

SHEA'S CALL-BOARD

MID – MAY TO MID – JUNE 2025

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

SHEA'S 2025 GALA GUESTS EXPERIENCED THE WONDER!

On June 6th, Shea's was abuzz with our biggest fundraiser of the year - Shea's Gala! This year, guests were invited to "Experience the Wonder" at Shea's Buffalo.

Doors opened at 4:30 p.m., where guests could enjoy hors d'oeuvres and participate in our Silent Auction in the Grand and Petite Lobbies. Everyone had the opportunity to bid on exciting items, including a Microphone signed by Jerry Seinfeld, a Jimmy Buffett-signed guitar, and a luxury home sauna. Shea's exclusive experiences, like VIP tickets, private tours, and dinner on the stage, were also up for auction.

The second portion of the evening featured guests joining us for dinner on Shea's Stage, where they were treated to a brief performance by our special guest, Stephanie J. Block. Block was last at Shea's during the special engagement tour of Stephen Sondheim's *INTO THE WOODS*. She won the 2019 Tony Award for Best Leading Actress in a Musical, as well as winning The Drama Desk Award and Outer Critics Award for her STAR turn in *THE CHER SHOW*.

She is also well known for her portrayal of Elphaba in the Broadway company of *WICKED*. Block performed an arrangement of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and then brought the house down with her rendition of "Defying Gravity."



Tony Award Winner Stephanie J. Block wows Gala Guests with her performance of *WICKED*'s "Defying Gravity."



Our beloved Restorationist, Doris Collins received the Michael Shea Lifetime Legacy Award for her 30 years of dedication.

UPCOMING EVENTS: SHEA'S BUFFALO

BACK TO THE FUTURE: THE MUSICAL

2024-25 FIVE STAR BANK BROADWAY
SEASON
JUN 24-29

DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

2025-26 SPECIAL SUBSCRIBER ADD-ON
PART OF THE GALLAGHER ENCORE SERIES
AUG 20-24

THE OUTSIDERS

2025-26 FIVE STAR BANK BROADWAY
SEASON
SEP 17-23

AN EVENING WITH DAVID BYRNE – WHO IS THE SKY TOUR

SEP 25

WHEEL OF FORTUNE LIVE!

OCT 1

THE NOTEBOOK

2025-26 FIVE STAR BANK BROADWAY
SEASON
OCT 7-12

THE THORN

OCT 18-19

STARDEW VALLEY: SYMPHONY OF SEASONS

OCT 21

GABBY'S DOLLHOUSE LIVE!

OCT 29

SWAN LAKE

CLASSICAL ARTS ENTERTAINMENT
NOV 1

SHEA'S 710

STUDIO J 12TH ANNUAL DANCE RECITAL: BLAME IT ON THE BOOGIE

JUN 28

DREAMGIRLS

2025-26 FREY ELECTRIC SEASON
ANSARISAXON PRODUCTIONS
SEP 10-28

COME FROM AWAY

MUSICALFARE THEATRE
OCT 23- NOV 9

SHEA'S SMITH

URINETOWN

2ND GENERATION THEATRE
OCT 24- NOV 9

The performances did not stop there! Guests were then treated to a sneak preview performance of *DREAMGIRLS*. The musical, co-produced by Shea's and AnsariSaxon Productions, will be featured as part of the 2025-26 Frey Electric Season at Shea's 710 Theatre from September 10 – 28, 2025. [Tickets are onsale now!](#)



The Dreams give a stunning sneak peak performance of *DREAMGIRLS*.

During dinner, Doris Collins was named the 2025 recipient of The Michael Shea Lifetime Legacy Award. For the past 30 years, Doris has served as Shea's Historic Restoration Consultant, bringing her expertise and passion for preservation to every project. She joined Shea's in 1995 following her restoration work at Our Lady of Victory Basilica. Through her meticulous attention to detail and coordination of volunteers, Doris has played a pivotal role in restoring and preserving the nearly 100-year-old Shea's Buffalo Theatre to its original 1926 design.

Rounding out the evening, guests had the opportunity to bid on exclusive, premium live auction items. These were a vacation to Siesta Key, a trip to Costa Rica, an escape to Italy featuring two Italian villas, an ultimate Shea's VIP Package, and an ultimate Buffalo Sports Package.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Gala and made it a smashing success!

