

the Nonsense Christmas musical
NUNCRACKERS

DECEMBER

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Bonnie Williams
SLOC President

FROM THE
PRESIDENT



Welcome!

Our second production of this 79th year of quality musical theatre is a most appropriate show for the season, *Nuncrackers*. You may think you're sitting in the SLOC Opera House, but really you are in Hoboken, NJ at the Convent of the Little Sisters of Hoboken and Mt. St. Helen's School. If some of you have visited before, you know you are in for a good time. So sit up straight, pay attention and enjoy the fun.

"SO SIT UP
STRAIGHT, PAY
ATTENTION AND
ENJOY THE FUN."

In a recent article in *Opera News* composer and lyricist Michael John Lachiusa posed the following question: "Is the Musical Dead?" Recent Broadway productions have not followed the "traditional" history of such classics as *Oklahoma*, *West Side Story*, or *My Fair Lady*. These shows and countless others stemmed from an original story or book or was a musicalized version of a well-known play.

They had lyrics, music, libretto and choreography all working in equal parts to create the drama. Shows currently on Broadway reflect a new trend of creating a show around a composer or music genre (jukebox musicals), adding music to hit movies, or turning popular animated classics into live-action productions. The writer asserted that these shows were not "real" musicals, thus lending credence to the obituary for the musical, as we know it. One cause for the real musical's near death is economics. "Theatre should be economically accessible as a nice dinner out-not something on which to spend your 401k." He concludes that if the "real" musical has gone missing from Broadway, it is alive and well "in the non-profits, in opera houses, in school cafeterias, in basements."

I'd like to think that here at SLOC we try to maintain a little piece of what Mr. Lachuisa refers to as "real" musicals. On a modest budget, in an intimate setting, we produce four shows a season, offering our audiences the opportunity to see older classics, as well as newer works that may not meet the criteria of a "real" musical just to keep up with the times. As a non-profit, we do not "make" a lot of money. Most of our income goes to the upkeep of our building and for the production costs for each show. The only paid people associated with any production are the musicians in our orchestra.

Our show selection committee is currently working on selecting shows for our 80th season. We hope to announce the board's decision early in 2006. The choices are usually numerous and varied. Is the musical dead? We here at SLOC say NO! And you, our audience, must agree, by your very presence here tonight.

Thank you,
Bonnie Williams

SLOC 79TH SEASON

SLOC'S 79TH SEASON

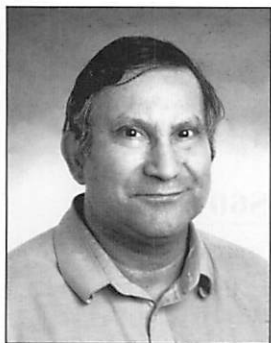


Our second production of the season is *Nuncrackers*. This Nonsense Christmas Musical takes place in real time in the basement of Mount Saint Helen's Convent. It is the first TV special being taped in the Cable Access Studio built by Reverend Mother with part of the prize money won earlier by sister Mary Paul/Amnesia. An original ballet based on "The Nutcracker," with Sister Mary Leo as the Sugar Plum Fairy, doesn't go quite as well as expected when she is hit in the shin by a student's baton and the nuns have to improvise to entertain the audience. Lots of laughs and surprises and interaction with the cast are yours when you join us for this delightful show.

Nuncrackers will be followed by *Sullivan and Gilbert*, which is set in the Savoy Theater in 1890. It is the final, frantic day of rehearsal for Gilbert and Sullivan's revue requested by Queen Victoria. The two men have been feuding for years, yet they are forced to work together one more time. The cast of characters include Sullivan's secret girlfriend and Alfred, the son of the Queen, who thinks he belongs on stage. With quick wit and a touching manner, playwright Ken Ludwig's book is adorned with a wonderful Gilbert and Sullivan score. It is a treat for lovers of the Savoyards and everyone who loves the excitement, energy and eccentricities of the theater.

Our season wraps up with *Nine. Nine*, which was recently seen on Broadway starring Antonio Banderas, Mary Stuart Masterson and Chita Rivera, tells the story of a life out of control. An Italian film director turns forty and faces a double crisis: he has to shoot a film for which he can't write a script, and his wife of twenty years is threatening to leave if he doesn't pay more attention to her and their marriage. Women from his past reappear offering him resolution and love. *Nine* includes beautifully haunting music by Maury Yeston and book by Arthur Kopit.

JOIN US AND ENJOY THE PRODUCTIONS OF OUR
79TH SEASON!



