2021-2022 Report to the Membership First City Players



Community Theatre for Ketchikan, Alaska December 6, 2022



First City Players

Annual Meeting and Report to the Membership Tuesday, December 6, 2022 July 2021 - June 2022

Board of Governors

Officers

President Glenn Brown
Vice-President Lori Orlowski
Secretary Deidra Nuss
Treasurer Michelle Short

Members-at-large

Robin Ashcraft (resigned) Traci Biss (Resigned)

Becca Doyle Jeff Fitzwater Lindsey Johnson Greg Karlik

Romanda Simpson (resigned) Tommy Varela-Kossak

Torah Zamora

FIRST CITY PLAYERS FY21 Paid Staff

Permanent Staff

Executive Artistic Director Elizabeth Nelson
Marketing & Outreach Director Amanda Glanzer
Education Coordinator (part-time) Jack Finnegan

StarPath Teaching Staff

Dani Pratt Clare Bennett Krista Kimball Jack Finnegan Ty Hewitt

ArtsCool Teaching Staff

Clare Bennett Ashley Byler Elizabeth Nelson Deidra Nuss Intern: Andrea Short

Guest Artist Matt King

Guest Directors

Bridgett Mattson Keith Smith Clare Bennett

Technical Artists

Kyle G. Bailey Beth Brandt-Erichsen Brian Curtis Pamela Duran

Sherry Henrickson Cameo McRoberts

Barbara Morgan Keith Smith Stephen Varela-Kossak Felix Wong

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

December 6, 2022

Dear Members of First City Players,

We all keep saying it - the last couple of years have been hard. But I once again have to say how proud I am of First City Players and all of our volunteers for making theatre happen no matter what.

For me, last year was a gift. In a normal year I direct up to six productions including ArtsCool and the *Fish Pirate's Daughter*, which takes a lot of time away from my family. Last year there were three wonderful, gifted, talented humans who stepped forward and let me take time away from the director's chair and have more time with my family—which was precious as it was the last year my son would be living at home.

I also was given the gift of being on stage with said son which was so special to me and something I will always cherish. I love the show *Pippin* and to be able to share the stage with not only some supremely gifted performers, but to also have the opportunity to be onstage with Phillip was something that I will carry with me forever. So to Bridget Mattson and her creative team: thank you for that gift.

I was so pleased that we were able to create a way to make our annual Jazz/Cabaret Festival work. Even though it was smaller, it was still a delight. We missed all the artists who couldn't join us, but were so blessed to have Matt King share his enormous talents and generous spirit with us. To be back on stage making music and to hear the sound of our participants singing were things of beauty.

What a glorious experience it is to watch the wonderfully talented Keith Smith solve a problem. This past winter, he directed *Eurydice*, which is full of problems. How do you create a house out of string...onstage? How do you make an elevator that rains? These were but two of those problems. He not only solved those problems, but directed a moving and beautiful production. I was so happy to be able to see this show night after night. Talk about a gift!

Which brings us to the show I *did* direct. In the spring of 2020 I was scheduled to direct the small cast musical *Honk!* but we all know what happened then! We finally were able to produce this show in April and what a gift it was. Not only is the book and music charming and altogether wonderful, but I had the best creative team in the world: Jillian Pollock, Kim Henrickson, Grace Louise, Clare Bennett, Sherry Henrickson. Add to that a cast of decicated, talented humans who made every rehearsal a joy and this will remain one of my favorite directing experiences.

And last, but oh, so, *not* least, the wonderful Clare Bennett directed the very complicated production of *Peter and the Starcatcher*. This is a show that has so many possible ways of going wrong, and she didn't go any way but right! Her production was funny, inventive, fast-paced, and utterly spellbinding. She put a huge bow on the gift of the season that was 2021-22.

Happy Christmas,



Executive Artistic Director

FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 6, 2022

To the Entire First City Players Family,

Please accept my warmest wishes for a happy holiday season to each of you, and my offered hope for a healthy and prosperous year ahead.

The Year 2022 was a year of rebirth as First City Players fully exited the COVID era and again offered a full season of diverse and inspired productions. The staff and all the volunteers were proud to show the community that we're back and better than ever! The resumption of normalcy allowed the start of adult acting classes held in the spring, the fun of Honk!, a full and successful summer of ArtsCool programming, and the full-of-laughs musical 9 to 5 that wrapped up just weeks ago.

