

# Ripples

# from the Community Circle Players at Riverwalk Theatre

Season 30 • Number 1  
August, 2018

228 Museum Dr. • PO Box 12249 • Lansing, MI 48901 • 517-482-5700 • Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 am to 5:30 pm • e-mail: RWT@riverwalktheatre.com • web site: RiverwalkTheatre.com

Maurice is an amazing cat. He can think, he can talk... and he has an amazing Pied Piper scam going with his gang of intelligent rats and one stupid-looking kid. When they arrive in Bad Blintz, ready to trick the townsfolk, all is not as it should be. What are those resident rat-catchers up to?

This quirky comedy — adapted by Matthew Holmes from Terry Pratchett's popular novel — introduces us to rats, heroic, villainous and oppressed — and to humans, good and bad. It offers tricks and songs and dances and laughs — and also gently addresses the concept of death, which may be an opportunity for discussions with parents on the way home.

Director Sadonna Croff is enjoying her seventh

## THE AMAZING MAURICE AND HIS EDUCATED RODENTS

season at the helm of the Young Artisan Workshop, this year joined for the first time by choreographer Roberta Otten of LCC as well as new-in-town music director Kait Wilson. Both are also having fun working with the kids. Young folks are involved in all aspects of the production, sets, costumes and more. Projections enhancing the set are drawn by Assistant Director/Stage Manager, Bella Croff.

*The Amazing Maurice...* promises to be a musical comedy the whole family can enjoy, at the bargain price of only \$8 for children and \$10 for adults age 13+. **ONE WEEKEND ONLY** 7pm Thur/Fri/Sat and 4:30 pm Sunday July 26-29. It's general seating, so arrive early for best seats and parking.

### REVIEW

## Spamalot - Python-tastic

SPAMALOT fulfilled the promise of extreme Monty Python silliness!

Director Bob Purosky — with trusty Stage Manager Michele Booher-Purosky and partners in crime Choreographer Karyn Perry and Music Master John Dale Smith (with his well-balanced, hidden orchestra) — launched an extravaganza of humor and imaginative, fun dances. It shook the stage and tickled our funny bones — and some of it was “inappropriate” stated my 10 year old granddaughter... True, but it was within the realm of PG and major fun for the whole family with its slapstick, silly, irreverent humor.

Purchased projections enhanced the set collaboration devised by director Bob and the Three Set Masters of Riverwalk (Leroy Cupp, Tom Ferris and Bob Nees) with scenography by Jules Purosky. (Beware the Rabbit.) The costumes were multitudinous and wonderful, collected and created by Kris Maier and Chris Kennedy, Ashley Hampton and Theresa Dunn

with a crew-of-thousands.

All the voices were impressive, especially Kathryn Mulcahy, making her Riverwalk debut as the fantastical Lady of the Lake, a hilarious diva inspiring the ever-stalwart Ben Holzhausen as King Arthur. The motley crew of Isaac Orr, Zach Riley, Boris Nikolaovski, Jeff Kennedy, Brian Farnham and Will Harrison was priceless, each a versatile gem, playing multiple roles to the hilt in this ridiculous Arthurian quest.

The “ensemble” was also excellent in a wide variety of roles, winning a Barney award for their collective performances: Aja Jenks, Kelly Lofton, Kristin Pagels, Taylor Rupp, Nicole Ryan, Amanda Tollstam, Drew Birchmeier, Tim Edinger Timothy Lawrence, Zach Whitlock, Dale Wayne Williams and Travis Williams.

This hoot of a spoof was standing-ovation-worthy all around — a grand finale to Riverwalk Season 29.

