

SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of the
Schenectady Light Opera Company
Volume 43-2
September/October 2009

Hey There! The Pajama Game Is The Game We're In! The highly anticipated return of a SLOC & regional favorite!

826 State St.
Schenectady, NY 12307
393-5732
1-877-350-7378

Web Site:
www.sloctheater.org

2009-2010 Season
THE PAJAMA GAME

Directed by:
Jennifer S. Depew
October 16-18, 22-25

**JOSEPH AND THE
AMAZING TECHNICOLOR
DREAMCOAT**

Directed by:
Matthew T. Teichner
December 4-6, 10-13

**SIDE BY SIDE BY
SONDHEIM**
Directed by:
Thomas Dalton Bambury
March 5-7, 11-14

KISS ME, KATE
Directed by:
Alan Angelo
April 30, May 1-2, 6-9

Ross Snyder
President

Board of Directors
Thomas Dalton Bambury
Bob Farquharson
Joe Fava
Lisa Franklin
Bob Harrison
Kate Kaufman Burns
Orlando Pigliavento
Brett Putnam
Nancy Stone

Next Newsletter
Deadline:
October 5, 2009

SLOC Musical Theater is pleased to announce the opening of its 83rd Season with the award winning and audience favorite, *The Pajama Game*! Come join the cast and crew as we present this classic show October 16-18 and 22-25! All performances will be held at our Opera House, 826 State Street. *The Pajama Game* is based on the novel *7-1/2 Cents*, by Richard Bissell, and features a score by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross. This show won the Tony Award for Best Musical in 1955 and the Tony Award for Best Musical Revival in 2006!

The story takes place in and around the Sleep-Tite Pajama Factory, where factory workers are fighting for a 7-1/2 cent raise in salary, and love blossoms in the least likely of places between the head of the grievance committee and the new superintendent of the factory. In the mix is an array of characters with comedic precision and moves that would make Bob Fosse proud.

Director Jennifer S. Depew, Musical Director Malcom Kogut, Choreographer Donna Hatch, and Co-Producers Jodi Hebert and Donna Z. Baxter have been working hard since the auditions occurred to bring this classic show to you, and are pleased to welcome this talented cast to the SLOC stage! Playing the leading lady Babe Williams, the head of the grievance committee, is SLOC veteran Natalie Bain. Newcomer Josh Gray takes on the charismatic role of Sid Sorokin, the new factory superintendent, and Babe's love interest. Kevin X. McNamara plays Hines, Christine Marcella plays Gladys, Thomas Dalton Bambury plays Prez, Alison Bianco plays Mabel, David Marcil plays Pop, and Bill Hickman plays the feisty president of the company, Mr. Hasler, who is against any raise for his workers.

Other featured actors and dancers include Theresa Beswick, Tom Dickson, Ryan Cerone, Chad Czelusniak, Marc DeNicola, David DiPaola, Sarah McNally, MaryLou Samaha, Erica Sheldon, Amanda Shpigler and Monet Thompson. Production staff includes Don Countermine (Set Design and Construction), Timothy Serviss (Stage Manager), Debbie Lummis (Costume Designer), Matthew T. Teichner (Lighting Designer), Paul Kraus (Sound Design), Bill Depew (Sound Execution), Kelly Williams (Properties), Donna Z. Baxter (Publicity Coordinator), Stevi McLaughlin (Hair Designer), Rebecca Barringer (Makeup Designer) and Thomas Dalton Bambury (Board Liaison).

Tickets are going quickly for selected performances so call now! Tickets are available by calling 1-877-350-7378 or visiting our website at www.sloctheater.org. Make it YOUR Once a Year Day, and get your tickets to this classic Broadway hit, which is sure to put some Steam Heat into your theatrical season!

NYC Bus Trip Set for November 14, 2009

The Board of Directors has approved another bus trip this fall to New York. The troupe of SLOC members and their friends will invade the Big Apple on Saturday, November 14, 2009. The bus will leave from Crossgates Mall at 7:30 AM, arriving in NYC approximately 10:30 AM. The day in New York is on your own, with the bus leaving New York at 7:30 PM; plenty of time for shopping, a show, dinner or whatever else you may like to do!

The cost is \$40 for members, \$45 for nonmembers. Seats are available on a first come, first served basis so it's good to get your check in early. This is a steal at this price however; we need to fill ALL the seats to break even.

If you're interested in going, please send a check payable to SLOC to Tom Heckert at 11 Nottingham Way S, Clifton Park, NY 12065. For more information, please email at tomh823@aol.com or call 877-6777.

Our goal with the pricing is to break even with the cost of the transportation. Let's fill this bus to insure that the Board will approve more trips in the future!

Spotlight on...

