

JULY 2026

News from Schoolhouse Arts Center

JULY 2026

PLEASE SIR, CAN WE HAVE SOME SHOWS?

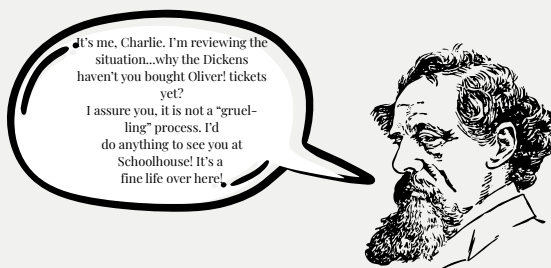
Schoolhouse arts center

WHAT THE DICKENS? WE HAVE A NEWSLETTER?

Yes, we do indeed! Thank you for reading the inaugural issue of the Schoolhouse Times! The summer is always chock-full of amazing theater, and this newspaper is your one-stop-read for all the important information happening at 16 Richville Road!

In this issue, we have a preview of our summer show, the classic *Oliver!* by Lionel Bart, information on our summer educational programming, and a very special profile of a very special volunteer! Thank you for reading, and be sure to support Schoolhouse Arts Center!

INFORMATION CENTER AND SEASON AT A GLANCE:



KEEP READING FOR A PREVIEW OF THE COMING
SHOWS, VOLUNTEERS, BEHIND THE SCENES, AND
MUCH MORE!

OLIVER!

In July, Schoolhouse will transform into Victorian London for a telling of Lionel Bart's classic musical, Oliver! Oliver! is ubiquitous in the annals of musical theater history, and for good reason: equal parts hilarious, absurd, poignant, and mischievous cast is working hard to bring the workhouse to Schoolhouse. Some brass tax: Oliver runs from July 10th to July 26th, so be sure to get your tickets now!



Oliver! is the story of the eponymous Oliver Twist, an orphaned young boy who dares to ask for sustenance beyond the gruel diet he and the rest of his impoverished workhouse peers are fed in the care of Mr. Bumble, the cruel and, well... bumbling beadle of the workhouse, and Widow Corney. Oliver is sold to the morose and...spirited (well, as far as gin is concerned) Mr. Sowerberry, who views him as a potentially lucrative "follower in proportion" in the funeral procession. After a song about the business of dying, Noah Claypool insults Oliver's mother and, in a fight sequence that ends in Oliver being trapped in a coffin, Oliver runs away...again. Eventually, Oliver finds himself in the care of Fagin and a gang of pickpockets living in the underworld of London. There, he meets the slick and street-smart Artful Dodger, the kind and motherly Nancy, and the not-so-kind Bill Sykes. Come for tremendously funny performances, moving ballads, and experience Lionel Bart's classic musical!

WHO'S IN IT?

Oliver - Maeve Gaudet
Fagin - Grayson Smith
The Artful Dodger - Brynn Tracy
Bill Sikes - Ray Woodworth
Nancy - Joy Lemont
Bet - Annikka Mocchiola
Mr. Bumble - Jonny Bolduc
Mrs. Corney - Lisa Tripp
Mr. Brownlow & Mr. Sowerberry - Michael Litchfield
Mrs. Sowerberry - Jannine Gaudet
Charlotte - Abby Fiore
Noah Claypole - Jojo Lemont
Mr. Grimwig - Jack Jones
Mrs. Bedwin - Anna Pearson
Charlie Bates - Oliver Jones

Pick Pockets - Garrett Chandler, Maggie Gaudet, Marley Hebert, Julia Jones, Olivia Kennedy, Daphne Murray, Julian Murray, Leo Scannell, Ryder Tripp, Oliver Jones

Adult Ensemble - Conner Dechene, Ava Dickson, Jack Dubois, Abby Fiore, Jannine Gaudet, Jack Jones, Jay Kimball, Emily Lemont, Jojo Lemont, Madison Marshall, Anna Pearson, Izzie Reynolds, Maddie Shunda, Olivia Tripp

WHAT DID OLIVER TWIST SAY WHEN HE
WENT CAMPING?
DRUMROLL, PLEASE.
PLEASE SIR, MAY I HAVE SOME S'MORES?

