



WEST SIDE STORY

Based on a Conception of Jerome Robbins

Book by ARTHUR LAURENTS

Music by LEONARD BERNSTEIN

Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

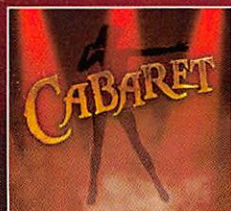
Director SUZANNE H. RAYOME

Choreographer TRISH SCOTT-DEMBLING

Music Director MICHAEL LOTANO

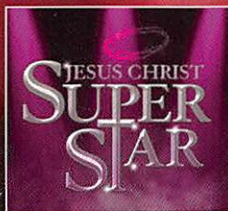
Producers AMY CLARK & MICHAEL CAMELO

NOV 10-12 & 16-19, 2017



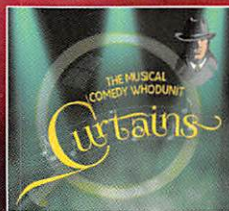
Cabaret

Sept 22-Oct 1, 2017



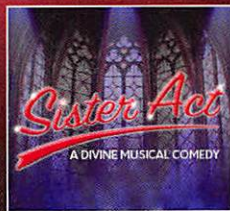
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A Letter From The President

Welcome! Our season is just heating up with our production of *West Side Story*. This is a difficult piece of theater for anyone, let alone as a youth show, but this cast and crew has risen to the challenge, putting together what is sure to be an astounding production.

Not only are we fortunate to have some of the best local student actors and musicians in the area involved in this production, but we are proud to be one of the few local theaters to provide a tuition free show specifically for high school students. It is through the generous support of our sponsors and donors that this program is made possible, and I want to thank you for your continued support of arts education in our community and here at Schenectady Light Opera. Education is a big part of our mission statement and I am excited that our newly appointed education department is working on some exciting opportunities in the future for, not only the youth program, but continuing education surrounding the arts as well.



As always, if you would like to get involved, we would love to make use of your time and talents behind the scenes to help make this organization run. We exist because of the support of our volunteers and without you we would not be able to continue to do what we love to do.

Thank you and enjoy the Show!

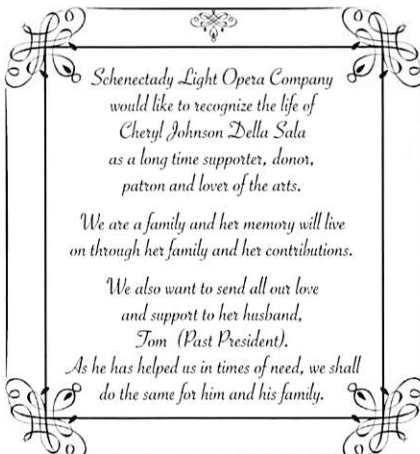
Michael Camelo

President, Schenectady Light Opera Company

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Congratulations Cast & Crew of *West Side Story*



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A Letter From The Director

The musical *West Side Story* is a modern-day adaptation of the timeless William Shakespeare classic tale *Romeo and Juliet*. Both works highlight many pervasive problems that generations of people around the world have encountered in the Human Experience: the struggle between youth and adults; the struggle that all cultures have with prejudices and stereotypes; the struggles between feuding groups and the resulting violence; the struggle of accepting and tolerating cultural differences in society. Arguably, the most dominant theme that threads both *Romeo and Juliet* and *West Side Story* together is the theme of love prevailing in the face of all of these struggles. Both stories involve young people falling in love – a deep, intense, profound love. Despite the star-crossed lovers in both stories being kept apart by families and friends, we ultimately see that their love does conquer hate.



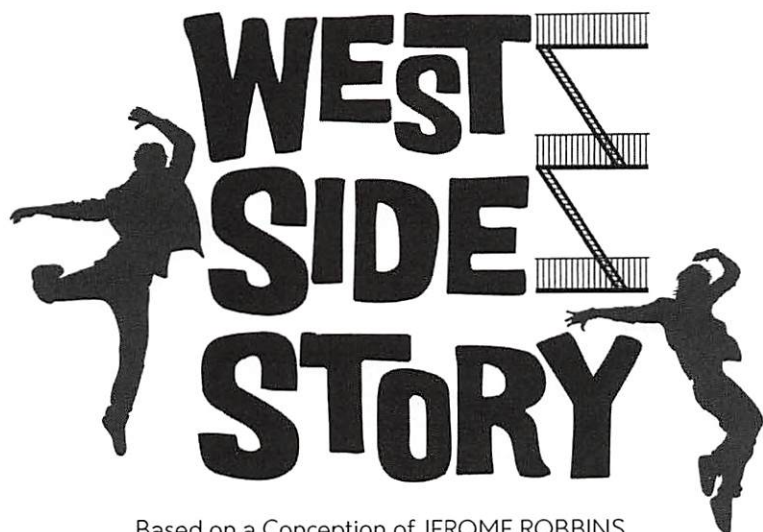
In the 2011 book, “Something’s Coming, Something Good: West Side Story and the American Imagination,” the author Misha Berson notes that the story was originally set in the late 1950s in the Lower East Side of New York, with the main struggle occurring between Italian Catholic kids and Jewish kids. After many rewrites, the composer (Leonard Bernstein) and the writer (Arthur Laurents) agreed that the struggles highlighted in their adaptation “weren’t fresh enough.” They eventually made the decision to reset the story “among Puerto Rican kids and Anglo kids on the Upper West Side.” This narrative of poor white gang members versus young immigrant Puerto Ricans still rings true today. How we have defined and continue to define ourselves as “Americans” is extremely relevant not only in 1957 but in 2017.

