

Actorsingers Newsletter

OVATION

Dec 2008/Jan 2009 Issue

Editor: Kerry Schneider

***** **Semi-Annual Meeting** *****

Friday, January 23, 2009

6:30 Social / 7:00 Meeting

Twice a year the Actorsingers hold a business meeting open to the general public. We strongly encourage all members to attend and discuss the important issues of the organization. Mark the date, **Friday, January 23**. This is your chance to be heard and express opinions on matters of relevance. We need a Quorum of the active members (those who have paid dues for at least 2 years and have participated in 1 Actorsingers function per year) in order to take any votes or action on an issue. Please plan to attend. We are only as strong as our membership. Everyone is welcome!

* As part of The Actorsingers environmental initiative, hard copies of The Treasurer's report will not be available at the meeting. If you would like a hard copy, E-mail Glen Grimard prior to the meeting at Grim856@aol.com phone: (978) 204-2678

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL, JR!

A Jr. Actorsingers Show!

Info Night: Sun, December 21 from 4 - 5:30

Auditions: Jan. 4, 2009 from 2 - 5 pm.

Doors will open at 1 pm for paperwork and to learn the dance.



Children must be Actorsinger Family members in order to audition. (Dues of \$15 – valid until June 30, 2009). Can be paid at auditions or info nite. Both will be held at The Actorsingers Hall, 219 Lake St., Nashua

Show Dates: March 13-15 at the Streeter Theater, 14 Court St., Nashua (across from the Library)

Directed by **Mike Ryder** Musical Direction by **Jed Holland** Choreography by **Jennifer Ryder**
Produced by **Pat Silva** and **Silvia Harper** Tech Director: **Steve Harper** Costumes: **Evelynn Decker**

High School Musical, Jr. is a condensed version of the Disney phenomenon. The show is fun and energetic and will feature lots of children ages 8 - 13. Rehearsals will be Sunday afternoons and Thursday evenings.

**For tickets to High School Musical, Jr. or The Producers
Call (603) 320-1870**

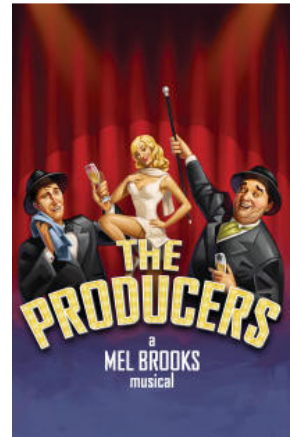
Auditions:

The Producers - Performed on **2 Weekends!**

May 1, 2, 3 and May 8 and 9
at The Keefe Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua

We welcome Directors **Kathy Lovering** (Dramatics),
Judy Hayward (Music) and **Val Psoinos** (Choreography).

Info Nite: Friday, January 26: 7:00 pm at The Actorsingers Hall,
219 Lake St., Nashua. Come meet the Directors, hear what the show is about,
learn what the vision is for the production, and find out how auditions will be run.
Ask any questions and get a feel for the show. Everyone is welcome.



Auditions: Sunday, February 8: 6-10 pm and Monday, February 9: 7-10 pm. The Hall will be open one hour prior to auditions to warm up, sign in and learn the dance routine. Please prepare a song that showcases your voice in the style of the show and bring sheet music. A short dance routine will be taught and performed in small groups. A complete character breakdown is available on our Website on **The Producers** page. (www.actorsingers.org)

Once cast, everyone who performs on stage must be an Actorsingers member (Dues are \$10 Individual or \$15 Family and are valid through 6/30/09.) You do NOT have to be a member to audition. Come with a bunch of friends!

The Actorsingers need you to serve on a committee, sell tickets, work crew, audition and be a part of ***The Producers!*** Volunteer to work on Sets, Costumes, Props, Makeup, etc. We need you!!!! Be a part of the Actorsingers family. See a show from a different angle - help behind the scenes! It'll make you appreciate what the audience sees!

