

OPERA HOUSE PLAYERS

Elkader Opera House
207 N. Main St, Elkader, IA

December 2-11, 2022



About the Opera House Players

For over 55 years the OHP has been bringing entertainment to the stage in Elkader! In the fall, with the support of many people from all over northeast Iowa and southwest Wisconsin, the Opera House Players have presented such blockbusters as *Singin' In The Rain*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Disney's Mary Poppins*, *Oliver!*, *Peter Pan*, *Annie*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Music Man*.

In the spring, the productions usually involve a somewhat smaller cast and crew, but are never short on entertainment! Our summer "black box" theater features an on stage production with a more "edgy" theme. The group also schedules a special holiday musical or play every other season, alternating that with A Classic Christmas Fantasy, a showcase of area talent.

The Opera House Players sponsor summer theater events for area children to give them a taste of theater. We also provide educational events for area schools whenever possible.

The improvements to this marvelous structure continue by financial donations from the OHP, other businesses and supporters, but also by the numerous OHP volunteers that spend countless hours making it happen.

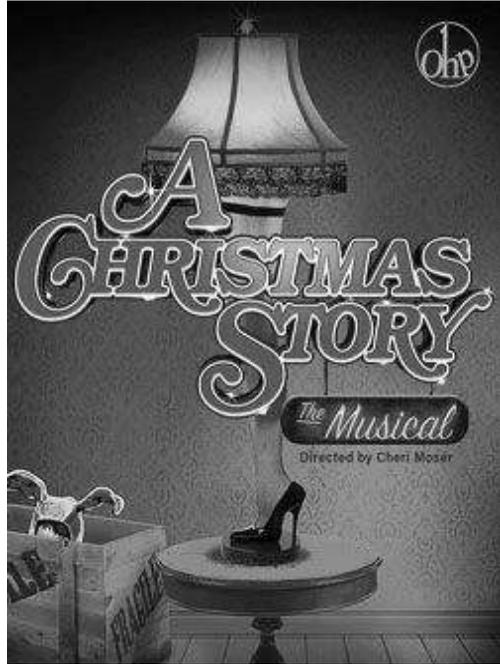
The Opera House Players installed a hearing loop for the Main Floor Seating, helped create new dressing rooms, built a removable pit cover, added new stage curtains, updated to a new lighting system with several new fixtures and capabilities added yearly, and are upgrading the back stage area as well as technical aspects of theater, sound, & rigging to make the building even more valuable to the community.

All of this would not be possible without the support of the City of Elkader who maintains this wonderful facility and who worked hand in hand with the volunteers to make it happen. Our grateful thanks also goes to you, our patrons, members, and audience members for supporting theater in this area.

Volunteers are the cornerstone of any community theater group and the Opera House Players are lucky to have some of the best. Whether you have a theater background or not, this is a place for you to get involved. People from all walks of life participate, forming new friendships, learning new skills, and gaining self-confidence. What kinds of opportunities are available? Acting, directing, set construction, orchestra, publicity, props, costumes, make-up, ushering... and much more!

Be sure to look for announcements on our future productions as well as other events occurring in the Opera House. If you would like more information about our group or theater, visit our website at www.operahouseplayers.com.

MEET THE CAST



A Christmas Story the musical

book by Joseph Robinette
Music and Lyrics by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul
Based on the motion picture
A Christmas Story written by
Jean Shephard, Leigh Brown & Bob Clark

Licensed by Arrangement with
The Dramatic Publishing Company
311 Washington St.
Woodstock, IL 60098

Director. Cheri Moser
Choreographer. Erin Degner
Producer. Kay Moser

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.
Photography and any Recording Strictly Prohibited.



The Elkader Opera House has an induction loop system thanks to an upgrade of the sound equipment by the Opera House Players. With the activation of the T-coil by your audiologist and instruction on its use, you can receive the maximum benefit from your hearing aid. The internal tonal correction of your hearing aid will bring the sounds you hear directly to you without the use of an additional receiver or headset. Two portable units are available for your use as well. Please request the use of a unit when you place your ticket order. This loop system is available for main floor seating only, so if you want to maximize your hearing experience, please request main floor seating when purchasing your tickets.

Jean Shepherd - Andrew Lange - This is Andrew's second OHP production, but has been coming to the Opera House as an avid theatre goer for many years, watching his son, Christopher perform. Andrew's first performance was the musical *Matilda* (2021). Andrew grew up in a musical family as both his parents were high school and middle school band directors. He was active in band, choir, and musical theatre while in school, but all that took a back seat to having a family and career. Andrew is happy to be back for another production at OHP. Andrew lives in Edgewood with his wife, Jenny, children, Christopher, Ryan, and Haley, and their dog, Kate.

