

PLAYBELLE

Almost, Maine

by John Cariani



Bellevue Little Theatre

The 52nd Season has been dedicated to Bette Swanson.



June 25, 1929 – September 19, 2020

Bette was a member of the Bellevue Little Theatre, Omaha South High School Hall of Fame, Bellevue Person of the Year 1994, Sarpy County Worthy Women of Distinction, Jewel of Bellevue, received the TAG Lifetime Award in 2000 and was named Bellevue Volunteer of the Year 2002. She had served as Board President was instrumental in the early years of the BLT, served as producer for numerous productions and appeared on stage. She was a member of the Bellevue Women's Club, Altrusa International of Bellevue and City of Bellevue Business Improvement District. She served as president of local PTA Councils and was active in her church.

Welcome to the Bellevue Little Theatre!

To Our Friends and Patrons,

The Board of Directors of the Bellevue Little Theatre welcomes you to our 52nd Season. We were heartbroken to see our previous season come to an early end and are happy to be welcoming back everyone. Now is the time we need theater to reconnect and enjoy the arts. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have helped us to present and maintain top notch live theatre in the Bellevue area for the past 50+ years.

We extend a heartfelt thanks to our season ticket patrons for their investment in previous years. Please consider becoming a season ticket holder – it's the best value for great entertainment.

Our season is made possible by the generous support of our Sponsors and Contributors. As always, we are grateful for their support, which enables the theatre to continue to mount top-notch productions. All sponsors are greatly appreciated and recognized in every program throughout the year. Together we can continue raising curtains for another 50 years.

Joey Lorincz
President/Treasurer, BLT Board of Directors

Production Sponsors

For *Forever Plaid/The Taffetas*

Drs. Edward B & Victoria F Roche (Designer)

For *Almost, Maine*

Friends of the Bellevue Little Theatre

Todd Uhrmacher

For *Dial M for Murder*

Drs. Edward B & Victoria F Roche (Designer)

For *Grease*

Hillcrest Health Services (Designer)

For *The Outsider*

Drs. Edward B & Victoria F Roche (Designer)

Sponsorship Levels

STAGEHAND may choose to sponsor a performance for a minimum contribution of \$450, and entitles the Stagehand to (20) tickets for their selected performance, a display sign in the lobby and a quarter page advertisement in our season program.

DESIGNER may choose to support an entire production for a minimum contribution of \$1,200, and entitles the Designer to (24) tickets for their selected production, an additional (16) tickets to be used as they choose for any season production, a display sign in the lobby, advertisement on our website and a half page advertisement in our season program.

UNDERWRITER may choose to support an entire production for a minimum contribution of \$2,000, and entitles the Underwriter to (40) tickets for their selected production, an additional (20) tickets to be used as they choose for any season production, a display poster in the lobby, advertisement on our website, marketing on printed media, cocktail party after selected performance of your choosing, and a full page advertisement in our season program.

Contributors

Angels.....\$2,500 and Up

Drs. Edward B. & Victoria F. Roche

Directors.....\$500 - \$999

Roy Bennett

Todd Uhrmacher

Builders.....\$250 - \$499

Ron & Cindy Anderson

Marilyn Parker

Jon Flower

Anthony J & Mary Younkens

Paula Johnson

Donors.....\$100 - \$249

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Carol Johnson

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Julie Carle

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Toni Menear

Spencer & Vivian Davis

Joli Munch

Doris Greendyke

Greg & Kris Ongert

Janet M Haake

Lloyd & Betty Russo

Mark Haufle

Thomas Stoysich

Linda Head MD & Bill Kathol

Sharon & Ronald Strawn

Friends.....\$50 - \$99

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Kay Dammast

Sara Planck

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Gary & Paula Groff

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Season Ticket Patrons

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Reba & Leon Benschoter (2)

Downtown Coffee Shop –

-Chris Kouba

Lorraine & Bob Jeffus

Linda Head & Bill Kathol

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Greg & Kris Ongert

Leslie Pahre

David L. Sherwood

Sissy Katelman Silber

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Silver Patrons

Lloyd & Retha Dowding

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Terri Garvey

Susan Hester

Joe & Judy Medokovich (2)

Betty & Lloyd Russo

Sharon & Ron Strawn (2)

Season Ticket Winner

Mardelle Gocek

ALMOST, MAINE

materials provided by
Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York

Lobby Display courtesy of
Jim Kalahan & Sue Van Doran
Bellevue Artist Association

Production Logo and Poster Graphic Artist
Barbara Boicourt

Attraction Posters by
Standard Digital

Please silence your personal devices.
Please refrain from texting during the performance.
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Visit us on the web at www.bellevuelittletheatre.weebly.com

The Bellevue Little Theatre, an all-volunteer organization, maintains an "equal opportunity" policy for volunteer recruitment of both board and production positions. The BLT does not discriminate against any person regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation or ethnicity.