***** ACTORSINGERS MEMBERS ONLY *****

Discounted tickets to *The Producers!!!*

Purchase tickets or Gift Vouchers *now* at the discounted price of \$15.00 per ticket for Adults and \$12.00 for Students and Seniors!

(a savings of \$3 off the regular ticket prices...no other discounts apply)

This offer is good **ONLY** until January 31, 2009 and **MUST** be done by calling Kerry Schneider (603) 888-2837. There is **no limit** on the amount of tickets or Gift vouchers you can buy at this price, but hurry – offer will expire on January 31!

***** Ticket Gift Vouchers *****

CHOOSE any date you want to see *The Producers*

We will mail a special voucher that can be redeemed for any performance of the show. (reserved seats based on availability). Call Kerry Schneider (603) 888-2837 or ActingKer@aol.com for details

A Character Breakdown of all the roles in **The Producers** is at the end of this document for our online readers.

Calling all Directors! - The Board is soliciting proposals and Directors for our summer Teen Actorsingers show to be performed July 31-August 2 at the Streeter Theatre, 14 Ct. St. in Nashua. Please send a letter of intent, a proposed show, and a resume to secretary@actorsingers.org. before December 31. Interviews will be held in January.

Any Directors who are interested in *Anything Goes*, our Fall musical, please contact secretary@actorsingers.org. Interviews will be held in early February. Individuals are welcome to apply, as are full teams of director, music director, and choreographer.

The Actorsingers Welcomes our 2008/2009 Sponsors:

Extra Storage Space (new Gold Sponsor) and **TD Bank North** (Bronze sponsor – 2nd year!)

In this time of economic cutbacks it's heartening to see both of these companies supporting the Arts. Thank You!

News From the Board:

The next **Board Meeting** will be held January 6, 2009 at 7:00 pm. at The Actorsingers Hall, 219 Lake St., Nashua

If you are using the hall during the winter months, **DO NOT SHUT OFF THE HEATERS!** Simply set them to low when you leave the building. Also, keep the doors on the second floor **CLOSED** at all times. Fire safety regulation.

There has been some position shuffling on the Board of Directors recently. **Deb Walz** is now Recording Secretary. She is filling **Pam Bruckman's** seat. Pam has switched to Corresponding Secretary, filling **Pat Siva's** seat and Pat is now a Director, filling Deb Walz's seat. Got all that?!! These changes are interim and will expire at the Annual meeting in June. It's never too early to volunteer to serve on The Nominating Committee or to serve on The Board. Please contact secretary@actorsingers.org to throw your name in the ring. Thank you to all our volunteers.

SEUSSICAL

What a delightful show! Everyone involved should pat themselves on the back. Kudos to all! Thank you to the entire cast and crew and all the newcomers who helped behind the scenes. This was a wonderful family show that our audiences couldn't stop raving about. Since the show was performed near Veteran's Day, The Actorsingers were proud to honor Veterans and those currently serving in the Military with *Free tickets* to the Production. Thank you to those who serve our country. We salute you! In addition, in the spirit of giving back to the community, The Actorsingers offered a number of complimentary seats to The Nashua Children's home and Big Brothers/Big Sisters. All of these organizations were appreciative.

Hats off to **Silvia Harper** for arranging the **SEUSSICAL Pancake Breakfast** at Applebees restaurant as a fundraiser for The Actorsingers Scholarship Fund. Over 90 people attended and it was both a social and financial success. Thanks to costumed characters **Rachel Cerullo Romano, Zach Bencal, Molly Bruckman, Caitlin Thistle** and **Jen Sassak** for making it fun! And to **Jon Fisher, Kim Spaziani** and **Tina Crawford** for making them look good. Thanks also to **Katrina Fisher, Kathy Lovering** and **Katie Poulin** for helping serve. No one left hungry!

Another Hats off to **Silvia Harper** (how many hats does this woman have???) for arranging a second restaurant fundraiser to benefit The Actorsingers during **SEUSSICAL**, this time at UNO's Restaurant. Haven't heard the final numbers on this one, but I understand it was also a great success. Thank you Silvia for coming up with innovative ideas.

