83rd Season • 535th Production







Directed by TAMMY CORNELL

Music by ALAN MENKEN
Lyrics by HOWARD ASHMAN & GLENN SLATER

Book by DOUG WRIGHT

Based on the Hans Christian Andersen story and the Disney film produced by Howard Ashman & John Musker and written & directed by John Musker and Ron Clements

Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

Orchestrations by Danny Troob

Incidental Music and Vocal Arrangements by Michael Kosarin

Dance Arrangements by David Chase

Disney's The Little Mermaid Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

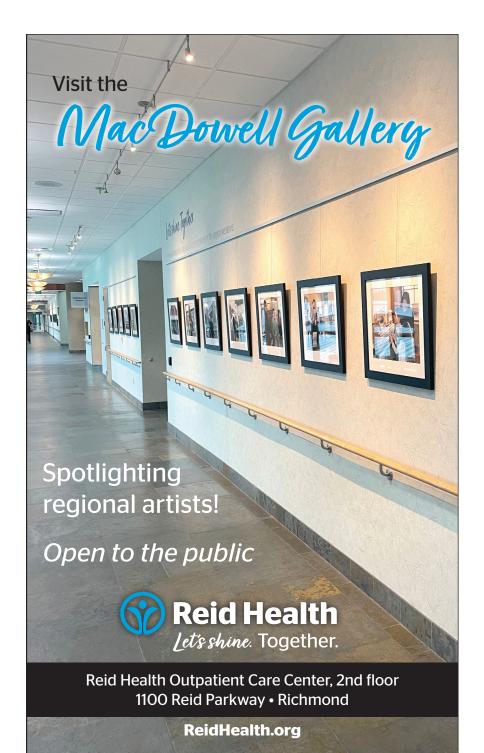
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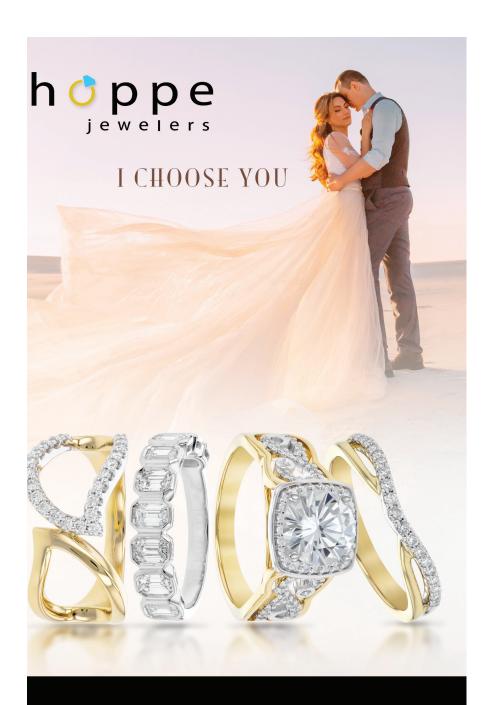


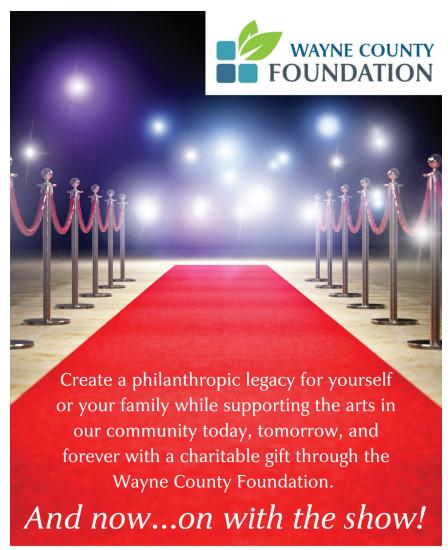












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play it forward 2023-2024 Season

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 7:30 pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22 3:00 pm

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12 3:00 pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 3:00 pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25 3:00 pm

SUNDAY, APRIL 7 3:00 pm

SATURDAY, MAY 11 7:30 pm

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Welcome to YOUR Richmond Civic Theatre!

