



Ma

Book by ENDA WALSH

Music & Lyrics by GLEN HANSARD & MARKÉTA IRGLOVÁ

Michael &

**Maryellen Simkins** 

### Based on the Motion Picture Written and Directed by JOHN CARNEY

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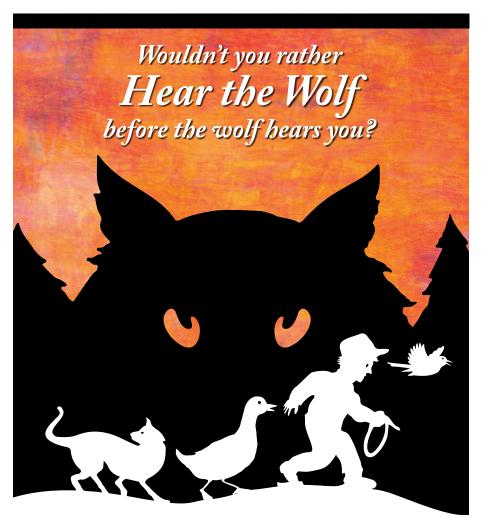
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# Director's Notes

Welcome to the PUB!

#### Get a drink! Tap your feet! Dance! Read this later!

Hello and welcome to the show!

You attending this production is more significant than you might realize. This is a show about almost giving up on one's dreams and the power of healing and rebuilding for a stronger future.

The pandemic devastated live theatres across the nation with very limited promise of rebuilding. Through many months of vacancy, this company, as well as other companies, fought to survive. We are now on the other side and you have chosen to support and attend live theatre. You have come back. You are in our pub. You might be having a nice drink and tapping your foot, but most importantly, you are here.

Your support and attendance puts us on the path towards healing. You are the one making us pick up our guitar. If this production provides you the gift of a positive cathartic experience then I ask you to help us rebuild to a stronger future. Go out and get two friends that you think need to have this experience. Buy their tickets for them! Come back again. Spread the word! Truthfully, the strength of theatre is in your hands. Your powerful voice can help serve as our foundation.

Welcome to the pub. Enjoy the show.

#### Sean Paul Bryan

### Thank you to our Sponsors







Please join us in thanking the Season Sponsors listed below and all the generous show and program sponsors recognized throughout our season

Season Sponsors











"the greatest thing you'll ever learn is just to love and be loved in return" - eden ahbez

barbara-jo osborne

ARTIST

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## A Message from the Managing Artistic Director

I am so glad you are here today to see *ONCE* at SLO REP. This production is the culmination of our 76th season; our first full season back after COVID closed our doors in 2020. All of us at SLO REP are immensely grateful for your support over the last year as we got fully back on our feet. We wouldn't be here without you.

*ONCE* is a production that exemplifies everything that we strive to do at this theatre: a wonderful script, beautiful music, an exemplary artistic team, and a cast made of up of stellar actor/musicians from all over the nation; all of this coming together live onstage in our 97-seat theatre in downtown SLO. It has been an enormous pleasure to collaborate with these artists over the last several weeks, and we are excited to share this wonderful production with our community.

We have such great things planned for next season at 888 Morro Street, even as we begin preparations to move into our new building – just a few blocks from where you sit now – anchoring the newly-formed Cultural Arts District in Downtown SLO. We appreciate you supporting SLO REP as we head into this period of transition and growth. The best way to continue your support – with the bonus of experiencing locally-produced theatre – **is to become a season subscriber**. We have something for everyone next season; you won't want to miss a moment!

We are glad you came to the theatre today! Thank you.

#### Kevin



Kevin Harris (Managing Artistic Director) grew up on the Central Coast performing with many local theatre groups, including the San Luis Obispo Little Theatre. He went on to study at the Tisch School at NYU and at the Atlantic Theatre Company. He was the Artistic Director of San Luis Obispo's first professional theatre, Centerpoint Theatre Group and the Theatre Manager of the Contemporary Art Center in New Orleans. He received his Master of Fine Arts in Directing from

the University of Iowa and worked throughout the country and in the Middle East directing and as a collaborator on original plays. He has taught at the University of Iowa, University of Chicago, and has led dozens of workshops on *A Practical Handbook for the Actor* across the country. Kevin feels privileged to be part of bringing live theatre to San Luis Obispo.

