



# SLOC Spotlight

The Newsletter of  
SLOC Musical Theater  
Volume 44-3 84th Season  
November 2010

## SLOC is to be blessed with "NUNSENSE"

On Friday, December 3, "Nunsense" returns to SLOC Musical Theater with an invocation of laughter. Mark your calendars now, and reserve tickets soon for this wonderful, hilarious show.

Originally written by Dan Goggin in 1982, "Nunsense" has been a worldwide hit, with thousands of productions and several sequels. The musical always leaves its audiences laughing and happy, and we promise to give you a wonderful evening of great songs, delightful dance, and tons of jokes. Classic musical highlights include, "The Biggest Ain't The Best", "Playing Second Fiddle", "I Just Want To Be A Star", "I Could've Gone To Nashville" and "Nunsense Is Habit-Forming".

SLOC originally produced "Nunsense" in 1995, and many of the same characters are back for more fun. Our great veteran director and choreographer, Orlando Pigliavento, has chosen a stellar cast of ladies who will entertain you. Led by Paula Ginder (Sister Mary Regina - Mother Superior), the cast also includes Jane Figueroa (Sister Mary Hubert), Elisa Verb (Sister Robert Anne), Erin Waterhouse (Sister Leo), and Judi Merriam (Sister Mary Amnesia).

Supporting Brett Putnam (Producer) and Vince Bonafede (Music Director) is a talented design team: Robert Farquharson (Set), Greg Rucinski (Lighting), Winn Huntley (Sound), and Amanda Jo Marshall (Props). Thomas Dalton Bambury is the Publicity Coordinator.

Don't get into a "habit" of waiting 'til the last minute to purchase your tickets! Order your tickets today by contacting Melinda Zarnoch at 1-877-350-7378 or log on to [www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org). Performance dates are: December 3-5 and 9-12, 2010 (Thursday-Saturday at 8pm; Sundays at 2pm). Ticket prices range from \$18 to \$28. Group and student rates are also available.

If you are also interested in volunteering in ANY capacity (stage crew, painting, costumes, etc), please contact Brett Putnam at 462-1798.

See you at the show.....AMEN.

## FINAL AUDITION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR: THE DROWSY CHAPERONE

**November 30 and December 1, 2010 - 7:00pm**

This SLOC & area premier pays homage to American musicals of the Jazz Age, examining the effects musicals have on the the fans who adore them. The Man in the Chair, a mousy, agoraphobic Broadway fanatic, seeking to cure his non-specific sadness, listens to a recording of a fictional 1928 musical comedy, *The Drowsy Chaperone*. As he listens to the record, he is transported into the musical. The characters appear in his dingy apartment, and it is transformed into an impressive set with footlights, sparkling furniture, painted backdrops, and glitzy costumes.

Winner of 5 TONY Awards: Best Book, Costumes, Featured Actress, Original Score and Scenic Design.

DETAILED AUDITION INFORMATION will be finalized very soon. Please visit our company website: [www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org) for all the necessary character descriptions & vocal ranges, audition song & choreography requirements.

The Newsletter staff & SLOC Musical Theater just didn't want you to nod off and forget about *The Drowsy Chaperone* Auditions. Production Dates are: February 25-27; March 3-6, 2011.

826 State St. and  
427 Franklin St.  
Schenectady, NY  
1-877-350-7378

Web Site:  
[www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org)

2010-2011 Season

The Pirates of Penzance  
Oct. 15-17; 21-24

Nunsense  
Dec. 3-5; 9-12

The Drowsy Chaperone  
Feb. 25-27; Mar. 3-6  
Auditions:  
Nov. 30; Dec. 1

Les Miserables  
(All Student Cast)  
Apr. 13-17  
Auditions:  
Dec. 13, 14

Carousel  
May 13-15; 19-22  
Auditions:  
Feb. 27, 28; Mar. 1

Bob Harrison  
President

Board of Directors  
Thomas Dalton Bambury  
Joe Fava  
Jane Figueroa  
M. Gatzendorfer  
Bob Harrison  
Kate Kaufman Burns  
Sev Moro  
Nancy Stone

Next Newsletter  
Deadline:  
January 3, 2011

## President's Notes... by Bob Harrison

Time is fleeting, and hundreds of board members, SLOC member volunteers, contractors, and City of Schenectady staff are scurrying throughout our new facility to complete their work on our facility project.

