

# HOME MADE THEATER

PROUDLY PRESENTS



Music and Lyrics by

**SHERMAN EDWARDS**  
**PETER STONE**

Book by

Based on a concept by SHERMAN EDWARDS

Original Production Directed by **PETER HUNT**

Originally Produced on the Broadway Stage by  
**STUART OSTROW**

Directed by: Michael Gatzendorfer

Musical Direction by: Alison Jansen

PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI)

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Encore!*

**Home Made Theater**  
at The Anthony "Skip" Scirocco Music Hall

PRESENTS

# *1776*

AMERICA'S PRIZE WINNING MUSICAL

BASED ON A CONCEPT BY SHERMAN EDWARDS

MUSIC AND LYRICS  
BY SHERMAN  
EDWARDS

BOOK BY  
PETER  
STONE

DIRECTED BY MICHAEL GATZENDORFER  
MUSIC DIRECTED BY ALISON JANSEN  
CHOREOGRAPHED BY KELLY SIENKIEWICZ  
PRODUCED BY CHRISTINE MACLELLAN

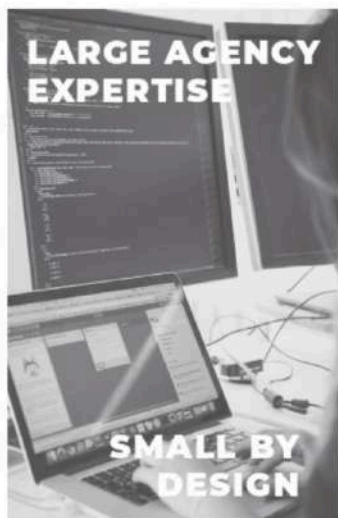
ORIGINAL PRODUCTION DIRECTED BY PETER HUNT  
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON THE BROADWAY STAGE BY STUART OSTROW

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# COMPANY

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

JOHN HANCOCK ..... ALEX HEADLEY  
DR. JOSIAH BARTLETT ..... MATT MEACHEM  
JOHN ADAMS ..... TRAVIS BRUNELL  
STEPHEN HOPKINS ..... MATT MILLIGAN  
ROGER SHERMAN ..... BEVERLY SEINBERG  
LEWIS MORRIS ..... RENÉE FRED  
ROBERT LIVINGSTON / RICHARD HENRY LEE ..... REBECCA THATCHER  
REV. JONATHAN WITHERSPOON ..... PATRICIA VAUGHN  
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ..... HENRY DiMARIA  
JOHN DICKINSON ..... THOMAS HEMANS  
JAMES WILSON ..... EMILY SHUFELT  
CAESAR RODNEY ..... LAUREN OGDEN  
COL. THOMAS MCKEAN ..... KENDRA SCHIEBER  
GEORGE READ ..... JOSEPH BRUTON  
SAMUEL CHASE ..... BETSY ROSS WILCOX  
THOMAS JEFFERSON ..... JOSEF MENDEZ  
JOSEPH HEWES ..... MICHAEL DREIBELBIS  
EDWARD RUTLEDGE ..... CODY ALVORD  
DR. LYMAN HALL ..... SARAH CORDTS  
CHARLES THOMSON ..... KIM CROSSWAY  
ANDREW MCNAIR ..... SCOTT BROWN  
ABIGAIL ADAMS ..... ABIGAIL FAST  
MARTHA JEFFERSON ..... KELLY SIENKIEWICZ  
A COURIER ..... CHRISTOPHER BUETTNER  
A LEATHER APRON / A PAINTER ..... CAROLINE MARTINDALE

TIME & PLACE

PHILADELPHIA, PA

SUMMER 1776

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## ACT I

### Scene I: The Chamber of the Continental Congress

For God's Sake, John, Sit Down ..... Adams, The Congress  
Piddle, Twiddle ..... Adams  
Till Then ..... Adams, Abigail

