

SHEA'S CALL-BOARD

SEPTEMBER 2024

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

SHEA'S WONDER AWARDS

SHEA'S HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATRE AWARDS HAS A NEW NAME

The Shea's High School Musical Theatre Awards received a brand-new name in September. The program, designed to celebrate and support the arts in high schools, foster excellence in musical theatre, and provide valuable educational opportunities to students, will be referred to as Shea's Wonder Awards.



The new name embraces the history of Shea's Buffalo Theatre, which opened nearly a century ago under the moniker "The Wonder Theatre" and continues to be featured on the sign under the theatre's grand marquee. The title also recognizes the wonder that comes with opportunities to engage in the performing arts as a student and the wonder of witnessing incredible young talent.

Shea's President and CEO Brian Higgins said, "The experience associated with participating in a high school musical builds community, self-confidence, creativity, and perseverance, skills that stay with young people for a lifetime. This is an opportunity to inspire young people to embrace the wonder associated with the performing arts and encourage everyone to celebrate the wonder of live performances."

Here's to the Shea's Wonder Awards and the wonderful year of high school musical performances!

And do not forget to *Save the Date!* Shea's Wonder Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2025. Tickets will go on sale later this season.

Follow Shea's Arts Engagement and Education on social media to stay up to date on programs and opportunities.



@engage_with_sheas



@sheasEDU

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SHEA'S BUFFALO

HAMILTON

2024-25 FIVE STAR BANK BROADWAY
SEASON SPECIAL SUBSCRIBER ADD-ON
OCT 15-27

DEREK HOUGH DANCE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

NOV 2

SHEA'S SHOPPING SOIREE

SHEA'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
NOV 7

THE DIARY OF BLACK MEN HOW DO YOU LOVE A BLACK WOMAN?

NOV 13

FINAL FANTASY VII REBIRTH ORCHESTRA WORLD TOUR

NOV 16

& JULIET

2024-25 FIVE STAR BANK BROADWAY
SEASON
NOV 19-24

A DRAG QUEEN CHRISTMAS

NOV 26

A NOSTALGIC NIGHT WITH MACAULAY CULKIN FOLLOWING A SCREENING OF HOME ALONE

NOV 30

SHEA'S 710

TRIBUTE BAND KISS ARMY

OCT 16

A TRIBUTE NIGHT TO THE EAGLES

OCT 18

VIEWPOINTS MASTERCLASS SERIES

ARTA WNY
OCT 20-NOV 17

BATTERY (METALLICA TRIBUTE)

OCT 23

BIG WIGS WITH MRS. KASHA DAVIS AND AGGY DUNE

OCT 25

GREASE

STARRING BUFFALO
NOV 8-9

LEGALLY BLONDE

NARDIN ACADEMY
NOV 14-16

TALKBACK CENTRAL

JOIN US FOR A TALKBACK!

Have you ever wanted to learn more about a show? Do you want to hear directly from the actors and crew working on the performance? You should attend a talkback!

A talkback is a moderated discussion between the audience and people involved with a production. It usually takes place after a show's performance, though this is not always the case. Talkbacks are an opportunity for audience members to ask their burning questions about the show, and gain a glimpse of what it takes to put on a performance.



This past month, Shea's hosted two talkbacks: a pre-show talkback at Shea's 710 for D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre's production of Disney's *NEWSIES* and a talkback for *SOME LIKE IT HOT* at Shea's Buffalo.

The pre-show conversation for *NEWSIES* took place with Director and Choreographer, Eric Deeb-Weaver and cast member John

Kaczorowski. Katie Mallinson, the Executive Artistic Director of the Kavinoky Theatre moderated the conversation.

Over 60 people attended the *SOME LIKE IT HOT* talkback, following the Sep 25th performance. Three cast members, Tarra Conner Jones, Michael Skrzek and Buffalo native, Devon Goffman, took part in an engaging conversation with the crowd. Shea's teaching artist, Alejandro Gomez moderated the discussion. They talked

about what it was like to be on one of the first stops of a First National Tour, what the process of learning the show was like- especially the very intercatate "Tip Tap Trouble" sequence at the end of the musical, and why the message and themes of



SOME LIKE IT HOT are important for a modern audience to see. As a treat, Jones, Skrzek, and Goffman also discussed what experiences they'd recommend to their fellow cast members if/when they toured through their hometowns of Jacksonville, FL, Worcester, MA, and Buffalo, NY, respectively.



