MERRIMACK REPERTORY THEATRE

JANUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 3, 2019

SLOW FOOD

BY Wendy MacLeod
DIRECTED BY Sean Daniels

JANUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 3, 2019
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So last month marked my four year anniversary of being the Artistic Director of Merrimack Repertory Theatre—and our biggest box office hit in the last 40 years, *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*. It was a great moment for reflection.

After spending four years trying to create theatre the world pays attention to (and feeling mildly successful), I can easily tell you that none of this would be possible without the amazing "Artistic Staff" I have. (Bonnie runs the "Admin Staff," who are the wizards that keep the doors open, and you and your donations coming in. Without whom, there is no Artistic Staff to create work in the first place).

The Artistic Staff are listed in this program—but it’s worth reminding you that all the amazing sets, lights, costumes, actors, stage managers, designers, and playwrights—seven shows worth—are all organized, produced and taken care of by: Peter, Lee, Alexis, Carter, Brendan, Ryann, Krista, Jason, Paul and Erin. That’s it. It’s a short list! It’s a bare-bones staff managing a TON of guest artists (with all the “needs” that artists can have!) and doing so in a way that allows us all to put on some of the best theatre in this country.

If you have enjoyed the different type of work we’ve had over the last four years, if you’ve enjoyed seeing box office records broken, if you’ve enjoyed seeing work starting in Lowell and then traveling on to the rest of the country, if you’ve enjoyed seeing Tony Award winners consider this theatre their home: thank them. Next time you’re at the bar, ask if Peter, Lee, Alexis, Carter, Brendan, Ryann, Krista, Jason, Paul or Erin are around, and let them know what the last four years have meant to you. They work long hours at a fast rate to make it all happen. None of the success we are having would be happening without them. At least on the Artistic side.

After four years, I can tell you that for certain.

Thanks for coming to MRT, and thanks for helping us to continue to be a local theatre the world pays attention to.

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We are thrilled to share Wendy MacLeod’s new play, *Slow Food*, with all of you; she’s brilliant at taking everyday experiences, raising the stakes, and turning it into comedy. *Slow Food* is the beginning of three-show run of world premieres at MRT. We’re premiering Lauren Gunderson’s *The Heath* next, followed by Jack Kerouac’s *The Haunted Life* adapted by our own Sean Daniels.

You are an important part of the creation of three new works for the American theatre right here in Lowell. It’s an extraordinary experience—supporting new works that have never before been produced for the stage. There are unexpected challenges, lots of laughs, dozens of new pages for the actors, and audience reactions that inform our revisions during preview performances.

Our new plays would not be ready for full production without multiple readings and workshops. It can (and often does) take years to craft a new script for production. Our playwrights often partner with theatres across the country to refine their work, and MRT partners with multiple colleges, universities, donors, and other theatres to prepare a play for full production. In just the last few months, we partnered with Emory University Playwrights Center in Atlanta, PlayPenn in Philadelphia, UMass Lowell, and Middlesex Community College. We could not produce new plays without these partnerships, and we couldn’t do it without you—our audience.

If you’re interested in learning more about the process of creating new plays, please check out our Producer’s Circle opportunities. For a deeper dive, consider our Cohort Club or become an Honorary Producer. Go to www.mrt.org to learn more!

Lastly, we are already preparing for the 2019-2020 season. Subscriptions for next season go on sale soon, and returning subscribers will have the chance to renew at the deepest discount in February. Save the date for our season announcement on March 5. You’re all invited!

Happy New Year,
“A METAPHOR FOR MARRIAGE”
An Interview with Playwright Wendy MacLeod

Playwright Wendy MacLeod is best known as the author of Women in Jeopardy! (an MRT audience favorite from the 2016-17 Season) and as a writer for the TV cult sensation “Popular.” She has also earned acclaim and awards for the plays Schoolgirl Figure, The House of Yes, The Water Children, and Juvenilia. The film version of The House of Yes, starring Parker Posey, won the Sundance Award and international acclaim. A professor at Kenyon College and Northwestern University, MacLeod regularly writes for The New York Times, Salon, McSweeney’s, The Washington Post, and “All Things Considered.”