Ralphie Parker - Gavin West - Gavin is a 7th grader at Starmont Middle School, the son of Danielle and Darren West. Gavin's first big Opera House production was in the 2021 production of *Matilda*, as the character "Bruce". He has also been involved in the past couple Opera House summer camps, as well as the middle school play. At school, Gavin plays percussion instruments in the school band, and sings in the school choir. When he's not in school or at play practice, Gavin enjoys playing sports and hanging out with his friends and two younger brothers. He also loves hunting, fishing, and traveling with his family.

Randy Parker - Erin Camp - Erin is excited to be in her first official OHP musical after having a terrific time in the last two OHP children's theater productions of *Bots* (2021) and *The Grunch* (2022). She is delighted to play the character of Randy, Ralphie's little brother, and especially loves all the fun dancing! Outside of theater, Erin enjoys reading, camping, swimming, playing board games, and taking dance classes. She is ten years old and lives in Elkader with her parents and three younger siblings.

The Old Man - Cameron Berges - Cameron has been involved with various community theatre groups throughout Northeast Iowa since 2016. This is Cameron's 4th OHP production. Past performances include Rudolpho in *Matilda* (2021), Eddie Jester in *A Year in the Death of Eddie Jester* (2019) and Bert in *Mary Poppins* (2018) - the latter of which landed him a "Best Actor in a Musical" award from the Iowa Community Theatre Association. Hailing from Waukon, Cameron cherishes time spent with his wife Sara, daughters, Emma & Jocelyn, and son, Gavin.

Mother - Meghan Birdnow - Meghan returns to the Elkader Opera House stage in her 4th show since her high school drama days gone by. Nurse by trade, mom by blessing, and wife by luck, Meghan thoroughly enjoys singing, ad lib dancing, and acting on stage. You may recall her roles in *Mary Poppins*, *It Runs in the Family*, and *Matilda*. Meghan's only hope is to someday soon have one of her children grace the stage and share her passion of performance. She would like to extend a special thanks to her husband, Justin for his unwavering support and holding down the home fort allowing her to do what she loves.

SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMER



Miss Schields/Choreographer – Erin Degner – Erin is a Professor of Theatre at Drake University and the Head of the Musical Theatre BFA program. She has worked as an actor, director and choreographer for various professional companies around the Midwest and has been choreographing for the Opera House Players for over 10 years. Some of her onstage achievements have been recognized with two Kennedy Center Irene Ryan Acting nominations for her roles as the title character in “Mary Poppins” and

Mother in “A Christmas Story”. She has performed at venues around the country including the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, and Carnegie Hall in New York City. Des Moines credits: “Fun Home” (Helen) – Iowa Stage (Cloris Award Winner), “Company” (Marta) – Iowa Stage. MNSU credits: “Mary Poppins” (Mary Poppins), “Assassins” (Sara Jane Moore), “A Christmas Story” (Mother), “Titanic” (Alice Beane), “The Fully Monty” (Georgie). Other: “The Smell of the Kill” (Debra) Lemming Theatrical, “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof” (Maggie) Dubuque Opera House, *The Last 5 Years* (Cathy) Elkader Opera House. Directing/Choreography credits: “A Piece of My Heart” (Drake), “Pippin” (Drake), “Singin’ in the Rain” (DSM Playhouse), “Catch Me If You Can” (DSM Playhouse), “Nice Work If You Can Get It” (Drake), *Matilda* (Elkader Opera House).

Schwartz - Macy McGeough - Macy is 13 years old and a 7th grader at MFL MarMac. Macy's first taste of the stage was in 2015 as a munchkin in MFL MarMac's "The Wizard of Oz". This will be Macy's second big OHP production opportunity. She is excited to be a part of this musical and was thrilled to play the role of Schwartz. She loves being able to showcase some tap dancing as well. Macy was a part of *Fruitcakes* (2019) and participated in the OHP Children's Theater Productions of *Gulliver's Travels* (2018), *We Are Monsters* (2019), *BOTS* (2021) and *The Grunch* (2022). She had a blast playing Lavender in last year's production of *Matilda*. Macy has many activities outside of the theater. She enjoys playing basketball, softball, volleyball, crafting, playing the piano, singing in the middle school choir and reading. She lives in Marquette with her parents, 3 siblings and 2 dogs.

Flick - Jaren Evans - Jaren is 12 years old and a 7th grader at Starmont. Jaren is involved in choir, plays the saxophone in band, is a black belt in Tae Kwon Do and is on the student council. Earlier this year, Jaren participated in the Starmont Middle School production of "Snow White" as The Mirror and as The Grunch in the OHP Children's Theater production of *The Grunch*. This is his first year on stage and he has loved every minute of it! Outside of the theater, Jaren enjoys playing baseball, spending time with friends and traveling with his family. Jaren lives in Strawberry Point with his parents, Rhys and Hannah, sister, Kira, and dog, Juno.

