



Try to Remember

MAT
50 PLUS
ANNIVERSARY
SHOW

November 9-12, 2023

The Orillia Opera House



Land Acknowledgement and Resources

We acknowledge that we are gathered on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, specifically the Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi nations collectively known as the Three Fires Confederacy. This territory is part of the Williams Treaty of 1923, and the J. Collins land purchase of 1785.

We also recognize our neighbours the Chippewas of Rama First Nation. We invite you to learn more about their history from the Mnjikaning Fish Weirs, to their deliberate displacement from Orillia, along with the other nations of the Chippewa Tri-Council, to their enduring presence as the stewards of this land.

MAT is committed to moving forward in the spirit of reconciliation while celebrating the traditions, cultures and undeniable impact of the First Nations, Inuit and Metis people.

Learn more and put your allyship into action by visiting the links below and visiting the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation at nctr.ca

November 5 - 11th is Treaties Recognition Week. Learn more here:
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/treaties-recognition-week#section-0>

Chippewas of Rama First Nation
<https://www.ramafirstnation.ca/>

Orillia Native Women's Group
<https://www.onwg.net/>

Gojijing Truth & Reconciliation Roundtable
<https://www.gojijingtruthandreconciliationgathering.earth/>

Ogimaa Miskwaaki Gallery
<https://www.stpaulscentre.ca/the-ogimaa-miskwaaki-gallery>

Sign up for the University of Alberta's free course Indigenous Canada
<https://www.coursera.org/learn/indigenous-canada>

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Act One

Opening

Try To Remember
Another Opening, Another Show

Ron Payne, Sheila Payne, Ensemble
Lynda Lewis, Ensemble

Welcome

Chris Newton

In The Beginning

Camelot
On Monday Next

Ensemble
Gayle Carlyle, Peter Merkle

Songs of Celebration

Consider Yourself

Bella Frances, John Jefferies,
David Jefferies, Ensemble

The Rain In Spain
Blow, Gabriel, Blow

Chris Newton, Valerie Thornton, Mike Saddy
Christina Bosco, Ensemble

Oh Really, Orillia?

Are You Lonesome Tonight?

Gayle Carlyle, Peter Merkle

Love Songs

Hello, Young Lovers
On The Street Where You Live
Do You Love Me?
The Trolley Song

Colleen Greidanus
David Jefferies
Sheila Payne, Ron Payne
Natasha Paquin, Peter Merkle, Ensemble

Film Night

Ruth Watt, Martin Ward

The Meanies

When You're Good To Momma
Alive
Have A Little Priest

Christina Bosco
Kevin Scharf
Natasha Paquin, Philip Hough

Songs Of Longing

This Nearly Was Mine
Matchmaker
As Long As He Needs Me
Lily's Eyes

David Jefferies
Lynda Lewis, Erin McBride-Hare Sheila Payne
Colleen Greidanus
Philip Hough, Kevin Scharf

Act One Finale

Sit Down, You're Rockin' The Boat

Michael Abernethy, Mike Saddy, Josh Halbot,
Ensemble



Act Two

Overture

Carousel Waltz
If I Loved You

The Band
David Jefferies, Kirstie Duke

The Guys

Oh What A Beautiful Morning
To Life
You Gotta Have Heart
Nothing Like A Dame

John Jefferies
Ron Payne, Mike Abernethy, Men's Chorus
Mike Saddy
Men's Chorus

The Gals

Cell Block Tango

Can't Get A Man With A Gun
Aldonza
Marry The Man Today

Valerie Thornton, Christina Bosco, Erin McBride-Hare,
Krista Woodman-Adare, Patti Sanderson, Bella Frances
Natasha Paquin
Marilyn Gregory
Valerie Thornton, Krista Woodman-Adare

MAT Warehouse

Brian Halbot

Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing

Gayle Carlyle, Peter Merkle with Michael Abernethy,
Natasha Paquin

Comic Songs

Brush Up Your Shakespeare
Hot Patootie
Whatever Happened To My Part?

