

APRIL 2026



FROM THE WINGS

RBTL APPOINTS NEW CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

RBTL is thrilled to announce that Linda Glosser will now serve as the organization's Chief Operating Officer. With nearly 40 years of experience in the entertainment industry, she has risen in the ranks at RBTL from her early days in the Box Office, to Executive Vice President, to Chief Revenue Officer, and now, COO.



Glosser is the primary contact with promoters and presenters for booking events at the West Herr Auditorium Theatre. She will also oversee all aspects of operation, including sales, marketing, education and production. She holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from SUNY Binghamton, Graduate Studies in Music Performance from the University of Cincinnati and a Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance from SUNY Fredonia.

"It's a special thing to be able to work in this great city, alongside wonderful colleagues, in a company that I love, for so many years," said Glosser. "I am committed and look forward to continuing RBTL's tradition of growth and engagement, as well as creating positive opportunities to bring both RBTL and the West Herr Performing Arts Center to the next level."

Due to extensive knowledge gained from working at RBTL for nearly 40 years, plus more than 50 years in theatre management overall, John Parkhurst, who previously served as COO, will now transition to a role as RBTL's Chief Knowledge Officer.

"Much thought and consideration went into this decision, and I felt the timing was finally right to step back from my full-time responsibilities at RBTL," said Parkhurst. "I have always found the work here rewarding and will continue to support RBTL as much as I can in the years to come."

RBTL congratulates Glosser and Parkhurst, and is excited for the future of the West Herr Auditorium Theatre and Performing Arts Center with both of them at the helm in their new executive leadership roles.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BRUCE IN THE USA

April 30

RPO PRESENTS THE MUSIC
OF TINA TURNER

May 2

JERRY SEINFELD

May 16

WBEE'S GUITARS & STARS

May 20

SUFFS

June 9-14



WEST HERR
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
875 EAST MAIN STREET
ROCHESTER, NY 14605

RBTL.ORG



@RBTLAUD

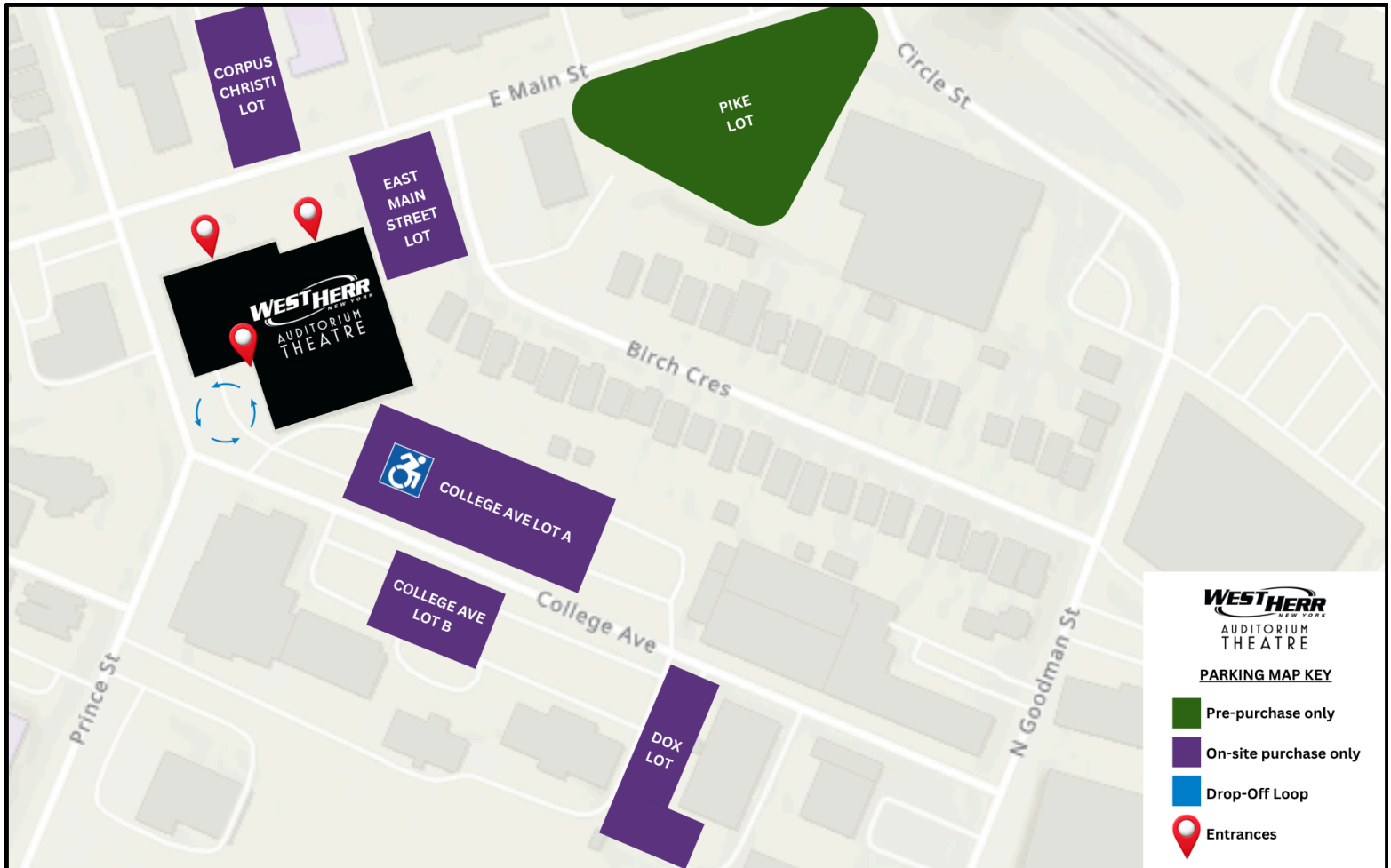
RBTL NOW MANAGES ADDITIONAL PARKING LOT FOR EVENTS AT WEST HERR AUDITORIUM THEATRE

