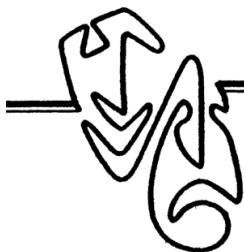


**2018-2019**  
**Report to the Membership**  
**First City Players**



**Community Theatre for**  
**Ketchikan, Alaska**  
**December 17, 2019**



# First City Players

Annual Meeting  
and Report to the Membership  
Tuesday, December 17, 2019  
July 2018 - June 2019

## Board of Governors

### Officers

President	Matt Armstrong
Vice-President	Robin Ashcraft
Secretary	Deidra Nuss
Treasurer	Michelle Short

### Members-at-large

Glenn Brown	Jack Finnegan
Jeff Fitzwater	Jim Guenther (resigned)
Greg Karlik	Chris Newbill (resigned)
Deidra Nuss	Lori Orlowski
Katherine Tatsuda	

# FIRST CITY PLAYERS

## FY19 Paid Staff

### Full-Time Staff

Executive Artistic Director

Elizabeth Nelson

Marketing & Outreach Director

Amanda Glanzer

### StarPath Teaching Staff

Jack Finnegan

Clare Bennett

Krista Kegl

Bridget Mattson

Elizabeth Nelson

### ArtsCool Teaching Staff

Emilio Torres

Liz Bolton

Jillian Pollock

Halli Kenoyer

Pamela Duran

Nicole Caple

Clare Bennett

Ashley Byler

Krista Kegl

Elizabeth Nelson

Intern: Clara Stanton

### Guest Artists

Anne Phillips

Matt King

Regan Ryzuk

Christian Fabian

Austin Hays

Chazz Gist

### Technical Artists

Kyle Bailey

Felix Wong

Grace Jackson

Keith Smith

Sharolyn Kroscavage

Sarah Short

# FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

December 17, 2019

Dear First City Players Members;

Thank you all so much for your continued support of our theater. I often feel as though I'm the luckiest woman on earth: I get to do what I love, in a place that I love, with people I truly enjoy. That being said, sometimes I do end up having to take on projects that aren't—shall we say—my first choice.

Our seasons are chosen by a committee of people who read a tremendous number of scripts, look at a number of factors, and choose the five plays and musicals they feel represent the criteria set up by the board of governors. Sometimes that means I don't always love the shows that I direct, but that I instead need to find a way to bring the show to life on stage in a meaningful way, regardless of how I feel.

Take this past season of plays. I personally spent almost 20 years avoiding *Mamma Mia!* because ABBA was not my favorite band of mine and in general, I don't care for jukebox musicals. Additionally, story just didn't speak to or inspire me. As a result of these combined factors, I never went to see it. I always found things that were more interesting to me when I was out in the world watching professional theater. It was definitely a musical I heard a lot about; I knew there were people in the community who loved the show and would jump at the chance to watch it here, or especially to be in it - but it just never felt like my cup of tea. When the rights became available, I knew it had to be done. So I took a big gulp, applied for and was granted the rights, and started to read the script. The thing I found on the first reading, once I was able to hop over my own haughtiness, was that this script was all about joy. Joy is what I felt from the cast in auditions and then as we rehearsed, joy is what I felt from the audience, and joy is what I felt in spite of myself. While this will never be my favorite musical, I will be forever grateful that I had the experience of working on it and that I was able to share this joy and playfulness with a group of people who were a delight from the first read-through of the script all the way to the final bow. Talk about having to eat a little crow!

But this was not an isolated plight, as it happened not once, but twice in the same season. The committee also chose the script of *Calendar Girls*, a lovely story of a group of women in Yorkshire who raise money to purchase a settee for a hospital. It is a lovely and true story, and act one is really very good: a great story with charming character development. Then comes act two. From a technical perspective, it has numerous problems—so many that when I first read it, I didn't finish it because I couldn't imagine directing it. Not because the play didn't have lovely things to say, but because it had so many inherent problems, not the least of which that it just went on too long. But just in case you think I really run the show around here, the committee overwhelmingly chose the script to close our season. I have to admit that I'm really glad they did. I won't lie, it wasn't easy. The problems with the script are numerous: it was first written as a screenplay and what can be done on film and what can be done on stage are two entirely different things. And I will always be frustrated by the second act of the script; it's entirely exposition. However, I will never regret having done this show or the time I

spent with the wonderful humans who put their heart and souls into truthfully telling this story. I will always admire the women who bared (literally) everything to share a beautiful story of friendship. I will continue to be amazed at the technical skills of our creative team who make something absolutely beautiful when it just seems impossible. I'm grateful for the opportunity we all had to examine ourselves and laugh and cry. It was special and I'm so grateful that the committee chose to do this play.

