

SEPTEMBER 2026



FROM THE WINGS

EXPANSION & RENOVATION OF CANANDAIGUA NATIONAL BANK'S ROTHSCHILD LOUNGE COMPLETED

The expansion and renovation work on Canandaigua National Bank's Rothschild Lounge at the West Herr Performing Arts Center is now complete. Patrons visiting the Auditorium Theatre October 3-10 for BOOP!® The Musical will be among the first to experience and utilize the converted historic space.

Work began in June to improve amenities and expand the Lounge back to its original footprint by removing a wall, which was erected between the 1940's and 1960's. The room now once again prominently features its late 1920's fireplace, bringing the Lounge back to its intended size and grandeur with increased capacity and seating, allowing for a more luxurious, comfortable and versatile use of the space.

Canandaigua National Bank's Rothschild Lounge enables patrons to take their theatre experience to the next level. 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 Food Services catering in the private, comfortable setting, prior to the performance and during intermission. By partnering with Canandaigua National Bank, RBTL can now use the Lounge beyond Broadway performances, including one-night and private events.

"The bank is honored to partner with RBTL as this beloved, historic venue begins its new season and a new chapter. The Theatre's restoration is a testament to what our community can accomplish when people come together with dedication, vision and care" said Frank H. Hamlin, III, President and CEO of Canandaigua National Bank. "Canandaigua National Bank's Rothschild Lounge is a place where community can come together, and we are proud to sponsor it. This partnership reflects our vision to build enduring community vitality by supporting the places, people and experiences that bring our community together for generations to come".

"As we continue to improve important spaces in the complex, none is more representative of the design and grandeur than the Lounge now named Canandaigua National Bank's Rothschild Lounge, said RBTL CEO, Arnie Rothschild. "How gratifying it is to all of us at RBTL to have one of the most respected institutions in the community as our partner! We are honored."

Work on the Lounge was part of Phase Two of PROJECT RESTORATION, which also included a redesign and reconfiguration of the Auditorium Theatre's backstage artist and crew spaces. The first floor facilities have been updated to meet the modern standards and requirements of touring productions. Refurbishment of the second-floor dressing areas will be completed in 2027.

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



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CANANDAIGUA NATIONAL BANK'S ROTHSCHILD LOUNGE



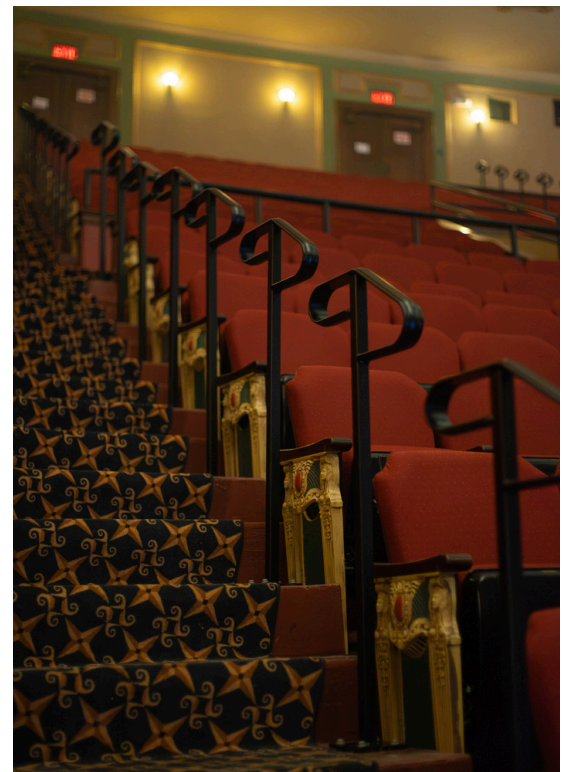
IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY IN WEST HERR AUDITORIUM THEATRE WITH NEWLY INSTALLED BALCONY HANDRAILS

Just in time for *BOOP!® The Musical*, RBTL has improved accessibility within the West Herr Auditorium Theatre with newly installed handrails in the balcony. RBTL has been working for years to come up with a solution to make navigating the balcony steps safer and more secure for patrons. Now, thanks to Alpha Iron Works, custom individual iron rails adorn every row in the entirety of the balcony level.