Jane Zussman



## WHAT'S ON AT RIVERWALK

**July 26-29 - Thur./Fri./Sat. 7 pm; Sun. at 4:30 pm THE AMAZING MAURICE AND HIS EDUCATED RODENTS** - musical comedy by Young Artisan Workshop, Director: Sadonna Croff

**July 29 and 30, Sun. & Mon., 7 pm, AUDITIONS for Jitney**, African American drama, Dir.: Vanessa Cunningham Sanders

**September 6-9 & 13-16, JEKYLL & HYDE** - musical drama - Director: Tom Ferris

**September 27-30 & October 4-7 THESE SHINING LIVES** - historic drama - Director: Susan Chmurny

**October 1 and 2, Monday and Tuesday, 7 pm, AUDITIONS for Noises Off**, comedy farce, director: Michael Hays

**October 18-21 & 25-28 - JITNEY** - African American drama, Director: Vanessa Cunningham Sanders

**October 28 & 29, Sun. & Mon., 7 pm, AUDITIONS for Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**, musical comedy, director: Brian Farnham

**November 29-December 2 & 6-9 - NOISES OFF** - comedy farce - Director: Michael Hays

**PLAYS:** 7 pm Thurs.; 8 pm Fri. & Sat.; 2 pm Sun. Fri./Sat./Sun.

**MUSICALS:** 7 pm Thursdays; 8 pm Fri./Sat.; 2 pm Sundays

**BLACK BOX SHOWS:** 7 pm Thursdays; 8 pm Fridays & Saturdays; 2 pm Sundays

**CHILDREN'S SHOW:** 7pm Thur-Fri-Sat; 4:30 pm Sundays - \$8 children; \$10 adults age 13+ (general seating)

**AUDITIONS** - More info at RiverwalkTheatre.com

# Barneys 2018

Season 29 was honored Tuesday, June 26, with a festive Barneys show produced by Sarah Hayner and Matt Ottinger. Matt also served as our genial and witty host. Thanks to performers Brian Farnham, Sarah Hayner and Amanda Tollstam, accompanied by Angie Schwab on keyboard and vocals, performing samples from the three musicals in our coming season.

Sarah, Amanda and Angie kicked off the show with a rousing “Mama I’m a Big Girl Now” from *Hairspray*, with the help of Mama Matt in a wig. Brian and Angie soared on the *Jekyll and Hyde* anthem “In His Eyes” — and teamed up again, in a different mood but with similar excellence, on a medley from *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*.

**BARNEYWINNERS** are listed first, in **bold**; **NOMINEES** follow. (All averaging over 8 out of 10 in judges’ points are nominees.)

**Choreography** - *Spamalot* - **Karyn Perry**; *She Loves Me* - Rachael Cupples & Meghan Eldred-Woolsey

**Costume Design** - *Spamalot* - **Kristine Maier, Chris Kennedy**; *The Home Team* - Kris Maier; *She Loves Me* - Laura Croff; *Emperor’s New Clothes* - Lee Helder; *Bud, Not Buddy* - Ashley Hampton

**Hair** - *She Loves Me* - **Laura Croff**; *Spamalot* - Lori Bailey-Smith

**Lighting Design** - *The Home Team* - **Ted Daniel**

**Makeup** - *She Loves Me* - **Lori Bailey-Smith**; *The Home Team* - Abigail Grill; *Buried Child* - Adele Colson

**Musical Direction** - *She Loves Me* - **John Dale Smith**

**Properties Design** - *She Loves Me* - **Meghan Eldred-Woolsey**; *The Home Team* - Emily Clark; *Buried Child* - Erika Beck

**Scenographer** - *She Loves Me* - **Eric Chatfield**

**Set Design** - *She Loves Me* - **Bob Nees**; *The Home Team* - Leroy Cupp; *Buried Child* - Tom Ferris; *Bud, Not Buddy* - Tom Ferris

**Set Dressing** - *She Loves Me* - **Eric Chatfield**; *The Home Team* - John Delaney & Emily Clark; *Buried Child* - Jackie Payne

**Sound Design** - *The Home Team* - Heath Sartorius

**Director** - **Children’s** *Emperor’s New Clothes* - Lee Helder

**Lead Actress** - **Children’s**: In *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Zif - **Laura Johnson**; *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Miggot - Kelly Jo Garland