FIRST
EDITION

THE
SCHOOLHOUSE
TIMES
Featured Article

FIRST
EDITION

OLIVER!

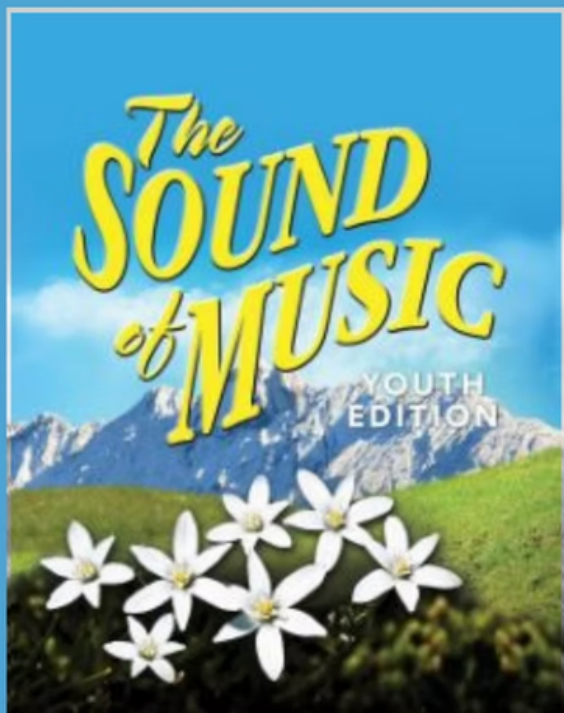


And though Oliver! is based on a novel by Charles Dickens, published serially from 1837 to 1839; its themes still resonate today.

Director Joellen Lemont writes, “as you watch Oliver move throughout this complicated world, I invite you to consider how it impacts him. We see extreme poverty, complicated societal and social dynamics, and very hurt and broken people. But through this, we get to watch Oliver, despite the circumstances, find so much love, community, and family.”

Oliver! Runs from July 10 - 26.
Tickets can be purchased by visiting Schoolhouse’s website, or by following the QR code below!





Summer is in full swing, and that means campers from first to twelfth grade are attending camp at Schoolhouse! With the help of counselor Emily Lemont, here's the rundown of the extensive educational offerings Schoolhouse offers during the summer. Each week of camp has a different theme, and every camp concludes with some form of showcase. The skills we work on depend on the week's theme. In our performance camps, students work on story building and basic performing skills, including projection, cheating out, and diction. Other camps focus on different skills, depending on the theme. Across all of our camps, the foundation is teamwork, confidence, responsibility, and a strong work ethic.



We offer five one-week camps, with two themed camps each day. For the most part, one camp is held in the morning and the other in the afternoon, with the exception of our Broadway Intensives, which are full-day programs. We offer both kids and teens Broadway Intensives. Following those five weeks, we present our two-week productions of The Sound of Music and Shrek.

Our camps include four weeks for rising 1st-6th graders and one week for students in grades 6-12. Registration is still open for a few of the camps, including Broadway Kids and technical theater camp! Visit the QR code below to learn more about Schoolhouse's educational offerings.

**TO FIND OUT MORE, SCAN
THIS**



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:
AMY GENDRON

From manning concessions and ushering to painting, cleaning, and helping with the physical space of our theater, a tremendous amount of effort from many volunteers ensures that Schoolhouse can keep running.

Every month, Schoolhouse hopes to highlight one volunteer who makes an invaluable impact on the SAC community. This month, we asked Amy Gendron, who painted the gathering room, acting room, and stairwell and took on an Event Coordination role, how she found her way to SAC.

According to volunteer coordinator Matt Scala, "Amy has been an incredible member of our Schoolhouse family. She started out as a parent volunteer, often running concessions or ushering during performances. Jump ahead a few months, and Amy found herself costuming our production of Newsies Jr. Since then, she has been a pivotal volunteer member in multiple projects. To name a few of her accomplishments: cleaning the building and costume shop, organizing various costume and prop rooms, helping with "build days", painting the interior walls, and so much more. Most recently, she and a few others formed the "Events Committee", a small group focusing on different types of fundraisers for Schoolhouse. Amy, alongside Emily Lemont, held a fun and lighthearted game night. Most recently, the two created an interactive and immersive murder mystery dinner, which was a huge success! Amy is a wonderful example of the "community" aspect of community theatre. Without folks like her, half of the projects, shows and events would not be possible! I'm incredibly thankful to Amy and all she has done and continues to do for Schoolhouse!"