What inspired you to write Slow Food?
The play was inspired by a family trip to Palm Springs, where we found ourselves waiting endlessly for dinner late at night in a Greek restaurant, trapped there because it was the only restaurant still open. Our waiter was maddening, and yet his need to be king of this very small kingdom was fascinating. I was reminded of how we become our best selves once we've been fed.

Is there a message you hope to impart to audiences?
As far as a “message,” I'm with George S. Kaufmann, that “if you want to send a message, call Western Union.” A comedy should entertain, and it does that by being recognizable—the audience needs to see themselves in the characters or the situation. I don't pretend that I'm communicating “important ideas.” Rather, I'm creating opportunities for gifted comic actors and allowing an audience to experience the joy of shared laughter.

How would you describe Slow Food?
This play is very much about middle-age and mortality. I call them Woman and Man because the play can’t just be about one couple trying to figure out how to be lovers again after being parents for so long. Over the course of a marriage we all can find ourselves careening between being lovers, co-conspirators, parents, friends, rivals, and adversaries. Being trapped in a restaurant, waiting to be fed, is a metaphor for marriage.

Follow the conversations:
#MRTSLOWFOOD

ATHENIAN CORNER SWIFT TO ADOPT SLOW FOOD
Efharistoomay! A million thanks to our longtime friends at Athenian Corner restaurant in downtown Lowell. The Panagiotopoulos family has been operating the beloved restaurant since 1974 and supporting MRT for years. They hosted our cast, director, and photographer, Meghan Moore, for a publicity shoot, and they provide the delicious meal that finally arrives at the end of Slow Food. Show them some love when you drop in for sizzling lamb shish-kebob, crispy spanakopita, or the best moussaka on this side of the Atlantic. www.atheniancorner.com

Follow the conversations:
#MRTSLOWFOOD

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The most-produced playwright in America, Lauren Gunderson (Silent Sky) returns to MRT for the fourth time with The Heath. This time, she turns her prodigious storytelling skills on herself. Connecting personal experiences with Shakespeare’s writings, she wrestles with how you can make peace with a beloved relative who seems unlike you in every way. This beautiful meditation on her grandfather’s life draws on everything from King Lear to the banjo. The Heath is a soul-stirring story of redemption, love, madness, and the science of memory.

BY Lauren Gunderson
DIRECTED BY Sean Daniels

COMING NEXT!
FEB 13 – MAR 10
THE HEATH
by Lauren Gunderson
directed by Sean Daniels

THE COHORT CLUB
is funded in part by Mass Humanities, which receives support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council and is an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.
In alphabetical order

Waiter (Stephen) ................................................................. Brian Beacock
Woman (Irene) ............................................................... Daina Michelle Griffith
Man (Peter) ................................................................. Joel Van Liew

SPECIAL THANKS
Athenian Corner

TIME AND PLACE
A Greek restaurant, Palm Springs.

Run time is approximately 95 minutes with no intermission.

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.

The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.

The indicated Costume, Lighting, and Sound Designers in this production are represented by United Scenic Artists (USA) Local USA-829, IATSE.

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WHO'S WHO

BRIAN BEACOCK (Waiter-Stephen) Brian is an actor, writer, producer, VO actor, singer, and musician from the San Francisco Bay Area. After completing the National Tour of Les Miserables, he moved to Los Angeles where he has created a diverse career including numerous cartoon series and video games such as: Digimon, Bleach, Naruto, Sailor Moon, Durarara, Blue Exorcist, Doraemon, and more. **Theater Credits:**: the West Coast Premiere of Elegies, When Pigs Fly, the insane one-man show Fully Committed, and as a Broadway Axl Rose in Andy Prieboys’ cult favorite, White Trash Wins Lotto. **Television:** Kath & Kim, CSI, General Hospital, Playing it Straight, Passions, Imagination Movers, and NBC’s The Real Show. **Films:** Mulholland Drive, Laws of the Universe-Part I, Buying The Cow, Circuit, To The Beat, Racing Colt, and the upcoming horror feature Hollow Scream. He has been a musical guest on Late Night with Conan O’Brien, and was honored to sing to Betty White on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. He wrote and created the zombie comedy digital series Acting Dead (currently streaming on Amazon Prime) which won one of the first ever Primetime Emmys in the new short form series category. Follow him on Twitter and Instagram @brianbeacock.

