

**Florida
studio
theatre**

Richard Hopkins
Producing Artistic Director

Mainstage Playbill



BIRTHDAY CANDLES

By **Noah Haidle**

**SHUBERT
FOUNDATION**

Volusia County
Tourist Development Tax
Arts & Entertainment

**Florida
ARTISTS CULTURE**

**GULF COAST
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
Support Local. Enrichment First.

Herald-Tribune

LOCALIQ

BIRTHDAY CANDLES

by Noah Haidle

CAST (in order of appearance)

Ernestine Ashworth.....	Rachel Moulton*
Alice / Madeline / Ernie.....	Susan Haefner*
Kenneth.....	Rod Brogan*
Matt / William.....	Peter Kendall*
Billy / John.....	Freddie Lee Bennett*
Joan / Alex / Beth.....	Sarah Elizabeth Colt*
Atman.....	Wallace Alistair Bubblesmore

UNDERSTUDIES

For Ernestine Ashworth - Catherine Randazzo; For Kenneth - Flynn Nolen; For Alice, Madeline, and Ernie - Lexy Hatch; For Matt and William - Ryan Dugan; For Billy and John - Ray Barber; For Joan, Alex, and Beth - Breanna Jones

Directed by

Kate Alexander

Scenic Designers

Isabel & Moriah Curley-Clay

Costume Designer

Madison Queen

Lighting Designer

Andrew Gray

Sound Designer

Nicholas Christensen

Intimacy Director

Tonia Sina

Additional Support

Jim Prosser & Ruth Pitts

Stage Manager: Shira Lebovich*

Stage Management Interns: Carissa Ater and Kate Johnson

Premiere Underwriters

Gaele Barthold, Georgia Court, Wendy & Bob Grady, Dennis & Graci McGillicuddy, Patrick & Mary Mulva, Anne H.S. Nethercott ★, Mary Jo Reston ★

Underwriters

Tom & Loretta Beaumont, Joan & Larry Castellani, The Elster Foundation with Sydney Goldstein, Doug & Kathy Engebretson, Cheryl Gorelick & Jake Ziegler, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Robert & Bonny Israeloff, Carlene Lebus & Harris Haston, Bill & Cynde Mutryn, Muriel O'Neil Fund for the Performing Arts of Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Gail & Skip Sack, John & Mary Lou Toal, Dorothy Waldron, Len & Flo Wilson

Co-Producers

Ruth Gluck ★, Harold & Valerie Joels ★, Virginia Lipton, Dr. Terry W. McDonald, Lois Stulberg, Glen & Marilyn Townley, Jeff Hotchkiss & Betsy Winder, Don & Susan Ullmann

Originally Produced on Broadway in 2022 by Roundabout Theatre Company

Birthday Candles was originally commissioned and produced by Detroit Public Theatre, Detroit MI

Producing Artistic Directors: Courtney Burkett, Sarah Clare Corporandy and Sarah Winkler

Developed as part of Chautauqua Theater Company's New Play Workshop series, 2017, underwritten by the Roe Green Foundation

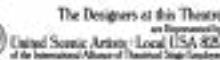
Birthday Candles is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio and/or visual recordings of this production and distributing recordings or streams in any medium, including the internet, is strictly prohibited, a violation of the author(s)'s rights and actionable under united states copyright law.

For more information, please visit: <https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists>

★ Recognizes our Legacy Underwriters & Legacy Co-Producers for their commitment to the Art of FST, establishing an endowed fund to support cherished programs for many years to come.

* Denotes member Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



ARTIST PROFILES



RACHEL MOULTON

(Ernestine Ashworth) With this production, Rachel and Kate Alexander celebrate their 10th collaboration together. Since 2012, she has performed in 17

productions (including 5 world premieres) at FST. Rachel is in her 7th Season as an Associate Artist and her 3rd Season as FST's Director of Education. Notably at FST: *Ugly Lies the Bone*, *Grounded*, *Maytag Virgin*, *Paralyzed*, *Heisenberg*, *Honor Killing*, *Alabama Story*, and *Curious Incident of the Dog...* Select Regional: Pioneer Theatre Company, Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, Virginia Stage, and Florida Rep. Off-Broadway: The Mint, Theatre 777, and Zelda Fitzgerald in the world premiere of *This Side of Paradise* (Theatre at St. Clement's). Training: Syracuse University, B.F.A., Graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy, Shakespeare & Company (trained under Dennis Krausnick and Founding Artistic Director Tina Packer). Proud union member of AEA (20 yrs). rachelmoulton.com



SUSAN HAEFNER

(Alice/Madeline/Ernie) is honored to be back at FST, having last appeared in *The Prima Donnettes* at Court Cabaret. Recent regional: *Come From Away* and *Beauty and The Beast*

at Northern Stage, *White Christmas* at Weston Theater Company, *The Wedding Binder* at Seven Angels Theatre, and *The Effect* at Shaker Bridge Theatre. Broadway credits: *State Fair*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *42nd Street*. Tours: *Billy Elliot* and *Damn Yankees* with Jerry Lewis. FSU/Asolo Conservatory, MFA. Member: AEA.