In the initial stages of launching this production, I must admit I was quite overwhelmed with directing, in my humble opinion, one of the greatest works of American musical theater that has ever been produced. Our incredibly talented actors, musicians and production staff have made this rehearsal journey such a rich, rewarding process. Everyone has tackled a challenging score and script with unbridled professionalism. To each and every member of the cast, crew and creative team, I offer my utmost gratitude. Thank you for sharing your talents with each other and with all of YOU, our much-appreciated audience. The future of the Arts in the Capital Region is in great hands with our youth!

We present to you tonight a very timely and timeless musical tragedy. Thank you for sharing in this theatrical experience with us.

Suzanne H. Rayome
Director

Schenectady Light Opera Company Presents



WEST SIDE STORY

Based on a Conception of JEROME ROBBINS

Book by ARTHUR LAURENTS

Music by LEONARD BERNSTEIN

Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Entire Original Production Directed and Choreographed by
JEROME ROBBINS

Originally Produced on Broadway by Robert E. Griffith and Harold S. Prince
By Arrangement with Roger L. Stevens

Director SUZANNE H. RAYOME

Music Director MICHAEL LOTANO

Choreographer TRISH SCOTT-DEMBLING

Producers AMY CLARK & MICHAEL CAMELO

Inspired by the timeless story of *Romeo and Juliet*, *West Side Story* takes Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers, and places them in the vibrant battleground of New York City's West Side in the 1950's. With soaring, sophisticated, and diverse melodies, energetic and athletic dance battles, and its remarkably salient social message, *West Side Story* remains one of American musical theatre's most revolutionary and most loved treasures.

West Side Story is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Cast

THE JETS

Riff, The Leader	George Franklin
Tony, His Friend	Nick Contois
Action	Evan Finke
A-Rab	Edison Roberts
Baby John	Patch Gallagher
Snowboy	Matthew Joseph
Big Deal	Joey Titus
Diesel	Ashton Fariello

THEIR GIRLS

Graziella	Gabrielle Van Dyk
Velma	Grace Schlembach
Pauline	Lacey Farina
Minnie	Paige Kenneally
Clarice	Abby Countermine
Anybodys	Emily Gallinger

THE SHARKS

Bernardo	Michael Burns
Maria, His Sister	Claire Flynn
Anita, His Girl	Hannah Thompson
Chino, His Friend	Tyler Barhydt
Luis	Ian Justino
Pepe	Jon Maltz
Indio	Braden Jarosz
Nibbles	Zach Simpson

THEIR GIRLS

Rosalia	Hailey Aldrich
Teresita	Lauren DiCocco
Francisca	Amelia Allen
Estella	Mallory Jones
Consuela	Molly Filburn
Margarita	Kaylee Whelan

THE ADULTS

Doc	Scout Santoro
Lt. Schrank	Cameron Brunson
Officer Krupke	Paul Amirault
Glad Hand	Zach Simpson

The Mission of SLOC is to Provide Opportunities
for Adults and Youths to Experience
and Participate in the Performing Arts.

Production Staff

Director	Suzanne H. Rayome
Music Director	Michael Lotano
Choreographer	Trish Scott-Dembling
Producers	Amy Clark & Michael Camelo
Assistant Choreographers	Joshua DeMarco & Carolyn Frantz
Stage Managers	Regina Baker & Melissa Putterman Hoffmann
Set Designer & Scenic Artist	Marc Christopher
Master Carpenter	Dale Clark
Set Construction & Painting	Gary M. Hoffmann, Jeff Rauhauser & Michelle Sausa-Gatta
Lighting Designer	Greg Rucinski
Assistant Lighting Designer	Suzanne Talarico Rucinski
Lighting Crew	Bob Healy & Sarah Katz
Lighting Intern	Justin Ronca
Sound Designer	Sarah Katz
Sound Assistant	Amanda Becker
Costume Designers	Connie Rowe Rauhauser & Cheryl Zatt
Assistant Costume Designer	Emily Zatt
Hair Designers	Nichole Burkus & Elizabeth Sherwood-Mack
Make-up Designer	Jamie Winchester
Property Designers	Gary M. Hoffmann, Melissa Peterson & Debbie Paniccia
Rehearsal Accompanist	Marilyn Brown
Audition Accompanists	Sariah Ashton & Jessica Crisci
Producer Intern	Amanda Becker
Stage Crew	Bia Bouabboune, Scott Brown & Victoria Jarosz