Through the commitment, creative thought, and guidance of our tireless staff, it is the continued desire of the Board of Governors to see First City Players continue to offer inspiring, uplifting, and challenging performances featuring some of the very best talent Ketchikan has to offer. There are truly no words powerful enough to recognize the work of our staff and the program stability they provide. Their accomplishments and those to come - no mean feat - are made possible by our incredible team of volunteers. The volunteers fill our stages with wonderful talent, make our backstage functions happen seamlessly, fill our performances with amazing live music, and provide sound and lighting that allow all of the beauty to be seen and heard. We are deeply in their collective debt. Finally, through the blessings and support of YOU, our members, sponsors, and patrons that we remain solvent and ready to enter the new year with fresh ideas, fresh optimism, and unending gratitude for the joy we all share by way our involvement in First City Players. I believe First City Players to be the artistic and cultural soul of the Ketchikan performing arts community and am proud to be a small part.

Blessings to you all for a healthy and prosperous 2023!

Glenn Brown FCP Board of Governors

FROM THE EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Dear Members of First City Players,

Education programming saw a strong rebound in First City Players' most recently-concluded fiscal year, and it was my great pleasure not only to play a role in advancing the cause of theatre education in our community, but also to personally take advantage of newer offerings for adults

Here are a few highlights:

- ArtsCool continued its incredible run of safely-produced shows through the pandemic, with stagings of 101 Dalmatians, KIDS and Matilda, JR
- Jazz & Cabaret returned, with classes that sold out quickly and performances that won hearts.
- Homegrown talent Ty Hewitt shared his deep training and wide range of professional experience in an Adult Scene Study class, which promptly sold out.
- Starpath returned, with classes for youth of all ages above preschool, including informal in-house performances of self-created works.
- Homegrown talent Tallie Medel, whose career in film saw a major boost with this year's "Everything Everywhere All at Once" offered several clowning workshops.
- Your community theatre Education Coordinator Jack Finnegan (that's me!) stood for a multi-week residency at Tongass School of Arts and Sciences, teaching theatre skills to students from pre-kindergarten through the 6th grade (plus a few willing teachers).

First City Players is thrilled to see a renewed theatre program at Ketchikan High School, and a growing program at Schoenbar Middle School. The more opportunities kids and adults have to engage with the performing arts, the better: the creative practices of self-expression and technical production are often-thrilling, and challenging, manifestations of human ingenuity. The critical thinking, problem-solving, and collaborative efforts involved in producing theatre enrich our lives as individuals, and enhance our community at large. Having more kids get involved strengthens the future of theatre in Ketchikan and beyond.

If you (or your young ones) have taken classes in the past, we look forward to seeing you in the coming year. If you haven't taken a class yet... what are you waiting for?!

See you on the boards,

Jack Finnegan
Education Coordinator

FROM THE TREASURER

December 6, 2022

Dear First City Play Members,

Another year of challenges, another year of continuing to create theater in our community. Fiscal year ended June 30, 2022 was a year like none other experienced by our organization. If you recall from last year's report, we were fortunate to receive numerous 'out of the ordinary' grants (totaling \$87K) during the previous fiscal year to help the organization continue operations in a COVID-impacted environment. This additional funding was vital to First City Player's financial survival this fiscal year.

Due to COVID restrictions, we were unable to hold our largest fundraiser Divas/Divos competition in September 2021. We continued to limit audiences for performances for a good portion of the fiscal year, adhering to COVID precautionary measures, which in turn resulted in lower ticket sale revenues. The profit and loss statement included later in this report looks... scary. First City Players had a net loss of approximately of just under \$47K for this fiscal year. HOWEVER, since we received extra grants the PREVIOUS fiscal year, we had funds 'banked' to continue to pay the bills, keep our doors open, and produce shows and other programming for our community. We continue to fulfill our mission.

But the future is bright!! Our July/August 2022 Artscool program was highly successful. We brought back the Divas/Divos show in September 2022. Our fall musical 9 to 5 was well received and had strong ticket sales. We have weathered the storm financially and look forward to a stronger financial fiscal year ending June 30, 2023!

As we move forward, YOU have a big part in contributing to the financial success of First City Players. Come to a show. Come to EVERY show! Bring friends! Consider First City Players in your year-end financial giving. Invest in YOUR community theater, investing in the lives of so many others in our community.

Thank you for supporting First City Players, and we hope to see you at a show soon!

Sincerely,

First City Players Board Treasurer

Michelle Short

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE FIRST CITY PLAYERS

First City Players is a non-profit community organization dedicatred to promoting and devoloping lifelong artists and audiences in the greater Ketchikan community, and bringing them together for dynamic and meaningful experiences in the performing arts.

PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE FIRST CITY PLAYERS

The objectives of the First City Players are:

- 1. To cultivate interest among children and adults in classic and contemporary theatre.
- 2. To provide Southern Southeast Alaskan audiences a wide range of theatrical experiences.
- 3. To provide educational opportunities in all aspects of theatre.
- 4. To enable volunteers and professionals interested in any aspect of theatrical production to become involved, to mature and grow in their particular field as actor, director, technician, manager or playwright.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in theatre arts and the goals and objectives of the First City Players. Membership is an integral part of our organization and it is with great pleasure that we have watched our membership grow significantly over the past years. This year the board upgraded our membership levels and incentives.

