

# SHEA'S CALL-BOARD

AUGUST 31, 2023

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

## RESTORING THE MIGHTY WURLITZER INSIDE THE RESTORATION

David Peckham of L.A. Peckham and Son Pipe Organ Service has been restoring our Mighty Wurlitzer Organ since the project began in 2021. He has been traveling back and forth from his repair shop in Horseheads, NY to Shea's Buffalo Theatre to properly work on and restore components from the organ as per the Wurlitzer practice.



In the past year, Mr. Peckham has restored a variety of components including wind regulators, windtrunks, windchests, offset chests and manual chest bottom board primary pneumatic and valve systems. Wind regulators take the wind generated by the blower that is fed to them by the windtrunks and pressurize it appropriately for the sets of pipes they support.

A deteriorated wind regulator gusset restored with new leather



A compromised wind regulator rib due to incorrect glue usage that was newly made



Reinstallation of Three Wind Regulators

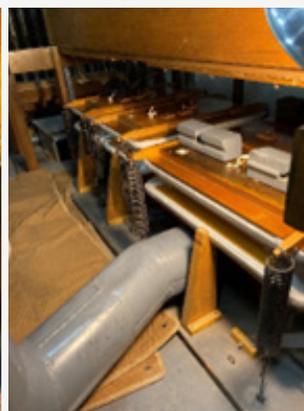
One regulator installed



All three installed



All pressurized



Metal windlines connect the regulators to the appropriate windchests and subsequently feed the pipes. The primary pneumatic and valve systems of the chests are the mechanical controls for determining which pipes get wind from the input at the console from the organist.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SHEA'S BUFFALO

**MRS. DOUBTFIRE**  
SEPTEMBER 24-30, 2023

**MOULIN ROUGE! THE MUSICAL**  
OCTOBER 24- NOVEMBER 5, 2023

### SHEA'S 710

**THE COLOR PURPLE**  
SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 1, 2023

**GIRLS NIGHT! THE MUSICAL**  
OCTOBER 14, 2023

**ABBAFAB**  
OCTOBER 20, 2023

### SHEA'S SMITH

**DIXIE'S TUPPERWARE PARTY**  
SEPTEMBER 19-24, 2023

## IN THE COMMUNITY

**GUYS AND DOLLS**  
MusicalFare Theatre  
MusicalFare Theatre  
SEP 6- OCT 8

**WHAT THE CONSTITUTION  
MEANS TO ME**  
D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre  
D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre  
SEP 8- 24

**PRINCESS STORIES... BUT MAKE  
IT DRUNK**  
Drunk Theatre Buffalo  
Alleyway Theatre  
SEP 8

**RENT**  
Belissima Productions  
Lorna C. Hill Theatre  
SEP 8-24

**THE LIFE AND SLIMES OF MARC  
SUMMERS**  
Alleyway Theatre  
Alleyway Theatre  
SEP 10-30

**THE SPIRAL STAIRCASE**  
Starry Night Theatre  
The Ghostlight Theatre  
SEP 11- OCT 1

**MURDER BALLAD**  
Road Less Traveled Productions  
Road Less Traveled Theater  
SEP 14- OCT 15

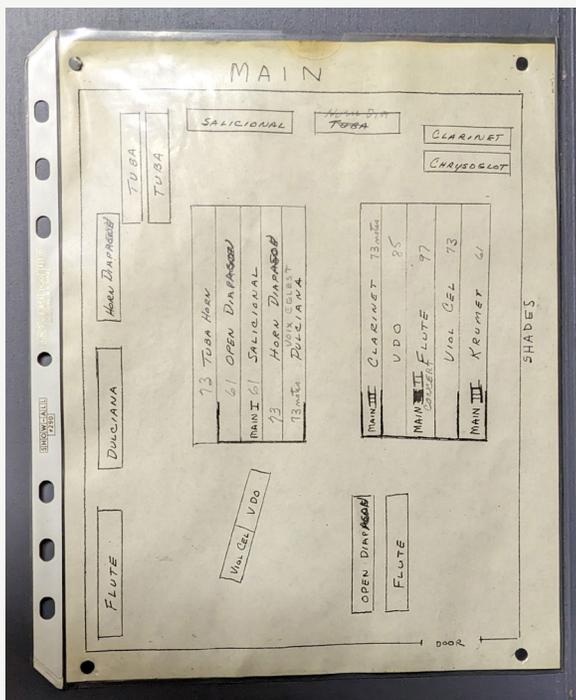
Currently, work is being done in the main organ chamber located behind the house left box seat.

There are four organ chambers in total with two located on each side of the house. The chambers are stacked on top of each other with one chamber at the mezzanine level and the other located directly above accessible only via ladder.