“Trying to restore an almost 100-year-old building has its challenges, but also, it's opportunities. In this case, the opportunity was to both be inventive, and at the same time, make it easier for people to be safe,” said RBTL CEO and Board Chair, Arnie Rothschild. “Due to fire safety laws, we could not put a railing in the middle of the aisle, so these individual handrails are the result. Both aesthetic and functional, it's a win for all!”

“Providing this much needed work to our balcony seating to the benefit of our guests is one of the most important improvements we have made,” said RBTL COO, Linda Glosser. “We're very happy to be able to continue our work toward creating improved accessible spaces through the restoration of our venue.”

This is just another step towards RBTL's mission to improve the theatre-going experience and provide a renowned entertainment venue through the ongoing work of PROJECT RESTORATION.



SPOTLIGHT ON: BOOP! THE MUSICAL

Engagement Dates:
October 3-10, 2026

Music:
David Foster (16-time Grammy Award®-winner)

Book:
Bob Martin (*The Drowsy Chaperone*)

Lyrics:
Susan Birkenhead (*Jelly's Last Jam*)

Original Broadway Direction & Choreography:
Jerry Mitchell (*Kinky Boots*, *On Your Feet!*)

Music Supervisor & Additional Arrangements:
Daryl Waters (*Gypsy*, *The Cher Show*)

Age Recommendation:
8+

Running Time:
2 hours & 30 minutes, including intermission



Synopsis: For almost a century, the Betty Boop® character has won hearts and inspired fans around the world with her trademark looks, voice and style. Now, in **BOOP!® The Musical**, Betty's dream of an ordinary day off from super-celebrity in her black-and-white world leads to a "bright and bubbly" (*Time Out New York*) adventure of color, music and love in New York City. "A show-stopping rainbow of joy" (*The Daily Beast*), **BOOP!** is the new Broadway musical-comedy extravaganza that's fun for everyone – bringing heart, laughter and a whole lot of Boop-oop-a-doop to the stage!

BOOP!

2025 TONY AWARD® NOMINATIONS

Best Actress in a Musical (Jasmine Amy Rogers)
Best Costume Design in a Musical
Best Choreography

What the Critics Say:

"The feel-good musical of the year! A bright, colorful extravaganza of nostalgic comedy, charming songs and high-stepping choreography."
– *Theatermania*

"An old-fashioned stage-frolic with big songs and bigger dancing. If you desire sheer escapism, this show is for you."
– *The Daily Beast*

"A joyous, family-friendly charmer. What's not to love about Betty Boop?"
– *Chicago Tribune*

© Fleischer Studios



FLEISCHER STUDIOS CREATES CUSTOM ARTWORK FOR ROCHESTER ENGAGEMENT OF *BOOP! THE MUSICAL*

Rochester audiences will be among the first to see Betty Boop® come to life on stage in *BOOP!® The Musical*. The first national tour is set to launch at the West Herr Auditorium Theatre October 3-10. The cast and crew spent two weeks in town rehearsing and preparing the production for tour. The time for technical rehearsals allows the team to refine every element of staging, lighting, sound and choreography before opening night.

And to celebrate the Rochester engagement of *BOOP!*, we received a special custom comic from Fleischer Studios, the pioneers behind some of the most iconic cartoon characters. That includes Betty Boop, who made her debut in 1930. This artwork features Rochester landmarks, including the Auditorium Theatre, the Frederick Douglass-Susan B. Anthony Memorial Bridge, High Falls and the Kodak Building, plus lilacs and the Rochester Red Wings!

Behind this work is Creative Director and Cartoonist, Frank Caruso, who has been with Fleischer Studios for almost 40 years. We spoke to him about his process and what it means to capture the Fleischer Studios style, which he says is always ‘bouncing and moving.’

“Max [Fleischer] knew what a cartoon was because everything was alive,” said Caruso. “The clock had a face; the trees had faces and the chairs were walking across the room; everything was surreal, and that’s what a cartoon is.”

“I always try to capture heart. I got that a lot from Fleischer too. There’s a lot of heart in everything they do and you will get that with the musical too. So, I tried to capture all the little local flavor to put in there and had fun with it. I tried to make it feel like it was 1930 and Fleischer was doing something for Rochester.”