ADMINISTRATION

The FCP membership meets annually to elect the Board of Governors. The Board meets monthly to plan and make policy. The Executive Artistic Director implements the decisions of the Board and executes the day-to-day artistic business of the theatre. The Marketing and Outreach Director works closely with the artistic director on all aspects of the theatre's operations. FCP is funded in part by generous grants from the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, by the City of Ketchikan, by a season support grant from the Alaska State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts (a federal agency). FCP also receives generous support from the Ketchikan Community Foundation, the Alaska Community Foundation, The Monthly Grind, 1st City Rotary, corporate donations, business program sponsorships, memberships, private donations and season and individual ticket sales.

HISTORY OF THE FIRST CITY PLAYERS

First City Players (FCP) is the Ketchikan area's community theatre organization. FCP was organized by a dedicated group of volunteers in 1964 and has been an active theatre for 55 years. FCP incorporated as a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization in August 1966.

For many years FCP produced plays in many different venues in Ketchikan, including the Kayhi Auditorium, Schoenbar Middle School, the Sons of Norway, and the Fireside Restaurant, to name a few. The group produced musicals, contemporary and classical plays, drama and comedy, as well as children's productions. In the past, FCP participated regional drama festivals and was always noted for their excellent productions.

In 1983 FCP took over management of what was to become the Main Street Theatre. In 1985 the theatre received a capital grant from the Alaska State Council on the Arts to begin renovations. With this grant, community fundraising and the work of many dedicated volunteers, the Main Street Theatre opened its doors in the spring of 1986 with the play *Painting Churches* by Tina Howe, directed by Carol Cairnes Shaffer. With the opening of the theatre it became necessary for FCP to hire an artistic director to manage the facility and to administer and direct a regular season of plays.

Since 1988 FCP has produced regular seasons of plays and workshops. The theatre began to sell season subscriptions for the 1989-1990 season. The FCP production schedule has grown from one winter show and a summer production of Ketchikan's original musical melodrama, *The Fish Pirate's Daughter*, to a full year-round schedule of theatrical events.

For the past twenty plus years FCP has been expanding its youth programming. Beginning in the summer of 1997 FCP began offering children's theatre classes. The first summer involved over 20 children in three different classes learning improvisation, storytelling and movement skills. In the summer of 1998 FCP joined with the KAAHC to start ArtsCool a summer fine and performing arts camp. FCP now enrolls up to 60 children ages 8-17 in classes that culminate in a fully staged musical production.

In the winter of 1999 FCP began a second children's program, ActOut winter children's theatre classes. These classes were for students from Kindergarten through 12th grades. These classes gave students opportunities to learn a number of different theatrical skills, Classes included Creative Dramatics, Improvisation, and Acting. Three years ago we changed the name of ActOut to StarPath Academy and are working to create year-round educational opportunities for adult and youth actors as well as workshops to teach technical theatre.

In the winter of 2002 FCP lost the lease with the longtime landlords at the Main Street Theatre. The office moved to 716 Totem Way in May of 2002 and staged the majority of productions on the Kayhi stage. In April 2007 FCP moved upstairs in the Plaza Mall and a number of productions were presented at the Plaza. In September of 2012 FCP moved into our new permanent office in the lower level of the future Ketchikan Performing Arts Center building.

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

For forty of its fifty-seven years, First City Players has pursued the vision for constructing a Community Performing Arts Center for Ketchikan. It began with a feasibility study for the Main Street School in 1974. The proof of the dynamism of the art center concept came in the very small Main Street Theatre and Gallery. Our 14 years of occupying The Main Street resulted in an extraordinary growth for the arts in Ketchikan and could have only been possible with an accessible committed community arts space. When we lost the Main Street, a multi-user performing arts space became a pressing need, and we attempted to develop the Coliseum Theatre, then the Spruce Mill Lot 10A, and then White Cliff School.

In 2009, with the help of City, Borough and State grants, First City Players, in alliance with Ketchikan Theater Ballet, purchased the 21,000 square foot Fireside Building at 335 Main Street, which finally provided some traction for realizing the vision. We developed conceptual plans for a two hundred and fifty seat theatre on its third floor; with dance studios, rehearsal spaces, office, and technical spaces on the second floor. At that time the cost of completion was estimated at \$4.5 Million Dollars. We partitioned and remodeled fourteen-hundred square feet of the ground floor for First City Players to move its office to the Fireside and use it for a small rehearsal space.

