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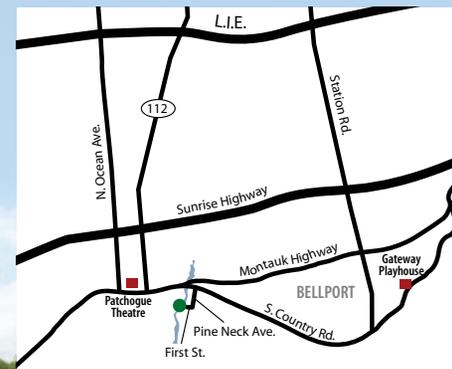
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Since we are a regional theater, with employees representing four theatrical unions, we have the opportunity to hire actors and artistic staff with Broadway and National Tour experience. *Dreamgirls* is directed by John Dietrich, whose credits include four years as Director/Choreographer for *The Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular*, national tours of *Singin' In The Rain* and *Beauty and the Beast*, and an international tour of *The Wizard of Oz*. *Dreamgirls* cast members have performed on Broadway in *Miss Saigon*, *The Color Purple*, *All Shook Up*, *Brooklyn*, *Chicago*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Show Boat*, *Hairspray*, *The Adventures Of Tom Sawyer* and with the Metropolitan Opera!

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Music By Henry Krieger

Original Broadway Production Directed and Choreographed by Michael Bennett

Produced on Broadway by
Michael Bennett, Robert Avian, Geffen Records, and The Shubert Organization

Starring

ASHLEY BETTON	REGGE ALLAN BRUCE	TRISHA JEFFREY
TYRICK WILTEZ JONES	KINGSLEY LEGGS	
ERICH McMILLAN-McCALL	JENELLE LYNN RANDALL	NIKKI STEPHENSON

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PAUL ALLAN

Associate Producer

JEFF BELLANTE

General Manager

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Artistic Director

ROBIN JOY ALLAN

Production Manager

BRIAN LOESCH

Company Manager

ERIN KRAUS

Associate Choreographer

MICHELLE WEBER

Costume Coordinator

STEVEN STINES

Wardrobe Supervisor

MARIANNE DOMINY

Lighting Design

DOUG HARRY

Scenic Design

KELLY TIGHE

Sound Design

CODY SPENCER

Production Stage Manager

DOM RUGGIERO*

Musical Direction

DARREN LEDBETTER

Directed and Choreographed by

JOHN DIETRICH

Dreamgirls is presented by special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc
560 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10022

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(in order of appearance)

Stepp SistersCANDY SMITH*, TRISHA JEFFREY*,
 KRISTEN CELESTE HENRY, LAUREN HOOPER*
 Charlene.....MELISSA VANPELT
 JoannDENISE ANDERSEN
 Marty.....REGGE ALLAN BRUCE*
 Curtis TaylorERICH McMILLAN-McCALL*
 Deena JonesASHLEY BETTON*
 Lorrell RobinsonJENELLE LYNN RANDALL*
 Effie Melody WhiteNIKKI STEPHENSON
 M.C.JESSE MEANS*
 Tiny Joe Dixon.....DARON LAMAR WILLIAMS
 C.C.TYRICK WILTEZ JONES*
 Little AlbertJAMES CLARK
 The Tru-Tones.....LEAJATO ROBINSON*, JAMAL GREEN, ANTUAN RAIMONE
 Jimmy (James Thunder) EarlyKINGSLEY LEGGS*
 The James Early BandLEAJATO ROBINSON*, DARON LAMAR WILLIAMS,
 JAMES CLARK, JAMAL GREEN, ANTUAN RAIMONE,
 STEVEN DOUGLAS STEWART
 Michelle Morris.....TRISHA JEFFREY*
 Wayne.....JESSE MEANS*
 DaveSTEVEN DOUGLAS STEWART
 SweetheartsLINDSEY CLARK, NICOLE DiMATTEI
 FrankLEAJATO ROBINSON*
 Jerry Norman.....JAMAL GREEN
 CarlANTUAN RAIMONE
 Five TuxedosLEAJATO ROBINSON*, DARON LAMAR WILLIAMS,
 JAMES CLARK, JAMAL GREEN, ANTUAN RAIMONE
 Les StylesCANDY SMITH*, DENISE ANDERSEN
 Edna BurkeLINDSEY CLAYTON
 Dwight.....STEVEN DOUGLAS STEWART
 Stage ManagerJAMAL GREEN
 Mr. Morgan.....JAMAL GREEN
 Security GuardDARON LAMAR WILLIAMS

ENSEMBLE

DENISE ANDERSEN, JAMES CLARK, LINDSEY CLAYTON, NICOLE DiMATTEI, JAMAL GREEN,
 KRISTEN CELESTE HENRY, LAUREN HOOPER*, TRISHA JEFFREY*, JESSE MEANS*,
 ANTUAN RAIMONE, LEAJATO ROBINSON*, CANDY SMITH*, STEVEN DOUGLAS STEWART,
 MELISSA VANPELT, DARON LAMAR WILLIAMS



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 the American Federation of Musicians.



