



**2009-2010 Season  
Share the Laughter!!**

<p>Neil Simon's <b>THE STAR-SPANGLED GIRL</b></p>	<p><b>LEND ME A TENOR</b> A COMEDY BY KEN LUDWIG</p>	<p>Jean Shepherd's <b>A Christmas Story</b></p>
<p><b>Over the River and through the Woods</b> a comedy by Joe DiPietro</p>	<p><b>NOSES</b> THE HILARIOUS COMEDY BY MICHAEL FRAYN</p>	<p><b>MAJOR BARBARA</b> a Comedy by Bernard Shaw</p>

**Don't miss your chance to share some laughs with us this season!!**

**Also as a special bonus!!**

**A Tuna Christmas with our own Artistic Director, Scott Campbell and Lakewood Playhouse's Marcus Walker**

**A TUNA CHRISTMAS**  
by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears, & Ed Howard  
A co-production of Tacoma Little Theatre & Lakewood Playhouse

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## Director's Notes

Remember the 60s? Regardless of when you were born, you've definitely grown up with the political, musical, and cultural impact from that magical decade.

It was the time of the Beatles. And Viet Nam. And the political killings of Jack and Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. The Democratic Convention riots. And LBJ and Tricky Dick Nixon. And the man on the Moon and integrated circuits. There was the Summer of Love in '67 and the summer of riots in '68 - and Woodstock in '69.

It was a decade that left an indelible mark on our individual souls and our psyche as a nation. And, yes, I was there. Playing a kind of Andy role. Trying to stay in school during the day, checking the mail for my free all-expense paid excursion to Viet Nam, and writing protest articles and picketing as the spirit moved us.

But we had Neil Simon. Thank goodness. Simon kept us laughing throughout the 60's with *Come Blow Your Horn*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *The Odd Couple*, *Sweet Charity*, *Plaza Suite* and *The Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, among others.

In the midst of creating those plays, he felt the need to be "more political," and was inspired to write *The Star-Spangled Girl* after watching a political argument between liberal writer Paddy Chayefsky and a conservative woman. Though written in 1966-67, *The Star-Spangled Girl* was validated during the campaign of 1992, when political polar opposites did attract: Presidential handlers James Carville (liberal Democrat) and Mary Matalin (conservative Republican) fell in love and later married.

*The Star-Spangled Girl* is one of Simon's less-often produced plays, probably because he, himself, was too critical of it when it was first produced in 1968. He complained that he should never have tried to be political - "just doesn't work for me" is about what he said. But *The Star-Spangled Girl* is pure Simon in its dialogue and characters, and the political aspects give way to his wonderful snappy style. He gives his characters situations that let us laugh, both with them and at them. And because most of you haven't seen it before, it gives us at TLT the opportunity to put our own special imprint on the characters and narrative.

It's been my pleasure directing this wonderful cast and play. Listening to hours of music from the 60s to choose some for you was a pleasurable challenge - and brought back great memories.

I sincerely hope that you enjoy *The Star-Spangled Girl* as much as we've loved creating it for you. Please read about the wonderful cast and production team who have worked so hard (and wonderfully) to bring this show to you. *The Star-Spangled Girl* is truly representative of the 60's and how people can come together to accomplish much. I owe our entire team a lot - they are the fantastic people who are creating this experience for you each performance. We hope you'll sit back, not relax too much, and enjoy this show in the same way all of us at TLT enjoy bringing it to you.

Elliot Weiner  
Director

Neil Simon's  
THE  
STAR-  
SPANGLED  
GIRL

Directed by  
Elliot Weiner

Aug. 28  
through  
Sept. 27

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

## Cast

Andy Hobart.....Luke Amundson  
Norman Cornell.....Blake York  
Sophie Rauschmeyer.....Gretchen Boyt

## Setting

The entire action of the play takes place in a duplex studio apartment overlooking the bay in San Francisco, 1967

### Act I

Scene 1 - It's late afternoon, in early summer  
Scene 2 - Three days later

### Act II

Scene 1 - The next day, about 5pm

**15 minute Intermission**  
**(Refreshments are available in the lobby)**

### Act II

Scene 2 - A few days later.

### Act III

Scene 1 - The next day, early afternoon

## **Tacoma Little Theatre**

210 North I Street  
(253) 272-2281

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## Artistic Staff

Director.....Elliot Weiner  
Stage Managers.....Jason Carter and Tanya Carter  
Production Manager.....Brie Yost  
Fight Choreographer.....Tom Dewey  
Technical Director.....Matt Osier  
Set Designer.....Erin Chanfrau  
Lighting Designer.....Scott C. Brown  
Costume Designer.....Narah McDonald  
Sound Designer.....Joe Kelly  
Props.....Tracy Berryman and Nicole Lockett  
Light/Sound Board Operator.....Lily Galagan  
Dresser.....Sarahann Rickner  
Painting.....Erin Chanfrau, Cynthia Lawlis, Maggie Knott  
and Brie Yost  
Set Construction.....Drew Dresdner, Michael Dresdner,  
Chris Berryman, Doug Kerr and Larry Hagerman  
Hang and Focus.....Mark Peterson, Russ Coffey, Crow,  
and Robert McConkey  
Programs.....Kelly Herremans  
Photography.....Dean Lapin

## Special Thanks To:

Mark & Justine Tvedt, Micheal O'Hara, Northwest Costumes,  
funkoma vintage, Michael & Drew Dresdner, Mark Peterson,  
Russ Coffey, Cynthia Lawlis, Mike Valentine, Frank,  
Jennifer Lackman and Family, and  
James Venturini from Lakewood Playhouse.

