

The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

October 2022

Dear theater family & friends,

I am so excited and grateful to be celebrating Brookfield Theatre's 65th year providing quality live theatre and arts opportunities to the Brookfield area. From the very beginning, this has been a welcoming and supportive place for artists and people discovering talents, practicing the craft of acting, and sharing a sense of community and friendship. This building and organization are here today thanks to all the board members past and present who have invested an incredible amount of time, talent, and treasure to keep Brookfield Theatre strong, and all the volunteers on stage and off who have given so much of themselves to create shows and events that Brookfield Theatre is rightfully proud of.

Some special thanks are due to our treasurer **Danette Bottelsen** who helped us secure much needed grants, to the generosity of our **donors**, and to our loyal **subscribers**, who helped us weather the pandemic and keep going! Thanks also to **Andrew Okell** for being the theatre handyman and reorganizing the shop area, **David Jurman** and **Art Stueck** for repairing the outdoor snack shed, **Art Stueck** for rejuvenating the landscaping, **Chris Fay** for redecorating & repairing the actors' area, **David Anctil** for designing, building and decorating the new green room, and **Jane Farnol** and **Vermilion Novak** for reorganizing and sorting costumes and props. Thank you!

Here's how you can help:

- Spread the word—tell your friends about us or bring them to a show!
- Support us with your donation, subscription, or membership!
- Join us as a volunteer and help make wonderful theatre happen!

Enjoy The Show,

Lou Okell, President

OUR HISTORY

The Country Players of Brookfield was founded in 1957 by Tillie Cicala and Dot French with an ad in the local newspaper asking, "Are you a ham?" They found many hams to join their ranks and their first play was produced in 1958. Plays were initially performed in church halls and school auditoriums. After a school complained about an actor appearing on stage with no shirt, it became clear that the band of players needed a home of its own. After refurbishing this building (originally the Curtis school gym built in 1907), it has been the permanent home of Brookfield's community theater. The organization eventually grew to include a wide range of cultural offerings and, in 2003, changed its name to "The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc." to reflect this commitment. At the same time, plans began for the building of a lobby annex to offer a gathering place for social events and concerts, and gallery space for art exhibits. The new lobby was dedicated in 2005. This year marks Brookfield's 65th year as an all-volunteer, non-profit organization providing quality live performances, cultural events, and educational workshops to the community. We rely on YOU to add your love of theatre and your willingness to volunteer to help keep this dream alive! Please help us by spreading the word or consider donating your time and talent and help keep the arts in Brookfield!

Thank you for supporting our work—please help us spread the word!

tick, tick...BOOM!

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
Jonathan Larson

David Auburn
SCRIPT CONSULTANT

VOCAL ARRANGEMENT AND ORCHESTRATIONS BY
Stephen Oremus

tick, tick...BOOM!
was originally produced off-Broadway in June 2001 by
Victoria Leacock, Robyn Goodman, Dede Harris,
Lorie Cowen Levy, Beth Smith

directed by Beth Bonnabeau

TICK TICK BOOM!
is presented through special arrangement with
Music theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials area also supplied by MTI.
www.mti shows.com

**Brookfield Theatre's 65th Anniversary Season
is made possible with the support of the Department of Economic
and Community Development, Office of Arts;**

**Support has also been provided to Brookfield Theatre from
CT Humanities (CTH), with funding provided by
the Connecticut State Department of Economic and Community
Development/Connecticut Office of the Arts (COA) from the
Connecticut State Legislature;**

**And with the support of a grant from the Rodney L. White Foundation,
along with the generous donations of our many
supporters and subscribers.**

For the safety of performers, the courtesy of patrons, and in compliance with copyright laws, the taking photos or recordings of any kind is strictly prohibited. **PLEASE TURN OFF ALL** non-essential electronic devices as they can interfere with our technical systems. **Patrons are welcome to text or tweet in the lobby.**

tick, tick...BOOM!

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY **Jonathan Larson**

directed by Beth Bonnabeau

CAST

JON David Anctil
SUSAN Laura Majidian
MICHAEL Bennett Glenn Cognato

BAND

KEYBOARDS Sarah Fay
GUITAR John Hoddinott
BASS Josh Rodis
DRUMS Christian Peragine

SETTING

1990 New York

*Running Time Approx. 1 hour
There is no intermission.*

THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS OR STREAMS IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED, A VIOLATION OF THE AUTHOR(S)'S RIGHTS AND ACTIONABLE UNDER UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT LAW.

