

2021-2022 Season



3981 Broadway ~ Grove City, OH 43123
www.ltob.org

61st Season

DEARLY DEPARTED
BY David Bottrell & Jessie Jones

Directed by: Aynn Titchenal

January 14 – 30, 2022

**Presented by arrangement with
Dramatists Play Services, Inc.**

ABOUT OUR THEATRE

Little Theatre Off Broadway (LTOB) initially performed at area schools a few blocks away from Grove City's Broadway before finding a home in the current, 92-seat theatre. One of the oldest community theatres in Ohio, LTOB currently offers six productions a season and is run completely by volunteers.

The current theatre, formerly the Douglas movie theatre, was renovated in 1966 and has been the home of LTOB since that time. Surviving a fire that gutted the building in 1978 and a renovation in 2002, the theatre has been going strong for over six decades.

The theatre has staged a variety of productions since its establishment. Shows continue to win regional recognition, and LTOB is well known in the Ohio Community Theatre Association (OCTA).

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

COVID/Mask Policy

Masks will be worn by all patrons, working crew, house manager & ushers before, during and after the show to help ensure the health and well-being of our actors and patrons.

Intermission

There will be one fifteen-minute intermissions during this performance.

Latecomers' Policy

The House Manager may seat latecomers only during times that minimize disruption of the play.

Smoking

Smoking is not permitted anywhere inside the theatre.

Cameras and Recording Devices

The use of recording equipment of any kind and the taking of pictures during a performance is strictly prohibited.

Handicap Accessibility

LTOB is committed to making theatre available to everyone. If you have special needs for parking and seating, please ask the House Manager or any of our ushers for assistance.

Restrooms

Facilities are located in the lobby.

2021-2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

President - Lisa Napier-Garcia • Vice-President – John Sorenson
Secretary - Rosemary Cullison • Treasurer – David Taylor
Trustees – Jane Mixer, Jess Ohler

Little Theatre Off Broadway

Presents

DEARLY DEPARTED

By David Bottrell & Jessie Jones

CAST

Bud, Clyde & Norval..... Mark Miller
RaynelleCarol Hayward
Ray Bud.....Sam Clements
LucilleKate Charlesworth Miller
Royce Brian Smeltzer
Marguerite.....Karla Richardson
Junior.....Mark Tomsic
SuzanneAshley Collins
Reverend..... Michael Schaefer
Juanita & Veda Beth Herring Connell
Delightful & Nadine Rebecca McCarthy
Radio Announcer Donnie Lockwood
Joy of Life Singers.....Beth Herring Connell, Karla Richardson,
..... Mark Miller

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director..... Aynn Titchenal
Stage Manager Karen Tylak
Set Painter Kat Wexler
Set Builder.....Michael Bynes
Costume Design Patty Bennett
Make-up/Hair..... DC Simpson
Properties..... Karen Tylak
Technical Advisor Isaac Stewart
Light & Sound Design/Board Operator.....Ruth Luketic
Backstage Help Donnie Lockwood

CREDIT FOR MUSIC & SOUNDS:

https://archive.org/details/PipeOrgan18minsCalming_201902/ / archive.org
[https://hymnary.org/tune/i have the joy joy joy cooke/](https://hymnary.org/tune/i%20have%20the%20joy%20joy%20joy%20cooke/) / hymnary.org
<https://freesound.org>
<https://xeno-canto.org>

LTOB'S 2021-2022 SEASON

LITTLE THEATRE OFF BROADWAY

3981 Broadway, Grove City, OH 43123

THE ODD COUPLE

By: Neil Simon

Auditions: August 8 & 9, 2021

September 24 – October 10, 2021

MTI's ALL TOGETHER NOW

FUNDRAISER

LTOB is partnering with Grove City High School to participate in a Global Musical Review Event, celebrating Community Theatre and the return of live performance!

November 12, 13 & 14, 2021 at LTOB

DEARLY DEPARTED

By David Bottrell & Jessie Jones

Auditions: November 7 & 8, 2021

January 14 – January 30, 2022

GREASE

Book, Music & Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

Auditions: January 9 & 10, 2022

February 25 – March 13, 2022

THEATRE DARK – March 14 – April 30, 2022

BONNIE & CLYDE

Book by Ivan Menchel; Lyrics by Don Black; Music by Frank Wildhorn

Auditions: March 20 & 21, 2022

May 13 – May 29, 2022

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S - MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

Adapted for Stage by Ken Ludwig

Auditions: May 1 & 2, 2022 (Location TBD)