**Supporting Actor** - **Children’s**: *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Emperor - **Lee Purdy**

**Supporting Actress** - **Children’s** - *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Empress - **Maribeth Robertson**

**Featured Actor** - **Children’s** - *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Sorcerer - **Dan Pappas**

**Featured Actress** - **Children’s** - *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Cook - **Sarah Schimm**; *Emperor’s New Clothes* as Jester — Sandy Thomasson

**Director** - **Drama/Comedy** - *The Home Team* - **Emily Clark**; *Buried Child* - Janet Colson

**Featured Actor** - **Drama/Comedy** - *Buried Child* as Bradley - **Ben Holzhausen**; *The Home Team* as Duke - Heath Sartorius

**Featured Actress** - **Drama/Comedy** - *The Home Team* as Marion - **Erin Hoffman**

**Lead Actor** - **Drama/Comedy** - *Buried Child* as Dodge - **Michael Hays**; *The Home Team* as Johnny - Erik Grill; *Scotland Road* as John - Jeff Magnuson

**Lead Actress** - **Drama/Comedy** - *White Buffalo* as Carol Gelling - **Emily Clark**; *The Home Team* as Neva - Gini Larson; *Bud, Not Buddy* as Miss Thomas - Janelle Hall

**Supporting Actor** - **Drama/Comedy** - *Buried Child* as Tilden - **Jeff Magnuson**; *The Home Team* as Wayne - Joseph Dickson; *Buried Child* as Vince - Connor Kelly

**Supporting Actress** - **Drama/Comedy** - *The Home Team* as Erin - **Shannon Bowen**; *Scotland Road* as The Woman - Cassie Little

**Director** - **Musical** - *She Loves Me* - **Meghan Eldred-Woolsey**; *Spamalot* - Bob Purosky

**Featured Actor** - **Musical** - *She Loves Me* as Head Waiter - **Edric Haleen**; *She Loves Me* as Mr. Maraczek - Bill Henson

**Lead Actor** - **Musical** - *She Loves Me* as Goerg Nowak - **Adam Woolsey**; *Spamalot* as King Arthur - Ben Holzhausen

**Lead Actress** - **Musical** - *She Loves Me* as Amalia Balash - **Kelley Lofton**; *Spamalot* as Lady of the Lake - Kathryn Mulcahy

**Supporting Actor** - **Musical** - *She Loves Me* as Ladislav Sipos - **Kyle Harwood**; *She Loves Me* as Steven Kodaly - Alex Quinlan; *She Loves Me* as Arpad Laszlo - Isaac Orr; *Spamalot* for Multiple Roles - Isaac Orr; *Spamalot* for Multiple Roles - Zach Riley; *Spamalot* for Multiple Roles - Brian Farham

**Supporting Actress** - **Musical** - *She Loves Me* as Ilona Ritter - **Sarah Hayner**

**BACKSTAGE BARNEYS** recognize an outstanding behind-the-scenes asset from each show:

- **She Loves Me** - Michele Booher Purosky
- **Master Harold & the Boys** - Randy & Arlena Craven
- **The Home Team** - Cody Skalmowski
- **Emperor’s New Clothes** - Susan Chmurynsky
- **Buried Child** - Morgan & Marina Villanueva
- **White Buffalo** - Diane Cooke
- **Lily the Felon’s Daughter** - Anna Maier
- **Bud, Not Buddy** - Ashley Hampton
- **Scotland Road** - Susan Chmurynsky
- **Spamalot** - Michele Booher Purosky

**Howard Lancour Newcomer Barney** - *Bud, Not Buddy* as Bud - **KaVares Luckett-Brown**; *White Buffalo* as First Girl - Savannah Cardwell

**Bob Gras Black Box Award** - **Marnee Rutledge Wolf** - boss of the Black-Box box office

**President’s Award** - **Jane Zussman** - with 18+ years of newsletter and program interaction with each show

**Marilyn Steegstra You-Take-the-Cake Award** - **Gretchen Ferguson**, over 20 years of ushering; always the first to arrive.

