

# THE CURTAIN RAISER



## COMING HOME

**Victoria Sexton and Scotty Tomas in Concert**  
**June 10**

Long-time Ocala Civic Theatre performers Victoria Sexton and Scotty Tomas will present *Coming Home*, a concert to benefit the Theatre, on June 10.

Well-known to local audiences, Victoria and Scotty grew up on the OCT stage and have been performing together across central Florida for several years to rave reviews. They are thrilled to return “home” to present this concert of favorite show tunes.

Victoria started performing at OCT as a child in the title role in *Annie*, then went on to play Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz* and Wendy in *Peter Pan*. Later roles include Hodel in *Fiddler On the Roof*, Tuptim in *The King and I*, Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls*, and Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde*.

Scotty began his OCT career in hit shows such as *Chicago*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *Peter Pan*. He went on to play such roles as Motel in *Fiddler On the Roof*, Ambrose Kemper in *Hello, Dolly!*, Hysterium in *A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum*, and Chip Tolentino in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

*Coming Home* is a concert of old and new Broadway favorites, both solos and duets. The program will include “All I Ask of You” from *The Phantom of the Opera*, “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” from *The Wizard of Oz*, “For Good” from *Wicked*, “On My Own” from *Les Miserables*, “Can’t Help Falling in Love” from *All Shook Up*, “Suddenly Seymour” from *Little Shop of Horrors*, and many more. Don’t miss this evening of beautiful music when these two incredibly talented performers reunite on the stage where they grew up!

*Coming Home* is live on the OCT stage for one night only, on Monday, June 10 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for full-time students (school ID required for college students). For more information or to purchase tickets, call (352) 236-2274 or go to [www.ocalacivictheatre.com](http://www.ocalacivictheatre.com).

### Coming Events

**Coming Home:**  
**Victoria Sexton and Scotty Tomas In Concert**  
June 10

**The Harvey Awards**  
June 15

**The Jungle Book**  
Student Production  
June 21-22

**Auditions for Matilda The Musical**  
June 24-25

**Xanadu Jr.**  
Student Production  
July 12-13

**The Servant of Two Masters**  
Student Production  
July 26-28

**Matilda The Musical**  
August 29 – September 23



## June 15

Join us on Saturday, June 15 for the annual Harvey Awards, Ocala Civic Theatre’s version of the Tony Awards, to celebrate the best of the 2018-2019 season!

The evening begins at 6 p.m. with a social hour, hors d’oeuvres, and cash bar, followed by a theatre trivia contest and the awards ceremony. Awards are given for excellence in acting, technical aspects, and volunteer service. Join us to recognize the outstanding work of our volunteers and designers!

Everyone is welcome to attend the Harvey Awards. Dressy to semi-formal attire is suggested. Tickets are \$15. For reservations or more information, call (352) 236-2274 or stop by the box office. Don’t miss this special evening – it’s the social event of the season!

**Auditions for**

Roald Dahl's  
**Matilda**  
The Musical

**June 24-25**

Book by Dennis Kelly  
Music & Lyrics by Tim Minchin

Extraordinary little girl Matilda can move things with her mind. Unloved and mistreated at home and at school, she has an unhappy life – but her imagination, books, and one kind teacher give her the courage to change her destiny. Full of great roles for both kids and adults, this thrilling musical is inspired by the beloved book and movie.

*Matilda The Musical* is directed by Katrina Ploof. Music director is Philip King. Stage manager is Tom Ferreira. Auditions will be held Monday, June 24 and Tuesday, June 25 at 7 p.m. It is only necessary to attend one night of auditions. Full details are available in the June 2019 *Cue Sheet*.

Not sure if there's a role for you? Check out a copy of the script for one week with a \$10 refundable deposit. Please call before coming to make sure a script is in stock. If you check out a script the week before auditions, you must return it by 5:30 p.m. on Friday, June 21.



**July 12-13**

Book by Douglas Carter Beane  
Music and Lyrics by Jeff Lynne and John Farrar

A Greek muse inspires love, laughter, and the first roller disco in this 1980s glitter explosion based on the film. Hilarity on wheels, this musical is for anyone who has ever wanted to feel inspired!

*Xanadu Jr.* is performed by OCT's Young Company of students ages 6-17. Director is Terry LeCompte. Music director is Shane Bass. Choreographer/co-stage manager is Megan Brown. Young Company director/choreographer is Amanda Smith. Co-stage manager is Dakota Brown.