Thank You for joining us for our 2023–2024 season! We are thrilled to offer you a wide range of theatrical experiences this year. Opening our 2023–2024 First Bank Richmond Main Stage Series is Disney's *The Little Mermaid* (August 3–13, 2023) directed by Tammy Cornell. Then, we open our 2023–2024 3 Rivers Federal Credit Union Stage One Youth Theatre Series with a hilarious stage adaptation of the classic fairytale, *The Almost Totally True Story of Hansel & Gretel* (September 15–24, 2023) directed by Shelley Wambo. Keeping with the spirit of the Halloween season, we are bringing back our new annual fundraiser, Stage Fright Masquerade (October 21, 2023)—this year, at the historic Starr-Gennett Piano Factory. As we step into November, we will finally present Jonathan Larson's Pulitzer Prize winning musical, *Rent* (November 2–12, 2023) directed by Robyn Zitnick. And we round out the end of this calendar year with the Stage One production of the Broadway classic, *Peter Pan JR* (December 8–17, 2023) directed by Ryan Shaw.

After a short break for the holidays, we ramp right back up again with Ken Ludwig's side-splitting comedy, *The Gods of Comedy* (January 18–28, 2024) directed by Brady Day. Then, the Stage One kids will present the whimsical Broadway Hit, *Seussical JR* (March 1–10, 2024) directed by Allison Blanford. As we step into spring, we will tell the story of the heroic women who gave their lives for a company that considered them to be expendable with our Main Stage production of *These Shining Lives* (March 28–30 & April 5-7, 2024) directed by Kathy Clopper. Lastly, we close out our 2023–2024 season by taking a jab at William Shakespeare with our Main Stage production of the irreverent and bawdy Broadway hit comedy, *Something Rotten!* (May 9–19, 2024) directed by Becky Jewison.

We are so glad you are here with us! Now, sit up on the edge of your seat, brace yourself, and enjoy the ride!

Thank you for supporting YOUR RCT!

Fondly,





John FaasExecutive Director



Jeff Sheridan President, Board of Directors

Meet the RCT Staff

Our Richmond Civic Theatre staff members are here to help! Whether you want to buy tickets, sponsor a show, or get involved creating local live theatre, reach out!

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Aaron Clarke Technical Director



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Cast & Crew

Ariel: Sarah Vincent

Prince Eric: Ethan Bain

Ursula: Sarah Gibson

Flounder: Ashley Beckett

Sebastian: Marty Hoelscher

King Triton: Paul Shaver

Chef Louis: Andrew Triana

Scuttle: Jordan Hiestand

Grimsby: Jake York

Pilot: Garland Weaver

Winward: Eric Swango

Leeward: Katelyn Ferguson

Jetsam: Alaina Harris

Flotsam: Collie Erdosv

Mersister: Halie Scott

Mersister: Peyton Bain

Mersister/Princess:

Sarah Burket

Mersister/Princess:

Hanna Stapleton

Mersister/Princess:

Allison Mopps

Mersister/Princess: Lori Staifer

Princess: Tessa Hamilton

Ensemble: Jill McKellar:

Tony Wagner; Bailey Russell;

Angi Wilson; Justin Fraizer; Carrie Debenham;

Alessendro Santiago

Production Team

Director: Tammy Cornell

Music Director: Alison Moore

Assistant Director: Terri Mitchell

Assistant Music Director: Tanner

Puterbaugh

Stage Manager: Terri Mitchell

Choreographer: Traci McCollum

Assistant Choreographer: Ross

Fogle

Scenic Designer: Aaron Clarke

Props Designer: Ann McClarnen

Costume Designer: Renee

Piekutowski



Lighting Designer: Bobbi Cayard-Roberts

Sound Designer: Rick Funk

Technical Director: Aaron Clarke

Crew

Deck Manager: Izzy Fetcher

Deck Crew: Chelsy Nichols, Rowan Bailey, Lina Burkett, Isaiah Fetcher, Noah Homer, Phil Baisley, Evan Bain, Hollie Caskey

Fly Crew: Jackson Thompson, Tim Emery, Austin Snyder

Light Board Operator: Mika Parks Sound Board Operator: Rick Funk

Hair and Make-up Lead: Sunshine Rankin

Hair and Make-up Team: Izzy Fetcher, Jules Pickett, Angel Chhoeuy

Costume Crew: Livvi Piekutowski, Hollie Caskey

Lead Scenic Painter: Nicole Andreas

Additional Paint Crew: Aureana Andreas, Ezekiel Andreas, Ada Smoker, Naima Diarra, Aziz Diarra

