

A Comedy of Tenors
by
KEN LUDWIG

Licensed by Arrangement with
Samuel French Inc.
235 Park Ave South - Fifth Floor,
New York, NY 10003
phone:(866)598-8449
www.samuel french.com

Director. Craig Strutt
Producer. Kay Moser

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.
Flash Photography and any Recording Strictly Prohibited.

The Elkader Opera House has an induction loop system thanks to an upgrade of the sound equipment by the Opera House Players. With the activation of the T-coil by your audiologist and instruction on its use, you can receive the maximum benefit from your hearing aid. The internal tonal correction of your hearing aid will bring the sounds you hear directly to you without the use of an additional receiver or headset. Two portable units are available for your use as well. Please request the use of a unit when you place your ticket order. This loop system is available for main floor seating only, so if you want to maximize your hearing experience, please request main floor seating when purchasing your tickets.



THE CREWS

SET CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN & PROPS

Tom Chandler
Jon Banse
Marge Banse
Jay Moser

Cary Kann
Kay Moser
Gretel Moser
Jessica Sloan
Jakob Regal

Del Reimer
Clark Ott
Wendy Shae
Janet Ott

LIGHTING & SOUND

Jay Moser
Bob Hankey

Marla Reimer

Del Reimer
Craig Strutt

COSTUMES, HAIR & MAKEUP

Verna Lenth

Barb Chandler
Wendy Shae

Joeann Tesar

TICKETS

Terri Strutt

Moser Pharmacy

PROGRAMS & PUBLICITY

Craig Strutt
Marla Reimer

Terri Strutt
Cheri Moser

Kay Moser

Thanks to all who helped make this show possible after the program went to press

THANKS!

The Opera House Players would like to extend our thanks to the **Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation** for their generous grant that has allowed us to do a major upgrade to our lighting capabilities. Special thanks to our members and patrons whose generous contributions helped us provide the match that made this grant possible.

MEET THE CAST

Mr. Saunders - Cary Kann - This is Cary's second time impersonating the excitable and determined Henry Saunders. He first encountered the wily producer in “Lend Me a Tenor” in the spring of 2001, along with Max, Tito, and Maria. Saunders is still trying to bring “culture” to the people while enhancing his own reputation and making as much money as he possibly can in the process. Cary has thoroughly enjoyed revisiting this character as well as meeting the new characters in this play, Carlo, Mimi, Beppo and Tatiana. He has also appreciated being able to bring his visual arts background to OHP productions in logo and set design along with building props. Each of the shows with which he has been involved have been special, a place to meet new talented people from around the area and always a welcome reunion with those who have returned again to entertain and delight our audiences. Cary has four grown children he tries to keep track of; two sons Adam and Alex who live in Iowa City and two daughters Ariel (with his grandson Liam) and Avalon who live in La Crosse, Wisconsin and Chicago, Illinois respectively. Cary lives in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin with his lovely wife, Jonelle, and their cat, Candy Cupcake.

Max - Jakob Regal - This is Jakob's 4th Opera House Players show following *Caught in the Net* (2006), *Annie Warbucks* (2006) and *Catch Me If You Can* (2017). Jakob serves in the Wisconsin Army National Guard, works at McGregor Municipal Utilities, the Guttenberg Police Department, and is involved in the American Legion. Jakob lives in McGregor with his wife, Tiffany.

Tito Merelli - Franklyn Davis - *A Comedy of Tenors* marks the 15th show for Frank as he reprises his role of Tito Morelli from *Lend Me A Tenor* (2001). He first joined the OHP as Conrad Birdie in *Bye, Bye Birdie* (1996). Frank lives on an acreage southwest of Garnavillo with his wife, Julie, and their daughter, Ellie. When not involved in OHP productions, Frank volunteers backstage at

his daughter, Ellie’s Clayton Ridge middle school plays, and for her Driftless Youth Theatre group. He enjoys working lines with Ellie and looks forward to the possibility of performing in a future OHP show with her! A very vocal Siamese cat named Sagwa and active kitten Pip, complete the family household dynamic. To support the cats’ need for kibble and to escape an all-female household, Frank enjoys his work at Meuser Lumber Company in Guttenberg.