The challenge for completion is in the funding. We have identified funders that would be happy to help us finish the project, and the kick-start funding has been extraordinary from the Borough City and State. Our generous individual supporters have pledged and donated \$270,800 dollars to the project, which is more than has ever been raised privately for a community capital project. But the keystone funding, the first 50% of construction costs, or \$2.25 million dollars, remains elusive. 40 years ago, when we first began, it would have been easy; State and Federal sources existed then that were readily tapped for such a community project, but the funding climate has changed. At present, if the project is to go forward at all, the front end funding will need to come from local civic sources: such as CPV Funds, Economic Development funds, bond or sales tax initiatives; the same type of sources that funded the library, the pool, and fire station, but this is only possible if the community makes a performing art center a priority.

We continue to push the project forward. In 2009, we began with a conceptual design and budget for the building, but we never had an architect look at the project with the eye and expertise for an actual theatre, and several engineering questions remained unanswered. How strong is the masonry in the walls? What would it take to raise the roof? What will the 2022 price be for a building that is soundproofed with great acoustics?

Nine years ago we addressed these issues and contracted with John Fisher Associates and Linda Millard as the official architects of record. Phase One was to develop plans for the Center to 35% completion. Fisher designed the Sitka Performing Arts Center and has designed more theaters than any other architect in America. We are very excited by the vision and expertise he is bringing to the project.

We love the initial design created by Fisher Associates and look forward to creating this wonderful venue.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

FCP is a resource for scripts, play reviews, theatre arts competitions, auditions and information. Costume and technical use contracts enable the community to use the theatre's equipment. FCP also responds to individual and group requests for advice on theatrical, makeup and technical needs.

The FCP Executive Artistic Director and the Education Coordinator works in area schools, both in individual classrooms and in larger school settings, directing productions and giving workshops. As a Alaska State Artist in Residence Elizabeth Nelson has travelled to Shishmaref, Pilot Point, and Kodiak among other locations to teach theatre in schools. FCP produces a Jazz and Cabaret Festival in January. Matt King and Nicki Denner will be in Ketchikan for two weeks in January.

Youth Programs: FCP produces two youth programs each year.

ArtsCool: This was the 22nd year of this program, which is an intensive workshop/rehearsal that culminates with a musical production. We were thrilled to reeive almost \$15,000 in support from the Alaska Community Foundation to reimagine this program. This year we produced two full-day camps. One for youth in 3rd-6th grades and one for students 7th - high school. Each camp had its own show, and also a variety of classes that helped to teach theatre arts to our next generation of theatre artists and supporters. We also brought back our 1/2 day camp for our youngest actors.

StarPath: We were thrilled to bring this educational opportunity back to Ketchikan. This past winter we had classes for youth ages 5 - high school and even had a Scene Study class for adults instructed by Ty Hewitt. It was grand to be back teaching our local artistis.

Season Selection: The FCP season of plays is chosen by a season-selection committee comprised of diverse people of varying backgrounds, political affiliations, and religious beliefs. In FY22 we were able to bring back many of our audience favorites, a fall musical, a small, but mighty Jazz/Cab program, 3 spring plays. We are currantly accepting proposals for the FY23 Season of Plays.

The Ward Lake Theatre Walk: We were excited to add this event for the second year in a row. Unfortunatly, it rained cats and dogs both days and we did have some performers have to cancel because of safety reasons. The rest of the performers and many of our local residents braved the weather and saw some wonderful dance, theatre and music in the midst of a wild, rainy and windy Labor Day weekend.

First City Players

P & L

July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

| Income | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Contributions | 99,239.22 |
| Gross Receipts | 89,432.296 |
| Special Events | 34,986.00 |
| Total Income | 223,657.51 |
| Salaries & Benefits | 174,312.20 |
| Professional Fees | 5,500.00 |
| Fundraising | 4,470.90 |
| Insurance | 18,297.49 |
| Production Expense | 41,632.04 |
| Administrative Expense | 14,342.08 |
| Rent & Utilities | 10,386.40 |
| Repair & Maintenance | 1,211.71 |
| Employee Development | 450.92 |
| Uncategorized Expenses | 33.95 |
| Total Expense | 270,637.69 |
| Net Ordinary Income | (46,980.18) |
| In-Kind Donations | 20,170.00 |