Mike Saddy, Patti Sanderson
Josh Halbot, Michael Abernethy, Ensemble
Christina Bosco, Terry Therien, Val Thornton

Drama/Comedy

The Melville Boys

Gayle Carlyle

The Eleven O'Clock Number

Get Me To The Church On Time

Marilyn Gregory, Philip Hough, Ensemble

Songs of Inspiration and Hope

You'll Never Walk Alone
Run Freedom Run
Edelweiss
Climb Ev'ry Mountain
Impossible Dream

Ensemble
Josh Halbot, Ensemble
David Jefferies, Fred Larsen, Ensemble
Ensemble
Marilyn Gregory, John Jefferies, Ensemble

What Does The Future Hold?

Chris Newton, Bella Frances

Finale

Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life Ensemble

Cast



Michael Abernethy
Christina Bosco
Gayle Carlyle
Kirstie Duke
Bella Frances
Marilyn Gregory
Colleen Greidanus
Josh Halbot
Philip Hough
David Jefferies
John Jefferies
Fred Larsen
Lynda Lewis
Erin McBride-Hare
Peter Merkle
Chris Newton
Natasha Paquin
Ron Payne
Sheila Payne
Mike Saddy
Patti Sanderson
Kevin Scharf
Valerie Thornton
Krista Woodman-Adare

In Addition

MAT Centre — Brian Halbot
MAT Film Committee — Ruth Watt, Martin Ward

Band

Blair Bailey Piano, Conductor

Ross Arnold Tympani, Percussion
Hugh Coleman Clarinet, Tenor Saxophone
Jay Rothenburg Drums
Rory Slater String bass
Terri Therien Synthesizer
Robin Watson Trumpet



Crew

Director	Michael Clipperton
Musical Director	Blair Bailey
Choreographer	Sheri Nicholls
Producer	Phyllis Johnson
Production Manager	Kaleb Sauve
Compiled By	Michael Clipperton, Blair Bailey, Phyllis Johnson
Musical Arrangements	Blair Bailey, Mayumi Kumagai Bailey
Stage Manager	Stevie Baker
Assistant Stage Managers	Fran Gelder, Amy Lewis
Set Design	Michael Clipperton, Carol Sinclair
Set Painting	Susan Mitchell, with Linda Gidora, Brian Halbot
Costumes	Carol Sinclair with Brenda Kasperowitsch
Properties	Susan Mitchell
Communications	Joan Mizzi-Fry with Stevie Baker, Marissa Caldwell, Shannon Hawke, Amy Lewis
Projections	Mike Beresford, Amy Lewis
Archival Photos	Deb Halbot
Film Night Projection	Thomas Kaethler
Follow Spot Operator	Quinn Thomson
Lighting Design	Claude Labrecque
Sound Technician	Max Kane
Sound Engineer	Aaron Grandy
Production Assistant	Ashley Whitten



Thank You

MAT Special Events Committee
Vicki & Doug Anderson, Susan Canfield, Dianne Richardson
George Smith
Theatre By the Bay
Orillia Opera House Staff
James Thornton
Orillia Museum of Art & History
Orillia Public Library
Chris Lewis



Orillia Secondary School
Arts Orillia
Dennis O'Neill
North Simcoe Life
Anna Proctor
John Swartz
Orillia Matters
The Villager
Myriam Barreiro
Manticore Books
Ruth Carter
Erin Hawke



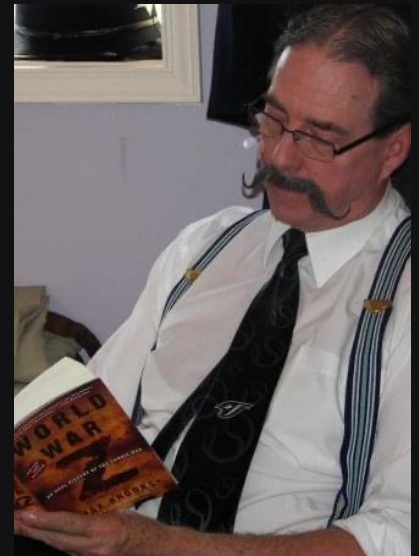
To all past, present and future members - we love being on stage with you!