Keep an eye out on our social media and website for future talkback opportunities! For our Broadway season shows, talkbacks typically occur after the Wednesday night performances.

**CHICKS IN THE OFFICE:
LITTLE FALL GETAWAY TOUR**
NOV 21

**DON JOVI (BON JOVI
TRIBUTE)**
NOV 22

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH
EXPERIENCE ®
A JOHN DENVER CHRISTMAS
STARRING RICK SCHULER**
NOV 23

**TRIBUTE BAND HISTORY OF
ROCK AND SOUL**
NOV 24

**A VERY VALLI HOLIDAY
TRIBUTE**
NOV 30

SHEA'S SMITH

**THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM
COUNTY SPELLING BEE**
NOV 1-17

IN THE COMMUNITY

BONNIE AND CLYDE
Bellissima Productions
Allendale Theatre
OCT 11 - 27

**REMEMBER THIS: THE LESSON
OF JAN KARSKI**
Jewish Repertory Theatre
Maxine and Robert Seller Theatre
OCT 31 - NOV 24

SOMETHING ROTTEN
MusicalFare Theatre
MusicalFare Theatre Mainstage
NOV 6 - DEC 8

WITCH
Road Less Traveled Productions
Road Less Traveled Theatre
NOV 6 - DEC 8

THE COTTAGE
Alleyway Theatre
Alleyway Theatre
NOV 8 - NOV 30

THE FITZGERALDS OF ST. PAUL
Irish Classical Theatre
The Andrews Theatre
NOV 8 - 24

KING JAMES
D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre
D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre
NOV 8 - 24

THE THANKSGIVING PLAY
Ujima Theatre Company
Lorna C. Hill Theater
NOV 8 - 24

SHYLOCK
American Repertory Theatre of WNY
American Repertory Theatre of WNY
NOV 16 - DEC 2

THE WIZARD OF OZ
Lancaster Oper House
Lancaster Opera House
NOV 22 - DEC 8

MOVE THOSE DANCING FEET!

TAKE A LOOK AT OUR DANCE MASTERCLASSES!

The month of September was the time to break out your dancing shoes! Shea's held dance masterclasses for D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre's production of Disney's **NEWSIES**, presented at Shea's 710 and for the touring production of **SOME LIKE IT HOT**, which hit the Shea's Buffalo Stage Sep 24-29.

Our **NEWSIES** onsite dance masterclass was led by the show's director and choreographer, Eric Deeb-Weaver and cast member, Melanie Kaisen. Fifty students came to learn the choreography of the show's finale. After the masterclass, students were able to engage in a Q&A about the show and the theatre industry. An offsite masterclass was also held at SUNY Buffalo State for their students, led by Eric Deeb-Weaver.



On Wednesday, Sep 25, students also participated in a dance masterclass with **SOME LIKE IT HOT** Dance Captain and swing, Tim Fuchs. Students learned choreography from the show's finale and spent time conversing with Tim about what it's like to tour with a production.

Thank you to Eric Deeb Weaver, Melanie Kaisen, and Tim Fuchs for leading these classes! We'd also like to thank every student that came to and learned from these masterclasses.

Keep an eye out on our social media pages for more exciting masterclass opportunities in the future!



THEATRE NEWS

Gavin Creel, Beloved Tony-Winning Star of *HELLO, DOLLY!*, *THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE* and *More, Dies* at 48.

After Public Outcry, All Broadway Marquee Lights Will Darken in Honor of Adrian Bailey, Gavin Creel and Maggie Smith.

Shoshana Bean Schedules Final Performance in Broadway's *HELL'S KITCHEN*

KIMBERLY AKIMBO Musical Acquired By Licensor Music Theatre International.

The Jimmy Awards® Sets 2025 Date.

THE WIZ's Nichelle Lewis Joins New York City Center *RAGTIME*, Replacing Joaquina Kalukango.

