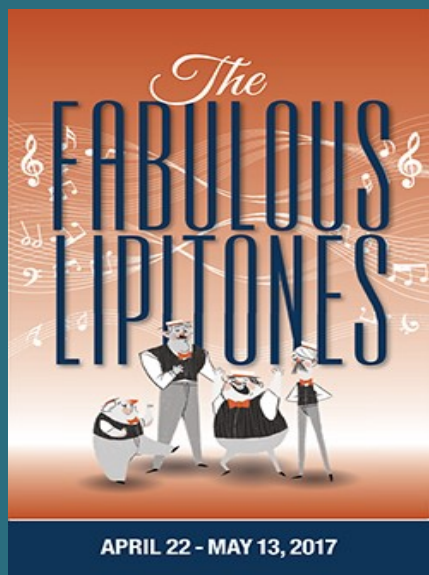




FLOODLIGHT

FEATURED PRODUCTION

March 2017



Written by
John Markus
and Mark St. Germain
Incidental original music
and lyrics by
Randy Courts
and Mark St. Germain

Produced by
Jamie Blake,
Rebecca Sheehy,
and Luana Bossolo

Directed by
Chuck Leonard

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Tickets Now!
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The Fabulous Lipitones is a hilarious take on what happens when a barbershop quartet is forced to take on an unconventional replacement after one of their members suddenly dies. When they meet face to face with their replacement, he is definitely not what they expected. Will the four of them have perfect harmony, or will the clash of cultures be too great? This comical and moving story about the power of song, prejudice, and friendship will fill the LTA auditorium with laughs, tears, and the close harmonies of barbershop quartets.

The cast includes **Jerry Hoffman** as Howard Dunphy, **Peter Halverson** as Phil Rizzardi, **John Brown** as Wally Smith, and **Gurpreet Sarin** as Baba (Bob) Mati Singh.

Producers **Jamie Blake**, **Rebecca Sheehy**, and **Luana Bossolo** and Director **Chuck Leonard** are excited to create this production with **Lynn Lacey** and **Melissa Dunlap**, Co-Stage Managers; **Abbie Desrosiers** and **James Myers**, Co-Musical Directors; **Matt Liptak**, Set Designer; **Jim Hutzler** and **Jeff Nesmeyer**, Co-Set Builders; **Jocelyn Steiner**, Set Dresser; **Leslie Reed**, Props Designer; **Marzanne Claiborne**, Lighting Designer; **Pam Leonowich** and **Michael O'Connor**, Co-Master Electricians; **Janice Rivera**, Sound Designer; **Luana Bossolo** and **Mary Hutzler**, Co-Set Painters; **Jean Schlichting** and **Kit Sibley**, Co-Costume Designers; **Jamie Blake**, Wardrobe Head; **Russ Wyland**, Rigger; **Matt Liptak**, Photographer; **Liz Blake**, Double-Tech Dinner; and **Eddie Page**, Opening Night Party.

If you would like to get involved and work on the show, email **Rebecca Sheehy** at rsheehy997@gmail.com.

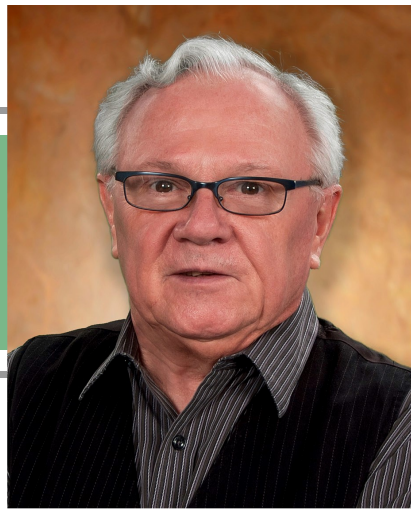
The Little Theatre of Alexandria

Lloyd Bittinger, President
Maria Ciarrocchi, Governor for
Membership
Kirstin Apker, Floodlight
Coordinator
Linda Wells, Floodlight Editor
Next Floodlight May 1st

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President's Column



Lloyd Bittinger

Every year at this time, we begin to focus on the next annual meeting and the election of members of the Board of Governors. This year, our annual meeting will be on Monday, June 12th. At that time our nominating committee, chaired by **Jamie Blake**, will submit a slate of officers to be elected, and then nominations may also be taken from the floor.

