

January 24th-February 9th, 2014
Fridays & Saturdays 7:30pm
Sundays 2:00pm

Sponsorship provided by:







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A NOTE FROX THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to Tacoma Little Theatre!

Thank you for choosing to be a part of 95 years of theatre history here in Tacoma. We are one of the oldest continuously operating community theatres in the United States. Can you believe that we are just five short years away from our 100th birthday? This is the beginning of an exciting time for us as we start to plan for our centennial celebration.

As many of you are aware, this is my first year as Managing Artistic Director at TLT, and the warmth with which I've been welcomed has been overwhelming. I've enjoyed meeting many of you and am looking forward to building friendships and partnerships for years to come.

We here at TLT are committed to bringing you the theatre you want to see, and the theatre you didn't know you wanted to see. This year we've lined up a series of productions that will be sure to entertain you. Thank you for trusting in our programming. If you aren't already, think about becoming a Season Ticket or a FLEX pass holder. Not only will you get a great deal on your tickets, you'll also become a member of the family here at TLT. Take a look at the series of shows listed in our program and I know that you will be amazed at what this season holds.

All my best, Chris Serface Managing Artistic Director

TACOMA LITTLE THEATRE STAFF



210 N I Street Tacoma, WA 98403

253-272-2281

www.tacomalittletheatre.com





TO KILL À MOCKINGBIRD

A full-length play
by
Christopher Sergel

based upon the novel by Harper Lee

Directed by Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers & Martin J. Mackenzie

Produced by special arrangement THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois www.dramaticpublishing.com



Please remember to silence your cell phone and mobile devices.

No texting during the performance. —Thank you

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

"To Kill A Mockingbird" is considered the twentieth century's most widely read American novel. Harper Lee's first and only novel was published in 1960, won the 1961 Pulitzer Prize, and has sold an estimated 40 million copies. My personal copy is a 1987 paperback that I must have bought in college. I can't remember if I read the book or saw the movie first, but like many people, they are intertwined in my memory.

In the 1962 film, Gregory Peck embodied Atticus, and won the Best Actor Academy Award. The American Film Institute rates the character of Atticus as the No. 1 hero of cinematic history, ranked above Robin Hood, Han Solo, Moses and Batman. In 2010, The American Bar Association named Atticus Finch as "The Greatest Fictional Lawyer of All Time". The editors wrote: "Atticus was now an instrument of truth, an advocate of justice, the epitome of reason. Finch was comfortable in his own skin and reasonably respectful of the frailties in others. To lawyers, he was the lawyer they wanted to be. To non-lawyers, he fostered the desire to become one."

As a law student, I admired Atticus for his steady belief that people – regardless of race or class – deserve equal treatment under the law. I did my small part to fulfill that ideal by advocating for foster children, and am now teaching about the law and civil rights. Yet Atticus sets an even greater example to me as a parent. He teaches his children that they should walk in another person's skin, that unwinnable causes are sometimes still worth the fight, and that they can show kindness in simple ways. People deserve equal treatment in ALL facets of society.

I believe "To Kill A Mockingbird" is about Scout and Jem growing up, and discovering the world is bigger and more complex than their neighborhood street. Children inherently believe in justice – they want life to be fair, and often divide people into "good" and "bad", and behavior into "right" and "wrong". Scout and Jem learn that life isn't fair, and good people who do the right thing don't always win. But the choice to show compassion to others can be a victory. An outcast boy can find family, a hateful woman still deserves kindness, and a stranger can save your life.

Directing this show has been a privilege, and I will treasure the experience forever. I was blessed to spend the last four months with an incredible group of artists. Creating Maycomb and its inhabitants was a collaborative process, and I am proud to be a member of this team. I want to thank Chris Serface and Tacoma Little Theatre for making my dream come true to direct this beloved play, my cast and production team for having so much fun bringing this story to life, and to the audience for joining us on this memorable journey.

Enjoy the show!