DANA MICHELLE GRIFFITH (Woman - Irene) Daina is making her Merrimack debut! In 2018, Daina had the good fortune of performing in Sean Daniels' The White Chip at City Theatre in Pittsburgh, PA. **Regional/NYC:** The Gateway, Human Race Theatre, Pittsburgh Public Theater, Kansas City Starlight, NYC International Fringe, Quantum Theatre, heXtc (Theatre Row), among others. **Film/Television:** Christopher Nolan’s The Dark Knight Rises (Foley’s Wife), Holidaysburg (Angela), Intrusion (waitress), Richard Linklater’s upcoming Where’d You Go, Bernadette (Julie), Unsinkable (Countess of Rothes), “Guiding Light”, WGN’s “Outsiders” (recurring Season 1, Rikki), “ACTORS ON: Macbeth”. Daina was honored to be named Performer of the Year by the Pittsburgh Post Gazette in 2013, and was nominated for The Carol R. Brown Emerging Artist Award in 2015. dainamichellegriffith.com

JOEL VAN LIEW (Man - Peter) Joel is thrilled to be back at Merrimack after having played Owen in Lila Rose Kaplan’s Home of the Brave in 2016. Other regional credits include The 39 Steps (Geva Theatre, directed by Sean Daniels), The Ver**son Play (ATL Humana Festival), Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England (Two River), Pride and Prejudice (ATL), Well (ACT), The Pavilion (City Theatre). **NY Theatre:** Well (Public), From Up Here (MTC), The Hunt (HB Studio Theatre), Park Slope Minstrel Show by Eleanor Burgess (finalist, Samuel French Play Fest), Permanent Visitor (New Georges), Born of Conviction (White Bird Prods). **Film:** The Girl in the Book, Crown Heights, Monster. **Television:** Escape at Dannemora, Billions, Broad City, Blue Bloods, Girls, Boardwalk Empire, Nurse Jackie, Law & Order. Member of the Actors Center.

SEAN DANIELS (Artistic Director, Director) MRT: Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley, The Villains’ Supper Club, Little Orphan Danny, Silent Sky, My 80-Year-Old Boyfriend, Women in Jeopardy!, The Making of a Great Moment, 45 Plays for 45 Presidents, Home of the Brave, Tinker to Evers to Chance, I and You, The Lion. Sean has directed at Manhattan Theatre Club (The Lion), Drama Desk Award & Theatre World Award, nominated for Lucille Lortel and Outer Critics Circle), Lynn Redgrave (NYC), The Kennedy Center (Washington, D.C.), St. James (West End, London – The Lion, winner of Best New Musical), Actors Theatre of Louisville, Arena Stage, Portland Center Stage, Geva Theatre, Old Globe, The Geffen, Playmakers
UMASS LOWELL is proud to support the art and artists of the Merrimack Repertory Theatre.

WHO’S WHO

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Rep, A.C.T., Cleveland Play House, Milwaukee Rep, Alliance Theatre, California Shakespeare, Dad’s Garage Theatre Company, Swine Palace, Neo-Futurists, Aurora Theatre, Crowded Fire, and the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Sean has been named “one of the top 15 up & coming artists in the U.S., whose work will be transforming America’s stages for decades to come” and “One Of Seven People Reshaping And Revitalizing The American Musical” by American Theatre magazine. His direction and shows have won “Best Play” and “Best Director” in the Bay Area, Portland, Rochester, and Atlanta. He’s previously served as the Artist-At-Large for Geva Theatre Center and spent four years at the Tony Award-winning Actors Theatre of Louisville as the theatre’s Associate Artistic Director (where he directed 17 productions including five Humana Festivals). Mr. Daniels is the former Associate Artistic Director/Resident Director of the California Shakespeare Theater and before that spent a decade as the Artistic Director and Co-Founder of Dad’s Garage Theatre Company in Atlanta. He has developed new work with the Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center, Ars Nova, PlayPenn, Lark, PlayLabs, New York Stage and Film, Asolo Rep, Goodspeed Opera, Weston Playhouse, Bay Area Playwrights, Magic Theatre and was the first American director asked to attend the Baltic American Playwrights Conference in Hiiumaa, Estonia. He’d love to hear from you, on Twitter @sean.daniels or email him at sean.daniels@mrt.org.