Scut Farkus - Collin Holdsworth - Collin is 12 years old and is in 7th grade. He is home schooled and dual enrolled at Central Community School. He spends most of his free time learning about HAM Radio and computers. He is also interested in entrepreneurship with his never ending ideas for business models and startups such as The Elkader Gazette and his many lemonade stands. This is his first experience in theater of any kind, but is excited to play the role of Farkus in *A Christmas Story Musical* and feels like the role is a perfect fit for himself. Collin is the oldest of four children and lives with his parents and siblings, Oliver, Evelyn, and Asher along with their dog Shadrach.

Grover Dill - Taryn Moser – Taryn is very excited to be performing in her 6th big OHP musical, even if she does have to play a boy... again. You may have also seen Taryn on our stage as a child in *Christmas on Broadway* (2015), Gladys Herdmann in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (2017), Little Skeeter in *Fruitcakes* (2019), or performing in one of the annual spring cabarets. Taryn was also Michael in *Mary Poppins* (2018), a role that got her a 'Best Supporting Actress' nomination from the Iowa Community Theatre Association. Her favorite role to date, hands down, was getting to play Matilda in *Matilda the Musical* (2021). Taryn has taken part in eight children's theater productions, two musical productions at MFL MarMac High School and one play at MFL MarMac Middle School. This November, she was selected to perform in the OPUS Honor Choir in Ames. Taryn is a 7th grader at MFL MarMac. She enjoys running, being with friends and loves all things music. She has taken 5 years of dance and also plays the piano, guitar and percussion. Taryn lives in McGregor with her parents and three siblings.

Mary Beth - Julia Grau - Julia is 14 years old and an 8th grader at MFL MarMac. Julia's first experience on stage was when she was 6 years old and participated in the OHP Children's Theater Production of *Black Beard's Pirate* (2014), which she truly enjoyed. She was then a munchkin in MFL MarMac's musical "The Wizard of Oz" in 2015.

After seeing her big sister, Rose, perform in *The Producers* (2019), she knew she wanted to perform on the OHP's stage! Julia's first big OHP production was *Matilda* last fall and she absolutely loved everything about it! Since then she has performed in the high school musical, "Seussical the Musical", and the middle school musical, "The Cinderella Story" and the "Substitute Fairy Godmother". Some of Julia's other interests and activities include: baking, making crafts, art, styling hair and painting nails for family and friends, playing piano and percussion, chorus, volleyball, dancing and babysitting. Julia lives outside of Monona with her parents, Josh and Annette and 5 siblings, Rose, Joe, Clare, Emma, and Leo.

Esther Jane - Eva Vaske - Eva is the daughter of Adam and Pam, sibling to Mya, Anita, Avery & Eli. She is currently a 6th grader at Starmont who loves taking care of her pets and farm animals along with participating in volleyball, softball and spending time with family. Eva is enjoying the new friends she's made by being involved in *A Christmas Story*. She is excited to be a part of this show and hopes to help entertain you again in the future.

Nancy – Allison Klingman – Allison is 13 years old and a 7th grader at Starmont. She has always loved arts/crafts, music, singing and dancing. Allison is thrilled to be back on the stage at Elkader Opera House. She has taken part in OHP Children's theatre camp performance of *The Grunch* and the middle school play "Snow White". This won't be Allison's last stage production as she loves it! Outside of the theatre, Allison stays busy playing volleyball, playing flute in the JH band, choir and attending Moser's gymnastics & jazz/hip hop classes with competitions in gymnastics. She also enjoys camping, traveling with family and spending time with friends. Allison lives in Strawberry Point with her parents, Joshua and Heather, and her brother, Quinton.

Kids Ensemble - Trace Moser – This is Trace's 2nd big OHP show, but he has performed on this stage several times. He sang and danced with his family in the OHP *50th Anniversary Showcase* (2016) and performed with his dad in the *Love, Broadway Cabaret* (2018.) He played Sammy in the OHP holiday play, *Fruitcakes* (2019). He has also been in the cast of six children's theater productions, *Pinocchio*, *Jumping Jacks & The Beanstalk*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *We Are Monsters*, *Bots!* and *The Grunch*. He was also in the cast of "Seussical" at MFL MarMac last fall. Trace has really enjoyed getting to know the other kids in the *A Christmas Story* cast! Trace is a 6th grader at MFL MarMac who hopes to be a graphic designer when he grows up. He lives in McGregor with his parents and three sisters.

Ensemble Kid - Veda Torkelson - This Veda's first Opera House Players musical. Last year she appeared in MFL MarMac High School's "Seussical the Musical" and MFL MarMac Middle School's "Cinderella." She is 12-years-old and attends MFL MarMac. She plays the clarinet and sings in choir. She was in Brenda's School of Dance for three years and is now part of Dance Elite in Prairie du Chien. In her spare time, Veda enjoys painting, drawing, reading, and hanging out with her family, friends, and pets, Ace, Rocky, and Sweet Pea.