SEASON SPOTLIGHT

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SHOWS IN THE 2025-26 FIVE STAR BANK BROADWAY SEASON

In our last issue, we highlighted the Special Subscriber Add-On, Part of the Gallagher Encore Series, Disney's *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*, and the first show of the 2025-26 Five Star Bank Broadway Season, *THE OUTSIDERS*. In this issue, we will explore *THE NOTEBOOK* and *WICKED*. Make sure you read the next issue to learn more about the other shows in our 2025-26 Five Star Bank Broadway Season.

IN THE COMMUNITY

TWELFTH NIGHT

Produced By: Shakespeare in Delaware Park
Shakespeare in Delaware Park
JUN 19– JUL 13

BETWEEN THE LINES

Produced By: Bellissima Productions
Allendale Theatre
JUN 20–29

KINKY BOOTS

Produced By: Curtain Up Productions
Historic Lockport Palace Theatre
JUL 10– 20

THE TEMPEST– NEW YORK STATE TOUR

Produced By: Shake on the Lake
Various Locations
JUL 17– AUG 3

BYE BYE BIRDIE

Produced By: Spotlight Performing Artists, Inc.
Taylor Theatre at the Kenan Center
JUL 18– 20

BROADWAY AT THE BREWERY

Produced By: Starring Buffalo
Wayland Brewing
JUL 23

RICHARD III

Produced By: Shakespeare in Delaware Park
Shakespeare in Delaware Park
JUL 24– AUG 17

THE BOOK OF WILL

Produced By: Road Less Traveled Productions
Road Less Traveled Theater
SEP 19– OCT 19

THEATRE NEWS

Original *MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG* Star, Ann Morrison Will Lead *KIMBERLY AKIMBO* On Tour.

A CHORUS LINE To Get 1–Night–Only Benefit Concert on Broadway.

Tom Felton Will Reprise His Movie Role as Draco Malfoy in *HARRY POTTER AND THE CURSED CHILD*.

Cole Escola, Nicole Scherzinger, Darren Criss and More Win Big at the 78th Tony Awards! Read Full List of Winners.

THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE Sets NYC Return Off–Broadway.

PIRATES! THE PENZANCE MUSICAL Will Record an Original Broadway Cast Album.

Chiara Aurelia to Replace Sadie Sink for Final Weeks of *JOHN PROCTOR IS THE VILLAIN* on Broadway.

THE NOTEBOOK

Opening Night on Broadway: March 14th, 2024 at the Gerald Schoenfeld Theatre

Book By: BEKAH BRUNSTETTER

Music By: INGRID MICHAELSON

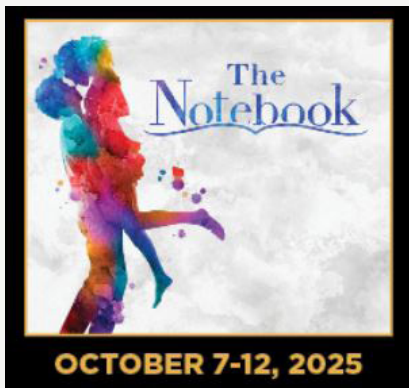
Lyrics By: INGRID MICHAELSON

Adapted from the 1996 Nicholas Sparks novel of the same name.

Based on the best-selling novel that inspired the iconic film, *THE NOTEBOOK* tells the story of Allie and Noah, both from different worlds, who share a lifetime of love despite the forces that threaten to pull them apart. “Full of butterfly-inducing highs and beautiful songs” (Entertainment Weekly), *THE NOTEBOOK* is a deeply moving portrait of the enduring power of love.

Chris Jones of The Chicago Tribune says *THE NOTEBOOK* is “absolutely gorgeous, not to be missed,” and The New York Daily News calls it “a love story for the ages.”

THE NOTEBOOK is directed by Michael Greif (*DEAR EVAN HANSEN*, *NEXT TO NORMAL*, *RENT*) and Schele Williams (*THE WIZ*, *AIDA*), and features music and lyrics by multi-platinum singer-songwriter Ingrid Michaelson, book by Bekah Brunstetter (NBC’s “This Is Us”), and choreography by Katie Spelman.