WENDY MACLEOD (Playwright) Wendy MacLeod's play The House of Yes became a Sundance award-winning Miramax film starring Parker Posey. Women in Jeopardy! premiered at Geva Theater, directed by Sean Daniels, and is now being done around the country. Her other plays include Sin (The Goodman, Second Stage) and Schoolgirl Figure (The Goodman Theatre), The Water Children and Juvenilia (Playwrights Horizons), and Things Being What They Are (Seattle Repertory Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, The Road Theater), and she contributed to Standing on Ceremony, an evening of plays about gay marriage. She is working on a play called The Laugh Track for ACT in Seattle. Slow Food was developed at the 2015 O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, where it was performed by Reed Birney and Jane Kaczmarek.

APOLLO MARK WEAVER (Scenic Designer) Apollo is a professor of theatrical design at Juniata College. Previously for MRT, he designed The Villains’ Supper Club and The Making of a Great Moment. Regional: Henry VI p.1, The Merchant of Venice and The Merry Wives of Windsor for Utah Shakespeare Festival, and Tinker to Evers to Chance and No Child... for Geva Theatre Center. Recent Credits: The Gap, Shitheads, and Moth for Azuka Theatre; The Monster in the Hall for Inis Nua Theatre; and The Brownings and Peaceable Kingdom for Orbiter 3. Visit him on the web at www.apolloweaer.com.

DEBORAH NEWHALL (Costume Designer) MRT: Women in Jeopardy!, The Outgoing Tide, Oceanside, Dusk Rings a Bell, Year Zero, Tally’s Folly, Mrs. Mannerly, Red, Beat Generation, Mrs. Whitney, Ghostwriter, The Exceptionals, Four Places, Black Pearl Sings!. Broadway: Radio City Rockettes. Off-Broadway: Love Song (Director John Kolvenbach, 59e59 St. Theater); The Ruby Sunrise (Director Oscar Eustis, Public Theater, Lucille Lortel Nomination). Regional: Actors Theatre of Louisville, Trinity Rep, Studio Arena Theatre, Goodspeed Opera House, Opera Providence, New Rep. Opera: Tosca (Boston Lyric Opera), Werther (Director Crystal Manich, Boston Lyric Opera and Opera Omaha), Film: Honest Thief (with Liam Neeson), The Possession of Hannah Grace, (with Shay Mitchell, director Diederik Van Rooijen, Sony/Screen Gems), The Haunted (Amblin Production), Liberal Arts (with Elizabeth Olsen, Zac Efron, Richard Jenkins, Allison Janney, Director Josh Radnor); Back Mask (Director Marcus Nispel); Valediction (with Ben Barnes); Madso’s War, 4 Single Fathers, Hachiko (with Richard Gere, Joan Allen, director Lasse Hallsttrom); Monument Avenue (with Denis Leary); American Buffalo (with Dustin Hoffman.) Television: American
BRIAN J. LILIENTHAL (Lighting Designer)
MRT: 26 productions including: Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley; Women in Jeopardy!; The Making of a Great Moment; The Realness: a breakbeat play; 45 Plays for 45 Presidents; Going to See the Kid. Regional: Over 250 productions at: Huntington Theatre; Arizona Theatre Co; Milwaukee Rep; Cleveland Playhouse; Pasadena Playhouse; South Coast Rep; Actors Theatre of Louisville (60 productions; 20 world premieres); Geva Theatre Center; The Kennedy Center; Gloucester Stage; Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park; Arden Theatre; Trinity Rep (over 25 productions); Playmakers Rep. Opera: Long Beach Opera; Bard Summerscape; and Portland Opera Repertory Theatre. Awards: Los Angeles Ovation Award for lighting design; MRT’s Artistic Achievement Award, 2016; nominated multiple times for Boston’s IRNE Award. Education: MFA: California Institute of the Arts. Other: Teaches lighting design at Tufts University; member of Patriots Program at MRT; Resident Lighting Designer, National Playwrights Conference, Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center 2007-2015. Mr. Lilienthal lives in Somerville with wife, Emily, daughter Eliza, and dog Babe. He plays drums in a rockabilly/jump blues band that plays throughout the Boston metro area. www.BrianJLilienthal.com.