Alan Angelo

FROM THE

DIRECTOR



The Little Sisters of Mount Saint Helen's (Hoboken, New Jersey) are back! And they are as mischievous as ever!

The Little Sisters first visited our SLOC Theater in March 1995, but this time around, our favorite nuns are here to spread Christmas cheer, inspire goodwill, and promote the holiday spirit!

Nuncrackers begins with the Little Sisters establishing an access TV studio in the basement of their convent. Since Sister Mary Leo always wanted to be the first nun ballerina of note, the Little Sisters decide to put on a production of the ballet, *The Nutcracker*. When Sister Mary Leo "accidentally" runs into a child's baton, panic sets in. Who is to dance the role of the Sugar Plum Fairy? Find out while you watch a show that has great songs, funny side-splitting gags, audience participation and a rousing gospel tune that is sure to bring the house down!

I would like to express my gratitude to SLOC's Board and to the Play Selection Committee. "It Is Better To Give Than It Is To Receive", and I have received the greatest gift being selected as *Nuncrackers'* director. It is a great honor and I am humbled by it.

I would also like to take a moment to thank the cast, the production staff, the technical crew, set designer and more, who worked as a team. They all had creative input which made this show possible.

Finally, I would like to say a special thank you to all audience members. From the benefactor to the first-time visitor thanks for coming to see *Nuncrackers* and for visiting our theater. Please come again!

Best holiday wishes,

Alan Angelo



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• FACTOIDS •

- *Nuncrackers* is the fourth installment of the *Nunsense* series.
 - A DVD is available for purchase elsewhere. In that DVD version:
 - a) Rue McClanahan plays the role of Mother Superior. She is an Emmy winner (TV's *The Golden Girls*).
 - b) John Ritter made a guest appearance. He was an Emmy winner in TV's *Three's Company* and starred in the TV sitcom, *Eight Simple Rules...For Dating My Teenage Daughter*.
 - Nunsense web site: www.nunsense.com
-

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• CHRISTMAS SING ALONG •



We wish you peace on earth, good will and cheer,
And all good things in the coming year.
May each day be merry and bright
And filled with blessings ev'ry night.




the Nonsense Christmas musical
NUNCRACKERS


Book, Music and lyrics by
DAN GOGGIN

MUSICIANS

Andrea Merrill – Conductor, Piano
Leonard Tabler – Percussion
Ellen Rizzo – Keyboards
Tony Riccobono – Bass



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MUSICAL NUMBERS



Time/Place/Setting: current.
Mt. Saint Helen's Schools basement cable access TV station WCON-TV. The first televised concert (for Christmas) put on by the Little Sisters of Hoboken, before a live audience.



Act One

<i>Prologue / Meet and Greet</i>	Father Virgil, Srs. Amnesia, Hubert, Robert Anne, Leo, Stage Manager, Children
<i>Christmas Time Is Nonsense Time</i>	Rev. Mother, Father Virgil, Srs. Hubert, Robert Anne, Amnesia, Leo
<i>Nutcracker/Joy to The World (The Cat's Away)</i>	Children
<i>Secret Santa (We Wish You A Merry Christmas)</i>	Sr. Amnesia and the Audience
<i>Santa's Little Teapot</i>	Children
<i>Twelve Days Prior to Christmas</i>	Sr. Mary Annette (Leo) with Srs. Hubert and Amnesia
<i>The Christmas Box</i>	Father Virgil
<i>Santa Ain't Comin' To Our House</i>	Sr. Amnesia with Srs. Hubert, Robert Anne, Father Virgil
<i>The Wassail Song</i>	Sr. Amnesia and Children
<i>A Carnival Christmas</i>	Reverend Mother
<i>The Holly and The Ivy</i>	Sr. Amnesia and Children
<i>Sister Julia's Fruitcake Show</i>	Father Virgil
<i>The Nutcracker Ballet</i>	All Nuns (including Sr. Annette), Father Virgil and Children

*There will be a 20-minute intermission between Acts One and Two.
Concessions are available for purchase in our downstairs greenroom.*

MUSICAL NUMBERS



Act Two

Three Hundred Sixty-four DaysRev. Mother, Father Virgil,
Srs. Hubert, Robert Anne, Amnesia, Leo

Jesus Was Born In BrooklynSr. Robert Anne
with Srs. Hubert, Amnesia, Father Virgil, Children