Maria Merelli - Joeann Tesar - Maria is a part that one could say she was born to play! This enjoyable character has invited Joeann to revisit many fond memories of growing up in Chicago with deep cultural and familial ties to Italy. Many years of appearing onstage at the Opera House (with favorite roles including Leona in *Love Thy Neighbor* and Mrs. Meers in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*) led her to try her hand at directing a summer show for the OHP. That debut arrived last year for the play premiere of *South of Hope* and she is very proud to see that each of the four performers in that show secured nominations for best actor/actress by the Iowa Community Theatre Association. Joeann is looking forward to her second experience as Director in this new, theatre-in-the-round, black box format with *Almost, Maine* – show dates are June 8, 9, and 10. Hope to see you there!!

Mimi Merelli - Jessica Sloan - You can often hear Jessica saying that the Elkader Opera House is one of the most magical places on earth and she is therefore honored and thrilled to be back with the OHP once more playing the role of Mimi in *A Comedy of Tenors*. This is her 4th OHP production having played the roles of Brenda Strong in *Catch Me If You Can* (2017), Vicki in *Caught in the Net* (2006), and a Munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz* (2004). Jessica moved back to the area a year ago after graduating from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, IA and has opened her own mobile chiropractic business to serve those in the surrounding local communities. On Sundays, she can be found singing alongside her parents in the Praise Band at the First Congregational Church in McGregor. In her free time, she enjoys being out on the river, riding her horses, and snuggling with her two cats.

Carlo Nucci - Brandon Douglas - Carlo is delighted to have his debut on the soccer field for his grand...wait...let's talk about the actor playing Carlo. Brandon is excited this is his debut with the Opera House Players in such a great show! As the new Vocal Music Director and General Music Teacher for Central Community Schools, as well as the PUCC Chancel Choir Director, he has enjoyed making music and art with all ages! Having been a native of the Mount Vernon, IA area, and going to Simpson College, he is no stranger to the theatre, as he has been involved both on and off the stage in nearly 40 productions in the last 9 years. Having been in several operas (“Hansel and Gretel”), musicals (“25th Annual Putnam”), he eventually started becoming a music director in MVLCT's “The Frogs” and the director for Central's Fall production of “Cinderella”. He thanks his loving family for giving him so much support and growth over the years, the wonderful communities supporting the arts, and this cast and crew for bringing laughter so often. He hopes this show will knock your socks off, but keep your pants on (unlike Carlo)!

Tatiana Racón - Jenna K. Pollock - Jenna joins the cast for her fourth performance on the Elkader Opera House stage. She has enjoyed traveling the world through the characters she’s cast to play as she takes on her third accent. From Frau Gloop (German) in *Willy Wonka* (2016), to Mimosa (Jamaican-lilt) in *While the Lights Were Out* (2017), and now a Russian, unwed, opera singer-a character Jenna enjoys for her brazen voraciousness. Jenna grew up on the Pollock Heritage Farm north of Volga and resides nearby, serving as the Clayton County Conservation Board Director since 2015.

The Opera House Players would like to extend our congratulations and gratitude to Moser Family Pharmacy in Elkader. For 32 years they have served the community and the Elkader Opera House with support, and local ticket sales for events. The good news is that Jay & Kay continue to be involved in the Opera House, and that owners of the new Clayton Drug, Chris & Jennifer Clayton, have said that they will continue to be a ticket sales outlet for Elkader Opera House events. We welcome them to the Elkader Opera House family!

The Cast

Cary Kann.	Mr. Saunders
Jakob Regal.	Max
Franklyn Davis.	Tito Merelli
Joeann Tesar	Maria Merelli
Jessica Sloan	Mimi Merelli
Brandon Douglas	Carlo Nucci
Jenna K. Pollock	Tatiana Racón

SETTING

The living room of an elegant hotel suite in Paris

TIME

1936

THE SCENES

ACT ONE

SCENE 1: Late Afternoon of a beautiful fall day

SCENE 2: Two minutes later

ACT TWO

SCENE 1: Ten minutes later

SCENE 2: Backstage at the Olympic Stadium

Director - Craig Strutt - Craig, has acted in or directed 53 OHP productions since returning to the OHP stage in *Annie* (1992) where he played the role of Oliver Warbucks. He directed such OHP productions as *The Wizard of Oz* (2004), *Music Man* (2009) and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (2014). He was last seen on stage in *Catch Me If You Can* (2017). Craig lives in McGregor with his wife, Terri, the "Ticket Queen". They are still experiencing the joys of being grandparents to Mariah, Taryn, Trace, and Gretel Moser. Craig is a chiropractor in McGregor.