Kids Ensemble – Gretel Moser – Gretel is so excited to *finally* get to perform in an OHP musical! She was first seen on stage as a 2-year-old, dancing with her family in the *OHP 50th Anniversary Showcase* (2016). She has also performed in two children's theatre productions, *BOTS!* and *The Grunch* and one OHP holiday play, *Fruitcakes* (2019). Outside the Opera House, she performed in the ensemble of MFL MarMac High School's "Seussical" (2021). Gretel loves to dance and has been taking jazz, tap, and ballet for five years. She also loves to sing! The Opera House is one of Gretel's favorite places to be as she has spent many hours there working on set, watching her mom direct, and watching her dad & siblings rehearse on stage. Gretel would like to be a chiropractor and choreographer when she grows up. She is a 3rd grader at MFL MarMac and lives in McGregor with her parents and three older siblings.

Santa / Waiter / Ensemble – Jonathon Moser – This show marks Jonathon's 31st OHP production. Some of his other recent favorites include Miss Trunchbull in *Matilda* (2021), Leo Bloom in *The Producers* (2019), Frank Abagnale Jr. in *Catch Me If You Can* (2017), and the loveable ogre Shrek in *Shrek the Musical* (2015). Jonathon enjoyed helping his wife, Cheri, come up with all the plans to make this huge show happen. He recently won a "Best Scenic Design" award from the Iowa Community Theatre Association for his work in *The Producers* (2019). Jonathon is a chiropractor in McGregor where he lives with his wife and children: Mariah (ensemble), Taryn (Grover Dill), Trace (ensemble) and Gretel (ensemble). He is the co-owner of Grumpsters Cabins, a beautiful getaway in the hills of McGregor.

Mrs. Schwartz / Ensemble - Avalon Dziak - Avalon is thrilled to be back on the Opera House stage as part of *A Christmas Story*. You may remember her as Mrs. Wormwood in *Matilda* (2021), Sandy in *Four Weddings and an Elvis* (2021), or from yesteryear when she was much shorter. After growing up doing all the musicals, she went to college for musical theater and now has a fancy degree in the singing and the dancing. She moved around a bunch, including such exotic climes as South Dakota, Vermont, and Chicago, performing and serving coffee and being generally entertaining. She lives in McGregor with two cats and an unreasonable number of houseplants.

Mrs. Flick / Ensemble - Bridget Camp - Bridget is grateful to be participating in her fifth OHP show, following ensemble roles in *Fiddler on the Roof* (2008), *Music Man* (2009), *Forgotten Carols* (2011), and *Matilda* (2021). She has especially enjoyed sharing the stage for the first time with her daughter, Erin! Bridget lives in Elkader with her husband, Drew, and their four children. Together they own and operate Camp Powersports-NAPA Auto Parts in Elkader.

Head Elf / Ensemble – Kristy Fleming – This is Kristy’s 8th production with the OHP. Most notably, she appeared as Mary Poppins in *Disney’s Mary Poppins* (2018). She received a “Best Actress” nomination for the performance from the Iowa Community Theatre Association. She has also performed in multiple OHP adult cabarets. Kristy works at Collins Aerospace in Manchester and resides in Dyersville with her husband, Travis, and their two sons, Avery (6) and Cameron (3).

Head Elf / Ensemble - Megan Brase - Megan is the daughter of Dan and Beth Brase. *A Christmas Story* is her second show with OHP, with *Matilda* being her first. She was also in her middle school play “The Trial of Goldilocks”, and four high school productions: “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown”, “Quarenteens”, “Working”, and “The Murder Mystery at The Murder Mystery”. Megan is a senior at Starmont Highschool and participates in speech, robotics, band, plays, 4-H, and choir. In her free time, she enjoys playing guitar and ukulele and spending time with the people she loves.

Ensemble - Amara Buchheit - This is Amara's first Opera House performance. She is a junior at MFL MarMac and lives in Monona with her mom, dad, and sister. Amara has performed in three productions at MFL MarMac, "Princess Who" (2019), "The Internet is Distracting...Oh Look a Kitten (2020), "Seussical" (2021) and most recently in "The Addams Family." She is involved in show choir, concert choir, speech, wrestling cheerleading, and President of SODA. In her free time she enjoys hanging out with friends, camping, and spending time with family.

Ensemble - Analyce (Annie) Cummer- Annie is the daughter of Greg Cummer and Sarah Hatcher. She is currently a junior at Starmont High School and is involved in band, choir, theater, track and field, and dance. *A Christmas Story: The Musical* is Annie’s first OHP performance, but she has been a part of Starmont’s productions of “The Trial of Goldilocks”, “Working”, and “The Murder Mystery at the Murder Mystery”. She loves spending her free time with family and friends, especially her Grandma Jackie.