RBTL will operate an additional parking lot for events at the West Herr Auditorium Theatre, bringing the total to six lots surrounding the complex. The newest lot is the Dox Lot, located at 105 College Avenue, and is available on a first-come, first-serve basis for \$10 (cash or credit). It is located across the street and less than one block away from the Theatre's rear entrance.

The Dox Lot joins four other pay-on-arrival parking lots that RBTL staffs before, during and after events. Those lots, which are available for \$15, include Corpus Christi Church (864 East Main Street), West Herr Auditorium Theatre (895 East Main Street), College Avenue Lot A (18 College Avenue) and College Avenue Lot B (21 College Avenue). College Avenue Lot A offers handicap accessible parking. This is also the location of the patron drop-off loop at the rear entrance, which is available to everyone, regardless of where you park your vehicle – simply inform the attendant.

Additionally, advance-purchase parking is also available for all RBTL shows. Parking for the Pike Lot, located at 945 East Main Street, can be bought for \$10 at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) (*additional fee applies online) or the Auditorium Box Office.

All of RBTL lots open 90 minutes prior to event time and are staffed through the end of each performance. The below map marks the six RBTL-operated parking lots in reference to the West Herr Performing Arts Center.



Important note: RBTL operates only the designated parking lots above. Other nearby lots may be available at the discretion of private owners and are not managed by RBTL. Local street parking regulations are enforced during all events. Please comply with posted signage to avoid being ticketed or towed. RBTL and owners of RBTL-managed lots are not responsible for theft or damage. Please lock your vehicle and refrain from leaving valuables visible.

For more information on parking or directions, visit [RBTL.org/location-directions-and-parking](https://www.rbtl.org/location-directions-and-parking).

GET TO KNOW THE SUFFS

SUFFS tells the thrilling story of the suffragists who fought tirelessly for the right to vote - women who refused to be silenced and sparked a movement that shaped the future. It has book, music and lyrics by Shaina Taub, which earned her 2024 Tony® Awards for Best Book and Best Original Score, becoming the first woman in history to win both of these awards by herself. It's because of this creation from Taub, who is an inspiring woman in her own right, that audiences get to see powerful historical figures brought to life on stage. So, ahead of the Rochester debut June 9-14, we're introducing you to the SUFFS:



ALICE PAUL
PLAYED BY MAYA KELEHER



- A leader of the suffrage movement who Woodrow Wilson called “unladylike” in public (and probably much worse in private).
- Enrolled in two separate law schools simultaneously to finish twice as fast - something to keep in mind the next time you put off that errand *again*.
- Contrary to some beliefs, does not actually talk too much - is just thorough.



IDA B. WELLS
PLAYED BY DANYEL FULTON



- At the age of 24, she wrote: “I will not begin at this late day by doing what my soul abhors; sugaring men, weak deceitful creatures, with flattery to retain them as escorts or to gratify a revenge.” Tell us what you really think, Ida!
- Published work as a journalist for numerous publications while also working full time as an elementary school teacher.
- Was placed under government surveillance in an attempt to silence and diminish her activist efforts. She responded to this by running for national office. Twice.



