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**KEN
LUDWIG'S
LEND ME A
SOPRANO**

A High-Spirited Farce

November 8 - November 23, 2024

"Ken Ludwig's Lend Me a Soprano" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

www.concordtheatricals.com

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**KEN
LUDWIG'S
LEND ME A
SOPRANO**

The World Premiere of *Ken Ludwig's Lend Me A Soprano* was produced by the Alley Theatre, Houston, TX
Rob Melrose, Artistic Director Dean R. Gladden, Managing Director
Developed with support from the Vanguard Arts Fund at
Olney Theatre Center in Olney, MD

CAST

Mrs. Wylie – **Terri Heffron**

Jo – **Chelsea Kaye**

Jerry – **Rick Porter**

Elena – **Nan Worthington**

Pasquale – **Aaron Wineman**

Leo – **Rico Bastian**

Julia – **Jill Bert**

Bellhop/Beverly – **Stephanie Johnston**

Bellhop/Beverly – **Cindy Lyons Miller**

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<https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists>

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because we grow old;
we grow old because
we stop playing. ”

– *George Burns*



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OLD TOWN PLAYHOUSE

PRODUCTION TEAM

Denni Don Hunting – Director

Cherie Van Maanen – Assistant Director

William Rockwood – Stage Manager

Dan Mello – Assistant Stage Manager

Diane Clark – Vocal Resource

Kathy Verstraete – Costumes

Don Kuehlhorn – Lights

Gary Bolton – Sound

Tom Cole – Book

Kerr Anderson – Sets

Linda Crandall – Producer

Chuck Moeser – Producer Mentor

Wendy Roberts – Props

Kelly Roberts Curtis – Props

Karen Gardner – Set Dressing

Michael Binstead – Makeup/Hair consultant

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OLD TOWN PLAYHOUSE

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Rico Bastian *Leo*

Occupation: Turtle Namer

At OTP: *Wedding Singer, Beauty and the Beast, Marian-The True Tale of Robin Hood, Ripcord*

When not working, or on the stage, Rico enjoys running, working out and hunting. He ran his first marathon during this production and is currently building a cabin and learning to play piano. His mother thinks he's very handsome.



Jill Bert *Julia* (she/her)

Occupation: Retired Librarian

At OTP: *Love, Loss, and What I Wore; Moon Over Buffalo; Arsenic and Old Lace; Calendar Girls*

Grew up in T.C. Retired from a wonderful career as a children's librarian. Found another way to tell stories at OTP!



Stephanie Johnston *Bellhop/Beverly* (she/her)

Occupation: Program Coordinator for Munson's Family Medicine Residency

At OTP: *Wedding Singer, Something Rotten, Cinderella*

She wanted to explore this type of comic character with this production. When not at the playhouse, she hikes, kayaks, or enjoys the epicurean scene in the area with her hubby and/or two adult children. She camps too, which admittedly as the years have passed, has trended more towards glamping.



Chelsea Kaye *Jo* (she/her)

Occupation: Customer Success Manager in Anti Money Laundering Software

At OTP: *Radium Girls, Hay Fever, Tartuffe, Sweet Charity*



Terri Heffron *Mrs Wylie* (she/her)

Occupation: Server - 2 Lads Winery

At OTP: *Beauty And The Beast, The Laramie Project, The Savannah Sipping Society, Love, Loss, And What I Wore.*



*"All of the world is a stage, and all of the men and women in it merely players.
They have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts."
"As You Like It" Act II Scene VII - Shakespeare*

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OLD TOWN PLAYHOUSE

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Cindy Lyons Miller *Bellhop/Beverly* (she/her)

Occupation: Retired

At OTP: *Savannah Sipping Society, Elf, A Christmas Carol, Peter and the Starcatcher*

Cindy is back on stage after a two-year hiatus. Some of her other favorite roles include Miss Hannigan/Annie, Rose/Gypsy and Marilla Cuthbert/Anne of Green Gables. When she's not on stage, Cindy enjoys kayaking, biking, pickleball, gardening, and tap dancing.



Rick Porter *Jerry* (he/him)

Occupation: Deposit Operations Specialist at 4Front Credit Union

At OTP: *Waitress, The Wedding Singer, Radium Girls, Beauty and The Beast*

Rick's played Scotty in Ripcord and Narrator in The Laramie Project. When he isn't performing you can often find him backstage. Some of his other favorite shows were his first OTP show *Chicago, Something Rotten* and *Radium Girls*



Aaron Wineman *Pasquale* (he/him)

Occupation: Old Town Playhouse Facilities Caretaker

At OTP: *The Play That Goes Wrong, Murder on the Orient Express*



Nan Worthington *Elena Firenzi*

Occupation: Retired NICU Nurse

At OTP: *Ripcord, Murder on the Orient Express, Silent Sky, Marjorie Prime*



Denni Don Hunting *Director*

Occupation: Retired Mental Health Professional

At OTP: *The Laramie Project, Murder on the Orient Express, Savannah Sipping Society*

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Director Note

Laughing With Ludwig!

The laughter started in 1998. I read *Moon Over Buffalo* by Ken Ludwig, and laughed to tears. The next season it was on our mainstage Directed by Gary Bolton. I played the mother.

In the 2004/2005 season *Ken Ludwig's Lend Me A Tenor* was directed by Gary Bolton, I played Julia.

Leading Ladies followed in 2008/2009 directed by Ed Mulchay. I was Florence.

Harriet Mittelberger and I teamed up, she directing, me Stage Managing in 2013/14 season *The Game's Afoot*, and 2018/19 *Moon Over Buffalo*.

OTP audiences love Ken Ludwig. He is a master of comedy and farce. His characters are rich and real. He puts them in hilarious situations, and gives us happy endings.

