

# Stratford Tribune

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL GUILD

SPRING 2022

## A Joyful Return

From the TSF Artistic Director

*“In the springtime  
The only pretty ring time  
When birds do sing  
Hey ding a, ding, ding!”*

-William Shakespeare

As I write this, the weather is already beginning to show signs of spring and the days are staying brighter longer. The first hints of summer are on the horizon, symbolizing the return of TSF once again. When we were at this point one year ago, the phrase we kept repeating was Cautious Optimism--we really wanted to get back into the theatre after the 2020 cancellation, but we knew we had to be cautious on all fronts in our preparation. Now, we are on the other side of producing a successful post-Covid

season and feel we can leave some of the caution behind and make a Joyful Return to the Van Cliburn Auditorium this summer. Our summer line-up of plays will surely bring great joy and delight. *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Tempest* will remind you of all the reasons there are to love Shakespeare. *Nell Gwynn* will entrance and intrigue you (and certainly have you researching on Google and Wikipedia after the show), *The Music Man* will have you dancing and cheering in the aisles, and *The Hog Princess* will bring out the child within. We cannot wait to welcome you back for season thirty-seven this summer. Please join us and take on our mantra of a Joyful Return—to Kilgore, to the Van Cliburn, to your love of theatre, and to all things TSF. We eagerly await your arrival. Sincerely,  
*Meaghan Simpson*

## From TSF Guild President, Karen Peters

The Texas Shakespeare Festival Guild Board is busy making plans and preparing for the 2022 season. This year’s shows will be the 37th season of performances for the festival. The lineup includes these plays to anticipate: *The Taming of the Shrew* by William Shakespeare, a romantic comedy; *Nell Gwynn* by Jessica Swale, based on the true life story of Nell Gwynn; *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare, a story of love and redemption; *The Music Man* by Meredith Willson, a show that is perfect

for the entire family; and *The Hog Princess* by DJ Canaday, an original fractured fairytale adventure for the whole family. Ticket sales begin at midnight, Sunday, May 2nd, for current Guild members. Sales to the general public will begin at midnight, Sunday, May 9th. Individual tickets are \$35.00 each, and \$30.00 for the padded bench seat area. There is a discount rate for groups of 20 or more, with that rate set at \$28.00 per ticket. Season tickets are available for \$105.00 each – Buy 3 and

Get 1 FREE! I’m sure you are as excited as we are about the upcoming season. It is fast approaching and will be full of fun, meetings with friends, and top-rated performances by the 2022 Shakespeare Festival Company. Representatives of the Guild and Foundation will be at the table in the lobby before the show and during intermission. Please stop by to say “hello,” join the Guild, donate to the Foundation, or ask any questions you may have. Thank you for your time, and we’ll see you at the theater.



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### FOLLOW THE GUILD



The TSF Guild is now officially social—on two platforms. Follow the Guild on

**Facebook:** [TexasShakesGuild](#)  
or on

**Twitter:** [@TxShakesGuild](#)

We’ll be sharing news, photos, and interesting facts that inquiring Festival fans and Guild members might want to know. Follow your Guild today!

## From President-Elect Linda Crabtree

Come join us! Become a Guild Member! Guild members are a huge and important part of every TSF season's success. Are you aware of all the things your annual membership provides? In addition to receiving access to early ticket sales, annual membership fees help us to host and feed the 90+ summer season company members as well as Roadshow and Christmas guest artists.

Our Texas hospitality, as well as the outstanding reputation of the Festival, is well-known. It brings theater professionals from throughout the U.S., as well as from several foreign countries, to Kilgore each year. As Guild volunteers, we have an incredible opportunity to meet and host these talented and special artists.

The number of Guild members increases weekly. Be sure your membership is current before the 2022 season begins! When the membership campaign begins again, it will be for the 2023 season.

Many activities are happening as we draw closer to the beginning of the exciting upcoming season; don't miss any of it! As always, thank you for your membership. Your dues and your volunteerism will, once again, help to make this season a huge success!

Contact President-Elect Linda Crabtree, 903-918-1365 or [lcrabtree795@gmail.com](mailto:lcrabtree795@gmail.com)

## New Guild Membership Category Approved by the TSF Foundation

After a recent review of bylaws and guidelines, Guild officers discussed and proposed a new membership category which was recently approved by the Foundation board. A non-profit organization who wishes to support the Guild's efforts can do so by joining the group and being listed as an official Guild supporter in the summer season playbill. Volunteers from these non-profit groups are encouraged and welcomed. Contact President-Elect Linda Crabtree for information if you are part of a group that might like to join: 903-918-1365 or [lcrabtree795@gmail.com](mailto:lcrabtree795@gmail.com)

## Become A Charter Donor to the Raymond Caldwell Endowment Fund

All donors who contribute to the Raymond Caldwell Endowment Fund by July 31, 2022, will be as recognized as Charter Donors. Don't miss this opportunity to show your support of TSF and Raymond's Legacy!