*Actors employed in this production are members of
 Actors' Equity Association, the union of Professional
 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

ssdc

The Director/Choreographer is a member of the Society of Stage Directors
 and Choreographers, Inc., an independent national labor union.

UNDERSTUDIES

Curtis TaylorJESSE MEANS
 Deena JonesKRISTEN CELESTE HENRY
 Lorrell Robinson.....TRISHA JEFFREY
 C.C.JAMES CLARK
 Michelle MorrisLAUREN HOOPER

MUSICIANS

Conductor/Piano.....DARREN LEDBETTER
 Assistant Conductor/Keyboard 2.....BRENDAN WHITING
 Bass.....CATHERINE O'MALLEY
 GuitarJOE LOSCHIAVO
 PercussionBRIAN ROLSTON
 DrumsPETE DESALVO
 Reed 1BOB DALPIAZ
 Reed 2.....MIKE KENDROT
 TrumpetJOE BOARDMAN
 TrumpetTOM MANUEL

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

"I'm Looking for Something Baby"Stepp Sisters, Curtis, Little Albert & The Tru-Tones, C.C., Effie, Dina, Lorrell

"Tiny Joe Dixon"Tiny Joe Dixon

"Move (You're Steppin' On My Heart)"Effie, Deena, Lorrell

"Fake Your Way to the Top"Jimmy, Effie, Deena, Lorrell

"Cadillac Car (Aria)"Curtis, C.C., Jimmy, Marty, The Band

"On the Road – Cadillac Car"C.C., Jimmy, Marty, Effie, Deena, Lorrell, Ensemble

"Movin' Out"Ensemble

"Cadillac Car"Dave and The Sweethearts

"Steppin' to the Bad Side"Curtis, C.C., Jimmy, Wayne, Effie, Deena, Lorrell, Ensemble

"Party – Party"Curtis, C.C., Jimmy, Effie, Lorrell, Ensemble

"Baby – Baby"Jimmy, Effie, Deena, Lorrell, Ensemble

"Family"Effie, C.C., Lorrell, Jimmy, Curtis, Deena

"Show Biz"Ensemble

"Dreamgirls"Deena, Effie, Lorrell

"Reporters"Deena, Effie, Lorrell, Ensemble

"Heavy"Deena, Effie, Lorrell

"Walkin' Down the Strip"Jimmy

"It's All Over"Curtis, C.C., Jimmy, Effie, Deena, Lorrell, Michelle

"I'm Not Going"Effie

"Love, Love Me Baby/Showbiz"Deena, Lorell, Michelle, Ensemble

INTERMISSION

ACT II

"Opening Act II/Dreamgirls (Reprise)"Jimmy, Deena, Lorrell, Michelle, Ensemble

"I Am Changing"Effie

"Vogue"Curtis, C.C, Deena, Lorrell, Michelle, Photographers

"You Are My Dream"Curtis, Deena

"Ain't No Party"Jimmy, Lorrell, The Five Tuxedos

"I Meant You No Harm"Jimmy, C.C., Deena, Lorrell, Michelle

"Rap"Jimmy, Frank, Curtis, Lorrell, Ensemble

"I Miss You, Old Friend"Marty, C.C., Effie, The Les Styles

"One Night Only"Deena, Lorrell, Michelle, Curtis, Ensemble

"Chicago"C.C, Marty, Mr. Morgan, Curtis, Effie, Deena, Lorrell, Michelle

"Hard to Say Goodbye"Curtis, Deena, Lorrell, Michelle, Effie



DENISE ANDERSEN



ASHLEY BETTON



REGGE ALLAN BRUCE



JAMES CLARK



LINDSEY CLAYTON



NICOLE DIMATTEI



JAMAL GREEN



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DENISE ANDERSEN (*Ensemble*) is excited to be a part of *Dreamgirls*. She was born and raised in Copenhagen, Denmark, where she's been singing and dancing with numerous companies. Before residing in New York City, Denise performed in Japan and California. Denise was last seen as Belle in *Days of '98 Show* in Skagway, Alaska. In NYC, Denise danced with the Alvin Ailey Company, as well as Nanette Bearden Dance Company. She also recorded a children's educational video for Scholastic, and made her solo debut at Don't Tell Mama's, as a jazz singer. Denise also got to play Billie Holiday and Cab Calloway in *Cotton Club Queer* at The Museum of the City of New York.

