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2023 Season

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2023 Season

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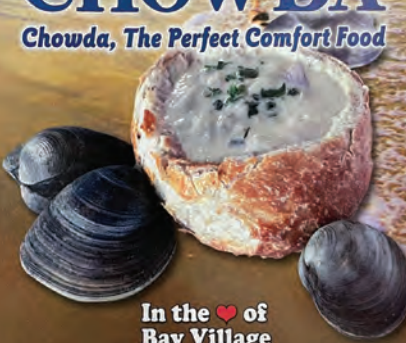
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## Steve Steiner

**W**elcome to Surflight Theatre and our BRAND NEW THEATRE SEATS. When I sat in one of the first seats when it was installed on April 25, I knew we had made a giant improvement in the experience you will have when attending Surflight Theatre. Our seats were very near the end of their life at 36 years old. Fortunately, and just by chance as we weren't here when the original seating was installed, we found the same company that manufactured the seats in 1987, Irwin Seating in Michigan. *They still had the original seating charts*, so we didn't need to spend additional money creating the plans for the new seats. Meanwhile, right here in New Jersey, Longo Associates, located in Ramsey, is the Number 1 Fixed Theatre Seating expert and installer on the East Coast. So, everyone who was worried we were going to make the leg room you have been used to in our seats smaller, HAVE NO FEAR. The only difference is that the first row of seats were originally made to be removable, and since we have found this not to be necessary, only the end 3 seats on both aisles are removable, in case we need additional wheelchair seating. And 1 seat was added in the front row.

In addition to our seats being installed by a New Jersey Company and the seats being manufactured by Irwin Seating, in Michigan, the removal of the old seats was done by a builder from Long Beach Island, Paul Maina Builders. So, our new seating project is ALL-AMERICAN, from start to finish.

While the seats are the most noticeable upgrade to our facilities they are by no means the only one. We've substantially improved our housing for visiting Artists, our scene shop has several new tools and we've had electricians (Girgenti Electric) in to improve our access to electrical power while fixing all of the lighting that has been somewhat suspect for the past few seasons. Our Air Conditioning has been completely upgraded (True Delta Mechanical) over the past few years, both in the theatre as well as our other buildings, and the duct work has been completely cleaned out. Next will be the completion of the refurbishment of our exterior, including replacing all of the cedar shakes on the Theatre and our buildings on Centre Street.

We're about one third of the way through the upgrades we want to make on our facilities, but we'll continue to work toward insuring that Surflight Theatre is here for future generations to enjoy, just as many of you have enjoyed this theatre for years. This is year #74, so next year is the big #75.

The Covid Pandemic was a trying time for theatres across our country. Think of it: Our industry REQUIRES public assembly and at the start of the pandemic, that was basically outlawed. Fortunately outdoor gatherings were allowed by July and that's when we erected a tent and played our shows outside for as long as the

## LETTER FROM THE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

weather allowed. Also, fortunately, we have housing here for 55, so we were able to create a “Poor Man’s NBA Bubble” (all of the separation with none of the perks!) and weathered both 2020 and 2021 without a single case of Covid-19. I believe the fact that we never shut down during the pandemic (we were one of only a handful of theatres nationwide that performed in 2020) has helped with our recovery. Nationwide theatres are at about 70% of pre-pandemic attendance, and we were at 77% in 2022. We hope to be back to 2019 attendance levels this season.

The one area that needs more participation is volunteers. We have a core of very dedicated volunteers that help with ushering, working the counter at Joe’s Place (our concession area) as well as helping in our scene shop and costume shop. We also have a few volunteers who help with cleaning and getting our facilities ready to open for the season. However, like most nonprofit organizations, we have about half the number of volunteers that we had pre-pandemic. So if you have time and are looking to help out your favorite regional theatre (Surflight) please scan the QR Code in the lobby and join what I hope is a growing list of volunteers.

We thank you for attending Surflight Theatre today. By being here you are helping us to attain our goal of insuring Surflight is stable and that it will be here for generations to come. We will continue to invest everything we can back into our facilities as we have with our new seats. If there are those among you who are in a position to join our growing list of donors to our annual fund, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to Surflight.

As always, thank you for attending Surflight today and wherever you attend live theatre. You are the reason theatre artists everywhere have a stage on which to practice our craft.

Sincerely,



Steve Steiner  
*Producing Artistic Director*





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**Late Seating** Patrons arriving late to performances will be seated at the discretion of house management at an appropriate break that allows for the least disruption for the actors, as well as the rest of the audience. Late-comers may be seated in alternate seat locations until intermission.

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### Mission Statement

The mission of Surflight Theatre is to provide high quality professional live theatre to the vacationers of Long Beach Island and the residents of Southern New Jersey, while providing training to young theatre performers and technicians.