**Side By Side By
Sondheim Auditions**
(see article on page 3)

President's Notes...by Ross Snyder

My notes this month will be somewhat shorter than last month but there are a few items I would like to share with you. First is the planned SLOC Vision Summit scheduled for September 26th. I do hope that all members make an effort to attend. The topic of this meeting is very simply, the future of SLOC. What do we want this company to be like in the near future? In 5 years? In 10 years? What are our goals and how do we plan to attain them? That is what strategic planning is all about. The board and the VP's have been working on a strategic plan, but the plan cannot be completed without input from the membership. At this meeting we will present our strategic goals and some ideas on how we plan to achieve them, but we need to hear from you. I do hope to see you there.

We have been successful in filling most of our VP vacancies. Matt and Susan Teichner will be co-VP's Technical filling the spot vacated by Ken Zarnoch. Ken served as VP Tech for many years and his contributions to the company are deeply appreciated. I have always thought that SLOC tech was top-notch and credit for that belongs largely with Ken and his staff. Also in the Tech world, Ric Bello has decided to step down as Co-VP Tech for Sound. Ric is another excellent resource that has contributed to the overall quality of our Technical department. Paul Kraus will be joining Matt and Susan Teichner on the Tech committee to advise them on "Sound" related issues. On the Facilities front, Richard Lenehan has accepted the position as Co-VP Facilities. Richard has for many years been my right hand man for the Taurus Road set shop and he has graciously agreed to help even more to allow me more time to concentrate on being the Board President. Jane Figueroa has accepted the position of Board Secretary replacing Melinda Zarnoch. Jane has already been to two board meetings and is doing a great job. Melinda is staying on as our VP Audience and will continue her outstanding service in that capacity. As of this writing we have not yet filled our Treasurer position, but I think that too will be filled before this newsletter reaches you. We have not yet filled our VP Company position, but we are intentionally holding off on filling that position right now.

If you haven't bought your Season tickets yet you'll want to do so very soon. Ticket sales were down last year owing largely to the economy. This year we need to bounce back so buy your tickets and encourage your friends, acquaintances, co-workers, etc. to buy tickets. We can all help sell tickets!

House Managers: We always seem to have trouble finding House managers for our shows. Please consider volunteering for this role. You don't need to volunteer for every show, but if you can help out just once or twice it will really help. If you can volunteer, please contact me at RossMSnyder@gmail.com.

Hope to see you on September 26th and at the Pajama Game.

Sincerely (on behalf of the board and officers),

Ross M. Snyder
SLOC Board President

*** Proctors Theater Receives Award ***

SLOC congratulates Proctors Theater (Schenectady, NY) for receiving a prestigious award for being one of the top historic theaters in America. The Outstanding Historic Theater Award was presented on July 18, 2009 at the League of Historic American Theaters Annual Conference (Cleveland). The award was given to Proctors because of "the quality of the 83rd year-old theater's restoration, its depth of community service and breadth of programming" (ALBANY TIMES UNION, 7/20/09). Since Proctor's '07 restoration, SLOC had had the distinct honor of producing a very successful musical, *The Music Man*, in Proctors (GE/Black Box Theater). SLOC is now hopeful that we will join Proctors along with other theater/business venues in the downtown Schenectady District.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PROCTORS THEATER!!

SLOC Spotlight

SLOC Spotlight is a newsletter of the Schenectady Light Opera Company, P. O. Box 1006, Schenectady, NY 12301. SLOC is a community volunteer musical and theatre arts incorporated, nonprofit organization. Governed by a Board of Directors elected by the membership, SLOC's purpose is to present quality musical theater to the people in and around Schenectady County, NY.

Newsletter Staff: Dave Dixon, Eric Shovah, and Thomas Dalton Bambury. Subscription Rates: \$5 per year, check payable to SLOC. Send subscription inquiries and address changes to the address listed above.

DEADLINE for submissions to **Vol. 43 Issue No. 3** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT will be October 5, 2009. Issue No. 3 will be mailed by October 21, 2009.

Please submit articles to Dave Dixon at luvsbabs@yahoo.com or
4 Hall Pl., Apt B, Albany, NY 12210

Audition Notice:

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

SLOC Musical Theater is proud to announce AUDITIONS for the second show of their 2009-2010 season, JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, on September 14th and 16th at 7:15 PM at Schenectady Light Opera Company, 826 State Street, Schenectady NY.

"Joseph..." is scheduled to run December 4th - 13th. Come be a part of the Tony-Nominated rock opera smash that's had audiences singing its praises for over 40 years! This season's SLOC production is produced by Jon Janssen and directed by Matthew T. Teichner. They have put together a top-notch production team including Frank Leavitt, Musical Director; Tricia Scott, Choreographer; Chris Kowalski, Stage Manager; and Norm Eick, Assistant Director. People auditioning are asked to arrive early as we will begin promptly at 7:15pm. We will hold music, reading, and dance auditions each night. Please prepare 16-32 bars of music from a Broadway show or music of a similar genre. An accompanist will be present; please provide your own sheet music. No a-cappella auditions will be entertained. Bring a change of clothes or dress comfortably for dance auditions. We are seeking an ETHNICALLY DIVERSE cast with performers of practically all ages and backgrounds, starting at high school age with no upper limit for the main cast and starting at age 8 for the Children's chorus.