ROD BROGAN

(Kenneth) FST: *The Lehman Trilogy*; *Network*; *My Lord, What A Night*; *American Son*. Broadway—MTC: *Mauritius*. Off-Broadway—Irish Rep: *Beyond The Horizon*;

Burial At Thebes; Mint: *Mary Broome*; Irondale: *Treasure Island*. National Tour—*Doubt*. Select Regional—Guthrie, Old Globe, Palm Beach Drama Works, Riverside Theatre, Baltimore Center Stage, Ivoryton Playhouse, Contemporary American Theater Festival. Film/TV—*The Winning Season*; *Major Dad* (series regular); *Homeland*; *Manifest*; *Unforgettable*; *Oz*; *Third Watch*; *One Life To Live*; *Law & Order*. Video Game: *Grand Theft Auto 5*. Education—MFA: Old Globe. IG @rodbrogan



PETER KENDALL

(Matt/William) - Off-Broadway: *Smile* (J2 Spotlight), *Slam Frank* (The Asylum), *Perfect Crime* (Theatre Center). Regional: *Crazy For You* (Ogunquit Playhouse),

Mamma Mia! (OAT), *Alibi* (Bristol Riverside Theatre), *Perfect Arrangement* (Hippodrome Theater), *Dracula* (Centenary Stage Company), *Vanya, Sonia, Masha & Spike* (Half Moon Theatre). National/International Tour: *Million Dollar Quartet Christmas*, *Paddington Gets in a Jam*, *The Illusionarium*. Film/TV: *The Girls on the Bus* (HBO), *Hotbed of Hate* (Discovery).



FREDDIE LEE BENNETT

(Billy/John) is excited to make their return to Florida Studio Theatre for their 5th production. Regional credits include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Tempest*; Shakespeare

ARTIST PROFILES

Theatre Company, *City of Conversation*; Arena Stage, *The 39 Steps*; Rhinoleap Theatre, *Twelfth Night*; Pioneer Theatre Company. FST: *Ruined*, *Shotgun*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, *The Cancellation of Lauren Fein*. TV; *Harlem- Prime*, *Inventing Anna*, *The Watcher*- Netflix, *Law&Order*- NBC/Peacock. Freddie is a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Instagram @freddieleebennett



SARAH ELIZABETH COLT

(Joan/Alex/Beth) is grateful to be back! FST: *Troubadour*, *Take It to the Limit*, *Divas*. Recent regional: *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Engeman

Theatre), *Wizard of Oz* (Arizona Broadway), *Jersey Boys* (Mill Mountain Theatre), along with productions at Moonlight Stage, Weathervane Theatre, Westchester Broadway, and many more. She can be seen performing all over NYC with her band, retro grade. Follow @retro_grade_music and @sarahthecolt on instagram for more updates! Marymount Manhattan, BFA. Rep: Tiera Ashley/FSE.

KATE ALEXANDER (Director) is the Associate Director At-Large of FST and the Founder of the FST Theatre School with its acting method of training. Ms. Alexander has directed numerous productions and premieres on the FST stages, including, but not limited to: *A Tailor Near Me*; *Bad Books*; *The Heart Sellers*; *The Outsider*; *Troubadour*; *Pictures From Home*; *Black Pearl Sings!*; *The Last Match*; *What the Constitution Means to Me*; *Maytag Virgin*; *The Legend of Georgia McBride*; *America in One Room*; *Bright Star*; *Ethel Waters: His Eye is on the Sparrow*; *Wednesday's Child*; *Cherry Docs*; *Straight White Men*; *Always...Patsy*

Cline; *The Things They Carried*; *Native Gardens*; *Heisenberg*; *The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey*; and *brownsville song* (b-side for tray). Ms. Alexander has also been a resident actress for over 25 years. Some of her leading roles were in the plays: *Edward Albee's The Goat*; *Filumena*; *Master Class*; *Edward Albee's Three Tall Women*; *The Occupant*; *The Play About the Baby*; *Golda's Balcony*; and *Taking Shakespeare*. Ms. Alexander is the recipient of numerous acting, directing, and public service awards, including FAER, She Knows Where She's Going Award (Girls, Inc.), The Woman of Light Award, National Council of Jewish Women Award, The Woman of Power Award, the Sarasota County Arts Leadership Award, Education Award, Sarasota Manatee Jewish Federation, The Unity Award, and, most recently, the Suncoast Woman of Action Award. Ms. Alexander leads the FST Forums Series and developed the Blue Butterfly Theatre Program, a program for teens suffering from grief or loss. She created the Art of The Gesture program at Ringling College of Animation and is the co-author of *The Animated Short* with Karen Sullivan, now in its 2nd edition.