**Member’s Choice Award**: *Spamalot* was the favorite show - with Runners Up *She Loves Me* and *Bud, Not Buddy*

**Michael Schacherbauer** — our recently departed board member, director, actor and friend — was honored with a memorial tribute at the Barneys. His partner posted on Facebook: “ ‘Wonderful’ inadequately describes the tribute that Riverwalk Theater paid to Michael Schacherbauer last evening during the Annual Barney Awards.... Thank you to Erin Hoffman and Shannon Bowen who presented and produced the tribute, replete with a finale of disco dancers (Michael was a dance instructor and performer as well). A stirring and much appreciated personal message from Riverwalk Theatre Board President Jeff Magnuson to us increased our respect for all that Riverwalk Theater stands for in our community.” **Don Savolainen**

Thanks to Choreographer **Karyn Perry** for help with the disco surprise enabling Zach Riley, Isaac Orr, Timothy Lawrence, Kelley Lofton, Kristin Pagels, and Sarah Hayner to truly light up the dance floor. Thanks also to Judges Chair **Miranda Sue Hartmann** and judges: Tim Donal, Diane Gardin, William Kennedy, Cassie Little, Bob Purosky and Ralph Sims.



**Drama by August Wilson**

**Directed by  
Vanessa Cunningham Sanders**

**Auditions: Sun. & Mon., July 29 & 30, 7 pm.  
(Show Dates: October 18-28)**

Regular taxi cabs will not travel to their neighborhoods in the 1970's, so residents turn to jitneys (unofficial, unlicensed taxi cabs) that operate in their community. The play portrays the lives of jitney drivers at the station owned by Jim Becker.

**This is an all African-American Cast**

- Youngblood:** Jitney driver and Vietnam Veteran – mid-late twenties
- Turnbo:** Jitney driver who is always interested in the business of others
- Fielding:** Jitney driver and former tailor, with a dependency on alcohol
- Doub:** Longtime Jitney driver and Korean War veteran
- Shealy:** Numbers taker who often used the jitney station as his base
- Philmore:** Local hotel doorman, recurring jitney passenger
- Becker:** Well-respected man who runs the jitney station – in his sixties.
- Booster:** Becker's son, recently released from prison – in his early 40's
- Rena:** Youngblood's girlfriend and mother of their young son.

**CREW VOLUNTEERS** - are also invited to help out building and moving sets and other backstage duties. Come to auditions or contact the director at (517) 213-5235 - vanonly@aol.com

Come prepared to read from the script. Perusal scripts are available at the Riverwalk Theatre Office, Tuesday-Friday, 10 am-5:30 pm.

**PERUSAL SCRIPTS** for all shows are available at the Riverwalk office, Tuesday - Friday, 10 am - 5:30 pm. Call 517-482-5700 to check availability: [rwt@RiverwalkTheatre.com](mailto:rwt@RiverwalkTheatre.com)

**Lobby Artist July-August - Jackie Borsich**



Jackie attended Lansing Community College and Spring Arbor University and graduated in 1976 with a BA degree with a major in art. She has participated in countless art shows, Expos, Gallery Exhibits, and Art Festivals in the greater Lansing area for over 30 years. She has had personal exhibits with the East Lansing Older Person's Programs, East Lansing Public

Library, People's Church of East Lansing, The Lansing Public Library, Holt United Methodist Church, Keystone Bakery, Pistachio's Restaurant, Coral Gables Restaurant, Riverwalk Theatre, Independence Village, Okemos Library and Commissioned Works.

Jackie has been a member of the Mid-Michigan Art guild since 1988 and served on several committees. She was President from 1993-1994, and Treasurer from 2003-2005. She is also a member of the Shiawassee Arts Council, in Owosso, Michigan. When not quilting, she is painting, mostly watercolor, reading, traveling, visiting museums, or doing concessions work here at Riverwalk Theatre.