Our Fund Raising and Development Committee are proudly announcing that we have passed the \$1 Million dollar mark in our Capital Campaign and are just \$200,000. away from our Phase I Goal of \$1,200,000.

- We have received approval of a \$10,000. grant from the Heritage Foundation of Schenectady. They are impressed that we are maintaining the historical significance of our entire facility.
- We have benefited from more monies in donated services, in-kind grants and pro-bono services from a large group of local individuals, companies, and organizations.
- Leases with community partners, among them Northeast Ballet Co., Capital Lyceum, and the Schoharie River Center will cover a majority of our fixed expenses at the new facility.

The Light Opera Board is completing the final phase of our "Strategic Plan" which has served us so well during the past two years. A 6-hour weekend session is planned with board members and committee chairs.

The Board of Directors and our new Finance Committee are revising a great majority of our fiscal accounting and budgeting system, and a board committee is streamlining our volunteer and administrative procedures.

Construction volunteers under the supervision of local contractors are transforming our three buildings into a sparkling new theater and education center. Kudo's to Doug Peek, our new Facilities Chair, and a large group of dedicated and skilled volunteers who have been working for many nights and weekends to complete this essential work. *Our immediate goal?.....is to present "Nunsense" at our new theater in December, 2010.*

A board committee is making significant progress on re-designing a new 2-year, advance planning process for SLOC Show Selection. Kate Kaufman Burns is heading up this important effort.

As this Newsletter goes to press "The Pirates of Penzance" is under full sail. Ross Snyder, Director and Richard Lenahan, Producer, assembled an outstanding cast and "crew" that delighted us all. Congratulations!

Thanks to all of you for your patience and forbearance, and your continuing support of SLOC Musical Theater. More members, more season subscribers, more corporate community support, and many more volunteers is our mantra.

Godspeed!

Robert (Bob) Harrison, President

## A TRIBUTE TO ART GAUVREAU

SLOC suffered a genuine setback with the recent passing of Art Gauvreau, a longtime member, benefactor and friend. It is our loss.

Art was one of the mainstays of the company in the late 60 - 80's. Those of you who have studied the photos on the foyer and kitchen of the old SLOC house, would have seen him as SLOC's President during a couple of those years, and as a table server at the opening of the new SLOC house in 1971. He never was on stage, but was one of those guys who pitched in on the administrative needs of the Company, who built sets, who helped Paige (his wife of many years) with tickets, and who filled in when the inevitable crises developed. His contributions were endless. But, most of all, he brought humor to otherwise disastrous and hopeless situations. He was also SLOC's Business Manager for a number of years. He was a leader and helped the company to reach financial stability. He had a keen business mind.

Allan Foster remembers: "Art was also one of my neighbors (a quieter one!). In fact, most of our contacts occurred when he was taking his customary walk around the Regent Street area. But the thing I will remember most is his smile. Art was a drafting manager at GE - a demanding job, and certainly not one that would normally bring out smiles. But he would take these opportunities to talk about GE and SLOC. Never, not even once, did he leave me without giving me the pleasure of that engaging smile."

Art passed away on Saturday, Sept. 11, 2010. He was 85 yrs old. He is survived by his wife, Paige, 2 daughters, 1 stepson, 3 stepdaughters, 14 grandchildren, 2 great-great grandchildren. SLOC sends sincere sympathy to the entire family.

Aside from his active duties at SLOC, Art was also active with the Schenectady Symphony & the revitalization of Proctor's Theatre.

We salute & remember Art Gauvreau & offer our thanks and appreciation to one of SLOC's workhorses. (Bob Farquharson & Allan Foster contributors)

## SLOC Spotlight

SLOC Spotlight is the newsletter of SLOC Musical Theater, a community volunteer musical theater arts incorporated non-profit 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, N.Y.

Newsletter Staff: Dave Dixon, Thomas Dalton Bambury and Greg Rucinski. To become a member (members receive the newsletter) please contact us: [www.sloctheater.org](http://www.sloctheater.org); 1-877-350-7378.

**DEADLINE** for submissions to **Vol. 44, Issue #4** of the SLOC SPOTLIGHT is **Monday, January 3, 2011**. Approximate mailing date for Issue #4 is January 14, 2011.