Musicians

Conductor	Michael Lotano
Keyboard	Marilyn Brown
Synthesizer	John VanStone
Reed 1	James Haertel
Reed 2	Julie Taylor
Reed 3	Katt Cummings
Reed 4	Sarah Novak
Violin	Kelly Diehl
Trombone	Frank Meredith
Trumpet	Omar Williams
French Horn	Glenn Trechel
Lead Percussion	Dan Gleason
Percussion	Kathryn Efner
Percussion	Brianna Swallow
Drum Set	Atticus Trayford

Scenes & Songs

ACT ONE

Upper West Side of New York City, Late Summer, 1957

Scene 1: The Neighborhood; 5:00 p.m.

Prologue The Sharks & The Jets
Jet Song..... Riff & The Jets

Scene 2: Outside Doc's Drugstore; 5:30 p.m.

Something's Coming..... Tony

Scene 3: Rosa's Bridal Shop; 6 p.m.

Scene 4: The Gym; 10 p.m.

Dance at the Gym Company
Maria..... Tony

Scene 5: The Street/Maria's Balcony; 11 p.m.

Tonight..... Tony & Maria
America Anita, Rosalia & The Shark Girls

Scene 6: Doc's Drugstore; Midnight

Cool..... Riff, The Jet Boys & The Jet Girls

Scene 7: Rosa's Bridal Shop; The Next Day, 5:30 p.m.

One Hand, One Heart..... Tony & Maria

Scene 8: The Neighborhood; 6-9 p.m.

Tonight (Quintet) Riff, Bernardo, Anita, Tony, Maria & Company

Scene 9: The Street; 9 p.m.

The Rumble..... Company

There will be a 15-minute intermission

Refreshments are available at the rear of the theater provided by Ambition Café

ACT TWO

Scene 1: Maria's Bedroom; 9:15 p.m.

I Feel Pretty Maria, Rosalia, Consuela & Francisca
Somewhere..... Tony, Maria and Company

Scene 2: The Street; 10 p.m.

Gee, Officer Krupke..... Action & The Jets

Scene 3: Maria's Bedroom; 11:30 p.m.

A Boy Like That/I Have a Love..... Anita & Maria

Scene 4: Doc's Drugstore; 11:40 p.m.

Scene 5: Doc's Drugstore; 11:50 p.m.

Scene 6: The Street; Midnight

The Cast and Crew of *West Side Story*
sincerely thank the following organizations and individuals
for their generous support of this production!

✦ Our Supportive Parent Volunteers ✦ Siena Fence ✦ Tom Killips ✦
✦ Downtown Custom Printwear ✦ Not So Common Players ✦ Chipotle ✦
✦ Andy Janack ✦ Kay Schlemgach ✦ BH-BL Drama Club ✦ Bob Healey ✦
✦ Leslie Eliashuk & The Berlin Dramateers ✦ Troy Civic Theater ✦

Who's Who in the Cast & Crew

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

HAILEY ALDRICH (*Rosalie*) is thrilled to be doing her second show with SLOC. Recently, Hailey has performed in *Footloose* (Vi Shaw) with SLOC, as well as *Legally Blonde* (Paulette Bonafonte), and *The Great Gatsby* (Daisy Buchanan) with her High School Drama Club. Hailey would like to give a huge thank you to the production staff, cast and crew, and her family for their love and support throughout this process! Enjoy the show!

AMELIA ALLEN (*Francisca*) is euphoric to be performing with SLOC again this fall. Last summer she performed on Proctors' Mainstage in *Pippin* and with Masterclass Performing Arts in *AIDA*. Highlights of previous performances include: *All Shook Up* (Lorraine), *The Little Mermaid* (Sebastian), and *Footloose* (Ensemble). Outside of theater, Amelia enjoys songwriting and dance. Special thanks to Amelia's voice teacher, Carla Fisk, dance teachers and cast and crew members for their ongoing support and encouragement throughout the show.