The New Hampshire Theatre Awards – The NH Theatre Awards are set for Friday, Feb. 6, 2009 at the Palace Theatre in Manchester. The Actorsingers recent productions of *BEAUTY and the BEAST* and *SEUSSICAL* are being considered for various honors. Good luck to all who have been involved in these productions. For tickets to the event or further information, visit NHTheatre.com. Thank you to **Martha Holland** for organizing a group sale for Actorsingers. We are gonna have one helluva cheering section!

The New England Regional Festival will take place in Groton, MA on March 14 and 15, 2009. **Vital Signs**, The Actorsingers entry in the NHCTA Festival this past fall will be in contention. Good luck to all!

Kudos to **The Actorsingers Youth Choir** who represented us at the Nashua Holiday Stroll. What a fabulous night it turned out to be with thousands of people strolling Main Street on the perfectly clear, crisp evening. A great event! The Youth Choir (ages 9-19) will be accepting new members for future gigs. Interested? Contact secretary@actorsingers.org

Infant Jesus School in Nashua is looking for actors to come into their school and speak about their experiences. Contact Karla Black at black@ijschool.org or call (603) 889-1191 if you're interested.

Thank you to **Glen Grimard** who attempted to arrange a Karaoke night for The Actorsingers this past month, but because of the timing and with the recent storm, it was not meant to be.

Don't have the info yet on the **Annual After Holiday, Holiday Party**, but look for this purely social event in the next edition of The Ovation.

Our Sincerest Condolences to the Family and Friends of long time member, **B. Allan Sprague**

Although Allan hadn't graced our stage in many years (*Funny Girl* – 1983), he was a loyal member of The Actorsingers and a generous supporter of the arts. He will be missed in the theater community.

In and About Town – First, Get well wishes to **Rich Glynn** who will be undergoing surgery very soon. Our prayers are with you for a speedy recovery. **Donna O'Bryant Metzger** choreographed *Sweet Charity* for The Colonial Players in Reading, MA which featured **Ben Pascucci**. **Catherine Andruskevich's** son, Carl Andress, directed the show, *The Third Story* in La Jolla, CA and it is now headed for Broadway! Omitted from the last Ovation were **Emily Ellett** and **Josh Rotz** who were also in StageCoach's *Sweeney Todd*. Backstage on that production were **Beth Schwartz**, **Ricky Brooks** and **Silvia Harper** and **Deb Walz** played in the orchestra. **Daniel Schwartzberg** is in *Falsetto's* for The Manchester Community Players. New Actorsingers members **Eric Skoglund** and **Erica Newhall** hosted Yellow Taxis' Gala Fundraiser this fall which featured **Barbara Lawler** as one of the performers. A Happy 50th Birthday to **Josh Friedman** who celebrated by taking wife **Amy** on a vacation to Cancun! Heard from **Danny Crawford**, who is attending Manhattan College. He has been elected to The Players Theatre group and performed in both Halloween and Christmas Cabarets. **Nickie Dubick** is President of Nashua North High School's Chorus and just made Jazz Allstate. In 2009 she will be joining The Young Americans performing troupe and is looking forward to touring the US. Ex-member **John Ogrodowczyk** (*Titanic*-2002) has just released a CD entitled *Faith...and Beyond*. The dinner theater troupe, Mayhem and Murder will now boast having **Glen Grimard** as a player. Peacock Players' *Godspell* has **Judy Hayward** as MD and **Martha Daniels Holland** as Choreographer, assisted by **Beth Fenske**. Both Martha and Beth performed in that show when the Actorsingers did it back in 1995. Did anyone catch ex-member **Michael Coppola** (*Oklahoma*-2007) playing a lawyer on TV's All My Children? Ghostlight Theatre's recent show, *Seven Santas*, featured **Chuck Emmons**. **Steve Harper** will be Directing *Floyd Collins* for StageCoach Productions in March. **Judy Hayward** will handle MD duties. Congratulations to **Jen Sassak** on her engagement! Ex-member **Alexandra Socha** (*42nd Street*-2005) will end her run as the lead in *Spring Awakening* on Broadway in January, so catch her while you can if you're heading to the Big Apple over the holidays. And to everyone who braved this recent ice storm with compassion for neighbors and friends – a big Thank You! A trying time for all. Hope everyone has a Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, a Wonderous Solstice and a Joyous Holiday!