Please submit articles to Dave Dixon at [lvsbabs@yahoo.com](mailto:lvsbabs@yahoo.com) or  
4 Hall Pl., Apt B, Albany, NY 12210

# Auditions:

## Los Miserables: School Edition

December 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Callbacks: December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Audition/Callback Location: 427 Franklin St. Schenectady

Director- M Gatzendorfer; Producer- Jane Figueroa; Music Director- Nathan Meredith; Assistant Director - Sev Moro; Production Assistant - Thomas Dalton Bambury

**Participants eligible for auditioning are ages 8 through 19 at the time of productions and enrolled in a Elementary, Middle, or High School.**

\*Monologue readings will be asked of each participant and will be provided at the time of auditions.

\* Everyone is to come with 16-18 bars of music to sing; an accompanist will be provided.

**BISHOP OF DIGNE:** The Bishop is a good man who saves Valjean with his compassion. The Bishop of Digne's compassion carefully establishes the premise of the show by literally buying Jean Valjean's soul for God. Low A to High E

**COSETTE:** The beautiful daughter of Fantine. She is a strong willed loving, intelligent, inquiring, personable girl. She is not in any sense a "soppy" romantic heroine. Once adopted by Jean Valjean, Cosette lives a comfortable, if secluded life. She is challenging to Valjean, behaving always with imagination and dignity. She falls in love with Marius, changing her world and her priorities. B flat (below middle C) to High C (2 octaves above middle C)

**ENJOLRAS:** Is the student leader. He is handsome, brave and daring, although youthful. He combines his revolutionary ideals with a strong charismatic leadership. He is "a thinker, and a man of action". He should ooze with charisma, be a natural leader, be good looking, and have a very strong high baritone or a tenor voice. Enjolras must lead the students to fight and ultimately die. His death at the barricade is one of the dramatic highlights of the show. A to G (above middle C)

**EPONINE:** Is the daughter of the Thenardiers. She is a young girl who is streetwise and tough, but also sensitive and lonely. She is in love with Marius, knowing that he will never love her. She follows Marius to the Barricades in the hope that they will die there together. Once grown up, Eponine moves with her family to Paris where they fall on hard times, yet, she survives by helping her father break the law. Eponine is a tragic character, hopelessly in love with Marius. She sings one of the most famous numbers in the show, "On My Own." F sharp (below middle C) to E

**FANTINE:** Fantine is the beautiful young girl who, abandoned by her lover, is left to fend for herself and her daughter Cosette. She is rejected by society and forced through circumstances to become a prostitute. She is a brave woman defeated by life, sustained by her love for her daughter and clinging to her dignity. She is consumed with poverty, hunger, cold, loneliness and destitution to death. She is a noble character, whose life becomes a series of terrible events that rob her of her pride, character, and ultimately her life. G flat (below middle C) to D

**GAVROCHE:** Gavroche is Thenardier's son. He is left to fend for himself and lives by his wits in the streets of Paris. His "arch enemy" is Javert the Policeman. He is brave and witty. Think a young Artful Dodger. Gavroche has a very dramatic death at the barricade. B (below middle C) to G

**JAVERT:** Is the inspector who serves as antagonist to Jean Valjean. Javert is unswerving in his belief that men cannot change for the good. "Once a thief, always a thief" is his mantra. Javert might appear to be the villain of the story, but on closer examination it is clear that he is not an evil man. He is aware that in society some people achieve control through evil and others through power of the law. He is a dedicated policeman, with a profound sense of duty. Unlike Valjean he cannot change. His attitudes are rigid and unmoveable. He is stern, forbidding and lacking in compassion. Javert should be an actor who can convincingly stand up to Jean Valjean. Low F to High F sharp

**JEAN VALJEAN:** Is the hero of the show. It is his life journey that we follow. Jean Valjean is supposed to be stronger than other men, and so physically should appear robust. He should reasonably carry himself as mature and paternal. Valjean's ability to change is his greatest asset. The key to his character is his great humanity and compassion. Jean Valjean is a vocally demanding role. Low A to High A

**MADAME THÉNARDIER:** She is the deeply devoted wife of Thenardier. Together they con the world as partners in crime. She is coarse and vulgar, unhappy in her existence. She is romantic, greedy, stupid, evil and larger than life. She is mean and nasty to Young Cosette and able to improvise in nearly any situation. G sharp (below middle C) to D