Then there are the challenges for which I directly ask. I submitted the script for *Proof* to the committee because the writing is gorgeous. In my heart of hearts, I didn't think it would be selected; which if I'm being honest—and I am—I was hoping it would be overlooked. The script for *Proof* is very difficult on multiple levels. It has beautiful language, but it is asking actors to look into some deep places. It touches on subjects that most of us want to avoid and brings up questions that are hard to answer and that is difficult work for anyone, let alone volunteers. But the committee saw the potential and selected it, so after I started breathing again, I was profoundly excited. This show and this script are the type of theater I love the most; it makes you look at the world and see it in a new, more compassionate way. I was fortunate to work with a cast of four actors who put their heart and soul into this show and it was beyond what I had hoped for. We not only “just told the story,” we were able to create a world in which the story could be told. Everyone involved in this production gave so much and the final product was more than I had hoped for. It is a memory I will treasure forever and a show of which I will be forever proud.

I guess in a way, this is really just a round-about way of expressing gratitude to the hard-working, hard-reading members of the Season Selection Committee and the Chair of the committee, Bridget Mattson. Thank you for continuing to give me challenges that provoke thought, stimulate growth, and allow me to create beautiful, heartwarming, soul-searching, joyful theater.

Happy Christmas and the best of New Years to you all! I know I'll see you at the theatre.

Elizabeth Nelson

*Elizabeth Nelson*

Elizabeth Nelson  
Executive Artistic Director

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 12, 2019

Dear First City Players members and friends,

Thank you all for coming to this annual meeting to celebrate First City Players and our 2018-2019 season! It was our absolute pleasure to present this season to our members and, especially, our community.

We opened out the season with our annual production of *The Fish Pirate's Daughter* before switching gears for Artscool, our summer theater camp, and the production of *Singin' in the Rain JR*. September brought our *Divas/Divos* show, which has turned into an incredibly successful FUNdraiser. Our fall musical, the highly anticipated *Mamma Mia!*, played for large audiences and was an absolute joy to watch, even for someone like me who didn't grow up listening to ABBA. In January, the 2019 *Jazz and Cabaret Festival* again brought in world-class musicians for two weeks of workshops and a weekend of sensational performances. In March, we staged a powerful, funny, and, breathtaking production of *{Proof}*. We published the second Ketchikan Writes literary magazine in April. Also in April, actors of all ages played together for our multi-generational production of *Ramona Quimby*. And, as if that all wasn't enough, we closed our season with an absolutely charming staging of *Calendar Girls* in June.

I'd like to thank all the members and friends of First City Players. This is YOUR community theater and we could not exist without our numerous supporters. We deeply value the individual volunteers who spend countless hours helping to make our productions run smoothly and become amazing works of art. We literally could not do what we do without the volunteers who seemingly plan three shows ahead. We also are so appreciative of the numerous businesses that provide support through monetary contributions, advertising, and generous donations of goods and services. And, of course, one of the key aspects of live theater is the audience, so THANK YOU to everyone who comes to watch us play.

The First City Players' Board of Governors includes of individuals from various walks of life, including education, finance, small business, the law, emergency response, and artists. We all share a common goal – support for First City Players and its mission to be an active part of the arts community in Ketchikan and beyond. The Board meets the first Tuesday on a monthly basis and members and friends are invited to attend any of our meetings, especially if you have questions about the organization. We always value your input!

This year has been one of growth for First City Players. Completion of the Ketchikan Performing Arts Center is still our ultimate goal, and we've recently taken steps to invest some of the money in our PAC fund to grow that fund while we wait for the state's financial situation to improve and open up more grant funding for the project. Another area of growth is staff. We recently found ourselves in a position to add a part-time education coordinator position to our staff. This position will focus on expanding our educational offerings for both children and adults. We were happy to hire Jack Finnegan for this position and look forward to seeing how he can shape our education outreach moving forward.