Jonathan Groff Will Lead Bobby Darin Bio-Musical on Broadway.

Dancer and TikTok Star Charli D'Amelio to Join the Broadway Company of & *JULIET*

WATER FOR ELEPHANTS Announces Broadway Closing Date.

Christopher Ashley Will Be Roundabout Theatre Company's New Artistic Director.

Fleetwood Mac Sound Engineer Sues STEREPHONIC, Saying Play Used Copyrighted Material From Book.

Museum of Broadway to Launch Exhibit Celebrating 30 Years of Disney on Broadway.

Broadway's *ROMEO + JULIET* to Provide Open Captioning At Every Performance.

GET TO KNOW THE MUSICALS & PLAYS ON BROADWAY

MAYBE HAPPY ENDING
Belasco Theatre

Emmy® and Golden Globe Award® winner Darren Criss (*Little Shop of Horrors*) returns to Broadway

IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE MEGA RAFFLE

PRESENTED BY THE SHEA'S SPOTLIGHT COMMITTEE

Starting on October 15th, the first performance of HAMILTON at Shea's Buffalo Theatre, the Shea's Spotlight Committee will be selling Mega Raffle Tickets to benefit Restoration Projects at Shea's Buffalo Theatre. Be sure to stop by the champagne table on the first floor of the lobby to purchase raffle tickets!

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10 and will be available for purchase at public performances at Shea's Buffalo and Shea's 710 Theatre from October 15th until the drawing on Tuesday, April 15th, 2025. This is following the run of A BEAUTIFUL NOSIE: THE NEIL DIAMOND MUSICAL.

This season's grand prize is Two Opening Night Broadway Season Tickets to the upcoming 2025-26 Season at Shea's Buffalo Theatre, Two Season Tickets to the upcoming 2025-26 Season at Shea's 710 Theatre, and two complimentary drink vouchers per show included in the prize. Restrictions may apply. Get your red tickets starting October 15th!

SHEA'S SPOTLIGHT COMMITTEE
MEGA DRAWING
Proceeds Benefit Restoration Projects at Shea's Performing Arts Center

GRAND PRIZE:
The Ultimate Shea's Experience

- Two (2) Opening Night Broadway Season Tickets to the upcoming 2025-26 Season at Shea's Buffalo Theatre*
- Two (2) Season Tickets to the upcoming 2025-26 Season at Shea's 710 Theatre*
- Enjoy drinks on us with two complimentary drink vouchers per show included in the prize

*Restrictions may apply

Donation: \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00
Drawing to be held at Shea's Box Office on Tuesday, April 15th, 2025 at NOON. **WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT**

No. 0001

SPONSOR OF THE MONTH – SEPTEMBER

FIVE STAR BANK

Five Star Bank is a supporter and partner of Shea's and is our 2024-25 Broadway Season sponsor. At Five Star their company is dedicated to creating measurable impact within the communities they serve.

Their partnership is vital in the work we do. It continues to help restore and maintain Shea's Buffalo Theatre for present and future generations to enjoy as a working historic theatre providing a wide variety of live performing arts experiences for our patrons and innovative and effective educational experiences fostering an appreciation of live theatre by area youth.



**Five Star
Bank**

To learn more about Five Star Bank and the services they provide visit their website.

alongside Helen J Shen in the new romantic musical comedy MAYBE HAPPY ENDING.

Inside a one-room apartment on the outskirts of Seoul, Oliver lives a happily quiet life, listening to jazz records and caring for his favorite plant. But what else is there to do when you're a Helperbot 3, a robot that has long been retired and considered obsolete? When his fellow Helperbot neighbor Claire asks to borrow his charger, what starts as an awkward encounter leads to a unique friendship, a surprising adventure, and maybe even...love?

Winner of the Richard Rodgers Award, MAYBE HAPPY ENDING is the offbeat and captivating story of two outcasts near the end of their warranty who discover that even robots can be swept off their feet. Helmed by visionary director and Tony Award® winner Michael Arden (Parade, Once on This Island), with a dazzling scenic design by Dane LaFrey (A Christmas Carol) and book, music, and lyrics by the internationally acclaimed duo Will Aronson and Hue Park, MAYBE HAPPY ENDING is a fresh, original musical about the small things that make any life worth living.