ASHLEY BETTON (*Deena*) is proud to be making her debut at the Gateway Playhouse. She has been in such productions as *Oliver* (Nancy), *Peep Show* (Peep Diva), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Titania), and *The Laramie Project*. She is a graduate of the University of Northern Colorado where she majored in Musical Theatre. She would like to thank Shelly Shullman and her cast members for their wonderful work. She would also like to thank her parents for their love and support. She can also wiggle her ears.

REGGE ALLAN BRUCE (*Marty*) is pleased to spend the summer at the Gateway Playhouse performing in one of his all time favorites, *Dreamgirls!* Special thanks to the wonderful staff and the great company. Broadway: *The Capeman*, *Adventures of Tom Sawyer* (Workshop). Television: *As the World Turns* (Recurring), numerous national commercials.

JAMES CLARK (*Little Albert/Ensemble/Understudy C.C.*) is a recent graduate of AMDA, NY. His credits include; Tours: *Hairspray* (Duane), *Journey to Freedom* (Michael Jackson). Regional: *Dreamgirls*, *Cole Porter the Pirate* (Prince Music Theatre P.A.) *Leaving Monticello* (Signature Theatre V.A.) *Aida*, *Ragtime*, *Miss Saigon*, *Hot Mikado* (Bucks Country Playhouse). James is motivated by Philippians 4:13. He wants to thank his mother and all of his amazing friends and family. Proud new A.E.A. member.

LINDSEY CLAYTON (*Sweetheart/Ensemble*) couldn't be more excited to come back to Gateway Playhouse this summer after playing Gloria in last years production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie!* National tours

include: *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (Dorothy Shaw), *Grease*, starring Frankie Avalon (performed Marty, Patty and Cha Cha!) and *My One and Only*. Favorite regional credits: Miss Flannery, u/s Muzzy in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Carousel Dinner Theatre), Woman #3 in *And the World Goes Round* and Hedy LaRue in *How to Succeed...Business* (ABT), Babette in *Beauty and the Beast* (La Comedia) and Liz, u/s Velma in *Chicago* (Seacoast Rep). Lindsey would like to thank Robin, Mary G, her family and friends, and her favorite meerkat Tim (with no El)

NICOLE DIMATTEI (*Sweetheart/Ensemble*) *Dreamgirls* marks Nicole's second production with Gateway Playhouse; the first being this past season's performance of *A Christmas Carol*. Nicole has performed in the shows and parades at Walt Disney World, including the roles of Brooke in *Noises Off*, and Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Other credits include *Guys and Dolls*, *South Pacific*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Man of La Mancha*, and *Godspell*. Nicole graduated from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, with a focus in musical theatre. She wishes to thank her friends and family for all their love and support, and the good Lord above for all the answered prayers. This show is for her bestest, who will always be her favorite dreamgirl.

JAMAL GREEN (*Ensemble*) is a native of Augusta, GA with a B.F.A. in Musical Theater from Elon University in North Carolina. Jamal currently dances with the Rod Rodgers Dance Company located on the Lower East Side. Theater credits include: *Ragtime* (Papermill Playhouse), *Evita* (Yorktown Stage), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Main Street Theater), *Romeo and Juliet* (Blunt Theatre Co.) and the third priest to the right in the Metropolitan Opera's production of *Don Carlos*. Go Braves!

KRISTEN CELESTE HENRY (*Ensemble/Understudy Deena*) native of New Orleans, LA, received her B.A. in Classical Vocal Performance at New York University where she received a vocal scholarship. She also studied scene and recital work in Urbana, Italy's Centro Studi Lirica under the guidance of the renowned Joan Patenaude-Yarnell of Manhattan School of Music. She has performed at the Apollo and has been seen in shows such as *Parade*, *Ragtime*, and *Scrooge*; however her most recent roles include Titania, in *Dream* as well as Maggie in *Cat on a Hot*

