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2014

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Smoke on the Mountain

Little Theatre on the Square

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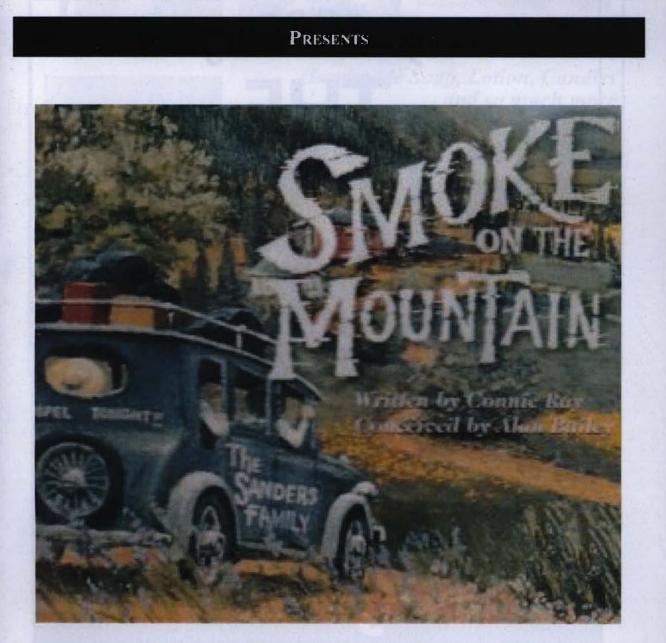




This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council.

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March 7-16, 2014

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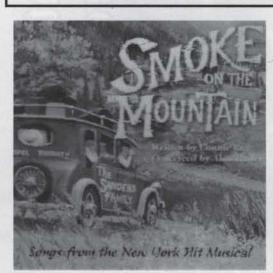


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Smoke On The Mountain Musical Numbers

Act One Rock of Ages The Church in the Wildwood/A Wonderful Time Up There Build on the Rock Meet Mother in the Skies No Tears in Heaven Christian Cowboy The Filling Station I'll Never Die (I'll Just Change My Address) Jesus is Mine

Blood Medley: Nothing but the Blood of Jesus, Are You Washed in the Blood, There is Power in the Blood, There is a Fountain Filled With Blood I'll Live A Million Years

Act Two I Wouldn't Take Nothing For My Journey Now Everyone Home But Me I Wouldn't Take Nothing For My Journey Now (Reprise) Angel Band Bringing in the Sheaves Whispering Hope Inching Along Transportation Medley: I'm Using My Bible for a Roadmap, I'll Walk Every Step Of the Way, I'm Taking a Flight, Life's Railway to Heaven

> Smoke On The Mountain I'll Fly Away When the Roll is Called Up Yonder

The Cast of Smoke On The Mountain



ANNA BLAIR* (Vera) is a professional actor and stage manager having worked most recently for such theatres as The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Shakespeare Festival St. Louis, St. Louis Actors' Studio & New Jewish Theatre. Other regional credits include The Old Creamery Theatre in Amana, IA & Toby's Dinner Theatre in Columbia, MD. Anna has been featured in several St. Louis film projects and commercials. As a performer, she has traveled and entertained audiences all across the United States, Canada and in England, Belgium and Italy. Anna is also a recording artist, cabaret singer and performs Patsy Cline in *Memories of Elvis* around the St. Louis area. Proud member of Actors' Equity Association.



TOM DYAR (Burl) is a native of South Carolina. A theatre graduate of East Tennessee State University, some of his theatrical credits include South Pacific, The King and I, Kiss Me Kate, Guys and Dolls, Jesus Christ Superstar, Annie Get Your Gun, All My Sons and Damn Yankees. Tom has worked as an actor in regional theatre as well as film and commercial for over 40 years. He and his wife Tricia (June) actually met while performing in Smoke On The Mountain 15 years ago. Tom is also an insurance broker and a licensed master skydiver, and he LOVES singing '50s doo wop.