## Early Access Ticket Sales for Guild Members

It will soon be time to take advantage of one of the great perks of Guild membership—purchasing your Festival tickets early! Sales for Guild members begin Monday, May 2. The code that you need is this.

**GUILDMAY22**

## East Texas Giving Day—April 26th



Watch your email for reminders about East Texas Giving Day, where the Festival and other worthy and deserving area groups can benefit from your donations, with some extra bonuses for those groups receiving the most funds that day.

It is close to Shakespeare's birthday, so consider a gift as a kind of honor for our beloved Bard!

## Volunteer Opportunities Coming

As the season draws closer and conditions become clearer, there will be opportunities to support the Festival company. Watch your email for those activities. As is the case every year, Lunch Bunch will need our support, as well as any other need that arises.

## Before the Curtain Rises

Escape into the world of theatre for a four-week class taking you behind the scenes of the Texas Shakespeare Festival's 2022 season. This course will introduce the craft of theatre to patrons who are curious about the inner workings of the art form, and allow you to have a deeply enriching experience as you take in the summer productions.

Classes will take place in the TSF Center and are taught by TSF Artistic Director Meaghan Simpson and TSF Associate Artistic Director Matthew Simpson.

**Dates: Tuesday April 12th, 19th, 26th & May 3rd**

**Time: 10:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**

**Location: TSF Center at 815 Houston St. Kilgore, TX**

**Cost: FREE!\***

*\*Donations to the TSF Foundation or the Raymond Caldwell Endowment Fund are welcomed.*

# Foundation Drawing—Win A Trip for Two



## WIN A TRIP FOR 2 TO KAUAI, HAWAII

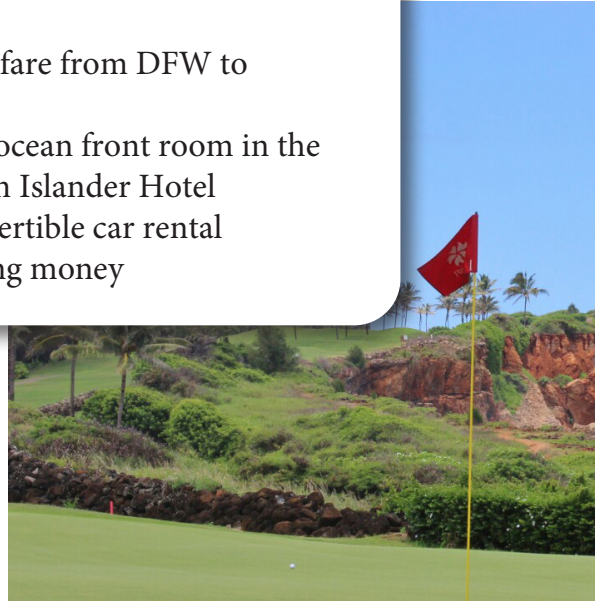
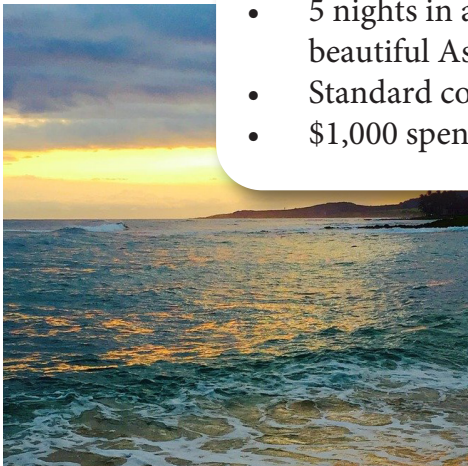
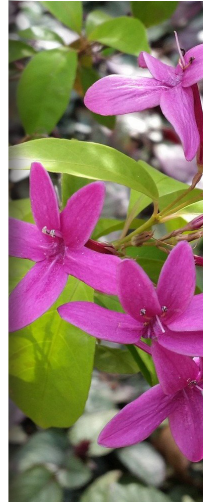
**Tickets are \$100.  
Only 350 tickets will be sold.**

The drawing will be held during intermission of the evening performance on Sunday, 7/31/22. Tickets and more information are available online, in the lobby, and at the Ticket Office. Credit cards are welcome!