### Scene II: The Mall and the Chamber

The Lees of Old Virginia ..... Lee, Franklin, Adams

### Scene III: The Chamber

But, Mr. Adams ..... Adams, Franklin, Jefferson,  
Sherman, Livingston

### Scene IV: Jefferson's Room and the Mall

Yours, Yours, Yours ..... Adams, Abigail  
He Plays the Violin ..... Martha, Franklin, Adams

### Scene V: The Chamber

Cool, Cool Considerate Men ..... Dickinson, Rutledge, Hall,  
Hewes, Morris, Livingston, Read, Wilson  
Momma Look Sharp ..... Courier, Leather Apron, McNair

*(15 minute intermission)*

## ACT II

### Scene I: The Mall and the Chamber

The Egg ..... Adams, Franklin, Jefferson

### Scene II: The Chamber

Molasses to Rum ..... Rutledge  
Compliments ..... Abigail  
Is Anybody There? ..... Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Thompson



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# PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR .....MICHAEL GATZENDORFER  
PRODUCER ..... CHRISTINE MACLELLAN  
MUSIC DIRECTOR ..... ALISON JANSEN  
CHOREOGRAPHER ..... KELLY SIENKIEWICZ  
STAGE MANAGER ..... CAITLIN WICKES  
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER .....KADI DRISCOLL  
PROPERTIES DESIGNER ..... MAURA PICKETT  
PROPERTIES ASSISTANTS ..... JIM VAUGHN. PATRICIA VAUGHN  
SOUND DESIGNER ..... TOM MOELLER  
SOUND OPERATOR ..... ANNE-MARIE BAKER  
COSTUME DESIGNER ..... ANGELA DEMERITT  
HAIR & WIG DESIGNER ..... JOHN FOWLER  
SCENIC DESIGNER ..... DIANNE O'NEILL  
SCENIC FOREMAN ..... DUNE MAYBERGER  
SCENIC CREW ..... PETER BENFEY, ANNA BONNER,  
DANTE DEPAULO, JANE GREINER, VICKI HART,  
SUSAN HUNTER, AIDAN MAYBERGER, NATE WRIGHT  
LIGHTING DESIGNER ..... KATHERINE MACLELLAN  
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR ..... STACY HYSON  
RUNNING CREW ..... JANE GREINER  
BOARD LIAISON ..... LINDA BERTRAND  
ARTISTIC COMMITTEE LIAISON ..... ANNE-MARIE BAKER  
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PUBLICITY ..... EMILY BRYAN  
GRAPHIC DESIGN ..... AANI BALOCH  
PHOTOGRAPHER ..... BEN MOELLER  
PROMPTER COORDINATOR ..... MARGIE PRICE  
PROMPTERS ..... MARILYN DETMER, MARY ELLEN DOWLING,  
THERESA HUGHES, HEIDI PATRICE MARIE,  
EMILY MOOREFIELD, JANE PARISI  
ACCOUNTANT ..... DAVID YULE CPA



## MUSICIANS

VIOLIN ..... ELIZABETH STERLING & MILLIE SAVIDGE  
CELLO ..... JUDITH DERRICK & MARLA EGLOWSTEIN  
PICCOLO/FLUTE ..... KELLY SIENKIEWICZ  
CLARINET ..... ALISON JANSEN  
TROMBONE ..... BROTHER DERRICK  
PERCUSSION ..... RICH LAPLANTE  
KEYBOARDS ..... MALCOLM KOGUT

## SPECIAL THANKS

LIBBY BRENNESHOLTZ · ANNE CLOTHIER · KADI DRISCOLL · MICHAEL LOTANO  
· DIANNE O'NEILL · JIM PICKETT · JAMES VAUGHN · LISHA KILL MIDDLE  
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intermission**

# WHO'S WHO

## CAST

**CODY ALVORD (Edward Rutledge)** has been performing as an actor and musician for over 20 years, playing roles in *Annie* (Daddy Warbucks) and *Les Misérables* (Javert). More recently, he has been featured in the Showtime limited series *Escape at Dannemora* and TruTV's *Impractical Jokers*. Cody is currently pursuing a master's degree in music therapy. He returned to the theater with his portrayal of Kent in Home Made Theater's spring production of *'Til Death Do Us Part*. Cody looks forward to the opportunity to take on the challenging role of Mr. Edward Rutledge.