INEZ MILHOLLAND
PLAYED BY MONICA TULLA RAMIREZ



- After marrying a Dutchman, the U.S. tried to reclassify her as a Dutch citizen and ban her from practicing law. Which is to say, she continued practicing law.
- Was censured by the Italian government and banned from the country (chic!).
- Looked completely badass on horseback.



RUZA WENCLAWSKA
PLAYED BY JOYCE MEIMEI ZHENG



- A true triple threat: union organizer, activist, and Broadway star. Seriously, after her time with the Suffs, she went on to perform on Broadway.
- Never met a hair pin she couldn't fashion into a weapon.
- Her typical breakfast consisted of: pierogis, vodka, and male factory bosses' egos.



DORIS STEVENS
PLAYED BY LIVVY MARCUS



- After marrying her husband, she nonchalantly announced she would not be taking his last name and, rather, would remain Doris Stevens. Next!
- Campaigned hard for a “Wages for Wives” proposal, which called for women to receive wages for domestic services such as child rearing (she knew, as all moms do, that this is a full-time job).
- Was instrumental in establishing feminist studies as a legit academic field; today, feminist and gender studies are offered at hundreds of universities across the country.



LUCY BURNS
PLAYED BY GWYNNE WOOD



- Attended, at various times, Yale, Vassar, Columbia, and Oxford... and she didn't brag about it.
- Is now the fitting namesake of the Lucy Burns Institute, a nonprofit which to this day provides unbiased information on elections. What Lucy deserves!
- She and Alice Paul were such close friends, they were described as having “one mind and one spirit.” Basically Thelma and Louise except they actually did serve jail time!

(continued on page four)



MARY CHURCH TERRELL
PLAYED BY TRISHA JEFFREY



- One of the very first Black women to attend Oberlin College, earning her bachelor's and master's degrees.
- At the age of 86, she was part of the lawsuit that desegregated restaurants in the Washington, DC area. Retirement? She did not know that word.
- A true entrepreneur, she was a founding member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (the NAACP), the College Alumnae Club (later renamed the National Association of University Women), and the National Association of Colored Women (NACW), where she coined the motto "Lifting as We Climb."



PHYLLIS TERRELL
PLAYED BY VICTORIA PEKEL



- In addition to her lifelong activism, she was also one of the most gifted students at Howard University's College of Music. Sheesh, save some talent for the rest of us, Phyllis.
- In 1962, successfully lobbied Congress to declare the Frederick Douglass Home in Washington, DC a National Shrine.
- Was brought up in the movement by her mother, Mary Church Terrell, but became her own force, going on to become a face for new generations of suffragists and civil rights organizations, including the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs.



CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT
PLAYED BY MARYA GRANDY



- As a way to help 20 million women carry out their new responsibility to vote, she founded the League of Women Voters, which she called "a mighty experiment." (That Oppenheimer guy could learn a thing or two about this kind of experiment.)
- Joined the Literary Society in college but was dismayed that only men were allowed to participate in discussions. Guess what was no longer true by the time she graduated?
- Supported herself after her husband's death by becoming the first female newspaper reporter in San Francisco.



MOLLIE HAY
PLAYED BY TAMI DAHBURA



- The eldest of five siblings, which explains her ultimate "big sister energy."
- Was the president of the New York City League of Women Voters between 1918 and 1923. She and Carrie Chapman Catt cast their first ballots for president together in 1920. Aww.
- Is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery next to Carrie, her lifelong partner in advocacy and life. Their (joint!) headstone reads, "Here lie two, united in friendship for 38 years through constant service to a great cause." They were really, really good friends.



ALVA BELMONT
PLAYED BY LAURA STRACKO



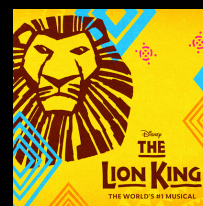
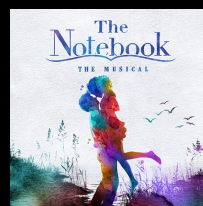
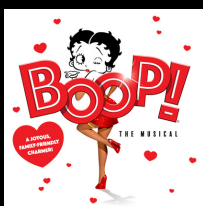
- A multi-millionaire, a socialite, and a die-hard suffragist - in other words, a versatile woman who knew what mattered in life.
- Very casually got her eldest daughter, Consuelo, to marry a Duke.
- Donated large sums of her fortune to the suffragist cause throughout her life and remained active in the movement until the day she died. Her funeral, in 1933, featured all female pallbearers.