In The Convent..Rev. Mother, Father Virgil, Srs. Hubert, Robert Anne, Amnesia

The Three KingsSrs. Hubert, Robert Anne, Amnesia

Christmas Shopping CartReverend Mother and Father Virgil

Secret Santa #2.....Sr. Amnesia

The First NoelSr. Amnesia and Children

All I Want for ChristmasSr. Robert Anne

Christmas Sing AlongSrs. Robert Anne, Amnesia, Hubert, Leo,
Father Virgil, Children and the Audience

Gloria.....Rev. Mother, Srs. Hubert, Robert Anne, Amnesia

A Brand New SchoolAll Nuns and Father Virgil

It's Better To Give.....All Nuns and Father Virgil

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Christmas Time Is Nonsense Time (Reprise)Full Company

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THE CAST

Sister Mary Regina (Reverend Mother.....)	Lisa Passonno Franklin
Sister Mary Hubert.....	Cheryl A. Glenn
Father Virgil Manly Trott.....	Jeff Hocking
Sister Robert Anne.....	Kristen Olochnowicz
Sister Mary Paul (aka Amnesia).....	Heather Haskins
Sister Mary Leo.....	Ann Fouhy
Mount Saint Helen's Students.....	Sarah McNally
	Charles Franklin
	Ashley Markellos
	Katelyn Markellos
	Emily Franklin
	Michael Niles
	George Franklin
Stage Manager.....	Donna Z. Baxter

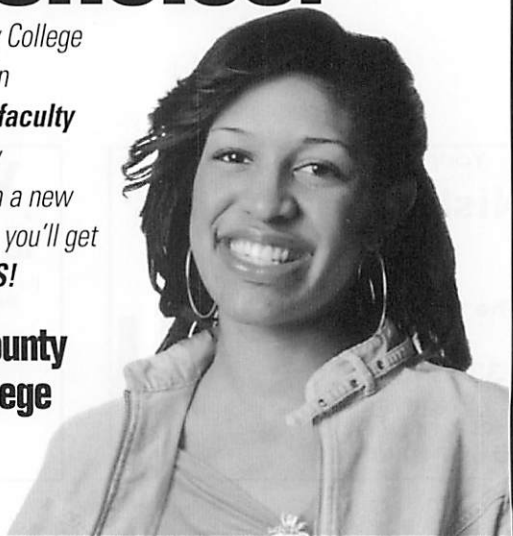
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CAST &



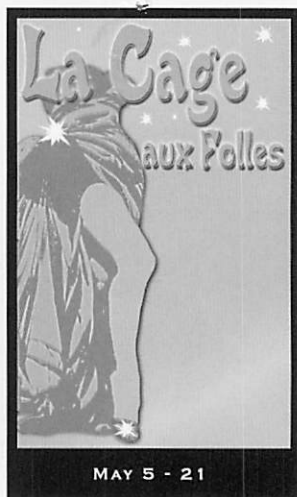
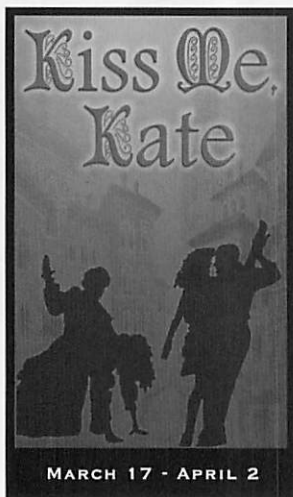
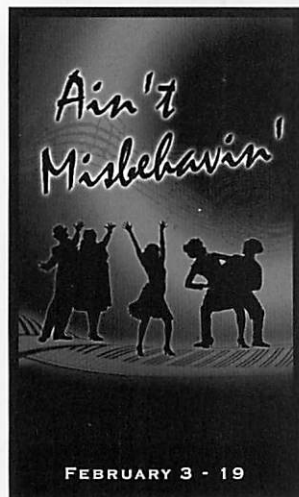
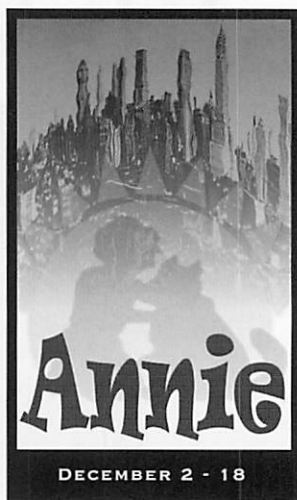
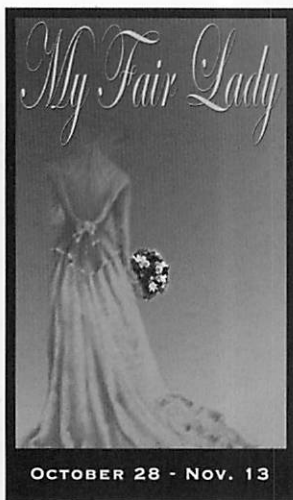
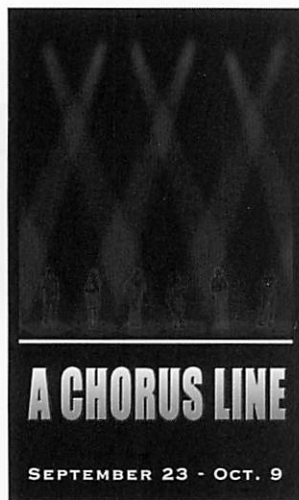
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CAST BIOGRAPHIES