Caruso first started drawing Betty Boop when he was hired for what was supposed to be a one-day freelancing job. That job turned into nearly four decades, which Caruso calls the ‘longest one-day freelance job he every had.’

“In the early days, I definitely felt the pressure because it’s Betty Boop,” Caruso added. “And the last thing you want to do is make a wrong turn. But working closely with the Fleischer’s, being such a fan of Max and talking to the fans about what Betty means to them (because I know what she means to me) I try to put that into it too. And I do, because people kind of see themselves in Betty; she’s a biker or surfer or cheerleader or a hula dancer. So when I sit down to draw, I pour that into the drawing and hopefully people feel it and relate to it and keep that alive.”

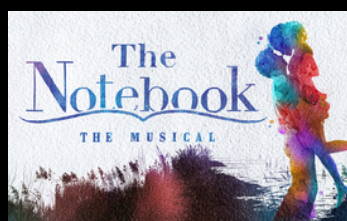
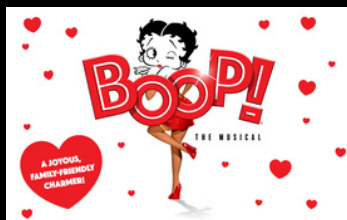


In 2030, Betty Boop will celebrate 100 years. Caruso says the credit of Betty’s success goes to *everyone* who has worked on her throughout the decades. Through his lens, the character is always making a splash, and now she’s doing it on stage, opening up her story to new communities.

“Betty at some point became such an iconic character that you can recognize in silhouette, and people know who she is, she’s part of pop culture. With that, you become art, and I see Betty Boop as art,” said Caruso. “I’m sharing the excitement for the start of this tour and I think people are going to be so excited to see it. And I’ll add, something I had in me as a kid, when my friends and I would watch the Fleischer cartoons, is when you’re sitting in the West Herr Auditorium Theatre in Rochester, New York, and the curtains open, and you see the name Fleischer Studios... you know you’re in for a good one. It’s going to be a good show, so have fun.”

See Caruso’s custom artwork on display in the second-floor lobby during *BOOP! The Musical*’s run at the Auditorium Theatre. Tickets are available at [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or the Auditorium Box Office.

2026-2027 M&T BANK BROADWAY SEASON



INTRODUCING OUR 2026-2027 STUDENT AMBASSADORS

RBTL is excited to introduce this year's Student Ambassadors! Watch for these High School students at RBTL and on social media throughout our Broadway Season. Our Student Ambassadors gain exclusive access to the world of live theatre - gathering behind the scenes content, engaging with industry professionals and connecting with peers who share a passion for the arts. Be sure to welcome them and say hello!



Adelaide
Albion



Barrabas
School of the Arts



Bridget
Pittsford



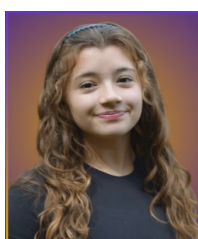
Brimari
Eastridge



Brooke
Brighton



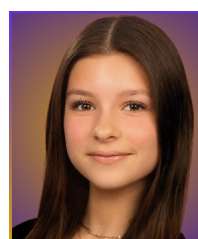
Emmi
Our Lady of Mercy



Evie
Victor



Gabby
Brighton



Harper
Our Lady of Mercy



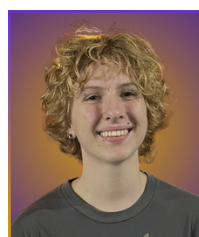
Josie
Victor



Kaedin
Geneseo



Kasey
Our Lady of Mercy



Kaydence
Greece



Liah
Webster



Lily
Port Byron



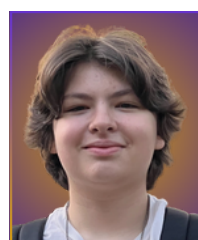
Lily
Albion



Madelyn
West Irondequoit



Marco
Harley School



Nat
School of the Arts



Ruby
Harley School



Sammy
Victor



Skylar
School of the Arts



Teagan
Wayne



Vivienne
Rush-Henrietta



Zoe
School of the Arts

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For more information about the Student Ambassador program or RBTL's other education programs, visit rbtl.org/education.