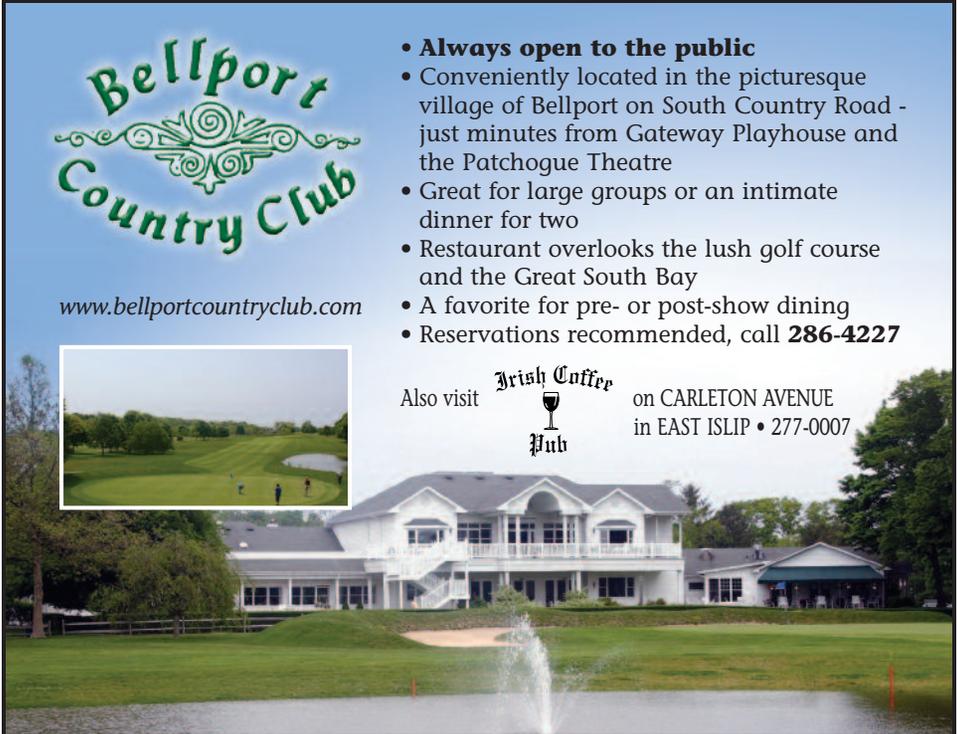
Tin Roof. She has made her first album as a recording artist entitled "Let me In" and is currently in the works of her second. Kristen will be making her debut at the Gateway Playhouse and is grateful to be working with such talented and amazing people.

LAUREN HOOPER (*Ensemble/Understudy Michelle*) just recently starred in the Off Broadway musical, *A Night at the Alhambra Café*. Her Regional Theater work includes, among others, *Ragtime*, *Parade*, *The King and I*, and *Chicago*. Lauren just made her film debut starring in the independent film, *King of Paper Chasin'* (visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Fgxv8rdMRo>). Lauren is a proud member of A.E.A. and a graduate of the University of Michigan's Musical Theatre Department.

TRISHA JEFFREY (*Michelle/Understudy Lorrell*) was most recently seen as Chrysothemis in *Electra* with the Classical Theatre of Harlem. Broadway credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* and *All Shook Up*, both original cast recordings. Regional credits: Emmie in *Caroline, Or Change* at The Studio Theatre (2007 Helen Hayes

Award Nominee for Best Supporting Actress); Ti Moune in *Once On This Island*; Dionne in *Hair*; Lucy in *Jekyll & Hyde*. Earlier this year, Trisha took part in the workshop/reading of *Prairie: The Musical* (w/ Melissa Gilbert & Patrick Swayze), after returning from Stuttgart, Germany where she performed with Harald Wohlfart's *Palazzo Variety Show* as the "Sangerin Die Nacht". Other New York credits include *Warrior* for NYMF; Delia in *Irrationals* at ATA; *Medea*, *Lysistrata*, *Macbeth* for Classical Theatre of Harlem. Trisha is a proud member of Actor's Equity.

TRYICK WILTEZ JONES (C.C.) is happy to be here at the Gateway Playhouse. Broadway: *Hairspray*. Tours: *Seussical the Musical* (1st Natl.), *Fosse* (1st International & Japan), and *Showboat* (Natl.). He has been seen and heard all over the world in and on Regional Productions, Television, Voiceovers, and Workshops. Earlier this year, he completed his first leading role in an Independent. CROSS YOUR FINGERS! :) God Bless.



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KINGSLEY LEGGS (*Jimmy (James Thunder) Early*) is very happy to return to the Gateway Playhouse, where he appeared in *Miss Saigon* and *The Full Monty*. He originated the role of Mister in the world premiere and Broadway productions of *The Color Purple*. He also appeared on Broadway in *Miss Saigon*. Touring credits include: *Ragtime*, *Miss Saigon*, *It Ain't Nothing But the Blues* and *Forbidden Hollywood*. Regional Theater credits: Alliance Theater, Prince Music Theater, Baltimore Centerstage, Denver Center Theater, Seattle Rep., 5th Avenue Theater, Goodman Theater, to name a few. TV: *One Life to Live* (ABC), *City of Angels* (CBS). Kingsley's voice can be heard on The Original Broadway cast album of *The Color Purple* on Angel Records. Special thanks to my angel, Anika.