# Show Sponsors

### **Richard & Catherine Luckett**

Richard and Catherine are longtime patrons of the arts on the Central Coast. Between them, they have sat on Boards of Directors for the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center, SLO Symphony and PCPA Foundation. Richard is a proud member of SLO REP's Board of Directors. A nuclear engineer, he retired from PG & E, where he worked at Diablo Canyon Power Plant for many years, culminating with a "sunset assignment" in Washington D.C. and a stint working with Homeland Security. Catherine, a Speech/Language Pathologist and Resource Specialist, worked for San Luis Coastal Unified School District as an itinerant SLP for 12 years and then in the Preschool Early Education Program, which she developed with fellow SLP, Kathy Hamrick. She retired in 2002 to follow Rich to Washington D.C. The Lucketts love to travel and have visited all seven continents since Rich retired in 2006.







Jeff Buckingham Jeff.Buckingham@astound.com 805.545.5100 www.digitalwest.com

# Show Sponsors

### Linda Ozawa Olds & Jeff Olds

Jeff and Linda are excited and proud to sponsor this production of *Once*! The Olds have had an interest in theatre for decades and want to see quality theatre thrive in our local community. They have been ongoing sponsors for years! Jeff has been on the SLO REP Board of Directors since 2015. They are supportive of the dramatic growth of SLO REP, the ACT program and, like most of us, look forward to the brand new theatre building in Downtown SLO.

They are the proud owners of almost a dozen Jamba stores. You'll find 6 of their stores right here on the Central Coast from Paso Robles to Santa Maria including owning the very first store on Foothill and Chorro, the birthplace of Jamba! Linda was their first VP of Marketing and has a passion for the Jamba brand, and, as a native of SLO, for our community.



For those of you that might not know what Jamba is, Jamba is a place that makes eating healthier delicious, easy and fun! They specialize in made-to-order smoothies, amazing bowls and delicious foods to go. And if you happen to visit their Atascadero location, you will get to try the nation's most popular fresh-baked pretzels at their Auntie Anne's store co-branded with Jamba. Both Jeff and Linda work and live a very happy and active lifestyle and Linda has a special love for our musicals!

They are so happy to be a part of this amazing local organization and hope this great production will get your toes tapping and your hearts soaring! Enjoy...





# Show Sponsors

### Michael & Maryellen Simkins

Maryellen and Michael Simkins have been Los Osos residents since 1987. Michael served nine years as principal of Baywood Elementary School before being lured away to Silicon Valley to help schools and high-tech companies figure out how to best use technology to improve education. Maryellen spent over 16 years as the administrator at local law firm Andre, Morris & Buttery. Though retired from their full-time careers, both remain very active. Maryellen is a past president and continues to serve on the board of the PCPA Foundation (PCPA - Pacific Conservatory Theatre); she also serves on the board of the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center (FPAC) as Secretary. Michael now enjoys his current work as Executive Director of Spokes, San Luis Obispo County's nonprofit support center. He is immediate past president of the SLO REP board of directors and continues to serve the board as secretary.



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### About the Author



John Carney is a Dublin-based writer-director who came to the world's attention following the box office hit and critically acclaimed musical feature film *Once*, which garnered multiple Independent Spirit, Sundance and Raindance awards. Previously, John was a bassist in the Irish rock band the Frames, where he met Glen Hansard. These musical roots continue to be evident in John's work with his latest production, *Can a Song Save Your Life?*. Other projects include *Dogs of Babel* for David Heyman and *Nathan Kahane* 

Starring Steve Carrell and a feature adaptation of M.R. James's *Casting the Runes* for Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson.





# About the Director & Choreographer



Sean Paul Bryan (Director) joins the SLO REP community from Atlanta, Georgia. In Atlanta, he currently serves as the Director of Fine Arts at Pace Academy. With over 30 years in the theatre business, Sean has directed and acted in various companies throughout the country such as Iowa Summer Rep, Riverside Theatre, Horizon Theatre, Georgia Ensemble, Atlanta Lyric Theatre, Wallace Buice Theatre Company, City Theatre Miami, Noble Fool Theatre, Playhouse on the Square, and others. Thank you to the amazing cast for sharing your tremendous talents. Thank you to my fellow

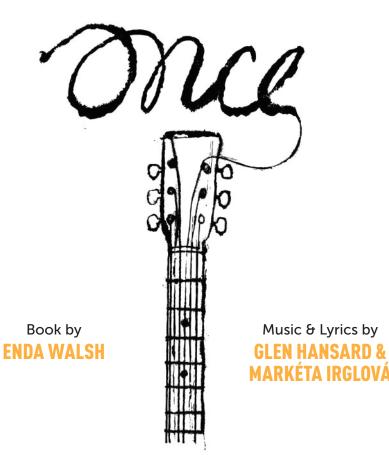
Hawkeye, Kevin Harris, it has been a wonderful opportunity. Love to you Genevieve, Henry, Lucy, and Ollie. You make it all worthwhile.