ARTISTIC STAFF

DirectorsJennifer Niehaus-Rivers & Martin J. Mackenzie
Stage Manager
Assistant Stage Managers Emma Deloye, Stassi Reynolds
& Travis Barnett
Resident Costume DesignerMichele Graves
Resident Scenic Design & Master CarpenterBlake R. York
Lighting Design Pavlina Morris
Light Board OperatorEmma Deloye
Properties Manager
Charge Scenic Artist
Sound Design
Dialect Coach
Fight Choreography
Build TeamElliot Weiner, Russ Coffey, Travis Barnett Jen Ankrum, Zac Gosteli
Paint TeamElliot Weiner, Zac Gosteli, Autumn Salsberry
Photography
Graphic Design

SPECIAL THANKS

Lakewood Playhouse Tacoma Musical Playhouse Blake R. York, Sr. David Simpson Justin Long

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers (Director)

Jennifer is thrilled to bring *To Kill a Mockingbird* to life as her first mainstage production at TLT. She is so proud and blessed to be part of such a talented cast and creative team! Most recently at TLT she was the Stage Manager/Asst. Director for *Sylvia*, and directed *Aunt Maggity* in the youth theater program. Jennifer is the Drama Director at St. Patrick School in Tacoma, a Paralegal Instructor at Highline Community College, and an evaluator for the 5th Avenue Theater Awards. Jennifer thanks the cast, crew and designers for their dedication and collaborative spirit. Special thanks to Tracy for her partnership, and Chris for his unwavering support. All my love to Michael & Dylan for their unconditional love.

Tracy Engels (Stage Manager)

To Kill a Mockinghird is Tracy's second stage managing experience at TLT and it has been wonderful. Previously she worked as the Stage Manager for *The Joy Luck Club* and assisted with *Footloose*. She is excited to be working with this amazing cast and crew. Thank you all.

Blake R. York (Set Design and Master Carpenter)

Blake has been involved with theatre in the area for the past 12 years. This year Blake is the Resident Set Designer for TLT's 95th Season. Past shows designed at TLT include: Endgame, Sleuth, Spelling Bee, A Christmas Carol, Sylvia, Miracle on 34th Street and Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks. He would like to thank Jen, his parents, and his friends for everything they have done and continue to do for him.

Pavlina Morris (Lighting Designer)

Pavlina absolutely loves lighting design and thanks Chris and Jen for the opportunity to light this show. Favorite designs include *The Road to Mecca* (on an all white set filled with mirrors), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (complete with a black-lit fairy land), and *A Trick of the Light* (with lots of spooky effects.) She is the Artistic Director for The Changing Scene Theatre Northwest on the peninsula, and directed *Schoolhouse Rock, Live! Jr.* last summer here at TLT. Pavlina will be bringing *Didn't See That Coming* to the TLT stage March 20 & 23 as part of the TLT/Changing Scene partnership and will direct *Moonlight and Magnolias* opening in June.

Michele Graves (Resident Costume Designer)

Michele has stitched and designed costumes for Tacoma Little Theatre for over 25 years. In recent years she was costume designer for *Eleemosynary, Always, Patsy Cline, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Footloose, Sylvia,* and *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks.* This year Michele has accepted the responsibility of Resident Designer and hopes to continue her relationship with TLT as a costume designer as well as a volunteer for many years to come!

Katelyn Simpson (Properties Master)

Newly transplanted, Katelyn is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio. She graduated from Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, Georgia, with a Bachelors in English, though the faculty believes to this day it was in Theatre. Through the years she has worked on many plays in many functions, though her most notable productions as props master are Caucasian Chalk Circle, Lucifer, and Niada. This is her third production with TLT.

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

Darren Hembd (Sound Designer)

Darren has been designing sounds for theatrical productions since 2004. He is a resident designer for The Changing Scene Theatre Northwest, and has worked primarily around the Kitsap County area with Bremerton Community Theater, C-STOCK, and WWCA. He recently designed the sound for the productions of *Schoolhouse Rock, Livel Jr., Godspell*, and *It's a Wonderful Life* here at TLT. He would to thank Chris Serface and Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers for the opportunity to design the sound for *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Emma Deloye (Assistant Stage Manager/Light Board Operator)

Emma is a Junior in High School, and has been involved in theatre since she was 7. Although she loves performing, she has found a new love in the technical side of theatre.

Stassi Reynolds (Assistant Stage Manager)

Stassi is sixteen years old and attends Wilson High School. She is currently in her Junior year. She has been a part of TLT for many years both onstage and backstage. She enjoys the arts and hopes you enjoy the show and "Sip Time"!