ERICH MCMILLAN-MCCALL (*Curtis Taylor*) Broadway: *The Who's Tommy*, *Chicago*. National Tours: *Ragtime*, *Sunset Blvd.*, *Dreamgirls*, *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *Jelly's Last Jam*. Many thanks to the Gateway family for your loving kindness. Thanks to my friends and family for their unconditional love and support.

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JESSE MEANS (*Wayne/M.C./Ensemble/Understudy Curtis*) is excited to be at Gateway for the first time. Most recently Jesse co-starred in the Crossroads Theatre staged reading of *Great Googly Moo*. Other stage roles include, Mr. Snow in the Broadway National Tour of *Carousel*, Teen Angel in *Grease* (North Carolina Theatre), and Nomax in *Five Guys Named Moe* (GeVa Theatre). Earlier this year Jesse was featured on the ABC Late Night Show, *Jimmy Kimmel Live*, in a comedy spoof as "America's Greatest Black Yodeler." Other TV credits include *One Life To Live*, *The David Letterman Show*, and NBC's *Today Show*. Jesse has been "giving back" by teaching music in the NYC public school system and greatly anticipates *Dreamgirls* with this wonderful cast and crew at Gateway.

ANTUAN RAIMONE (*Ensemble/Dance Captain*) Currently, the vacation swing for the Off-Broadway, soon to be Broadway hit *In the Heights*, Antuan is happy to be spending another summer here at Gateway. A returning visitor, Antuan made his Gateway debut last season in *Sweet Charity* and *La Cage Aux Folles*. Other favorite credits include: *Radio*

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City Christmas Spectacular (Nashville 2006), *Kiss Me Kate* (Paul/Dance Captain) at Arrow Rock Lyceum. Thanks first and foremost to God for this wonderful gift He has given me, my family and Fella, tap x 3.

JENELLE LYNN RANDALL (*Lorrell*) is excited to be playing Lorrell (finally). Jenelle was last seen on Broadway in *All Shook Up* and the National Tour of *Brooklyn*. Jenelle's other credits include: *Once on This Island*, *The Wiz*, *All My Children*, and *Law and Order*, to name a few. Jenelle would like to thank God and her parents for their love and support.

LEAJATO ROBINSON (*Ensemble*) A.E.A. member, a native of Wisconsin, is a four year graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy (IAA) where he received the "Young Artist Award", and a graduate of the Juilliard School with a B.F.A. in Dance. He has worked with distinguished dance choreographers such as Paul Taylor, Elisa Monte, and Susan Marshall and has performed in Europe and the United States as a professional dancer. Mr. Robinson joined the cast of the hit show *Tap Dogs* in New York City and performed the

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principal role of "The Foreman" and "The Enforcer" in the United States, Europe, Bali, Indonesia, and the Stratosphere Hotel in Las Vegas. Other credits: Off-off Broadway: *MusicalsTonight* (Shinbone Alley) Regional: Pete in *Crazy For You* (North Shore Music Theater), Lucky in *Dames at Sea*, Snoopy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and Satchel Paige in *Play to Win* (TheaterworksUSA). Love you Dad, Mom, and thanks to Michael J. Kalinyen. Psalm 18: 1-3

CANDY SMITH (*Ensemble*) is a black and gold native from Pittsburgh, PA, who currently lives in Brooklyn, NY. This is Mrs. Smith's first time visiting and performing in Long Island. She has performed in such productions as: *Little Willie Armstrong Jones* (Estelle), *Streakin'* (Tina Turner), *Cinderella* (featuring Leslie Uggams), the U.S. tour of *Junie B. Junes* (Lucille) and *Sarafina*. Candy would love to thank her two "perfect" parents and all her wonderful siblings and friends for all their love, support, food, and the couple of dollars I borrowed and never gave back. Thanks!