TICK, TICK...BOOM! is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International
All authorized performance materials area also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

SPECIAL THANKS to our 65th Anniversary Partners

Thank you to spring intern **Bella Dumitrascu** and summer intern **Penelope Wade** for their work in discovering and documenting images from Brookfield Theatre's past. Special thanks to **Beth Young** for all her work on the 65th Anniversary video project, to **Chris Bird** for his videography and creative input, and to all those who were interviewed for sharing their stories. We look forward to sharing their work with you later this year!

MUSICAL NUMBERS

30/90

Green Green Dress

Johnny Can't Decide

Sunday

No More

Therapy

Real Life

Sugar

See Her Smile

Come to Your Senses

Why?

30/90 (Reprise)

Louder Than Words

Be A Script Giver!

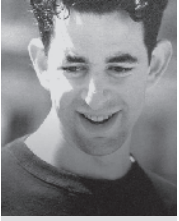
Your Donation of \$10
will buy a script for an actor
for our upcoming season.

Give the gift of a script to an actor!

Mail your check to Brookfield Theatre,
PO Box 528, Brookfield, CT 06804
or give online at www.BrookfieldTheatre.org

*Brookfield Theatre for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization.
Donations are tax deductible—contact your tax advisor for more information.*

BIOGRAPHIES



Jonathan Larson (AUTHOR & COMPOSER) was born in White Plains to a Jewish family. He was exposed to the performing arts as music and theater at an early age. He played the trumpet and tuba in his high school band, was involved in his school's choir and took formal piano lessons. Larson was also considered a great actor in high school, performing in lead roles in various productions at White Plains High School.

Larson went to Adelphi University in Garden City, Long Island, with a four-year scholarship as an acting major. In addition to performing in numerous plays and musicals during college, he began composing music, first for small student productions and later the score to a musical entitled "Libro de Buen Amor" (Book of Good Love), written by the department head, Jacques Burdick, who functioned as Larson's mentor. After graduating with a BFA, he participated in a summer stock theater program in Augusta, Michigan, as a piano player, the result of which was the earning of an Equity Card for membership in the Actors' Equity Association.

Later Larson moved to a loft with no heat on the fifth floor of a building at the corner of Greenwich Street and Spring Street in Lower Manhattan. His own friends, who lived in a harsh situation too, always described his apartment as the worse of them all. Even so, every Christmas Larson threw a party for all his friends and work colleagues, where everybody brought something. After dinner, there was usually music or acting performances from Jonathan and his friends.

For about ten years he worked as a waiter at the Moondance Diner during weekends and worked on composing and writing musicals during weekdays. At the diner Larson later met Jesse L. Martin, who was his waiting trainee and later would perform the role of Tom Collins in the original cast of RENT.

One of Jonathan Larson's best musicals is TICK, TICK...BOOM!, where he writes about a waiter wanting to be a writer, but is unable to attain success. During the performances of this musical, he met Stephen Sondheim, who later helped him to produce RENT.

Jonathan Larson was a man who called the East Village home, relishing the bohemian life of downtown New York in the late eighties and early nineties. A life-long musical theatre lover, Larson worked tirelessly to develop his own musical vision for the stage. After nearly a decade of writing and composing, Larson's rock musical RENT, a gritty urban update to Puccini's "La Bohème," premiered to enormous critical and popular success. The show reflected Larson's personal story as a struggling artist living in Alphabet City, getting by with the support of his contemporaries.

Tragically, Larson passed away suddenly the night before previews for the show began, ten days before his 36th birthday. The inspiring nature and brave subject matter of RENT gave the show a life of its own and established Larson as the voice of a new generation on stage. The show and its creator (posthumously) won the 1996 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and four Tony Awards. RENT remains a celebrated musical and cultural touchstone today.

The few grants Larson received provided him with the professional confidence to continue pursuing musical theatre and, ultimately, to finish RENT. Today, Jonathan Larson Grants are awarded to musical writers with the potential to create work that shapes contemporary culture. More information is available at americantheatrewing.org.

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Susan Abrams (ASM/LIGHTS/SOUND) This is Susan's first time working in a theatre since March of 2020 (remember that?) while performing in THREE BY TENN at the Sherman Playhouse, where she has also directed THE GRADUATE, ENCHANTED APRIL and THE GUYS. Additionally, she has directed TALK RADIO at Theatreworks New Milford and FEMALE TRANSPORT for the Phoenix Theater Company in Oakville CT. For this show, she has proven her skills at hole punching scripts and will hopefully hit the right buttons at the right times when needed. Thank you Beth and Laura and this exceptionally talented cast and crew for giving me a reason to leave the house.