Reservations must be made six months in advance and travel should be completed by August 1, 2023. Travel is not permitted Nov. 20 – Jan. 5. Current Hawaii COVID-19 travel restrictions require proof of vaccination or a negative test. *(Restrictions are subject to change.)*

### The trip includes:

- Round-trip airfare from DFW to Kauai, Hawaii
- 5 nights in an ocean front room in the beautiful Aston Islander Hotel
- Standard convertible car rental
- \$1,000 spending money



## Calling All Festival Friends Who Are Newspaper Readers

TSF Foundation and Guild could really use your help! Keeping our database of patrons and Guild members is an ongoing effort for the Guild and the Foundation. All too often we don't find out about the death of a Festival friend until months after his or her passing.

If any of you notice an obituary (or hear about the passing) of someone who you think might have been a patron, could you please let us know? Even if those persons were not Guild members, if they were Festival attendees, it would be very helpful to let TSF staff know of their passing. If you suspect they might be on one of our lists, you can send the name and city/where you saw the obit to Louis Knouse ([LEKnouse2020@outlook.com](mailto:LEKnouse2020@outlook.com)) or send it to John Dodd ([texasshake-speare@gmail.com](mailto:texasshake-speare@gmail.com)). Thanks so much for helping us stay current on what's going on with our Festival Family.

## Keeping Us Updated

Please keep the Guild updated on any changes in your address or contact details, especially a correct cell number. You can send any updates in your member info. to Lois Knouse, Guild Membership contact.

[LEKnouse2020@outlook.com](mailto:LEKnouse2020@outlook.com)

## Join the Green Group—for Three Reasons

If you have not yet joined the “Green Group” by signing up to receive *The Stratford Tribune* newsletter via email rather than through regular postal service, please consider doing it today for three reasons:

- (1) it saves the Guild substantial cost in printing and postage;
- (2) it allows you to receive a greatly enhanced version of the newsletter, including full-color pictures; and
- (3) it includes you on the Festival’s email list, which lets you receive more timely notifications of many TSF activities.

And there is a fourth reason, too: it saves trees!

• **Green Group** — You will receive the TSF newsletters via email and occasional correspondence about Festival activities. Examples of these might be information about the Lunch Bunch, TSF Foundation, raffles, and special TSF events. These emails might be informative or request help with events, etc. and will not be excessive. *We do not share your email address with other entities.*

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To join the Green Group, send an email to [LEKhouse2020@outlook.com](mailto:LEKhouse2020@outlook.com). Please be sure to include your name. Sometimes it is difficult to identify you by your email address.



## 2021—2022 Executive Board

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>President</b>  | <i>Karen Peters</i>   |
| <b>President—Elect</b>  | <i>Linda Crabtree</i>   |
| <b>Recording Secretary</b>  | <i>Sharon Noblit</i>  |
| <b>Membership Secretary</b>   | <i>Lois Knouse</i>  |
| <b>Treasurer</b>  | <i>Louise Cochran</i>   |
| <b>Past President</b>   | <i>Gem Meacham</i>  |
| <b>VP—Guild Events</b>  | <i>Kimberly Macedo</i>  |
| <b>Co-VPs—Company Events</b>  | <i>Eileen Kosnik</i><br><i>Claudia Morgan-Gray</i>                            |
| <b>Co-VPs—House Events</b>  | <i>Melinda Johnson</i><br><i>Martha Rutherford</i>                            |
| <b>Co-VPs—Communications</b>  | <i>Martha Dalby</i><br><i>Kate Wells</i><br><i>Lynn Wells, Graphic Design</i> |
| <b>TSF Artistic Director</b>  | <i>Meaghan Simpson</i>  |
| <b>TSF Managing Director</b>  | <i>John Dodd</i>  |
| <b>TSF Associate Artistic Director/<br/>Director of Development</b> | <i>Matthew Simpson</i>  |

*We join the Simpsons in welcoming the newest member of their family born in February.*



*Scarlett Hart Simpson*

# Child and Teen Actors Cast - "THE MUSIC MAN"



Brooklyn Thomas



Alexander Newton



Evan Johnson



Joseph Kaan

# Child and Teen Actors Cast - "THE MUSIC MAN"



Heather Schmitt



Nathan Bachtell



Sophia Yastrebov



Sutton King

# TSF's Mirth and Merriment