I have been a member of the Board of Governors for First City Players since 2016, and it has been an honor to be President of the Board in 2018 and 2019. While I may be in Portugal right now, my heart is in Ketchikan tonight and I am incredibly sorry to miss this meeting and miss out on seeing the wonderful people involved with First City Player. My initial involvement with First City Players came from wanting to meet people in this rainy town I'd recently moved to. First City Players welcomed me and gave me a tremendous group of friends who have gone on to become my family here. Opportunities to become involved either behind the curtain or on stage are plentiful in this organization. We take all kinds, and anyone who is willing to have fun and play can be a part of the performing arts. It will have a positive impact on you personally as well as the organization as a whole. Take a chance – be involved!

We can't talk about all the things First City Players does without mentioning our wonderful staff of Elizabeth Nelson, Amanda Glanzer, and Jack Finnegan. They do every day keep organization running smoothly and are some of the hardest workers you could ever hope to meet.

Now please, enjoy the party. And thank you for your continuing support!

Happy holidays,  
Matt Armstrong

# **MISSION STATEMENT OF THE FIRST CITY PLAYERS**

First City Players is a non-profit community organization dedicated to promoting and developing 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 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, 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-five 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 2020 price be for a building that is soundproofed with great acoustics?

Six 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 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 she has travelled to Shishmaref, Pilot Point, and Kodiak among other locations to teach theatre in schools.

In FY18 FCP guest artists Anne Phillips, Matt King, Matt Perri, Paul Meyers and bassist Christian Fabian, worked in a number of area school music programs. Mr. King, & Ms. Phillips instructed a Jazz Choir at Tongass School of Arts and Science, Houghtaling, and Fawn Mountain. Our Sunday performance featured students from these area schools.

**Youth Programs:** FCP continues to produce two youth programs each year.

**ArtsCool:** This was the 19th year of this program, which is an intensive four-week workshop/rehearsal for a musical production. For four weeks in the summer of 2018 60 young people ages 8 – 17 were involved in both morning arts classes and afternoon performance classes. In the morning, the kids danced, made movies and created many types of visual art in classes instructed by Marc Osborne, Halli Kenoyer, Jillian Pollac, Nicole Caple & Pamela Duran. The afternoon group worked with director Elizabeth Nelson and choreographers Clare Bennett & Ashley Byler, along with artist Halli Kenoyer. They performed *Singing in the Rain, JR.*, as well as learning about acting, dance, props, set construction and lighting.

**StarPath:** FCP's winter children's program offered classes in Physical Theater. These classes were purely process based classes and provided lessons from *Creative Dramatics* to *Theatre Techniques*. Instructors Elizabeth Nelson, Clare Bennett, Jack Finnegan, Bridget Mattson and Krista Kagl worked with students ages 4 - 17. Many of our StarPath students were on-stage in the multi-generational production of *Ramona Quimby*.

**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. Committee Chairwoman Bridget Mattson works with FCP staff to present a slate of plays to read. The committee then meets, discusses the selections and decides on what productions will be most suited for our community. The criteria for the season includes at least one musical, one "challenge" play, one multi-generational play and one "feel good" play. This has been a very successful process for our organization and we thank the dedicated committee members for so thoughtfully fulfilling this duty.

**Ketchikan Writes:** This is a program that is by and for literary artists. Theater often steams from the written word, and the FCP board believes in the importance of fostering writers. To that end we have Ketchikan Writes. This program, run by a committee of people interested in the literary arts and chaired by FCP Board President Matt Armstrong, sponsors workshops that cover various topics lead by local writers. In spring 2019, we published our second literary magazine. We are excited to continue this project and look forward to eventually hosting an original play festival. Thanks to everyone putting in the hard work to make this program possible.

**Ketchikan Orchestra Project:** Ketchikan has had a few orchestras in the past; Shoestring Symphony, Ketchikan Chamber Orchestra, and the Southeast Symphony. Mike and Mary Kurth started the Ketchikan Orchestra Project in 2017 and upon their departure from Ketchikan, "passed the baton" to Jeff Karlson, who has become the maestro, and Deidra Nuss, who has become the Librarian/Manager. Jeff and Deidra have partnered with us with the intention of creating an independent non-profit for the orchestra. The hope of this partnership, and eventual non-profit, is to create the opportunity for the orchestra to continue in Ketchikan for many years to come. First City Players is proud to sponsor, mentor, and support another performing arts organization in our community.