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3	FLU HARVEY	Richard & Catherine Fried	Paula Hammons Sloan; Eddie and Angus	Joan & Bob Buck
4	JENNIFER M. BROWN AND BRIAN F. BROWN	Mark & Linda Bolton	Jack & Eileen Boyd	The Van Wert Family
5	BEST WISHES JOSEPH IACOVO	HELEN M. TAWS	The Tauro Family	Kim Dayton
6	GOOD LUCK NELDA IACOVO	EDWARD T. TAWS	Patrice & Robert Burkhardt	In Memory Of Michael J. Ambrose, Sr.
7	ARCTIC ICE CREAM	The Van Wert Family	MARGARET DUINN	Chris & Ellen Myers
8	IN MEMORY OF RICHARD G. WAGNER	In Loving Memory Of Mildred Rabbberman	NANCY & Nelson Romany	Thomas & Vicki Tesoro
9	THE KREWSON FAMILY	Dr. Benny Rivello, Jr.	PEGGY MARA	Lois Guhrine & Nancy Phillip
10	A.J. PLATT FAMILY	Nancy Iaggart Davis	The Mara Family	Deedee & Bob Stahl
11	ARTIE PLATT	JAMES W. LAIST	Ellen, Stephen, Morgan, & Landon Tucker	George & Ann Johnstone
12	MONICA PLATT	MILDRED G. LAIST	Joan & Art Barron	George & Ann Johnstone
13	CAROL HOUGHTALING	MR. AND MRS. ROBERT GOODLIFFE	The VIII Family	The Tauro Family
14	CAROLYNE HOUGHTALING	MR. AND MRS. ROBERT GOODLIFFE	IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH J. TALVACCHIA	Peter Freudenberg & Stephanie Flicker
15	FRANK SARDONI	TESS & BILL RUTTLE 1987 SHIP BOTTOM	JESSICA M. CLARKE	BEST WISHES FRANCISCAN FATHERS FR. VINCENT LICURS
16	DOLORES VALENCIA	GENE W. SHARPLESS	Sue Routh	G.F. WELLMANN FAMILY
17	FOR THE MANY YEARS WE ENJOYED SURFLIGHT MR. & MRS. CARL ROSENSTEIN	IN MEMORY OF BEATRICE M. SHARPLESS	Cecelia & Oliver Goldman	G.F. WELLMANN FAMILY
18	HELEN S. VAUTIER-RUNNION	SCOTT W. SHARPLESS	Frank & Virginia Meyer	Chris & Ellen Myers
19	SUSAN M. DOHAN 1979 APPRENTICE 1982-86-87 LEAD	Mr. & Mrs. Albert P. Canuso	Sue Routh	Christopher A. Myers Realty, Inc.
20	KAREN L. DOHAN LOYAL FAN	Daniel & Annette O'Brien	The Mara Family	Chris & Ellen Myers
21	Tom & Shirley Ehrhart: REMEMBER, WHERE EVER YOU GO - THERE YOU ARE JOHN ROBERT REED	Julie, Stephanie, Katie & Megan O'Brien	Shelia E. Sadler	JoAnn & Tom Newbern
22	And the houselights slowly dim-Joe Hayes	Dr. Ben Rivello, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. Albert P. Caruso	Karen & Sam Farruggio
23		Conway Family	Katie & Bruce Van Saun	SHARON SELINSKI
24		Jim & Christine Ancey	THE CAROZZA FAMILY	BILL SELINSKI
25		Galle Kondor Boothe	Daniel & Annette O'Brien	Many Years of Success Judie Putt
26		In Memory Of Jean S. Thompson	Deborah & Peter Goldman	Many Years of Success Barry Putt
27			Julie, Stephanie, Katie & Megan O'Brien	Beach Haven Community Arts Program
28			Theodore & Lois Harley	The Linnington and Fabian Families
29			Andrea & Skip Van Wert	Arie and Jay Doan
30				In Loving Memory of Catherine Whitmore
31				JOHN Wm. TILLET
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4				Art & Joan Barron	
5	Art & Joan Barron			Art & Joan Barron	
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7	Rev. Deacon Albert Schwind				
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9	Sue Routh	Art & Joan Barron			
10	Dr. Ben Rivello, Jr.	Art & Joan Barron			Art & Joan Barron
11	Vanessa Van Vranken	SERENITY APRIL 23, 1983	In Memory Of George D. Savage Benefactor & Photographer 1964 - 1986 IN MEMORY OF BILL PARKRELL SURFLIGHT '64 & '69	Jack Wolfsoord & Barbara Hoffman	Art & Joan Barron
12	William L. Rabberman	Commerce Bank	Art & Joan Barron		
13	Sheila E. Sadler				
14	Catherine P. Gilmore	NANCY DUFFY	Art & Joan Barron		
15	George & Ann Johnstone	Always The Star of the Show BEV TONNE	Joseph P. Hayes Surflight Founder		
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23	Beach Haven Community Arts Program	Anka Gontarczyk - Poland-LBI	Patrons of the Arts Doris Gluski	For Our Fair Lady, Andrea Van Wert	
24	Beach Haven Community Arts Program	Louise Rühle - Park Ridge-LBI		Marianne and Paul Diczok	
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26		Stacey Kliesch - Ridgewood-LBI			
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29	SHEILA E. SADLER	Skylar Kliesch - Ridgewood-LBI			
30	Art & Joan Barron	Susie Eschall - Princeton-LBI		Art & Joan Barron	
31		Josie Beirkl - Princeton-LBI		Art & Joan Barron	
32		Art & Joan Barron			
33	In Memory Of Anning H. Smith, Sr.	Art & Joan Barron	THE NOBEL FAMILY EST. 2000		Marion A Simeral, Arthur W Anderson Irene Steiner, Jack Steiner
34		Art & Joan Barron			Art & Joan Barron
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15		James & Deborah Reda High Bar Harbor	Our Beloved Mother - Mary Wilson SILVESTROY Mike and Faith	
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17			Harold K. Wright	
18			HAROLD K. WRIGHT	
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38	T. & R. Morro Family	With Pride T. & R. Morro Family		
39	IN APPRECIATION NELLIE MORRO	With Gratitude Nellie Morro		
40		Nellie Morro		
41				
42				In Memory Of Donald Moran
43				IN APPRECIATION BOB DECKER
44				SHERRY D. SCHNEPP

Please help support the arts on Long Beach Island by purchasing a theatre seat. Your name will be engraved on a plaque on the armrest of your seat. Thank you!

## James Alexander Bond

**F**rom New York to England and regionally across America, James has directed more than 250 productions, including over two-thirds of Shakespeare's canon, numerous musicals and many new works. Starting in the summer of 2000, at Surflight Theatre he has directed *Escape to Margaritaville*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Accomplice*, *The Odd Couple*, *Wait Until Dark*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Harvey*, *Swingtime Canteen*, *The Miracle Worker*, *Dial "M" for Murder*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Biloxi Blues*, *Lend Me A Tenor*, *The Mousetrap*, *The Secret Garden*, *Blithe Spirit*, and *Ten Little Indians*.