Drew Silvaggio (Choreographer) holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. On the east coast, some of his favorite performances include *A Chorus Line, Edmond, On the Town, Carousel, Weird Romance,* and performances as a featured dancer for the Barrymore Awards as well as the Philadelphia Fringe Festival. Drew is the Artistic Director of the Civic Ballet of San Luis Obispo and owner of the Academy of Dance. His original works include: "Alice in Wonderland," "Sidewalk Stories," "The Crucible," "Rodeo," "JuliA Caesar," "The Scarlet Ibis," and "Our

Town." Drew is the principal choreographer for Opera San Luis Obsipo and has been lucky enough to choreograph for The Great American Melodrama and SLO REP. Some of his past SLO REP credits include; *Cabaret, The Drowsy Chaperone, The Producers, and A Funny Thing...Forum.*" Drew has been seen locally performing with Deyo Dances, Variable Velocity and The Civic Ballet of San Luis Obispo.





### Based on the Motion Picture Written and Directed by JOHN CARNEY

# **Creative Team**

DIRECTOR	Sean Paul Bryan
MUSICAL DIRECTOR	Matthew Staley
CHOREOGRAPHER	Andrew Silvaggio
SCENIC DESIGN	Dave Linfield
COSTUME DESIGN	Barbara Harvey Abbott
LIGHTING/SOUND/PROJECTIONS	Kevin Harris
PROPS	Suzy Newman

ONCE is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

# Act 1

Guy
Girl
. Guy, Girl, Ensemble
Ensemble
Ensemble
Ensemble
Girl
Guy
. Guy, Girl, Ensemble
Guy
Bank Manager
Ensemble
Guy

#### **15 Minute Intermission**

# Act 2

SleepingGuy
When Your Mind's Made UpGuy, Girl
The Hill
Gold (A Cappella) Ensemble
The MoonEnsemble
Falling Slowly (Reprise) Guy, Girl, Ensemble

# Cast (In order of appearance)

GUYMatthew Staley	
GIRL	
BILLY Darren Doran	
DAJohn Lambie	
EX-GIRLFRIEND	
ANDREJ Tony Costa	
SVEC Mike Fiore	
REZAKamilah Lay	
BARUSKALaura Richie	
IVONKA Avery Magon	
BANK MANAGERKsa Curry	
EM CEE ("MC")Rachel Tietz	
EAMON Steven Michael Stone	
Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited. Please silence your cell phones.	

### About the Cast



**Tony Costa (Andrej)** is excited to be back at SLO REP. Tony is a Central Coast native and graduate of both Cal Poly and Cuesta College. He is a two-time winner of the Distinguished Actor in a Musical Award from the Kennedy Center's American College Theatre Festival. Other roles include: Elvis Presley in *Refried Elvis* and Cervantes in *Man of La Mancha* at Cuesta College and Conrad Birdie in *Bye, Bye, Birdie,* El Gallo in *The Fantasticks* and Actor 1 in *Around the World in 80 Days* at SLO REP.



Ksa Curry (Bank Manager) is delighted to be making her SLO REP debut with this beautiful story. She recently graduated from PCPA – Pacific Conservatory Theatre and has since been living and working in Chicago. Recent credits include *The Revolutionists* (Charlotte), *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins* (Sammy US), and *Camelot Lost* (Bedivear). PCPA credits include *Mother Road* (Ivy), *The Humans* (Brigid), and *The Secret Garden* (Puppeteer). Ksa loves snickerdoodles, puppetry, and little black cats.



Darren Doran (Billy) is ecstatic to appear in his fourth production with SLO REP! Darren has been acting, singing, and playing music for nearly all of his life. When he's not on a theater stage or out golfing, he can often be found writing songs and playing shows with his dad Ken, his sister Molly, and all their lovely friends in The Band CARTER.