BECCA FREIFELD (Production Stage Manager) Becca is thrilled to return to Merrimack Repertory Theatre after working as a stage and company management intern during MRT’s 2010-2011 season. Area stage management credits include Straight White Men, Two Jews Walk into a War, Man of La Mancha, Oleanna, Thurgood (original run & on tour), Fiddler on the Roof, and Good (New Repertory Theatre); Dancing at Lughnasa (Gloucester Stage Co.); Every Brilliant Thing (SpeakEasy Stage Company); Barbecue (Lyric Stage Company of Boston); Shoes On, Shoes Off (Brandeis Department of Theater Arts); Romeo & Juliet and Evil Dead: the Musical (Arts After Hours), among others. Up next, Ms. Freifeld returns to New Rep for the New England premiere of Cardboard Piano in the spring.

PETER CREWE (Producer) MRT: Producer: Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley; Murder for Two; The Villains’ Supper Club; KNYUM; The Royale; Women in Jeopardy! (Onstage Theatre Award); The Making of a Great Moment; Abigail/1702; Home of the Brave; I and You; Out of the City; Oceanside; The Best Brothers; Year Zero (original music and sound); Two Jews Walk into a War; The Blonde, the Brunette, and the Vengeful Redhead. Recent: Berta, Berta; A Late Morning (in America) with Ronald Reagan, Contemporary American Theater Festival; Old Money, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company; The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (IRNE Award), SpeakEasy Stage Company. Regional: American Repertory Theatre; Huntington Theatre Company; Portland Stage; Trinity Rep; Geva Theatre Center; The Studio Theatre; 59E59; Theatre for a New Audience; La Jolla Playhouse; Berkeley Rep; Center Stage Baltimore; Cincinnati Playhouse. International: Prominent arts festivals in Bogotá, Paris, Hong Kong and Edinburgh. Awards: IRNE, Connecticut Critics Circle, Elliot Norton. David is Program Head of Sound Design at Boston University, a proud member of United Scenic Artists Local USA 829, and is a founding member of MRT’s Artistic Patriot Program. remediossound.com

Experience (“The Abolitionists”); Brotherhood, Season 1, Showtime; ZOOM, 6 seasons, 2 Emmy Nominations; Antiques Roadshow, 2 Seasons. Education: BFA, Rhode Island School of Design; MFA, UNC Chapel Hill. Other: This is her 28th production at MRT.
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WHO’S WHO


BONNIE J. BUTKAS (Executive Director)

Bonnie most recently served as the Senior Director of Foundation Relations at Rochester Institute of Technology, where she led the university’s strategic efforts to secure funding from private and family foundations. During her tenure, RIT secured its first significant gifts from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Henry Luce Foundation. Prior to RIT, she was the Director of Development at Geva Theatre Center in Rochester, NY overseeing five years of unprecedented growth in the company’s contributed income and playing a key role in a successful $10 million capital campaign to renovate the building and grow the theatre’s endowment. In New York City, she served as the Director of Development at the York Theatre Company, the Director of Development and Communications at TADA! Youth Theatre, Directing Assistant on The Lion King on Broadway, and the co-founder of Lexington Dance Collective. Prior to NYC, she was the Managing Director of Bristol Valley Theater in Naples, NY. Butkas was raised in the Finger Lakes region of Western New York and holds degrees in Journalism and Dance from the University at Buffalo. She volunteered with the Association of Fundraising Professionals of Genesee Valley, Girl Scouts of Western New York, and the YWCA of Rochester & Monroe County. In Fall 2016, she co-founded Action Together Rochester. She serves on the MCC’s Academic Arts Center Advisory Board, and lives in Westford, MA with her family.