PAUL AMIRAUT (*Officer Krupke*) It is with mixed emotions that Paul writes his last SLOC Youth Production bio. His time here as a provincial town's candle-maker, a diminutive Lord's guard, and a cranky Uncle have been some of the most fun moments in his high school years. Paul would like to thank Brandon Jones and Sev Moro who saw something in him back when he sang Happy Birthday as an audition song, Jeffrey Hocking, who sparked his love of performing all those years ago in *Honk*, and of course Mary Darcy! This Muffin will be back!

REGINA BAKER (*Co-Stage Manager*) is very happy to be back at SLOC. She enjoys working backstage with these very talented teens. To the cast and crew "break a leg."

TYLER BARHYDT (*Chino*) is the director of the short film *Doodle*, along with an actor in the film series *OFFICE* and short film *Why God?* He began his involvement in theater last year and plans to pursue it throughout the rest of high school. His previous credits include Richard Stanley in *The Man Who Came to Dinner* and Lewis in *Pippin*. He is a photographer and filmmaker and plans to pursue those fields in college.

AMANDA BECKER (*Producer Intern, Sound Assistant*) is very excited to be a part of this amazing show working as an intern for the production staff. Even though she is working behind the scenes, she also performs and has previously appeared as Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof* and an Opera Singer and Soloist in *Phantom*. Theatre is very important to her and she loves to be involved any way she can. She would like to thank the cast and crew for making this such a wonderful experience and she would also like to thank her friends and family for always supporting her. "Break legs everyone!"

MARILYN BROWN (*Accompanist*) is an accomplished teacher and pianist and has taught and performed all over the world. Ms. Brown has directed several shows including *The Granny Awards*, and *The Hundred Year Snooze* and has accompanied shows including *Clue* with USTOMP at SUNY Potsdam, and *The Jungle Book* with the Missoula Children's Company in Bitburg, Germany. Ms. Brown thanks the cast and crew of *West Side Story* for a great debut experience with SLOC!

Who's Who in the Cast & Crew Continued...

CAMERON BRUNSON (*Lt. Schrank*) is very excited to be returning to the SLOC stage! He made his debut at SLOC as Coach Dunbar in *Footloose!* Cameron would like to thank all his friends and family for supporting him. He would like to specifically thank Edison Roberts and Paige Kenneally for being on stage with him since his early days of theater.

NICHOLE BURKUS (*Co-Hair Designer*) is so excited to be back at SLOC for the second year designing the hair for the fall student production. Some past hair credits include: *Footloose*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Anything Goes*, and *Damn Yankees*. When Nichole's not designing the hair for a show, she's usually in it!

MICHAEL BURNS (*Bernardo*) has been in two previous shows with SLOC including *Footloose* (Principal) and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (Ensemble). He also plays in his school's orchestra (cello) and band (baritone horn), and sings in the select choir and men's choir. He is ecstatic to be part of such an amazing show with an amazing cast and production team!

MICHAEL CAMELO (*Co-Producer*) is thrilled to be back at SLOC after directing the 90th Anniversary Gala and *How to Succeed...* last year. Michael holds a BA in Arts Management from SUNY Purchase and currently works in the compliance department at the Golub Corporation as well as for SGHS as the Drama Club Director. An active member in the theater community, Michael currently serves as the President of the Board of Directors for SLOC and is a board member for NSCP. Recent Credits: *Damn Yankees* (Director), *Anything Goes* (Director), [title of show] (Jeff), *Sweet Smell of Success* (Sidney), *The Producers* (Roger De Bris), *Anything Goes* (Director), *Sweeney Todd* (Mr. Fogg), *The Fantasticks* (Matt), and *Avenue Q* (Rod) to name a few. "It has been an honor to be a part of this show and to witness the vast talent of these students. Thank you to my family and friends and especially this cast and crew for all you do!"

MARC CHRISTOPHER (*Set Designer, Scenic Artist*) is normally on the stage, but there are times when he paints it. Marc has designed and painted sets for many productions including: *The Wizard of Oz*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Avenue Q*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Seussical*, *Honk Jr.*, and *Once on This Island* as well as *Urinetown* and *H2\$* at SLOC last season. Thank you to all the volunteers for coming out and lending a hand and a paint brush to finish this ambitious set. Thank you to his partner in crime this production, Dale Clark, for all his hard work and making the picture on a piece of computer paper come to life.

AMY CLARK (*Co-Producer*) is thrilled to be co-producing again at SLOC with this extremely talented cast and crew for *West Side Story*. Previously, she co-produced last spring's production of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Other productions at SLOC include *The Producers* and *Hello, Dolly*. Amy also worked with NSCP on their summer production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. She has also produced shows at Burnt Hills High School and multiple productions at O'Rourke Middle School. Very special thanks and love to Dale for his encouragement, help and support. She'd like to dedicate this performance to her newest grandson, Logan.

Who's Who in the Cast & Crew Continued...