NIKKI STEPHENSON (*Effie*) is very excited to be here at the Gateway Playhouse. Nikki is originally from Jeffersonville, IN and now resides in New York. She is a graduate of the University of Louisville with B.F.A. in Acting. National Tours: *Fame-The Musical* (Ms. Sherman), *Hairspray* (Dynamite/U.S. Motormouth). Regional Credits: *Caroline, or Change* (Radio), *Swing* (Vocalist), *Beehive* (Aretha Franklin/Tina Turner), *Angels In America* (Harper), *Antigone*. (Antigone). As of 7/27/07 at midnight, Nikki will be a new member of Actor's Equity Association. She would like to thank her family and friends for their undying love and support, Thank you Jason, "my rock". Finally, thanks to the cast and creatives for sharing their God-Sent talent. Thank you God for the gift of song.

STEVEN DOUGLAS STEWART (*Dave/Ensemble*) is thrilled to be returning to the Gateway Playhouse after performing in this season's *Cold As Ice*. Hailing from a small town in Texas, Steven has now become a proud New Yorker. His other regional credits include: *A Chorus Line* (Mike); *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Lumiere); *Cats* (Skimbleshanks); *Forever Plaid* (Sparky); *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (Snoopy); and *Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA*. Steven holds a

(Continued on page 23)

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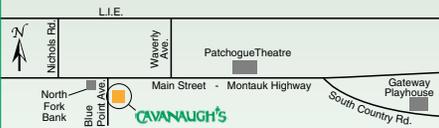
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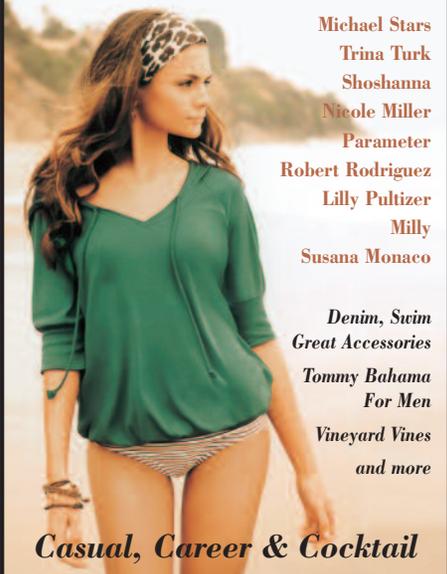
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WHO'S WHO

B.A. in Musical Theatre from West Texas A&M University. He would like to thank God, as well as, his family and friends, without whom he would be nothing.

MELISSA VANPELT (*Charlene/ Ensemble*) is a native from Memphis, TN and proud to be making her Gateway Playhouse debut. After graduating from AMDA (The American Musical and Dramatic Academy), Melissa has been seen in *Purlie* (Lutiebelle), *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Charlaine role), *Once On This Island*, and *Fame*. She was most recently seen in the Networks tour of *Hairspray* as "Little Inez" and a "Dynamite". Along with theater credits, she has also been a featured vocalist on various cruise lines and amusement parks, including Cedar Point, where she won the IAAPA award for Best Female Performer. Melissa thanks God for her family, especially my Mom, husband Johnathan, and son Johnathan II.

DARON LAMAR WILLIAMS (*Tiny Joe Dixon/ Ensemble*) is pleased to be making his debut with Gateway Playhouse. Some of his favorite roles include

Man 1 in *Songs For a New World* at the Eureka Theatre in San Francisco, Rev. Hightower/Mrs. Taylor in *Bat Boy The Musical* at The Victoria Theatre in San Francisco, Eat Moe in *Five Guys Named Moe* at Oregon Cabaret Theatre, Ensemble in *Ragtime* and Simon/Baker in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* both at The San Mateo Performing Arts Center of San Mateo, CA, The Hawker in *The Who's Tommy* at the Fox Theater in Redwood City, CA, Nathan/Harker Swing in *Dessa Rose* at Theaterworks in Palo Alto, CA and Ensemble in *Showboat* with Lamplighters U.S.A. DaRon has also appeared in the Michael Jackson video "Cry." Big thanks to Mommy, Daddy, Grandma and Papa!

PAUL ALLAN (*Producer*) has been involved in theatre since before he can remember. In the early days of Gateway, he spent his summers following around his grandfather who had his hands full trying to make ends meet - running a theatre in the 60's. Paul grew up here, looking forward to each summer and being able to do more each year. By the time he was a teenager

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he was beginning to take charge of maintaining this 7 acre complex as well as becoming an integral part of the back stage crew. In the 80's as a young Gateway producer, Paul spent part of the winter months working in NY on many off-Broadway shows - serving as technical supervisor, production manager, and/or show carpenter. At the same time he co-founded a touring company whose shows traveled throughout the US and other countries worldwide. The set rental company was also founded at this time and Gateway scenery

is constantly being trucked to various theatres across the country. The main focus, though, is still the productions he produces here for our patrons.