David Anctil (Jon) is thrilled to be back on stage at Brookfield Theatre where he was most recently seen playing Johnny in AMERICAN IDIOT. Other favorite community and regional credits include MATILDA (Miss Trunchbull), THE 25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE (William Barfée), AVENUE Q (Brian), A CHORUS LINE (Mike), GREASE (Kenickie), FOOTLOOSE (Willard Hewitt), and HELLO, DOLLY! (Ambrose Kemper). In addition to performing, David can also be found behind the table directing and music directing throughout the region, and is a proud board member of Brookfield Theatre. David has also turned into a bit of a Jonathan Larson historian, and is in the process of adapting his show SUPERBIA (the one at the center of tick, tick... BOOM!)! Outside of theatre, David works in the non-profit ed world and spends his free time traveling, learning languages, and advocating for educational equity and anti-racist teacher leadership. All my love and appreciation to Bennett and Laura for sharing this experience with me, Miss Beth, Sarah, Laura, and Lou for the amazing opportunity, and Noah for the support!

Beth Bonnabeau (DIRECTOR) has been working locally as an actor/director for the last 30 years and is thrilled to be part of the Brookfield Theatre family! Local directing credits include AMERICAN IDIOT, THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE, PRESENT LAUGHTER, MRS. BOB CRATCHIT'S WILD CHRISTMAS BINGE, LEND ME A TENOR, THE HOUSE OF BLUE LEAVES, I NEVER SANG FOR MY FATHER, VANYA AND SONYA AND MASHA AND SPIKE, THE NERD, RENT, SPRING AWAKENING, HEATHERS THE MUSICAL, and countless plays, musicals and revue's with her childrens theatre program Miss Beth's Spotlight. When not at the theatre, Beth can be found either being "sithy" to her bonus grand-babies Harrison & Blake or missing her own kids, Josie & Jack, now in their early 20's and off living in NYC to work on their own acting careers! Beth thanks David, Laura & Bennett for being the cast of her dreams... enjoy the show!

Stephen Cihanek (LIGHTING DESIGN-2012 Volunteer of the Year) After studying theater and engineering in college, his interest in theater returned while attending the First Baptist Church in Brewster where he took on the role of technical director and lighting/sound designer (and sometimes actor) for many shows. Since then he has designed lights for Brookfield and other local theaters. Shows include DISASTER!, NIGHT OF THE ASSASSINS, BLOOD AT THE ROOT, AMERICAN IDIOT, LOST IN YONKERS, SWEENEY TODD, FROST/NIXON, DAMN YANKEES, THE FANTASTICKS, COMPANY, GODSPELL, BLITHE SPIRIT, GOD OF CARNAGE, DIVINE SISTER, BE A GOOD

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LITTLE WIDOW, INTO THE WOODS, BOOK OF LIZ, SPELLING BEE, HARVEY, DIVINERS, DINNER WITH FRIENDS, AS BEES IN HONEY DROWN, PUTTING IT TOGETHER, OUTWARD BOUND, MASTER CLASS, LITTLE RED & THE HOODS, and sound design for THOU SHALT NOT DANCE, TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, and GODSPELL. Steve is also Brookfield Theatre's house photographer. Visit him at Cihanek.com.



Bennett Cognato (Michael) feels like a kid again being back on the Brookfield stage for the first time since 2016. Bennett most recently appeared this week in front of his class of second grade students to teach lessons on math, reading and being a kind friend. This is his seventh year teaching elementary students in Hartford—shout out to the Dragons & his amazing teacher friends! Previous Brookfield Theatre credits include COMPANY (Harry), RENT (Roger), HAIR (Berger), DOG SEES

GOD (Van), and several other shows in musician and technical support roles. Thanks go out to the many friends, family and mentors that have inspired me in my journey as an artist and that help create meaningful community art—Mom, Dad, Big Bro (and all my family), Karlyn, David, Rob, Michael, Jill, Niz & Diane, Lou & Andy, Beth, Laura x2, Sarah, Raven, and more. Jonathan Larson dedicated his life to creating music and theatre that would bring people together; I hope our performance inspires you to rise above fear and to choose doing what you love together with the world. Enjoy the show and see you at the FUN HOME in December 2023!

Chris Fay (SPOTLIGHT) is very happy to return to Brookfield Theatre, this time in the booth! Chris is usually seen on stage here, most recently in DISASTER! (Wealthy Husband) as well as in BLOOD AT THE ROOT (Principal), THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS (Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd) and COMPANY (Larry). Chris thanks you for coming to today's performance. A special thanks to his darling wife Sarah for all of her love and support.