Listed below are the positions will come up for election at the next annual meeting along with a short general description of each one.

The Governor for Box Office manages all aspects of box office operations and works very closely with the box office manager. **Rae Edmonson** has served in this capacity for the past two years.

Michael Baker is currently serving as the Governor for Education, having been appointed to the position mid-term upon the passing of **Roland Branford Gomez**. This governor works very closely with the business office manager in coordinating all classes, appointing and working with instructors, and promoting class registrations.

One of the busiest governors on the board is the Governor for Front of House. **Jean Coyle** has served in this capacity for the past year to complete a previously vacated two-year term. This governor manages and staffs all house managers and ushers, locates caterers and serving staff for opening night parties, and takes care of all aspects of orderliness and security for areas in the front of the theatre.

Maria Ciarrocchi has served as the Governor for Membership and is responsible for all areas relating to recruitment and retention of members, and also development of newsletters and other tools of communication to members. This person is always seeking new ways to reach out to our membership.

The Governor for Seasonal Planning continuously works on development and maintenance of theatre calendars and, very importantly, coordinates the process for selection of the next season of musicals and plays with the Board of Governors. **Frank Shutts** currently serves in this capacity.

Robert Kraus is currently serving as the Governor for Technical Support. In this capacity, he coordinates all of the technical components of the theatre operations that take place mostly backstage. These include management of the departments of lighting, painting, and sound, as well as the shop used for set construction.

The president of the theatre is elected annually. This person serves as the president of the Board of Governors, and all positions within the theatre structure report to him/her. There are also many opportunities while serving in this position to provide considerable outreach to other arts organizations within the Alexandria area.

It is my goal – and I have communicated this to the Nominating Committee – that a minimum of two candidates be presented for each office. Although this is sometimes difficult – and it has to be said that quite often people simply do not want to run against a friend or other member of the theatre – it remains a goal in the democratic process. If you have an interest in being a member of the Board of Governors and you meet the qualifications, please make your interest known to **Jamie Blake** at your earliest convenience.

Lloyd Bittinger, President
All for Love of Theatre!

Announcement of Annual Meeting and Call for Nominations to LTA's Board of Governors

It's time to think about the LTA Elections! Now is your opportunity to serve LTA in another way! Become a member of the Board of Governors (BOG).

LTA's BOG is an active, working board whose members can be found doing every type of job at the theatre from producing, directing, teaching, volunteering in the box office, ushering, and house managing to the many other jobs required to help make LTA the wonderful place it is. The BOG also has fiduciary responsibility for LTA and the physical plant, as well as selecting the season, the directors, and the producers.

LTA's Annual Meeting and Election to the Board of Governors will be held on Monday, June 12, 2017, at the theatre. Under our by-laws and charter, you must be a paid Active or Past Active adult member age 18 or older to vote. All votes are conducted on the day of the election only and must be cast in person at LTA. Absentee or proxy ballot voting is not permitted. As required by our by-laws, a letter announcing the candidates for office and the annual meeting agenda will be sent to each eligible voting member.

We will be electing the following positions to the LTA Board of Governors on June 12th:

President (one-year term)

Governor for Box Office (two-year term)

Governor for Education (one-year term)

Governor for Front of House (two-year term)

Governor for Membership (two-year term)

Governor for Seasonal Planning (two-year term)

Governor for Tech Support (two-year term)

If you are interested in running for office or want more information about a particular available position, please send an email of intent by **Friday, April 28th**, to the following people and addresses: Jamie Blake, Chair of the LTA Nominating Committee, at jgblake76@yahoo.com and virginia@thelittletheatre.com, subject line: LTA Nominating Committee. You may also call the LTA Office at 703-683-5778, ext. 2, to speak with Virginia Lacey. Nominations are permitted from the floor as well; however, all are subject to candidate suitability.