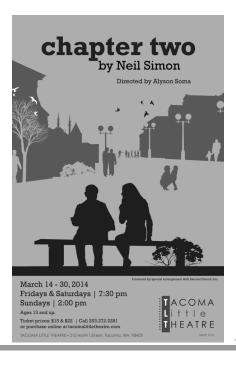
Syra Beth Puett (Dialect Coach)

Syra Beth lived in Montgomery, Alabama until she was twelve. She is a retired music teacher who first performed in Tacoma at TLT in 1979. Since then she has appeared in dozens of plays throughout this area. At TLT she has played leads in *The Glass Menagerie*, On Golden Pond, Kiss Me Kate, Noises Off, Arsenic and Old Lace, and Over the River and Through the Woods, among others. She was most recently seen in Driving Miss Daisy at Dukesbay Productions.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Ushers
- Set Construction
- Costume Assistants
- Backstage Crew
- Building Cleanup
- Marketing

Tacoma Little Theatre is always looking for individuals who can help us! Volunteers can earn free tickets to performances. Please fill out a volunteer form or sign up with one of our box office staff!



CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jean Louise Finch (Scout)Liberty Evans-Agnew
Jeremy Finch (Jem)Gunnar Johnson
Atticus Finch
Calpurnia
Miss Maudie AtkinsonHeidi Walworth-Horn
Miss Stephanie Crawford
Mrs. Dubose
Arthur "Boo" Radley/Nathan RadleyTravis Barnett
Charles Baker Harris (Dill)Austin Kuetgens Brooks
Heck TateKerry Bringman
Judge TaylorFrank Thompson
Reverend Sykes
Mayella EwellZenaida Smith
Bob Ewell
Walter CunninghamEverett McCracken
Horace GilmerMichael Christopher
Tom Robinson
Link Deas

SYMOPSIS OF SCENES

Place: Maycomb, Alabama Time: 1935

Act I, scene i-The street and area outside the Finch residence Act I, scene ii-Outside the Maycomb Jail Act I, scene iii-The Maycomb Courthouse

15 minute Intermission

Act II, scene ii-The Maycomb Courthouse Act II, scene ii-The street and area outside the Finch residence Act II, scene iii-A stormy night outside the Finch residence

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Travis Barnett (Nathan Radley & Boo Radley)

This is Travis' first appearance on stage. He currently works at St. Joseph Hospital but his passion has always been acting. His dream is to someday act in a Star Wars movie, and of course wield a Lightsaber. He is excited to use this experience with TLT as a springboard to the future, in a galaxy not so far away.



Kerry Bringman (Sheriff Heck Tate)

Kerry is honored to be back home at TLT and is extremely grateful to play a part in telling this amazing story. After a 25 year hiatus from acting, this marks his seventh year and 20th production on or behind the stage in the greater Tacoma and Lakewood area. Originally from Florida, he works as a civil servant on JBLM and as an adjunct professor for Southern Illinois University at the McChord Field campus.



Austin Kuetgens Brooks (Charles "Dill" Baker Harris)

Austin feels privileged to have his first debut on the TLT stage be in this production. He began his acting career at Tacoma Musical Playhouse at age seven in the youth education productions. He was seen most recently in *Les Miserables* (Gavroche) and *Ragtime* (Little Boy). He currently attends Federal Way Public Academy as a sixth grader and intends to pursue acting as one of his careers.



James Brown (Reverend Sykes)

James has lived in the Seattle/Tacoma area for over 26 years. He studied graphic design and photography at the Seattle Art Institute, University of Cincinnati, and the Dayton Art Institute. James has a natural talent for telling and singing original stories and song. For 14 years he has acted as the manager and a performer for Brown Tones Productions and has traveled throughout the country to perform in, "A Visit with Harriet Tubman".



Mitch Burrow (Bob Ewell)

This is Mitch's first show at Tacoma Little Theatre. After performing on stage as a standup comedian for the past 6 years Mitch is excited to take on a more dramatic role. To Kill a Mockingbird marks his stage debut.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Michael Christopher (Horace Gilmer)

Michael is happy to be making his first acting appearance with TLT. Most recently he designed the lights for TLT's production of *The Weir*. His most recent role was that of Mr. Blonde in *Reservoir Dogs*. He has worked with almost all theater companies in the Olympia area, and was a founding member of Theater Artists Olympia.



