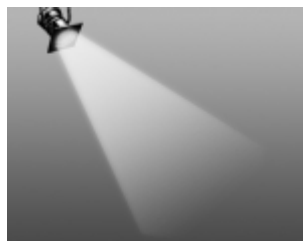


Walpole Children's Theatre



The SPOTLIGHT

Summer 2017

VOLUME 5, NO. 1

SUMMER 2017 PRODUCTION

Dear **[FIRSTNAME]**,

Pinocchio

by Brian Way
Directed by Justin Connolly

July 21st at 7pm
July 22nd at 2pm & 7pm
July 23rd at 2pm
July 28 at 10am & 7pm
July 29 at 2pm & 7pm

Performance are at
Footlighters Playhouse, E. Walpole



Click button to buy online*

or

Call Box Office
508-921-0542

Groups 15+

Call Box Office to receive a group discount

Adults \$12
Children/Seniors \$8

The theater is air conditioned!

*Online purchases are assessed a ticketing fee. To avoid fees, call the box office to order tickets.

PINOCCHIO CAST

Over 40 talented children came to the May audition.

Congratulations to the following cast members!

Stephen Bond	Manipulator
Jack Campbell	Manipulator

The summer is flying and it is already time for WCT's summer production of *Pinocchio!* There are a few reasons why WCT cast and crew are excited for the upcoming performances. First, this production will be the sixth time WCT has performed *Pinocchio!* It was also performed in 1969, 1972, 1989, 1999, and 2010 and it is WCT's most produced show. Tied for second are *Emperor's New Clothes* and *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, which have been performed four times each.

This production is special because of the three WCT alum running the show! With *Justin Connolly* directing, *Mike McKeon* assistant directing, and *Jess McNamara* stage managing, a new generation of crew members move up in the ranks. Each of them has worked in assistant production roles in the past, but this is their chance to take the lead on their own! We are so proud of them!

Lastly, the cast and crew cannot wait to bring this classic story to life for our audiences. The story includes marionettes, circus performers, and animals, including a whale! This comedic adventure will appeal to all ages, and that is no lie! See you at the show!

STANDING OVATION

Congratulations to the following WCT members on their achievements.

- *Peter McElihinney* starred in The Walpole Footlighters' production of *Don't Dress for Dinner*. He and *Colleen Lavery*, a long-standing Board member at The Walpole Footlighters, are engaged and will be married this September.
- *Anna Hebner*, *Mia Straccia*, and *Sean Lynch* recently graduated from Walpole High

Mahoney Cyr	Policeman
Maryn Cyr	Bloodhound
Jack Dullea	Ensemble
Christina Forester	Bloodhound 2
Anna Hebner	Circus Master
Brenna Hughes	Harlequin
Sophia Kaselis	Ensemble
Charlotte Kelleher	Ensemble
Alex Kennedy	Baliff
Abbi Lightbody	Ticket Seller
Catherine Lightbody	Ticker Seller
Alex Mansour	Judge
Anna McCusker	Pinocchio
Victoria McGowan	Pantalone
Jake Minsky	Detective 1
Josh Minsky	Candlewick
Riley Mulroy	Gepetto
Matthew O'Malley	Coachman
Danielle Panciocco	Fox
Madison Rizzo	Antonio
Tim Rose	Fire Eater
Emily Saunders	Ensemble
Sydney Schultz	Columbine
Caterina Seeley	Ensemble
Ava Straccia	Clown
Mia Straccia	Fairy
Emily Tomasetti	Cat
Rafe Tomasetti	Detective

School.

- *Mahoney Cyr, Sydney Schultz, Danielle Panciocco, Sheila O'Connell, Jordan Larkin, Charlotte Kelleher, Colin Wilber and Brenna Hughes* performed in *Willy Wonka* at Bird Middle School in April.
- *Riley Mulroy and Colin Wilber* performed in *Lost in Yonkers* at The Walpole Footlighters in May.
- At the Walpole High School Film Festival, *Ava Straccia* won Best Performance in a Supporting Role, Best Director, Best Screenplay, and Best Film for her movie "*The Promposal*," and *Mia Straccia* won Best Performance in a Lead Role for her work in the film "*Jane*."
- *Mia Straccia, Ava Straccia, Emily Tomasetti, Anna Hebner, Riley Mulroy, and Stephen Bond* performed in *The Adams Family* at Walpole High School.
- *Mahoney Cyr* performed in the role of Bill Jukes in *Peter Pan* with Needham Community Theater.
- *Abbi Lightbody* performed in the role of Rafiki in *Lion King Jr* with UnCommon Theater.
- *Cate Lightbody* performed in *Les Miserables* with UnCommon Theater.
- *Eric Lightbody* performed in *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* with MMAS.
- WCT Alumni, *Matthew Connolly*, recently was seen portaying a groom in an episode of *Fuller House* on Netflix.