Sarah Fay (MUSICAL DIRECTOR, KEYBOARD) is a keyboardist, singer and music educator with a wide-ranging background encompassing Broadway and classical styles to rock. Following her selection as a Tanglewood Young Artist in her youth, she earned a Bachelor of Music from Boston University and a Master of Science in Education (Music) from WCSU. She is a founding member of the quartet, "ensemble earlybird," which specializes in Renaissance music and has performed at venues ranging from Yale University's Battell Chapel to inside the iconic tunnel at Steep Rock. She is the organist and Music Director for the First Congregational Church of New Milford, and teaches voice and piano at The Frederick Gunn School, Bearclaw's Music Academy, and FineLine Theatre Arts. Her first production at Brookfield Theatre was A DAY IN HOLLYWOOD/A NIGHT IN THE UKRAINE, where she met the love of her life, Chris Fay. Recent musical direction credits include SWEENEY TODD, BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE, 25TH ANNUAL...SPELLING BEE, and YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN. She appeared most recently as Mary in Brookfield's production of TITLE OF SHOW.

Laura Gilbert (STAGE MANAGER) has been stage managing in local community theaters since 2005 and there are too many shows to list. She has directed two shows, AN INSPECTOR CALLS and OF MICE AND MEN at The Sherman Playhouse, as well as serving on their board as Vice President for about 3 years.

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She has been seen on stage TALK RADIO (Spike and various callers) and OPERA COMIQUE (Odelle). Thank you Bill and Sebastian for putting up with my being gone especially at dinner time. I love you both. David, Laura, and Bennett, it has truly been a pleasure working with you! You guys got this! BOOM!

John Hoddinott (GUITAR) is a guitarist, private music instructor, and recent graduate of the University of Connecticut where he studied with and was directed by prolific jazz educators and performers such as Douglas Maher, Earl MacDonald, and Gregg August. In addition to his studies at UConn, John had the privilege of studying guitar extensively with Christopher Morrison, instructor of music at WCSU. John is an in demand pit orchestra musician in Fairfield and Westchester county, accompanying performances of all types. In addition to performing, music education and teaching is deeply important to John.

David Jurman (SOUND DESIGN) has been involved in music and theater since first grade. He has worked as lighting tech, set construction, and effects for Sacred Heart Theater, Old Polka Dot Play House (on Pleasure Beach), and Monroe's Country Collage Players. He joined Brookfield Theater as Vocal Director in 2016 for THE FANTASTIKS and worked as vocal coach for DAMN YANKEES. David has had the honor of singing under the direction of Sir David Willcocks, John Rutter, George Kent, and Willie Zwadeski. At present David sings with Tina Heidrich and the Connecticut Master Chorale and is a member of the Nova Scotia Choral Federation. He is thrilled to be supporting and working with Brookfield Theater. He previously volunteered as Musical Director for the Spotlight Program and has performed on stage in LION IN WINTER. He has designed and assisted with sound and lights for many shows. *"Art and Music are essential to a well-rounded education" "Music is love in search of a word."*



Laura Majidian (SUSAN) is extremely excited to be making her Brookfield Theater debut in TICK, TICK...BOOM! alongside her incredible castmates. Laura is emerging from a years long hiatus from the theater, during which she obtained her MSW from Fordham University and helped make some fairly cute kids. At home, she'd like to think she has been performing in the real-life role of "cool mom," but has received mixed reviews from her children. Prior to her break, she was cast in Pipeline Theatre Company's production of PSYCHO BEACH PARTY (Marvel Ann) in NYC. Laura received her BFA in Drama from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, where she studied with the Atlantic Acting School. She extends a big THANK YOU to Brookfield for being so welcoming and such a lovely home away from home throughout the rehearsal process, and also a HUUUGE thank you to Rauf, Lola, and Cyrus for not burning their actual home down while she was there!

Andrew Okell (SET BUILD-2011 Volunteer of the Year) first started in theatre at the tender age of 8 in THE TIME MACHINE. He has been building/designing sets at Brookfield since 2008. Favorites include LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS, MOONLIGHT & MAGNOLIAS (Rose Brand Best Amateur Set Design 2012), STEEL MAGNOLIAS, LION IN WINTER, MOON OVER BUFFALO, and personal favorite NOISES OFF. Thank you to his building cohorts for enabling him, Lou for tolerating him, and Emma for letting him build her doghouse.