LISA PASSONNO FRANKLIN (REVEREND MOTHER) - Lisa is a voice teacher with a Master in Opera from Hochschule fuer Musik (Wuerzburg, Germany) and Master of Music in Opera/Voice from SUNY Binghamton. She has performed leading roles in *Camelot*, *Jane Eyre*, *Into The Woods*, *Oliver*, *South Pacific*, and *Kiss Me Kate*. Lisa is a soloist with Albany's Capital Chamber Artists. Love to her 4 children and husband, Paul!

CHERYL A. GLENN (SISTER MARY HUBERT) - Cheryl hails from Hollandale, Mississippi, and is a graduate of Canisius College. She worked in the James Cleveland Gospel Workshop of Buffalo, New York. She was a featured soloist during the 2004 Martin Luther King Day celebration in Albany. This is her second SLOC production. Cheryl would like to thank her family, friends and the cast for the support given.

KRISTEN OLOCHNOWICZ (SISTER ROBERT ANNE) - Kristen is a teacher at Van Corlaer Elementary. She has appeared in *Triumph of Love* and *Zombie Prom* at SLOC. She has stage managed a few shows at SCP. She also sings in her church choir, along with taking care of her family. Kristen would like to thank her husband and family for their continual support.

HEATHER HASKINS (SISTER MARY PAUL ALIAS SISTER AMNESIA) - Heather is a recent area transplant. Her credits are *Suessical the Musical*, *Steele Magnolias*, *The Music Man*, *The Secret Garden*, *Brigadoon*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Love Letters*, *Godspell*, *Ten Little Indians*, *Making a Killing*, *Fools and Oklahoma!* She thanks her family for their support of all her endeavors and pipedreams. Heather gives a big thanks to her new SLOC family.

ANNIE FOUIHY (SISTER MARY LEO) - Annie is very excited to be working with SLOC for the first time. She has previously appeared in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Secret Garden*, *Cabaret*, *Godspell*, *Oliver*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Guys and Dolls*. Annie will be appearing in the independent film *Pawn* as "Candy" (Bishop Productions) scheduled for release in summer of 2006.

JEFFREY P. HOCKING (FATHER VIRGIL MANLY TROTTS) - Jeff is delighted to be making his SLOC Debut. He has performed as Captain Albert Lennox in *The Secret Garden*, ensemble in *Ragtime*, plus *How To Succeed in Business...* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. Jeff is a hotel Regional Revenue Manager. Jeff extends a very special thanks to friends and family for their support and encouragement through his various theatrical endeavors.

DONNA Z. BAXTER (STAGE MANAGER/PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER) - Donna has stage managed several of SLOC's and other local community theatre productions. Her most recent on stage appearance was Miss Lynch in *Grease*

(SLOC). She has won a 2005 TANYS Meritorious Award for costumes in *The Secret Garden* (FP). Many thanks to friends, family, cast and crew for their support. Much love to Shaun, Jessica and forever John.

SARAH McNALLY (MARIA/CLARA) - Sarah is a 7th grader. She had voice training which enabled her to appear as Gretl in *The Sound of Music*, Ida in *Honk!*, Dorothy in *The Wiz*, the Baker's Wife in *Into The Woods*, the Cheshire Cat in *Alice in Wonderland* and the ensemble in *Tommy* for SLOC. She would like to thank her Mom for supporting her.