Most recently James directed Kelsey Scott (*Twelve Years a Slave* and *Fear the Walking Dead*) as *Cleopatra* in *Antony and Cleopatra*. Next, he will direct *The Compleat Works of William Shakespeare Abridged, Revised, Again*. James holds a BFA from Ithaca College and an MFA in Directing from the University of California at Davis.

He is a member of the stage directors and choreographers' national labor union (SDC), an adjudicator for the Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC), and has recently been named the Artistic Director for the Southern Shakespeare Company. James is also featured as one of the many "real" James Bond's in the documentary *The Other Fellow*, about living life with that famous name.

To see more about his work or to contact James directly, visit his website: [www.nycDirector.com](http://www.nycDirector.com)

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## Michael A. Blackmon

**M**ichael A. Blackmon's performance credits include: *Summer...the Donna Summer Musical* (Andrew Gaines), *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Ken), *I Left My Heart...The Tony Bennett Project*, *Miss Saigon* (John), *Man of La Mancha* (Pedro), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Judas), *Grease* (Teen Angel), *Boys From Syracuse* (Sergeant), *The Full Monty* (Tony Giodarno/Horse Understudy), *Damn Yankees* (Linville) with Darius De Hass and Stephanie Pope, *Bye Bye Birdie* (with Tommy Tune and Anne Reinking), *Cinderella* (Prince Charming), *Mame*, *Broadway Soul* (with BJ Crosby and Frieda Payne), *Scarlet Pimpernel*, *On The Town*, *Carnival*, *Camelot*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Presto Change-O*, *Singin' In The Rain*, *Carnegie Hall*, *Carnival Cruise Lines*, *Ballet for Young Audiences*, *Springfield Ballet Company*, former Debbie Reynolds Hotel in Las Vegas, *C'est Fantastique* (Guam USA), *Jazz Roots Dance Company* and *Eclectic Butterfly Dance Theatre*, *As the World Turns*, Kellogg's Krispix Commercial, *Bert and Ernie's Guide to Friendship* and *Optimum Cable*.

His choreography credits include: *Escape to Margaritaville*, *Winkey* (NY Premier), *All Shook Up*, *Miss Saigon*, *Oklahoma*, *Chicago*, *AIDA*, *Swingtime Canteen*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Oliver*, *Camelot*, *Kismet*, *Secret Garden*, *NAACP*, *Flashdance*, *Amahl and the Night Visitor*, *Tommy*, *Imperial Court of New York*, and many other cabarets and revues. Michael was one of the resident choreographers for *Dorney Park*, *King's Dominion*, *Directive Dance Ensemble*, *Wagner College's Dance Project*. Michael also worked for *Dance Olympus/Dance America*, *International Dance Challenge* and *Cathy Roe Productions* as a judge and teacher. He has also served as a guest artist for *American Dance College Festival*. In addition, his choreography has won many national and regional awards in different competitions. Michael has been a pageant coach and judge for state competitions for the Miss America Organization and the Distinguished Young Women.

Michael is a Senior Certified Pilates apparatus and mat teacher. He lives with his husband Michael, one naughty Golden Retriever named Harper and a mischievous Husky named Billie. He dedicates this performance in memory of his father Jerry H. Blackmon.

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2023 Season

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**KAREY KIRKPATRICK AND  
JOHN O'FARRELL**

*Music and Lyrics by*

**WAYNE KIRKPATRICK AND  
KAREY KIRKPATRICK**

*Conceived by*

**KAREY KIRKPATRICK AND WAYNE KIRKPATRICK**

*Scenic Designer*

**CHRIS STRANGFELD**

*Costume Designers*

**SHON LeBLANC  
WILL BRATTAIN**

*Lighting Designer*

**ANTHONY MARINARO**

*Sound Designer*

**DAVID CIOLARITO**

*Technical Director*

**CHRIS STRANGFELD**

*Production Supervisor*

**GAIL ANDERSON\***

*Production Stage Manager*

**JENNA ARKONTAKY**

*Assistant Stage Managers*

**MURYENN FIELDS  
SAMANTHA NESS**

*Music Director*

**RICKY POPE**

*Directed by*

**JAMES ALEXANDER BOND**

*Choreographed by*

**MICHAEL A. BLACKMON**

*Tap Choreography by*

**PAULA HAMMONS SLOAN**

July 11-30, 2023

SOMETHING ROTTEN

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**Something Rotten****Place: London****Time: 1595****ACT I***Overture**Welcome to the Renaissance* . . . . . Minstrel and Company**Scene 1 A South London Street (in 1595)***Welcome to the Renaissance (Reprise)* . . . . . Ensemble**Scene 2 The Theatre***God, I Hate Shakespeare* . . . . . Nick, Nigel, Ensemble**Scene 3 A South London Street/Outside Nick & Bea's House****Scene 4 Nick & Bea's House***Right Hand Man* . . . . . Bea, Nick, Nigel*God, I Hate Shakespeare (Reprise)*. . . . . Nick**Scene 5 Soothsayer Alley***A Musical* . . . . . Nick, Nostradamus, Ensemble**Scene 6 A South London Street/Outside the Theatre****Scene 7 The Theatre***The Black Death* . . . . . Nick, Nigel, Ensemble**Scene 8 A South London Street***I Love the Way* . . . . . Portia, Nigel**Scene 9 The Park***Will Power*. . . . . Shakespeare, Nigel, Portia, Ensemble**Scene 10 After-Show Party Tent***Shakespeare's After Party* . . . . . Ensemble**Scene 11 Soothsayer Alley***Bottom's Gonna Be on Top*. . . . . Nick, Nigel, Bea, Shylock,  
Shakespeare, Ensemble



## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

### ACT II

*Entr'acte*

*Welcome to the Renaissance (Reprise)* . . . . . Minstrel

#### **Scene 1 London Street**

*Hard to be the Bard* . . . . . Shakespeare, Ensemble

#### **Scene 2 The Theatre**

*It's Eggs* . . . . . Nick, Ensemble

#### **Scene 3 Under London Bridge**

*We See the Light* . . . . . Portia, Nigel, Jeremiah, Ensemble

*Nigel's Theme* . . . . . Nigel

#### **Scene 4 The Theatre**

*To Thine Own Self be True* . . . . . Nigel, Ensemble

*To Thine Own Self be True (Part 2)* . . . . . Nigel, Ensemble

#### **Scene 5 A South London Street**

*Right Hand Man (Reprise)*. . . . . Bea

#### **Scene 6 On Stage at the Theatre**

*Something Rotten* . . . . . Nick, Shakespeare, Ensemble

*Make an Omelette* . . . . . Nick, Nostradamus, Shakespeare, Ensemble

#### **Scene 7 Courtroom**

*To Thine Own Self be True (Reprise)*. . . . . Nick, Nigel

*Shakespeare in Court* . . . . . Ensemble

#### **Scene 7 New American Colony**

*Welcome to America* . . . . . Nick, Nigel, Bea, Portia, Ensemble



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The New Jersey State Council on the Arts 2021 COVID Critical Needs Program has provided partial support for the personal protective equipment (PPE) and safeguarding equipment that are part of Surflight Theatre's COVID safety procedures.

CAST LIST



Minstrel . . . . .	Isaiah Tucker
Brother Jeremiah . . . . .	Mike Brennan
Portia . . . . .	Jordan Polefka
Shakespeare . . . . .	Noah Lyon
Nick Bottom . . . . .	Vince Wingerter*
Nigel Bottom . . . . .	Christopher Strangfeld
Lord Clapham/Master of the Justice . . . . .	Kyle Atkinson
Shylock . . . . .	Jack Lynch
Robin . . . . .	Drew Jacobson
Bea . . . . .	Alison Nusbaum
Nostradamus . . . . .	Jonathan Van Dyke

*Ensemble*

Kyle Atkinson, Alexandra Brown, Rhagan Carter, Deanna Doyle\*,  
 Madeline Dunn, Bailey Greemon, Ben Halperin, Drew Jacobson,  
 Tanner Kirol, Jacob Lill, Gina Marcinkowski, Sean McCrystal,  
 Gabriela Moncivais, Brendan Sheehan

*Dance Captain*

Rhagan Carter

Understudy for Nigel Bottom and Minstrel: Matheus Barbee

Understudy for Portia: Nikkita Parsons

Understudy for Shakespeare: Brian Steinberg



*\* indicates a member of  
 Actors' Equity Association*

## CAST BIOS



**Kyle Atkinson** (*Lord Clapham, Master of the Justice, Ensemble*) is thrilled to perform at the SurfFlight Theater this summer! His recent credits include *Sky* in **Mamma Mia!**, *Finch* in **Newsies**, and most recently *Jamie* in **The Last Five Years!** Huge thank you to his family for supporting him, as well as all his teachers and mentors!



**Mike Brennan** (*Brother Jeremiah*) is elated to be back at SurfFlight! Audiences might remember Mike from performances last season in **Escape to Margaritaville** (*Brick*), **Chess** (*Walter*), and **The Addams Family** (*Uncle Fester*). Favorite credits include **The Full Monty** (*Dave*), **Beauty & the Beast** (*Beast*), **Annie** (*Warbucks*), and the national tour of **Buddy...The Buddy Holly Story** (*Big Bopper*). Mike would like to thank Gail, Steve, Paula, the cast and crew, and his family and friends for their endless love and support. Always for Dad, my biggest fan. @MikeBrennanJr



**Alexandra Brown** (*Ensemble*) is so excited to be a part of SurfFlight Theater's summer season! Lexie is from Pittsburgh, PA and is a rising junior musical theatre major at The Boston Conservatory. She would like to thank SurfFlight for the amazing opportunity to perform this summer, her professors at school that push her beyond her limits and her family that offers so much love and support!



**Rhagan Carter** (*Ensemble, Dance Captain*) is thrilled to be returning to the SurfFlight Theatre stage for the 2023 summer season! As a recent graduate of Pace University, she obtained a BFA in Commercial Dance with a performance and pedagogy concentration. She has been seen at SurfFlight in **An American in Paris**, **A Chorus Line**, **Chess: The Musical** and others. Rhagan would like to thank her family, friends, DU crew, and everyone involved this summer for their love and support. [www.rhagancarter.com](http://www.rhagancarter.com) @rhagan\_c



**Deanna Doyle\*** (*Ensemble*) is so excited to return to SurfFlight, where 13 years ago she played *Vera* in **On Your Toes!** Broadway: **Phantom of the Opera** (*Meg Giry*), **Tuck Everlasting** (17-year-old Winnie, Astaire Award nominated). Broadway tour: **An American in Paris** (*Lise*). Thanks, Gail, Steve, and Paula! Love to Derek, my incredible husband.