June 17 – July 3, 2022 ** Dates May Change

For information & tickets, visit www.LTOB.org

Or call 875-3919

Performance Times: Friday & Saturday 8:00 PM / Sunday 3:00 PM

Thrifty Thursdays 7:30 PM

MEET THE CAST

ASHLEY COLLINS - SUZANNE

Ashley is very excited to be back on LTOB's stage after two years. She was last seen as Electra in *Gypsy*. Other LTOB credits include Madge (*The Game's Afoot*) and Kate (*Love, Sex, and the IRS*), among others. She is a member of the ensemble at MadLab, where she's appeared as Trisha (*Bad Neighbors, 2021 Roulette*), Erica (*Eternally Desperate, 2019 24-Hour Theatre*), Alex (*Life Class, 2018 Young Writers*), and the voice of Jojo (*The Wave That Set the Fire*). She's also a troupe member with *It's All Been Done Radio Hour*, where she voices Captain Luna (*Universe Journey*), Lea (*Morning Show*), Staten Island Fairy (*The Topnotch Tangler*), and Ashley (*The Nubes*). Her favorite role continues to be mom to Harrison and Jenna (and dog mom to Poppy). She'd like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work, her mom for all the extra babysitting, Rochelle, and her incredible fiancé Sam for doing this show with her. "Yes, that is how I sit in a car. No, that's *not* how I actually sing."

SAM CLEMENTS – RAY-BUD

Sam is pleased to be back at LTOB. He was last seen in *Gramercy Ghost* as Charley, and also appeared as Death/Prince Sirki in *Death Takes a Holiday*, and as Jon in *Love, Sex, and the IRS*. He's an ensemble member at MadLab, and a troupe member with *It's All Been Done Radio Hour* where he voices Foley (*Universe Journey*), as well as Voldare and Kai (*Daniel Kravitz, Chosen One*) among other characters. He'd like to thank Aynn, Karen the cast and crew, his (step)kids, Harrison and Jenna, and his beautiful fiancé, Ashley.

MARK MILLER – BUD, CLYDE, NORVAL

Mark is no stranger to the LTOB stage, being one of the people who rebuilt it the last time. He's honored to be standing in the footsteps of the great Ted Mixer in the roles of Bud and Norval. He's thrilled to be working with this great group of actors, especially his darling wife, Kate. Let's have fun, and welcome back to the theatre, everyone!

MEET THE CAST

KATE CHARLESWORTH MILLER - LUCILLE

Kate is very pleased and honored to be working with this amazing cast, especially her dear husband of 34+ years, Mark. Apart from her over 20 years with LTOB, she has worked with many other Central Ohio theatres as actor, director, stage manager, producer, costumer, props mistress, set dresser, board member and volunteer. She currently serves on the board of the Ohio Community Theatre Association. She is extremely proud of all her darling children and grandchildren, and sends them much love - without them, what would be the point? She dedicates this show to all the actors she's shared the Turpin funeral with over the years - and thinks of them every time she sees a parking lot machine IRL.

KARLA RICHARDSON - MARGUERITE

Karla is thankful to be part of her 2nd production with LTOB, following *Gypsy* in 2019. Before her move to Grove City, she was active in the Toledo theater community with roles in *Clue*, *The Musical* and *Calendar Girls*, she even dipped her toe in the Improv pool. The opportunity to work with this fabulous cast and crew, particularly after the last 2 years has truly been a blessing – even that Demon, Royce.

BETH HERRING CONNELL – JUANITA & VEDA

This is Beth's first time on the LTOB stage and she is excited for the opportunity! When not on stage she is teaching 4th graders in Columbus City Schools. Some of her previous shows include *The Games Afoot* (Madge Geisel), *Curious Savage* (Florence), and *Blithe Spirit* (Mrs. Bradman). Beth wants to thank this amazing cast and crew for their dedication and friendship. Beth is very grateful for the support of her family, friends, and The Babes!

MICHAEL SCHAEFER – REVERAND

Michael Schaefer has been performing on stage since 1989 in such works as *The King and I*, *Sea Scape Murder on the Orient Express* and recently at the The L.T.O.B. in *Almost Maine*.

MEET THE CAST

CAROL HAYWARD - RAYNELLE

Carol is excited to be making her LTOB debut in her first role in a non-musical production. Most of her theatrical experience has been on the other side of the footlights as a music director. A conductor for many years (most recently as one of the band directors at Bowling Green State University and before that at Westland High School), Carol has served as the music director/conductor for 17 musical theater productions, her favorites being *Into the Woods*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Godspell*. Now retired from teaching, she lives in Grove City and enjoys spending time with her husband Bill, her children and grandchildren, and her three Birman cats. She is grateful for the support of her family who encouraged her to “try something new!”

BRIAN SMELTZER - ROYCE

Brian Smeltzer is in his first stage performance since middle school, nearly 30 years ago. He's no stranger to performing, however, having played drums in a local rock band and doing a variety of public speaking. He even met his wife singing karaoke in front of strangers, and together they have five children. Thoroughly enjoying the process, he hopes it won't take another 30 years until his next role!

REBECCA MCCARTY – DELIGHTFUL & NADINE

Rebecca is so excited to be on stage in this amazing production. This is her first performance at LTOB. Her past theatre credits include *Tiger Lily (Peter Pan)*, choreography (*Into The Woods*), director (*9 Worst Break Ups of All Time*). She wants to thank the amazing cast, crew and director for this opportunity. Rebecca would also like to thank her family and friends who have supported her through this process of rehearsals and performances.