Upcoming MAT Theatre Productions

The Play that Goes Wrong
Directed By Dave Graham
February 8th - 18th

I'll Be Back Before Midnight
Directed By Kaleb Sauve
April 11th - 21st

Upcoming MAT Film Nights
Wed Nov 26 — BLUE JEAN
Wed Dec 6 - JULES



MAT Board of Directors

Stevie Baker President
Fran Gelder Past President
Ryan LaPlante Vice President
Amy Lewis Treasurer
Susan Mitchell Secretary

Mike Beresford
Mikaila Bolzonello
Laurel Dewar
Brian Halbot
Josh Halbot
Wayne Lennox
Kaleb Sauve
Stacey Schat
Carol Sinclair

Cast & Crew of 50+ Show





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Michael Abernethy

For MAT: You'll Get Used To It: The War Show (2015), Chicago (2017), All My Sons (2018), Urinetown: The Musical (2019), The Rocky Horror Show (2022)

Stevie Baker

Stevie Baker is a professional director, producer and costume designer based in Severn, Ontario. A prolific theatre creator and artist, she has been a part of innumerable productions in Toronto's vibrant theatre community.

She is the GM of Mixed Company Theatre and is the Head of Dauntless City Theatre where her work is rooted in queering, subverting and modernizing Shakespeare. She is proud to serve as a director on the board for Arts Orillia and act as the new president of Mariposa Arts Theatre.

She centers queer joy, anti-racism and anti-poverty in her work, life and raising of her two children. She is a seeker of collective liberation. Stevie has worked internationally with Kansas City's MET and served as Artistic Director of The Daegu Theatre Troupe in Daegu, South Korea. For MAT: Steel Magnolias (2022 dir), The Rocky Horror Show (2022 prod), Blithe Spirit (2023 dramaturge), The Queer Cabaret (2023 dir)

Blair Bailey

Blair has been associated with Mariposa Arts Theatre from almost the very beginning of its existence. He clearly remembers being in the audience as a very young child for MAT's inaugural show On Monday Next in October of 1970. By 1972 he was in the cast of MAT's first production of the musical Guys & Dolls which was presented at 'The Pav', Orillia's historic, now demolished, dance hall. In 1977 he received the Association of Community Theatre's award for 'Best Performance by a Male or Female in a Supporting Role' for his performance as 'Mottel the tailor' in MAT's 1976 production of Fiddler on the Roof. In 1984 he collaborated with Canadian theatre icon Mavor Moore to re-vamp and re-arrange the musical score for Moore's 1954 musical Sunshine Town, which MAT presented at the opera house in November of 1984. Since then Blair has served as music director for several MAT shows including Fiddler on the Roof (1992 production), Snoopy, The King and I, The Dreamland, Closer Than Ever, and My Fair Lady. Blair would like to give a shout out to the mega-talented 'dream cast' of this golden anniversary celebration show, the production team and especially his wife, Mayumi, who partnered with him to create the musical arrangements.

He is also so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with so many wonderful directors, performers and production personnel, who are sadly no longer with us, in the first two decades of MAT.





Christina Bosco

Christina made her debut with Mariposa Arts Theatre in their 2003 production of Cabaret in the lead role of "Sally Bowles". Christina then changed hats and became the Music Director for the Mariposa Arts Theatre's productions of Chicago in November, 2017, and The Rocky Horror Show in November, 2022. During the day she is the Arts Department Curriculum Leader and Music director at Twin Lakes Secondary School in Orillia, where she has music-directed such shows as Footloose, The Wiz, Legally Blonde, Mamma Mia, Thunder Glee, Thunder Live, Thunder Rock, and most recently Thunder Years. Along with her teaching, music directing, and solo performing career, Christina is the Alto Section Lead St James Anglican church in Orillia, and a member of the vocal jazz quartet Jazz Beens. She is very excited to be back on-stage again, working alongside this tremendous cast, and she dedicates her performance to her husband, and two beautiful children, whom she adores.