Ensemble - Marlie Hettinger - Marlie is the daughter of Lisa Beatty and Aaron Hettinger. She is a junior at Starmont high school. This is her second Opera House performance, her first being *Matilda* (2021). She has also been in four other shows at Starmont including “The Trail of Goldilocks”, “Quarenteens,” “Working”, and “The Murder Mystery at The Murder Mystery”. Marlie participates in choir, band, speech, and track. In her free time, Marlie enjoys reading, playing her guitar, and spending time with her brother.

Ensemble - Mariah Moser - This is Mariah's 8th OHP production. She played a gnome in *Shrek the Musical* (2015), a child in *Christmas on Broadway* (2015), a kid/chef/squirrel in *Willy Wonka* (2016), Claude Herdman in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (2017), Fannie in *Mary Poppins* (2018), Sally in *Fruitcakes* (2019) and Nigel in *Matilda* (2021). Mariah has also been on stage in eight children's theater productions, as well as assistant directing with another. Mariah has been in five MFL MarMac productions, including “Wizard of Oz” (2015), “Annie” (2018), “Help Desk” (2021), “Seussical” (2021), and “Cinderella and the Substitute Fairy Godmother” (2022) and most recently in “The Addams Family” at MFL MarMac High School. Mariah is in 9th grade.. She is involved in band, choir, cross country, show choir, speech, dance team, and SODA. She is the media reporter for MFL MarMac student council and she is her class secretary. In her spare time, Mariah enjoys water skiing, reading, hanging out with her friends, and being on the river. Mariah lives in McGregor with her dad, mom, and three younger siblings.

Ensemble - Megan Pierschbacher - Megan is the daughter of Kari and the late Dave Pierschbacher. This is her first production with OHP. Megan is a junior at Edgewood-Colesburg High School. She is involved with speech, National Honors Society, drama, cheer, track, Future Business Leaders of America, and STEAM club. She is very excited to be part of an amazing show.

Ensemble - Maria Stavroplus – Maria, a sophomore, enjoys playing the piano, being part of the Waterhawks Swim Team, band, choir, Speech, SODA, performing in musicals and plays. She has performed in 2 middle school plays and two high school musicals. Maria’s debut at the Opera House was with *Christmas on the Air* (2013) followed by several other performances. She enjoys her role in *A Christmas Story*, and is fond of the cast members who she refers to as her Opera House family.

Director - Cheri Moser – Cheri has been involved in over 35 OHP shows in the past 30 years. She was named ‘Best Director’ by the Iowa Community Theatre Association for her direction of OHP’s *The Producers* (2019) and was nominated for Best Actress for her performance in OHP's *A Year in the Death of Eddie Jester* (2019). Some of her favorite OHP director gigs include *The Last Five Years* (2012), *Mary Poppins* (2018) and most recently, *Matilda* (2021). Cheri holds several day-jobs including marketing for the MFL MarMac School District, an Administrative Assistant at Trinity Cluster, she runs a short term rental business, Grumpsters Cabins, with her husband, Jonathon, and runs her own video editing/graphics business. Cheri recently became an Iowa Community Theatre Association board member and can't wait to help build and celebrate community theatre across the state. Cheri lives in McGregor with Jonathon and their four children (all of them on stage in this performance!)

Producer - Kay Moser – Kay has been involved with the OHP since 1973. She has appeared on stage a few times, but is most often found producing, stage managing, and helping the cast and crews in any way she can is where she is most comfortable. She enjoys life with her husband, Jay. Spending time with her son Benjamin, wife, Jenna, their sons, Kallum and Ronan along with son, Jonathon, wife, Cheri, their children, Mariah, Taryn, Trace and Gretel makes her life complete.

Director's Notes



We did it! If you are reading this right now, it means you have a program in hand and are ready to sit back and enjoy the OHP performance of, “A Christmas Story.” For me, that means we have successfully created a production that’s audience-ready! (*cue: sigh of relief*)

The work and passion required to get to this point never ceases to amaze me. It is not only in the hours of rehearsals for the talented, hard-working cast receiving your applause today. The work is made up of even more hours of planning, meeting, scheduling, building, painting, fitting, sewing, purchasing, lighting, blocking, dancing, editing, promoting and selling. The majority of that work is done by a small group of people, many of whom are not up on that stage. Some of them are backstage, working magic to move the set, the set they built and decorated, to the right places at the right times. Some of them are helping get the characters dressed quickly in the costumes that were carefully hand-picked or hand-sewn for each actor. Some of them are behind you right now, in the light booth or at the sound board. And some are sitting among you. All of them did this work because they love our theatre, they love the community we’ve built here and they know the incredible power of a live performance.