First City Players Balance Sheet As of June 30, 2022

| As of June 30, 2022 | |
|---|---------------|
| | Jun 30, 22 |
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets | |
| Checking/Savings | |
| Charles Schwab - KPAC | \$ 36,350.13 |
| KPAC Checking (Ketchikan Performing Arts Center Checking) | 1,138.93 |
| KPAC Bank Account (Ketchikan Performing Arts Center Bank Account) | 6,452.63 |
| Scholarship - American Funds (Investment Account) | 18,887.07 |
| 111 Checking Account - F.B. (Checking Account) | 30,475.50 |
| 114 Gaming Account - NBA (Cash - Gaming Account) | 958.71 |
| 121 Savings Account - F.B. (Savings Account) | 1,418.19 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 95,681.16 |
| Accounts Receivable | |
| Accounts Receivable | 12,870.00 |
| Total Accounts Receivable | 12,870.00 |
| Other Current Assets | |
| Pledges Receivable-KPAC | 750.00 |
| Undeposited Funds | (1,275.00) |
| Total Other Current Assets | (525.00) |
| Total Current Assets | 108,026.16 |
| Fixed Assets | |
| Performing Arts Center | |
| 151.1 - Accum. Depr-Equipment (Accum Depr-Equipment) | (69,097.67) |
| 151 - Equipment (Equipment) | 75,893.71 |
| Land | 30,000.00 |
| Building | 431,791.79 |
| Performing Arts Center - Other | 481.65 |
| Total Performing Arts Center | 469,069.48 |
| Total Fixed Assets | 469,069.48 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 577,095.64 |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY | |
| Liabilities | |
| Accounts Payable | \$ - |
| Accounts Payable | - |
| Current Liabilities | |
| Other Current Liabilities | |
| Deferred Revenue - Other | 1,351.00 |
| Deferred Workshop Revenue | 23,645.00 |
| 223 - City of Ketchikan Grant (City Grant) | 9,753.96 |
| Payroll Liabilities | 858.05 |
| Retirement Payable | (160.83) |
| 221 - Season Tickets (Defr Rev-Season Tkts) | 295.95 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | 35,743.13 |
| Total Current Liabilities | 35,743.13 |
| Total Liabilities | 35,743.13 |
| Equity | |
| Unrealized Gain/Loss on Securit | 5,994.83 |
| Opening Bal Equity | 32,366.91 |
| Retained Earnings | 549,970.95 |
| Net Income | (46,980.18) |
| Total Equity | 541,352.51 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY | \$ 577,095.64 |
| | |

PlayTime

The 2021-2022 Season of Plays

Fish Pirate's Daughter: The 55th Season

Sponsored by Legacy Real Estate Firm



The Fish Pirates Daughter: Ketchikan's original musical melodrama took to the boards for its 55th year. The summer of 2021 saw us still working in the confines of theatre during a pandemic, so we once again needed to rethink how we could perform this Ketchikan favorite. With the help of Cape Fox and Allen Marine we decided to take the show outside and down south...to the George Inlet Cannery. With a delicious buffet served by Cape Fox and transportation provided to and from the cannery aboard an Allen Marine boat, our audiences had a wonderful adventure and then were treated to a terrific production. The cast included Clare Bennett as JP Svensen, Andrea Short as Little Nell, Matt Armstrong as Hopson, Jack Finnegan as Kurt Von Ohlson, Amanda Glanzer filling in last minute for Cameo McRoberts as Violet LaRosa, Rebecca Jackson as Miss Maypole, Maria Dudzak as Miss Woolwine, Colin Patton and Niles Corporon as the drunks and Frankie Urquhart, Krista Kegl, Rhonda Pickrell, and Melanie Currall as Ladies of the Line.



ArtsCool 2021

We are particularly proud that we found a way to make ArtsCool a reality during the difficult summers that were 2020 & 2021. During the summer of 2021, we once again limited our classes and worked with masks on. We had a couple of Covid scares, but ultimatly we were able to perform both shows and all the kids, from kindergarten through high school had their moment on stage. We continue to be amazed and so grateful that we were able to create oppotunities for our community during a couple of very difficult years.

Disney's 101 Dalmations, KIDS A Junior ArtsCool Production

Music and Lyrics by

Mel Leven, Randy Rogel, Richard Gibbs, Brian Smith, Martin Lee Fuller, Dan Root

Music Adapted and Arranged by

Bryan Lousielle

Book Adapted & Additional Lyrics by Marcy Heisler

Based on the novel by Dodie Smith & the Disney films

Disney's classic animated tale of kidnapping villains and courageous puppies was staged by our younger actors. The ArtsCool Jr Camp comprised of 3rd-6th graders performed the bulk of the show with our Kindergartner, 1st and 2nd graders playing the puppies. Directed by **Clare Bennett** and musical direction by **Deidra Nuss** and assistance by college intern **Andrea Short**, this charming production warmed the hearts of audiences.