# PlayTime

*The 2018-2019 Season of Plays*

## Fish Pirate's Daughter: The 52nd Season

FIRST CITY PLAYERS *presents*



**FISH  
PIRATE'S  
DAUGHTER**

WITH CRAB OR SALMON FEAST  
JULY 6-7, 13-14, 20-21  
TED FERRY CIVIC CENTER

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 PM - DINNER SERVED AT 7:30 PM  
\$25 - youth 12 and younger • \$50 - adults (Member discounts apply)  
\$3 facility use fee added per transaction

Group discounts available by calling 225-4792  
firstcityplayers.org

Once again Little Nell (Nicole Forbes) was saved from the clutches of Kurt Von Ohlsen (Cade Browning) by Sweet William Uprightly (Andrew Boushka) with help from...gasp, dare I say that name? Violet LaRosa (Leila Kheiry). This perennial favorite played for three weeks at the Ted Ferry Civic Center to very appreciative audiences. We continued to offer this show with a "Crab or Salmon Feast" and the response was tremendous. The production involves a dedicated cast of volunteer actors plus stage and production crew and attracts a diverse group from the community.

## Gigglefeet Dance Festival

A variety of dancers graced the stage at the Kayhi Auditorium for two glorious evenings of dance. This community favorite event is sponsored by First City Players, the Ketchikan Theatre Ballet and the Ketchikan Area Arts and Humanities Council. A dedicated group of choreographers and dancers once again put together a delightful evening of dance.



# *Singin' in the Rain, JR.*

## An ArtsCool Production

Screenplay by **Betty Comden** and **Adolph Green**

Songs by **Nacio Herb Brown** and **Arthur Freed**

Based on the classic **Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer** film,

by special arrangement with **Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures, Inc.**



The “Greatest Movie Musical of All Time” is faithfully and lovingly adapted by Broadway legends Betty Comden and Adolph Green, from their original award-winning screenplay in *Singin' in the Rain JR.* Hilarious situations, snappy dialogue and a hit-parade score of Hollywood standards make *Singin' in the Rain JR.* a guaranteed good time for performers and audience members alike.

*Singin' in the Rain JR.* has all the makings of a Tinseltown tabloid headline – the starlet, the leading man, and a love affair that could change lives and make or break

careers! In silent movies, Don Lockwood (Phillip Smith) and Lina Lamont (Paige Avila) are a hot item, but behind the scenes, things aren't always as they appear on the big screen! Meanwhile, Lina's squeaky voice might be the end of her career in “talking pictures” without the help of Kathy Seldon (Lexington Summers) a talented young actress to do the talking and singing for her. Add to the the comedy of Lockwood's sidekick Cosmo Brown (Killian Connolly) and all of the fun of Hollywood at its glitzy peak and the ArtsCool kids had a summer that was rewarding both on and off the stage!

This project was a tremendous success on every level. The participants created their own costumes under the direction of artist/instructor Halli Kenoyer. Director Elizabeth Nelson and choreographers Clare Bennett & Ashley Byler put together a fantastic production that allowed the talents of the 60 kids, ages 8 - 17, to shine. The audiences loved the show!

ArtsCool also includes a camp for younger students. Instructor Ashley Byler worked with kids 4 - 7 years of age four mornings a week, singing, acting and making their own “Vaudeville Review”. They performed before the Saturday matinee and won the hearts of the entire audience.



# Divas Vs. Divos



This fundraising event, first launched in 2007, is the most successful fundraiser First City Players has ever had. This is due to the Divas & Divos themselves. At this event, hosted by Lindsey Johnson & Dave Kiffer, four Men and four women raised over \$41,000!



In a glorious night of triumphant performances by all, 2018 Diva Shelly Hill won the crown from Diva Cameo McRoberts, earning more than Sarah Fitzgerald, Kelly Burke and Dani Marcano. Divo Hamilton Cleverdon gave up his crown to Divo Bill Urquhart. He and Patrick Wiabel, Bill Tatsuda and Steve Shay all gave wonderful performances.

First City Players is deeply grateful for each of our Divas and Divos who collectively put together a dynamic evening of entertainment. We thank the sellout crowd who responded with cash, credit cards and checks. We especially thank **Sharolyn Kroscavage and Chazz Gist** for all the hours they put into making this event extra special. To all the volunteers who make wonderful food, beautiful decorations, serve the drinks and clean up after the event, you are truly appreciated.