**Madeline Dunn** (*Ensemble*) is a graduate of George Mason University with a BFA in Dance. Favorite performance credits include regional productions of **Mary Poppins**, **42nd Street**, **White Christmas**, **Cabaret**, and **Jesus Christ Superstar**, as well as Busch Garden's **Monster Stomp**, and Disney Cruise Line's **Star Wars Day at Sea**. Follow @madeline.dunn732

## CAST BIOS



**Bailey Greemon** (*Ensemble*) is absolutely elated to be spending her summer here at Surflight performing on the Jersey Shore! She is a South Carolina native who will be going into her junior year after this summer to continue to pursue her BFA in Musical Theater from the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. She sends many thanks to her mentors, friends, and ever-loving and supportive family. Love always! Instagram: @baileygreemon



**Ben Halperin** (*Ensemble*) is so excited to make his professional theater debut here at Surflight! He is currently a rising junior as a Musical Theater major at Ball State University in Indiana. He would like to thank his friends and family for their support, as well as Surflight for this amazing opportunity.



**Drew Jacobson** (*Robin, Ensemble*) is thrilled to be performing in his first show at Surflight Theatre. He was recently heard playing Keys 1 for **Joseph...Dreamcoat** at the Palace Theatre. Selected performing credits include **Jersey Boys** at Broadway Palm and **Grease** at the Palace Theatre. He holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Ithaca College. Love and thanks to my Mom, Dad, Halle, Zander, and Brady. "WWGD" IG: @drewhjacobson



**Tanner Kirol** (*Ensemble*) was last seen in **CAMP, A New Musical** off-Broadway as **Crusher**. A couple of prior roles include **Doctor in A New Brain** and **Tom in A Chorus Line**. He has performed with Hamilton Ballet Theatre as a principal, Axelrod Contemporary Ballet Theatre, Waterbury Ballet and STEPS on Broadway. Currently, Tanner is pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre at The Hartt School.



**Jacob Lill** (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be returning to the Surflight stage for a third summer! You may have recently seen him as **Phil** in **White Christmas** this past holiday season or in any of the shows of the 2022 season. He obtained his BFA in Commercial Dance from Pace University in 2021. He gives thanks to his family for their constant support!



**Jack Lynch** (*Shylock*) is a recent graduate from Emerson College's Musical Theatre program, and he is thrilled to be returning to Surflight Theatre. Previous regional credits include: **A Chorus Line** (*Bobby Mills*), **Hairspray**, (*Sketch*), **Spring Awakening** (*Ernst*), and **Legally Blonde** (*Carlos*). He would like to give a special thanks to his incredible friends and family for their unconditional love and support. This is for Nana! [www.jackglynch.com](http://www.jackglynch.com)

## CAST BIOS



**Noah A. Lyon** (*Shakespeare*) is ecstatic about returning to Surflight! He is from Orlando, Florida and earned his Associates in vocal performance from the Royal Schools of Music. Favorite credits: **Cats**, **Legally Blonde**, **A Chorus Line**, **White Christmas**, and **An American in Paris**! He is overwhelmingly thankful for everyone's support. Galatians 2:20, Soli Deo Gloria! Insta: @noah\_a\_lyon



**Gina Marcinkowski** (*Ensemble*) has just completed her sophomore year at Pace University where she is studying to earn her BFA in Commercial Dance. While at Pace, she has been a part of multiple shows including **Dance Out Loud** and **Dance sPace**, and is delighted to be joining Surflight this summer season. She hopes you enjoy the show!



**Sean McCrystal** (*Ensemble*) is a rising junior at NYU's New Studio on Broadway and is beyond excited to be spending his summer with Surflight Theatre. Previous credits include *Macduff* in NSB's **Macbeth** as well as *Lucas Beineke* in **The Addams Family**. Sean has performed in numerous West-End theatres across London and is super thrilled to continue his performance journey on LBI!



**Gabriela Moncivais** (*Ensemble*) is a senior musical theatre major at Syracuse University. She performed in four Surflight shows last year, including playing *Rachel* in **Escape to Mar-garitaville**. She would like to thank her family, friends, and Surflight fam for their constant love and support. Disfruten del espectáculo! [www.gabrielamoncivais.com](http://www.gabrielamoncivais.com) IG: @gabi.moncivais



**Alison Nusbaum** (*Bea*) is thrilled to return for a third year! Past Surflight shows include **Annie**, **Xanadu**, **I Love You, You're Perfect...**, **The Addams Family**, **Legally Blonde**, and others. At home, in NYC, Alison can be found "singin-n-slingin'" at Don't Tell Mama or Brandys Piano Bar almost any night of the week! Thank you to Gail, Steve, Paula, and everyone in the Surflight family that make every summer a true delight!!!



**Jordan Polefka** (*Portia*) is absolutely overjoyed to be returning to the Surflight stage! She is a recent graduate of Wagner College and received a B.S. in Music Education Pre K-12. Previous Surflight credit: **Escape to Margaritaville** (*Ensemble*). Jordan is also Surflight's Assistant Director of Education and wants to send her appreciation to all of her students. In addition, she would like to thank her parents, Joe, loved ones, and the entire Surflight 2023 Company for their constant support and love!

## CAST BIOS



**Brendan Sheehan** (*Ensemble*) is so excited to be joining Surflight for their summer season! He is originally from Ridgewood, New Jersey, and currently attends Boston Conservatory where he will receive his BFA in Musical Theatre. He wants to thank his friends and his family for always being so supportive!



**Christopher Strangfeld** (*Nigel Bottom*) is an actor, director, and technical theatre professional from Waretown, NJ. Recent acting credits include: *Hector McQueen* in ***Murder on the Orient Express***, *Harry Haywood* in ***War of the Worlds***, *Eddie Birdlace* in ***Dogfight***, *Jack* in ***Into the Woods***, *Frederick Frankenstein* in ***Young Frankenstein***, and *Charlie Brown* in ***You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown***. Recent directing credits: ***Almost, Maine***, ***Next to Normal***, ***Heathers***, ***A Christmas Story***, and ***James and the Giant Peach***. Love you, Randi and Olivia!