ISABEL A. & MORIAH CURLEY-CLAY (Scenic Designers) Past FST designs include: *The Blue-Sky Boys*; *A Tailor Near Me*; *Lucky Stiff*; *Don't Dress For Dinner*; *Dorothy's Dictionary*; *Dames At Sea*; *Jersey Boys*; *The Cancellation of Lauren Fein*; *The Heart Sellers*; *Waitress*; *The Outsider*; *Dear Jack, Dear Louise*; *The World Goes 'Round*; *Troubadour*; *The Lehman Trilogy*; *Pictures From Home*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *A Comedy of Tenors*; *Black Pearl Sings!*; *Shear Madness*; *Visit Joe Whitefeather*; *Network*; *What the Constitution Means to Me*; *Something Rotten!*; *The Legend of Georgia McBride*; and many more. Recent work includes scenic designs for Alliance Theatre, Triad Stage, Actors Theatre of Louisville,

ARTIST PROFILES

Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre, and The Billie Holiday Theatre (2020 AUDELCO award for Reparations). Isabel and Moriah were featured in *American Theatre Magazine's* Inaugural Roll Call, Theatrical People To Watch. Members USA 829. axisstudiosdesign.com

MADISON QUEEN (Costume Designer) Originally from Oregon, Madison has worked across the country in various costume shop positions. Previous credits include the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Surflight Theatre, and Maine State Music Theatre. Madison holds a BFA in Costume Technology from Southern Oregon University and an MFA in Costume Design from the University of Southern Mississippi. Known for her positive attitude and smile, Madison loves managing all the behind-the-scenes aspects that ensure costumes look beautiful on stage every time. FST Credits: *A Night with Janis Joplin*, *One Hit Wonders*, *A Tailor Near Me* and *Three Pianos*.

ANDREW GRAY (Lighting Designer) Originally from Scotland, Andrew graduated from the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA) in 2012 and has been designing/programming professionally for over a decade. Notable credits include: *Giant Spectacular* (Liverpool Capital of Culture), *Mamma Mia!* (Surflight Theatre), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Beobe Productions), *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Parker Snell Productions), and *Lost & Found* (BP productions). Select FST credits include: *A Night with Janis Joplin*, *One Hit Wonders*, *Feeling Good*, *The Flip Side*, *Ugly Lies the Bone*, *Pictures From Home*, *Take It To The Limit*, *Up On The Roof*, and others.

NICHOLAS CHRISTENSEN (Sound Designer) Credits include: *A Night with Janis Joplin*; *One Hit Wonders*; *The Blue-Sky Boys*; *Lucky Stiff*; *Peter Pan*; *A Band Called Honalee*; *Don't Dress*

For Dinner; *Dorothy's Dictionary*; *Too Darn Hot*; *Dames At Sea*; *How Sweet It Is*; *Shedding A Skin*; *Divas*; *The Cancellation of Lauren Fein*; *The Heart Sellers*; *59th Street Bridge*; *Off The Charts*; *The Outsider*; *Dear Jack, Dear Louise*; *The Music of Laurel Canyon*; *The World Goes 'Round*; *Rhinestone Cowgirls*; *Troubadour*; *The Flip Side*; *The Lehman Trilogy*; *Ugly Lies The Bone*; *Pictures From Home*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *Take It To The Limit*; *Up On The Roof*; *New York State of Mind*; *Singin' In The Rain*; *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*; and *Ring of Fire*.

TONIA SINA (Intimacy Director) is new to the Sarasota theatre community and is excited to be part of FST. She was the first-ever Intimacy Choreographer and coined the term in her master's thesis in 2006. She now teaches workshops internationally. Her intimacy direction credits include Steppenwolf, the Chicago Lyric Opera, Stratford Festival, and the Guthrie Theatre. She has been featured in the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, American Theatre Magazine, and, among many others, The New Yorker. Tonia is a grateful triple kidney transplant recipient.