**MARIUS:** Is the handsome romantic hero of the story. He is impulsive, passionate, willful and headstrong. His moods change according to his circumstances. He is sweet and tender but also capable of great courage and compassion. In Act 1 Marius plays Romeo to Cosette's Juliet. Marius matures after the Cafe Song as a result of his experiences on the barricade. Marius should have a lovely, lyrical voice with a contemporary edge. Low A to High A flat

**THÉNARDIER:** The true villain, he should also possess a wicked sense of humor. He delights in cheating, robbing, fraud and blackmail. He is tough, greedy, brutal, stupid and yet irresistible. He hates society and blames it and everyone else for his misfortune. Thenardier is also an opportunist, realist, thief, a liar, and a cheat. He is also the comic relief of the production. He is married to Madame Thenardier and father to Eponine and Gavroche. C (below middle C) to G sharp (above middle C)

**YOUNG COSETTE:** Is the child of Fantine. She is the ward of the Thenardiers forced into child labor and sings "Castle On A Cloud." She is a trembling little creature, underfed, beaten by Madame Thenardier and bullied by Eponine. Cosette must be small and look properly pathetic and yet warms the audience's heart. A (below middle C) to C

**YOUNG EPONINE:** Little Eponine is the pampered daughter of the Thenardiers. She does little except enter the stage and taunt Little Cosette. The role requires no singing or speaking. She should be a smaller version of grown Eponine and resemble Eponine in appearance and features. Non-singing

Other roles available include: Babet, Bamatabois, Brujon, Courfeyrac, Fauchelevent, Feuilly, Foreman, Grantaire, Joly, Lesgles, Montparnasse, Old Woman and Prouvaire.

For more detailed character role & vocal range information for the remaining roles listed above, please contact the Director, M. Gatzendorfer (mgatzendorfer@barctheatre.org) or leave a message at SLOC (1-877-350-7378) and someone will return your call.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT AUDITIONS!



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

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**PLAY A PART! Our new theatre will be the centerpiece of a new downtown performing arts & education center. YOU can support our new venture through financial contributions to the CAPITAL CAMPAIGN - visit [slotheater.org](http://slotheater.org) to learn more about how YOU can "Play a Part"!**

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## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**

**Mid-winter Annual Meeting  
of the SLOC Musical Theater Membership  
Saturday, January 29, 2011 at 6:00pm; SLOC  
Performing Arts Center, Franklin Street**

Covered dish or dessert. Project updates, celebration, and tour of facility plus a report on the completion of our Strategic Plan and the announcement of the Etta Moore recipient .

Please RSVP to Dave Dixon, 436-8295 OR [luvsbabs@yahoo.com](mailto:luvsbabs@yahoo.com) - Please let Dave know what covered dish or dessert you'd like to share with your friends and fellow members.

Note: This is the last issue for 2010. Please mark your datebooks, blackberrys, and event calendars NOW for the annual meeting. RSVP!!

## **SLOC NEEDS YOU IN THE GREEN ROOM!**

We are still welcoming more concessions volunteers! It's easy and a HUGE help! Please contact coordinator, Melinda Zarnoch 382-8497 or [sail4017@yahoo.com](mailto:sail4017@yahoo.com). Concession helpers set up, sell snacks and beverages, and clean up. A great way to meet new people too! We look forward to seeing you during intermission.

## **Congratulations to Former SLOC Performer!**

Richard Gatta, a current SLOC member, just completed the Equity Tour of *Fiddler on the Roof* with Topol and Harvey Fierstein! He currently is performing in *Peter Pan* at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery, AL. Visit Richard at [www.richardgatta.com](http://www.richardgatta.com). Some of Richard's past SLOC performances were in *Zombie Prom* and *Jekyll & Hyde*. Congratulations!

### **"In our thoughts..."**

(Alan Angelo, contributor)

The Newsletter staff was just informed of the August 9th, 2010 passing of SLOC veteran performer, Frank Paparella. Frank and his wife, Shirley, were ushers at SLOC & longtime members.

Frank's first SLOC appearance was in the 1983 production of "The Music Man" (Jolyne Hatch, Director). He got a chance to be in one of his favorite shows, "Peter Pan" (Directed by Orlando Pigliavento; Frank played "Jukes, the Pirate."). Frank also appeared in "Hello, Dolly," "My Fair Lady" (footman), and as a bottle dancer in "Fiddler on Roof."

Frank was a polite and talented man who will be missed, but always remembered.

SLOC sends sincere sympathy to his family & friends.