**SCOTT BROWN (Andrew McNair)** is thrilled to be back with Home Made Theater for a chance to reprise a favorite character. Scott enjoys every minute in the theatre! Some of his most recent performances include *Brigadoon* (ensemble), and *Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure* (Smee) with Home Made Theater, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Gad) at SLOC, and most recently as Will Parker in *Oklahoma!* (again with Home Made Theater). He hopes you enjoy the show!

**TRAVIS BRUNELL (John Adams)** is thrilled to be making his third appearance with Home Made Theater. He was previously seen as Dr. Neville Craven in last season's *The Secret Garden*, and before that as Jules in *Sunday in the Park with George*. He also originated the role of Bruce in *Zag Zag, the Musical* at the Strand Theater. He would like to add a special thank you to his wife Kerrie for her continued support during the rehearsal process.

**JOSEPH BRUTON (George Read)** has been in many productions and enjoys occasionally dipping his toe in musical waters. He played Guard #1 in eighth grade ("She fell into the moat! Somebody go get a ladder!"-my only lines) in *Once Upon a Mattress* and from then on he has "caught the plague." He starred in *Macbeth* in high school, Julius Caesar in *Julius Caesar* and Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night*. Lately he has turned to

directing, including *Peter Pan*, *Enter Laughing* and *Lend Me a Tenor*. When not on stage, he is writing plays and working toward getting them staged. Thank you, Kim!

**CHRISTOPHER BUETTNER (The Courier)** is excited to once again be performing with Home Made Theater. A rising junior at SUNY Fredonia where he is pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre, Chris has performed extensively throughout the area and at school. His most recent performance here was in Broadway Upstate's *American Idiot* (Joshua / Favorite Son), and his most recent performance in Fredonia was in *The Sound of Music* (Friedrich Von Trapp) with the Western New York Chamber Orchestra. By day he performs in the entertainment department at Six Flags Great Escape. Along with performing, he is also a trained intimacy choreographer and a trained stage combatant (unarmed, knife, single sword, rapier and dagger). He would like to thank his friends, family, and as always, Jocelyn, for always supporting his dreams. He would also like to dedicate his performance to all of the persons and families, especially immigrants, who have been inhumanely detained, abused, and torn apart by those currently in power. "Remember, remember always, that all of us, you and I especially, are descended from immigrants and revolutionists." - President Franklin D. Roosevelt

**SARAH CORDTS (Dr. Hall)** is a School District Librarian who enjoys inspiring everyone to cultivate a love of reading and fine arts. She has acted and sang with numerous community theaters and choirs. Some favorite roles include: *Rogers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Cinderella), *The Music Man* (Marian the Librarian), *Oklahoma!* (Laurie), *Mary Poppins* (Mary Poppins), *The Sound of Music* (Reverend Mother), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hodel), and many more! Thank you, dear audience, for supporting community theater!