CHARLES FRANKLIN (BILLY/THE NUTCRACKER PRINCE) - As an 8th grade student, Charles' many credits include Herald in *Camelot*, John in *Nun-crackers*, Peter Crachitt in *A Christmas Carol*, Nathan Field in *King Of Shadows*, Young Michael in *American Soup*, Young Patrick in *Mame*, along with other community / professional credits. Charles will be appearing as the Baker in *Into the Woods, Jr.* in February. Thanks to my parents!

ASHLEY MARKELLOS (ASHLEY/NUTCRACKER DANCER) - Ashley is a 9th grader. Having taken voice lessons prepared her for roles such as Louise in *Gypsy*; a princess in *The King and I*; an orphan in *Oliver*; a Storyteller in *Once On This Island*; children's ensemble in *Some Enchanted Evening*, as well as school productions. She will be appearing in *Into The Woods, Jr.* in February (Debuts Theatre).

KATELYN MARKELLOS (KATELYN/NUTCRACKER DANCER) - Katelyn is a 7th grader and has taken voice lessons. She has appeared as a cowgirl and boy scout in *Gypsy*, children's ensemble in *Some Enchanted Evening*, a Princess in *The King and I*, a Storyteller in *Once on This Island, Jr.*, an orphan in *Oliver*, as well as school's productions. She thanks her family and friends for their support.

EMILY FRANKLIN (LOUISE/MOUSE KING) - Emily is 4th grade student with training in vocal, ballet, tap and acting. She has appeared in the children's chorus in *Camelot*, Gretl in *The Sound of Music*, Rose in *Nun-crackers*, an orphan in *Oliver*, a Princess in *The King and I*, Little Timoune in *Once On This Island, Jr.* and as Cinderella in *Cinderella*. Thanks to my Mom.

MICHAEL NILES (JOHN/FRITZ) - Michael is a 4th grade student. He is very excited to be appearing at SLOC for the first time. He played an Orphan in *Oliver*. Michael likes school, particularly math and in his spare time, video games. He plays piano and saxophone and sings in his church choir. When he grows up, Michael wants to be an actor.

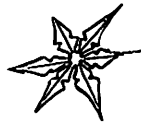
GEORGE FRANKLIN (GEORGE) - George is only a Kindergarten student and has already started training in voice and dance. He made his theater debut at the age of 4 as the boy in *King of Shadows*. He played Little Daniel in *Once on This Island, Jr.* and he will be appearing in *Into the Woods, Jr.* in February. George loves performing with his family!

PRODUCTION TEAM



Co-Producers	Peter J. Codella and Madeline J. Codella
Director	Alan Angelo
Musical Director	Andrea Merrill
Choreographer.....	Donna Panzl
Set Designer	Robert Farquharson
Set Construction	Richard Lenehan
<i>Assisted by: Fred Bloomstein, Alan Angelo, Bob Farquharson</i>	
Painting	Madeline Collella, and Mary Kozlowski
<i>Assisted by: Robert Farquharson, Ginnie Mills, Kit Goldstein</i>	
Costume Designer.....	Capital Costumes
Costumer	Jim Meyer
Set Lighting Designer	Peter J. Codella
<i>Assisted by: Bill Depew</i>	
Sound.....	Alan Angelo
Sound Operator	David J. Wilkinson
<i>Assisted by: Bill Poppino</i>	
Stage Manager.....	Donna Z. Baxter
<i>Assisted by: Kit Goldstein</i>	
Properties	Kit Goldstein
<i>Assisted by: Lisa Franklin</i>	
Makeup Design.....	Marcia Lenehan
Hair Design	John Fowler
Audition Arrangements	Eunice Chouffi
<i>Assisted by: Art and Paige Gauvreau, Larry and Chris Pedersen</i>	
Audition Accompanist	Bruce Holden
Board Liaison	Michelle Sausa-Gatta
Box Office/Ticket Sales.....	Sue Culver
Usher Chairperson	Jodi Gilman
Playbill Editor	Donna Z. Baxter
Show Publicity.....	Joseph and Mary Ann Concra
Playbill Design, Layout, Typesetting.....	NY Press & Graphics
Poster, Flyers & Postcards	Richard Lenehan
Foyer Bulletin Boards	Katie O'Rourke
Photography	Timothy Raab / Northern Photo
Show T-Shirts	Ferne L. Dutkin
Opening Night Party	Debbie Weiskopf
Strike Party	Melinda Zarnoch
Cast Party	Thelma Zeh

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES



PETER J. CODELLA (CO-PRODUCER, LIGHTING DESIGNER) - Peter is a Ph.D. research chemist for GE Global Research. His theatrical training began in Las Vegas and at the Utah Shakespearean Festival where he met his wife, Madeline, while attending Southern Utah University. Peter's association with SLOC has been as director, producer, past president, board member and VP of Public Relations. He and his wife are the 2001 recipients of SLOC's award for those rendering signification volunteer service and loyalty to the company.

