

SHEA'S CALL-BOARD

JUNE 29, 2023

Call-board (n.): a bulletin or notice board backstage at a theatre

CELEBRATING HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATRE THE KENNY AWARDS AND THE JIMMY AWARDS

The 2023 Kenny Awards ceremony was held on Saturday, May 27th and celebrated excellence in high school musical theatre in Western New York with finalist schools performing melodies of their musical productions on the Shea's Buffalo Main Stage in front of family and friends. The night ended with fifteen awards being presented. Click here for a full list of awardees.

Barker Junior/Senior High School of Barker, NY won the Kenny Award for Outstanding Musical Production for their production of *Cinderella*. The award includes a \$10,000 grant provided by The Lipke Foundation to be used exclusively for the school's theatre department.



A special assembly at Barker Junior/Senior High School was held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 for the check presentation and each member of the cast, crew, orchestra, and creative team received a bronze Kenny Award medallion.



Tiffany Nowak of Maryvale High School won the Kenny Award for Outstanding Actress in a Leading Role as Belle in her school's production of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*.



Ayden Weinstein took home the Kenny Award for Outstanding Actor in a Leading Role as Prince Eric in Nardin Academy's production of *Disney's The Little Mermaid*.

Tiffany and Ayden spent last week representing Western New York as nominees of the Jimmy Awards, the National High School Musical Theatre Awards. Presented by The Broadway League Foundation, 96 nominees from across the country participated in workshops, coaching sessions, and rehearsals that culminated into a ceremony that took place this Monday, June 26th at the Minskoff Theatre.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SHEA'S 710

THE JUNO SHOW
JULY 29, 2023

IN THE COMMUNITY

TWELFTH NIGHT
Musicalfare Theatre
Musicalfare Theatre at Daemen University
JULY 5–AUG 6

CHICAGO
O'Connell & Company
New O'Connell & Company Theater
JULY 7–16

TORI AMOS: OCEAN TO OCEAN TOUR
Artpark and Metamorphic Concerts
Artpark Mainstage Theater
JULY 8

DRUNK WIZARD OF OZ
Drunk Theatre Buffalo
The Attic at Mr. Goodbar
JULY 9–25

BARENAKED LADIES: LAST SUMMER ON EARTH TOUR 2023
Artpark
Artpark Ampitheater
JULY 11

THE MUSIC MAN
Curtain Up Productions
Historic Palace Theatre
JULY 13–23

LAUREN DAIGLE
Artpark, AEG Presents & Funtime
Artpark Ampitheater
JULY 14

RAIN: A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES
Artpark
Artpark Mainstage Theater
JULY 16

SWEENEY TODD
Starry Night Theatre Inc.
The Ghostlight Theatre
JULY 27–AUG 6

ROMEO AND JULIET
Shakespeare in Delaware Park
Shakespeare in Delaware Park
JULY 27–AUG 20

CONGRATULATIONS TO TIFFANY AND AYDEN FOR ALL THEIR WORK DURING THE JIMMY AWARDS!

[CLICK HERE](#) to see Tiffany in Melody Group #3

[CLICK HERE](#) to see Ayden in Melody Group #4

SPONSOR OF THE MONTH – JUNE

THE BUFFALO NEWS

As one of Shea's media partners and one of the top ten New York daily newspapers by circulation, The Buffalo News supports the Arts in the Western New York Community by promoting our Broadway season in both digital and print advertising. In working with Shea's, the News also provides promotional opportunities for their readers and news clients to receive exclusive benefits for certain Broadway shows that come to town. We are grateful for this partnership that continues to help us promote the arts and culture that visits our region.

[Click here to visit The Buffalo News online.](#)



THE COLOR PURPLE CAST ANNOUNCEMENT COCKTAIL PARTY

THE COLOR PURPLE takes the Shea's 710 Stage on September 14th, but on June 7th, guests from Ujima Company, Inc., Second Generation Theatre, and Shea's 710 Theatre got a sneak peek of this electrifying production. This celebratory happy hour, which also served as a formal announcement of the cast, featured a cash bar, hors d'oeuvres, and special performances of songs from the show.

This production is part of the 2023-2024 Frey Electric Season and is presented locally by SaveOnSP marks the first collaboration between Ujima Company, Inc., Second Generation Theatre, and Shea's 710 Theatre. Additional support by Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Arts and Culture Initiative at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo and Cullen Foundation. Sponsored by Bank of America and Wegmans. THE COLOR PURPLE will be locally directed by Sarah Norat Phillips, music directed by Karen Saxon, and choreographed by Nailia Ansari. [Click here for more information about the production including a full cast list and how to purchase tickets.](#) The performance on Friday, September 22nd is part of Curtain Up!.