Are we all a little bit crazy? Most definitely. But in theatre, we celebrate the crazy. We celebrate all talent levels and personalities. We welcome all to join us in this work, this passion, that we feed. Why? Because when a new-to-our-stage cast member approaches us to tell us the Elkader Opera House is their favorite place to be... every single second of work is worth it. We love this show and hope you do too. Enjoy!



Andrew Lange



Gavin West



Cameron Berges



Meghan Birdnow



Erin Camp



Macy McGeough



Jaren Evans



Collin Holdsworth



Taryn Moser



Julia Grau



Eva Vaske



Allison Klingman



Trace Moser



Veda Torkelson



Gretel Moser

Did You Know...

‘A Christmas Story’ Movie Facts !

1. The real origins of the movie go back to the 1950s, when a man named Jean Shepherd, an American humorist and radio personality, began sharing musing of his childhood on WOR Radio in NYC. He eventually put the collection of stories into a book called ‘In God We Trust: All Others Pay Cash,’ and this was the inspiration for the film.
2. Shepherd claims ‘A Christmas Story’ is fictional. However, he did grow up in a small Indiana town where there is a Cleveland Street, and several of the characters’ names are found in his grade school yearbooks, including Shepherd’s younger brother, Randy. And while Shepherd named his young protagonist “Ralphie” not “jean,” he himself did play the voice of Adult Ralphie.



Jonathon Moser



Megan Brase



Amara Buchheit



Annie Cummer



Bridget Camp



Avalon Dziak



Kristy Fleming



Marlie Hettinger



Mariah Moser



Megan Pierschbacher



Maria Stavroplous



Did You Know (continued)...

3. Jean Shepherd made another movie in 1976 titled, "The Phantom of the Open Hearth" about a boy named Ralph Parker preparing for prom, his brother Randy and even a shattered leg lamp.

4. Peter Billingsley was the very first kid to audition for the role of Ralphie. Thousands of other actors followed, but ultimately, Peter got the job.

5. There were three leg lamps made for the movie, but none of them survived. All were broken during filming. The OHP also made three leg lamps for our production (Thank you, Jonathon Moser) and only one is broken... or that's the plan, at least!

6. The furnace fight scene was completely ad-libbed. Darren McGavin, who played the Old Man, opted for complete gibberish instead of angry sentences with real words. No cursing was crucial to keeping the movie's PG rating.

7. Jack Nicholson was considered and willing to play the role of the Old Man. However, he was too expensive for the film's budget.

8. The original 'A Christmas Story' house just went for sale in mid-November 2022!

Scenes & Musical Numbers

Act I

Prologue: A street corner outside WOR, New York radio

Scene 1: The Parker Family House, Higbees Department Store - December 1, 1940

"It All Comes Down to Christmas".....Ralphie, the Parkers, Ensemble

"Red Ryder Carbine Action BB Gun".....Ralphie, Jean

"It All Comes Down to Christmas" (reprise).....Ralphie, Ensemble

Scene 2: The Parker Family House - December 2

"The Genius on Cleveland Street".....The Old Man, Mother

Scene 3: A Path To School

"When You're A Wimp".....Ralphie, Farcus, Dill, Kids

Scene 4: The Classroom

"Ralphie to the Rescue".....Ralphie, Miss Shields, Ensemble

Scene 5: The Paker Family House - December 7

"What a Mother Does".....Mother

"A Major Award".....The Old Man, Mother, Ensemble

Scene 6: The Parker Family House - December 13

Scene 7: On the Road

"Parker Family Singalong".....The Parkers

Scene 8: The Parker Family House

"Act 1 Finale".....Ralphie, Ensemble

Act II

Scene 1: The Schoolyard and Classroom - December 20

"Sticky Situation".....Ralphie, Flick, Schwartz, Kids,

Miss Shields, Fireman, Nurses, Flick's Mom

Scene 2: Fantasy 1930's Speakeasy

"You'll Shoot Your Eye Out".....Miss Shields, Kids

Scene 3: A Path From School

Scene 4: The Parker Family House

"Just Like That".....Mother

Scene 5: Santa's Station at Higbee's - December 24

"At Higbee's".....Elves

"Up On Santa's Lap".....Santa, Elves, Ralphie, Randy, Kids

Scene 6: The Parker Family House

"Before the Old Man Comes Homes".....The Parkers

Scene 7: The Boys' Bedroom

"Somewhere Hovering Over Indiana".....Ralphie, Randy, Kids

Scene 8: The Parker Family House, a Chinese Restaurant, Town

"Ralphie to the Rescue" (Reprise).....Ralphie, Ensemble

"A Christmas Story".....The Parkers, Company

THE CREWS

SET CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN & PROPS

Jonathon Moser

Tom Chandler
Cameron Berges
Jon Banse
Mariah Moser
Gretel Moser
Jocelyn Berges
Julia Grau
Kristy Fleming
Rhys Evans
Darren West
Kira Evans

