



Ripples

Dear River Company Members and Friends:

The Board met at Tom and Andrea Handel's house in January for a delicious Mexican meal to celebrate the successes of the previous season and plan for our exciting 20th Season!

Celebrate the 20th Season on August 20th!

You're invited! Join past and present board members of River Company as we celebrate our 20th Anniversary on August 20th at Savory Maine Organic Restaurant from 3-5 PM. Come and enjoy a delicious hors d'oeuvres spread, some musical entertainment and drinks available for purchase. Our 20th Anniversary Celebration stemless wine glasses will be available so you can commemorate this special occasion. Our wine glasses will also be available at all of our season productions, beginning with *Love Letters* on May 14. We look forward to catching up with our supporters, old and new, and toasting to an incredible 20 years and many more to come!



*River Company's 20th Anniversary
Stemless Wine Glass*

New Board Members

The Board of the River Company is pleased to announce two new members.



JUDY MCQUILLEN is happy to be a new member of the board. She moved to Maine three years ago from Western Mass where she was active in the local community theatre. She made her Maine stage debut in River Company's production of *Love/Sick*. Judy is pleased to be involved with River Company and wants to thank everyone who supports the theatre and arts.

LAINÉY CATALINO graduated in 2015 with her BFA in Musical Theatre from Nazareth College in Rochester NY and is recently moved to Maine. You may remember Lainey from River Company's *Love/Sick* last summer. Catch her this summer as the witch in *Heartwood's Into the Woods*. Lainey is so excited to have the opportunity to work and contribute alongside a wonderful group of artists!



Thank you to outgoing Board Member

On behalf of River Company's board of directors, members and friends, we wish to extend a huge and heartfelt "Thank you" to Charles "Charlie" Waterman for his idea to form a minimalist theater company dedicated to acting and producing the works of major playwrights. Charlie approached Tom and Andrea Handel and Ellen Whalley in the spring of 1998 and River Company was born! Charlie directed *No Exit*, River Company's very first production staged at the Community Center in the summer of 1998.

20 years later, the company is still going strong! Charlie took the reigns in the early years both directing and acting in productions and basically kept the whole group moving forward. River Company quickly incorporated and was granted nonprofit status. Charlie designed the logo and put together the board by-laws. His early leadership solidified the group's mission and his vision to focus on the art and skill of acting guided River Company through year after year of exciting, new and often risky productions.

Folks will fondly remember Charlie's tour de force performance in *The Outgoing Tide* in the fall of 2015 and reprised in 2016. In his bio for the program, Charlie said, "I think the *Outgoing Tide* is the perfect play from which to wave goodbye to acting."

Thanks for everything, Charlie! We love you.

Board Members

Mallory Adams and Tyson Bailey - CoPresidents; Allison Eddyblouin - Secretary; Mitchell Wellman - Treasurer; Suzanne Rankin, Tom Handel, Andrea Handel, Christine Tupper, and Stephen Wallace

2016 Season Recap:



Love/Sick, which went up at the Porter Meeting Hall last July, was a tour de force of local talent both onstage and behind the scenes. A compilation of vignettes, written by John Cariani, the show included a large cast of 12. The reviews were very positive, and audiences laughed their way through relationship woes ranging from break-ups to commitments made.

An encore performance of *The Outgoing Tide* was presented as a staged reading at the Boothbay Railroad, as well as Porter Meeting Hall in Skidompha, in October. The show was well received by the Boothbay community members who have been touched by Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.



The Christmas production of *A Dickens of a Christmas Carol* written and compiled by Ellie Busby, raised over \$800 for Meals on Wheels. The multi-generational cast delighted two audiences with songs and frivolity against the backdrop of the classic Dickens story.

2017 Season:

A.R. Gurney's *Love Letters*, starring longtime River Company board member Suzanne Rankin and local favorite Thom Watson, will open Mother's Day, Sunday May 14th for one performance only. The venue is Savory Maine restaurant, located in Damariscotta and will be an exciting dinner and performance combination. Rankin and Watson bring this romantic comedy to life, reading love letters to one another that span their two characters' lifetimes. The setting and design are simple yet elegant and complements the dining environment. *Love Letters* promises to be a lovely time, a special Mother's Day treat. Doors open at 6 with the performance beginning at 6:30 with a brief intermission and tickets are \$35 per person and include a three course meal. For reservations, please call 207-563-2111.

Aug	2017					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Christopher Durang's Tony award winning play *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* will have six performances, opening Friday August 4th at 7:30 pm, followed by August 5, 11, 12 at 7:30 pm and August 6 and 13 at 3 pm in the Porter Meeting Hall at Skidompha Library. This hilarious comedy centers on three middle aged siblings and their struggle to find love, success and to "grow up." River Company board member, Allison Eddyblouin, has taken on the role of director and plans to cast the show this May. Open auditions will be held at LCTV studio on Sheepscot rd just north of Rt 1, Tuesday May 23 6-7:30 pm, and Wednesday May 24 7:30-8:30 pm."

August 4, 5, 11, 12 at 7:30 PM; August 6, 13 at 3 PM

Eugene Ionesco's *Rhinoceros*, a dark and eye opening three act play will be performed in November, around election day November 7, 2017, the one year anniversary of America's historic presidential election. The performance dates are November 3,4,10,11 at 7:30 pm and 5 and 12 at 3 pm in the Porter Meeting Hall at Skidompha Library. The play takes place in a small French village and focuses on one character, a man named Berenger, who watches everyone in his town overtaken by "rhinocerotitis," a sickness that turns one into a rhinoceros. The play serves as an allegory for the second world war and the conversion and conformation of many people into anti-Semites, and eventually Nazis. There will be a community conversation about politics in our day after each performance.

Nov	2017					
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

November 3,4,10,11 at 7:30 PM; November 5, 12 at 3 PM

There will be a **Christmas Fundraiser** this December for a local charity . Keep an eye on our website and facebook page for more details.

Membership:

We look forward to your support again this season. A membership and return envelope are enclosed with this newsletter. Becoming a member gets you on our mailing list for reminders of upcoming productions, and your ticket will cost you \$2 less at each performance. Tickets will be \$15 for members, \$17 for non-members, \$5 for students and \$25 for families of four or more. We will still be in the Porter Hall at Skidompha Library, Elm Street entrance. Specific dates for the shows are above, so mark your calendars now and we will *see you at the theater!*

How to contact Us:

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