JOHN DIETRICH (Director/Choreographer) has more recently been the Director and Choreographer for *The Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular* in New York from 2002 - 2005 as well as a Director/Choreographer for *Rockette Special Events* for the past 12 years. He has been involved with

Radio City Music Hall for 17 years developing and creating new numbers for the Rockettes and directing special events for Radio City Productions including the *NBC Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade*, the *NBC Today Show*, the *2000 Presidential Inauguration* and the *1999 Gala Reopening of Radio City Music Hall NBC Special*. Other recent projects include *ABC Daytime Salutes Broadway* at the New Amsterdam Theatre, the *All My Children 35th Anniversary Concert*, *Mack and Mabel In Concert* at Lincoln Center, the *CBS-TV Special One World Jam*, the National Pepsi-Cola industrial and The Federated Department Store Industrial both in Las Vegas, the RSA conference in San Francisco, concert work for Dolly Parton and her brother Randy, as well as writing, directing and choreographing projects for Dollywood Entertainment. He spent over 3 years with the Walt Disney Co. developing entertainment for their newest theme park Tokyo DisneySea. Other credits include directing the A&E TV special *Gershwin On Ice* featuring Dorothy Hamill and the International Tour of Disney On Ice *The Little Mermaid*. He has a wide range of theatrical directing and choreographing credits including National Tours of *Singin' In The Rain*, *Beauty and the Beast* and an international tour of *The Wizard of Oz*.

DARREN LEDBETTER (Musical Director/Conductor/Keyboards) All as Musical Director/Conductor. New York: *The Awakening* (World Premiere, Cast Recording). National Tour: *GREASE* with Frankie Avalon. Regional: *Almost Heaven: The Songs of John Denver*, *Flora the Red Menace*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Oklahoma*, *The Music Man*, *Romance Romance*, *The Last Five Years*, *Pippin*, *Footloose*, *Miss Saigon*, *Sweeney Todd*. Darren has worked for both Viacom/Paramount Entertainment

and Walt Disney Creative Entertainment. Countless readings, arrangements, orchestrations and cabaret performances throughout the U.S. and Canada. Training: Point Park University and Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music. Thanks: Family and friends for years of support and laughter.

MICHELLE WEBER (Associate Choreographer) Broadway: *Ring of Fire* (Associate/Resident Choreographer), Regional: *The 60's Project* (Goodspeed Opera House- Associate Choreographer), *Cheer! The Musical* (Assoc. Choreographer) National Tour: *Contact* (1st National/Swing), NY: *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular* (Dance Captain, Swing) *Buskers Alley*-York Theater (Associate Choreographer) Tour: *West Side Story* (Theater League). Film/ Television: *American Idol*- Ford music video (choreographer), *Laughing Pizza*- Today Show (assistant choreographer), Michael Jackson's *GHOSTS* (Gypsy), *The Man Who Wasn't There*, *Three to Tango*, *Everybody Loves Raymond*, *Ally McBeal*, *American Music Awards*, and the *MTV Music Awards*.

ROBIN JOY ALLAN (Casting and Artistic Director) has been the Casting Director at Gateway for the last twelve years. Four years ago, she became the Artistic Director at Gateway which includes not only several Manhattan excursions to cast all productions, but involves planning advertising strategies for all productions, hiring creative staff, designing season ads, posters and booklets, overseeing artistic aspects of each production, costumes, sets and wigs, overseeing Children's Theatre, beautifying the Gateway property from choosing paint colors for actor housing, to adding new perennial floral additions to the Gateway landscape. Prior to moving back home into the won-



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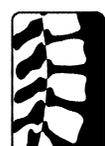
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derland setting of her childhood, she did thrive in Corporate America, spending five years in Los Angeles, casting several TV pilots, MOW's and feature films. You'll find her name on the feature films; *Parenthood*, *When Harry Met Sally*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Side Out* and *Ghost*. Along with her Artistic and Casting Director duties, she is the force behind Gateway's Acting School Division, where she teaches the advanced classes. This is her most impassioned work. Her daughter Hayley, inspires her every day. She hopes her effort is good enough to honor her family, and their amazing effort all these years to bring theatre with integrity to Long Island.

DOUG HARRY (*Lighting Designer*) is happy to be designing another Gateway production. His past credits here include last year's *La Cage aux Folles*, *Aida*, *Carousel*, *Cats*, *Fosse*, *Miss Saigon*, *Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Ragtime*, *Titanic*, and *Dracula the Rock Opera*. Doug holds a degree in Theatre Production and Stage Management from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, UK. He is currently the Production Manager for New Haven's International Festival. And his company 'DarkSide Design' does corporate work for General Motors, Six Flags Theme Parks, New Haven Symphony, Calvin Klein and numerous other clients. Doug lives in Connecticut and is married with two children, two dogs, various cats and a toad. He very much enjoys his short vacations in Bellport!!