SHIRA LEBOVICH (Stage Manager) is a UNC Greensboro alum with a BFA in Design and Technical Production with a concentration on Stage Management. She spent two years working as a Stage Management Intern here at FST. Stage Management credits at FST include *The Blue-Sky Boys*; *Lucky Stiff*; *Don't Dress For Dinner*; *Dorothy's Dictionary*; *Dames At Sea*; *Jersey Boys*; *The Cancellation of Lauren Fein*; *Waitress*; *Dear Jack, Dear Louise*; *The White Chip*; *A Night in November*; *Ugly Lies the Bone*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *Paralyzed*; *The Last Match*; *Babel*; *Something Rotten!*. Other credits: *Every Brilliant Thing* (Horizon Theatre Company) and *Glorious!* (Winnepesaukee Playhouse).

ARTIST PROFILES

CARISSA ATER (Stage Management Intern) is a “do-it-all” kind of theatre artist! She recently graduated *magna cum laude* from Point Park University, where she received a BFA in Theatre Arts with a minor in Technical Theatre Design & Production. Previous credits include *A Tailor Near Me* (FST), *Salem: A New Musical* (PSM, Pittsburgh Playhouse), and *Macheteland* (ASM, Pinnacle Productions).

KATE JOHNSON (Stage Management Intern) Recently earned her BFA in Theatre and Dance from Missouri State University, where her stage management credits include *White Christmas*, *Sweat*, *Circle Mirror Transformation*, and *Men on Boats*. Additional experience includes Assistant Stage Manager for *Moon Over Buffalo* at Tent Theatre and Artistic Intern for The Humanity Project with the Outer Loop Theater Experience. FST credit: *Feeling Good*.

NOAH HAIDLE (Playwright) is an award-winning playwright whose work has been seen on six continents. For the 2017-2018

season, he was the writer-in-residence at the National Theater of Mannheim, Germany, a position first held by Friedrich Schiller in 1785. A graduate of Princeton and Juilliard, Noah lives with his perfect wife Kelsey, their heaven-sent son Butch, a dog, a bunny, and a blue lobster named Suzanne.

CONCORD THEATRICALS is the world's most significant theatrical company, comprising the catalogs of R&H Theatricals, Tams-Witmark, Samuel French, The Andrew Lloyd Webber Collection, Dramatists Play Service, and Playscripts, plus over 100 new signings each year. It is the only firm providing truly comprehensive services to the creators and producers of plays and musicals, including theatrical licensing, music publishing, script publishing, cast recording, and producing. As a producer and record label, the company has won three Tony Awards and two GRAMMY Awards in the past six years.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

RICHARD HOPKINS (Producing Artistic Director and CEO of Florida Studio Theatre). Mr. Hopkins has fostered the development of FST's Mainstage and Cabaret productions. Mr. Hopkins serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Florida Studio Theatre. He oversees the creation and implementation of all FST programming, including Mainstage, Cabaret, Stage III, New Play Development, Education, and Touring. Since his arrival at FST in 1980, Mr. Hopkins has guided the theatre from a small touring company to a nationally recognized regional theatre, which impacts over 225,000 adults and children annually. He created the New Play Development program, the Cabaret Series, FST's award-winning WRITE A PLAY program, and has directed the design and renovation of all FST's theatres. Mr. Hopkins

has a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University. He has served as a Theatre Specialist for the U.S. Department of State to Cairo and Amman, and taught at the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Clown College. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the Arts Leadership Award from the former Sarasota Arts Council, the Richard G. Fallon Award for Artistic Excellence from the Florida Professional Theatres Association, and the 2012 Cultural Champion Award from the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County. In 2016, Mr. Hopkins received the Luminaire Award, honoring excellence in creativity, philanthropy, advocacy, and all elements that are key to future growth of the arts in Sarasota. In 2017, Mr. Hopkins was awarded

EXECUTIVE STAFF

the Florida Theatre Conference Lifetime Achievement Award for contributing to the rich cultural fabric of the Sarasota community and the state of Florida, and his dedication to developing future artists, educators, and advocates.

REBECCA HOPKINS (Managing Director and Chief Operations Officer). Under Ms. Hopkins' leadership, FST has grown into one of the largest regional theatres, engaging an audience of 225,000 annually. Ms. Hopkins currently serves as Vice President of the League of Resident Theatres. She is the former President of the National New Play Network and a former board member of Theatre Communications Group. She is a member of

the Executive Committee for the Sarasota Cultural Alliance. Ms. Hopkins has been actively involved in the development of FST's Cabaret productions since her arrival in 1998. In addition, she is the Founder of FST Improv and the Sarasota Improv Festival. In 2012, the Arts & Cultural Alliance awarded Ms. Hopkins the Cultural Champion Award in recognition of her many years of accomplishment and growth with Florida Studio Theatre. In 2016, Ms. Hopkins received the Luminaire Award, honoring excellence in creativity, philanthropy, advocacy, and all elements that are keys to future growth of the arts in Sarasota.