| Penny | Zoe Poole |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Pepper | Owen Whiteley |
| Lucky | D'Arcy Murphy |
| Patch | . Harold Boneta, Jr. |
| Dongo | Ethan Albertson |
| Toligo | Ethan Albertsen |
| | Leila McLean |
| Roger | Clyde Lamon |
| Anita | Jocelyn Tacker |
| | Sarah Reynolds |
| | Addie Epler |
| | Lauralye Boor |
| | Alisha Crane |
| Chihuahua Narrator | Bentley Ruaro |
| Nanny | Dorothy Holten |
| | Mason Willett |
| | Ursula Whiteley |
| | Carder Reed |
| | Ilse Dippold |
| | Emmeline Faber |
| | Claire Ruaro |
| Dogcatcher | Adelaide Michael |
| | |

Dalmatian Puppies

Adeline Curth, Mason McRoberts, Rebeka Robinson, Violet Williams, Luke Hageman, and Josie Jackson

Our Littlest Puppies

Arianna Goodman, Benjamin Lemerond, Bridger Jackson, Emmarie Sauder, Francis Patton, Hunter Hewitt, Jacob North, Josie Zona, Kagani Jackson, Kylie Nathan, Nyree Ratzat, Olivia Palmer, Penny Robinson, Rylie Williams, Silvia Tavidagian, and Waylon Tacker

Special thanks to Tommy and Stephen Varela-Kossak for set, lighting and costume design. To Deidra Nuss for running sound, to Grace Jackson for running the light board and to all the parents who helped keep the cast happy and fed!



Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical, JR A Senior ArtsCool Production

Music and lyrics by Tim Minchin, Book by Dennis Kelly

From the author of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory comes another unlikely hero: Matilda Wormwood. Born to parents who prize their own ignorance and disdain books, learning, and any information they can't get from television, Matilda somehow manages to emerge...a genius. Maybe even a magical one. However, she and the rest of the school are under the tyrannical rule of a deliciously devious villain, principal Agatha Trunchbull. Matilda embraces the fearful and terrifying moments of childhood with humor, hard-earned optimism, and astoundingly witty musical numbers. Songs like "Miracle," "Naughty," and "Revolting Children" will ring true to adults and belong in the survival kit of any child making their way through pre-adolescence and beyond.

The older camp did a wonderful job of bringing this unlikely story to life. This production was directed by Elizabeth Nelson and Ashley Byler, with musical direction by Deidra Nuss.



| Eric | Zig O'Brien |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Amanda | Amelia Boor |
| Bruce | Julian Jackson |
| Lavender | Amelia Boor |
| Alice | Marlea Montero |
| Hortensia | Genevieve O'Brien |
| Nigel | Mason Avila |
| Matilda | Neila Urquhart |
| Mr. Wormwood | ommy Varela-Kossak |
| Mrs. Wormwood | Braidyn Young |
| Michael | Emery Mattson |
| Mrs.Phelps | Olivia Kantor |
| Escapologist | ommy Varela-Kossak |
| Acrobat | Braidyn Young |
| Cook | . Josepheen Robinson |
| Miss Honey | Paige Avila |
| Agatha Trunchbull | Elaina Etten |
| Rudolpho | Mason Avila |
| Sergei | Zig O'Brien |

LITTLE KIDS

Mason Avila, Amelia Boor, Julian Jackson, Neila Urquhart

BIG KIDS

Paige Avila, Elaina Etten, Sierra Gerber, Olivia Kantor, Emery Mattson, Marlea Montero, Genevieve O'Brien, Zig O'Brien, Josepheen Robinson, Braidyn Young

MUMS & DADS

Paige Avila, Elaina Etten, Olivia Kantor, Emery Mattson, Josepheen Robinson, Braidyn Young

Lighting, set and costume design by Stephen and Tommy Varela-Kossak.

Special thanks to Tommy Varela-Kossak for stepping in and taking on a role in the show when one of our actors became sick at the last minute.

Pippin

Sponsored by KPU Telecommunications

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz Book by Roger O. Hirson
Directed by Bridget Mattson Assisted by Dani Pratt
Musical direction by Deidra Nuss
Choreography by Elizabeth Schultz

With an infectiously unforgettable score from four-time Grammy winner, three-time Oscar winner and musical theatre giant, Stephen Schwartz, Pippin is the story of one young man's journey to be extraordinary. Winner of four 2013 Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival, this updated circus-inspired version of Pippin continues to captivate and appeal to the young-atheart throughout the world.

Guest director Bridget Mattson and her creative team did a marvelous job creating a magical journey for cast and audiences alike. It was a joy to see so many new actors on the stage and also see some FCP veterans taking part in a fall musical. It was glorious to be back to a fully-staged fall show.