There will be three performances:

- Friday, July 12 at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, July 13 at 2 p.m.
- Saturday, July 13 at 7 p.m.

Tickets go on sale June 10 at \$12 for adults and \$6 for students (school ID required for college students).



**July 26-28**

Translated and adapted by Bonnie J. Monte  
From the classic comedy by Carlo Goldoni

In this hysterical comedy, Clarice's dreams of marrying her true love are shattered when the man she was originally promised to, Federigo Rasponi, seemingly returns from the dead. Unbeknownst to anyone, Federigo is really his sister, Beatrice, in disguise, determined to settle her brother's debts and find her love, Florindo, who fled after her brother was killed. Beatrice's plans work perfectly at first – until her sneaky servant Truffaldino also takes on Florindo as his master in a scheme to make extra money. It's a tangled web of true love's dreams and sneaky schemes!

*The Servant of Two Masters* is directed by Dani Moreno-Fuentes and is performed by OCT's Young Adult Company of students ages 16-21.

There will be four performances:

- Friday, July 26 at 8 p.m.
- Saturday, July 27 at 2 p.m.
- Saturday, July 27 at 8 p.m.
- Sunday, July 28 at 2 p.m.

Tickets go on sale June 24 at \$20 for adults and \$10 for students (school ID required for college students).



**June 21-22**

Adapted by Vera Morris

Based on the classic novel by Rudyard Kipling, explore the exciting jungle adventures of Mowgli! This touching and humorous play highlights the importance of loyalty and other "human" values.

*The Jungle Book* is directed by Terry LeCompte and Amanda Smith and performed by OCT's Young Company of students ages 6-17.

There will be three performances:

- Friday, June 21 at 7 p.m.
- Saturday, June 22 at 2 p.m.
- Saturday, June 22 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now at \$12 for adults and \$6 for students (school ID required for college students).

**Tickets On Sale Now**

- **The Harvey Awards**
- **The Jungle Book**
- **2019-2020 season tickets**

**Tickets Go On Sale**

- **Xanadu Jr.:** June 10
- **The Servant of Two Masters:** June 24
- **Matilda The Musical:** August 5

## 2019-2020 Season Tickets On Sale Now!



An exciting new season is coming up! We have eight great shows scheduled, with the following subscription packages:

- **Signature Series** (*Matilda The Musical*, *The Savannah Sipping Society*, *Always... Patsy Cline*, *Father of the Bride*, and *Brigadoon*)
- **Ovation Series** (*Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, *Menopause The Musical*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*)
- **Three-Night Flex Pass:** This three-show Flex Pass is good for any evening performance of any three shows from the 2019-2020 Signature Series and Ovation Series. Beginning July 29, you may make your reservations at any time throughout the season. This discounted subscription package is \$75.

When you buy a season subscription, you get a discount off regular box office prices. The regular single-ticket price is \$27 for adults and \$13 for students (except *Menopause The Musical*, which is \$30 for adults and \$15 for students). Full-time college students with school ID are eligible to purchase student tickets.

The Signature Series and Ovation Series offer you a choice of either a Standing Reservation (same day/same seat for each show) or a Flex Pass (day and seat may vary for each show).

- **Renewing Subscribers:** The deadline to renew or request changes is June 7, 2019. If you want to change your day or seats, please send in your request for a change as soon as possible, but no later than June 7. Priority in seat assignment is based on length of time as a subscriber and subscriber donor history. Consideration is also given to patrons who contributed to the renovation campaign.
- **Changing Your Seat or Day?** It is very important for the Theatre to receive your requested change and renewal form by June 7 to allow us the best opportunity to accommodate your request.
- **New Subscribers:** Welcome! Send in your subscription order form as soon as possible, preferably before June 7. We will not assign seats until after July 1, but all orders for new subscribers are date-stamped when received and are processed in that order. Consideration is also given to new donors.
- **Donations:** Please consider adding a tax-deductible donation. Ticket revenue covers only a portion of the Theatre's operating expenses. Your gift will help support the arts in our community and the best quality live theatre.
- **Matching Gifts:** Your employer may even match your gift! For more information about matching gifts, contact Box Office Manager Craig James at (352) 236-2851, ext. 102, or [boxofficemanager@ocalacivictheatre.com](mailto:boxofficemanager@ocalacivictheatre.com)
- **Subscriber Benefits:** Information about our great subscriber benefits can be found in the season brochure, or contact the box office.
- **Summer Special:** Subscribers may purchase an unlimited number of advance tickets, at a discounted price of \$16 each (regular price \$20), for the Summer 2019 student production of *The Servant of Two Masters*. Subscribers may add this purchase to their season ticket order form.
- **Not Renewing?** Please call (352) 236-2274 or e-mail [jkirk@ocalacivictheatre.com](mailto:jkirk@ocalacivictheatre.com) if you do not plan to renew, so that we can release your seat to others.
- **Questions?** There will be a table in the lobby during *The Addams Family* with volunteers to answer questions and receive subscription orders. You also may call or come by the Theatre during regular box office hours (Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.). We will be happy to assist you and answer questions. Join us for the terrific 2019-2020 season!