MADELINE J. CODELLA (CO-PRODUCER) - Madeline has been a contributing member to SLOC since 1984. She was the newsletter and playbill editor; has artistically painted many stage sets and assisted her husband in production roles. Madeline serves her church as volunteer Director of the Albany Family History Center in Loudonville. She likes to travel to Utah, Nevada and Vermont to spend time with her three married children and five grandchildren, two of which are new to the family since July!

ALAN ANGELO (DIRECTOR) - Alan holds an MA in Theatre (SUNY Albany) and teaches acting in the Niskayuna School District. This will be Alan's first time directing for SLOC. He has directed *The Matchmaker* (Temple Thespians); *Chaim's Love Song* and *Crossing Delancey* (Parkway Players); *Mikalot* (SJCC); *The Gap* and *Arabian Nights* (SUNY Albany Director's Class/Showcase). Alan thanks everyone from this production for their dedication. Alan would also like to dedicate this production to the memory of his mother, Ann Angelo.

ANDREA MERRILL (MUSICAL DIRECTOR) - Andrea is an active pianist, teacher, and accompanist at the Academy of Holy Names and in the Capital District. She has been affiliated with several local colleges, RPI and Russell Sage, and has performed in many local venues including The Troy Savings Bank Music Hall and Cohoes Music Hall, as well as in Vermont and Massachusetts. Ms. Merrill has long enjoyed a professional association with opera companies such as Opera Excelsior and in being a musical director in community theater, especially at SLOC.

DONNA PANZL (CHOREOGRAPHER) - Donna has been involved with SLOC since 1969 singing dancing, acting and choreographing shows too numerous to mention. She is also active with Reverview Entertainment productions performing in dinner theater, murder mysteries, and musicals directed by Martin Kelly.

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

ROBERT FARQUHARSON (SET DESIGNER)- Bob has been active in SLOC since 1975 when he painted sets for *1776*. He has worn many hats, such as set painter, det designer, chorus member, supporting roles, business manager, board member and past President. He loves to create and work with his SLOC friends.

RICHARD LENEHAN (SET CONSTRUCTION, PAINTING AND DÉCOR) - Richard designed and constructed for last year's *Grease*. He has built sets, produced, directed and performed for local area theaters such as SLOC, Schenectady Civic Players, Not So Common Players, Electric City Chorus of Schenectady, Family Players, Hilltown Players, Opea Excelsior, Electric City Chorus, Clifton Park Chorus, Singers For Enjoyment, Suburban Sounds, and Capitol Hill Choral Society. His most fun experience involves singing a capella doo-wop with The Reminisants.

DAVID J. WILKINSON (SOUND OPERATOR) - David has worked in a number of "behind the scenes" capacities with SLOC including lighting, sound, and set. David is also an active violinist and performs regularly with the Music Company Orchestra, the Union College Orchestra, and other area ensembles. Mr. Wilkinson also operates a mobile disc jockey service and, has provided the background music to accompany the fireworks at Saratoga's First Night celebration. David is presently our Vice President for Sound and holds a B.S. in Management from RPI.

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KIT COLDSTEIN (PROPS) - Kit has assisted backstage for several SLOC shows, including the *Robber Bridegroom*, *Big River* and *Camelot*. She is an avid composer/lyricist and has written five full-length musicals which have been produced by the Niskayuna Acting Troupe and Union College Mountebanks. Kit is currently participating in the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theater Writing Workshop in New York City.

JOSEPH & MARY ANN CONCRA (SHOW PUBLICITY) - Joe and Mary Ann have worked on show publicity for *Triumph of Love*, *City of Angels*, *Zombie Prom*, *Grease* and numerous other SLOC Shows. Mary Ann has been a member of the company since her appearance in the *Wizard of Oz* in 1985. Joe was SLOC's Business Manager from 1997 to 2004.

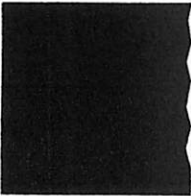
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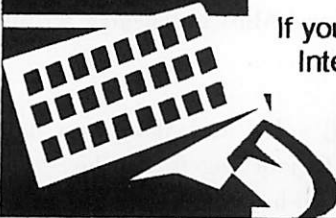
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