TRICIA DYAR (June) is excited to be taking the stage as June in her third production of Smoke On The Mountain. She had the opportunity to play June's sister, Denise, "one of the twins," in her first two productions of the show, and her mother Vera in the sequel, Sanders Family Christmas. Tricia has enjoyed many years on the stage in such roles as Maria in West Side Story, Golde in Fiddler on the Roof, and M'Lynn in Steel Magnolias. She studied music and theatre at Anderson University in Anderson, South Carolina where she earned a bachelor's degree in music. Tricia first met her husband Tom as they portrayed Denise and Burl Sanders in 1998. They reunited as Vera and Burl Sanders in 2005 and the dynamic duo has been performing together ever since. Tricia attributes her love for music and theatre not only to God and her family, but also her high school chorus teacher, Tom Taylor, who inspired her to believe she could be anything she imagined. She wishes to thank director Don Bailey for his amazing insights into all things Sanders and for trusting her to recreate not one, not two, but all three of the Sanders family's women folk.



ANDY HUDSON (Dennis) is excited to make his first appearance on The Little Theatre stage, after spending the last year working as LTOTS's assistant music director and voice instructor. He graduated from Illinois State University in 2013 (Bachelor of Music: Voice Performance) and has worked for many area theatre companies, including The Station Theatre (Urbana), the Charleston Alley Theatre, and Charleston Community Theatre. Favorite roles include Rodolfo (*La Boheme*), Candide (*Candide*), Chip Tolentino (...Spelling Bee), Bat Boy (*Bat Boy, the Musical*), and Finch (*How to Succeed...*). You can find him online **at** www.ajthudson.com.



LARRY MABREY* (Uncle Stanley) is thrilled to make his TLTOTS debut in Smoke On The Mountain. Throughout his 25+ year career as a professional actor/singer/director, Larry has worked for theatres from coast-to-coast, spent time in the Caribbean on a cruise ship, worked in radio, film, TV, commercials, and industrials. Recent shows include Circle Mirror Transformation, Love Letters and The Good Doctor. Other acting credits include: NYC - Ten Little Indians, Closer Than Ever, Theo Tallis, Tailor, Faust In Vitro; CHICAGO - Forever Plaid, The Music Man; ST. LOUIS - Oliver!, Annie, Closer than Ever, American Rosies. Big River, 1776, A Little Night Music, The Secret Garden, My One and Only, The Sound of Music and My Fair Lady. Directing credits include: The Good Doctor, An O. Henry Christmas, Boston Marriage, World Premiere of Little Bosnia, Bedroom Farce and Never Too Late. Larry is Co-founder and producing artistic director of Avalon Theatre Company in St. Louis, holds a BFA in Theatre Arts from Stephens College and has been a member of Actors' Equity for 25+ years, is a member of SAG-AFTRA and associate member of the Society of Directors & Choreographers, Thanks to Erin and Jackson for continued love and support and much appreciation to Don for this opportunity.



GREGORY MATZKER (Mervin Oglethorpe) has been involved in theatre for nearly 30 years now, having been involved with over 200 productions. Starring in roles as Albert in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Snoopy in both *Snoopy the Musical* and *Your'e a Good Man Charlie Brown*. He has performed with the St. Louis Muny, Goldenrod Showboat and was a member of the St. Louis Symphony Choir for 10 years and recently in *Peter Pan* with Children's Variety Theatre. In his younger years he was a competitive dancer winning Missouri Stage and Midwest Swing Championships. He served the last 9 years as Artistic director of Marble Stage Theatre and is currently director of Fairy Tale Factory who just produced his original version of *Beauty and the Beast*.



CAITLIN MICKEY (Denise) is thrilled to be making her TLTOTS debut! A graduate of the Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University, she has her BFA in musical theatre. Past favorite roles include: Maria (*The Sound of Music*), Sally Bowles (*Cabaret*), Meghan/Others (*Connected*), Grace (*Opus*), and Christine (*Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*), among many others. Caitlin has performed at the Sheldon Concert Hall, as well as at Wolf Trap National Park. She has also participated in the Ignite! Play Reading Festival at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. Thanks to her family and friends for their support! Proud member of SAG-AFTRA and EMC. For my Dad.

The Little Theatre On The Square

Presents

Smoke On The Mountain

Book by Connie Ray Conceived by Alan Bailey Musical arrangements by Mike Craver and Mark Hardwick

Scenic Design David Scobbie Lighting Design Chris Benefiel Costume Design Timmy Valentine

Production Stage Manager Eric Barnes*

Director Don Bailey

****THE CAST****

Mervin Oglethorpe	Gregory Matzker
Burl Sanders	Tom Dyar
Vera Sanders	Anna Blair*
Stanley Sanders	Larry Mabrey*
Dennis Sanders	Andy Hudson
Denise Sanders	Caitlin Mickey
June Sanders	Tricia Dyar

*The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.