More windchests, wind regulators, and windtrunks need work in the main chamber, but a good portion of work has already been completed.

The 12-note Salicional Celeste offset chest had some water damage as well as a peculiar leather overlay technique done to the original pneumatic material from 1926 that appears to be more of a quick fix done decades ago when thorough restoration efforts for the organ were not possible.

A topside view of the 12-note Salicional Celeste offset chest showing the restoration of original water-damaged surfaces. The chest measures 30-in length and is one of many of the offset chests including the Flute, Open Diapason, Horn Diapason, Viol d'Orchestre and Viol d'Orchestre Celeste that have undergone restoration.



The pipe pneumatics of the Salicional Celeste offset chest with evidence of water damage and leather overlay technique.

The restored pipe pneumatics including new leather, new felt/leather valves and gaskets done to Wurlitzer practice.



## 9 TO 5

Niagara Regional Theatre Guild  
The Ellicott Creek Playhouse  
SEP 15 – OCT 1

## LA CAGE AUX FOLLES

O'Connell and Company  
New O'Connell & Company Theater  
SEP 22 – OCT 8

## BELFAST GIRLS

Irish Classical Theatre  
Irish Classical Theatre  
SEP 22 – OCT 15

## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Curtain Up Productions  
Historic Palace Theatre  
OCT 5 – 15

## ONE MAN, TWO GUVNORS

The Aurora Players  
Theatre in Hamlin Park, East Aurora  
OCT 6 – 22

## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Lancaster Opera House  
Lancaster Opera House  
OCT 6 – 22

## NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD

Starry Night Theatre  
The Ghostlight Theatre  
OCT 12 – 22

## MONSTER MYTHS... BUT MAKE IT DRUNK

Drunk Theatre Buffalo  
Alleyway Theatre  
OCT 13

## THE GOLDEN GIRLS: THE LOST EPISODES VOL. 4

O'Connell and Company  
New O'Connell & Company Theater  
OCT 19 – NOV 4

## THE NATURAL HORSE

Alleyway Theatre  
Alleyway Theatre  
OCT 20 – NOV 11

## SISTERS IN LAW

Jewish Repertory Theatre of WNY  
The Maxine & Robert Seller Theatre at  
the Jewish Community Center of Greater  
Buffalo  
OCT 26 – NOV 19

## UJIMA THEATRE COMPANY

Ujima Company Inc. (UCI) is a multi-ethnic and multicultural professional theatre whose primary purpose is the preservation, perpetuation, and performance of African American theatre by providing working opportunities for established artists and training experience for aspiring artists.

## SECOND GENERATION

Second Generation Theatre  
Company, Inc. is a professional

Additionally, expression mechanisms, tremulants, and the percussion instrument called the Chrysoglott, which sounds the same as an orchestral Celeste, will be getting restored. Expression mechanisms vary the volume of sound produced while tremulants manipulated the wind pressure to create vibrato effects.



Left: An upward view of the Chrysoglott.

Below: A frontward view of Chrysoglott as it is located between other ranks of pipes and chests.



*“I have admired the Shea’s Mighty Wurlitzer since I attended one of the opening concerts in 1984 played by Lyn Larsen. The work we are doing is focused on mechanical restoration of components; materials used forty years ago are failing, and in some cases, we have found original leather from 1926. It is a pleasure to be associated with this musical treasure, and I am looking forward to continued progress with the restoration.”* —David Peckham

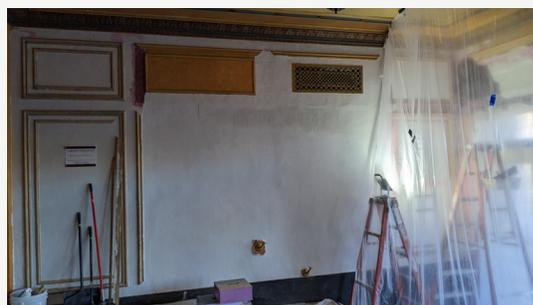
If you would like to help us complete the restoration of our Mighty Wurlitzer Organ and continue the organ’s legacy for future generations, [click here](#) or visit the support section of the Shea’s website.

## **PLASTER WORK IS UNDERWAY**

### **AN UPDATE ON THE RESTORATION OF THE PEARL STREET VESTIBULE**

Incredible progress has been made on the restoration of the south-facing wall of the pearl street vestibule. Our restoration team has been able to create a uniform structure of restoration appropriate material across the length of the wall. The unpainted plaster, the white areas you see in the photos, is still drying in sections of the wall and it is important that the plaster is fully dry before painting can begin.

Additional plaster work is being done to areas of wall above the pearl street exterior doors that also experience moisture damage.



501(c)3 theatre company whose mission is to create powerful theatrical experiences that speak to and unite a community of diverse backgrounds, and to continually cultivate appreciation and understanding in audiences of all generations through education and engagement.