Kay Moser

Del Reimer
Wendy Shea
Marge Banse
Taryn Moser
Sara Berges
Gavin Berges
Pam Vaske
Andrew Lange
Jaren Evans
Gavin West

Cary Kann

Scott Buchheit
Dave Beck
Cheri Moser
Trace Moser
Emma Berges
Macy McGeough
Anita Vaske
Ryan Lange
Hannah Evans
Roger Thomas

LIGHTING & SOUND

Craig Strutt
David Beck

Bob Hankey
Jay Moser

Del Reimer

TICKETS

Terri Strutt

Elkader Floral Shop

COSTUMES & MAKEUP

Mary Beth Specht
Wendy Shea

Barb Chandler
Donna Anderson

Verna Lenth
Jan Stavroplus

PROGRAMS & PUBLICITY

Craig Strutt

Cheri Moser
Kay Moser

Terri Strutt

Upcoming events at the Elkader Opera House

OPERA HOUSE PLAYERS PRESENTS

RUMORS

A CLASSIC NEIL SIMON FARCE

"Rumors," is a madcap, slamming door farce set in a large home located just outside of New York City in the year 1988. The characters are arriving as guests at a 10th Anniversary Dinner. The first couple to arrive discovers that one of their hosts (Charley) has apparently attempted suicide... unsuccessfully. Charley's wife, Myra, is nowhere to be found and neither are the servants. As more guests arrive, there are cover-ups, deceptions, mistaken identities, and a lot of huge laughs.



Performances in spring 2023
Auditions in January 2023

Be sure to check out our websites for more information on upcoming events.

www.OperaHousePlayers.com

www.ElkaderOperaHouse.com

We maintain an email list to keep you informed of events, and occasional special offers just for our email members.

Email us at notify@operahouseplayers.com



We would like to give a special shout out to Tim Finley from Fennellys' Irish Pub and Restaurant in Elkader. We needed help with a certain group of props for our show and he came to our rescue with his 3D printer! Tim spent hours making sure the props were just right and we can't wait for our audiences to see them on stage during "A Major Award." Thanks, Tim!



Fennellys'
Irish Pub & Restaurant



2022-2023 Supporting Members

Actor's Circle (\$25-\$49)

Janann Bachtell
Barbara K. Boies
Stewart & Marlys Boysen
Theresa & Elmer Bries
JoAnn Butikofer
Keith & Linda Campbell
Mike & Joanne Carroll
Darlene Dittmer
Marvin & Julie Duff
Barb Duwe-Peterson
Roland & Elizabeth Evans
John & Betty Fischer
Pat & Arlys Fitzgerald
Linda Gardner & Anne Shelton
Timothy Gilkes
Julita Goedken
Jean Marie Hall
Helen Hanson
Magdalena Hayford
Gerald & Linda Henkes

Larry & Marlis Huinker
Laura Janssen
Trudy Johnson
David & Mary Kahrs
Ron & Georgi Kaiser
Patsy Kerndt
Diane M. Kraus
Maxine Kuehl
Shirley Marmann
Ginger Medberry
Donna Menken
Mary Milewsky
Lorraine Miller
Carl & Laura Moser
Rita & Roger Mullis
Denise Grau Nelson
David & Julie Olson
John & Linda Orr Brian Power
Ann K. Powers
Larry & Jennifer Reed

Gerald & Arlene Reimer
Carl & Mary Scherbring
Wendy & Barry Shea
Lowell & Joyce Siegele
Jim & Janet Solomon
Kenneth & Linda Staff
Erma Swenson
Robyn & Dorothy Tangeman
Joyce Thurn
Geraldyn Torkelson
Karla Vogel & Bob Myers
Jennifer Wachuta
Twyla Walz
Mick Weiss
Morris & Sandy Weller
Cheryl & Jim Whalen
Mary Wildman
Tom & Jen Wilwert
David & Leslie Wynthein

Playwright's Circle (\$50-\$99)

Janice Andregg
Victoria Breitbach
James Brust
Jerry & Kelly Carpenter
Paul & Andrea Carroll
Roland & Marguerite Clinton
Ken & Jean Cornish
Marvin & Annette Dahling
Jason & Kris Eulberg
Rhys & Hannah Evans
Merle & Barbara Frommelt
Jerome & Jane Godson
Randy & Sindee Gohde
Chris & Julie Grau
Ruth Grau
Cherie Hallberg
Mary Ellen Hoefler
Winnie Holmes
Chris & Christina Hopp
Madonna Hosch
Thomas & Marquerite Hunzinger
Jerry Janssen
Dick & Mary Jensen
Joshua & Heather Klingman
Gerry & Sandy Kramer
Pat Krapfl