THE TONY AWARDS

The biggest night on Broadway, The Tony Awards took place on June 11th. As we mentioned in our last newsletter, Ariana DeBose hosted an unscripted ceremony.

KIMBERLY AKIMBO led the pack with 5 Tony wins, including Best Musical and Best Actress in a Musical, for *VICTORIA CLARK*. Best Play went to **LEOPOLDSTADT**. Best revival of a play and best revival of a musical went to **SUSAN-LORI PARKS' TOPDOG/UNDERDOG** and **PARADE**, respectively.

Other notable wins were J. Harrison Ghee's win for Best Performance by an Actor in a Musical and Alex Newell's win for Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role in a Musical. Ghee and Newell's wins mark the first time non-binary performers won a Tony Award.

[For a full list of winners, click here.](#)

THEATRE NEWS

Lauren A. Marchand and Langston Lee won the top prizes at the 2023 Jimmy Awards.

John Legend and Lynn Nottage are adapting the classic book and film, IMITATION OF LIFE for the stage.

"Riverdale" star, Casey Cott is set to make his Broadway debut as Christian in MOULIN ROUGE.

HAMILTON makes history as the first original Broadway cast recording to hit diamond status.

Sheldon Harnick, the prolific lyricist behind FIDDLER ON THE ROOF and SHE LOVES ME passed away on June 23 at age 99.

BOOK OF MORMON stars Andrew Rannells and Josh Gad are set to star in the Broadway premiere of the two-man comedy GUTENBERG! THE MUSICAL, this fall.

The new Broadway play, LIFE OF PI will conclude its run on Broadway on July 23rd.

A TRUE CELEBRATION OF THEATRE

JUNIOR THEATRE CELEBRATION

If you passed by Shea's 710 on June 8th and 9th, you may have heard the melodies of *Seussical KIDS*, *Moana Jr.*, *Guys and Dolls Jr.*, and so much more being passionately performed by elementary to middle school students. These students were a part of Shea's Junior Theatre Celebration! This celebration was a collaboration between Shea's Performing Arts Center and iTheatrics, the premiere creative consultants in educational musical theater based in New York City. Organizations and schools around the Buffalo area with upper elementary and middle school students participated in the event.

Both students and teachers participated in workshops held by iTheatrics to gain a deeper understanding of the art form. Students then performed one selection from their musical to earn valuable feedback from a panel of theatre professionals about their ability to tell an engaging story, their performance skills, and their work as an ensemble.

Over 800 students were able to participate in this fun and informative event! The 15 schools participating in the celebration were:

Aaron Mossell Junior High School
Once Upon a Mattress

Filmore Central School
Peter Pan JR

South Davis Elementary School
Seussical KIDS

Belfast Central High School
Willy Wonka KIDS

International Preparatory School #198
Guys and Dolls JR.

St. Mary's School for the Deaf
Moana JR.

Dunkirk City Schools
Newsies JR.

MEL's School of Music and Theatre
The SpongeBob Musical Y.E.

West Seneca East Middle School
The Lion King JR.

Eggert Elementary School
Frozen KIDS

Mill Middle School
Fame JR.

West Seneca West Middle School
Frozen JR.

Ellicott Elementary School
Jungle Book KIDS

Roosevelt ECC #65
Frozen KIDS

Windom Elementary
Lion King KIDS



Shea's is also offering more educational opportunities for young theatre artists this summer! Our Actor's Edge camp is still open for registration. Actor's Edge is a 2-week summer acting intensive for students aged 13 to 17, which will expose students to a vast body of techniques including Linklater, Viewpoints, Michael Chekov, Miesner and Uta Hagen. The intensive emphasizes theatre values such as intellectual curiosity, artistic integrity, and equity inclusion to encourage a broad range of theatrical approaches. The program will end with an actors' showcase at Shea's Smith Theatre for an invited audience of family and friends.

Tony–Award Winner Bernadette Peters and comedian Randy Rainbow will host the 25th anniversary of the Broadway–themed, animal rescue fundraiser, Broadway Barks on July 8th.

Melissa Etheridge will bring her solo show, MELISSA ETHERIDGE: MY WINDOW ON BROADWAY to the Main Stem this September.

The limited run of CAMELOT will close on July 23rd at the Lincoln Center Theater.

GET TO KNOW NEW BROADWAY MUSICALS & PLAYS

BACK TO THE FUTURE:THE MUSICAL

Winter Garden Theatre

Based off of the classic 1985 film.