## **MRS. DOUBTFIRE ANNOUNCES TOURING CAST**

Rob McClure will be reprising the title role of Mrs. Doubtfire for the national tour, which will launch at Shea’s Buffalo. He will be joined by his wife, Maggie Lakis as Miranda Hillard, Giselle Gutierrez as Lydia Hillard, Aaron Kaburick as Frank Hillard, Nik Alexander as Andre Mayem, Leo Roberts as Stuart Dunmire, Romelda Teron Benjamin as Wanda Sellner, Cody Sawyer Braveman and Axel Bernard Rimele as Christopher Hillard, and Emerson Mae Chan and Kennedy Alexandra Pitney as Natalie Hillard. The ensemble will include David Hibbard, Alex Branton, Jonathan Hoover, Sheila Jones, Julie Kavanaugh, Jodi Kimura, Marquez Linder, Alex Ringle, Bianca Rivera-Irions, Lannie Rubio, Neil Starckenberg, Joey Stone, Gina Ward, Lauryn Withnell, and Julia Yameen.

## **THEATRE NEWS**

**GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY** Announces Complete Touring Cast.

**2023 Tony winner J. Harrison Ghee will be out of Broadway’s Some Like It Hot for “at least” the next six weeks for surgery.**

**Constance Wu and Corbin Bleu are set to join the off-Broadway cast of LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS as Audrey and Seymour respectively.**

**Neil Patrick Harris will direct Kennedy Center’s ‘Tick, Tick ... Boom!’**

**MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG sets its opening night for Oct. 10.**

# CURTAIN UP!

## A 40-YEAR OLD CELEBRATION OF BUFFALO THEATRE

As the summer months are winding down, the Buffalo theatre scene is revving up. This year's annual Curtain Up! celebration, produced by the Theatre District Association of WNY Inc., marks the 40th in-person anniversary of this unique party. Every year, theatre companies all over the Buffalo area simultaneously raise their curtains at 8:00pm, heralding the start of the theatre season.

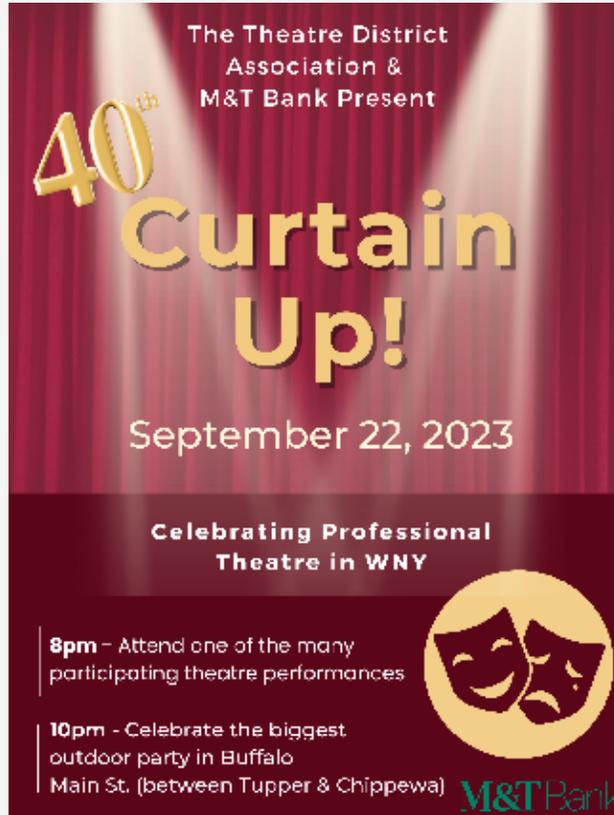
The Theatre District Association will start the week of celebration with a star-studded Plaza of the Stars Induction Ceremony honoring Tony-award-winning actress and Buffalo native, Roslyn Ruff. Ruff will receive a star in the Buffalo Theatre District. Stephen McKinley Henderson, a past inductee and Tony-nominated actor will host the ceremony at 5:30 PM at the corner of Main and Tupper Streets on Monday, September 18th.

The main event will be held on Friday, September 22nd. From 5:30 to 7:30pm, There will be a Curtain Up! Kickoff Party held upstairs at The Bijou. The party will feature a two-hour open bar, a carving station, and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets for this event are limited and are available for purchase at the Shea's Buffalo Theatre Box Office.

The first "act" of the night is a theatre production of your choosing! The Color Purple, a collaboration between Ujima Company, Inc., Second Generation Theatre, and Shea's 710 Theatre will represent Shea's as one of the productions in the celebration's line up. Other theatre companies involved include Alleyway Theatre, Irish Classical Theatre Company, The Kavinoky Theatre, MusicalFare Theatre, O'Connell & Company, Road Less Traveled Productions, and Starring Buffalo, amongst others.