## Tacoma Little Theatre Staff

Managing Artistic Director.....Scott Campbell  
Operations and Education Director.....Casi Wilkerson  
Office Manager.....Loralei Ives-Keeler  
Box Office Manager.....Kelly Herremans  
Box Office Assistant .....Christopher Cline

## Tacoma Little Theatre Board of Directors

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## About the Cast



**Luke Amundson (Andy)** is delighted to be appearing in his first production with TLT. Past favorite projects include *The Man of La Mancha*, *Macbeth*, *The Fantasticks*, *Assassins*, and *Waiting for Godot*. He is next working on the Breeder Theater production *Snowbound*. He would like to thank the cast and crew for this wonderful experience.



**Gretchen Boyt (Sophie)** began acting at Cannon Beach's Coaster Theatre at the age of 3 and has been hooked ever since. Some of her favorite rolls throughout the years have included Philia in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*; Queen Aggravain in *Once Upon a Mattress* and Desdemona in *Othello*. This is Gretchen's first show at Tacoma Little Theatre. She would like to express how grateful she is to have been included in this amazing team of theatre enthusiasts. Working on this show has been a great experience and she hopes you enjoy watching it as much as she has enjoyed being a part of it.



**Blake R. York (Norman Cornell)** Star-Spangled Girl marks Blake's 28th performance in the greater Tacoma area. He was at Tacoma Little Theatre last season as Dogberry in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Butch in *Leading Ladies* and Bozidar in *Dear Santa*. He has also recently been seen at Pierce College as Hucklebee in *The Fantasticks* and at Lakewood Playhouse as Mr. Pendanski in *Holes*, Cheswick in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Dr. George Lewis in *Once in A Lifetime* and Larry Prince in *Angry Housewives*. Blake would like to thank his parents, the rest of his family and his friends for their continuous support.

## About the Artistic Staff

**Scott C. Brown (Light Designer)** is most often seen on the stage in the South Sound area, but occasionally he likes to stretch his creative muscles with technical aspects of theatre. He has lit shows locally including *The Lion*, *The Witch and The Wardrobe* at TLT; and *A Raisin In The Sun*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Seussical* and *Lucky Stiff* at Lakewood Playhouse; *Frankenstein*, *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*, *Beverly Hillbillies*, and co-designed *Oklahoma!* for Stagedoor Productions; and *Romeo and Juliet* at Encore. He is very happy to be designing the first light plot for TLT's newly extended stage and the first show of Scott Campbell's inaugural full season. He would like to thank both Elliot and Scott for the opportunity; the cast, designers & production crew for their patience and collaboration; and most especially Naarah, Devon and Kali for putting up with the late nights. Enjoy the Pure Comedy Gold!

**Tanya & Jason Carter (Stage Managers)** once again return to TLT to stage manage a show with Fantasia, their current Canine Companion for Independence puppy in Training.

**Erin Chanfrau (Set Designer)** enjoys designing, painting, directing, and writing. *Macbeth*, *Amadeus*, *Black Coffee*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *A Raisin in the Sun* were some of her favorite projects. She recently designed *Much Ado About Nothing* and *On Golden Pond* for Tacoma Little Theatre.

**Nicole Lockett (Props)** This is Nicole's first time working behind the scenes on a show at Tacoma Little Theatre. She currently works as a Front of House Manager here, as well as appearing on stage. Most recently on this stage she was seen as Mary Warren in *The Crucible*. After that she played May Daniels in Lakewood Playhouse's production of *Once in a Lifetime*. She has taken some time off from the stage, but acting is her passion and she plans to return later this season.

## About the Artistic Staff cont.

**Naarah R. McDonald (Costume Designer)** has been working in the performing arts for over 25 years having learned the trade from her mother. She has worked as a costumer, stage manager, props master, assistant director, and director. She has occasionally graced the stage but finds her passion is for the backstage elements of a production. Over the last ten years, Naarah has provided costume support on a variety of shows for Tacoma Little Theatre and worked with Lakewood Playhouse on such productions as *Steel Magnolias*, *The Chosen*, *3 Musketeers*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Macbeth*. She is blessed to have two shining stars and a dear love who grace her life.

**Elliot Weiner (Director)** You probably know Elliot more from his on-stage work than behind the scenes, but he's been directing and acting for blah-blah – way too many years. Elliot directed *Greater Tuna* at Lakewood Playhouse last year (Alec Clayton's BEST COMEDY of the season) and will direct the sequel, *A Tuna Christmas* at both Lakewood and TLT this fall. He has a PhD in clinical psychology but spends most of his clinical insight now on actors and dog-training – NOT that there's any relationship between the two groups. Of course, when Elliot founded the dog rescue, Protect Adoptable Labs, he thought about having PALs stand for Protect Actors Lovingly. Elliot encourages you to become a director by studying "Directing Stuff 101" on the Internet as he did. It's really not that difficult if you choose the right cast and then get out of their way (except sometimes). He got lucky with the perfect cast and production team for *The Star-Spangled Girl* – and does feel lovingly toward them. His excitement will continue since TLT will be producing his own hilarious 2-act comedy, *Brunch*, in June 2010, directed by Naarah McDonald.

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