MEET THE CAST

MARK TOMSIC - JUNIOR

Mark is excited to be part of his second production with LTOB. In the past, he's been involved in theatre since high school and would participate in short films throughout college. Mark was voted "most dramatic" in high school for his eccentric personality. Mark notes one of his favorite Broadway plays is *Little Shop of Horrors* and his goal is to play Seymour one day. Previous credits include: *The Odd Couple* and *A Christmas Carol*. Mark would like to thank Aynn Titchenal, Director of *Dearly Departed*, for her hard work and giving the actors helpful suggestions. He also would like to thank the cast and crew for making him feel welcomed and supported. The cast is incredibly talented and it's been a true pleasure getting to know everyone. Mark has worked at The Buckeye Ranch for almost 9 years as a clinician helping at risk youth. When not acting, he enjoys quality time with loved ones, exercising and watching reruns of "The Golden Girls." RIP Betty White. Thank you for being a friend to us all.

DIRECTORS NOTES:

The characters in this charming play have joy in their hearts, despite the trouble it takes them to plan and execute a funeral for the family's patriarch. Between folks who have children they can hardly handle and those who wish they had one, folks who spout scripture at every turn and those who find that insufferable, there are plenty of obstacles and plenty of laughs. Plus, a secret or two finally revealed. Designed to be done with a minimal set and maximum imagination, Dearly Departed asks you to believe you're peeking into family kitchens, riding (or waiting) in someone's car, and paying your last respects to a man who "said what he said, did what he did, and thought what he thought." I hope you see in the Turpins the love in their hearts despite their conflicts, and that they truly care for each other, no matter what comes into – or out of – their lives.

Relax and enjoy. You won't need a preacher.

MEET THE CREW

AYNN KILBURGER TITCHENAL - DIRECTOR

Aynn is pleased to be back at Little Theatre Off Broadway for her fourth directorship, following in the footlights of *Almost Maine*, *Good Help Is So Hard to Murder*, and *It's Only a Play*. Other directing includes *Same Time Next Year*, *Hay Fever*, and *Agatha Christie's Black Coffee* for Bread & Circus Theatre; *The Present Moment* and *Skin Deep* (Theatre Roundtable's Best Play 2014), for Evolution Theatre; and *Appearances* for AdHoc Productions, of which she is a founding member. She's been seen on stage in, among others, *Rope Dancers*, *Night Must Fall* (Theatre Roundtable's Best Play 2011), *Major Barbara*, *The Tragedy of Macbeth*, *Fourteen*, *Lemonade*, *Laughter and Light*, and *Hawk Mountain*. She thanks her husband of nearly 40 years for his love and support, the cast and crew for having the courage to revive live theatre in the midst of a pandemic, and the audience for masking up and coming in.

KAREN TYLAK – STAGE MANAGER

Karen is delighted to be working on *Dearly Departed*, having done double duty on *The Odd Couple* in the fall. She always has fun on LTOB shows. Previous shows include *Gypsy*, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *39 Steps*, and *Alone Together*.

RUTH S. LUKETIC – LIGHT DESIGNER/CO-TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Ruth received a BA in technical theatre at The Ohio State University, she has been a "Super Techie" for over 25 years, and her experiences range from Stage Management to Sound Design. This season she has shows lined up with Stage Right Theatrics, Curtain Players as Light Designer and Little Theatre Off Broadway as Light & Sound Designer.

D.C. SIMPSON – WIGS/HAIR/MAKEUP

D.C. is very excited to once again be back with LTOB. Just recently she was involved with *The Odd Couple*. D.C. works with numerous theaters around town which gives her a fun variety of shows to style. If she could have one wish it would be for unicorns to be real. She hopes you enjoy the show and remember to always crisscross your bobby pins for added support!--

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DONATIONS & MATCHING GIFTS

Don't forget that LTOB is an Ohio Certified 501(c3) organization so if your employer has fundraising campaigns going on for non-profits, you can designate LTOB as the recipient of your donation. This includes not only the large fall fundraising drives, but also many employers have matching grants available whereby if you volunteer time or donate money, they will provide a grant to your designated non-profit organization.

If you need help completing forms to make this happen, please contact Lisa Napier-Garcia at lnapier1@columbus.rr.com.

You can also designate us on your Kroger Card through the "Community Rewards Program".

Little Theatre Off Broadway's # is 84322

By linking your Kroger card to your favorite Kroger store and designating LTOB – every time you shop, LTOB will get a small donation.

You can help LTOB just by shopping for groceries!



SPECIAL THANKS TO GROVE CITY FOR THEIR GENEROUS GRANT OF \$20,000 FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO KEEP WATER OUT OF LTOB's 103 YEAR-OLD BUILDING!!



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