**Mike Fiore (Svec)** is so pleased to be back rockin 'and rollin on the SLO REP stage. A Central Coast native and graduate of PCPA – Pacific Conservatory Theatre, you may have spotted him in previous SLO REP productions, including the recent *Ring of Fire*, or on other stages in the area. He sends his thanks to the whole SLO REP team and love to his family!



Claire Loraine Gretlein (Girl) is thrilled to be a part of Once! Some of her favorite roles are: Donna in Mamma Mia, Katherine in Newsies, Fiona in Shrek, Olivia in Twelfth Night, Medea in Medea, and Penelope in Bye Bye Birdie. Additionally, Claire enjoys playing and composing music and teaching yoga. She is currently attaining her BA in Theatre Arts at Cal Poly. Claire thanks her friends, family and mentors for their unconditional love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show!



John Lambie (Da) returns to SLO REP where he has appeared in *The Fantastics* (Bellamy), *I Hate Hamlet* (John Barrymore), *Anne of the 1000 Days* (Henry VIII), *Side By Side By Sondheim*, and *I Do*, *I Do* (Father). John has previously played the character of Da at Oregon Cabaret Theatre and The Public Theatre. In addition to film and television credits, his theatre credits include Wine Country Theatre, Lake Arrowhead Theatre, PCPA – Pacific Conservatory Theatre. He has taught Drama and Special Education for 40 years in Utah, California, and Scotland and directed over 45 shows on the Central Coast. Cheers to our audiences.



Kamilah Lay (Reza) Wisconsin-native Kamilah is delighted to make her SLO REP debut. Most recently, she was seen in Pittsburgh Musical Theater's production of *Once* (Reza). Additional regional credits include: Theatre Raleigh, The Fireside Theatre, First Stage, Carowinds, Cedar Point, Ravinia Festival, Marriott Theatre, and Drury Lane Theatre. She is an alumna of Illinois Wesleyan University, where she earned her BFA in Music Theatre. Kamilah extends endless gratitude to Kevin as well as the entire team of dedicated talents at SLO REP. Many thanks and much love to her Midwestern family for their steadfast support in addition to her dearest Collin. Kamilah aspires to connect, learn, and grow as new opportunities present themselves.

Special Thanks to these local musicians for the loan of their instruments: Hilary Clark – hillaryclarkcello.com Rosslyn Thorp-Clausen Duane Inglish



Avery Magon (Ivonka) started acting classes at SLO REP when she was 5, where she fell in love with acting. Her numerous ACT class plays and musicals include *Aristocats* (Thomas O'Malley), *Jungle Book* (Colonel Hathi), and *Honk Jr!* (Ugly). In January, Avery performed in *A Wrinkle in Time*, her first ACT production. Now at age 10, she's in her first professional production. Avery is so excited to be doing this production with adults and not just kids. Big thanks to my family and friends who have supported me in my acting by coming to shows, helping me practice, and cheering me on.



Laura Richie (Baruska) is making her debut on the SLO REP stage. She has performed locally at Cambria Center for the Arts in *Our Town* (Mrs. Webb), *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Lucy) and *Harvey* (Veta Louise Simmons). Recently, Laura played Athena Sinclair in *Suite Surrender* at By the Sea Productions. Laura is a transplant from Southern CA where she performed in numerous shows including *Sister Act, Ragtime, Radio Gals, Secret Garden, Barefoot in the Park, Into the Woods, Proposals, Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike, Steel Magnolias* and *Hello Dolly.* 



Matthew J. Staley (Guy, Music Director) was recently on the SLO REP stage in *Ring of Fire*. He has been on national tour with *Once* (Eamon, Guy) and was nominated by Broadway World Regional Theatre Award for Best Actor in a Musical (Guy in *Once* - Red Mountain Theatre). His other appearances include Joe Sutter in *The Spitfire Grill*, Buddy in *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Oregon Cabaret Theatre), Rev. Oglethorpe in *Smoke on the Mountain* (La Comedia), Anselmo in *Man of La Mancha* (Princeton Festival), Carl Perkins/Elvis u/s in *Million Dollar Quartet* (Dutch Apple Dinner Theater), and *Time Step* (Broward County Stage Door Theater). Matthew has a BFA, Rider University and sends his love and thanks to Mariah and Jessica.



Steven Michael Stone (Emon) is pleased to be making his debut at SLO REP. Steven has also appeared on stage at PCPA – Pacific Conservatory Theatre, Sierra Repertory Theater, Sondheim Center, Virginia Musical Theater, and Out of The Box Theater. When not studying for a show he can be found playing his guitar, writing music, trying to perfect his timing with a Rubik's cube, or simply relaxing with a nice comic book. Thank you to SLO REP for the opportunity to work with a wonderful cast and crew.