Broadway Cast: Aisha Jackson (Middle Allie) and Ryan Vasquez (Middle Noah).



Original Broadway Company: Maryann Plunkett (Older Allie), Joy Woods (Middle Allie), and Jordan Tyson (Younger Allie).



Original Broadway Company: John Cardoza (Younger Noah) and Jordan Tyson (Younger Allie) (front); Ryan Vasquez (Middle Noah) and Joy Woods (Middle Allie) (middle); and Dorian Harewood (Older Noah) and Maryann Plunkett (Older Allie) (back).

Nominees for 2025 Jimmy Awards, Student Reporters and Inspiring Teachers Announced.

SMASH Will End Broadway Run June 22.

LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, Starring Billy Porter, BAT BOY: THE MUSICAL and More Slated for City Center’s 2025–26 Season.

Ariana DeBose named among new board members of Entertainment Community Fund

Hell’s Kitchen Lead Jessica Vosk to Take 3–Week Leave of Absence.

Broadway Teachers Workshop Launches Online DIRECTOR’S TOOLKIT Series.

Megan Hilty to Take Leave of Absence from DEATH BECOMES HER. Dee Roscioli to Cover the Role of Madeline Ashton 7 Times A Week.

Matthew Broderick, David Cross to Star in Reimagined TARTUFFE Off–Broadway.

Charlie Puth Reveals He Is Working on a Broadway Musical.

Broadway’s REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES Sets Closing Date.

Broadway Barks, Hosted by Bernadette Peters and Beth Leavel, Returns on July 12.

Tom Francis Sets Final Performance in Sunset Boulevard; Pierre Marais to Play Final Stretch of the Broadway Run.

Brenda Pressley to Replace LaTanya Richardson Jackson in Purpose on Broadway.

GET TO KNOW THE MUSICALS & PLAYS ON BROADWAY

BUENA VISTA SOCIAL CLUB
Schoenfeld Theatre

Step into the heart of Cuba, beyond the glitz of the Tropicana, to a place where blazing trumpets and sizzling guitars set the dance floor on fire.

WICKED

Opening Night on Broadway: October 30th, 2003 at the Gershwin Theatre.

Book By: WINNIE HOLZMAN

Music By: STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Lyrics By: STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Adapted from the 1995 novel, *WICKED: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE WICKED WITCH OF THE WEST* by Gregory McGuire

Welcome to the wonderful Land of Oz... where there is a young woman, born with emerald-green skin—smart, fiery, misunderstood and possessing an extraordinary talent. When she meets a bubbly blonde who is exceptionally popular, their initial rivalry turns into the unlikeliest of friendships...until the world decides to call one good and the other one wicked.

With a thrilling score that includes the hits “Defying Gravity,” “Popular” and “For Good,” *WICKED* has been called “A magical Broadway musical with brains, heart and courage” (Time Magazine).



Here, the sound of Havana is born—and one woman discovers the music that will change her life forever.

Inspired by true events, the new Broadway musical Buena Vista Social Club™ brings the GRAMMY® Award-winning album to thrilling life—and tells the story of the legends who lived it. A world-class band joins a sensational cast of musicians, actors and dancers from around the globe for an authentic experience unlike any you’ve seen or heard before. Don’t miss this captivating tale of big dreams, second chances and the unbreakable bonds of making music together.

CALL ME IZZY Studio 54

Six-time Emmy® Award winner and Tony Award® nominee Jean Smart returns to Broadway for 12 weeks only in a tour-de-force portrayal of a writer whose words are her greatest gift, her biggest secret, and her only way out. Written by Jamie Wax and directed by Sarna Lapine, *Call Me Izzy* is a can’t-miss theatrical event and a moving portrait of one woman’s refusal to be silenced through her own sheer tenacity, humor, and fiery imagination.



This issue of the SHEA'S CALL-BOARD is prepared by members of the Development Department, including writing from Julianna Tracey and Cassandra Lippert. Thank you to Theresa Kennedy for information on our 2025-26 Five Star Broadway Season and DREAMGIRLS.

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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.