Back to the Future: The Musical arrives on Broadway on June 30th. Marty McFly is transported back in time to 1955 in a time machine made by the eccentric scientist, Doc Brown. When Marty accidentally changes the course of history, he finds himself in a race against time to fix the past and go back to the future. This Olivier award-winning musical is a high energy comedy that features original music and hit songs from the movie.

SWEENEY TODD

Lunt-Fontanne Theatre

The classic Sondheim musical, *Sweeney Todd*, makes its triumphant return to the Great White Way. For the first time since 1980, audiences can experience Stephen Sondheim's score and Jonathan Tunick's classic 26-player orchestration, live. This musical thriller follows the murderous, titular barber, Sweeney Todd (played by Tony-nominee Josh Groban) as he enacts revenge for the injustices of his past. He enlists the help of his neighbor and business associate, Mrs. Lovett (Tony-nominee Anna-leigh Ashford) to ensure his meat-pie themed vengeance.

A BEAUTIFUL NOISE, THE NEIL DIAMOND MUSICAL

Broadhurst Theatre

A Beautiful Noise, The Neil Diamond Musical tells the story of how the legendary Neil Diamond became a rock icon. The musical spans his early days in New York to the sold out spectacles that defined Diamond's career. This uplifting musical features his greatest hits, like "Sweet Caroline," "America," and "Cracklin' Rosie."

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOGA ON STAGE!

And has anyone missed a certain November shopping event held at Shea's?

A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who attended the first Yoga On Stage fundraiser at Shea's Buffalo on June 13th. Shea's is approaching its 100th anniversary in a few short years and with all your support from events like these, each of you are helping us with on-going restoration that takes place to keep Shea's as beautiful as it is.



Another thank you to Resurgence Brewing Co., Winkler and Samuels, and Courtney Boland from Heal Bflo and Power Yoga Buffalo for being a part of this collaboration and bringing the community together.

Our Yoga On Stage event was hosted by Shea's Young Professionals, a group passionate for the arts and culture that focuses on raising awareness in the community of our non-profit mission and putting together some fun fundraising events for the theatre. And our Young Professionals will be announcing more exciting opportunities but we will let you know to save the date for Wednesday, November 15th, 2023 for the resurgence of the Shea's Shopping Soiree!



LEARN ABOUT THE MIGHTY WURLITZER

SEE SOME PARTS OF THE ORGAN HIDDEN FROM VIEW

The most recognizable part of Shea's Mighty Wurlitzer Organ is the organ console located to the house right side of the orchestra pit where the organist sits. The console contains all controls for playing the organ including the manuals, pedalboard, stop tabs, pistons, and other mechanisms. However, the majority of the organ is hidden from view with the blower room located beneath the console that feeds wind to the pipes and pneumatics that are broken into upper and lower chambers located behind the house right and house left upper box seats.



Tom Burns Photography



Tom Burns Photography

GREY HOUSE Lyceum Theatre

Grey House is a first-of-its-kind Broadway thriller/horror play. Max and Henry, a young married couple, crash their car in the mountains during a blizzard. The cabin's unusual inhabitants, a group of teenaged girls and an old woman who claims to be their mother, try to make their guests feel at home. But, as the storm turns one night into several, it becomes clear that the couple's accident didn't drive them to the house, but rather their own pasts.

GUTENBERG! THE MUSICAL James Earl Jones Theatre

The Book of Mormon stars, Andrew Rannells and Josh Gad make their triumphant return to Broadway together in the comedic, two-person musical, *Gutenberg! The Musical*. The musical follows Bud and Doug, two aspiring musical theatre writers who decide to write a musical about Johannes Gutenberg, inventor of the printing press, without knowing much more about him. The show is set during a run-through for potential investors, however the pair are so broke they have to perform every role themselves. *Gutenberg! The Musical* has played all around the world, and is finally making its Broadway debut.



This issue of the SHEA'S CALL-BOARD is prepared by members of the Development Department including writing from Julianna Tracey, Cassandra Lippert, and Beth Potozniak. Special thanks to Victoria Perez-Maggiolo for providing information on the Junior Theatre Celebration. Special thanks as well to Kim Boyle for providing information on the Color Purple Cast Announcement Cocktail Party.

SHEA'S PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Physical Address
646 Main Street, Buffalo NY 14202

Mailing Address
PO Box 1130, Buffalo NY 14205

Administrative Office
716-847-1410

Box Office
716-847-0850

Website
www.sheas.org

Shea's website (www.sheas.org) and Ticketmaster.com are the official ticket retailers of tickets to shows at Shea's Performing Arts Center.