Below are the minimum qualifications for serving as the LTA President or as a LTA Governor:

President:

- 1) Five years of membership in LTA, the last two of which must be consecutive and immediately prior to nominations.
- 2) Demonstrated ability in or knowledge of the overall theatre operations.
- 3) Service on the Board of Governors.
- 4) Chairman of one or more Standing Committees.

Governor:

- 1) Two years minimum of active membership in LTA prior to nomination.
- 2) Previous service as a producer, director, department chairman, governor, or member of a standing committee.
- 3) Demonstrated expertise and motivation related to the work requirements of the department to be managed.
- 4) Demonstrated interest in LTA and a proven sense of responsibility.

Upcoming Auditions

The Little Theatre of Alexandria returns to the third-smallest town in Texas to catch up with its colorful and opinionated residents just in time for their July 4th celebration! Welcome to Tuna, where the Lion's Club is too liberal, Patsy Cline never dies, and the residents never stop listening to OKKK, the local radio station. In the hilarious continuation of LTA's 2009 prize-winning production of *Greater Tuna*, two actors again create the entire population of Tuna, including a few hippies who have returned from the "left coast" to their roots for their high school reunion. Is Tuna ready for them? Join the wild ride of quick changes and comedic characterizations.

For the Audition

Auditions are open. No appointments are required. Auditionees will be given monologues and/or sides when they arrive at auditions. The director will ask auditionees to read their pieces as different characters. Texas accents are preferred but not required.

Auditionees will be asked for a complete list of their conflicts starting with callbacks (April 4th) through strike (June 25th). Once rehearsals begin, only emergency conflicts will be honored beyond those provided at auditions.

If you have a headshot and acting resume, you may submit them with your audition form, but these materials are not required. Auditionees may be asked to have their pictures taken.

The final rehearsal schedule will be determined by conflicts. With a cast of two, conflicts will likely play into casting decisions. Ideally, rehearsals will take place Tuesday through Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday afternoons.

Role Summaries

The show requires two actors able to play multiple roles, create multiple characters, and command multiple voices. The show, which includes frequent quick costume changes, must be performed at breakneck speed, but the audience must never see anything but characters moving slowly in the extreme heat of a Texas summer.

Actor 1 will play the roles of Star Birdfeather (a flower child), Thurston Wheelis (a radio disc jockey), Elmer Watkins (a veteran Klan member), Bertha Bumiller (a widowed housewife and mother), Joe Bob Burras (a chicken farmer), R. R. Snavely (estranged husband recently abducted by aliens), Inita Goodwin (half owner of Hot to Trot Catering), Leonard Childers (Tuna's mayor), and Reverend Sturgis Spikes (a local Baptist preacher).

Actor 2 will play the roles of Amber Windchime (a flower child), Arles Struvie (a radio disc jockey), Didi Snavely (proprietor of a used gun store), Petey Fisk (head of the Tuna Humane Society), Momma Byrd (Didi's ancient mother), Charlene Bumiller (Bertha's pregnant daughter), Stanley Bumiller (a reformed juvenile delinquent and artist), Vera Carp (self-appointed first lady of Tuna society), Helen Bedd (half owner of Hot to Trot Catering), and Garland Poteet (a soda pop delivery man).

For additional information or to volunteer for this production, please contact producer Russell Wyland at RussellWyland@gmail.com.



Written by

Jaston Williams,

Joe Sears,

and Ed Howard

Produced by

Marian Holmes

and Russell Wyland

Directed by

Michael J. Baker, Jr.

Audition Dates

Saturday, April 1, 2017

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

in the Academy building (1st floor)

Sunday, April 2, 2017

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

in the main building

Callbacks

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

7:00 p.m.

in the main building



Thank You from *Anything Goes*

The *S.S. American* has docked in port after a wonderful musical journey! Thank you to our wonderful cast, crew, orchestra, and front of house and box office volunteers. We are so very grateful to everyone who worked so hard (at a very busy time of year that included not just one, but three holidays) to make the show such a huge success! You're the top!