CAST OF CHARACTERS (w/Vocal Ranges) (SUMMARY: 20 MALES / 9 FEMALES)

Narrator (Male or Female) [B-F]
Joseph (Male) [Tenor: C-F]
Jacob – Joseph's Father (Male) [Baritone: B-B]
Brothers (11, Male) [4 Bass 3 Tenor 4 Bari]
Potiphar (Male) [Baritone: C#-C#]
Mrs. Potiphar (Female) [N/A]
Butler (Male) [Baritone: C-F]
Baker (Male) [Baritone: C-F]
Pharaoh (Male) [Open]

Chorus/Choir (Men & Women)
[7 Female/3 Male] [SATB: 3-4-1-2]

Children's Chorus (Boys & Girls) [4 Girls/4 Boys] [All Ranges Welcome]

****Additional Characters (From Chorus/Choir)****
Jacob's Wives (Leah, Zilpah, Bilhah, Rachel),
Ishmaelites, Shekel Girls, Pharaoh's Court,
Servants (Potiphar), Prison Guards.

If you have any questions regarding the show,
please email them to the Director,
mschner1@mac.com or visit the production's
website at
<http://web.me.com/mschner1/JosephAuditions>



Audition Notice:

Side By Side By Sondheim

SLOC is pleased to announce auditions for the third show of its 83rd season, Side By Side By Sondheim, an elegant and glorious celebration and tribute to the music of Tony, Grammy, Oscar, and Pulitzer Prize winning composer and lyricist Stephen Sondheim. This production is a company premier. This intimate evening has been entertaining international theatergoers since its inception in 1976 and Broadway debut in 1977.

Auditions will be held December 16 and 18, 2009 at the Opera House, 826 State Street, 7:00 sharp. Auditioners are asked to prepare 16-32 bars of a Sondheim piece. Other composers will be entertained. There will be a movement audition as well.

There will be under ten (10) people cast in this production, including a non gender specific narrator. More specific character and vocal needs will be included in our next newsletter.

For further information contact Director Thomas Dalton Bambury at thomas_bambury@yahoo.com and 436-8295. Musical Director Kate Kaufman Burns can be reached at kkburns7@nycap.rr.com and Producer Marlene Counterline is available at redwing377@aol.com.

TANYS AWARDS TO JACQUES BREL

The Spotlight Newsletter Editor just received wonderful & official confirmation from the creative team of JACQUES BREL IS ALIVE AND WELL AND LIVING IN PARIS! The January, 2009 SLOC production received the following TANYS (Theatre Association of NYS) awards:

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCES: Robert Rice, Deborah Rocco, Richard Satterlee, Jr. and Nancy Carlson Stone
EXCELLENCE IN DIRECTION: Allan D. Foster
EXCELLENCE IN MUSICAL DIRECTION: Andrea Merrill
EXCELLENCE IN OVERALL PRODUCTION CONCEPT AND EXECUTION: Donna Hatch, Ken Zarnoch, Ric Bello, Richard Lenehan, Patricia Casey, JoAnna Hepinstall, Ginnie Mills, Regina Baker, Gina Kornumpf and Marcia Lenehan

TANYS COMMENTS: "SLOC's production of Jacques Brel... is a wonderfully conceived and executed evening of theatre. Performances of this caliber are rare in a non-professional theatre setting. This production team brought to the stage a delightfully entertaining and engaging production, polished and performed in all of it's disciplines. Congrats to all on your very fine work!"



P.O. Box 1006
Schenectady, NY 12301-1006

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Why not pay a regular visit to SLOC's website?

www.sloctheater.org

Aside from the regular show/ticket information,

highlighted webinfo includes:

*SLOC's Outreach Program, List of Past
Productions, Our Strategic Plan, Photos and more!*

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SLOC Vision Summit

All SLOC Members are invited to Potluck Dinner/Vision Summit on Saturday September 26th, 6:00 PM at St John the Baptist/Bethesda House located at 423 Franklin St., Schenectady. This is an important meeting to discuss and get your input regarding the future of our organization. The Board of Directors and our VP's have been working hard developing a Strategic plan for the company and we would like to present our ideas to you. Even more important, we want your input. So please plan to attend this function as we plan for the future of SLOC. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP with either Thomas Dalton Bambury at 436-8295 or thomas_bambury@yahoo.com or with Melinda Zarnoch 382-8497 or sail4017@yahoo.com and be sure to let them know what you will be bringing to the potluck. We hope to see you there!

In Our Memories and Hearts...

The SLOC Board of Directors and all its members mourn the passing of Brett Putnam's father. Our thoughts and prayers are with Brett and his family.

AD for ADS

Do you (or anyone you know) own your own business? Looking for some extra advertising? If so, SLOC is looking for ad patrons for our playbill. We have a variety of sizes and prices to fit any company or business needs. In addition, most packages include complimentary tickets. Advertise for your business and enjoy quality musical theatre. If interested, please contact Heather at hdarcy78@hotmail.com.