## We're Going Digital!

# THE CURTAIN RAISER

Beginning with this issue, *The Curtain Raiser* will be printed every other month. *The Curtain Raiser* will soon become an all-digital newsletter, exclusively available online and by e-mail. It also will be an exciting new format with video and audio clips, full-color photos, and much more. Beginning this July, a limited number of text-only *Curtain Raisers* will be printed and available at the Theatre box office upon request.

You'll love this fantastic NEWSletter experience!



## Box Office Hours

Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

On Saturdays with a performance: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The lobby and box office open one hour before each performance.

Get information and buy tickets online any time at [www.ocalacivictheatre.com](http://www.ocalacivictheatre.com) (A service charge applies to online purchases.)

**Box Office: (352) 236-2274**  
**Administrative Offices:**  
**(352) 236-2851**

# ANNOUNCING THE 2019-2020 SEASON!

## SIGNATURE SERIES

### **Matilda: The Musical**

August 29 – September 22, 2019

### **The Savannah Sipping Society**

October 31 – November 24, 2019

### **Always... Patsy Cline**

January 30 – February 23, 2020

### **Father of the Bride**

March 12 – April 5, 2020

### **Brigadoon**

May 21 – June 14, 2020

## OVATION SERIES

### **Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike**

October 3-13, 2019

### **Menopause: The Musical**

January 2-19, 2020

### **To Kill a Mockingbird**

April 16-26, 2020

## SUMMER SPECIAL

### **The Servant of Two Masters**

July 26-28, 2019

## Letter From the New Director of Education

Terry LeCompte



Reflecting on *Build* – A Musical Revue created by C.A.S.T. (Creative Arts Student Troupe)

Through the fifteen years I worked as a Master Teaching Artist in New York City, I searched for a community where I could develop C.A.S.T. – a creative arts student troupe that would embrace the building of imaginative theatrical work together in dedicated ensemble fashion. Passionate young artists weren't difficult to find... still, C.A.S.T. remained a beautiful dream.

In July 2018, Mary Britt, the Executive Director of Ocala Civic Theatre, saw my resume and gave me a call. That conversation was well over two hours long. We bonded like superglue over our passion and commitment to young people and the arts. Confidence, compassion, and community were gifts that we both received and re-gifted abundantly as adults because of the impact the arts had on us as youth.

Days after that call, I was in Florida meeting Mary's OCT community – family, which she graciously extended to me. Six weeks later, my NYC life was packed up and in the rearview mirror of my Ford Escape. Some life decisions are so easy to make...

And just like that, everything can change.

The young artists of Ocala Civic Theatre, both long-time and brand-new, did more than embrace the dream of C.A.S.T. – they embodied it and were emboldened by the freedom of it. Through our rehearsal process they created a piece of living art, pushing beyond their comfort zones in so many ways that make me deeply proud – building their own confidence, compassion, and community while doing the same for one another.

I wish Mary were there to see it.

When she passed away, six months after I arrived, I told C.A.S.T. that Mary had purposely gifted us to one another. She had every confidence that we would BUILD beautiful things together. She was right, and this is just our beginning.

See you next month,  
Terry LeCompte

## NEW SEATS!

Phase One of Ocala Civic Theatre's exciting expansion began last summer with new seats! We have painted the auditorium, removed the old seats and replaced them with new, wider, more comfortable seats.

We would love to have you be a part of this growth and invite you to donate to this first phase. A campaign goal of \$200,000 has been set to cover the expenses of Phase One. At this point we have raised more than 85% of our goal.

Each new seat has an established donor or tribute value of \$500. Donors will be recognized with an individual plaque permanently attached to the seat. Donors who choose to contribute at a higher level will be recognized on a separate plaque. Gifts and pledges will be welcomed in any amount, and you may even make monthly payments. Call (352) 236-2274 and ask us for more details.