**Morgan Tapp (Ex-Girlfriend)** is thrilled to be making her SLO REP debut! Originally from St. Petersburg, FL, Morgan is a proud graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham (blaze on!!), where she earned her BFA in Musical Theatre and a minor in English Literature. Favorite credits include: *Into The Woods, Hair, Sense and Sensibility* (UAB), *Once* (Red Mountain Theatre) and the world premiere reading of *Pink Clouds* (RMT). She'd like to extend an infinite amount of thanks to her family for their unwavering support.



Rachel Tietz (Em Cee) is overjoyed to be back on the SLO REP stage! A central coast native, Rachel is a graduate of PCPA – Pacific Conservatory Theatre with experience through Second City Chicago, The Academy of Theatrical Combat, and the Great American Melodrama. Previous SLO REP credits include *Ring of Fire*, Betty Jean in *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, Ruth Condomine in *Blithe Spirit*, Philia in *A Funny Thing...Forum*, and Ulla in *The Producers*. She has a passion for working with young artists and proudly serves as the Assistant Education Director for the Academy of Creative Theatre here at SLO REP.

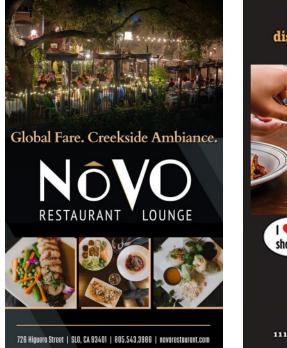


# **Creative Team**

**Barbara Harvey Abbott (Costume Designer)** is excited to be joining the talented team at SLO REP this season. She's worked for theatres in California, Utah, and Indiana designing and building costumes for a wide range of shows from *Sister Act* to *School for Scandal*, and *Woyzek* to *Beau Jest*. Locally, Barbara designed for Opera SLO and Central Coast Gilbert & Sullivan and worked as a Cutter/Draper at PCPA - Pacific Conservatory Theatre. In addition to costuming, she enjoys raising her four young daughters and has a passion for fermenting foods and exploring the art of hand sewing and visible mending.

**Lupita Marisol Rodriguez (Stage Manager)** started her career in theatrical productions by working for local theatre companies in Monterey and San Benito counties. After graduating with her BA in Cinematic Arts & Technology, she moved to this part of the Central Coast and still pursued working in both the cinematic and theatrical industries during the pandemic. She just finished stage managing *A Doll's House, Part 2* at SLO REP and she could not be more thrilled to be a part of this show. Enjoy!

**Bree Fawcett (Stage Manager)** started her journey in set and event management ten years ago, working on film and television sets in North Hollywood and the L.A. area. After graduating from London's Central Saint Martins Event Management course, Bree found enjoyment in coordinating weddings across California, eventually landing with her husband on the beautiful central coast. She is so grateful for the opportunity to assist in stage managing SLO REP's production of *Once*.





# Song List

#### "Leave"

Music and Lyrics by Glen Hansard

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### "Falling Slowly"

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### "The North Strand"

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### "The Moon"

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Ej, Pada, Pada, Rosicka

Music and Lyrics: traditional

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### "If You Want Me"

Music and Lyrics by Markéta Irglovå Copyright © 2007 Markéta Irglovå Published by The Swell Season Publishing (ASCAP).

#### "Broken Hearted Hoover Fixer Sucker Guy"

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### "Say It To Me Now"

Music and Lyrics by Paul James Brennan, Graham Downey, Glen Hansard,

Colm Mac Con Iomaire, David Odlum, Noreen O'Donnell

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### "Abandoned in Bandon"

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### "Gold"

Music and Lyrics by Fergus O'Farrell

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#### "Sleeping"

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### "When Your Mind's Made Up"

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### "The Hill"

Music and Lyrics by Markéta Irglovå Copyright © 2007 Markéta Irglovå Published by The Swell Season Publishing (ASCAP).

### "It Cannot Be About That"

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# The Show MUST Go On!