When the productions conclude and the curtains fall, "act two" of the celebration begins! From 10pm to 1am the Theatre District street will be filled with live music, specialty acts, food trucks, and delicious food trucks and stops.

The 40th anniversary of Curtain Up! is sure to be an exciting start to the Buffalo theatre season.



**THE OUTSIDERS** musical sets their Broadway run for the spring of 2024.

**Vina Morales** to join the cast of **HERE LIES LOVE** as **Aurora Aquino**.

**ONCE UPON A ONE MORE TIME** announces its closing performance for Sep. 3rd.

**New York City Center** extends all three 2024 Encores! productions to two week runs.

**Broadway Advocacy Coalition** announces performers for second annual Arts in Action Festival.

**Colton Ryan, Terrance Mann, Caitlin Houlahan** and more are slated to lead an industry reading of new musical, **THE SHOW ON THE ROOF**.

## GET TO KNOW NEW BROADWAY MUSICALS & PLAYS

### SPAMALOT

*St. James Theatre*

Based on the classic comedy, Monty Python and the Holy Grail, SPAMALOT follows the hilarious misadventures of King Arthur and motley crew of knights of the round table. Their quest to find the Holy Grail leads them to face flying cows, killer rabbits, French taunters, and shrubbery, amongst so much more. This revival is stacked with Broadway favorites, such as Christopher Fitzgerald as Patsy, James Monroe Iglehart as King Arthur, Leslie Rodriguez Kritzer as the Lady of the Lake, Ethan Slater as Prince Herbert, Jimmy Smagula as Bedevere, Michael Urie as Brave Sir Robin, and Nik Walker as Sir Galahad. Find your grail on Broadway beginning October 31st.

### JAJA'S AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING

*Samuel J Friedman Theatre*

JAJA'S AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING follows a day-in-the-lives of a lively and eclectic group of West African Immigrant hair braiders, working in a busy shop in Harlem. While they make masterpieces on their customer's heads, love will blossom, dreams will flourish and secrets will be revealed, forcing the tight-knit community to face what it means to be an outsider. The world premiere of JAJA'S AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING begins previews on September 12th.

# PREPARING SHEA'S BUFFALO FOR SEPTEMBER

## CRYSTALS AND LIGHTS OH MY!

Our environmental services team has been hard at work preparing Shea's Buffalo Theatre for the launch of *MRS. DOUBTFIRE*, the first show in the Five Star Bank 2023-24 Broadway Season.

From using leaf blowers to clean the dust off the drapery throughout the lobbies, to then deep cleaning all the surfaces that dust was then deposited on, they have been fiercely working to make Shea's Buffalo shine. If you have ever wondered, yes, those crystals from the large chandeliers to the small wall sconces are indeed cleaned by hand.

Thank you to Jose, Shyla, Gerardo, Alexia, Mikey, Omar, Nick, Jay Blue, Yanira, Yolanda, Deanna, Patrick, Alexis, Alysha, Anna, Christian, and Josh for keeping Shea's shining as the crown jewel of Buffalo.



When it comes to the stage, our stagehands have been busy this week changing out the light bulbs in the proscenium arch (the arch that wraps around the stage opening from the house) as well as the arches of lights above both box seats. To obtain that iconic warm amber colored light you associate with Shea's, traditionally



a rotation of red, blue, and yellow bubs was used to achieve the effect. Now new red, blue, and yellow LED blubs are being installed that allow additional color combinations to be achieved for some added fun for some of our special events. Of course, that warm amber color will still be ever present.



## HOW TO DANCE IN OHIO

### Belasco Theatre

The heartwarming, award-winning HBO documentary has finally become a musical! *HOW TO DANCE IN OHIO* follows seven autistic young adults at a group counseling center in Ohio as they prepare for a spring formal dance. This challenge breaks open their routines and sets off hilarious and heartbreaking encounters with love, stress, excitement, and independence, while setting them on the path towards the next phase of their lives.

## I NEED THAT

### American Airlines Theatre

Recluse Sam prefers to stay in the safety of his house and the company of his many, many possessions. When he receives a notice from the government alerting him that he must clean up his property or face eviction, Sam grapples with what is trash and what is treasure. This production stars Tony Award-nominated and Emmy-winning actor Danny DeVito and his real-life daughter Lucy DeVito.



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 David Peckham for providing information on The Mighty Wurlitzer restoration, and Robert Brunschmid for providing information on Curtain Up!

## SHEA'S PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

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### Administrative Office

716-847-1410

### Box Office

716-847-0850

### Website

[www.sheas.org](http://www.sheas.org)

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