DALE CLARK (*Master Carpenter*) is a master carpenter that has been building residential and commercial properties for the past 25 years. He has built many sets for SLOC, including *The Producers* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. He has also built the set for NSCP's summer production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Dale is the set construction director for BH-BL Middle School in their theater program and has been for the past 13 years. He'd like to thank Suzanne for this opportunity and much love to Amy. Enjoy the show!

NICK CONTOIS (*Tony*) is very excited to take part in his first show with SLOC. Previous credits include: *Once on This Island* (Agwe), *Footloose* (Ren) and *Guys & Dolls* (Sky Masterson). He'd like to thank his friends and family for supporting him in the theatre, and he hopes you enjoy the show!

ABBY COUNTERMINE (*Clarice*) is super excited for this production of *West Side Story*! Abby was previously seen in *Footloose* last year with SLOC. Other credits include *All Shook Up* (Natalie), *The Great Gatsby* (Featured Dancer), and *Legally Blonde* (Featured Dancer). She would like to thank her family and friends for the support and hopes you enjoy the show!

LAUREN DiCOCO (*Teresita*) is excited to be in *West Side Story*, her second SLOC production, following last year's *Footloose* as Ethel. Lauren is also excited to be playing Marvalyn in *Almost Maine* with Michael Lotano. Previously, Lauren has been in productions including: *Into the Woods* as the Witch and *Peter and the Starcatcher* as Prentiss. She would like to thank Suzanne, Trish, Amy, and Michael for all their work and her mother for staying sane as Lauren learned to drive in Schenectady.

ASHTON FARIELLO (*Diesel*) is very excited to be in his second SLOC production! He has performed in last year's *Footloose* (Travis), as well as in Proctors' School of the Performing Arts productions of *Pippin* (Ensemble) and *All Shook Up* (Dance Captain/Ensemble). He also was a swing in *Guys and Dolls* (Havana Dancer/Gangster) with Consortium Actors. He thanks all his family and friends for their endless love and support!

LACEY FARINA (*Pauline*) is thrilled to be back performing on the SLOC stage. Previous credits include: Little Girl in *Ragtime* (SLOC), Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz* (Foothills Family Productions), *Phantom of the Opera* (NHS), Aquata in *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Family Players of NENY) and many others. She hopes you enjoy the show!

MOLLY FILBURN (*Consuela*) is excited to be making her SLOC debut. Molly has previously appeared in numerous shows including: *Tarzan*, *Mary Poppins*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* with BARC as well as *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Willy Wonka* with Launching Pad. When Molly is not performing, she enjoys playing softball, singing and learning piano. Molly would like to thank her parents for their support and she hopes you enjoy the show.

EVAN FINKE (*Action*) This is Evan's 4th show with SLOC and he feels privileged to be a part of the *West Side Story* cast. Some recent theatrical highlights include Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* at Debuts, as well as Lyle in *Footloose* and Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast* at SLOC. He would like to thank his family for their love and encouragement and the entire team at SLOC for the opportunity and providing a great vibe with this theater company.

CAST & CREW





Tom Killips Photography killipsphoto@yahoo.com

Who's Who in the Cast & Crew Continued...

CLAIRE FLYNN (*Maria*) is happy to be back on the SLOC stage for her third show. SLOC credits include *Footloose* (Ensemble) and *Annie Get Your Gun* (Cowgirl/Ensemble). Other favorite performances include: *RENT* (Mimi), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Crystal), *The Witches of Venice* (Saratoga Opera), *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Marcy Park), and *Seussical* (Mayzie LaBird). Many thanks to Suzanne, Amy, Connie, Michael L, Michael C, Trish, Amanda, Melissa and the awesome cast and crew for this amazing experience.

GEORGE FRANKLIN (*Riff*) Broadway: *A Christmas Story, The Musical*. National Tour: *Elf, The Musical*. NYC: *Parade* and *The Secret Garden* at Lincoln Center. Regional: *This Way to Broadway* with Tony Danza, *TheRep – A Christmas Story* and *Gypsy*, Oregon Shakespeare, Park Playhouse; Mac-Haydn Theatre, TriArts, SYFI and Debuts. George is a tapper and skier. Love to my family and Lizzy. www.georgefranklinonline.com

PATCH GALLAGHER (*Baby John*) is very excited to return to the SLOC stage once again, after a short break, in *West Side Story*. His recent shows include *Camelot* at theRep, *The Lion King* at SMS, *Shrek* at Lights Up, and *A Christmas Story* at theRep.

EMILY GALLINGER (*Anybodies*) is thrilled to be returning to the SLOC stage with this production of *West Side Story*. Her previous credits include *Annie* (Duffy) and *Gypsy* (Baby Louise) at Mac-Haydn, *Footloose* (Urleen) at SLOC and *Legally Blonde* (Elle) at her school. She would like to thank the entire cast and crew for making this a wonderful experience and her awesome car pool moms for making sure she made it to rehearsal on time.