Noah Nieves Driver (Tom Robinson)

Noah is excited to be performing in his first dramatic role in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. A sophomore, he was the featured soloist in ASTRA's production of *42nd Street*. He also had the pleasure of participating in Dance Theater of Harlem's summer intensive. Noah studies multiple types of dance and wants to pursue a career on Broadway.



Liberty Evans-Agnew (Jean Louise "Scout" Finch)

Liberty is very excited to perform in her first show here at TLT. She is 11 but will be turning 12 on January 26th, at one of the shows! Liberty used to attend Three Cedars Waldorf School in Bellevue, and she now attends St. Pats in Tacoma as a sixth grader. Some of Liberty's most recent shows include: the Grandma in *The True Story of Little Red Riding Hood*, a party girl in *Twicked*, and Aphrodite in *The Iliad*. She would like to thank her directors, teachers, parents, and her sister for their support!



Patrick Gerrells (Link Dees)

Patrick is happy to be performing again at TLT. He has performed in community theatre productions all over Puget Sound and with Tacoma Opera and Seattle Opera. While in the Navy he performed at theatres around the country. Thanks to Chris Serface, Marty Mackenzie, Jennifer Niehaus-Rivers, and the cast and crew.



Cara Hazzard (Miss Stephanie Crawford)

Cara is thrilled to be making her TLT debut in this classic story. She grew up singing and dancing and studied theater at WWU. Favorite productions include *Pirates of Penzance* and *Gypsy* with Northwest Savoyards, *A Chorus Line* with Westlake Dance Center, *Carmina Burana* with Choral Sounds Northwest and *Oklahomal* with Leavenworth Summer Theater. She is extremely grateful to her husband, Aaron and her parents and parents-in-law for their love, support and encouragement. Enjoy the show!

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Gunnar Johnson (Jeremy "Jem" Finch)

Gunnar has only ever acted in school-related activities: drama club, school plays, speech and debate. This is his first time acting professionally, and he's glad to have his first time be at Tacoma Little Theatre, "To be a part of a theatre that has so much history is amazing."



Everett McCracken (Walter Cunningham)

This is Everett's first show at TLT. Before this he has been involved in numerous projects with Found Space Productions including *Catch-22* and *The Nina Variations*. Everett would like to thank Stacy and Bryce for their support and inspiration.



Wanda Moats (Mrs. Dubose)

Wanda is pleased to be in her first TLT production. Previously she was seen in *No Number Home* at ACT (directed by Kisha Palmer). She also appeared in *Pentecost-Fatima*, directed by Andy McGinn for the University of Washington. Wanda graduated with a degree in drama in 2013 and is a recovering scientist.



Marion Read (Calpurnia)

Marion is thrilled to be in her first TLT production! She recently appeared as Eulalie in *The Music Man* at Manestage. She has performed with professional theatres and music organizations throughout the US. In addition to her performing career, she holds degrees in Theatre Arts and Voice Performance and Pedagogy. She currently teaches choir at Covenant High School and directs an annual "Summer Singing Camp" for The Alliance of Christian Musicians. Marion gives glory to Jesus Christ for her talents and thanks her loving husband for his unending support.



Jim Rogers (Atticus Finch)

Jim's first role was when he cast himself as the cowardly lion in his neighborhood production of Wizard of Oz. He was 10. Since then, he's been seen in much better productions, including Footloose, Medea, Oliver, East Lynne, Anything Goes, Putnam County Spelling Bee, and 3 runs of Cannibal, The Musical. A sincere thank you for coming.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



Zenaida Smith (Mayella Ewell)

This is Zenaida's first show in the Pacific Northwest! Recent roles in her home state of Nebraska include: Helen in *Cripple of Innishmaan* and Nurse Ratched in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. She is very excited and thankful for this opportunity at TLT!



Frank Thompson (Judge Taylor)

This is Frank's first show at Tacoma Little Theatre. He would like to thank Marty, Jen, and everyone at TLT for giving him this opportunity. He would also like to thank his love, Trudy, and his son, Gregor, for putting up with the time commitment. Enjoy the show!



Heidi Walworth-Horn (Miss Maudie Atkinson)

is so pleased to be back performing at TLT. During the day, she is a middle school English and History teacher in the University Place School District. It has been a privilege to be part of bringing Harper Lee's beautiful book to the stage. She would like to thank Jen for giving her the opportunity, as well as Joe, Jack and Anna for their unfailing support and encouragement. More importantly, she would like to thank the audience for coming to the show and supporting TLT.



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