# Mamma Mia!

Music & Lyrics by Benny Andersson & Bjorn Ulvaeus

And some songs with Stig Anderson

Book by Catherine Johnson



Directed by Elizabeth Nelson

Choreographed by Bridget Mattson

Assistant Directed by Taylor McKenna

Music Directed by Deidra Nuss

ABBA's hits tell the hilarious story of a young woman's search for her birth father. This sunny and funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago.

A mother. A daughter. Three possible dads. The story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship, creating an unforgettable show. The large cast, non-

stop laughs, and explosive dance numbers choreographed by Bridget Mattson combined to make *Mamma Mia!* a smash-hit that Ketchikan won't soon forget.

The wonderful cast for *Mamma Mia!* included: Daniela Saez, Stephanie Alley, Carly Hurst, Becca Doyle, Kathy Bolling, Frankie Urquhart, Andrew Boushka, Xavier Jones, Raighn Semaken, Myles Milholland, Greg Karlik, Andrew Mulder







Scott Brandt-Erichsen, Delaney Murphy, Judy Meiresonne, Lori Orlowski, Danielle Pratt, Rick Pickrell, Lou Ann Richardson, Joe Peterson, Clara Stanton, Jeanette Sweetman, Rudy Saccomanno, Katherine Tatsuda, Romanda Simpson, Melody Thompson, Samantha Wodehouse, Russell Wodehouse, Connor Wodehouse, Joe Williams IV, Michael Young, Jenessa Albertson, Kelly Burke, Beertille Gautron, Amanda Glanzer, Clarissa Hubbard, Rebecca Jackson, Jennifer Jackson, Jennifer Karlik, Debi Karlik, Natalie Kastner, Gavin Kastner, Russell Kearney, and Louise Loretan



The set was designed by the creative team of Brian Curtis, Russell Wodehouse, Barbara Morgan & Nissa Dash. The lighting was designed by Keith Smith. The costume designer was Amanda Glanzer. Hair was by Sharolyn Krosavage and make up by Nicole Caple. Stage managing was Rebecca Bowlen.



# The Jazz & Cabaret Festival

with Anne Phillips, Matt King, Regan Ryzuk,  
Paul Meyers, and Christian Fabian

Anne Phillips, Matt King, Christian and Paul Meyers returned to Ketchikan last January. New to Jazz/Cab was pianist Regan Ryzuk.

Ms. Phillips, Mr. King and Mr. Ryzuk instructed four sessions of solo vocal jazz as well as a duet and ensemble class and new this year, a class in Broadway vocals. Mr. King & Ms Phillips also did residencies at Point Higgins Elementary, Fawn Mountain Elementary, and the Tongass School of Arts and Science.

After two weeks of hard work, the vocalists, with Mr. King and Mr. Ryzuk on the piano, were joined by Dave Kiffer on sax, Mr. Meyers on guitar, Mr. Fabian on bass, and Austin Hays on drums to give varied, lively and sometimes poignant performances to sold out houses at the Ted Ferry Civic Center. On Sunday afternoon the children's choirs joined our youngest soloists for a family afternoon of spirited jazz.





# {Proof}

by David Auburn

Directed by Elizabeth Nelson

Assisted by Shelly Hill



*Proof* is the story of an enigmatic young woman, Catherine (Rebekka Esbjornsen) her manipulative sister (Lydia Kline), their brilliant father (Keith Smith), and his grad student (Jack Finnegan). They are all pieces of the puzzle in the search for the truth behind a mysterious mathematical proof.

In *Proof*, the young but guarded Catherine grieves over the loss of her father, a famous mathematician who had become a legend at the local university for solving complicated proofs, who suffered from dementia. Just as Catherine begins to give in to her fear that she, too, might suffer from her father's condition, Catherine's older sister Claire returns home to help "settle" family affairs

and Hal, one of the father's old students, starts to poke around the house. What Hal discovers in an old speckle-bound notebook brings to light a buried family secret. It tests the sisters' kinship as well as the romantic feelings growing between Catherine and Hal.

This poignant drama about love and reconciliation unfolds on the back porch of a house settled in a suburban university town, that is, like David Auburn's writing, both simple and elegant.

This beautiful, heart-wrenching production played four performances on the Kayhi stage in March. Audiences were both wowed by the stunning performances and moved by the gorgeous script.