KEEP IN CONTACT

wctboxoffice@gmail.com

www.walpolechildrenstheatre.com



Are you a past or present WCT member who has a special announcement, such as a graduation, achievement, performance, etc., that you want to share? Send the information to wctboxoffice@gmail.com and it will be added to the next newsletter.

10th PERFORMANCE AWARD

WCT has a tradition of recognizing the dedication and commitment of those involved in the group by recognizing children who have been involved in 10 WCT performances. *Pinocchio* marks the 10th performance for *Mahoney Cyr*. WCT would like to congratulate and thank her for their hard work and dedication to the group.

WCT BLAST FROM THE PAST

Can you name the actors, the show, and the year of this production?

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

For the upcoming production of *Pinocchio*, WCT's *Justin Connolly* has his debut as a director for WCT. His first show with WCT was *Princess' Gift* when he was 12 years old and he played the Voice Teacher. His favorite WCT roles were Fire Eater (*Pinocchio*), Troll (*Jack and the Magic Beans*) and Smee (*Peter Pan*). He has served as an Assistant Director for two previous WCT shows: *Aladdin* and *Robin Hood*. Prior to graduating Walpole High School in 2012, he was heavily involved in the Walpole Film Festival.

Justin received his undergraduate degree in Communication from Westfield State University and a Masters in Higher Education from Merrimack College. He is currently serving as the



Answer at bottom of newsletter

Assistant Director of the Annual Fund for Young Alumni at Portsmouth Abbey School in Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

A message from Justin: "As my directorial debut comes to a close, I would like to share how much of an honor it has been to direct *Pinocchio*. I can't thank the members of WCT enough for trusting me to put on this quality production with the most talented kids I have ever had the pleasure of working with. I have been fortunate enough to have had such a great team with Jess McNamara as my Stage Manager, Mike McKeon as my Assistant Director and Pete McElhinney & Lisa Cyr as my co-producers. I am so grateful that I have been able to take on this role for a group that I care so much about. I hope this is the first of many show to come for me as a director!"

JOIN WALPOLE FOOTLIGHTERS FOR 2017-2018 SEASON!

	<p>The Savannah Sipping Society by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and Jamie Wooten</p> <p>Director TBA</p> <p>October 20, 21, 27, 28, November 3, 4 at 8:00 PM October 29, November 5 at 2:00 PM</p>
	<p>Radium Girls by D.W. Gregory</p> <p>Directed by Marianne Phinney</p> <p>February 2, 3, 9, 10, 16, 17 at 8:00 pm February 11 & 18 at 2:00 pm</p>
	<p>Lucky Stiff Book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens Music by Stephen Flaherty</p> <p>Directed by Dan Delaporta Musical Direction by Dan Moore Choreography by Lisa Kelleher</p> <p>May 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 18 at 8:00 pm May 6, 20 at 2:00 pm</p>

[For more information visit The Walpole Footlighters website](#)

THEATER 101

How much do you know about the theater arts? Each newsletter issue will provide information about the technical and behind the scenes aspects of the theater arts.

On occasion, there will be skills required of actors that they will need specialized training in, if they are not already skilled in that area. For example, plays may require dancing, language accents or dialects, or sword fighting. For WCT's production of *Pinocchio*, there is a circus scene in which the Director, *Justin Connolly*, wanted authentic circus skills performed. He called on WCT Alum and circus

performer, *Doug Stewart*, to train the actors.

Doug Stewart began his involvement with WCT in *Treasure Island* (2012). Since then he has continued to offer help backstage in addition to founding his own touring circus, *Cirque Us!* This summer, Doug took time away from his tour to teach cast members various styles of juggling such as 3-ball, partner juggling, spinning poi, and devil sticks in preparation for *Pinocchio's* big circus scene. He was also kind enough to lend us some of his equipment for the summer. *Cirque Us!* will be bringing their show *DreamCycle* to Massachusetts and Rhode Island the first week of August. We are so thankful to Doug for donating his time and expertise to help make this show a success! Check out TheCirqueUs.com for more information.

WINTER 2017

Congratulations to the cast and crew of *King Midas and the Touch of Gold* on the wonderful run. Audiences were thoroughly entertained by this fun, spirited comedy. Thank you to all who participated in the production and came to see the show!





BLAST FROM THE PAST

The picture above is from the Winter 2010 production of *Pinocchio*. The Clown was played by *Jackie Gately*, who was one of the directors of this past Winter's production of *King Midas and the Touch of Gold*, and the part of Fire Eater was played by *Justin Connolly*, who is the director for this summer's production of the same show.

Walpole Children's Theatre uses [Vendini](#) for ticketing, marketing, and box office management.

Walpole Children's Theatre - 153 Washington Street, East Walpole, MA, 02032,
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