Mary Beth Smith-Toomey & Maria Ciarrocchi, Producers

Stefan Sittig, Director/Choreographer

Francine Krasowska, Music Director

Night of Staged Comedic Readings

By Ashley Amidon

The Millennial Committee was created to involve more millennials in LTA – not just in attending theatrical productions, but in creating a community of young patrons, techies, actors, and directors who call LTA home. As part of that mission the LTA Millennial Committee hosted a “Night of Staged Comedic Readings” on Friday, February 17th. Featuring local playwrights and millennial directors, all six short vignettes showcased talent both new and familiar to LTA audiences. The night was so popular that a second show was added at 9:00 p.m. to accommodate the overflow! Over 100 people saw these six plays. Because this event was so successful, plans are already underway to host another event at Halloween.

Produced by Ashley Amidon, the plays were written by **Jean Koppen**, **Véronique Autphenne**, **Rich Amada**, and **Carolyn Mason** and were directed by **Brendan Quinn**, **Kathleen Barth**, **Juli Tarabek Blacker**, **Hollyann Bucci**, **Kelsey Yudice**, and **Clare Schaffer**. The shows featured the acting talents of **Gary Cramer**, **Melissa Dunlap**, **Daniel Fox**, **Lauren Devoll**, **Kadira Coley**, **Caleb Coley**, **Stefany Pesta**, **Jeff Clark**, **Julie Edwards**, **Will Mark Stevenson**, **Cheryl Bolt**, **Scott Duvall**, **Daniel Calderon**, **Deidre McCollum**, and **Lynn Hill**. Chaired by **Ricky Drummond**, the committee includes **Ashley Amidon**, **Brendan Quinn**, **Rebecca Sheehy**, and **Michael Page** and is overseen by **Maria Ciarrocchi**.



Director **Brendan Quinn** looks on as actors **Caleb Coley** and **Stefany Pesta** perform playwright **Rich Amada**'s piece *The World's First Vegetarians by Moral Conviction*.

Photo by Ashley Amidon.

New Members

Shelby Baker

John Brown

Caterina Lillis

Maureen Roult

Gurpreet Sarin

Planning Your Gift

Have you considered including The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) as a beneficiary of your estate? LTA can suggest tools that will assist you in making plans that will support the artistic and education programs of the theatre in the future, as well as provide your estate with tax benefits. Supporters of LTA who make planned gifts are invited to be members of *The LTA Legacy Society*. *The LTA Legacy Society* recognizes those who have demonstrated their concern for the long-term well-being of LTA by notifying us of their bequest or other planned gift. For additional information, please call Virginia Lacey at 703-683-5778 ext. 2

LTA WATCH Award Winners

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)



Outstanding Lighting Design in a Play: **Jeffrey Scott Auerbach** – *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*

Outstanding Costume Design in a Play: **Grant Kevin Lane** – *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*

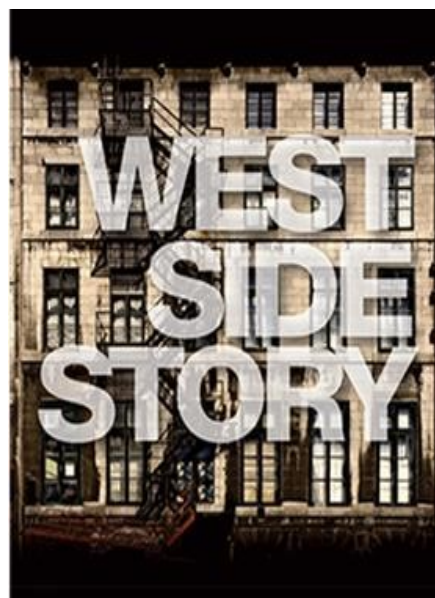
Outstanding Hair Design in a Play: **Grant Kevin Lane** – *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*

Outstanding Makeup Design in a Play: **Lori Bonnette** – *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Outstanding Cameo in a Play: **Nycole Bell** and **Tameka Taylor** as “Helen Robinson” – *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Outstanding Stage Combat Choreography: **Stefan Sittig** – *West Side Story*

Outstanding Set Decoration in a Play: **Kirstin Apker** and **Matt Liptak** – *Steel Magnolias*



TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD



Mark your calendars for the next session of *DC Connection*!