When audiences see SUFFS, it won't be a dry history lesson - it will be a rousing, fun theatrical experience. In fact, the show has been praised for making history accessible and engaging through clever storytelling and catchy songs, which while contemporary, the score feels both modern and period-appropriate.

According to the New York Times, SUFFS is "good for the world. How could one not be thrilled to hear about the twisting path that led to the joyful if incomplete victory? Much the same could be said of the show itself."

Tickets for SUFFS at the West Herr Auditorium Theatre are still available at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) and the Auditorium Box Office.

2026-2027 M&T BANK BROADWAY SEASON: RENEW OR SUBSCRIBE TODAY!



STARS OF TOMORROW CELEBRATING ITS 28TH SEASON

RBTL's arts education program, Stars of Tomorrow, which is supported by the Cornell/Weinstein Family Foundation, with additional support from WROC News 8 and Lake Beverage, is celebrating its 28th season. It recognizes the high school musical in Tony® Award fashion. High schools in Monroe and surrounding counties with fall or spring musical productions can participate in the program. Trained evaluators, comprised of performing arts educators and professionals, travel to watch each school's production and provide students with feedback in a variety of categories.

This season, 50 local schools took part in Stars of Tomorrow, an all time high! Those schools, along with what productions they put on are:

Albion: Annie
The Aquinas Institute: The SpongeBob Musical
Avon: Annie
Batavia: Anastasia
Bishop Kearney: Something Rotten!
Bloomfield: Disney's The Little Mermaid
Brighton: Legally Blonde
Caledonia-Mumford: Mamma Mia!
Campbell-Savona: Seussical
Canandaigua: Shrek the Musical
Churchville-Chili: Cinderella
Dansville: Chicago
Eastridge: Les Misérables
Gananda: The Drowsy Chaperone
Greece Arcadia: Mean Girls
Greece Odyssey: Seussical
Greece Olympia: Legally Blonde
The Harley School: Hometown
Honeoye-Falls Lima: Cinderella
Hilton: Chicago
Le Roy: Urinetown: The Musical
Lima Christian School: Newsies
Lyndonville: Peter Pan
Lyons: Sweeney Todd
Marcus Whitman: Tuck Everlasting



Marion: Disney's Newsies
McQuaid Jesuit: Anything Goes
Medina: High School Musical
Midlakes: Once Upon A Mattress
Mount Morris: The Addams Family
Mynderse: Anastasia
Newark: Legally Blonde
Our Lady of Mercy: Mean Girls
Palmyra-Macedon: Chicago
Penfield: The Drowsy Chaperone
Penn Yan: Alice By Heart
Perry: Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka
Pittsford Mendon: Ride the Cyclone
Pittsford Sutherland: Footloose
Red Jacket: You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown
Rush-Henrietta: Mamma Mia!
School of the Arts: Little Women
Spencerport: Mamma Mia!
Victor: Mean Girls
Warsaw: The Addams Family
Wayne: Shrek the Musical
Webster Schroeder: On the Town
Wheatland-Chili: Disney's The Little Mermaid
Williamson: Mamma Mia!
York: Shrek the Musical

The Stars of Tomorrow program culminates with the Celebration Gala at the West Herr Auditorium Theatre. This year's Gala, which allows participating schools to perform a selection from their musical, is set to take place on May 8. There, schools will be recognized for achievement in Acting Ensemble, Vocal Ensemble, Dance Ensemble, Student Orchestra, Production Design, Production Crew, Theatrical Storytelling, Productions of the Year and Achievement in Leading Roles.

Helping to determine those recognitions were the 2025-2026 Stars of Tomorrow evaluators. This program would not be possible without the dedication of the Evaluating Team, who give their time and expertise throughout the year. They truly care about these students and the high school programs. Everyone at RBTL extends their thanks to the members of the Evaluating Team for their incredible commitment and support this season:

 Randall Abbey
 Matthew Allen
 Necole Almond
 Lauren Armstrong
 Erin Arvizzigno
 Robin Beel
 Emily Brown
 Maureen Callan
 Aimee Campbell
 Jeff Clair
 Cori Colombo
 Rebekah Connors
 Allison Cranmer
 Ben Davis
 Marissa DeFranco
 Victor DiNitto
 Stephanie Drew
 Lynn Duffy



Emily Dykes
 Sarah Enriquez
 Kevin Farnsworth
 Tami Farnsworth
 Tom Freeland
 Dustin Gardner
 Justin Gass
 Layna Gray
 Carrie Green
 Mandi Lynn Griffith
 Damian Grzeskowiak
 Jane Huffer
 Qasim Huzair
 Jace Jacobs
 Massan Jensen
 Danielle Joseph
 Kristy Kosko
 Tyler Krause