Kate Patton (PRODUCER) first graced the Brookfield stage in the 2015 production of GODSPELL playing various roles. Since then she has been in several other

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productions throughout the last 7 years including COMPANY (Sarah), BARE (Nadia), CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF, Staged reading: THE CRUCIBLE (Mary Warren), NOISES OFF (Poppy), THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS (Angel), AMERICAN IDIOT, CONTEMPORARY MUSICAL THEATER CABARET, and THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY CABARET. In 2016, she made her directorial debut with Agatha Christie's AND THEN THERE WERE NONE. Kate has gone to from doing back-to-back shows to changing back-to-back diapers for her twin boys—Blake & Harrison. She offers tremendous thanks to her amazingly supportive and talented husband (who has also been in several Brookfield productions) for always understanding her need to be involved in theatre. She also thanks the cast and production team for all of the hard work and laughs.

Christian Peragine (DRUMS) was born with a pair of drumsticks in his hands. With a professional drummer for a father, he pretty much grew up on the side of a stage. Having had the chance to bang the drums in places like the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame when he was just a toddler, he had performing in his blood. Christian has played in rock, marching, jazz, symphonic bands and pit orchestras. Coming off recent Brookfield Theatre productions as the drummer/percussionist for THE BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE IN TEXAS, AMERICAN IDIOT and multiple cabarets, he doesn't care where it is or what the style is, he just loves performing and hopes you will enjoy the show!

Josh Rodis (BASS GUITAR) is ecstatic to be making his Brookfield Theatre debut playing bass in the pit. Josh is a recent graduate from Naugatuck Valley Community College where he studied voice, jazz guitar, composition, audio engineering, sound design, acting, and theatre production. He received his Associates in Music and Theatre, as well as a certification in Audio Production in the summer of 2022. He now works as an Educational Assistant at NVCC in technical theatre and loves to help incoming students find their passion and teach them how to embrace themselves and their humanity through the arts. He also takes up freelance gigs in bands, pits, music production, and live audio. His past credits include: MAMMA MIA (guitar), ...SPELLING BEE (tech), I AND YOU (Anthony), PIPPIN (tech), CARRIE (guitar), AMERICAN IDIOT (bass), PERSEPHONE (penitent), MR. BURNS: A POST-ELECTRIC PLAY (MD, guitar), A-REBOURS, A Dance Piece by Aguibou Bougabali Sanou (MD, guitar), LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (guitar), A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM (Robin Starveling), LOVE/SICK (Obsessive Impulsive), NEXT TO NORMAL (Henry), GREASE (Sonny), HEATHERS (Kurt's Dad), ONCE UPON A MATTRESS (The Minstrel).

Charlotte (Lulu) Rothen (LIGHTS) is a senior at Western Connecticut State University getting their degree in English literature. They are an aspiring playwright and poet. They have been helping on shows with Beth Bonnabeau since 2016 with her children's theater programs. They love theater and are considering getting a graduate degree in Scenic Design or Stage Management. They would like to thank Beth for all of her love and support, as well as their friends and family for always being there for them.

Jocelyn Titus (SOUND) is happy to be working with this amazing cast and crew to bring this show to life. She has been a part of many shows at Brookfield Theater including Mimi in RENT and Mayzie in SEUSSICAL JR. She would like to thank her family and friends for all the support and patience.

tick, tick...BOOM!

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY **Jonathan Larson**

directed by Beth Bonnabeau

PRODUCTION CREW

DIRECTOR Beth Bonnabeau
MUSICAL DIRECTOR Sarah Fay
STAGE MANAGER Laura Gilbert
LIGHTING DESIGN Stephen Cihanek
SOUND DESIGN David Jurman & Lou Okell
SET DESIGN Andrew Okell
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER/TECH CREW. Susan Abrams
SOUND Jocelyn Titus
LIGHTS Lulu Rothan
SPOT Chris Fay
SET BUILD & DECORATION Andrew Okell, David Anctil,
Emma Okell, Lou Okell, Sharon Suchecki
HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHER. Stephen Cihanek
OPENING NIGHT PARTY Andy & Lou

Special Thanks

Arkettype Graphics, Liz Milazzo & Savers

In compliance with CDC recommendations, please follow current mask & social distance guidelines. Remain seated throughout the performance and mingle with cast and friends in the lobby or outdoors after the show.

EMERGENCY FIRE NOTICE

Please observe the **EXIT** sign nearest to the seat which you occupy. It is the shortest route to the exterior of the building. In the unlikely event of an emergency, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.