PREMIERE UNDERWRITERS

GAELE BARTHOLD I remain proud to support the theatre and serve as a Trustee. The breadth and depth of FST's offerings is astonishing, as are the low-ticket prices. You can see a big box musical and a cutting-edge new play. Original cabaret productions are equally amazing and diverse; FST has perfected that artform. Their strong commitment to education, community outreach, and programming for children is likewise remarkable. FST is a gem that warrants our widespread financial and artistic support.

GEORGIA COURT I love great theatre and FST delivers that. FST is among the best theatre companies I have seen, but it is more than a theatre company. It is an organization that recognizes it is part of the greater community— and it reaches out to that community in positive, productive ways. As the owner of Bookstore1Sarasota, I have been proud to partner with FST in the creation and celebration of contemporary literary works.

Having FST so accessible adds to the joy of living in the fabulous arts community that is Sarasota.

WENDY & BOB GRADY Now, more than ever, we need a place where people can forget, even for the moment, and enjoy the company of others while being entertained. Staffed by dedicated and caring people, staged by the most creative and talented, and committed to bringing the theatre to as many people as possible, FST fulfills the need. That's why we Underwrite all of the season programs and especially the children's programs - because the earlier they learn what the theatre teaches, the better our world will be.

DENNIS & GRACI MCGILLICUDDY FST holds deep significance for us because we so firmly believe in the transformative power of the arts. For more than four decades, we've seen that power at work firsthand through an organization that brings extraordinary skill and dedication to its craft. The theatre's

PREMIERE UNDERWRITERS

mission clearly reflects the values of its leadership, and those values come to life in the quality and integrity of its work. It has been—and remains—a true honor to support FST and the meaningful, lasting impact it has on our community.

PATRICK & MARY MULVA FST continues to provide challenging, thought-provoking, and always entertaining performances for a wide range of audiences. We are so fortunate to have such quality theatre here in our community. We hope you enjoy this performance and many others this season.

ANNE H.S. NETHERCOTT ★ (1926-2019) When asked to define giving, Anne said: “My mother used to say the best way to find you is to lose yourself by focusing on the

needs of others rather than on oneself.” So, giving has always been an important family value, which in childhood was reinforced by the community experience of surviving The Depression. Anne was proud to be a supporter of FST.

MARY JO RESTON ★ (1937-2024) A devoted supporter of Florida Studio Theatre for nearly two decades, Mary Jo Reston believed deeply in the power of the arts to enrich community life. After retiring to Sarasota in 1999, she became a familiar face at Mainstage and Cabaret performances and quietly demonstrated her commitment through a legacy gift that will sustain the theatre’s artistic excellence for generations to come.

UNDERWRITERS

TOM & LORETTA BEAUMONT We attended our first play on an early date in college. We enjoyed the experience and continued to attend plays in the Washington DC area as a married couple. We came to FL as 50/50 snowbirds in 2010, and one of the first things we did was attend a show at FST. We were amazed at the quality of the production, and soon were season subscribers to everything FST offers. We enthusiastically support FST’s efforts.

JOAN & LARRY CASTELLANI We have been attending Florida Studio Theatre for many years, and we have found so much to enjoy. We love the diversity of the art FST offers and are consistently impressed at the talent showcased on their many stages. We appreciate that Richard, Rebecca, and the rest of the FST staff show a true dedication to their craft. And most importantly, we are grateful

that a theatre of this caliber exists in our city. We are proud to be supporters of this Sarasota treasure.

THE ELSTER FOUNDATION with **SYDNEY GOLDSTEIN** FST is important to me because I have always enjoyed the theatre, and it provides a good, thought-provoking play. Its productions are unique to our community. I generally like the dramas, which make us think and touch our emotions. FST has many facets, all of them worthwhile. It is my pleasure to support these efforts!

DOUG & KATHY ENGBRETSON When we lived in Western Massachusetts, theatre was important to us. Retiring here, we have enjoyed the variety of FST shows and thought this was a good time to increase our commitment to this special place. Giving to the theatre reinforced our interest and appreciation of FST’s mission of producing

UNDERWRITERS

entertainment that is accessible to a large segment of our population. We are happy to be able to support this place we now call home.