Lead Carpenter: Aaron Clarke
Set Build Team: Mickey White,
Ryan Shaw, Alison Blanford,
Suzy Orbik, Noah Homer,
Ezekiel Andreas, Ada Smoker,
Terri Mitchell, Patty Glenn,

Tony Wagner, Erica Kretchman, Cameron Kretchman, Mika Parks,

Whitney Kaehr, Gabe Kaehr, Lily Kaehr, Paul Shaver, Tersa Smoker

Rehearsal Pianist: Jonathan Hampton

Special Thanks:

Mike Rogan & Civic Hall Performing Arts Center Western Wayne News Trica Sheridan

Cast

Sarah Vincent (Ariel): I'm thrilled to be diving back into theatre with *The Little Mermaid*. Some of my past RCT credits include: *Cinderella*, *OH! Henry! and the Tin Lizzie*, *Storybook Café*, and *Westside Story*. I have a BFA from Stephens College and am a proud cat mama. I'd like to thank my family and friends for their support and encouragement and Diamond Cellar for giving me the chance to chase my *Little Mermaid* dreams.

Ethan Bain (Prince Eric): Whats up! I'm Ethan Bain and I am extremely excited to play the role of Prince Eric. I could be basic and list all the shows I've been apart of but I'll just say a couple. I was Mr. Krabs in SpongeBob the Musical and Davey in Newsies. I enjoy theatre (obviously), but I also enjoy playing my guitar, working out, and hanging with friends! Enjoy the show and follow me on IG @ethan. bain 2004)

Sarah Gibson (Ursula): I am so excited to be doing my first show with Richmond Civic Theatre! I'm going into my second year at Ball State University as a Theatre Creation Major. I've been in a couple high school productions, including one where I've played Ursula, and I'm very excited to be playing her at this theatre. Thank you to my parents and friends for being so supportive of me this past year! Enjoy the show!

Ashley Beckett (Flounder): Ashley Beckett is so excited to be in Disney's

The Little Mermaid! Ashley previously performed in RCT's SpongeBob the Musical and Elf. Ashley would like to thank her loved ones for all their love and support while preparing for this wonderful production. She would also like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work in making this musical fantabulous! I'm not blushing—it's sunburn!

Marty Hoelscher (Sebastian): Marty has been active in the theatre for 35 years, with Little Mermaid marking his 90th production! He recently performed at The Victoria Theatre in Dayton and LaComedia. Most recently on the RCT stage: Ordinary People and Harold Hill in The Music Man, and has designed the set for RCT's upcoming production of RENT. Marty is working towards his pilot's license and playing with his new puppy, Piper.

Paul Shaver (King Triton): Paul is very excited for the opportunity to join other community members in the role of King Triton. This is his first time doing anything related to theater and he is learning so much and having so much fun. Paul works for Bethany Theological Seminary and Earlham School of Religion in Information Technology. He is grateful to his wife and family for all of their support!

Andrew Triana (Chef Louis): Andrew, was last seen as Tevya in RCT's production of *Fiddler on the Roof* and is excited to be back on the RCT

stage. He lives in Richmond, with wife Alisha, daughter, Anabella and dog, Angel. He is an avid LEGO builder and a voice teacher. Thanks to A, A & A for allowing me to do this show. Love you all so much!

Jordan Hiestand (Scuttle, Sea Creature): Scuttle is Jordan's first role ever in a musical, and he is STOKED! When not flopping around in a giant bird suit, he attends Lifespring Church and Recovery Church. His passions include any form of art or storytelling. He wishes to thank his family and friends for their love and support. All Glory and Honor belong to his Savior, King, Lord, and Lion, Jesus.

Jake York (Grimsby) Jake is ecstatic to be starring in his first musical and his production at Richmond Civic Theatre. He rediscovered his love of theatre in 2022 when he starred in a production of *Our Town*. Since then, he has continued branching out and dipping his toes into the world of theatre. Jake would like to show his deepest appreciation to all of his friends and family for all of their love and support.