INTERESTED IN
VOLUNTEERING? SCAN
THIS QR CODE!



Q: How did you first get involved with volunteering at Schoolhouse?

A: I first decided to get involved at Schoolhouse because my son Corbin Cote started doing shows there in 2021, and I was looking for a creative outlet.

Q: What are some of the roles you fill while volunteering at Schoolhouse?

A: I first started Costuming and/or helping with Props for the shows that Corbin was in. I really enjoyed working with the kids and being a part of the process. Once Schoolhouse decided to stay in Standish, I wanted to help fix the building, so I gave the gathering room, the acting room, and the stairwell a much-needed facelift by cleaning and painting them. I took on the role of Event Coordinator alongside Emily Lamont to fundraise for further projects. This past year, we hosted a game night and a Murder Mystery Masquerade Ball, both of which were very successful.

Q: Would you say volunteering at Schoolhouse is worthwhile?

A: Volunteering is very worthwhile because I see the impact my time makes there. The Schoolhouse community is an extended family. The love and energy within the building is contagious to be around. I have many favorite memories, and most revolve around costuming a show. It is a lot of time and work, but seeing the look on an actor's face when they try on their costume for the first time really makes it worth it. A favorite memory that sticks with me is when Corbin announced me to come on stage to receive the thank-you gift for Costuming Freaky Friday. He was so sweet, and all the kids yelled: "We love you, Amy". I didn't expect that, and it was so heartwarming. My second would be being a part of Big Fish with Corbin. It was a really special experience to go through the process with him. He amazed me with his patience in helping me learn the dances, and I will cherish those memories.

Q: What does Schoolhouse mean to you?

A: Schoolhouse means so many things to me, but to sum it up in one word, it would be community. It offers a place of acceptance, friendships, and growth.

Q: If someone is interested in volunteering at SAC, what would you tell them?

A: If somebody was interested in volunteering, I would tell them to reach out to Joellen; she is amazing and so wonderful to work with. There is something for everyone: the volunteering needs are endless, and so is the appreciation.



FIRST
EDITION

THE SCHOOLHOUSE TIMES

FIRST
EDITION

THE SEASON SO FAR!

The 2026-2027 season has shaped up to be a banner year for Schoolhouse Arts Center! Here's a journey through the wonderful productions SAC has produced so far this year.



YE BYE
BIRDIE



ALBERT PETERSON- STANLEY KIMBALL
ROSE ALVAREZ- LEAH MACMASTER
CONRAD BIRDIE- GRAYSON SMITH
MRS. MAE PETERSON- ANNA PEARSON
MR. HARRY MACAFEE- ANDREW MARCOTTE
MRS. DORIS MACAFEE- EMILY LEMONT
KIM MACAFEE- FIONA STEIGELMAN
RANDOLPH MACAFEE- MAEVE GAUDET
HUGO PEABODY- NICHOLAS DAVENPORT
URSULA MERKLE- MADELINE SHUNDA
GLORIA RASPUTIN- MARIN LACKMANN

ENSEMBLE

CHARLOTTE MURRAY
COLIN CYR
COLIN LEMONT
DAPHNE MURRAY
EDDIE GRACE
ELIJAH SEAVEY
ERIC T KELLEY
EVELYN STEIGELMAN
GARRETT CHANDLER
MACKENZIE HESTER
MEGHAN RIVARD
NATALIE GINN
OLIVIA KENNEDY
RENEE SEAVEY
SUMMER BISHOP



Directed by Joellen Lemont
Music Directed by Matt Scala
Choreographed by Emily Dube

FIRST
EDITION

THE SCHOOLHOUSE TIMES

FIRST
EDITION

THE SEASON SO FAR!