GARY M. HOFFMANN (*Co-Property Designer*) With SLOC, Gary first appeared in 1776 as John Adams, later performing in *A Funny Thing Happened...*, *Seussical*, *Ragtime*, *Hairspray*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Legally Blonde*, and *Cabaret*. He has served on SLOC's board, co-chaired props for *The Producers*, acted as board liaison for several shows, and performed in several fundraisers. He has performed in countless other shows since the age of 7, but his favorite roles remain husband to Melissa Putterman Hoffmann and daddy to Nate and Jill.

MELISSA PUTTERMAN HOFFMANN (*Co-Stage Manager*) joins the *West Side Story* production immediately on the heels of appearing as Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret* at SLOC (for which she received a TANY award) and Mary in *Strong Street* at LAGS. Happy to embrace a new challenge, she is lucky to be working alongside Regina Baker. A school social worker with the BCSD by day, Melissa's most meaningful roles are mom to Nate and Jill, and wife to Gary.

BRADEN JAROSZ (*Indio*) enjoyed roles in such theatrical dramas as *The Christmas Shoes* (Nathan), *Willy Wonka, Jr.* (Willy Wonka), *Annie, Jr.* (Rooster Hannigan), *The Little Mermaid, Jr.* (Prince Eric), and *The Sound of Music* (Max Detweiler). Braden is also a successful USATF Athlete. When he's not crossing the finish line, he can be seen chasing his passion for piano and voice! SLOC is Braden's first experience with community theater. Hold on to your seats, and let the rumble begin!

Who's Who in the Cast & Crew Continued...

MALLORY JONES (*Estella*) is very excited to portray the role of Estella. She has played several roles including: Chava in *Fiddler on the Roof*, The Drowsy Chaperone in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Meg Brockie in *Brigadoon*, Mulan in *Mulan*, Kay Banks in *Father of the Bride*, and many others. Mallory is also part of the Choralaires, a competitive choir at her school, and is a dancer and a dance assistant at Ginny Martin. Mallory would like to thank all her friends and family for all of their support.

MATTHEW JOSEPH (*Snowboy*) is very excited to put on this production of *West Side Story*. This is his first show with SLOC and he loves being a part of the cast and crew. His previous roles include Henry in *Next to Normal* (Lights Up), Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes* (C-R Kids) and Timon in *Lion King, Jr.* (School Production). Matthew thanks his friends and family for their support and looks forward to working with SLOC in more productions in the future.

IAN JUSTINO (*Luis*) is excited to be returning for his second SLOC youth show with the wonderful production team and cast of *West Side Story*. Ian has been involved with musical theater since the age of 10. Some of his favorite roles have included Jack (*Into the Woods*, Park Playhouse) and Pugsley Addams (*The Addams Family*). He also enjoys singing with his classic rock band, Side B. He would like to thank the WSS production staff for this opportunity and his family for their support.

SARAH KATZ (*Sound Designer*) has been involved in community theater in the Capital district since 2012, when she ended a 9-year hiatus from theater. This is her fifth SLOC youth show, and the second she designed. She has been sound designing since 2015, for both SLOC and NSCP. Sound design credits include *Anything Goes* and *Damn Yankees* at NSCP, and *Sweeney Todd*, *Footloose*, *Into the Woods*, and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* at SLOC.

PAIGE KENNEALLY (*Minnie*) is very excited to be in SLOC's *West Side Story!* Her favorite credits include *All Shook Up* (Featured Dancer) and *Legally Blonde* (Enid Hoops). Paige is a member of the CAST program at Proctors and is a part of Carpe Diem Productions. She would like to thank her family and friends for all of their love and support.

MICHAEL LOTANO (*Music Director*) was born and raised in Schenectady. He is pleased to return to SLOC after having previously music directed *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Caroline, or Change*, and *Sweeney Todd*. He also directed *Legally Blonde* for the company in 2015. He has appeared on-stage here in *Bat Boy: The Musical*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *Next to Normal*. Michael is a music teacher at Shenendehowa and holds degrees in music education and vocal performance from The Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam. He also maintains a private voice studio. He has really enjoyed working with these talented students and adults and hopes that you enjoy our performance of this classic musical!

JON MALTZ (*Pepe*) is excited to be in SLOC's production of *West Side Story!* This is his first show with SLOC and he is very grateful to be a part of the cast. Some of his favorite roles include: The Baker in *Into the Woods* (Park Playhouse), Mark in *RENT* (SYFI), and the title character in *Shrek the Musical* (Lights Up Prod). He would like to thank the cast and crew for putting on this fantastic production. He would also like to thank his family for all their support.