# WHO'S WHO

**KIM CROSSWAY (Charles Thomson)** is an actress from Glenville, who studied at SUNY Purchase and recently earned her BA in Theatre and Performance. She has done many shows in the Capital District and at college, most recently Classic Theatre Guild's *Lend Me A Tenor* (Diana) and Fort Salem Theater's *Sweeney Todd*. She performed at CRFT's First Annual Mixer in mid June. She also works as a Princess Performer for Hill City Ice Queen Princess Parties, bringing joy to children and children at heart all over the Capital Region, Central NY, and more! Select Capital Region credits include: R'ville Stage Creation's *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey), and Fort Salem Theater's *Mary Poppins* (Katie Nana/Sweep). Select SUNY Purchase credits include: *Ride the Cyclone* ("Jane Doe"), and *The Attic* ("Samurai"/"Anchorman"). She filled many tech-related roles on campus, such as set designer, producer, and stage manager for a handful of productions. Y'r on'd't\*drumroll\*

**HENRY L. DIMARIA (Benjamin Franklin)** is very excited for 1776 to be his Home Made Theater debut. Especially since he watched the movie every Fourth of July growing up. He was most recently seen as Judas/John the Baptist in *Godspell* at Not So Common Players. Other favorite credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Zebulun/Baker), *Merrily We Roll Along* (Jerome), and *Hair* (Margaret Mead) at SLOC, *Ragtime* (JP Morgan) at SLCA, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Miles Gloriosus) with NSCP, *Avenue Q* (Trekke Monster) with LAGS, and *Les Miserables* (Thenardier) at CMH. He thanks the entire 1776 team for everything and his incredible wife for all of their love and support. Finally he dedicates this and all of his performances to his late mother who instilled his love for music and theater.

**MICHAEL DREIBELBIS (Joseph Hewes)** spent his middle and high school years in multiple productions, as well as performing with his father in a production of *1000 Clowns*. After a multi-year hiatus, he returned to the stage for three productions, including playing the

Creature in *Frankenstein* with the RPI Players. Now after another long hiatus, and work and life slowing down, he is returning to the stage.

**ABIGAIL FAST (Abigail Adams)** is thrilled to make her debut with Home Made Theater in 1776. Recent shows include *School of Rock* (ensemble) with Schenectady Light Opera Company and *Bells Are Ringing* (Olga) with Not So Common Players. During the school year, Abigail teaches middle school choir and music directs school theatre productions, but she especially enjoys returning to the stage each summer. She is honored to portray such an iconic historical figure and share this story with a live audience.

**RENÉE FRED (Lewis Morris)** is a new performer with Home Made Theater. It has been 40 years since she last performed on stage. She has recently worked on Home Made Theater's stage crew for *Oklahoma!* and *Hamlet*. In her spare time she enjoys extreme rollerblading and tournament hopscotch, but participates in neither.

**ALEX HEADLEY (John Hancock)** is excited to make his Home Made Theater debut with 1776. Other local appearances include: *Once Upon A Mattress* (Prince Dauntless) and *Bernhardt/Hamlet* (Edmond) at SUNY Oneonta. Outside of theatre, Alex enjoys film study, history, and writing.

**THOMAS HEMANS (Dickenson)** is making his first appearance with Home Made Theater in 1776. Since retiring from teaching music in Ballston Spa, he has appeared with the Malta Spotlighter's Theater in *The Headless Horseman*, *The Lady Pirates* of Captain Bree, and *The Master Piece, A Murder Mystery*.

# WHO'S WHO

**CAROLINE MARTINDALE (Leather Apron & Painter)** is making her first appearance at Home Made Theater in 1776. Other local appearances include: *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Monk Choir) at Hudson Fall High School. In her free time, Caroline likes to read, sing, write stories, and peruse vinyl record stores.

**MATT MEACHEM (Dr. Josiah Bartlett)** is making his Home Made Theater debut. Other local appearances include: *Million Dollar Quartet* (Sam Phillips), *White Christmas* (Ralph Sheldrake) and Annie (FDR) with the SMSA Players in Glens Falls. In his spare time, Matt likes to read, ride his ebike, and spend time with his grandsons, Conall and Declan. Much love to Mary, Abby and Erin!