Garland Weaver (Pilot): Garland is excited to be setting sail with *The Little Mermaid* at RCT! Though this is his first musical, he recently appeared on the RCT stage in *Miss Holmes* where he played Inspector Lestrade. You'll also be able to hear him in the

upcoming Richmond Radioworks production of *The Bishop's Wife* as Bishop Henry Brougham. He will be attending Miami University to study Games and Simulations this fall.

Eric Swango (Winward): Eric Swango is going into his junior year at Indiana University East. He has been involved as a volunteer at the Richmond Civic Theatre since his first year of high school where he was introduced to the Stage One Youth Program. He is happy to be a part of this season's first show.

Katelyn Ferguson (Leeward): I have been a part of four Stage One shows and one Main Stage play. My hobbies are singing, crime show watching, making earrings and greeting cards.

Alaina Harris (Jetsam): Alaina is excited to be back at RCT after a year of hiatus. She was recently seen on stage as Sardine 2 in RCT's SpongeBob: The Musical. She is eager to reprise her role as Jetsam 10 years later, with some of her former cast mates. She is especially thankful for Collie and Sarah for making the entire show a joy to be in.

Collie Erdosy (Flotsam): Collie is excited to be back on the RCT stage! They have performed in several productions here over the years. Their favorite show that they have been in is *Peter and the Starcatcher* (2018) where they played the role of Peter. Collie loves being a part of

RCT because it is a welcoming and inclusive group of people who strive to build each other up and grow as performers!

Halie Scott (Mersister): Halie is very excited to put on her fins this summer! You might of just seen Halie in her latest RCT show *Hello Dolly* as Minnie Fay! She loves dancing and is so excited to be a part of so many fun girl group pop songs! When not on stage Halie is working as a barista and working on her degree for creative writing! Halie would like to thank you all for coming to see the show!

Peyton Bain (Mersister): I have been in 19 shows with the most recent role as Fiona in Stage One's *Shrek the Musical*. I am so excited to be back on stage this upcoming year. I am a senior at Centerville high school and I am so excited for what's to come in the future!

Sarah Burket (Mersister/Princess): Sarah is a dedicated wife, mother, and teacher. She loves singing with the Richmond Jazz orchestra, being involved in her church, and participating in RCT productions whenever she can. As a child of the 90s, she grew up nothing short of obsessed with *Little Mermaid* and all things Ariel. She is honored and excited to be a part of RCT's production of *Little Mermaid*.

Hanna Stapleton (Mersister/Princess): Hanna is very excited to make her acting debut in RCT's musical, *The Little Mermaid*. When she's out of practice Hanna enjoys drawing and binge watching Broadway shows. You'll find her on the Ball State campus this fall. She wants to thank her Mom and wonderful cast mates for welcoming her into this loving organization!

Allison Mopps (Mersister/Princess): Allison is excited to be a part of this performance! She has previously appeared as Pat Green in *Breaking the Code* and can be found in the pit orchestra on many a musical. When she's not participating in the arts, nerding out over superheroes, or cuddling with her dog, she can be found as her alter ego, Dr. Mopps, at West Main Family Dentistry.

Lori Staifer (Mersister/Princess): Lori Staifer is ecstatic to be back at RCT for the production of *The Little Mermaid*! She was recently in *Elf* at RCT. When she's not flipping her fins you can find her homeschooling her two kiddos (Ian and Norah), hitting the gym and drinking boba tea. She wishes to thank her hubby Dan for watching the kids and supporting her along the way, her parents, brother, friends and family. Love you all!

Tessa Hamilton (Princess): Tessa is proud to be in this production of *The Little Mermaid*. She just graduated high school and plans to attend Butler University in the fall. She was last seen onstage in Stage One's *Winnie the Pooh* as Rabbit, and enjoys hanging out with friends and spending time reading. Tessa wants to thank her parents for dealing with

her busy theatre rehearsal schedules for all these years.

Jill McKellar (Ensemble) Jill is thrilled to be back at RCT! Last time she was onstage was *Shrek The Musical* in 2014. This isn't the first time she's been a Gull on stage. She starred as one in Stage One's production of *The Little Mermaid JR*! Jill recently received her doctorate in Physical Therapy. She enjoys hiking and playing with her dog, Fenrir, and would like to thank her husband, Aras, for being there to support her.