Noel C Kurt
Jennifer Lancaster
Kevin & Kim Lau
Jim & Connie Leete
Janet Lueck
Tom & Celeste McGreal
William McHugh
David & Melanie Mergen
Gene & Barb Milewsky
Stan & Sharlene Milewsky
Linda Miller
David & Maylo Moser
Cici Mueller
Bill & Dorothy Peterson
Robert & Bonnie Pruett
Ken & Alice Reimer
Dennis & Elise Rodenberg
Edmund & Barbara Ruff
Connie Ruhser
Ellen Rule
Fred Schaffer
Alice Staples
Betty Troendle
Ed & Dianne Uriell
Sharon Vaske
Randy & Kathy Waterman

Choreographer's Circle (\$100-\$249)

Mike & Donna Anderson
Francis(Gus) & LaVonne
Augustson
Martha & Stephen Bartenhagen
Mary Beck
Dennis & Lorna Christeleit
Terri Connell
Lois Cordes
Bona Dean Feller
Janet & Ted Finn
Diane & Tim Fisk
Chris Foley
Becky Fritz
Guy & Emily Ghan
David & Ann Gibney
Tom & Michelle Gifford
Don & Lee Gordon
Russ & Barb Hagen
Robert & Susanne Hankey
Don & Mary Harstad
Nancy K. Henricksen
Zachary & Jillian Herrmann
Mark & Brenda Howard
Lu Ann & John Hunt
Bonnie & Ed James
Don & Marilyn Kamaus

Thelma Keehner
Bruce Landis
Fred & Lynn Lange
Kenny & Penni Leonard
Barbara Martin
Patricia Martin
Charlie & Julianne Mason
Steve & Ann McCorkindale
Diane & David McKenzie
Bobbi Mohning
Bob Moran
Erika Moyna
Brad & Deb Orvis
Dan & Val Paris
Linda & Joseph Paris
Bill Reimer
Mark & Pam Reinig
Linda Lou Roberts
Ken & Carolyn Sand
Margaret Schultz
Marilyn Sedorff
Dr. Andy & M.J. Smith
Larry & Margaret Stone
Sue Stott
Curtis & Celeste Strong
Sandy Thompson
Roger & Rosemary Thomas

Designer's Circle (\$250-\$499)

John & Dawn Cunningham
John & Susan Gnagy
Bob Griffith
Janette Hansel
Roger & Jody Helmricks

Dr. Jeff & Carolyn Hoffmann
Pat Hunsberger
Randi & Pete McNally
Steve & Kathy Mueller
Joan Wangen & Romuald Piorkowski
Linda Witter
Ken & Fran Zichal

Director's Circle (\$500-\$749)

Tim Burrack
Nancy McClure
Karen Schroeder
Craig & LeAnn Watson
Margaret & Mark Yackel-Juleen

Angel's Circle (\$1000+)

John & Med Bickel
Dr. Scot & Jane Christiansen
Dr. Michele & Steve Dickers
Keith & Kathy Garms

OUR 2022-2023 PATRONS

ACTOR'S CIRCLE (\$25-\$49)

Briezy Acres - Monona
Everett's Service - Elkader

Safariland Taxidermy - Dan Beck - Elkader

PLAYWRIGHT'S CIRCLE (\$50-\$99)

Bridge View House Air B&B - Elkader
Citizen's State Bank - Strawberry Point
Elkader Tax and Bookkeeping - Elkader
Furniture Showcase - Oelwein
JEM Salaon & Spa, JSC Property - Rentals, LLC - Elkader
Rivals, Inc. Custom Gear - Strawberry Point

CHOREOGRAPHER'S CIRCLE (\$100-\$249)

Adverse Weather Insurance, LLC Volga	North Gate Healing Center Marge Banse Elkader - Strawberry Point
Barn on the Bluff B & B Elkader	ROOTS - Rebecca Hefel Guttenberg
Birdie's - Elkader	Sincerely Yours Interiors Monona
Franzen Ridge LLC Dean & Joann Franzen Elkader	Umbrella Arts - Guttenberg
Norplex - Micarta Postville	Volga City Veterinary Clinic Volga City
	Witt's Custom Framing & Gallery Elkader

DESIGNER'S CIRCLE (\$250-\$499)

**Alpine Communications
Elkader**

**Fennellys' Irish Pub
Elkader**

**Anne Kruse,
Attorney at Law
McGregor**

**Grau Logs & Lumber
Chris & Julie Grau
Pat & Staci Grau
Elkader**

**Cedar Street Suites
Elkader**

**R.D. Witter Farm Corp
McGregor**

**Community Savings Bank
Edgewood**

**Strutt Chiropractic Clinic
Dr. Craig Strutt &
Dr. Jonathon Moser
McGregor**

**Elkader Floral Shop
Elkader**

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE (\$500-\$749)



www.centralstate.bank



ANGEL'S CIRCLE (\$1000 OR MORE)