**JOSEF MENDEZ (Thomas Jefferson)** makes his Home Made Theater debut with this timely production of 1776, portraying the spirit of the father of the Declaration, if not his tall personage. Josef continues his mission to do a production with as many of the Capital Region's wonderful groups as he can. He was most recently in *Godspell* (George), also directed by Mike Gatzendorfer, with Not So Common Players. Prior to that, he did *Lend Me a Tenor* (Max) with Classic Theater Guild. Nearly 250 years since the Declaration was signed, he feels it important to remember certain founding ideals that may have been left by the wayside, and to remember to always act with excellence to one another.

**MATT MILLIGAN (Stephen Hopkins)** is appearing for the first time at Home Made Theater. Other local appearances this year include: *A Trip To The Moon* (NASA Administrator/Dad/Hank), and *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* (Tom), both with All Abilities Productions. In real life, Matt's roles include Dad, graphic artist, and cartoonist, and he is an avid student of comedy, animation, and cinema.

**LAUREN OGDEN (Caesar Rodney)** has appeared at Home Made Theater in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Maid) and *Fiddler on the Roof Jr.* (Bielke). Other local appearances include: *Twelfth Night* (Viola) with the Classic Theatre Guild, *Henry V* (Katherine) with Hudson River Shakespeare Co., and *Crimes of the Heart* (Babe McGrath) and *Oliver!* (Bet) with Glens Falls Community Theater. She teaches French at Troy High School and directs shows with Adirondack Center Stage in Corinth. In her spare time, Lauren enjoys writing poetry, watching movies, taking naps, downhill skiing, and swimming in the Adirondacks.

**KENDRA SCHIEBER (Colonel Thomas McKean)** produces theater in Corinth, NY, most recently with Adirondack Center Stage (ACS). Local appearances include Art Classes (teacher) on Tuesdays at 124 Main, The Sign Studio; *Henry V* (Alice) with Hudson River Shakespeare Co.; *Drag Queen Story Hour* (Mary) a staged reading with author Neal Herr. She has designed sets and props and directed for several area theater companies. She enjoys fern and wildflower walks, skiing, calligraphy, oil painting, hiking, wilderness canoeing, and learning about history and religions with her husband, Ron Ogden. Thank you, Ron!

**BEVERLY SEINBERG (Roger Sherman)** is making her Home Made Theater debut in 1776. She has appeared with Schuylerville Community Theater in *Mary Poppins* (Bird Woman / Katie Nanna), *Baby* (Ensemble), *Seussical* (Grinch), *A Bad Year for Tomatoes* (Reba) and *Cinderella* (Ensemble), and is looking forward to directing a cabaret for SCT early next year. She also performed in *Calendar Girls* (Cora) with Glens Falls Community Theatre and in the Charles R. Wood Theater's production of *Spoon River Anthology* (Lucinda Matlock / Hannah Armstrong). Fun fact: Bev writes for a living, so unlike her 1776 character, she does know a participle from a predicate!



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**EMILY SHUFELT (James Wilson)** has appeared in several local productions such as *Uprising* (Marta / Edyta) and *Triangle* (Jake / Rory) with Ad Astra Theatre Troupe and cabarets at SUNY Adirondack, but this is her first time performing with Home Made Theater. Other appearances include: *All in the Timing* (Dawn) and *The Alleged Children of Darkness* (Angie), both at SUNY Oneonta, which she recently graduated from. Last summer she was also the costume intern for the Adirondack Theatre Festival. In her free time she enjoys reading and diamond art.

**REBECCA THATCHER (Richard Henry Lee / Robert Livingston)** is making her debut appearance at Home Made Theater in *1776!* Other appearances include: *Rent* (Mark's Mom / Coat Vendor/ Homeless Woman / Waiter) at Harry S. Truman College Theater, Chicago, IL; *A History of Violence* (Sheriff Sam Carney) at Bare Knuckle Theater Co, Chicago, IL and *The Wedding Singer* (Marge, the Banquet Hall Manager) at TimberLake Playhouse, Mt. Carroll, IL. In her spare time Rebecca likes to sing karaoke and write poetry and comedy- She is also an aspiring Stand-Up Comic.