Schoolhouse Arts Center Presents



Directed by
Joy Lemont

Choreography by Emily Dube
Music Directed by Simon Roussel

Performances:

April 24th - May 3rd 2026



MAINE
COMMUNITY BANK

SAC
Schoolhouse

Book by Rodger D. Hinson | Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Produced in agreement with Musical Theatre International



CAST LIST

LEADING PLAYER:
SAMANTHA HERRIOT

FASTRADA:
KALLIE BROWN

PIPPIN:
JEFFREY MCNALLY

BERTHE:
LORI MOSES

CHARLEMAGNE:
GRAYSON SMITH

CATHERINE:
MOLLY LEMONT

LEWIS:
STANLEY KIMBALL

THEO:
ELLIOT CONDON

COMPANY:
RENEE SEAVEY, CHARLOTTE MURRAY, ALEX MAGNAUD



SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER PRESENTS



SIX
THE MUSICAL
TEEN EDITION

Directed and Choreographed by
Andrew Fournier
Music Direction by Mackenzie Hester

May 22nd at 7:00
May 23rd at 2:00 & 7:00
May 24th at 2:00

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Tickets at the door, or online at www.schoolhousearts.org

TEEN EDITION

Catherine of Aragon.....	Rylee Robinson
U/S.....	Evelyn Steigelman
Anne Boleyn.....	Fiona Steigelman
U/S.....	Natalie Ginn
Catherine Parr.....	Maggie Gaudet
U/S.....	Brenna Small
Jane Seymour.....	Colleen Doyle
U/S.....	Alex Snow
Katherine Howard.....	Ally Gossen
U/S.....	Maddie Shunda
Anna of Cleves.....	Olivia Kennedy
U/S.....	Ellie Zelinski

MEET THE ENSEMBLE

Julia Jones, Eli Bell, Ellie Campbell, Ace Randle,
Garrett Chandler, Alice Foley, Corbin Cote, Logan Hinshaw,
Taylor Poussard, Emmy Grace Banerjee, Jack Dickson, Afion Bartholomew

SIX



FIRST
EDITION

THE SCHOOLHOUSE TIMES

FIRST
EDITION

CHICAGO

Teen Edition

SCHOOLHOUSE ARTS CENTER

CHICAGO Teen Edition

Velma Kelly - Erenna Small
Eddie Hart - Ava Dickson
Billy Flynn - Corbin Cote
Ames Hart - Jack Jones
Mamma Morton - Alex Snow
Mary Sunshine - Walter Alexis
MC - JoJo Lemont
Liz - Eryn Tracy
Annie - Fiona Steigelman
June - Maggie Gaudet
Funyak - Maddie Shunda
Mona - Eylee Robinson
Fogarty - Cameron Carter
Fitty - Olivia Kennedy
Fred Casely - Garrett Chandler
Judge - Athena Harmon
Harrison - Mills Warren

