

JULY 2022



FROM THE WINGS

RBTL BILLBOARD CONTEST: WIN TICKETS!

Did you know that RBTL has regular placement on a Lamar digital Billboard? It's located on top of Record Archive (33 Rockwood St.) and is visible from 490 westbound just after the 590 interchange, as well as from East Avenue westbound approaching Winton Road.

For the summer months, the Billboard will feature RBTL's 2022-2023 M&T Bank Broadway Season lineup. Submit a photo of yourself with the billboard from August 1-28 for the chance to win two tickets and President's Club passes to the first show of the season... TOOTSIE.

Submissions can be sent to mail@rbtl.org with the subject "Billboard Photo Contest". Please be sure to take your photo from the safety of the Record Archive parking lot and NOT from any busy road-sides. Receive an extra entry if you post your photo on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter and tag @RBTLAUD. A winner will be selected at random on August 31st.

Good luck!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

THE M&T BANK
BROADWAY SEASON
Beginning in September

R&B BLUES SOUL AFFAIR
September 30

MIKE EPPS
October 1

KATHLEEN MADIGAN
October 6

JO KOY
October 13



RBTL'S AUDITORIUM THEATRE
885 EAST MAIN STREET
ROCHESTER, NY 14605
585.222.5000 - RBTL.ORG



@RBTLAUD

HOUSE MANAGER RETIREE SPOTLIGHT

Chances are, some of the first people who will greet you when you walk into the Auditorium Theatre, aside from the ushers, are the House Managers. It's their job to make sure everyone has an enjoyable theatre-going experience. That is, in addition to training, scheduling and assigning placements to the ushers, helping patrons find their seats, answering questions and helping with any issues that may arise.

The last show of our 2021-2022 M&T Bank Broadway Season, "Mean Girls," was also the last show for two of our retiring house managers. Here's a little more about both of them, as we wish them the best of luck in their next chapters:

MEET JOHN SCHULER:

John Schuler has worked at RBTL as a House Manager for close to 12 years. It's a position he found after he retired from his job as a project manager in the IT industry. "When 'Lion King' was coming, my wife asked me to see if they were selling tickets yet," said Schuler. "So I went online and looked and said 'nope, they're not on sale yet, but they are hiring, maybe I'll go interview for a part-time job.' And that's how I got it."

Not only was it "The Lion King" that brought him to the Auditorium Theatre, that was also his favorite show to have seen and worked over the years. "Just the way they did 'Lion King' and everything that went on [with it]," Schuler added. "And the people [in the company] were here for so long, you got to know a lot of them."

It's also the people – the staff, the ushers and the patrons – that has made him love working as a House Manager. "I've enjoyed working with people here in the theatre," Schuler said. "We've gotten very close, even with the security staff. And just dealing with the patrons out there, trying to make sure they have a good time when they come to the theatre and enjoy themselves."

Schuler said he's torn about his decision to retire, but added that he came to the conclusion that it was time. He wants to let somebody else have the fun. "I'm in my 12th year of my 2 to 5 year plan," Schuler laughed. "Which just shows you I was enjoying myself." However, even though he won't be working at the Auditorium Theatre, you'll still see him here – as a season ticket holder.



MEET WAYNE LEE:

Wayne Lee has had various job titles throughout his life. He was an international flight attendant for 35 years and was also a pediatric nurse. It was after those careers that he started at RBTL's Auditorium Theatre volunteering as an usher, as something fun to do in retirement. He was then hired as a House Manager, a position he has held for about 10 years. It was actually John Schuler who (indirectly) helped him get the job. "I came in and interviewed and was told John Schuler recommended me, and I said, 'who's John Schuler?'" Lee said around laughs. "Then I found out I work with his wife [an usher] and she said I'd be great [for the job]."



It was his experience as a flight attendant that prepared him for the position. "Even after all the years of being a flight attendant and dealing with the public and being in customer service, I still love the interaction with the patrons," said Lee. "I like being able to problem solve and make sure they have a really great experience, because I'm really proud of this theatre."

It was also his time as a flight attendant that makes his favorite show "Come From Away." "As a flight attendant for American Airlines, I was not directly involved with 9/11, but it was part of my life, as I was flying at the time," Lee reflected. "And when I heard [the show] was being produced, I was very excited. As it got further into the production, I found out the story was about Beverly Bass. [She] was a pilot for American Airlines and I knew her and flew with her many times. So it was very emotional to come and see the show."

Lee calls his experience as a House Manager "amazing" and says that he will miss working with everyone at the theatre. "Because of the management, staff, other House Managers, security, ushers and especially our patrons, I have enjoyed every minute of my time being a part of RBTL and the theatre. I'll always be very proud of the excellent customer service that everyone collectively provides at every show."