Gayle Carlyle

Fell in love with her future husband on stage.

First show with MAT California Suite (2007, Diane)
Most recent show with MAT The Christmas Tree (2020, Sonya)



Michael Clipperton

The friendships I have made through my involvement with MAT will last a life-time.

First show with MAT Oh Really, Orillia? (1988)
Most recent show with MAT The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (2022, Co-Producer)

Bella Frances

I am a third generation MAT company member! My Grandpa (John Jefferies) and uncle (Dave Jefferies) have both been in many MAT shows. I'm also a full-time singer-songwriter, and I released my first singles this year on all platforms!

First and most recent show with MAT
Urinetown (2019, Little Sally)



Fran Gelder

Fran has been an active member of MAT and is the current Past President of our Board of Directors. She can typically be found in a supporting ASM role, back stage and in the wings.

Marilyn Gregory

Marilyn was born on the Saskatchewan prairies, the daughter of a Mennonite farming family. She studied vocal performance, music theatre, classical and jazz piano. Although it was not a straight path, Marilyn managed to navigate the musical theatre world in Toronto culminating in a season at the Stratford Festival Theatre. She met her husband, Bob, and moved to Hawkestone, a village that was very receptive to supporting a music studio at the Hawkestone Community Hall including three choirs, piano and voice students, and a summer musical theatre camp.

In 2008, they set off on a great adventure to Livingstone, Zambia near Victoria Falls. They developed a community tourist destination, the Arts Café, which hosted multi-disciplinary visual and performance arts of Zambia. It was one of the greatest learning experiences of their lives. Marilyn recently returned to school to become a graphic designer. But her most important and favourite role is hosting her five grandchildren whenever possible.





Kirstie Duke

Kirstie is excited to be joining MAT for their 50(ish) Celebration! This is her second time on stage with Mariposa Arts Theatre after her debut performance in The Rocky Horror Show last fall. Kirstie has been a part of theatre groups for the decade in previous titles which include "Les Miserables", "Mary Poppins", Nancy in "Oliver" "Shrek", "The Wedding Singer", "Mamma Mia" and more! She hopes you enjoy the show and would like to thank the whole team for such a wonderful experience!



Josh Halbot

Josh is thrilled to be a part of MAT's 50th anniversary spectacular! This will be Josh's 8th show with MAT, and he is thrilled every time he gets the privilege to be on the Opera House stage! Previous shows with MAT include Rocky Horror 2022, Urinetown 2019, Chicago 2017, all the way back to The King and I in 1996.



Philip Hough

Philip is excited to be back on stage with MAT having recently performed in The Old Man and The Old Moon with Huronia Players in Midland. He has performed all over Simcoe County from Cookstown to Collingwood, Stayner, Wasaga Beach and Coldwater too.

Thanks to family for your patience and understanding as I tread the boards. You Jump, I Jump.

John Jefferies

Sentimental role was Cervantes/Don Quixote in Man Of LaMancha 1997

First show with MAT Fiddler On The Roof (1976, Perchik)

Most recent show with MAT Meet Me In St. Louis (2098, Alonso)



Fred Larsen

Several years onstage—mostly in the New York area—with The Hi-Lites, a vocal trio from Toronto, in the mid-1960s. First MAT performance was The Sound of Music in 1972 (Captain Von Trapp). During a 30-year career teaching Fred worked with the drama club at Twin Lakes and assisted on a number of school performances, notably the Dave Austin-Suds Sutherland school productions in the 1990s. After retirement from teaching, he returned to MAT in 2004-05 for Evita (Juan Peron). (Paired with now-wife Lois to dance samba and rhumba in early scenes.) Went on to parts in My Fair Lady, Fiddler On The Roof, and Guys and Dolls between 2006 and 2011. I'm honored and grateful to be a cast member of this review of MAT's "fifty-ish" years. Long live theatre and musical drama!