**PAT VAUGHN (Reverend John Witherspoon)** is thrilled to enter the world of powdered wigs and bring Reverend Witherspoon to life. As the only clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence, Witherspoon insisted on including the phrase "Supreme Being" in the document. This show marks Pat's third appearance with Home Made Theater. Most recently you saw her dispensing dubious medication as a pill-happy school nurse, and then as the mother of the groom who continues to order one too many martinis in two of Home Made Theater's "whodunit" Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre performances during the 2024-2025 season. Offstage, she's been bravely apprenticing as prop assistant in *1776* under Prop Master Maura

Pickett, where Maura is instructing her on the use of hot glue, glitter, and the delicate art of not stapling your finger to the worktable.

**BETSY ROSS WILCOX (Samuel Chase)** is thrilled to be making her debut on the Home Made Theater stage with *1776!* Most recently, she appeared as Agnes in Hubbard Hall Theater's production of *Dancing at Lughnasa*. She has also appeared in *Miracle on 34th Street* (Charlie) with the Highlight Acting Troupe and *Love / Sick* (Emily) with the Classic Theater Guild. Behind the scenes, she was the stage manager for *At The Wedding* with Harbinger Theater / Sand Lake Center for the Arts and properties designer for *100 Saints You Should Know* at Schenectady Civic Playhouse. She wants to say a great big thank you to Christine for assisting her in procuring this role and Michael for his direction and positive reinforcement. Thanks also to her family, most especially her sons AJ and Matt and her partner J for his unending love and support. To all her castmates: break a leg!

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# WHO'S WHO

## PRODUCTION STAFF

**MICHAEL GATZENDORFER (Director)** is honored to bring *1776* to life alongside an incredible cast and creative team. With over two decades of experience in regional theater, Michael has directed and performed in a wide range of productions. Favorite acting credits include *Assassins* (Leon Czolgosz), *A Christmas Carol* (Jacob Marley), *You Can't Take It With You* (Mr. DePinna), *South Pacific* (Luther Billis), *Once on This Island* (Tonton Julian), and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Willy Wonka). His directing credits include *The Last Five Years* (Home Made Theater), *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Godspell* (NSCP), *The Lion King* and *The Wizard of Oz* (BARC), and numerous shows at SLOC such as *Les Misérables*, *Hairspray*, *Hair*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Rocky Horror*, and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Michael holds a master's degree in education from SUNY Plattsburgh and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Educational Policy and Leadership at the University at Albany. Michael previously served for nearly eight years as the Senior Education Manager at Proctors Theatre and spent 19 years as the Producing Artistic Director for BARC Youth Theatre. As both an educator and theater artist, Michael is passionate about using the arts to make history come alive. He extends his heartfelt thanks to the cast, crew, and production team for their dedication and camaraderie, and to the audience, for keeping the spirit of theater alive.

**ALISON JANSEN (Musical Director)** is directing her first show for Home Made Theater. Past directing experience includes *Oliver!*, *A Winnie the Pooh Christmas Story*, *Carousel*, and *Chicago* as well as many concerts. In her spare time, Alison likes to cook and make her husband clean the resulting mess, and sing with Albany Voices of Pride.

**KELLY SIENKIEWICZ (Choreographer / Martha Jefferson)** is elated to be returning to the Home Made Theater stage after previously appearing in *She Loves Me* (Ilona), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Celeste #1), *Mamma Mia* (Tanya), *Barefoot in the Park* (Corie Bratter), and *Young Frankenstein* (Inga). Choreographer credits include *Sweeney Todd*, *Godspell*, and *The Rocky Horror Show* (co-choreographer) at Fort Salem Theater, *Ruthless! The Musical* and *Fun Home* at Ghent Playhouse, *The Marvelous Wonderettes* at Colonial Little Theater, and *Heathers - the Musical* and *Nunsense* with Upstage Productions. She wishes to thank the production team and cast for their hard work and dedication to making this production a success. Kelly dedicates all of her performances in memory of her mother, Kathleen, who inspired her love of theatre.