MERRIMACK REPERTORY THEATRE (MRT) celebrates 40 years this season as the Merrimack Valley’s professional theatre. With a steadfast commitment to contemporary voices and new plays, MRT produces seven works, including several world premieres, each season. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Sean Daniels and Executive Director Bonnie J. Butkas, MRT strives to fulfill its mission “to share theatrical stories of human understanding that reflect and engage our community.” The company guarantees that shows are accessible to audiences of all incomes; partners with businesses and non-profit groups to fully engage the community; and contributes to the economic vitality of Lowell by attracting diverse audiences from throughout the region.
In honor of our 40th Anniversary Season, we celebrate our history of comedies, including Women in Jeopardy! by Slow Food writer Wendy MacLeod, as well as God of Carnage, Reduced Shakespeare Company’s The Ultimate Christmas Show, and the world premieres of Home of the Brave and Going to See the Kid.
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For the full spectrum arts and culture happening right here in our community, visit The ARTery at wbur.org/artery.
Merrimack Valley Magazine is your guide to community, culture, cuisine and home in the MV. It brings you fresh, original stories on local art & music, food & dining, home & garden, design, history, people and more! Additional stories and calendars online at MVMag.net

The Bean Magazine is devoted to global cafe culture and its connections to travel, adventure and the arts. It’s a magazine to be savored by everyone — from third wave coffee aficionados who enjoy single-origin beans in the comfort of their kitchens, to adventurers who start each day with a cup of home-brewed mud. The Bean Magazine is a slow read for a fast world.

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MRT SHATTERS TWO RECORDS

BOTH CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY AND THE HOLIDAY RAFFLE MAKE HISTORY

Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley bestowed its own gift on Merrimack Repertory Theatre December 13 when it became the best-selling show in the company’s history, just seven weeks after the theatre celebrated its 40th birthday.

And at the close of Miss Bennet . . ., the annual Holiday Raffle also become a historical best-seller. “To everyone who donated incredible items, solicited local businesses for donations, sold tickets to your family and coworkers, hustled for lobby sales, and bought multiple books of tickets yourselves, thank you!,” Jill Meredith Vinci, Development Manager.

Congratulations to Debbie Henderson (pictured below) of West Boylston and Jean McGillick (camera shy) of Chelmsford, the winners of the two raffle baskets, each worth more than $2,500. The proceeds benefit the programs and productions of MRT, a not-for-profit arts and education organization and the Merrimack Valley’s only professional theatre.

TOP 15 BESTSELLING SHOWS IN MRT HISTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>Reduced Shakespeare Company’s The Complete History of America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>2 Pianos 4 Hands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017-18</td>
<td>A Christmas Carol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>Reduced Shakespeare Company’s The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-98</td>
<td>Over the Tavern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-09</td>
<td>The Fantasticks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>Dinah Was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>Reduced Shakespeare Company’s Completely Hollywood (abridged)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-12</td>
<td>Daddy Long Legs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>The Lion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-99</td>
<td>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-16</td>
<td>It’s a Wonderful Life: A Life Radio Play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>Sanders Family Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-97</td>
<td>A Christmas Carol</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Living Legacy Society

Merrimack Repertory Theatre’s Living Legacy Society was established to provide a lasting legacy for donors who believe in the mission of MRT.

The Living Legacy Society helps you combine financial goals with charitable giving. When you support MRT with a planned gift to the Living Legacy Society, you can:

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Living Legacy Society gifts may be made through a bequest, a gift of appreciated securities or assets, beneficiary designation of retirement plans or life insurance, a charitable remainder trust, or a gift of property.

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R. Edward Roach
Bernice and Joseph Weider*
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Fund for Merrimack Repertory Theatre
Ticket sales and subscriptions only cover 60% of our production expenses. Support from people like you make up the rest. Your gift is critical to our success and makes it possible for MRT to produce award-winning productions for Lowell and the Greater Merrimack Valley. Your support underwrites lighting, costumes, artist salaries, free and discounted tickets for students, community outreach efforts, and free discussions and tours.

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- Invitation to one opening night party

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- Invitation to two opening night parties

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- Invitation to four Insider Look events during the year including Insider Look at Tech and Insider Look at Rehearsal
- Invitation to select opening night performances and parties
- Reserved parking (as available)

PRODUCERS CIRCLE BRONZE ($2,500-4,999)
All of the benefits at the Producers Circle level plus:
- Playbills from one show signed by the cast
- Invitation to all Insider Look events

PRODUCERS CIRCLE SILVER ($5,000-9,999)
All of the benefits at the Bronze level plus:
- Invitation to dinner with a featured artist from the season
- Opportunity to be an Honorary Producer on a production with access to all facets of the producing process

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- First access to limited availability trips to NYC, London or other arts destinations coordinated by MRT
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For more information, please contact:
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**5. CAVALIEIRO’S**
(Portuguese)
978-458-2800 | 573 Lawrence St.