Tony Wagner (Ensemble): For Tony, Disney is all the magic he needs. Being in *The Little Mermaid* is a dream of his! Being under the sea with all of the cast is so fun for him. He enjoys the show and hopes you poor unfortunate souls like it as well.

Bailey Russell (Ensemble): Bailey is excited to be making her Richmond Civic Theater debut in her role in The Little Mermaid. She has past theater roles include Frau Blucher in Young Frankenstein and Usherette in The Rocky Horror Picture Show. She has three years of performing arts training when she traveled the United States with a school assembly performing group. She's excited for this opportunity.

Angi Wilson (Ensemble): This is Angi's second RCT production. Her debut was as Ernestina in Hello Dolly. After many years, Angi returned to the stage last year in IPA's productions of Oliver (as Ms. Sowerberry) & Barefoot in the Park.

As a child, she was in *Music Man*, *Cinderella*, and *Fiddler on the Roof* with John Conner Players. She enjoys hanging out with her 2 grandsons, and her dachshunds, Ozzy & Angus. She thanks God for His guidance.

Justine Blank (Ensemble): Justine is a newcomer to RCT. In her high school years, she was involved in drama club and played the dormouse in Alice in Wonderland for Centerville High School. Outside of theater arts she works with animals full-time, is a small business owner of Mizz Kats Creations and loves being out in nature. She wants to thank her husband, daughter, and family for all the support and love they give.

Carrie Debenham (Ensemble):
Carrie has volunteered for over thirty years with RCT, through acting, play reading, and diversity committees.
Carrie is married and has two and adult children and a grandson.
She works as a secretary for RCS.
She has had an amazing summer with the cast and directors of *The Little Mermaid*.

Alessandro Santiago (Ensemble): Alessandro has been having a blast doing *The Little Mermaid*. He has done a few shows before this and has been enjoying RCT. He has done four marching seasons and is trying out for a new group this fall! He loves to sing, dance, and play drums. He wants to thank his cat Cosmo for making him feel happy and great about himself.

Tammy Cornell (Director): This is
Tammy's first time directing for
Main Stage. She is having an amazing
experience working with a wonderful
directing team and an even more
amazing cast. Tammy has had so much
support from so many veterans that
have graced the RCT stage. Many
thanks to her son Lennon, daughter
Bella and her mom Marlene and all
of her biggest fans, for their ocean
of support. It's been a wonderful
adventure!

Terri Mitchell (Assistant Director):
Terri is very excited to be the AD for
The Little Mermaid. She was previously
the production assistant for Breaking
the Code and The Legend of Sleepy
Hollow. Terri is a member of HYPE &
the ACE's committee with the Wayne
County Area Chamber of Commerce.
Terri has also recently become a
member of Tri Kappa. She would like to
thank her husband Justin for his love &
support with everything she does!

Traci McColllum (Choreographer)
Traci is excited to be choreographing her first show at RCT! She has loved The Little Mermaid since she was young & thought this the perfect choice for her debut. She is thankful the directing team had faith in her to take on this role, and couldn't have done it without them! When not under the sea, Traci can be found in the kitchen as the dietary manager and chef at The Leland Legacy and Corner Cafe.

Ross Fogle (Assistant Choreographer): Ross is an upcoming junior at Ohio Northern University. He is currently getting his BFA in musical theatre and minoring in dance. He has mostly recently been seen in Addams Family the Musical, Anne of Green Gables the Musical, and Julius Caesar at Ohio Northern University. Much love to his family and friends.





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Cast



Sarah Vincent



Ethan Bain



Sarah Gibson



Ashley Beckett



Marty Hoelscher



Paul Shaver



Andrew Triana



Jordan Hiestand



Jake York



Garland Weaver



Eric Swango



Katelyn Ferguson



Alaina Harris



Collie Erdosy



Halie Scott



Peyton Bain



Sarah Burket



Hanna Stapleton



Allison Mopps



Lori Staifer



Tessa Hamilton



Jill McKellar



Tony Wagner



Bailey Russell



Angi Wilson



Justine Blank



Carrie Debenham



Alessandro Santiago



Tammy Cornell



Terri Mitchell



Traci McColllum



Ross Fogle



Allison Moore





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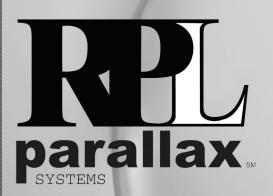


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