Amy Lewis

First show with MAT Spamalot (2014, Laker Girl)

Most recent show with MAT Blithe Spirit (2023, ASM)





Lynda Lewis

Lynda has been appearing in MAT productions since 1988. As well as being part of the casts she has also filled roles as music director and accompanist in 19 MAT productions. She has also worked in theatre in Guelph, Coldwater and Cookstown, and in the Sunshine Festival. She did 51 shows across Canada as part of Scott Woods' Old Time Jubilee. It is such an honour to be included in this 50th anniversary show and it is gratifying to see the very talented young people who will carry on the tradition of community theatre.



Phyllis Johnson

No, I wasn't there for the very first MAT show. It has been fun though being involved for well over 30 years acting, directing, producing and working with costumes. The best part is getting to know and work with all the characters off stage.
Happy 50th +++MAT!



Erin McBride

As a young girl and through her teenage years, Erin often performed vocally at local festivals including Kempenfest, the Barrie Fair, high school concerts and local Kiwanis festivals. Now at 37 years of age, this is not only Erin's first production with MAT but is also her first theatrical production and first performance in almost 20 years.

Peter Merkle

First show with MAT Heroes

Most recent show with MAT The Rocky Horror Show (2022)



Chris Newton

Chris and his family moved to Orillia in 1992, as part of the OPP Headquarters relocation. Shortly after arriving, both Chris (Constable) and Lynda (Orchestra cellist) took part in MAT's fall production of Fiddler on the Roof.

For the past 31 years, Chris has been active with MAT, both on and off stage, and as a former board member. Memorable roles include Henry Higgins in My Fair Lady, Freda Heights in The Last Resort, Colonel Jessop in A Few Good Men, and Otto Frank in the 1995 production of Diary of Anna Frank.

Chris feels grateful to be included in MAT's 50th Anniversary celebration and to work with such a wonderful cast and crew. His MAT life has certainly gone full circle as Michael and Blair were his first Director and Musical Director those many years ago.



Natasha Paquin

When she's not on stage, you can find her working at Orillia Soldiers hospital taking x rays, doing cat scans and teaching college students!

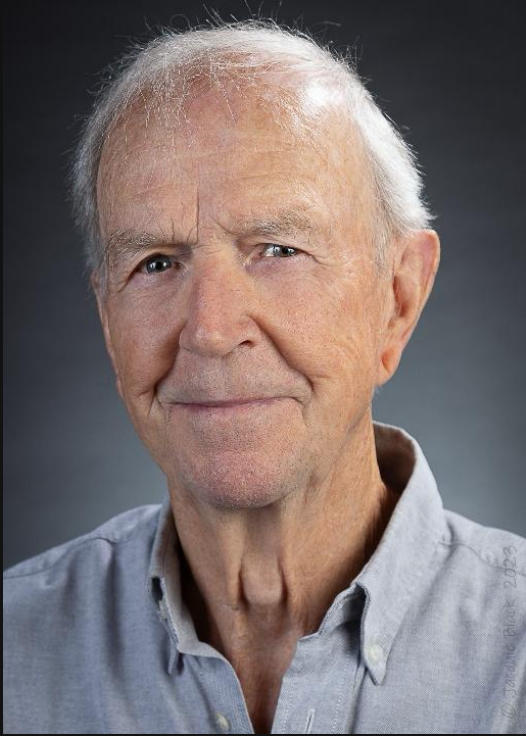
First show with MAT Urinetown (2019, Penny Pennywise)

Most recent show with MAT Love, Loss and What I Wore (2021)



Ron Payne

I started theatre in 1968 in North Bay having never done theatre before, on leaving in 1975, had tucked 15 shows away. In 1977, I was offered Billy Bieglow in Carousel where I met my leading lady Sheila, and 45 years later, we still tear up hearing "If I Loved You". After joining Equity I did the circuit, until moving into film, T.V., and commercials professionally for twenty five years.