**We're roundin' y'all up for the**  
**ACT 4 ANNUAL MEETING**  
 with a touch of Western

There will be good food and entertainment by the  
**2019 Fran Clemons ACT 4 scholarship winners. Y'all please come to see**  
**what's up and happenin'.** July starts a new year for ACT 4 with lots of fun stuff!

**Tuesday, June 18**

The Annual Meeting will be held in the parish hall at Our Lady of the Springs  
 Catholic Church, 4047 NE 21st Street (the street behind Ocala Civic Theatre).  
 Tickets are \$17.  
 Call President Joan Gustafson at (352) 622-5315

**Buffet Menu**  
 pulled pork • sliced pork • barbecue chicken • tossed salad  
 macaroni and cheese • baked sweet potatoes • rolls • dessert • iced tea • lemonade

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and dinner is served at 6 p.m.  
**DRAWINGS • 50-50 JACKPOT • DOOR PRIZES.**

**TWO LUCKY ATTENDEES WILL EACH WIN A PAIR OF TICKETS TO ANY SHOW OF**  
**OCALA CIVIC THEATRE'S 2019-2020 SEASON!**

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## Notes from the Interim Executive Director

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Katrina Ploof



When I first moved to Florida 36 years ago I immediately fell in love with how sleepy the South felt in the summertime. Lots of porch-sitting and iced tea and trying to “catch a breeze.” Just the opposite from my home state of Maine, where things really pick up in the summertime. Folks can’t get enough of being outdoors, hiking and biking, swimming in our lakes and the amazing coastal waters. Maine is a state of stalwart citizens who really celebrate when the sun finally comes out and the temperature gets above 40!

But I think this year, my Southern summer feels a little bit more like my summers in Maine. As I looked over our calendar for the summer months here at Ocala Civic Theatre, I thought to myself, “So much for sitting on the back porch catching a breeze.”

We are going to be rocking and rolling here this summer as our facility is filled to the brim with young people! Our Education Department is offering some amazing summer performance camps and general theatre camps.

We will travel into the jungle and the astonishing mind of Rudyard Kipling as our youngest actors adventure into *The Jungle Book* with performances set for June 21-22. And we will revisit the ‘80s (leg warmers and big hair will be there for all to see!) as our students explore Greek mythology and learn how to roller-skate and sing at the same time in the crazy-fun roller-disco musical *Xanadu Jr.* July 12-13.

Second Stage is a program developed by our Education Department to serve and support our actors ages 16-21 as they grow and develop their theatre skills into adulthood. This year our wonderful young adults will be spending the summer with the wacky characters from Goldoni’s crazy comedy *The Servant of Two Masters*. This sassy, smart, and light-speed comedy plays on our stage July 26-28.

Besides all of these performance opportunities, Marion County’s young people have four general summer theatre camps to choose from. Families can choose a full-day (ages 9-13) or half-day camp (ages 5-8) with imaginative themes including fantasy films, time travel, legends, and the high seas. Professional teaching artists, including music and movement specialists, will take our students on journeys designed to open the mind and free creativity.

So, it looks like our beautiful building will be cool and buzzing with activity. We will be full of young people passionate about the theatre and the performing arts. That sounds like the perfect summer to me – even if it might be a bit busy in here. If your family has not taken advantage of our summer programming, now is the time to sign up and join us.

And as I said earlier, so much for sitting on the back porch. If you find any of us actually on the back porch this summer, it will be because we are out there trying to catch our breath!!!

Warm Regards,  
Katrina Ploof  
Interim Executive Director

## Mary Britt Memorial Fund

The Mary Britt Memorial Fund has been established to benefit Ocala Civic Theatre. In addition, Mary’s estate has committed to match total donations up to a total amount of \$100,000. If you wish to contribute, contact the Theatre at (352) 236-2274. Online donation also is available at [www.ocalacivictheatre.com](http://www.ocalacivictheatre.com).

### 2018-2019 Board of Directors

#### President

Philip Leppert

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#### Treasurer

George Kirkland

#### Secretary

Glenda “Rusty” Belote, Ph.D.