The sets were created by the team of Brian Curtis and Halli Kenoyer. The lighting was designed by Matt Armstrong with assistance from Keith Smith.



## 12 Angry Men Performed by 12 Impassioned Ketchikan Women

Directed by  
**Bridget Mattson**



In April, First City Players had the opportunity to join theaters across the country and perform a Reader's Theater production of 12 Angry Men read by 12 Impassioned Women. This project was spearheaded by a group of actresses on Broadway who wanted to do something in support of voter registration. After a successful performance in New York they contacted groups across the country to perform this production on the same weekend. First City Players was one of the lucky theaters chosen to be a part of this project. Bridget Mattson directed the show and the women were: Rachel Breithaupt, Clare Bennett, Shauna Lee, Deb Turnbull, Elizabeth Nelson, Lindsey Johnson, Lori Ortiz, Stasha Southmyd, Chelsea Goucher, Alex Vrabc and Harmil Earth. The show was performed one night only at the Southeast Discovery Center to a full house.

## Ramona Quimby

Dramatized by Len Jenkin, from the novel by Beverly Cleary

Directed by Jack Finnegan

Assisted by Seth Chernick

Unpredictable. Exasperating. Boisterous and independent. That's Ramona Quimby (Addie Epler) for you. Always aggravating her older sister, Bezeus (Bria Kastner), constantly getting into trouble and sometimes "making a big, noisy fuss" when things don't go her way. This was director Jack Finnegan's Ketchikan directoral debut and the colorful light-hearted show was certainly a success. The charming and colorful sets were designed by Cameo McRoberts. Costumes by Amanda Glanzer & Pamela Duran. The lighting was designed by Keith Smith & Caden Mattson.



The multi-generational of 45 also included a number of family groups: father/daughter, mother/daughter, mother/son, mother/daughter/son, brother/sister, sisters, and brothers!

# Calendar Girls

by Tim Firth

directed by Elizabeth Nelson

Assisted by Amanda Glanzer



When Annie’s husband John dies of leukemia, she and best friend Chris resolve to raise money for a new settee in the local hospital waiting room. They manage to persuade four fellow WI members to pose nude with them for an “alternative” calendar, with a little help from hospital porter and amateur photographer Lawrence. Based on a true story, this charming production not only challenged the actresses who played these roles, it captured the hearts of our Ketchikan audiences.

The *Calendar Girls* were beautifully—and bravely—performed by Carrie Starkey, Jennifer Karlik, Clare Bennett, Deidra Nuss, Lori Orlovski, and Rebecca Jackson. The supporting cast included Dani Pratt, Greg Karlik, Cole Maxwell, Jeanette Sweetman, Matt Armstrong, Thomas Brooks, Johanna Collins and Nan Newell. The gorgeous set was designed by Keith Smith and Halli Kenoyer. Lighting was designed by Keith Smith. Costumes were designed by Sherry Henrickson.



**First City Players**  
**P & L**  
**July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019**

**Income**

Contributions	77,422.87
Gross Receipts	210,110.86
Special Events	<u>36,033.00</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>323,566.73</b>

**Expense**

Salaries & Benefits	147,595.77
Professional Fees	14,390.00
Fundraising	5,564.01
Insurance	6,780.00
Production Expense	100,843.77
Administrative Expense	33,937.13
Travel	9,861.34
Uncategorized Expenses	-129.01
Repair & Maintenance	<u>1,256.69</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>320,014.39</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>3,552.34</b>

**Other Income**

Dividend Income	<u>1,165.94</u>
<b>Total Net Income</b>	<b>4,718.28</b>

**In-Kind Donations** 25,340.00

\*Detailed reports available upon request\*

# First City Players

## Balance Sheet

### As of June 30, 2019

Jun 30, 19

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

**Checking/Savings**

KPAC Checking (Ketchikan Performing Arts Center Checking)	59,495.51
KPAC Bank Account (Ketchikan Performing Arts Center Bank Account)	352.94
Scholarship - American Funds (Investment Account)	18,887.07
111 Checking Account - F.B. (Checking Account)	10,773.65
112/Gaming Account -Old F.B. (Cash-Gaming Account)	20.00
114 Gaming Account - NBA (Cash - Gaming Account)	1,205.11
121 Savings Account - F.B. (Savings Account)	8,173.93