On "semi" retiring from film, I came back to my first love, the Theatre. I also discovered that with age, the learning of lines became a terrible burden. I now only direct, in fact, I was directing Four Old Broads (in Midland) at the same time as we were rehearsing this show. Our last performance was last Saturday!!!

I thank this wonderful and talented cast and crew for putting up with me missing rehearsals, learning music by ear, trying to do harmony, and being gracious and fun as we shared this journey together. I congratulate my fellow Directors, Michael and Blair, for sharing with me (us), this fantastic 50 year Celebration.

For MAT The War Show, Diary of Anne Frank and this wonderful production

From 50 odd years to yours. Salut.

Sheila Payne

Sheila is so grateful to have been invited to join this amazing troupe of performers for MAT's 50th Anniversary celebration. It was in 1976 when she got her first role Hodel in Fiddler On the Roof, followed by Julie Jordon in Carousel, (where she met her husband Ron Payne) then Guinevere in Camelot and Mable in Pirates of Penzance.



These experiences inspired her to take an hiatus from her nursing career and go back to school at Sheridan College for Musical Theater.

After working in "the Business" for about ten years, she returned to her other passion, Psychiatry and Mental Health, having earned her degree in Psychology from Wilfrid Laurier University.

After taking early retirement in 2008 she started her own counseling practice in Midland, where Huronia Players provide an outlet for her theatre bug.

She would like to thank this wonderful cast and crew for the patience, support, and friendship throughout this production, especially our wonderful Stage Managers, Stevie and Amy, and our brave, talented, and fearless Directors Michael and Blair.

Mike Saddy

Mike moved to community theatre from a choral background pretty late in life and enjoyed performing for Mariposa Arts Theatre, The Coldwater Village Players and the Kempenfelt Players in Barrie. He was lucky to have been able to do a few 'bucket list' roles and is grateful for all the opportunities that were given to him. Coming out of retirement for one last show has been an unexpected joy because he got to work with the next generation of community theatre actors and has been blown away by their energy, talent and enthusiasm. One last thing! Be kind to animals. The SPCA and local rescue organizations have companion animals looking for homes and if you have the resources to adopt a pet - please do!



Patti Sanderson

Patti started dancing in productions with MAT such as Guys and Dolls, South Pacific and The King & I while in high school. After moving back to her hometown she again was lucky enough to be cast in Chicago (2018) and Urinetown (2019) — such fun! Other community theatre shows she has been in include Mash, Appointment with Death, Annie Get Your Gun, 42nd Street, and Sweet Charity in Toronto. Sending thanks to all the wonderful people involved behind the scenes and onstage in this anniversary production and hope you all enjoy the show!



Kevin Scharf

Kevin love's performing. In addition to MAT, he does improv comedy with the Old Dancehall Players, some clowning as Waldo W. Wowser, and appears as Santa Claus in many locations around the area.

First show with MAT And Then There Were None (1997, Phillip Lombard)
Most recent show with MAT Twelfth Night (2021, Feste)





Carol Sinclair

My over thirty years with MAT working on a number of productions from small to large scale musicals has allowed me to turn my love of clothing, fabrics and garment construction into costumes for the stage. The opportunity to work and learn from the talented and passionate people both behind the scenes and on the stage has been both an exciting and rewarding experience.



Valerie Thornton

First show with MAT Evita (2005, The mistress/ensemble)

Most recent show with MAT The Rocky Horror Show (2022, Producer)



Krista Woodman-Adare

First show with MAT The Wizard of Oz (chorus, 1986)

Most recent show with MAT The Music Man Jr. (director)

Try to Remember



Celebrating 50 Plus Years

 **MARIPOSA**
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