**Isaiah Tucker** (*Minstrel*) is from Philadelphia, PA currently studying Musical Theater at Syracuse University as a rising junior. Previous regional credits include Bucks County Playhouse's production of ***Kinky Boots*** and Syracuse Stage's production of ***The Little Mermaid***. They want to thank their friends and family for their continued support.



**Jonathan Van Dyke** (*Nostradamus*) National Tours include: *Albert* in ***Bye Bye Birdie***, *Jeff* in ***You Say Tomato, I Say Shut Up***, and ***Oh! Calcutta!*** Here at Surflight he has been seen as *Sam* in ***Mamma Mia!***, *Ernst* in ***Cabaret***, *Rooster* in ***Annie***, *Danny/Zeus* in ***Xanadu***, *Zach* in ***A Chorus Line*** and *Bob Cratchit* in ***Ebenezer***.



**Vince Wingerter\*** (*Nick Bottom*) is excited to debut at Surflight! Favorite credits: National Tour of ***Mamma Mia!*** (*Sam/Bill*), Regional: ***White Christmas*** (*Bob*), ***The Who's Tommy*** (*Capt Walker*), ***Daddy Long Legs*** (*Jervis*), ***Harvey*** (*Dr. Sanderson*), ***Fun Home*** (*Bruce*), ***Mary Poppins*** (*Bert*), ***Drowsy Chaperone*** (*George*) and as a lead vocalist for Celebrity Cruise Lines. ~ Love to Jennifer and his 3 year old daughter, Alora!

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**Jenna Arkontaky** (*Production Stage Manager*) is a freelance stage manager based in New York. Theatre Credits include: ***The Black That I Am, This is Mark/c, Gundog, I Wanna F\*\*\* Like Romeo and Juliet, StoopKids LIVE!, Pippin, TYA Treasure Island, and Sondheim on Stage.*** Jenna would like to thank her family for their endless love and support!

**Alyssa Bowne** (*Props Master*) is so excited to join Surflight Theatre for the first time this season! She is an alumni from Wagner College and graduated with a B.A. in technical theatre. Past Prop Master shows include ***Cabaret, Guys and Dolls, and Urinetown.*** Enjoy the show!

**David Ciorlito** (*Sound Designer*) is excited to be back for his second season with Surflight Theatre! In the previous year he has worked on shows such as ***And Then There Were None, Suddenly: A New Musical, and The Little Mermaid*** which won an award for Best Theatre for Young Audiences. He would like to thank everyone involved for making this a wonderful experience!

**Barry Friedman** (*Resident Sound Consultant*) is excited to be returning to The Surflight Theater. Favorite designs include: ***Sweet Charity*** (2014 Nat Tour), ***Buddy...The Buddy Holly Story*** (2013/14 & 2014/15 Nat Tour), ***Cirque Dreams Holidayze*** (2015 Nat Tour), ***Home For The Holidays*** (Surflight Theatre), ***Johnny Cash: Live at Folsom Prison*** (Surflight Theatre), ***Into the Woods*** (Rowan University), ***Lés Miserables*** (Cumberland County College), ***Sound of Music, Carousel*** and ***Bye Bye Birdie***. Some music artists include: David Crosby, Ian Anderson, Kenny Loggins, Michael Bolton, Huey Lewis and the News, Peter Frampton, and Tony Orlando. When not at Surflight Theatre, you can find Barry at The College Of New Jersey where he is the College's A/V Technology Specialist. Love you R, J, & M.

**Susie Jolink** (*Musicals for Children Musical Director*): ***Mean Girls: High School Edition*** (Edgemont High School), ***Nonsense*** (Thin Air Theatre Company), ***Heartbeat of America*** (BVT), ***The Addams Family*** (PBT), ***Elf, Charlie Brown, The Music Man*** (GPT), ***Into the Woods*** (CSW). Performer: ***The Sound of Music (Maria), Seussical the Musical (Gertrude), Lés Miserables.*** Susie is also a voice teacher and teaching artist in NYC.

**Maura Kelly** (*Scenic Charge Artist*) I am thrilled to return to the Surflight Theater and sunny Long Beach Island. I have worked with Gail and Steve on and off for over a span of 18+ years which includes their touring and casino productions. For over 25 years, I have worked as a professional scenic artist for the stage, TV and film while simultaneously continuing my love of theater in front of the house. After receiving my BFA in Painting from the University of Hartford, I moved to NYC and performed in shows and musicals for a good 15 years. While performing an extended run of ***Oklahoma!*** at a theater in Delaware, I began working and



painting backdrops in their large scenic shop (Webber Prianti Productions). I've been scenic painting ever since. In addition to acting and painting, I also direct, write, teach and narrate audiobooks. I have an MFA in Theater Directing from Brooklyn College and an MA in Theater Education from Hunter College. Please check out my website: [maurakelley.net](http://maurakelley.net) & [petandhouseportrait.com](http://petandhouseportrait.com)

**Anthony Marinaro** (*Lighting Designer*) is excited to be back for a fourth year at the Surflight Theatre. A New Jersey Native, Anthony is a graduate from Purchase College in New York with his BFA in Theatre Design and Technology/Lighting Design. Past design credits at the Surflight Theatre include: ***A Chorus Line, Chess, An American in Paris*** and ***SH-BOOM! Life Could Be A Dream***. Other credits include ***Alice in Wonderland*** and ***Twelfth Night***.

**Ricky Pope** (*Music Director*) is very excited to return to Surflight Theatre after music directing last season's very successful ***White Christmas*** as well as ***Hairspray***. He has appeared onstage in ***The Fields of Ambrosia, Footloose, Joseph...*** and ***Newsies***. He has music directed several productions for Surflight at the Laguna Playhouse and just returned from a sold-out run of ***I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*** at the Player's Circle Theatre in Fort Myers. He has been seen in the national tours of ***Annie, All Shook Up,*** and ***Titanic*** and at regional theatres across the country.