**CAITLIN WICKES (Stage Manager)** joined Home Made Theater in 2018 as a spot light op for *Young Frankenstein* and has worked various tech positions for them since. Her stage management debut was *Moonlight & Magnolias* in 2021 and she is happy to be back in the role with this wonderful group for *1776*. In downtime between various rehearsals she enjoys reading, painting, and crochet.

**DIANNE O'NEILL (Scenic Designer)** This is Dianne's first foray into the fascinating world of set design. She was trained as a mechanical drawing teacher back in the dark ages (1959 to 1961). She briefly taught mechanical drawing at John Rennie High School in Montreal, Canada in 1969. Since then these skills have lain dormant. With the help of the wonderfully talented Dune Mayberger and a team of talented assistants her vision of a set for this wonderfully challenging, interesting and timely play is being beautifully realized. A huge thank you

# WHO'S WHO

to all involved, it is a joy to create a set for such a talented cast and crew. Congratulations to all. Dianne has a masters in theater from Sarah Lawrence College, has taught drama, directed, acted in, and costumed many shows in the capital region, in Greenwich, Connecticut, and in her homeland of Australia. She is very grateful to Home Made Theater for giving her a happy theatre family to 'retire' into.

**KATHERINE MACLELLAN (Lighting Designer)** spent much of her childhood volunteering as a stagehand for Home Made Theater productions, and is happy to be designing for the company that helped her get her start in the world of theatrical lighting. They work as the Lighting Director at The Egg, and would like to give a special shout out to Steph and Kyle Van Sandt, and her mother for supporting her career all this time.

**TOM MOELLER (Sound Designer)** is happy to be not on stage for this performance. History was his worst subject in school, but he did see the Liberty Bell in person in the 1970's. Previous designs include *Theater People* (Curtain Call), *Oklahoma!* and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (Home Made Theater), *Falsettos* (SLOC), *Spring Awakening* (Fort Salem and SLOC), as well as area murder mysteries. He also mentors new techies at local school productions. By day a mild-mannered electrical engineer, theater allows him to use his superpowers for good. This show contains locally sourced free range sounds.

**ANGELA DEMERITT (Costume Designer)** is joining her first production with Home Made Theater, but has costumed productions for Not So Common Players, Playhouse Stage Company, and BARC Youth Theatre. Away from the theater she teaches microbiology, coaches a fantastic Odyssey of the Mind team, and enjoys knitting.

**JOHN FOWLER (Hair & Wig Designer)** has created hair for more shows for over 40 years in the capital district than you can shake a curling iron at. He'd be teasing you if he said he didn't love running his fingers through the locks of some of the best actors and actresses in the area. John is thrilled to have the chance to gel with the cast of *1776*, and a thank you to Michael for thinking of me.

**MAURA DONAHUE PICKETT (Properties Designer)** is working this show to support her dear friend Micheal Gatz, and hoping he is pleased with the job she has done. Maura is grateful to be able to be doing props for this show. She is also a member of the Home Made Theater Board of Directors as Treasurer / Business Manager / Box Office. Maura's last prop design job was *'Til Death Do Us Part: A Murder Mystery to Die For* Home Made Theater's spring fundraising event. Her last full performance was *Falsettos* at SLOC. She has worked with Home Made Theater as a properties designer and light board operator since the November 1985-1986 season. She has done props, running crew, light board operator, light hang and focus, set painting, ushering, and has baked "Special Theater Chocolate Chip Cookie Bars" for Opening Nights in memory of our founder Jonathan Foster. Other more recent theater work includes costumes for *Finding Nemo* with Lisha Kill Middle School and prop work for *Santa's Magical Express*, Fort Salem Theater, Ghent Playhouse, Sand Lake Arts Center and Not So Common Players. She worked at the South Colonie School District teaching / mentoring middle school kids with costumes and props, where she is known as "Prop Extraordinaire." She has also stage managed and was props designer for many shows for Family Players of NENY. In earlier days she did lighting design for *Painted Churches* for SCT and the CHP Talent Show. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family, reading, photography, crafting and some scrapbooking. She