Ensemble

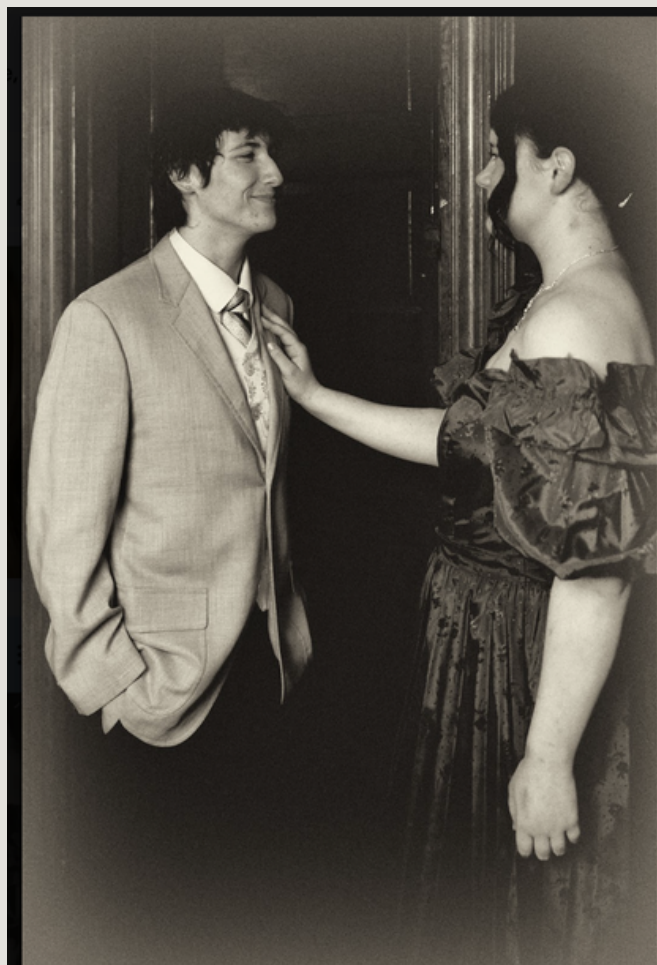
Athena Harmon, Eralley Sands, Eryn Tracy, Cadence O'Erion, Charlotte Daniel, Daphney Murray, Eliana Kalcgeris, Evelyn Steigelman, Fiona Steigelman, Garrett Chandler, Jay Kimball, Levi Davis, Maddie Shunda, Maddison Marshall, Maggie Gaudet, Mia Messina, Mills Warren, Myanna Chute, Olivia Kennedy, Olivia Tripp, Pamona Chamberlain-Kennedy, Eylee Robinson, Samuel Couzie, Walter Alexis Jr.



MURDER MYSTERY
MASQUERADE BALL



*Murder Mystery
Masquerade
Ball*



Schoolhouse
arts center

1996:

'Oliver' audience left asking for more

By CATHY NELSON PRICE

THEATER REVIEW

No matter how many times "Oliver!" is produced, it never ceases to amaze and delight with its exuberance and energy. Though its plot is harrowing and the action sometimes makes audiences recoil, it's hard to resist a dozen winsome little boys and comic caricatures who sing and dance their hearts out.

Based on Dickens' tale, the musical takes the orphaned, deserted Oliver Twist to Bumble's workhouse ("What, more???") to Sowerberry's undertaker's parlor, to Fagin's den, and finally, to the kindly Brownlows', where the somewhat happy ending takes place.

Community theaters love this large-cast show, where comic cameos abound and the ensemble pieces are more than mere production numbers. It's also one of the few shows that uses both children and adults in abundance without being treacly. But it's essentially a dark tale with its portraits of poverty, child abuse, criminal mischief, illegitimacy and abandonment. Even with the songs — which include "As Long As He Needs Me," "Consider Yourself" and "Where Is Love?" — it's not your usual musical "comedy." When its villains are convincing, it can be downright scary. (Several children who went to see their brothers onstage at the Saturday night show wound up burying their heads in their mothers' laps.)

In fact, this production by the Schoolhouse Arts Center community theater packs quite a wallop. The cast of 40 moves well, sings well and speaks convincing cockney, which

"Oliver!"

Where: Schoolhouse Arts Center, Route 114, Standish

When: Through Dec. 8

What else: Call 642-3743.

even some professional troupes can't do. Director Deb Doherty, who excels at onstage crowd control, has kept the show's pace lively and gotten her urchins into fine voice for singing and emoting.

They're led by first-time performer Erik Monty, 10, who has all of Oliver's requisite sweetness and natural timing besides. His protector, Nancy, is powerfully sung and acted by USM student Jennifer Dedominici. Fagin, a plum role for a comic actor, gets a rather mild-mannered treatment from Mike Foster, an audience favorite. Evil Bill Sykes is played with lots of snarling invective by the boyish Tom Scannell.

Among the other featured roles, Aaron Duffey is a rakish Artful Dodger, and Dave Gray and Judy Wolf are a comic pair as Mr. Bumble and the Widow Corney. Mike Harris' Mr. Sowerberry is convincingly henpecked by Heather O'Donnell as Mrs. Sowerberry. Cindy Gerlach is musical director and keyboardist for this production, keeping the mood appropriately foreboding with her between-scenes playing.

Cathy Nelson Price of Cape Elizabeth frequently reviews theater for The Portland Newspapers.