**Chris Strangfeld** (*Resident Technical Director & Scenic Designer*) is a theatre professional from Waretown, NJ. This is Chris' fourth season with Surflight Theatre. He has acted as Technical Director and Scenic Designer for almost every production at Surflight from 2020-2023, but favorite credits here include ***Cabaret, Almost Heaven, Xanadu, Ebenezer, The Addams Family,*** and ***Chess***. Other notable TD credits include ***Dogfight, Heathers, Violet, Next to Normal, A Christmas Story, American Idiot,*** and ***Jekyll & Hyde***. Other notable scenic design credits include ***The Spitfire Grill*** and ***I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*** for The Laguna Playhouse, ***The Glass Menagerie, Love's Labour's Lost, The Musical, A Christmas Story,*** and ***Jekyll & Hyde*** for various theatre companies around the Pittsburgh, PA area. Chris has also acted and directed at Surflight. Love you, Randi and Olivia!

**OCEAN PROFESSIONAL THEATRE COMPANY  
PRODUCTION STAFF**

Producing Artistic Director/Executive Director . . . . .	Steve Steiner
Associate Artistic Director/Production Manager/	
Casting Director . . . . .	Gail Anderson*
General Manager/ Director of Education . . . . .	Paula Hammons Sloan
Box Office Manager/Playbill Ad Sales Manager/	
Webmaster . . . . .	Mary Beth Smartt
Group Sales Director . . . . .	Ruth Blankemeyer
Production Stage Manager . . . . .	Jenna Arkontaky
Assistant Stage Managers . . . . .	Muryenn Fields, Samantha Ness
Technical Director/Scenic Designer . . . . .	Chris Strangfeld
Assistant Technical Director . . . . .	Lincoln Oliphant
Scenic Charge Artist . . . . .	Maura Kelly
Shop Assistant . . . . .	Abby Schindell
Musicals for Children Technical Director . . . . .	Lincoln Oliphant
Music Director . . . . .	Ricky Pope
Education/Musicals for Children Music Director . . . . .	Susie Jolink
Props Master . . . . .	Alyssa Bowne
Props Assistant . . . . .	Ryan Meverden
Sound Designer/Sound Engineer . . . . .	David Ciolarito
Sound Consultant . . . . .	Ian Wehrle
Resident Sound Consultant . . . . .	Barry Friedman
Sound Assistant . . . . .	Michael Easterday
Lighting Designer . . . . .	Anthony Marinaro
Costume Designers . . . . .	Shon LeBlanc, Will Brattain
Costume Coordinators . . . . .	Josephine Genuardi, Danielle Kline
Wig Master . . . . .	Christa Steiner
Arts Management . . . . .	Olivia Caldera, Kellian Frank, Minh Nguyen
Assistant Education Director . . . . .	Jordan Polefka
Box Office . . . . .	Kate Andrews, Patti Bailey, Madeline Bird, Michelle Boynton, Tobe Brownstein, Beth Duffy, Chris Frazier, Lisa Halpin, Nancy Kunz, Christine Lanni, Zachary Nelson, Lynn Turro, Janeann Zink

**Steve Steiner** (*Producing Artistic Director*) 2023 marks 57 years for Steve as a performing Arts Professional, starting as a musician and singer in high school. He continued, receiving a Bachelor of Music in both Voice Performance and Instrumental Education from Webster University in St. Louis. During College Steve toured with his band whenever possible, and also worked as an actor in the Six Flags over Mid America Park for 2 seasons. Following College he toured for 5 more years before settling back in St. Louis. During this time he continued playing music, worked for a local Paint Manufacturing Company (first in Quality Control and later in Special Projects and Sales) while working avocationally as an actor. He went back to school, studying for a year toward a Master's Degree in Acting. At age 30 Steve headed for New York. For the next 16 years he was fortunate to work almost nonstop as an actor. Broadway: ***Anything Goes, Buddy...The Buddy Holly Story, State Fair***. Off Broadway he performed several roles and understudied *Warbucks* in ***Annie Warbucks***, originated the role of *Dr. Prospero* in ***Return to the Forbidden Planet*** and wrote the vocal and Instrumental arrangements for ***Honky Tonk Highway***. National Tours include playing the *Pirate King* in ***Pirates of Penzance***, understudying 3 roles including the Voice of Audrey II in ***Little Shop of Horrors*** and playing, in several different touring companies of ***Buddy...The Buddy Holly Story, Highpockets Duncan, Norman Petty, Jack Daw, Murray Deutch, Lead Hayrider*** while playing 6 different instruments. Steve has played over 50 roles in Regional Theatres across the country. Favorites include: *Haji* (The Poet) in ***Kismet***, *Paul* in ***Carnival***, *Starbuck* in ***110 in the Shade*** (Carbonell Award Nomination), *Fredrik Egereman* in ***A Little Night Music*** and *Molokov* in ***Chess***.

As a Director, Steve has directed 4 National Tours, 8 major Casino Productions and more than 50 regional productions in 17 states, including more than 20 here at SurfFlight and 5 at the famed Laguna Playhouse in Laguna Beach CA. Steve first came to SurfFlight in 1998. In addition to his work in theatre Steve serves on the Boards of: South Jersey Cultural Alliance (Past President) ArtPride NJ (Treasurer) Ocean County Business and Tourism Advisory Committee (Chair) and Beach Haven Taxpayers Association (Treasurer). He served 10 years on the Council (Board) of Actors Equity Association. Steve is the proud recipient of the Cultural Access Task Force's Innovator Award for his forward thinking and hiring practices for Artists with Disabilities. In 2013 the Cultural and Heritage Commission awarded Steve a Special Recognition for the Advancement of the Arts in Ocean County New Jersey.