Until next time... news? call Kerry (603) 888-2837 or E-mail ActingKer@aol.com

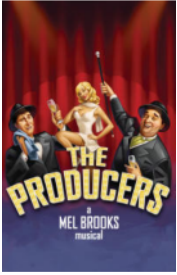
Many thanks to our Corporate Sponsors



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The Ovation

c/o The Actorsingers
P.O. Box 91
Nashua, NH 03061



*Audition Information on
both of these shows
inside!*

High School Musical, Jr. is
our Jr. Actorsingers show.

The Producers is our Adult
Mainstage Production.

Mark these exciting ACTORSINGERS Dates on your calendar!!

December 21	Info Nite – High School Musical Jr. 4-5:30 pm
January 4	Auditions - High School Musical, Jr. 2-5 pm
January 6	Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
January 23	Semi Annual Meeting – 6:30 pm
January 26	Info Nite – The Producers – 7:00 pm
February 6	NH Theatre Awards – Palace Theatre

February 8 and 9	Auditions – The Producers
March 13-15	High School Musical, Jr. - Court St. Theater
March 14 and 15	New England Regional Festival
May 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9	The Producers – Keefe Auditorium

Remember to check our Web site www.Actorsingers.org for detailed up to the minute information

Character Analysis

Max Bialystock – You must “blow us away” at auditions. Max is an over-the-top, high-energy, Professor Harold Hill/Teveye-type. Once known as the King of Broadway, he’s become a producer of Broadway flops. He raises money for his shows by romancing wealthy little old ladies. Should appear to be late 40’s/early 50’s.....stocky, but has to be able to move around a lot. Always has an answer, always has a plan. A quick-talker, but you don’t miss a word he says...Perhaps one of the best roles ever written for a comic lead.

Vocal Range – Bari-Tenor

Dance – Moderate. Must be able to move and have good stamina.

Leopold Bloom – A lovable nerd that can sing, dance and act. He is a meek (and wimpy at times,) law-abiding and courteous accountant....believes he should do everything by the book. Has always dreamed of being a Broadway producer. An absolute contrast to Max, character-wise and physically. Should appear to be in his 30’s, tallish, slender, neat and clean.

Vocal Range – Bari-Tenor

Dance- Moderate-Heavy. Tap experience would be great. Big ballroom dance with Ulla.

Franz Liebkind – Yikes! Franz is a German Nazi who now resides in New York and has written the play, “Springtime for Hitler” a tribute to his hero. This is the play that Max hopes to produce that will be a sure-fire flop. When we first meet Franz, he is seen wearing lederhosen, army boots and an army helmet while singing to his collection of singing carrier pigeons. He is a nut! Franz must be able to do a German accent that we can understand clearly. Can appear to be in his 30’s-40’s.

Vocal Range - Baritone

Dance- Light-Moderate. More character dancing than anything else.

Roger DeBris – The over-the-top flamboyant director that Max has chosen to direct Springtime for Hitler (he’s looking for the worst director to create the biggest flop.) When we first meet Roger, he is wearing a silverish gown that he’ll be wearing to a costume ball (he’s going as the Grand Duchess, Anastasia). He at first declines to direct the show because it’s too serious, but eventually agrees, providing they can “Keep It Gay” (he wants to rewrite the play so that Hitler wins and it has a happy ending...!) Roger should appear to be late 30’s/early 40’s. Must show over-the-top stereotypical flamboyant director traits.

Vocal Range - Tenor

Dance- Light – Moderate

Carmen Ghia – This is Roger’s common-law assistant....and is as flamboyant as Roger... Together, he and Roger make for an hysterical couple, arguing cattily yet exchanging winks from time to time. Carmen should appear to be about the same age as Roger, perhaps a bit smaller in stature than Roger.