CHERYL GORELICK & JAKE ZEIGLER There is something “magic” about FST. Whether it’s small, intimate theatres where you almost feel part of the stage, or Cabarets where you leave humming your favorite songs, it is all “magic” made possible by Richard Hopkins and the staff’s commitment to providing quality theatre to diverse audiences. We look forward to being long-time supporters of, and participants in, FST.

GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION has transformed the region through bold and proactive philanthropy for over 25 years. As a partner and a leader in community initiatives, Gulf Coast has surpassed granting \$510 million in the areas of: Health and human services, Civic and economic development, Education, Arts and Culture, and the Environment. To learn more visit GulfCoastCF.org and follow us on Facebook at [@GulfCoastCommFnd](https://www.facebook.com/GulfCoastCommFnd).

ROBERT & BONNY ISRAELOFF FST is thought-provoking, Broadway-worthy theater. We believe FST is important because it enriches our community and helps make Sarasota a cultural gem. That is why we have proudly contributed to past expansions and continue to support its current mission of being even more accessible to the public.

CARLENE LBOUS & HARRIS HASTON Florida Studio Theatre is the star in the crown of Sarasota’s performing arts community. We have attended many shows with friends who always come away with a fun and enjoyable experience. We continue to personally support FST because the shows are entertaining, creative, professionally written, and performed. The unique smaller

venues provide audiences with an intimate experience with the performers. You’ll want to come back for more.

BILL & CYNDE MUTRYN We have enjoyed Florida Studio Theatre productions since 2011 when we first purchased a home in the area. We strongly believe that FST is a unique feature of the Sarasota community with its offering of diverse productions in smaller settings and high-quality directors, actors, actresses, and musicians. Not only do the productions entertain, but they offer thought-provoking perspectives on our current society, which can open the minds of the audiences. We are honored to be Underwriters of this Winter’s Mainstage Season.

MURIEL O’NEIL FUND FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SARASOTA COUNTY (1923-2013) With a gift from The Muriel O’Neil Fund For The Performing Arts of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, an endowed fund was established to help underwrite FST’s Winter Mainstage Series for many years to come. Muriel’s sister, Dr. Gertrude Hight, established this gift with the Community Foundation of Sarasota County to ensure Muriel’s legacy would live on and support an area of the community she deeply cherished.

GAIL & SKIP SACK Thought-provoking plays with incredibly professional casts, performed within close proximity of the audience are very rare, but Florida Studio Theatre does it hundreds of times a year in their small, intimate theatres. The quality of the productions, professionalism of the actors, expert casting, and extraordinary management of the entire process makes FST one of the most successful theatre companies in the country. We’re honored to support this amazingly talented organization.

UNDERWRITERS

JOHN & MARY LOU TOAL We are pleased to support FST. It is truly a wonderful organization providing a broad spectrum of theatre with something of interest and education for all groups at a reasonable cost. Our community is blessed to have had Richard Hopkins at the helm for more than forty years. His vision and leadership, supported by a dedicated staff and excellent board of trustees, has guided FST'S significant growth and gained national recognition.

DOROTHY WALDRON I support FST for its diversity of programming: Mainstage,

Cabaret, Improv, WRITE A PLAY children's program, summer camp, adult education classes, and the VIP program for special needs children. It is truly a wonderful community asset.

LEN & FLO WILSON Attending FST for these many years has been a tremendous joy. There's always something to like or learn in every show, and the work of Richard & Rebecca Hopkins and their team is consistent and forward-thinking. We are happy to support the art and ambitions of FST for many years to come.

CO-PRODUCERS

RUTH GLUCK FAMILY FOUNDATION ★ (1915-2012) In 1986 my mother, Ruth Gluck, moved to Sarasota from New York and became both a supporter of FST's many programs and a yearly Co-Producer. A lifelong theatre-lover, she knew FST was special, as have I since moving here in 1996. I have watched the theatre grow in size, scope, and offerings for all audiences. I enjoy FST's cutting-edge plays – theatre that makes one think and focuses on society's compelling issues. And eventually I followed in my mother's footsteps as co-producer and supporter of this unique theatre.

HAROLD & VALERIE JOELS ★ Our admiration for the artistic excellence of the performances at FST, together with the organization's unwavering determination to make theatre as accessible and affordable as possible to so many, is unbounded. In addition, we support FST's community outreach programs such as VIP, which creates artistic engagement opportunities for students with disabilities. Harold (1931-2016) and Valerie (1933-2025) were deeply involved with theatre and the arts in Sarasota for several years and are honored to support all the wonderful facets of Florida Studio Theatre.