**Total Checking/Savings** 98,908.21

**Accounts Receivable**

Accounts Receivable	9,089.50
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**Total Accounts Receivable** 9,089.50

**Other Current Assets**

Pledges Receivable-KPAC	750.00
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**Total Other Current Assets** 750.00

**Total Current Assets** 108,747.71

**Fixed Assets**

**Performing Arts Center**

151.1 - Accum. Depr-Equipment (Accum Depr-Equipment)	-74,793.00
151 - Equipment (Equipment)	67,404.87
Land	30,000.00
Building	431,791.79

**Total Performing Arts Center** 454,403.66

**Total Fixed Assets** 454,403.66

**TOTAL ASSETS** 563,151.37

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

**Current Liabilities**

**Other Current Liabilities**

Direct Deposit Liabilities (Direct Deposit Liabilities)	-198.66
Deferred Revenue - Other	5,587.98
Deferred Workshop Revenue	18,812.74
223 - City of Ketchikan Grant (City Grant)	7,427.48
Payroll Liabilities	-168.85
Retirement Payable	-160.83

**Total Other Current Liabilities** 31,299.86

**Total Current Liabilities** 31,299.86

**Total Liabilities** 31,299.86

**Equity**

Opening Bal Equity	32,366.91
Retained Earnings	494,766.32
Net Income	4,718.28

**Total Equity** 531,851.51

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** 563,151.37



# What's Coming Up with First City Players?

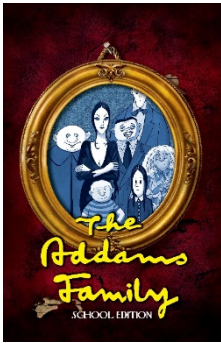
**Warm up this winter with some Hot Jazz—2020 Jazz & Cabaret!**

**January 17 & 18, 2020 @ 7:30pm at the Ted Ferry Civic Center**

Professional NYC musicians Matt King, Nicki Denner and Anne Phillips collaborate with local vocalists in workshops and accompany them in interpretations of great songs. We also feature our visiting pros and Ketchikan instrumentalists in jazz performances.

**Workshop Registration is open now—classes begin January 6<sup>th</sup>!**

Workshops include *From Shower to Stage*, *Great American Songbook*, *Anything Goes*, *Just Jazz*, *Safety in Numbers*, and *Kitchen Sink!* For more information or to register, call First City Players at 225-4792!



**The KayHi Musical Theater club presents, *The Addams Family!***

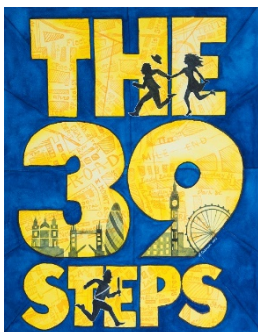
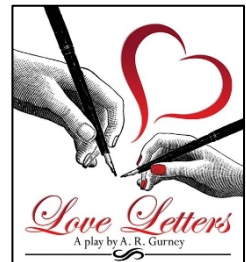
**January 10, 2020 @ 7:30pm & January 12, 2020 @ 2:30pm at KayHi**

THE ADDAMS FAMILY, a comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family, features an original story and it's every father's nightmare: Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family—a man her parents have never met. And if that wasn't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before—keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

**A New York Café Dinner with Readers Theater!**

**February 8 & 15, 2020 at 7:00pm at the New York Café**

Join us at New York Café for dinner theatre featuring *Love Letters* by A.R. Gurney. A childhood friendship plays out in decades of poignant correspondence, her adult life and his diverging through the course of marriages, careers and calamities—and briefly intersecting in middle age. Two actors embody the tender history of a pair divided in fact, but inseparable in spirit.



**A Head-snapping Whodunnit based on the Hitchcock Film**

**March 6, 7, 13, & 14, 2020 at 7:30pm at the KayHi Auditorium**

Hold on for a galloping whodunit! The script rattles with laugh-makers as four talented actors portray 150 characters. Action opens as a man mired in humdrum meets a woman with a thick accent who claims she's a spy. He takes her home. She's murdered! And soon a mysterious organization called "The 39 Steps" is hot on the man's trail. Throw in an onstage plane crash, handcuffs, a shadowy cabal, missing fingers, some old-fashioned romance and a death-defying finale. It's an unforgettable evening for those who love the magic of theatre!