**6. COBBLESTONES**
(American)
978-970-2282 | 91 Dutton St.

**7. JIMMY JOHN’S**
(Sandwiches)
978-458-5858 | 134 Merrimack St

**8. MERRIMACK ALES**
(Brewery)
978-701-7225 | 92 Bolt St.

**9. MOONSTONES**
(Tapas/Raw Bar)
978-256-7777 | 85 Chelmsford St.

**10. OLYMPIA**
(Greek)
978-452-8092 | 453 Market St.

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**13. WARP AND WEFT**
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- Mill City Grows – Native Gardens
- The Jane Austen Society of North America/Massachusetts Region – Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley
- The Michelle Canning Band/Alzheimer’s Foundation of America – The Heath
- The Luna Theatre – The Haunted Life
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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

If you have any problems during a performance, please ask one of our volunteer ushers to locate the House Manager.

ACCESSIBILITY

Open Captioning
Thanks in part to a grant and guidance from Theatre Development Fund (TDF), we will offer an open captioning performance during a Sunday matinee for all shows. Open captioning uses a text screen on the side of the stage to display simultaneous transcription of dialogue and lyrics during a live performance. When booking your seats, mention your interest in open captioning in order to secure the most advantageous view. Visit www.mrt.org for dates.

Listening Devices
Please reserve our free listening devices through the box office when you make your reservation.

Wheelchair Seating
Wheelchair space is available by notifying the Box Office when purchasing tickets. A ramp is located to the left of MRT’s main entrance.

RESTROOMS/LATECOMER POLICIES

Restrooms are located in Lowell Memorial Auditorium (LMA). Follow the signs down the hallway on the left side of the theatre. Please do not go past any barriers in the LMA hallways or an alarm will sound. If at any time you leave your seat during the performance, the House Manager will seat you in the rear balcony when you return.

EMERGENCY CALLS

If you expect an emergency call during a performance, please leave your name and seat location with the House Manager. MRT’s emergency phone number is 978-654-4678, press 9.

FIRE REGULATION

Please take a moment to locate the nearest emergency exit. If the fire alarm sounds, please remain in your seat until the House Manager directs you to the nearest exit. Do not run. Exit the theatre in a calm and orderly manner.

BAD WEATHER POLICY

MRT does not cancel performances due to bad weather except in the event of highway closure by the State Police. If you are concerned about driving in poor weather, contact the Enterprise Bank Box Office.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

GROUPS & DISCOUNT

• Students: $15 any performance.
• Groups: Discounts are available for groups of six or more. For more information, call 978-654-7561.
• Lowell Night: Second Thursday night performance of each run for Lowell residents. Restricted seating. Purchase in person, $10 each (cash only), at the Box Office three hours prior to curtain. Must show ID. Limit two per person.
• Military: MRT is a proud member of the Blue Star Theatre program and offers all active duty, veteran, or retired military personnel $10 off on up to four tickets per production. Use the code MIL when ordering online or call 978-654-4678. MRT also offers 50% tickets for military personnel for our special Military Day performance of each show – 4 pm of the second Saturday performance.
• Educators: Take 50% off up to four tickets for Educators Day – the 4 pm performance of each show.
• S5 First Preview Night: Wednesday evening preview. Restricted seating. Purchase in person (cash only) at the Box Office three hours prior to curtain. Limit two per person.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Enterprise Bank Box Office/
Nancy L. Donahue Theatre
50 East Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01852-1205
Phone: 978-654-4678, press 1
Fax: 978-654-7575 Email: box_office@mrt.org

Enterprise Bank Box Office Hours
Tuesday – Saturday: 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Open through curtain on performance nights.
Sunday: 12:00 pm through curtain on performance nights.
Closed on non-performance nights.

Order online: mrt.org
Subscriber ticket exchange by email: box_office@mrt.org

Administrative Offices/Mailing Address
132 Warren Street
Lowell, MA 01852-2208
Phone: 978-654-7550
Fax: 978-654-7575 Email: info@mrt.org
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