VIRGINIA LIPTON Florida Studio Theatre: a deceptively simple name for a brilliant inspiration. First, naturally, I think of dazzling theatre, thought-provoking plays, superbly acted and produced. But then I think of other FST programs: talkbacks, fireside chats, new play readings, the Readers' Circle, all of which test, deepen, and promote understanding of the theatre. FST is not just theatre, but also a studio—a crucible—for completing and enhancing the theatrical experience.

DR. TERRY W. MCDONALD It is truly my pleasure to be a supporter of FST, a true Sarasota gem. Consistently high quality (and affordable) productions are not the only goals. They also do community outreach and offer a wide range of educational opportunities.

GLEN & MARILYN TOWNLEY We started coming to Sarasota in 1998 and in looking for entertainment, we found FST. The ticket price was always attractive as a package deal and we appreciated the ticket exchange when needed. The more we attended, the more our appreciation of the entire FST family grew. Keeping prices reasonable while improving the quality of both stage productions and

CO-PRODUCERS

cabarets was what attracted us to become more involved. We want to support the goals of FST.

JEFF HOTCHKISS & BETSY WINDER Since moving to the Sarasota area, we have become avid supporters of Florida Studio Theatre. FST's commitment to accessible and affordable theatre makes it a tremendous asset to the entire community of Sarasota. It provides great entertainment while challenging us on the issues of the day. We are proud to be able to support this wonderful institution.

DON & SUSAN ULLMANN We are once again so happy to be co-producing a FST Mainstage Play. FST is embarking on an ambitious and exciting expansion to ensure that high

quality theatre is accessible and available in the Sarasota area for years to come. *Birthday Candles* takes us all on 90 trips around the sun! Our involvement with FST continues to inspire us, to teach us, and to connect us to Sarasota.

HERALD-TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP enjoys a history in this community that spans more than 90 years. Partnering with organizations such as Florida Studio Theatre allows us to contribute to our region's rich creative culture in Sarasota, Bradenton, and Venice providing an unparalleled media landscape through the newspaper. HeraldTribune.com.

★ Recognizes our Legacy Underwriters & Legacy Co-Producers for their commitment to the Art of FST, establishing an endowed fund to support cherished programs for many years to come.



Host
YOUR EVENT AT FST!

FST offers a variety of unique venues in the heart of downtown Sarasota, including our five main theatre spaces.

Whether you're hosting a professional event, private party, performance, film shoot, or photo session, we have a space to meet your needs.

Book with us at 941-366-9017 ext. 355
or email events@floridastudiotheatre.org



We encourage you to take photos before and after the show, and share to social media!

@FloridaStudioTheatre

FST COMPANY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President.....	Dennis McGillicuddy
Vice-President.....	Richard Hopkins
Secretary/Treasurer.....	Patricia Courtois
Trustee.....	Gale Barthold
Trustee.....	Neil M. Comber
Trustee.....	Georgia Court
Trustee.....	Euan Fannell
Trustee.....	Cheryl Gorelick
Trustee.....	Doug Holder Jr.
Trustee.....	Robert Israeloff
Trustee.....	Honorable Charles Williams

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Producing Artistic Director.....	Richard Hopkins
Managing Director.....	Rebecca Hopkins

ARTISTIC STAFF

Associate Director At-Large.....	Kate Alexander
Resident Pianist.....	Jim Prosser
Resident Music Director.....	Nathaniel Beliveau
Associate Producer.....	Catherine Randazzo
Associate Artist.....	Ben Liebert
Associate Artist/Literary Manager.....	Nancy Rominger
Casting and Hiring Coordinator.....	Timothy LEcuyer
Assistant to the Artistic Director.....	Doris Iemolo
Assoc. Director of Improv/Resident Artist.....	Sarah Durham
Literary Associate.....	Kara Powell
Resident Artist.....	Dellan Short

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director of Production.....	Ahkim Church
Associate Production Manager.....	Allison Hannon
Production Stage Manager.....	Shira Lebovich
Stage Manager.....	Emilia Ciotti Hernández
Costume Shop Manager.....	Madison Queen
Asst. Costume Shop Manager.....	Tony Toney
Lighting Supervisor.....	Andrew Gray
Technical Director.....	Andrew Patton
Assistant Technical Director.....	Casey Seiler
Properties & Paint Supervisor.....	Sarah DeSmith
Sound Supervisor.....	Nicholas Christensen
Operations Manager.....	Daniel Chandler
Company Management Assistant.....	Donovan Whytey