*Spring Renewal by Jackie Borsich*

**Each Riverwalk MEMBER is a part of the FOUNDATION** that supports Riverwalk for the benefit of all theatre lovers!  
**Our fiscal/membership year runs July-June. JOIN NOW AND YOU BE-LONG THROUGH JUNE 2019!**

**Actor** — \$15-24, Ripples, voting on board members & Members Choice favorite show award.

**Technician** — \$25-49, Ripples, voting, program listing

**Stage Manager** — \$50-99, Ripples, voting, program listing, and one comp ticket

**Director** — \$100-249, Ripples, voting, program listing, two comp tickets

**Producer** — \$250-499, Ripples, voting, program listing, four comp tickets

**Star** — \$500-999, Ripples, voting, program listing, six comps, name on theatre seat

**Angel** — \$1000+, Ripples, voting, program listing, 12 comp tickets, name on a theatre seat and on the donor board in the lobby

**Go to [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com). Click "more" then "get involved" to join online. Or just mail/ give a check to Mike at the office. We're 501c3 tax deductible. If you're already a member, recruit a NEW member today!**

## RIVERWALK THEATRE

**2017-2018 Officers** (18-19 officers to be elected and/or re-elected at July Board Meeting)  
President, Jeff Magnuson  
Administrative VP, Darrin Fowler  
Production VP, Rita Deibler  
Treasurer, Michele Booher-Purosky  
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### 2018-2019 Board of Directors

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Ripples is published by Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., P.O. Box 12249, Lansing, MI 48901. Submit info to Editor Jane Zussman (jszussman@gmail.com) or Riverwalk Manager Mike Siracuse (rwt@riverwalktheatre.com) office hours: Tuesdays thru Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Reservations and info at: 517-482-5700 or RiverwalkTheatre.com



## Riverwalk Theatre

P.O. Box 12249 • Lansing MI 48901

Next to Impression 5,  
228 Museum Drive, south off  
Michigan Avenue, across from  
the Lansing Center

## Want to DIRECT at Riverwalk?

**Directors are invited to submit scripts between August 1 and August 31.**

One committee chooses Main Stage; another chooses Black Box, selecting shows based on marketability, availability, season balance, and community engagement.

Main Stage features full sized productions and requires open auditions; Black Box features minimal set/staging and may be precast.

Choose any script OR submit one of these the committee suggests:

### Musicals:

*Disaster*  
*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*  
*The Drowsy Chaperone*  
*Once On This Island*

### Dramas:

*Doubt*  
*Sweat*  
*The Miracle Worker*

### Comedies:

*Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*  
*The Front Page*  
*Unnecessary Farce.*

Download or get forms at the office; complete a form for EACH script - up to 3 per venue (NOT the same script to multiple venues.) Include one script copy, electronic scans preferred. Directors submitting will be contacted for an interview.

Email to RWT@RiverwalkTheatre.com - OR - deliver to the office, 228 Museum Drive - OR Mail to Riverwalk P.O. Box 12249, Lansing MI 48901

More info and forms at <http://www.riverwalktheatre.com/submit-a-play.html>

## Riverwalk Theatre's



youngartisanworkshop presents...



This show is produced by a free workshop for youth actors and backstage crew

### FAMILY MUSICAL

# THE AMAZING MAURICE AND HIS EDUCATED RODENTS

Adapted by author Matthew Holmes  
from the book by Sir Terry Pratchett

Directed by  
**Sadonna Croff**  
with Music Director  
**Katherine Wilson**  
and Choreographer  
**Roberta Otten**

Maurice is an amazing cat. He can think, he can talk... and he has an amazing scam going with his gang of intelligent rats and one stupid-looking kid. When they arrive in Bad Blintz, all is not as it should be. What are those resident rat-catchers up to?

**July 26-29, 2018**

**ONE  
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**7 pm Thurs., Fri., Sat., and 4:30 pm Sun.**  
**General Seating • \$10 adults age 13+; \$8 children**

228 Museum Drive, across from the Lansing Center  
next to Impression 5 Science Center



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