends for their constant support.

**Marian R. Miller** (COSTUME DESIGN), a resident of Brookfield and the Brookfield School District for thirty years is back in the wardrobe room digging for costumes. Since 1989, I have been involved with the Brookfield playhouse and all of its endeavors. Why? Here at the playhouse, one meets so many creative, wonderful, talented people, becomes familiar with great literature and music and learns to take a risk! So, once again, Bill Possidento and Maureen Trotto, thank you for presenting myself and the other team members with this unique experience!

**Catherine McCollian** (DANCING BEAR) is a freshman at New Milford High School. She was recently seen as part of the Mission Band in their production of *Guys & Dolls*. She was also seen in *Carousel* at the Thomaston Opera House and as Lucy in *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. In her spare time, Catherine is part of the Track and Field Team at New Milford High. She also plays basketball. "I would like to thank my mom for driving me everywhere and being so supportive. I would also like to thank my friends and the rest of my family for all their encouragement. Thanks to the cast and crew—you did a GREAT job!"