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

General Manager.....	Jill Zakrzewski
General Management Assistant.....	Hayley Oakley
Associate Managing Director.....	Travis Ray
Director of IT.....	Clarke Weigle
Director of Finance.....	Jacinta Kavanaugh
Business Office Associate/Bookkeeper.....	Laura Alden
Receptionist/Volunteer Coordinator.....	Lindsay Kay Bramley
Director of Marketing.....	Sarah Hedges
Associate Director of Marketing.....	Emiliano Mejias
Marketing & Digital Media Associate.....	Franki Arroyo
Marketing Support Specialist.....	Ryan Stanley
Comms & Digital Content Associate.....	Wendy Kiesewetter
Development Manager.....	Anyssa Hining
Development Associate.....	Krista Hagans
Development Associate.....	Kristin Hartnett
Development Assistant.....	Rachel Wright
Grant Writer.....	Sarah Pettengill

EDUCATION & TOURS

Director of Children's Theatre.....	Caroline Saldivar
Director of Education/Associate Artist.....	Rachel Moulton
Children's Theatre Associate.....	Kacy Jones
Teaching Artist.....	Ava Podewitz
Education Coordinator/Teaching Artist.....	David Stein
Education Administrator.....	Pamela Smith

BOX OFFICE AND FRONT HOUSE MANAGEMENT

Director of Patron Services.....	Kelsey Wehde Wilson
Box Office Manager.....	Seth Hilbert
Asst. Box Office Manager/House Manager.....	Nicole Crivelli
Asst. Box Office Manager/House Manager.....	Ryan Parrilli
Asst. Box Office Manager/House Manager.....	Jules Walters
Asst. Box Office Manager.....	Logan Franke
Asst. Box Office Manager.....	Austin Howeth
Asst. Box Office Manager.....	Brendan Lentini
Box Office Supervisor.....	Gigi Delperro
Box Office Assistant.....	Suzanne Ahmed
Box Office Assistant.....	Susan Cottle
Box Office Assistant.....	Andrew Halperin
Box Office Assistant.....	Jane Shureb
Box Office Assistant.....	Rebecca Singer
House Manager.....	Chiara Ortiz
House Manager.....	Ryan Parrilli
House Manager.....	Jules Walters
Restaurant Manager.....	Tom Curry
Restaurant Manager.....	Karen Price
Restaurant Manager & Event Coordinator.....	Pamela Dillon
Bar Manager.....	Taylor Cummings
Kitchen Manager.....	Steve Swan

FACILITIES

Facilities Manager.....	Kensy Buchillon
Facilities Technician.....	Joe Clough
Facilities Technician.....	Tom Henriques
Facilities Technician.....	Levi Serbin
Cleaner.....	Loida Mata

AUDIENCE ENRICHMENT GROUP

Honorable Larry L. Eger.....	Willie Shaw
Trevor Harvey.....	Charles Shaw
Gilbert King.....	Howard Tvelowitz
Michele D. Redwine.....	Honorable Charles Williams
Dr. Eddy Regnier.....	Rose Chapman
Renée James Gilmore.....	
The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee.....	

OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

House Counsel.....	Michael E. Siegel
.....	Shutts & Bowen LLP

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Acting Apprentice.....	Christiana Allison
Acting Apprentice.....	Ray Barber
Acting Apprentice.....	Grayson Buchanan
Acting Apprentice.....	Maya Carpentiere
Acting Apprentice.....	Walter Steven Dagley
Acting Apprentice.....	Ryan Dugan
Acting Apprentice.....	Amanda González
Acting Apprentice.....	Jillian Hurley
Acting Apprentice.....	Flynn Nolen
Acting Apprentice.....	Vanessa Smith
Acting Apprentice.....	Sheila Wallis
Casting & Hiring Fellow.....	Lexy Hatch
Company Management Intern.....	AnnaLee Lujan
Costume Intern.....	Julia Hornsby
Education Intern.....	Kira Manuel
Lighting Fellow.....	Kate Landry
Literary Intern.....	Geneva Barker
Literary Intern.....	Breanna Jones
Literary Intern.....	Chloe Kummer
Literary Intern.....	Mo de Poortere
Production Fellow.....	Nathaniel Avery
Sound Intern.....	Nyle Samuels
Stage Management Fellow.....	Tori Martinson
Stage Management Intern.....	Carissa Ater
Stage Management Intern.....	Sage Brown
Stage Management Intern.....	Kate Johnson
Stage Management Intern.....	Ashley Nolt
Stage Management Intern.....	Mariana Villarreal
Stage Management Intern.....	Leigh Womack