Almost, Maine written by
Frederick Knott

Director
Jon Flower

Light Designer
Joey Lorincz

Coordinator
Todd Uhrmacher

Stage Manager
Kim Alger

Scenic Designer
Joey Lorincz

Production Crew

Crew

Brian Callaghan, Sam Bass,
Jenna Hager

Set Build

Joey Lorincz

Playbelle Editor

Joey Lorincz

Public Relations

Lauren Anderson, Clara Sue
Arnsdorff, Joey Lorincz,
Toni Menear

Box Office/Season Tickets

Toni Menear

Production Committee

Joey Lorincz, Toni Menear.
Eric Cavanaugh, Marya Lucca-
Thyberg, Nancy Buennemeyer

Bellevue Little Theatre

Board of Directors

Joey Lorincz/Dr. Edward Roche

Co-Presidents

Toni Menear

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Clara Sue Arnsdorff

Corresponding Secretary

Tori Tiehen

Recording Secretary

Joey Lorincz

Treasurer

Lauren Anderson

Nancy Buennemeyer

Eric Cavanaugh

Gary Groff

Brian Henning

Robin Klusmire

Marya Lucca-Thyberg

Thank You. . .

The cast and crew of *Almost, Maine* thank the following organizations and individuals for their contribution.

The Bellevue Leader
The Council Bluffs Nonpareil
The Omaha World Herald
Broadwayworld.com

Chris' Corner
Ralston High School
Todd Uhrmacher

Cast

Pete, Jimmy, Lendall, Randy, Man.....Jacob Roman
Ginette, Sandrine, Gayle, Hope.....Madison Roman
East, Steve, Chad, Phil, Dave.....Bob Gilmore
Glory, Waitress, Marvalyn, Marcy, Rhonda.....Lauren Gilmore

Scene Breakdown, Place & Time

Prologue

Act One

Her Heart

Sad and Glad

This Hurts

Getting It Back

(15 minute intermission)

Interlogue

Act Two

They Fell

Where It Went

Story of Hope

Seeing the Thing

Epilogue

Various locales in Almost, Maine. A small town in far Northern Maine that doesn't quite exist.

The present. All events transpire over the same 15 minutes-from around 8:50 to a bit after 9:00pm- on a moonless, slightly surreal Friday night in the middle of the deepest part of a Northern Maine.

From the Director

Thank you for joining us for COVID conscious live theatre. Our decision to present *Almost, Maine*, was born from a desire to bring safe (but exciting) art back into our community. Early discussions revolved largely around the challenges of achieving the required intimacy of *Almost, Maine*, while also taking the highest levels of safety precautions for our audience and actors. What resulted was the casting of two married couples, to play various roles. This casting allowed us to present their characters safely, while also providing the closest experience to pre-COVID theatre as possible.

Now more than ever art is needed in our communities to help bring us together and heal from the challenges 2020 has brought us. What better way to do that than a story about real, everyday people.

Almost, Maine is a play about what happens to people in a heartbeat. As you sit with us, you may recall past love, moments in your life both tender and painful. As is often the case with art, *Almost, Maine* puts a mirror to our lives. You just might see yourself or a version of yourself come alive on the stage. Primarily a comedy, this play is rich and layered – hardly a rehearsal went by without one of us discovering something new embedded in the dialogue.

You are entering *Almost, Maine*. No matter which performance you attend, the stories you see unfold occur within the same 15-minute period; Friday night, Nine O'clock, with the Aurora Borealis expected in the northern sky.

You'll be witness to endless possibilities for the residents of *Almost, Maine*: Blossoming new love, relationships ending, people moving forward in their lives, people examining their situations. What you will not witness, is the end of these possibilities. At the close of each scene, our characters are about to experience joy. Great Joy. But not yet... the lights fade on the moment of change, leaving you to fill in the final gaps of their journey. You're going to have to do a bit of work, a little thinking and a dash of feeling to complete the narrative yourself.

Enjoy your visit.

Meet the Gilmore's

BOB GILMORE is excited to make his Bellevue Little Theatre debut opposite his wife in *Almost, Maine*. His most recent role was Eddie in *The Rocky Horror Show* at the Omaha Community Playhouse. Other memorable roles include Dennis Dupree in *Rock of Ages* and Cogsworth in *Beauty and the Beast*, both at the Omaha Community Playhouse. By day, Bob is an occupational therapist, specializing in hand therapy Bergan Mercy in Omaha. He is eager to share the stage with these amazing performers and these sweet stories with you.