The Board of Governors continues to meet on the third Wednesday of each month. Here are some of the things we are currently working on to serve the membership.

- ◆ The board recognized all of those involved in last year's productions who received WATCH (Washington Area Theatre Community Honors) award nominations. LTA was recognized with 26 nominations.
- ◆ The producers for all shows presented at the theatre provide a report at the conclusion of the production process. **Robert Kraus** and **Alan Wray**, producers for *A Party to Murder*, presented their report to the board. **Russell Wyland** and yours truly, producers for *A Christmas Carol*, also presented their report.
- ◆ **David Hale**, treasurer, announced that he would soon be beginning the budget process for the next year. Members of the Budget Committee, in addition to the treasurer, are **Lloyd Bittinger**, **Maria Ciarrocchi**, **Marzanne Claiborne**, **Rae Edmonson**, **Marian Holmes**, **Jim Howard**, and **Rance Willis**.
- ◆ The Director of the LTA Council, **Carolyn Winters**, reviewed the "Buy a Brick Campaign" that is being coordinated with members as part of the development of the Shakespeare Garden. Also, the board approved the renaming of one of the LTA awards to "The Council of The Little Theatre of Alexandria Award for Best Performance in a Play," sponsored by the Council.
- ◆ The Governor for Membership, **Maria Ciarrocchi**, informed the board that the Millennial Committee is very active. They hosted a social event during the run of *Anything Goes*, and they will be having a staged reading event for directors under the age of 40.
- ◆ The Governor for Technical Support, **Robert Kraus**, reported that we are in need of a repair and replacement of our fog machines. The board approved an expenditure of \$900.00 for this purpose.
- ◆ **Beverley Benda**, Governor for Artistic Support, reviewed some of the problems she is having maintaining and storing wigs. This is an ongoing project and she hopes to make some improvements soon.
- ◆ **Rae Edmonson**, Governor for Box Office, reported that ticket sales for *A Christmas Carol* were at 100 percent.
- ◆ The board approved a large expenditure for the refurbishment of the theatre gardens (except the new Shakespeare Garden which is a project of the LTA Council) to improve their appearance.
- ◆ **Jim Howard**, Governor for Development, reminded the board that the theatre would be participating in the George Washington Birthday Parade in February.
- ◆ The education department continues to experience great success as reported by **Michael Baker**, Governor for Education. The department will also be sponsoring another *DC Connection* in April of this year.
- ◆ **Ken** and **Patti Crowley**, chairs of the Director Selection Committee for 2017 – 2018, have begun the advertising and recruitment of directors for the next season.
- ◆ The Governor for Front of House, **Jean Coyle**, announced that **Margie Remmers** had recently resigned as the chairperson for inventory control, and has been replaced by **Brendan Quinn**.
- ◆ CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) classes are routinely provided to members of the theatre, focusing on directors and producers. The Governor for Production, **Margaret Evans-Joyce**, announced that this program will be assumed by the Governor for Front of House.

These are just some of the things that the Board of Governors continues to work on as we move through the year. Please feel free to discuss any of these projects with or ask questions of any member of the board.

Lloyd Bittinger, President
All for Love of Theatre!

Your Board of Governors at Work

Governor's Message Development

In case you haven't noticed – and I'm sure you have – LTA is a busy, busy place. There is always something going on: eight shows a year, auditions and callbacks, rehearsals, set building, set painting, costuming, lighting design and light hanging, educational programs, music classes, acting classes, improv classes, voiceover classes, spring break and summer camps, and the Youth and Adult Education Showcases. If I've left anything out feel free to mention it to yourself.

Just thinking of all that makes my head spin. But you know what? It gives me great joy to be involved in this whirlwind of theatre activity. We are an important and necessary part of the DMV's arts community. I hope you enjoy LTA's many activities as much as I and our many other volunteers do.