Who's Who in the Cast & Crew Continued...

DEBBIE PANICCIA (*Co-Property Designer*) is happy to be making her SLOC debut on the production team. She did Props for the NSCP spring production of *Lucky Stiff* and was most recently seen on stage as Shaindel in NSCP's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. She has participated in 9 shows for NSCP over the years, and looks forward to staying involved in the theater community. Thanks to Suzanne and Amy for this opportunity! Break a leg cast and crew!

MELISSA PETERSON (*Co-Property Designer*) is thrilled to again work with the talented actors and production team on the SLOC Youth Show after doing props for *Footloose* last season. Having performed on area stages for the past few years, she enjoys the process of creating something from nothing. Love to T, A, E, and G and thanks for your patience and support. Break all the legs!

CONNIE ROWE RAUHAUSER (*Co-Costume Designer*) has costumed over 30 shows in the Capital District, 18 of these with SLOC. Some of her favorites are: *The Producers*, *Caroline or Change*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Anything Goes*, *Little Me*, *Parade*, and *Shenandoah*. Connie is Vice-President of the Board of Directors at SLOC and Chair of Productions and Programs. A special thank you to Suzanne and company, they are exceptional to work with.

SUZANNE H. RAYOME (*Director*) is delighted to be returning to SLOC to direct one of her all-time favorite musicals. Previous credits with this company include directing *The Producers* (TANYS), the regional premiere of *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (TANYS), *Hello, Dolly!* (TANYS) and playing the role of Miss Hannigan in SLOC's 2007 production of *Annie*. This production marks her 46th year of acting in or directing over 100 shows, including productions for schools, community, regional, and professional theaters throughout the U.S. Favorite roles on stage include: Dolly, (*Hello Dolly!*); Anna (*The King and I*); Maria (*The Sound of Music*); Golde (*Fiddler on the Roof*); Eliza (*My Fair Lady*); Miss Hannigan (*Annie*); Nellie (*South Pacific*); Sarah (*Guys and Dolls*); and Winnifred (*Once Upon a Mattress*). Favorite Directorial credits include: *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *...Forum*, *Anything Goes*, *The Music Man*, *Steel Magnolias*, and *Crimes of the Heart*. She is the K-12 Director for World Languages, ENL and Libraries for Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake CSD and has served as the Drama Club Director for the O'Rourke MS for the past 18 years. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling and broadcasting for WMHT-RISE. A toi, mon chou!

EDISON ROBERTS (*A-Rab*) is completely ecstatic to be A-Rab in *West Side Story!* His recent performances include Cowboy Bob in *Footloose* at SLOC and Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde* at his school. He would like to thank his mom for all the support and help and all his family and friends for all that they do for him. Enjoy the show! Cracko-Jacko!

GREG RUCINSKI (*Lighting Designer*) begins a busy 38th year at SLOC with the first of three lighting designs this season. He started at SLOC at age 15, has gone on to design over 40 shows for SLOC, and enjoys sharing his experience with the cast and crew of today's youth productions. Greg co-chairs SLOC's High School Musical Awards with his wife, Sue, who also shares in this production as assistant lighting designer. Please continue to support the arts!

Who's Who in the Cast & Crew Continued...

SCOUT SANTORO (*Doc*) is excited to be making his debut at SLOC. His past theatrical credits include: *The Wiz* (Wiz), *Annie* (Daddy Warbucks), Park Playhouse production of *The Music Man* (Ensemble), *Dear Edwina, Jr.* (Ziggy). When Scout is not performing he loves playing guitar, listening to music, and swimming. He would like to thank everyone at SLOC for this opportunity and his family and friends for their support.

GRACIE SCHLEMBACH (*Velma*) This is Gracie's first time working with SLOC and she is thrilled to be playing Velma. Gracie's past roles/positions include "Bonnie" Jean Maclaren (*Brigadoon*), Flute/Thisbe (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and student director of *Our Town*, among others. Gracie was invited to NYSSMA Conference All-State 2016, and received the SWCMEA Scholarship in 2017 for voice. Enjoy the show, and break legs!

TRISH SCOTT-DEMBLING (*Choreographer*) is excited to be back at SLOC. Previous credits include *Footloose* (TANYS), *How to Succeed...*, *Urinetown*, and *Spamalot* (TANYS). Thank you to the cast and crew for another successful run. Check out her directorial debut with the third show of the 91st season, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. All my love the Matthew.