Set and lighting design by Stephen Varela-Kossak Costume design by Pamela Duran Props by Peter Epler Set construction and painting by Brian Curtis, Barbara Morgan & Halli Kenoyer



| Leading Player |
|---------------------------|
| Pippin Phillip Smith |
| Charles James North |
| Lewis Niles Corporon |
| Fastrada Frankie Urquhart |
| Berthe Elizabeth Nelson |
| Catherine Torah Zamora |
| Theo Addie Epler |

The Players

Clare Bennett
Thomas Brooks
Greg Karlik
Jen Karlik
Lori Orlowski
Rudy Saccamanno
Abby Sweetman
Morgan Weber

The Dancers

Paige Avila Katie Dossett Jenny Dupre Christina Hughes Grace Jackson Zachary Leighton

The Aerialist Shelley Virginia

The Band

| Deidra Nuss | Musical Director/Conductor |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| Rachel Schoenfeld | Keyboard |
| Hannah Hendrickson | Violin and Viola |
| Leslie Snodderly | Reed 1 |
| Dave Kiffer | Reed 2 |
| Dr. Jolene Pflaum | Trombone |
| Matt Lenhard | Guitar |
| Chazz Gist | Bass |
| Austin Hays | Percussion |
| Kalijah LeCornu | Percussion |
| Evan Gunn | Percussion |

Jazz and Cabaret Festival

Sponsored by Newtown Liquor

With Guest Artist Matt King

The Jazz and Cabaret Festival, a favorite Ketchikan event, began in the winter of 1999 with Anne Phillips leading worshops in vocal jazz performance. Over the years the festival has grown in scope, brining in as many as three vocal instructors and various instrumentalists. During the winter of 2021 we made the difficult decision to not produce this event so we were doubly thrilled to host Jazz and Cabaret, even though a smaller version, in 2022.





Matt King traveled to Ketchikan and instructed three classes: two in vocal jazz and one where the participants explored selections from the Broadway songbook. Singers were able to perform for two evenings at the Ted Ferry Civic Center in late January.

We are excited to welcome Matt King, Nicki Denner and Anne Phillips back to Ketchikan in January 2023 and you should all mark your calendars for Friday and Saturday January 20 & 21 for our gala performances.

A WEEKEND OF JAZZ AND CABARET With Matt King, Chazz Gist & Austin Hays

FRIDAY EVENING

| Joanna DeSanto | I Only Have Eyes For You |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Melanie Cornwall | $\ldots . \ \ Wherever \ He \ Ain't$ |
| Janalee Gage | . New York State of Mind $$ |
| Neila Urquhart | \ldots . I'll Follow the Sun |
| Phillip Smith | For Forever |
| Chelsea Goucher | Feelin' Good |
| Matt King | |
| Aretha Hayward | High Hopes |
| Torah Zamorah | The Girl From Ipanema $$ |
| Myles Milholland | Dear Theodosia |
| James North | Charade |
| Addie Epler | My Grand Plan |
| | |

Saturday Night

| Clare Bennett | I'm Still Here |
|--|------------------------|
| Tessa Catron | Somewhere |
| Frankie & Bill Urquhart | Makin' Whoopee |
| Rudy Saccomanno | From This Moment On |
| Jenn Tucker | Sound of Silence |
| Jack Finnegan | It's Only A Paper Moon |
| Matt King | |
| Tasha Gentile | My Shot |
| lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem:lem: | I Know It's Today |
| Elizabeth Nelson | Dindi |
| Debi Olsen | You Will Be Found |
| Phillip Smith | Such A Night |

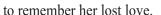
EurydiceSponsored by The Day Spa
by Sarah Ruhl

Directed by Keith Smith

Assistant Director Torah Zamora

This beautiful and haunting retelling of the Orpheus and Eurydice story was beautifully and imaginatively directed by Keith Smith and his very talented cast and crew. From the elevator that rained, to a working pump and the road to hell, every detail was thoughtfully created and produced.

In Eurydice, Sarah Ruhl reimagines the classic myth of Orpheus through the eyes of its heroine. Dying too young on her wedding day, Eurydice must journey to the underworld, where she reunites with her father and struggles





| Eurydice | | . Tasha Gentile |
|---------------|---|-----------------|
| Her Father | M ₁ | yles Milholland |
| Orpheus | | Niles Corporon |
| Nasty Mysteri | ious Man/Lord of the Underworld \dots | Tom Fowler |
| Big Stone | Rebe | kka Esbjornson |
| Loud Stone | Josep | heen Robinson |
| Little Stone | A | manda Glanzer |





Honk!

