

AUGUST 2026



FROM THE WINGS

RBTL ANNOUNCES NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH CANANDAIGUA NATIONAL BANK

CANANDAIGUA NATIONAL BANK'S ROTHSCHILD LOUNGE

RBTL is excited to announce a new partnership with Canandaigua National Bank for the Rothschild Lounge, which is currently undergoing an expansion and renovation. The Lounge, previously sponsored by Ethan Allen, will now be known as "Canandaigua National Bank's Rothschild Lounge."

The Lounge allows patrons to take their theatre experience to the next level when attending the West Herr Auditorium Theatre. With the advance purchase of a "President's Club" pass during Broadway engagements, guests can enjoy top-shelf beverages and hors d'oeuvres from Palmer's Direct To You Market in the private, comfortable setting prior to the performance and during intermission. This new partnership will also allow RBTL to offer more versatile and frequent use of the space beyond Broadway performances, including one-night and private events.

"Canandaigua National Bank is proud to partner with the Rochester Broadway Theatre League and to have our name associated with this remarkable space," said Canandaigua National Bank Executive Vice President of Marketing, Sam Guerrieri. "Like our bank, this theatre is an institution with deep roots in our community and a history that spans generations. RBTL's vision, determination and commitment have helped preserve this historic landmark and transform it into the gem it is today. We are excited to be part of its next 'act'!"

"We are delighted that one of the region's most respected and impactful institutions, Canandaigua National Bank, is honoring our restoration efforts and lending their name to this exciting improvement to the West Herr Performing Arts Center," said RBTL CEO and Board Chair, Arnie Rothschild. "As we continue this project, this new partnership is representative of what we want the venue to become – a celebration of the very best of the Rochester region, and Canandaigua National Bank certainly falls in the category."

Restoration and renovation of Canandaigua National Bank's Rothschild Lounge is ongoing and part of the latest phase of PROJECT RESTORATION. It is expected to be complete by the start of the 2026-2027 M&T Bank Broadway Season, with the launch of the North American tour of BOOP!® The Musical October 3-10.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

BOOP! THE MUSICAL

October 3-10

SWAN LAKE

October 21

ANDREW DICE CLAY

October 22

HELL'S KITCHEN

November 3-8

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

December 1-6



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

RBTL.ORG



@RBTLAUD

SPOTLIGHT ON: *THE SOUND OF MUSIC*

Engagement Dates:
December 1-6, 2026

Music & Lyrics:
Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein II

Book:
Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse (*Anything Goes*)

Orchestrations:
Robert Russell Bennett (*My Fair Lady*, *Oklahoma!*)

Direction:
Jack O'Brien (*Hairspray*, *Shucked*)

Choreography:
Danny Mefford (*Kimberly Akimbo*, *Dear Evan Hansen*)

Age Recommendation:
5+

Running Time:
2 hours & 30 minutes, including intermission



Synopsis: For 65 years, ***THE SOUND OF MUSIC*** has been one of our “favorite things.” With its timeless story and irresistibly charming score, this Rodgers & Hammerstein classic isn’t just meant to be enjoyed - it’s meant to be shared. This vibrant and romantic tale of Maria and the von Trapp family will captivate audiences with its universal themes of love, resilience and the power of music. Featuring beloved songs like “Do-Re-Mi,” “Sixteen Going on Seventeen” and “Edelweiss,” ***THE SOUND OF MUSIC*** is the iconic tale of a spirited nun who chooses not to live behind closed doors - and, by following her heart, learns to climb every mountain.

The
**SOUND
of
MUSIC**

1960 TONY AWARD® WINS

Best Musical
Actress - Musical (Mary Martin)
Actress - Featured Role Musical (Patricia Neway)
Best Conductor and Musical Director
Best Scenic Design - Musical

What the Critics are Saying:

“A masterpiece is a masterpiece and this one sings.”
– *Chicago Tribune*

“***THE SOUND OF MUSIC*** is as timeless and emotionally effective as it was when it first debuted. Modern viewers will feel every moment and every beautiful thing the story stands for in new and impactful ways. You’ll find something that will touch you, change you and make you think.”
– *Triangle Arts Review*

“The show’s fresh, alive and actually feels like a brand new musical.”
– *Chicago Theatre Reviews*



SPOTLIGHT ON: *HELL'S KITCHEN*

Engagement Dates:
November 3-8, 2026

Music & Lyrics:
Alicia Keys

Book:
Kristoffer Diaz (*Pulitzer Prize for Drama Finalist*)

Direction:
Michael Greif (*The Notebook, Dear Evan Hansen, Next to Normal, RENT*)

Choreography:
Camille A. Brown (*Once on This Island, NBC's Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert*)

Age Recommendation:
8+ (*contains some strong language and moments with mature themes*)

Running Time:
2 hours & 35 minutes, including intermission



Synopsis: Welcome to *HELL'S KITCHEN*, the hit musical from 17-time Grammy® Award winner Alicia Keys—inspired by her life, her music and her community. Your journey begins with Ali, a 17-year-old girl full of fire, searching for freedom, passion and her place in the world. Along the way, you'll meet the musical mentor who changes her life, her dynamic family and the neighborhood that helps her grow. Relatable, raw and refreshingly fun, *HELL'S KITCHEN* is a celebration of finding yourself, your purpose and the people who lift you up.