ELIZABETH SHERWOOD-MACK (*Co-Hair Designer*) is an educator and actress who hails from Loudonville, NY. She is very excited to be working with Nichole Burkus as Co-Hair Designers for this fantastic production of *West Side Story*. Previous SLOC shows include *Hairspray*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Caroline, or Change*, *South Pacific*, *Shrek*, *Spamalot*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Hair*, *The Producers*, *Footloose*, *Urinetown the Musical*, *Into the Woods*, and *H2\$*. Favorite onstage roles include Hold Me Touch Me (*The Producers*), and Christmas Eve (*Avenue Q*). All her love and thanks goes to her friends, family, and Zumily for their never-ending support and love.

ZACH SIMPSON (*Glad Hand/Nibbles*) is very excited to be in his first show at SLOC for this production of *West Side Story*. Some of the other favorite shows he has done include *Beauty and the Beast* (Beast), *Shrek* (Shrek), *The Little Mermaid* (Eric), *The Lion King* (Mufasa), and *Once on This Island* (Agwe). Outside of theater, Zach plays the drums in his school bands, and in a band with some of his friends. He would like to thank his family for their constant support and hopes everyone enjoys the show.

HANNAH THOMPSON (*Anita*) is thrilled to be making her SLOC debut in *West Side Story*. She has performed with many theaters throughout the area, including: Schenectady Civic Players, Galway Players, and Proctors' School of Performing Arts. Past roles include Rona Lisa Peretti (*25th Annual... Spelling Bee*), Mary Poppins (*Mary Poppins*), and Sandra Bloom (*Big Fish*). She would like to thank her friends and family for their endless support and everyone for coming to see the show!

JOEY TITUS (*Big Deal*) is an aspiring actor who is very excited to be back on the SLOC stage in this wonderful show. His most recent roles include *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Otto Frank), *Pippin* (Ensemble) and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Russian Tenor and Dancer). He would like to thank the director and all of the production crew for all of their time and effort.

Who's Who in the Cast & Crew Continued...

GABRIELLE VAN DYK (*Graziella*) is thrilled to be making her SLOC debut! Other credits include *All Shook Up* at Proctors, *Hairspray*, *West Side Story*, *Picnic*, *Willy Wonka*, *Peter Pan* and many more. She currently takes dance lessons with Freddy Ramirez. Enjoy the show!

JAMIE WINCHESTER (*Make-up Designer*) is so excited to be a part of *West Side Story*! She has been doing small scale specialty makeup for years now. She most recently had the pleasure of doing makeup for SLOC's production of *How to Succeed...* and O'Rourke Middle School's production of *Shrek. Jr.* She would like to thank the fabulous people at SLOC for giving her this opportunity to be a part of the crew! Enjoy the show!

KAYLEE WHELAN (*Margarita*) is so happy to be playing the role of Margarita in SLOC's production of *West Side Story*! Previous roles include the Stepmother in *Into the Woods* at Park Playhouse, Ensemble in *Footloose* at SLOC, *Peter and the Starcatcher* with Performing SmArts, *Heathers* with Lights Up and lots more! She hopes you enjoy the show!

CHERYL ZATT (*Co-Costume Designer*) is pleased to be costuming her first show at SLOC. She has been the Costume Director at O'Rourke Middle School in Burnt Hills for the past 8 years. Favorite shows include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* for the BHBL District Wide Centennial Celebration Show, *The Little Mermaid*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. Cheryl is excited to work with such amazing cast and crew.



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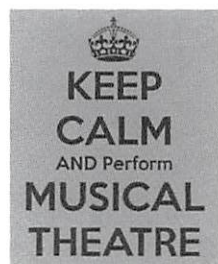




**We are so proud of you,
Gabrielle Van Dyk!**

Break a leg!

Love, Mom, Dad and Andrew



Kaylee, I am so proud of you!

Your hard work and determination has paid off!

Always keep that smile on your face
and that kindness in your heart!

I am so proud to call you my daughter!

Love you so much! ~Mom

Break a leg Edison!

We are so very proud of you
for following your dreams!

Cracko jacko! 5 bets that you'll go far!

Love You! Mom, Rich, Claudia & Oliver



Molly, Keep reaching for the stars!

We love you.

Congratulations to the
cast and crew of *West Side Story*.

Break a leg!

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– Mary Oliver

Thank you for sharing your wild and precious life with all of us.

Papa, Mama

John, Paul & Alex, Becky, Sam & Aleks



Congratulations Claire! We are so proud of you and the beautiful young lady you have become. Keep shining like the sun, sweetie!

oxo Mom, Lydia and Chuck oxo

"Break a Leg" to the Cast and Crew. Sending a special CONGRATS to Nick (a.k.a. Tony) – we are so proud of you!

The Contois Family

Lacey break a leg! We are so proud of you and love you!

Mom, Dad and Lauren

Congrats Abby! We are so proud of the performer you have become!

Love, Mom & Dad

We never tire of seeing you shine on stage, Hailey. Break a leg!

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We are so proud of you Paige!

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