Sponsored by Island to Island Veterinary Clinic -and- a private donor

Book and lyrics by Anthony Drew

Music by George Stiles

Directed by Elizabeth Nelson

Musical Direction by Jillian Pollock

Choreography by Grace Louise

Additional choreography by Clare Bennett

Tap Choreography by Zach Leighton

Assitant director Stephanie Baldwin

Set design by Halli Kenoyer

Lighting design by Keith Smith

Costume design by Sherry Henrickson & Beth Brandt-Erichsen

A gaggle of farmyard characters join the naïve but loveable Ugly in his rites-of-passage journey from misrepresented duckling to elegant swan. Peril lies around every corner, usually in the shape of the ravenous Cat, but Ugly receives help from unlikely sources and wins through, thanks to his sheer good-naturedness.



| Drake/Greylag/Farmer | Peter Epler |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| lda | Dani Steepe |
| Turkey/Barnacles/Bullfrog/Father Swan | Tommy Varela-Kossak |
| Henrietta/Pinkfoot/Penny/Maggie Pie | Paige Avila |
| Maureen/Snowy/Queenie/Mother Swan | Amanda Glanzer |
| Grace/Dot/Lowbutt/Bewick | Tiffany Pickrell |
| Cat | Kyle G. Bailey |
| Ugly | Phillip Smith |
| Beaky/Froglet | Clyde Lamon |
| Billy/Froglet | Mason Avila |
| Downy/Froglet | Jocelyn Tacker |
| Fluff/Froglet | Addie Epler |
| Shally/Eraglat | Sarah Povnolde |





The Band

| Jillian Pollock | Musical Director/Conductor |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Kim Henrickson | Keyboard |
| Chazz Gist | Bass |
| Rachel Schoenfeld | Cello |

Peter and the Starcatcher

Sponsored by Parnassus Books & Gifts

by Rick Elice Music by Wayne Barker

Based on the novel by Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson

Directed by Clare Bennett

Assisted by Taylor McKenna

Music direction by Kim Henrickson

Set design by Brian Curtis and Barbara Morgan

Lighting design by Keith Smith

Costume design by Sherry Henrickson & Beth Brandt-Erichsen

Peter and the Starcatcher is a preguel to Peter Pan based on the children's book by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson, and freely adapted for the stage by Rick Elice, with co-directors Alex Timbers and Roger Rees. For two-and-a-half hours, twelve actors make theatrical magic by playing dozens of characters: sailors, pirates, British naval officers, Mollusk natives, and orphans – in addition to eighteen major roles. The original Broadway production was a deliberately low-budget spectacle: an extravaganza of staging that relied on suggestion and storytelling rather than expensive set pieces like the chandelier in Phantom of the Opera or the helicopter in Miss Saigon. Elice's script, jam-packed with poetry, fart jokes, gentle lyricism, and numerous nods to pop culture, is a coming-of-age adventure story about how a nameless orphan – inspired by a remarkable and ambitious girl – became the strange and celebrated hero that is the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up. This delightful production was masterfully handled by guest director Clare Bennett.



| THE ORPHANS |
|--|
| Ted Tessa Catron |
| Prentiss Lukas Guenther |
| Boy/Peter Noah Chandler |
| THE BRITISH |
| Lord Leonard Astor James North |
| Molly Astor Grace Louise |
| Captain Robert Falcon Scott Zachary Leighton |
| Mrs. Bumbrake/Teacher Colin Patton |
| Grempkin |
| THE SAILORS AND PIRATES |
| Sanchez Andrea Short |
| Mack Rick Pickrell |
| Bill Slank Nicole Caple |
| Alf Arick Mattson |
| Smee Greg Karlik |
| Black Stash Jack Finnegan |
| THE MERMAIDS |
| Tessa Catron, Lukas Guenther, James North, Grace Louise, |
| Zachary Leighton, Colin Patton, Maria Dudzak, Rick Pickrell, |
| Nicole Caple, Arick Mattson, Greg Karlik, Jack Finnegan |
| THE MOLLUSKS |
| Fighting Prawn Rick Pickrell |
| Hawking Clam Nicole Caple |
| Members of the Mollusks Colin Patton, Zachary Leighton, |

Maria Dudzak, Arick Mattson, Andrea Short











All photos courtesy of Jeff Fitzwater of Fitzwater Photography















2022

PLAY TIME

2023

a great season is under way

Put together a season package of great theatre and save money.

Main Season and
Super Season discounts
are as much as 15%,
and First City Players
members save even more

Get playtimely info on upcoming shows and our programs, book your reserved seats at our secure web site

first cityplayers.org

We're also on Facebook



JAZZ & CABARET

Gala evenings with the localest of vocalists! Visiting cabaret pros and talented hometown players help them realize great interpretations. *January 20-21*

Clue

Scarlet, Plum, White, Green, Peacock and Mustard Clue in a *killer* comedy. *March*

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Experience a candy fantasy.

Delicious fun with Willy Wonka. *April*

Becky Shaw

A wickedly funny play commingles crisis and comedy for two couples. *June*

Winnie the Pooh KIDS

The junior ArtsCool troupe takes you to the Hundred Acre Wood with Pooh. *July*

Newsies JR

Senior ArtsCool participants present an inspiring story of solidarity. *August*



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