Courtney Larkin
 Allison Olaode
 Emily Overacker
 Sara Platek
 Valerie Pond
 Ashlyn Puccio
 Ben Rand
 Jason Rugg
 Suzanne Scott
 Lisa Silverstein
 Brian Smith
 Peter Smith
 Dawn Stever
 Amanda Strauss
 Dominic Vassallo
 Marli Worden
 Zexuan Huangfu



Also at the Celebration Gala, RBTL will present the Impact Award, which is designed to recognize Outstanding Achievement by an individual director or a unique community based project based around a show.

(continued on page six)

(continued from page five)

This year, ahead of the Gala, RBTL announced the 40 local students selected for Stars of Tomorrow NYC Bound, which determines one Leading Male and one Leading Female to represent Rochester in the national competition in New York City, the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (NHSMTA), also known as The Jimmy Awards®. The 2026 Nominees are:

Addie Schultz: Pittsford Mendon
Ride the Cyclone (Ocean)

Gus Crawford: Batavia
Anastasia (Dmitry)

Parker Gibbs: Penfield
The Drowsy Chaperone (Robert)

Addison Burgess: Newark
Legally Blonde (Paulette)

Havana Sullivan: Palmyra-Macedon
Chicago (Roxie Hart)

Parker Riordan: Bishop Kearney
Something Rotten (Nick Bottom)

Addison Childs: McQuaid Jesuit
Anything Goes (Erma)

Jamaal Nico Bradley: Eastridge
Les Misérables (Jean Valjean)

Quinn Kenyon: Avon
Annie (Annie)

Ainsley Teeters: Pittsford Sutherland
Footloose (Vi Moore)

Justin Herman Jr.: Midlakes
Once Upon a Mattress (Sir Harry)

Raegan Banker: Honeoye-Falls Lima
Cinderella (Gabrielle)

Andrew Smith: Rush-Henrietta
Mamma Mia! (Sky)

Katarina Szulgit: Our Lady of Mercy
Mean Girls (Karen)

Rory Goodwin: Webster Schroeder
On the Town (Chip)

Ava Youngblut: Honeoye-Falls Lima
Cinderella (Charlotte)

Kylie Gravino: Newark
Legally Blonde (Elle Woods)

Sienna Love: Mynderse
Anastasia (Any)

Avery Newstead: Bloomfield
Disney's The Little Mermaid (Sebastian)

Lia Turner: Hilton
Chicago (Velma Kelly)

Sophia Hatfield: York
Shrek the Musical (Fiona)

Brian Cannan: Midlakes
Once Upon a Mattress (Prince Dauntless)

Lilah Kastrinos: Webster Schroeder
On the Town (Hildy)

Sophie Pincus: Brighton
Legally Blonde (Paulette)

Brody Tanner: Mynderse
Anastasia (Dmitry)

Lillian Archer: Pittsford Mendon
Ride the Cyclone (Jane Doe)

Stella Richard: Penfield
The Drowsy Chaperone
(The Drowsy Chaperone)

Brody Walrath: Webster Schroeder
On the Town (Ozzie)

Linkon Bode: Penfield
The Drowsy Chaperone (Adolpho)

Tyler D.W. Dranichak: Palmyra-Macedon
Chicago (Billy Flynn)

Charizma Scott: Hilton
Chicago (Mamma Morton)

Marco DeAscentiis: The Harley School
Hadestown (Hermes)

Vivian Szymanowicz: Victor
Mean Girls (Cady)

David Sick: Dansville
Chicago (Billy Flynn)

Nathan Brandt: Williamson
Mamma Mia! (Sam)

Will Richardson: Rush-Henrietta
Mamma Mia! (Sam)

Ellie Dorr: Midlakes
Once Upon a Mattress (Lady Larkin)

Nate Lynch: McQuaid Jesuit
Anything Goes (Lord Evelyn Oakleigh)

Emily Brown: Mynderse
Anastasia (Countess Lily)

Nyah Wragg: Rush-Henrietta
Mamma Mia! (Donna)

Stars of Tomorrow NYC Bound will take place on May 21. The 17th Annual National High School Musical Theatre Awards will be presented on June 22. For more information about all RBTL's arts education programs, visit rbtl.org/education.

Registration Open!

RBTL'S ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, August 3rd

For more information, including sponsorship opportunities, visit RBTL.org.