Smoke On The Mountain is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

Smoke On The Mountain Production Staff

Master Electrician	
Props/Master Carpenter	Angelo Torre
Production Manager/Techn	ical DirectorDavid Scobbie
Sound Engineer	David Scobbie
Executive Producer	John J. Stephens
Business Manager	Lori Harbaugh
Education Director	Heather Dore'Johnson-Weber
Associate Artistic Director	
Marketing Director	Brenda Abbott
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	Mallory Murphy, Cheryl Murphy, Donna Newcome
Scenic Artist	Shannon Melick
Company Manager/Special	Events CoordinatorMallory Murphy



JOHN J. STEPHENS (Executive Producer) was appointed to the position of Executive Producer on October 21, 2008, after spending 3 seasons as Director of Marketing for The Little Theatre On The Square. John spent 10 years with The Decatur Park Singers serving as Road Manager and the Director of The Decatur Young Park Singers. From 2001 until 2006, John taught at St. James Catholic School in Decatur, IL, and served as head choreographer for the Lincoln College Express in Lincoln, IL, during that time as well. John was born and raised in Glasford, IL, and graduated from Lincoln College with his Associates degree and attended Millikin Univeristy majoring in Vocal Music Education. John's passion for theatre started at a young age as the Ringmaster in the Illini Bluffs First Grade Circus program (the only speaking role in the entire show) and has grown from there. If you look really close, you might catch John on stage from time to time. John was last seen as Melvin P. Thorpe in The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas and Reuben, one of the brothers in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. John is a frequent soloist at area churches and most recently performed as the guest artist for the Decatur Municipal Band. Visit John's other endeavors at www.astoriacompanystore.biz

THERESE KINCADE (Associate Artistic **Director**) couldn't be happier to be working at The Little Theatre On The Square. Her favorite TLTOTS roles have been Les Miserables (Madame Thenardier), 9 to 5 (Violet), The Music Man (Mrs. Paroo), Oklahoma! (Aunt Eller), Footloose (Ethel McCormack), Annie (Mrs. Pugh) Showboat (Parthy Ann), White Christmas (Mrs. Snoring Man) and her debut performance at TLTOTS as the Reverend Mother in Nunsense in 1998 and most recently this past October. Therese was recently named Associate Artistic Director at The Little Theatre and is responsible for the Theatre for Young Audiences and anything else John tells her to do. In addition, Therese and her husband, Bob, have owned What's Cookin' Restaurant in Charleston, IL, since 1980. As always, thanks to Bob for all the love and support and John you're the best, I love working with you! To this fabulous company -- a sincere thank you for sharing your talents with our audiences.





CHRISTOPHER BENEFIEL (Lighting Designer) is thrilled to be back at TLTOTS for his fifth season. Previously, working at TLTOTS for three seasons in the mid 90's, he then went out into the world to explore new things. He ended up in Boston, MA. After six years on the east coast he returned to Central IL and to the theatre life. Christopher has worked in many capacities around TLTOTS as a dresser, electrician, assistant stage manager, and even lighting designer. Other design credits include: Romeo and Juliet, The Diviners, Equus and Honk. Thank you to John for the all the opportunities, and to Angelo for the friendship and laughs. To my parents who exposed me to theatre and the arts at a very young age, encouraged me to explore it, and stood behind me even when I didn't know where I was going... Thank You!!

DON BRYANT BAILEY (Director) is happy to return to The Little Theatre On The Square. Don's first project with TLTOTS was as Musical Director for Smoke On The Mountain. Throughout his impressive career as a director and performer in both stage and film. Don has grown an affection towards this particular script. As a result of this adoration, he has been in over seventy plus productions (including several national tours) of Smoke On The Mountain and Sanders Family Christmas. In the original cast, Don was the first actor to portray Uncle Stanley in Sanders Family Christmas at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park (Cincinnati, Ohio). Don is elated to be working with such a fine talented cast and would like to thank John Stephens for all his help. He would also like to thank Shannon, Juanita, Elise, Gabriel, Kitty, and Lisa for all their love and support.

ERIC BARNES* (Production Stage Manager) is pleased to be working on his first production here at The Little Theatre On The Square. As a St. Louis based AEA Stage Manager and also Props Master he has worked for various companies across the states including Central City Opera, the Tulsa Opera, Repertory Theater of St. Louis, Actors Theater of Louisville, and various other professional theater and opera companies across the U.S.