Vocal Range – Second Tenor

Dance- Moderate.

Ulla – A knock-out, sexy, tall blonde Swedish woman. (we can work on the blonde...might have to make concessions for the tall...but MUST be sexy) Must be able to read with a stereotypical Swedish accent...She comes to audition for the show, Max & Leo hire her as a receptionist/secretary, though her limited English allows her to say little more than “Bialystock and Bloom..” Her song, “When You Got It, Flaunt It” characterizes her quite nicely!

Vocal Range – Second Soprano

Dance- Moderate-Heavy. Has a dance solo (If you can do splits that would be great) Big ballroom number with Leo.

Other minor character parts:

The Usherettes – 2 girls open the show and Act 2-3 with the song titled “Opening Night”

Hold Me Touch Me – one of the many old ladies who help finance Max's creations. She has a very funny scene with him in his office. She needs to be able to look and sound as if she's 75-80 years old...great character part.

Mr. Marks – Leopold Bloom's grouchy, condescending boss at the accounting firm.

Roger DeBris's Team: **Bryan** the set designer (Tenor), **Kevin** the costume designer (bari-tenor), **Scott** the choreographer (MUST BE ABLE TO DANCE), all as flamboyant as Roger and Carmen...have solo lines in song "Keep it Gay," along with **Shirley Markowitz**, the lighting designer....a very "butch" woman who also likes to keep it gay....(Alto)

Hitler Auditioners:

Jack Lapidus – auditions with "A Wandering Minstrel I" (Tenor)

Donald Dinsmore – auditions with "The Little Wooden Boy" (but never gets to actually sing...)

Jason Green – auditions with "Have You Ever Heard the German Band"

The Storm Trooper/Tenor – sings "Springtime for Hitler" theme song – awesome opportunity for a strong tenor

The Police Sergeant
Three Patrolmen

The Guard in the Prison

Judge in the Courtroom
Foreman of the Jury

The Prison Trustee

Ensemble Numbers:

Opening Night – 6 First-nighter couples who have come to see Max's latest flop, "Funny Boy, A New Musical of Hamlet"

"King of Old Broadway" – A newspaper vendor, two nuns, two workmen, a blind man, a bum, a bag lady, a cop, two "street walkers" and their escort (the usherettes will be in this, too) **Dance is a spoof on Fiddler so everyone needs to have good moving capabilities.

"I Wanna Be a Producer" – 6 accountants, 12 or so show girls that can tap ** Dance is a huge Tap number. Don't worry, I will get you to where I need you to be but Tap experience is a must! Pigeon Puppeteers – Franz has 8 pigeons (puppets) that accompany him. Will need 4 people

Other members of Roger's household... Sabu – the houseboy, wears a loin cloth and turban An Indian in full dress, a sailor and a sun-glassed policeman (yup, just like the Village People!) All sing along in "Keep It Gay" Reprise ** Dance is heavy. All should be able to move. Lots of "character" dancing!

"Along Came Bialy" - The Old Ladies in Little Old Lady Land – all ensemble – women AND men will become little old ladies for this number. **Dance is heavy here. The taps are on the walkers but everyone needs to have a sense of rhythm. I'll get you to where I need you to be! Really fun dance number!!

The Auditions for Hitler in "Springtime for Hitler" – an assortment of dancing and singing auditioners

"Springtime for Hitler" – German peasants; tapping storm-troopers (male and female); 4 showgirls with large head-dresses (and Ulla is a 5th); The Heilo's – a chorus of two women/three men who dance/sing a latino-sounding piece; (some of the peasants may become storm-troopers for the big finale) **This dance has lots going on. There is tap, and everything else in between. There is a place for everyone!

"Til Him" - The courtroom scene – a small jury of 5; a handful of old ladies

"Prisoners of Love" – Male and female prisoners in prison garb *Dance is moderate- heavy. Starts with men, then goes to women, then a combo of the both!