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SLO REP is grateful to all of our generous donors. Each and every gift is important to us! This list recognizes donors who have pledged or contributed \$100 or more between July 1, 2022 and May 15, 2023.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you have any questions about your listing, please contact Chris McBride at **chris@slorep.org.** 

# Season 2022-2023 Donors

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In Memory of Jules Hock Catherine & Richard Luckett

In Honor of Erin Kinikin-Polk's Birthday Catherine & Richard Luckett

In Honor of Burr Nissen by Audrey Elliott

In Honor of Alaine & Richard Steuk by Judy Stark

In Honor of Chip Visci's tireless service to SLO REP Sandi Sigurdson & Steve McGrath

In Honor of the Tracie Venturas (Especially Leo!) by Aunt Betty and Uncle Lawrence

# Leave a Legacy of Live Theatre for the Future

Everyone can leave a legacy. Great or small, planned gifts through your financial or estate plans will ensure that the enjoyment and enrichment you've experienced at SLO REP is available to our community for years to come.

Please join us in a round of applause for these members of SLO REP's **Legacy Society** whose foresight and generosity will keep live theatre going strong in downtown San Luis Obispo for years and years to come.

#### **Legacy Society**

Jeff McKeegan & Steven deLuque Sharynn & Jerry Chirpich Kate Hines & Bryce Engstrom Ray\* & Jaime\* Hatler Brenda & Jules\* Hock Lisa Langere Amy Hart & Stephen Lloyd-Moffett Catherine & Richard Luckett Jeanne & Lawrence Lovelace Pam & Mitch Nichter Gail Ryff Michael & Maryellen Simkins Robert Lahr & Bruce Stuart\* Brendan V. & Kathryn L. McAdams William F. Mooney\* & Wilbur Wooster\*

\*deceased

# **Building the Future**

Thanks to the foresight, generosity and determination of Dr. Bernhard Singsen, SLO REP has established an endowment fund for the future of live theatre in downtown SLO. This fund will grow as we grow, providing security and future funding, ensuring that this organization continues to survive and thrive for years to come.

### **Endowment Fund Donors**

Pam & Mitch Nichter Dr. Bernhard Singsen

To find out more about how you can help build the future of SLO REP through planned giving, please contact **Patty Thayer at (805) 781-3889, ext. 15** or **patty@slorep.org.** 





#### Contact

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#### **Box Office Hours**

Wed-Fri 3 pm – 6 pm Show Saturdays 3 pm – 5 pm Will Call open 1 hour before every show

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#### **Chris McBride** Director of Marketing & Annual Giving

Suzy Newman Special Projects

**Dave Linfield** Technical Director/ Scenic Designer

Allison Rajcevic Volunteer Coordinator & Front of House

Carey Blauvelt Box Office Staff Kerry DiMaggio Education Director

**Rachel Tietz** Assistant Education Director

Shannon Peters Education Coordinator

Natalie Mara Penny DellaPelle Shannon Peters Amanda Thayer Lester Wilson ACT Teaching Artists

Ella Harris Aaron Jackson Sonja Jackson Amanda Thayer Rylee Terry Assistant House Managers

### Artwork: Subplot Studio Photos/Video: RyLo Media Design, Ryan Loyd

#### **Downtown Venue Address**

888 Morro Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

#### **Empleo Street Campus**

3533 Empleo Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

#### **Mailing Address**

PO Box 122 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

### Mission

SLO REP strengthens theatre's cultural influence and enriches the Central Coast by producing professional theatre, nurturing artists and providing theatre education for children and adults.

### Our Belief

Live theatre's powerful storytelling connects people in ways that open the mind, nourish the soul and illuminate our shared humanity.

### Vision

To be a nationally recognized regional theatre that:

- Produces professional theatrical productions in a state-of-the-art facility.
- Strengthens the cultural vitality of the Central Coast, entertains audiences, nurtures artists, and cultivates future generations of theatre enthusiasts.
- Creates a strong and sustainable economic impact, attracting residents and visitors to downtown San Luis Obispo.

### Our Commitment

Theatre plays a vital role in our culture and our community and has a responsibility to enact positive change through its work, practices, educational programs and policies. We at SLO REP are committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in all aspects of our work. To learn more about our commitment to you, our community and to ourselves, visit our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion webpage at www.slorep.org/about/diversity-and-inclusion

Land Acknowledgement: San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre acknowledges with respect that the place we work and gather is located on the traditional land of the Northern Chumash people.

SLO REP is a proud member of:



# SEASON 77 SETTING A NEW STAGE



Pick up your brochure in the lobby Season Ticket Packages on Sale: June 9 | Single Tickets on Sale: July 6