### Members

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Garry D. Adel       | Sarah Lankester    |
| Deborah Barckhausen | Joy Newkirk        |
| Jo Crowder          | Andrea Pizzuti     |
| Jeffry David        | Darrell Riley      |
| Ana Dunwoody        | Gordon Schwenk, MD |
| Leslie Hagan, MD    |                    |

### Staff

#### Interim Executive Director

Katrina Ploof

#### Production Manager/Technical Director

Dave Berardi

#### Assistant Technical Director

William Spratt

#### General Technician/Custodian

Ken Noble

#### Scene Shop Intern

Joey Coombs

#### Administrative Assistant

Janice Kirk

#### Box Office Manager/Volunteer Coordinator

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#### Box Office Assistants

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Terry LeCompte

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Larry Kiernan

#### Marketing Assistant

Melody Murphy

#### Social Media Coordinator/Concessions

Sherree Gerard

#### Concessions

Jim Foster

Kelsey Plante

#### Comptroller

Marilyn Price

#### Costume Designer

Eryn Brooks Brewer



4337 E. Silver Springs Blvd.  
Ocala, FL 34470

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SEASON 2018 - 2019 ■ JUNE 2019

# THE CURTAIN RAISER

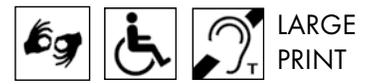
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| SUNDAY                                   | MONDAY   | TUESDAY       | WEDNESDAY                                | THURSDAY                                 | FRIDAY                                      | SATURDAY  |
|--|--|---------------|--|--|---|---|
| <b>JUNE</b>                              |  |               |  |  |   | <sup>1</sup> <i>Addams Family</i><br>2pm & 8pm    |
| <sup>2</sup> <i>Addams Family</i><br>2pm | <sup>3</sup>   | <sup>4</sup>  | <sup>5</sup> <i>Addams Family</i><br>8pm | <sup>6</sup> <i>Addams Family</i><br>8pm | <sup>7</sup> <i>Addams Family</i><br>8pm    | <sup>8</sup> <i>Addams Family</i><br>2pm          |
| <sup>9</sup> <i>Addams Family</i><br>2pm | <sup>10</sup> Tickets on sale for <i>Xanadu Jr. Coming Home</i><br>7pm | <sup>11</sup> | <sup>12</sup>                            | <sup>13</sup>                            | <sup>14</sup>                               | <sup>15</sup> Harvey Awards<br>6pm                |
| <sup>16</sup>                            | <sup>17</sup>  | <sup>18</sup> | <sup>19</sup>                            | <sup>20</sup>                            | <sup>21</sup> <i>The Jungle Book</i><br>7pm | <sup>22</sup> <i>The Jungle Book</i><br>2pm & 7pm |
| <sup>23</sup>                            | <sup>24</sup> Tickets on sale for <i>The Servant of Two Masters</i>    | <sup>25</sup> | <sup>26</sup>                            | <sup>27</sup>                            | <sup>28</sup>                               | <sup>29</sup>                                     |
| <sup>30</sup>                            |  |               |  |  |   |   |

The Curtain Raiser is the official newsletter of The Marion Players, Inc., dba Ocala Civic Theatre. The Theatre is located at 4337 East Silver Springs Boulevard, Ocala, Florida, 34470. The Curtain Raiser is published monthly and is available free of charge to anyone who is interested in our activities. For information about the organization or to be added to the e-mail list, call (352) 236-2274.

Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts & Culture.

| SUNDAY                              | MONDAY        | TUESDAY       | WEDNESDAY     | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY                              | SATURDAY                                  |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
|                                     | <sup>1</sup>  | <sup>2</sup>  | <sup>3</sup>  | <sup>4</sup> Happy 4th of July!<br>Theatre closed | <sup>5</sup>                        | <sup>6</sup>                              |
| <sup>7</sup>                        | <sup>8</sup>  | <sup>9</sup>  | <sup>10</sup> | <sup>11</sup>                                     | <sup>12</sup> <i>Xanadu</i><br>7pm  | <sup>13</sup> <i>Xanadu</i><br>2pm & 7pm  |
| <sup>14</sup>                       | <sup>15</sup> | <sup>16</sup> | <sup>17</sup> | <sup>18</sup>                                     | <sup>19</sup>                       | <sup>20</sup>                             |
| <sup>21</sup>                       | <sup>22</sup> | <sup>23</sup> | <sup>24</sup> | <sup>25</sup>                                     | <sup>26</sup> <i>Servant</i><br>8pm | <sup>27</sup> <i>Servant</i><br>2pm & 8pm |
| <sup>28</sup> <i>Servant</i><br>2pm | <sup>29</sup> | <sup>30</sup> | <sup>31</sup> | <b>JULY</b>                                       |                                     |   |



If you have any questions, please contact Katrina Ploof at (352) 236-2851, ext. 104, or InterimED@ocalacivictheatre.com.