**Gail Anderson\*** (*Associate Artistic Director/Production Manager/Casting Director*) has been involved in the theatrical business in many capacities for over 30 years. Originally a ballet dancer, she went on to perform in various roles in musical theatre; some favorites including *Mona* in ***Best Little Whorehouse in Texas***, *Sheila* and *Cassie* in ***A Chorus Line***, *Dorothy Brock* in ***42nd Street***, *Velma*

in **Chicago** as well as numerous ensemble roles as a dancer. A graduate of the University of Virginia in Technical Theatre, Ms. Anderson went on to Stage Manage professionally as an AEA Stage Manager in various venues regionally and in NYC specializing mostly in large musicals, but also including Opera and Dance. She also served in numerous theatres in other technical and design capacities as Costume Designer, Scenic Designer, Wig and Makeup Designer, Electrician, Carpenter, Public Relations, Press, House Manager and now enjoys Producing, Production and Tour Management as her career. She is also proud to serve as a Master Class teacher for several Universities and High Schools.

**Paula Hammons Sloan** (*General Manager/Director of Education*) along with a background in mathematics, her work as Director/Choreographer and Master Teacher has been recognized nationally for almost 40 years. Ms. Sloan has directed or choreographed numerous National tours including: **Music Man, Cabaret, Bye Bye Birdie, Little Women, Urban Cowboy, Gentlemen Prefer Blondes, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, Copacabana, Funny Girl, George M, Singin' in the Rain, Titanic, My One and Only, Crazy for You** and **The Unsinkable Molly Brown**. Having mounted several productions at the Tropicana Resort and Casino and Resorts in Atlantic City she also directed and choreographed **Miracle on 34th Street** (Jersey Shore Entertainment) on the West Coast and at the Tropicana Resort and Casino. She was choreographer for **Jekyll and Hyde** and **Singin' in the Rain** for the Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino Broadway Series in Atlantic City which also played for an extended run at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood Florida. Ms. Sloan has directed and choreographed regionally including, Kansas City Starlight (**The Producers, Anything Goes**), Casa Manana (**Oklahoma**), West Virginia Public Theatre, SurfFlight Theatre (**On Your Toes, Sisters of Swing, Lady Be Good, Ragtime, Joseph, Will Rogers, White Christmas, Ebenezer**), Gateway Playhouse, Plan B Productions (**The Producers, Footloose**), Theatre Under the Stars (Houston) (**110 in the Shade, Wonderful Life, Disney's When You Wish**), the Houston Symphony, the Houston Thanksgiving Day Parade and opening ceremonies of the 100th Anniversary Convention of Girl Scouts.

**Mary Beth Smartt** (*Box Office Manager/Playbill Ad Sales Manager/Webmaster*) was born and raised in New Jersey. Spent 20+ years in the software industry in the DC-metro area and Boston. She semi-retired from technology and became a real estate agent on LBI. She then went to work for a mortgage company and was there for over eight years. From 2004-2012, she ushered and worked part-time in the SurfFlight Box Office. In 2017, she was offered the fulltime positions and accepted with enthusiasm! Mary Beth took a year off after a couple of tough COVID years and now she's BACK!!

OCEAN PROFESSIONAL THEATRE COMPANY AT  
SURFLIGHT THEATRE STAFF BIOS

**Ruth Blankemeyer** (*Group Sales Director*) joined the staff at SurfFlight Theatre in 2003 as a Group Sales Associate. Over the years, she has served in many different positions including General Manager, Business Director, Group Sales Director and Marketing Director. When the theatre reopened in 2017, Ruth happily returned to reprise her role as Group Sales Director. She has fond memories of attending SurfFlight's Children's shows in the 1960s before the new theatre was built. Originally from Moorestown, New Jersey and a lifelong summer resident of Long Beach Island, Ruth has lived year 'round in Surf City since 1999. She is a graduate of Drexel University with a degree in Human Behavior and Development and holds several professional designations from her previous field of employment. Prior to coming to SurfFlight, Ruth spent seventeen years working in the glamorous insurance industry in Marketing, Customer Service and Compliance positions. She enjoys spending time with her family and friends and Dachshunds, Joey and Jesse.



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Lindenbergs & Chakrins  
Andrew Family  
Wm. "Bill" Banks  
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IMO Albert Vollmuth  
Cast of 1978 Onward &  
Upward Peter Downing  
Mimi & Bobby 2008  
Oley 2007  
IMO "OMA" Denton  
Jon Ulrich  
The Ceres Family  
Don & Michele Major  
Katie Koslow "Dream Big"  
2022  
The Kleinman Family  
Michael & Susan Mayes  
The Aulson Family  
The Martin Family  
Carolyn  
Carolyn Popp & David Sitler  
Karen Marie Hendler  
IMO Marie Donnaruma  
IMO Colette Carlo

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Xavier Fagans 2019  
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2002  
Frank Lymon 91 South Pacific  
IMO Ruth & Jim Adams  
Mary (Nana) O'Meara 2021  
Kathleen (Nana) Hourihan  
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Milling Family  
IMO Betty Henderson  
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 LMO Kenneth Gaffney-Path,  
 Beth, Alban, Katie, Jack,  
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 1953-2019  
 Cosmo Palmisano & Pat  
 Offerman  
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 1960-2000  
 Quality Time Paul & Bonnie  
 Kurt & Terry Williams  
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 & Family  
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<p>6/21-7/9</p>	<p>7/11-30</p>	<p>8/1-20</p>	<p>8/22-9/3</p>
<p>9/6-24</p>	<p>9/27-10/1</p>	<p>10/6-15</p>	<p>12/2-17</p>

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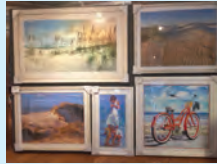


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7/17, 8/28, 9/16



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8/7



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