Lee will also be back with his season tickets and said he looks forward to still being able to help when he can.

THE 2022-2023
M&T BANK
BROADWAY SEASON



7-show Package
as low as \$296!

SUBSCRIBE TODAY

SPOTLIGHT ON: ALADDIN

Discover a whole new world at Disney's "Aladdin" when it soars into RBTL's Auditorium Theatre April 11-16, 2023. From the producer of "The Lion King" comes this Disney classic featuring your favorite songs from the 1992 film of the same name, plus new music written by Tony® and Academy Award® winner Alan Menken ("Newsies," "The Little Mermaid"). "Aladdin" is a production filled with magic, where one lamp and three wishes make the possibilities infinite.

With pyrotechnics and even the flying carpet, "Aladdin" features 84 illusions and effects in two and a half hours of spectacle. It takes 75 people, including actors, stage crew, musicians, dressers, hairstylists and make-up artists to make each performance happen. That includes the 102 costume changes done in under one minute and the 52 costume changes that take place in less than 30 seconds. As for some of the 337 costumes that are in the production, each gold finale costume in "Friend Like Me" has 8,644 Swarovski® crystals sewn on. And Princess Jasmine's wedding dress weighs 12 pounds because of the crystal beading!



The Huffington Post calls "Aladdin" "an awesome throwback to old-time musical comedy." With USA Today saying it's "pure Genie-us! It delivers a rush that will surprise you!"

SPOTLIGHT ON: HADESTOWN

In "Hadestown," come see how the world could be when it comes to Rochester March 14-19, 2023. "Hadestown" dives into Greek mythology, following young couple Orpheus and Eurydice as they take a journey to the Underworld and the complicated relationship between the king of the Underworld, Hades and his wife Persephone. This hell-raising journey pits doubt against faith, industry against nature and fear against love. Ultimately, it's a love story for today and always.



"Hadestown" won eight Tony Awards® in 2019, including Best Musical and Best Original Score. It also took home the 2020 Grammy® Award for Best Musical Theatre Album. This production is the work of two powerhouse women creatives with the book, music and lyrics by singer-songwriter Anais Mitchell and direction by Rachel Chavkin. In fact, it's the only Tony Award-winning Best Musical in history with an exclusively female writer-director team.

"Hadestown" premiered on Broadway in 2019, but the production took an unlikely path to get to the Walter Kerr Theatre. It began in 2004, when the melody of "Wait for Me" came to Mitchell while she was driving. She then developed "Hadestown" as a small performance piece, before turning it into a concept album in 2010. Two years later, theatrical development started, but it wasn't

until 2016 that the show did its first performances in London and Edmonton. It was then another three years until its Broadway debut.

The Chicago Tribune says "it roars off the stage with a ferocity that has not been matched on Broadway in a long while." While Variety calls it "spellbinding. 'Hadestown,' for a while, makes the whole world forget its troubles."

IT'S FESTIVAL SEASON IN ROCHESTER!

There's no better indicator of summer in Rochester than local festivals! If you went to Fairport Canal Days in June or to the Corn Hill Arts Festival July 9 and 10, you may have come across RBTL's booth (and our prize wheel).

Festivals are a great way to talk face-to-face with a representative from RBTL, to ask about our upcoming season or shows. You can also learn about our education programs, group sales discounts or the venue itself.

And while you're there, spin our prize wheel for a chance to win a drink coupon, show poster or even a swag bag! We also have various enter-to-win contests during each festival. Coming up at the Waterfront Art Festival in Webster, look out for the RBTL booth and enter for a chance to win two tickets to "Nutcracker! Magic of Christmas Ballet" at RBTL's Auditorium Theatre on November 18.



CATCH US AT THESE UPCOMING FESTIVALS:

- Waterfront Art Festival: July 30-31
- Clothesline Festival: September 10-11
- Hilton Apple Fest: October 1-2

We hope to see you there!

(Pictured : Corn Hill Arts Festival & Fairport Canal Days)



RBTL STAFF: YEARS OF SERVICE

- **JOHN PARKHURST** - Chief Operating Officer
 - 49 Years
- **GARY ZACCARIA** - Steward
 - 43 Years
- **LINDA GLOSSER** - Executive Vice President
 - 34 Years
- **ARNIE ROTHSCHILD** - Chief Executive Officer
 - 31 Years
- **FRANCINE BROKAW** - Vice President of Finance
 - 28 Years
- **ERIN CROWLEY TAVERNIA** - Director of Ticketing
 - 26 Years
- **ANDY PARKHURST** - Director of Operations
 - 16 Years
- **JESSICA RIPPLE** - Director of Marketing
 - 15 Years