SWEPT AWAY **Longacre Theatre**

When a violent storm sinks their whaling ship off the coast of New Bedford, Mass., the four survivors face a reckoning: how far will they go to stay alive? And can they live with the consequences?

From the chart-topping folk-rock band The Avett Brothers comes "a spell-binding tale" (The Washington Post) of shipwreck, salvation and brotherhood set on the high seas.

An odyssey of "mythic proportions" (San Francisco Chronicle), SWEPT AWAY features a book by Tony Award winner John Logan (Red, Moulin Rouge! The Musical), direction by Tony Award winner Michael Mayer (Spring Awakening, American Idiot), and choreography by Tony Award nominee David Neumann (Hedestown) and stars Tony winner John Gallagher, Jr. (Spring Awakening), two-time Tony nominee Stark Sands (Kinky Boots), Adrian Blake Enscoe (AppleTV's Dickinson), and Wayne Duvall (O Brother, Where Art Thou?).

SHEA'S SHOPPING SOIREE

A HOLIDAY FAVORITE IS BACK AGAIN!

Shea's Performing Arts Center invites you to shop unique gifts for the holidays at our Shea's Shopping Soiree. The event on Thursday, November 7th from 6:00pm to 8:30 pm is organized and hosted by Shea's Young Professionals and presented by Cadillac.

Back by popular demand, the Shea's Shopping Soiree features over 50 local vendors including some of the region's most creative Kid Businesses.

Shop with friends or family on the Shea's Buffalo stage and throughout the theatre's holiday decorated lobbies. Participate in the scavenger hunt to earn a trip backstage for additional treats. Enjoy specialty cocktails while you shop.

Make sure to check out our premium vendors!

Botanico Prints

Blue Table Chocolates

Brian Michael's Jewelers

DAME

Nickel City Makers

Fetch! Gourmet Dog Treats

Vinegars, Etc.

Meliora Forever

Art by Susan Palsy

Tickets are \$15 presale or \$20 at the door. All proceeds benefit ongoing restoration work at the historic Shea's Buffalo Theatre. Get your tickets today!

[Click Here to Buy Tickets!](#)

REGISTER FOR WINTER BREAK CAMP!

SING YOUR STORY IS FOR AGES 10-17

Using a song of their choice, students of the Sing Your Story camp will explore their unique life experience to create a connecting monologue and Sing their Story. Students will devise their own ideas, lighting, and costumes leading to a personalized performance where they are the STAR! Camp runs from February 17th to the 21st.

Led by our lead Teaching Artist, Alejandro Gómez. The program will culminate with a song showcase on Friday, February 21st at Shea's 710 Theatre with an audience of family and friends. Financial assistance is available. For questions or more information please contact Alicia arainey@sheas.org.



**Register for Camp
Here!**

After sold-out runs from coast to coast,

SWEPT AWAY storms Broadway this fall.

A WONDERFUL WORLD THE LOUIS ARMSTRONG MUSICAL

Studio 54

Join Tony Award® winner James Monroe Iglehart and a talented ensemble cast as they bring Louis Armstrong's incredible journey to life, from New Orleans to worldwide fame. This full-scale musical features a rich tapestry of characters, including the extraordinary women who helped shape his remarkable life and career.

Be captivated by Armstrong's timeless hits like "What a Wonderful World" and "When You're Smiling," performed by a large, dynamic cast. Don't miss this spectacular celebration of music, filled with vibrant dance numbers, stunning sets, and unforgettable performances. Get your tickets now for an unforgettable night that honors the iconic man who defined an era.



This issue of the SHEA'S CALL-BOARD is prepared by members of the Development Department including writing from Julianna Tracey and Cassandra Lippert. Special thanks to Beth Potozniak for information on the Shea's Masterclasses, Talkbacks, and Shopping Soiree, the Education Department for information on the Shea's Wonder Awards, and the Shea's Spotlight Committee for information on the Mega Raffle.

SHEA'S PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

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Website

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