# WHO'S WHO

wants to thank her family and friends Dawn Oesch, Jacob and Liam for being there for her, especially at this time. Maura wants to thank Pat Vaughn for her tremendous assistance on this show as a new props person. Thanks to all of you for supporting Home Made Theater. She hopes you enjoy this production. She wants to dedicate this show to her oldest son, her best friend and her "go to person." His absence makes it hard to go on, but she does it for him. Liam Pickett will always be here helping her spiritually. He was the most impressive, amazing teacher and theater professional ever. Please help her in any way you can to keep Liam's theater dreams alive. Enjoy this show. It is the real USA.

**KADI J. DRISCOLL (Assistant Stage Manager)** joined Home Made Theater in 2017, and has since worked on 24 of the last 31 productions. Some favorites include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Mamma Mia!*, and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with friends, family, and her pets, Shempie and Nessie.

**CHRISTINE MACLELLAN (Producer)** has been with Home Made Theater in one capacity or another for over 25 years. She has done everything from running crew to Associate Manager. First and foremost she is a stage manager, and has done over 30 productions with Home Made Theater, as well as doing a stint as an Equity stage manager working with Lake George Dinner Theatre and Saratoga Shakespeare. Her crowning achievements, however, are to be mother to Katherine and Meaghan, and wife to Ryan.



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♥ indicates "In Memory of Liam Pickett"

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**August 29 - 30, 2025**  
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<b>A MURDER IS ANNOUNCED</b> <small>OCTOBER 10 - 19, 2025 SARATOGA MUSIC HALL</small>	 <p>41st Season <b>HOME MADE THEATER</b> <i>Nothing is Better than Home Made!</i></p>	<b>Fiddler on the Roof</b> <small>MAY 8 - 17, 2026 PITNEY MEADOWS COMMUNITY FARM</small>
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***SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS & FLEX PASSES are  
available for sale on the website.  
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# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

When I first revisited 1776, I was struck not only by its rich tapestry of characters and historical detail, but by its deep humanity. This is not a musical of marble statues and pristine ideals, it is a story of real, flawed people grappling with impossible decisions during a time of unimaginable uncertainty. It is loud and funny, contentious and heartbreaking. And, like any democracy, it is messy.

What sets 1776 apart is its willingness to show us the cost of freedom, not just the political cost, but the personal one. These delegates argued, compromised, and in some cases, remained silent on issues that would haunt the country for centuries to come. And yet, from all of that, a declaration was born.

This production has been a labor of love, and I'm incredibly proud of this cast and crew for embracing the complexity, the contradictions, and the heart of this show. They have given life and nuance to figures many of us have only seen in textbooks. They've made them real.

As we present this story nearly 250 years after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, I invite you to reflect on what it means to pursue a more perfect union and the courage it still takes to sign your name to something bigger than yourself.

Thank you for joining us on this journey back to the birth of our nation.

**With gratitude,**

**Michael Gatzendorfer**

**Director**



## 2025-26 Season

September 2025  
**JESUS HOPPED THE 'A' TRAIN**  
 by Stephen Adley Guirgis  
 Directed by Evan Jones

December 2025  
**FUDDY MEERS**  
 by David Lindsay-Abaire  
 Directed by Teresa Storti

February 2026  
**THE ROOMMATE**  
 by Jen Silverman  
 Directed by Benita Zahn

May 2026  
**HEDWIG  
 AND THE ANGRY INCH**  
 Text by John Cameron Mitchell  
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