LAUREN GILMORE is thrilled to be back on the BLT stage in *Almost, Maine* with her main squeeze! She was most recently seen as Mrs. Fezziwig in the 2019 Nebraska Theatre Caravan's, *A Christmas Carol*. Previous roles have seen her on the stages of the Omaha Community Playhouse, Chanticleer Community Theater, Papillion LaVista Community Theatre, and the Ralston Community Theatre. When not on the stage, you can find Lauren working as the Senior Media Planner/Buyer at Smith Kroeger in Omaha. She is pleased to be sharing these fun vignettes with you this season!

Meet the Roman's

JACOB ROMAN is so excited to be back in Omaha performing. He's even more excited to be performing with his wife, and friends. Jacob has been performing in the Midwest since 2010, and has most recently been involved in a couple of projects in New York City, where he just moved back from due to the pandemic. You may have also seen him as an extra in the popular *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* and *Succession*. He would also like to apologize to his dog for being gone so many nights.

MADISON ROMAN is ecstatic to be making her Bellevue Little Theatre debut! She has a degree in Musical Theatre from UNK and has been performing professionally across the Midwest for the past decade. Last seen in Omaha in Nebraska Shakespeare's *All's Well That Ends Well* in 2019. Some of Madison's favorite credits include Urleen in *Footloose*, at Crane River Theatre, Gingy in *Shrek* at the Black Hills Playhouse, and Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* at Chanticleer. Madison is thrilled to be back in stage after being in NYC for the past 2 years. Performing with her wonderful husband for the first time since they met, has been a huge blessing. Thank you to Jon for inviting us on this journey.

Production Staff

JON FLOWER (Director) is excited to return to the Bellevue Little Theatre stage. His previous BLT credits include *Cheaper by the Dozen* (Director), *Murder on the Orient Express* (Poirot), *Nonsense – Amen* (Sister Robert Anne), and *Ten Little Indians* (Lombard). He has also been seen at Ralston Community Theatre in *Annie* (Rooster), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Trevor Graydon) and *Anything Goes* (Billy) where Jon met his wife Tessie; along with *Cabaret* (EmCee) and *Urinetown* (Officer Lockstock) at Chanticleer. Jon has a degree in performance through The American Musical and Dramatic Academy and The New School University; and recently finished his Master's in Business Administration with Midland University. During the week he works within Enterprise Sourcing for First National Bank of Omaha, serves as the President of the Board of Directors for Ralston Community Theatre and WhyArts!.

KIM ALGER (Stage Manager) is happy to be in her sixth show at the BLT, previously being in the ensembles for *Oklahoma!*, *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* and also Miss Brill in *Cheaper by the Dozen*. She has also stage managed for several shows here at the BLT, the Chanticleer Theater, and been in several shows at the Omaha Community Playhouse and Loft Theater. Kim has enjoyed working with this cast, and hopes to be in more shows with them in the future!

JOEY LORINCZ (Scenic/Light Designer) is an actor, carpenter, scenic and lighting designer. This is Joey's 37th show with the BLT and 128th overall. His recent lighting designs include: *Mamma Mia!*, *Crucible*, *A Christmas Story* and *12 Angry Jurors* (Ralston High School), *Beauty & the Beast*, *Annie* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Ralston Community Theatre) and *Forever Plaid/The Taffetas*, *Catch Me if You Can*, *Murder on the Orient Express*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Blithe Spirit* (BLT). His recent set designs include: *Mamma Mia!*, *Diary of Anne Frank* *The Crucible* (Ralston High School), *Annie* and *A Funny Thing....Forum* (Ralston Community Theatre) and *Murder on the Orient Express*; *Arsenic & Old Lace*, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, *Blithe Spirit* and *Nunsense A-Men* (Bellevue Little Theatre). He has been building sets for Ralston High School for the past 17 years and BLT for 6 years and has been light designing for the past 7 years. Joey would like to thank his wife, Erin, their two boys Elijah & Teddy and their daughter Hazel, for letting daddy do what he loves.

TODD UHRMACHER (Coordinator) has been a part of the BLT family for over the past 20 years. Todd was named the 2002 Omaha Chamber of Commerce Arts Educator of the Year. In 2008, Todd was named Nebraska Theatre Educator of the Year by the Educational Theatre Association. He has served as director of the Nebraska Educational Theatre Association, on the RCT board of directors and the TAG board of directors. Todd is the drama director at Ralston High School. Todd will be directing our January show, *Dial M for Murder* and will be costuming our spring musical, *Grease*.



Come on down to our wonderful thrift shop. We have a little bit of everything for everyone. Clothes, kitchen utensils, home decor, you name it. All of it is reasonably priced.

Proceeds from sales go towards the Bellevue Little Theatre productions.

Donations welcomed.

Hours M-Sat, 10-4.

205 W Mission Ave, Bellevue, NE