DAVID SCOBBIE (Technical Director/Production Manager) is thrilled to be back on a full time basis at his home away from home The Little Theatre. Dave most recenly was the assistant technical director for Kirkland Fine Arts Center at Millikin University. Dave is a 2009 Graduate from Webster University in St. Louis where he majored in technical theatre with an emphasis in sound design. Dave first started at The Little Theatre as Sound Designer in 2006 and has been working here on and off since then. His favorite shows include *Honky Tonk Angels* and *Les Miserables*.

ANGELO TORRE (Props/Master Carpenter) has become a full time member of the TLTOTS family returning to us 4 years ago after a 10 year hiatus. Angelo has toured the continent with various shows including The King & I and How to Succeed in Business... During those last 10 years he was in NYC on Broadway and television. For TV he's done props, scenery and lighting for Conan O'Brien, Martha Stewart, several soap operas, the Kennedy Center Honors and The Macy's Thanksgiving parade. Theatrically, Angelo's worked on such Broadway shows as You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, Kiss Me Kate, Top Dog/Underdog, Into The Woods, Grey Gardens, The Wedding Singer, Sweet Smell Of Success, Sweet Charity, Wonderful Town, Curtains and a bunch more. He's worked with folks such as Brian Stokes Mitchell, Drew Carey, Brooke Shields, Chita Rivera, Carol Channing, Christina Applegate, David Hyde Pierce, Harvey Fierstein, Christine Ebersol, Wayne Knight, Mos Def, Jeffery Wright and on and on and on. Angelo and his pals Iggy & Floyd the dogs, want to thank John and Lori for EVERYTHING they've done for us & we hope you enjoy the skit.



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The Little Theatre On The Square is governed by a not-for-profit corporation. The Board of Trustees of the corporation is made up of representatives from communities throughout the theatre's market area.

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The Little Theatre On The Square... The History of a Legendary Theatre





This year The Little Theatre celebrates its 57th year of bringing live performances to the prairie. Eight years ago, the extensive renovation project was completed offering a beautiful updated, expanded facility in which to enjoy the arts.

Founded by Guy S. Little, Jr., a man who was fulfilling his lifelong dream to operate a quality professional theatre, The Little Theatre On The Square first raised its curtain in 1957 for a lively performance of *Brigadoon*.

Mr. Little ran the theatre as a commercial venture through 1978. During that time more

than 175 famous stars performed on its stage, including Mickey Rooney, Alan Alda, Ann Miller, Don Ameche, Betty Grable, John Carradine, Leonard Nimoy and Forrest Tucker.

After 22 years of producing outstanding theatre in Sullivan, Mr. Little moved on to pursue other ventures. In 1981, The Little Theatre On The Square began operating as a not-for-profit corporation, governed by a Board of Trustees who represented its regional market area in Central Illinois.



The Little Theatre On The Square, Inc. later purchased the theatre building from Mr. Little. The following year it purchased and renovated the adjoining building for its ticket office, public restrooms and administrative offices. The theatre continued to grow, and added amenities for its patrons and production company. In 2000, the theatre purchased another building for rehearsal space, a dance studio and apartments to house the company. Another building was purchased in 2001 and converted into a technical production facility.



In 1997, the theatre, in cooperation with the City of Sullivan Civic Center, started an educational outreach program to cultivate theatre arts. It began by teaching jazz, tap and ballet. In 2001, drama classes were added. The outreach program now has nearly 275 students.

In 2004, the educational outreach program added a touring program called S.T.A.R. which stands for Students' Theatre Arts Reach. Taking a play on the road, S.T.A.R. offered their performance to area schools.

Most recently, renovations of the rehearsal space and technical production facility have taken place to give the company state of the art facilities to work with. In May of 2012, the theatre re-opened our gift shop, Favorite Things Sweet Shop and Gifts, across from Chef Tippy's featuring classic candy and amazing gifts from local vendors and also serving as an addition revenue source to the theatre. Recent changes in administration have also helped the theatre continue to grow with the addition of John Stephens as Executive Artistic Director, but it is the heart of our organization...the company members who have continued the work for years that keep us alive and moving forward.

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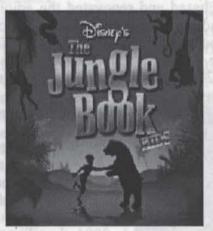
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