Producer - Kay Moser - Kay has been involved with the OHP since 1973. She is most often found organizing everything from props to the director. Whenever anyone in the crew needs something, or wants to find something, the opera house echos with the sound of her name (we're thankful it's not something difficult to pronounce). She has been seen on stage during *Man of LaMancha* (1975), *Anything Goes* (1979), and *Chicago* (1991). Kay directed the OHP productions of *Forever Plaid* (1997), *The Governor's Son* (2003), *It's A Wonderful Life* (2005) and *Plaid Tidings* (2009). Kay lives in Elkader with her husband, Jay (the light guy). When not working, Kay enjoys reading, listening to music and spending time with her family; son Benjamin, and wife, Jenna, and precious grandson Kallum Asher, son Jonathon, and wife, Cheri, and their four beautiful children, Mariah Cirila, Taryn Kathleen, Trace Russell, and Gretel Ann. Kay is a buyer, bookkeeper, and technology coordinator at Moser Family Pharmacy, and manager of this beautiful Opera House.

The Opera House Players are pleased to offer our congratulations to OHP actors Jonathon Moser, Cary Kann, Janet Ott, and Jenna Pollock for their nominations as Best Actor/Actress from the Iowa Community Theater Association for their work in last Summer's production of *South of Hope*. Congratulations to Cary Kann for winning!

Upcoming events at the Elkader Opera House

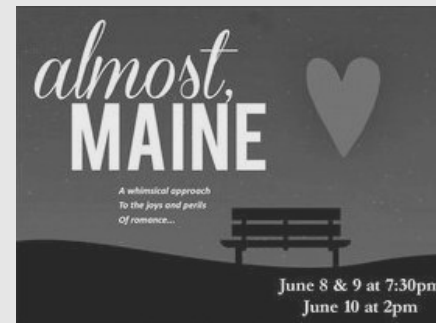
Country Memories

Doug Stock & Friends

Saturday Apr 28, 2018 2 & 7pm

The Opera House Players Present

Almost, Maine



by John Cariani

Jun 8, 9, 2018 - 7:30pm

Jun, 10, 2017 - 2:00pm Matinee

Watch for more information about

Commons Collective,

Jazz Quintet

lead by New York City based jazz pianist/composer Jon Snell.

Scheduled to appear at the Opera House
Thursday, May 3, 2018 - 7:30pm

Disney & Cameron Mackintosh's

Mary Poppins

Open Auditions May 16 & 17, 2018

Oct 5, 6, 12, 13, 2018 - 7:30pm

Matinees

Oct 7, 11, 14, 2018 - 2:00pm




Be sure to check out our websites for more information on upcoming events.

www.OperaHousePlayers.com

www.ElkaderOperaHouse.com

We maintain an email list to keep you informed of events, and occasional special offers just for our email members.

Email us at list@operahouseplayers.com



A Musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers
and the Walt Disney Film
Original Music and Lyrics by
Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman
Book by
Julian Fellowes
Book by
George Stiles and Anthony Drewe
Co-Created by
Cameron Mackintosh

Disney and CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S

MARY POPPINS

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Oct 5, 6, 12 & 13 at 7:30pm
Oct 7, 11, & 14 at 2pm

Open Auditions: May 16 & 17 at 7PM

Mary Poppins is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI),
421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Tel.: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

Directed by Cheri Moser

2017-2018 Supporting Members *Actor's Circle (\$25-\$49)*

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Dennis & Mary Beck
Edwin Bishop
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Barbara K. Boies
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Elmer & Theresa Bries
Luann Butikofer
Keith & Linda Campbell
Mike & Joanne Carroll
Dwayne & Deb Denmler
Darlene Dittmer
Tina Dryer
Janine DuCharme
Marvin & Julie Duff
John & Betty Fischer
Linda Gardner & Anne Shelton
David & Ann Gibney
Robert & Donna Gilkes
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Dorothy Lucas
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Sharon Matthew
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Don & Mary Harstad
Rev John Haugen
Nancy K. Henricksen
Pat Hunsberger
Lu Ann & John Hunt
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David & Leigh Ann Judge
Don & Marilyn Kamaus

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Russell & Juanita Loven
Patricia Martin
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Charles & Sydney Morine
John & Erika Moyna
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Joan Wangen &
Romuald Piorkowski
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Craig & LeAnn Watson

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