On another note, it's that time of year again – time for the Budget Committee to crunch the numbers for next season's budget. I would like to thank chairman **David Hale** for his leadership and to thank our other members for their contributions: **Marzanne Claiborne**, **Marion Holmes**, **Rance Willis**, **Lloyd Bittinger**, and our newest member **Maria Ciarrocchi**. If I do say so myself, we're doing a great job.

Our elections to the Board of Governors will be happening soon, so get your nominations in as soon as possible. This is a good segue to make sure our directors, producers, and committee chairs are aware that our scholarships will be awarded during our annual meeting in June. Please get your nominations in to **Virginia Lacey** by the June 1st deadline. The forms for submitting nominees are on the website.

In May we'll be having our yearly lottery for our Partners in Art Night. We look forward to booking all of our first Friday and Tuesday time slots for sponsor nights. Next season offers many great options from which our sponsors can choose.

As always, activity abounds at The Little Theatre of Alexandria!

Jim Howard

Governor for Development

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Council Corner

Carolyn Winters
LTA Council Director
The Arts Build Communities

The Council met at Tempo Restaurant on February 12th and elected **Tina Anderson** as Vice Director and **Margaret Evans-Joyce** as Secretary. **Grace Machanic** has been our Secretary for eleven years! Now that is what I call dedication. Thanks, Grace, for all you do for the Council and for LTA.

Our old Christmas tree was looking a bit shabby, so **Tina Anderson** and **Sharon Field** decided to spruce things up a bit and purchased a new one. Plans also call for buying new greenery for the lobby.

Our Shakespeare Garden “Buy a Brick Campaign” had its kick-off at the February meeting. The last day to order bricks is April 23rd, the Bard’s birthday. Look for a ribbon cutting ceremony in mid-June; invitations will be sent to all donors. The Council would like to thank everyone who supported creating LTA’s Shakespeare Garden.

At the meeting, we also recognized our Distinguished Members – members of the Council whose names will be in each playbill after May with an asterisk beside their name. These individuals have volunteered for LTA for over 25 years and have been Council members for 20 years or more.

In Case of Emergency

Did you know that in case of an emergency, LTA has three AEDs (automated external defibrillators)?

They are located as follows:

- 1) in the lobby, near the Council (Green) Room
- 2) in the cast entrance hallway, near the backstage door
- 3) in the Alexandria Academy, on the first floor



The Little Theatre of Alexandria
600 Wolfe Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Box Office: 703-683-0496

Business Office: 703-683-5778 x2

Fax: 703-683-1378

www.thelittletheatre.com

Mark Your Calendars

4/1 – 4/2	Auditions for <i>Red, White, and Tuna</i>
4/7 – 4/9	<i>DC Connection</i>
4/22	<i>The Fabulous Lipitones</i> opens
4/23	“Buy a Brick Campaign” ends
4/28	Deadline for submitting letter of intent to run for BOG

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors, under the direction of the President, is responsible for managing the affairs and operations of The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

The Governors for the 2016 – 2017 season are:

President.....	Lloyd Bittinger
Governor for Artistic Support.....	Beverley Benda
Governor for Box Office.....	Rae Edmonson
Governor for Building.....	David Hale
Governor for Development.....	Jim Howard
Governor for Education.....	Michael J. Baker, Jr.
Governor for Front of House.....	Jean Coyle
Governor for Membership.....	Maria Ciarrocchi
Governor for Production.....	Margaret Evans-Joyce
Governor for Public Relations.....	Rachel Alberts
Governor for Seasonal Planning.....	Frank Shutts II
Governor for Technical Support.....	Robert Kraus

Additional officers are:

President Pro-Tem.....	Rachel Alberts
Treasurer.....	David Hale
Board Secretary.....	Carolyn Winters
Executive Secretary.....	Ashley Amidon
LTA Council Director.....	Carolyn Winters

Volunteer Info

Did you know that it takes the time and talent of nearly 150 volunteers to stage each production?

For more information on volunteering at LTA, please contact:

**Maria Ciarrocchi,
Governor for Membership**
mariabelle22@gmail.com

Thank you for your service!