I mentored Anthony Ascione, a new director, for Ludwig's *Murder on the Orient Express* 2022/23.

The Artistic Committee offered *Ken Ludwig's Lend Me A Soprano* for this season. I bought the script, read the script, applied to direct, and here we are! OTP, Ken and I together again!

I have been privileged to work with Cherie VanMaanen, Assistant Director and Diane Clark Vocal Director, and two great Producers. Our top notch production crew is headed by Wizard, our super Stage Manager. Set design and construction was coordinated by Kerr Anderson. Costumes by Kathy Verstraete. The wonderfully talented cast "gets comedy"! WOW!

Together we offer you laughter, love, chaos, beautiful music, and slamming doors! Enjoy!

Denni Don Hunting, Director
Lend Me A Soprano

msufcu

**PERFORMING
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2024-2025 SEASON

MARTIN SEXTON

FRI, SEP 6, 2024 8:00 PM

CLAYBOURNE ELDER: GILDED AGE

FRI, SEP 13, 2024 7:00 PM

**STILL WITHIN THE SOUND
OF MY VOICE**

SAT, SEP 21, 2024 7:30 PM

JENENE CARAMIELO: GILDED
SAT, OCT 5, 2024 8:00 PM

TONY DANZA

FRI, OCT 11, 2024 7:30 PM

**INTERLOCHEN IN TOWN:
MUSICAL THEATER**

THU, OCT 17, 2024 7:00 PM

**NEW YORK GILBERT &
SULLIVAN PLAYERS
THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE**
SAT, OCT 26, 2024 7:30 PM

**PIRATE KING'S HALLOWEEN
COSTUME BALL**

SAT, OCT 26, 2024 9:00 PM

THE OZARK MOUNTAIN DAREDEVILS

SAT, NOV 2, 2024 8:00 PM

INTERLOCHEN IN TOWN: JAZZ

FRI, NOV 8, 2024 7:00 PM

BUCKETS N BOARDS

FRI, NOV 15, 2024 7:30 PM

GOOD LOVELIES

SUN, DEC 8, 2024 7:00 PM

**ALL IS CALM:
THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914**
SAT, DEC 14, 2024 7:00 PM

HOLLYWOOD REVISITED

SUN, FEB 2, 2025 4:00 PM

TIM KUBART & THE SPACE CADETS
FEB, 8 2025

**INTERLOCHEN IN TOWN:
SINGER SONGWRITER**

THU, FEB 6, 2025 7:00 PM

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE HARP
SAT, MAR 8, 2025 7:00 PM

THE MOANIN' FROGS
SAT, MAR 15, 2025 7:30 PM

NETFLIX: OUR PLANET LIVE
TUE, APR 8, 2025 7:00 PM

**ELTON, BILL & BARRY:
THEY WRITE THE SONGS**
FRI, APR 25, 2025 7:30 PM





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TC Jazz with Anthony Stanco, Band Leader
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Kevin Rhodes, Conductor
Rossini + Mozart Overtures
SYMPHONIC | SEPT 29

Kevin Rhodes piano
MAESTRO | OCT 12/13

Lyricism Made Manifest
Judith Ingolfsson, Violin
Kevin Rhodes, Conductor
SYMPHONIC | OCT 20

MSU Faculty All-Stars
Yvonne Lam, Violin
Ralph Votapek, Piano
Suren Bagratuni, Cello
MAESTRO | NOV 9/10

Home for the Holidays
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Dr. Jason Altieri, Guest Conductor
POPS | DEC 21/22

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Violin Virtuosity with Jeremy Cohen
POPS | JAN 19

Swan Lake Ballet
TC Phil with IAA Dancers
SYMPHONIC | FEB 16

Three Amigos Visit Spain
Dr Dorothy Vogel, Piano
Gary Gatzke Jr, Double Bass
Dr Matthew Cochran, Guitar
SYMPHONIC | MAR 16

Rhodes + Stagnitta
Nancy Stagnitta, Flute
Kevin Rhodes, Piano
MAESTRO | MAR 29/30

For the Love of Nature
Kevin Rhodes, Conductor
SYMPHONIC | APR 13

Jazz Cantatas
TC Jazz With 3 NMC Choirs
POPS | MAY 11

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OLD TOWN PLAYHOUSE

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Kathy Verstraete - Costume
Bill Fishburn - Light
Sam Clark - Music
Bernadette Groppuso & Nan Worthington - Property
Kerr Anderson & Jeff Kroeger - Set
Gary Bolton - Sound
Denni Don Hunting - Stage Management

2023-2024 Artistic Committee

Terri Heffron (23-26), Chairperson
Andrea Makaruskas (22-25), Vice-Chairperson
Matt Archibald (24-27)
Bill Fishburn (22-25)
Michelle Perez Dungjen (24-27)
Eric Ranke (24-27)
Ed Ronco (24-27)
Joseph Truhe (23-26)
Cherie Van Maanen (22-25)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank all of the many volunteers who work to make the magic happen on the Old Town Playhouse stages, bringing joy to our audiences.

We gratefully acknowledge all the donors whose generous support helps to make our productions a reality and pleasure for our community.

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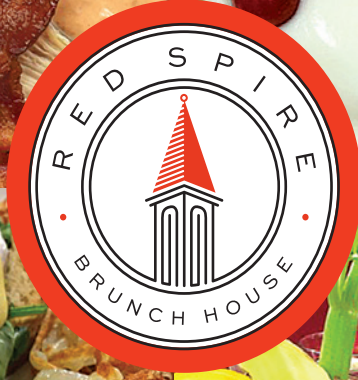
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