What the Critics are Saying:

"Thrilling from beginning to end, *HELL'S KITCHEN* stands out as a rare must-see!"
– *New York Times*

"One of the most euphoric experiences I've had in a theater."
– *Los Angeles Times*

"*HELL'S KITCHEN* is a marvel!
A live-wire theatrical adaptation of Alicia Keys' hit list that brings the house down."
– *The Guardian*

Individual tickets go on sale August 31 and will be available at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or the Box Office.



RBTL SEEKING HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL EVALUATORS FOR STARS OF TOMORROW PROGRAM

RBTL's arts education program, Stars of Tomorrow, which celebrates the high school musical and highlights the importance of the arts in education, will be back for its 29th year this fall. High schools in Monroe and surrounding counties with fall or spring musical productions are invited to participate. A team of trained and qualified adjudicators evaluates the productions, and provides students and directors with written feedback and rubric scores in a variety of production areas. Stars of Tomorrow would not be possible without our evaluators, and RBTL is currently looking to expand our team for the 2026-2027 season. If the criteria below seems like you, please consider joining us!

Evaluators will meet at least ONE of the following requirements:

- A degree in a relevant field (music, theatre, dance, etc.),
- And/or extensive work experience in one of those disciplines on a professional or academic basis,
- And/or are professional artists or educators with knowledge of the American musical theatre canon,
- And/or demonstrated experience in or knowledge of musical theatre.

Additionally, all candidates:

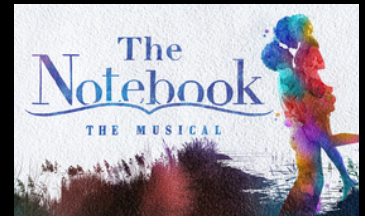
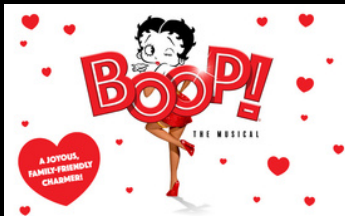
- Must be reliable and respond to communication quickly (within 24 hours or less).
- Must possess the ability to effectively communicate in writing.
- Must possess the ability to evaluate production elements and student performances in a constructive manner, maintaining an overall positive tone.
- Be educational in purpose and feedback.
- Must be trained in the Stars of Tomorrow evaluation process by RBTL.
- Must have the ability to recognize potential bias/conflicts of interest and to recuse oneself from those productions/students.
 - No judge will be assigned to a school with which there may be a conflict of interest, either through a connection to the school or to anyone associated with the production.
- Have the ability to evaluate productions through provided criteria without personal opinion.
- Be able to evaluate productions independently and not in comparison to other productions.
- Have the ability to evaluate fairly.
- Have the ability to maintain confidentiality.
- Have enthusiasm for high school musical theatre.

Interested? Reach out by emailing RBTL's Director of Education, Holly Valentine, at, holly@rbtl.org.
Or click below to apply.

[APPLY HERE](#)

To learn more about Stars of Tomorrow, or other RBTL arts education programs, visit [RBTL.org/education](https://rbtl.org/education).

SUBSCRIBE TO THE '26-'27 M&T BANK BROADWAY SEASON TODAY!



RBTL'S ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT RAISES OVER \$60,000 FOR LOCAL ARTS EDUCATION

RBTL netted in excess of \$60,000 at its 18th Annual Golf Tournament fundraiser on August 3. Proceeds from the tournament play a leading role in supporting RBTL's arts education programs, including A.R.T.S. Partners, Stars of Tomorrow and Stars of Tomorrow NYC Bound, in which thousands of local students participate each season.

This year, 130 golfers took part in the tournament at Midvale Country Club, simultaneously supporting the arts in the Rochester community, while enjoying a day on the course. Funds were raised through generous sponsors, a participation fee, live auction, silent auction (emceed by Paul Guglielmo) and raffles.

Every year at the tournament, RBTL honors someone who has made a difference to the organization. This year, the Blue Heron Award honoree was New York State Senator Jeremy Cooney, for his unwavering commitment to the arts in the community and his ongoing support of PROJECT RESTOURATION, which is transforming the West Herr Performing Arts Center into a renowned entertainment venue.

Additionally, RBTL presented the organization's Chief Knowledge Officer, John Parkhurst, with a Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of over 50 years of distinguished leadership and service to entertainment in the Rochester region. Throughout his career, nearly 40 years of which have been with RBTL, he has enabled thousands of performances and the growth of RBTL, played a vital role in developing the Finger Lakes Performing Arts Center and Constellation Brands-Marvin Sands Performing Arts Center, championed the acquisition of the Auditorium Theatre and guided the restoration of the West Herr Performing Arts Center. In April, Parkhurst stepped back from his role as Chief Operating Officer, to take on a part-time position as Chief Knowledge Officer.

Arts and performance education inspires creativity and helps young people set and reach goals. RBTL is committed to education both in and out of the classroom that engages and encourages students to explore, experience and enjoy the arts. Every year, RBTL takes great pride in seeing the benefit of arts education in the Rochester community. Our education programs are made possible in part because of support for the Annual Golf Tournament from both participants and sponsors, as well as from in-kind donations year-round. To learn more or make a donation, visit rbtl.org.



INDIVIDUAL TICKETS FOR **BOOP!® THE MUSICAL** ON SALE NOW

Tickets may be purchased at Ticketmaster.com
or the Auditorium Box Office.

Evening performances run Saturday, October 3 to Friday,
October 9, with matinee performances on Sunday, October 4
and Saturday, October 10.