CODY SPENCER (*Sound Designer*) Most recently, Cody has been a freelance Audio Engineer in New York City, working in many venues including The Rainbow Room, The Box, and The Museum of Natural History. He was the Sound Board Operator for the Off-Broadway productions of *La Magnani* and *Adrift in Macao*, the new Christopher Durang musical that was performed at Primary Stages. This was after he returned from the National Tour of *Rent*, where he was the Monitor Engineer. Cody spent last summer as the Audio Engineer here at the Gateway Playhouse. He got his start and spent four years at Stages St. Louis. Some of his favorite credits include: *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *1776*, and *The Fantasticks*. Cody would like to thank his friends and family, as well as Paul Allan, for all their support and also his girlfriend, Erin, even though she never thanks him in her bios.

KELLY TIGHE (*Scenic Designer*) Off-Broadway: *The Fantasticks*, *Almost Heaven*. National Tours: *Movin' Out*. Regional: *Aida*, *Cats*, *The Full Monty*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Gateway Playhouse); *Beauty and the Beast*, *Grease*, *Titanic*, *The Who's Tommy*, *My Fair Lady* (Contra Costa Musical Theatre); *Annie*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Joseph/Dreamcoat* (Ohio's Carousel Dinner Theater); *West Side Story*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (Diablo Light Opera Co.); *Around The World In 80 Days*, *The Pavilion*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Center Repertory Co.); *The Laramie Project*, *A Midsummer Nights Dream* (PPAS/ NYC). Mr. Tighe served as the resident Scenic Designer for Western Michigan's Cherry County Playhouse (*The Music Man* starring William Katt and Josie DeGuzman, and the world premiere of *Will's Women* starring Amanda McBroom), as well as Center Rep in the San Francisco Bay Area. Television: *Sunday Night Woah!* (starring Mo Rocca) for Animal Planet as well as several spots for Verizon, Kit Kat, Disney, and the Oxygen network. Awards and recognitions: Northern California's "Shellie", Drama-Logue, and the S.F. Bay Area's Outer Critic's Circle. Kelly resides in New York City.

DOM RUGGIERO (*Production Stage Manager*) a member of Actors Equity, has been stage managing for the past 27 years. Broadway PSM credits include: *The Gathering* starring Hal Linden, *Borscht Belt on Broadway* starring Bruce Adler, Mal Z. Lawrence, and *Ain't That A Kick In The Head - The Music of Sammy Cahn* directed by Chet Walker. 1st National Tours include: *The Cole Porter Songbook* starring Melba Moore, *The Irving Berlin Songbook* starring Carole Lawrence, *Greetings! Shalom Aleichem Lives* starring Judy Kaye, Bruce Adler and Theo Bikel. Dom has stage-managed across the US, Europe, South America and Australia with *Ain't Misbehavin*, *Phantom*, *Anything Goes*, and *Song & Dance*, among many others. He is no stranger to the Gateway Playhouse, having begun his involvement 18 years ago with his production of "Little Shop of Horrors", which he also directed. Dom has directed numerous shows for Gateway, most notably the 3 productions of *Phantom*, *Tommy*, *Cabaret* and *Once On This Island*. Thanks to Paul and Robin Allan as well as the "Big Producer" above, for convincing me to return to my heart & soul - Theatre! ✨

From The Barn to Broadway or Visa Versa ...and Then Back Again

Landing a Broadway show, a big dream for most performers, does not mean that they will then stay on Broadway for the remainder of their career. The acting world is not structured as a linear road to the top like the corporate world. Bernadette Peters, one of Broadway's greatest stars, only performed in five shows over a twenty year period! Most actors will continue to work in regional theaters like Gateway Playhouse and go out on tours, before and after a Broadway gig, making the structure more like a revolving door. Case in point is Lisa Brescia, who performed the role of Amneris on Broadway in *Aida* and then came here to grace us with her rendition of Eva Peron in 2005. Currently she is swinging/performing the role of Elphaba in *Wicked* back on Broadway.

The chance to work is what is important, and often a regional production or tour can offer

a more challenging opportunity than was offered by a Broadway show. With budgets soaring into the tens of millions of dollars, Broadway has become a bigger business than ever, and it can be hard for an actor to get an audition for a role if the director can't envision him in it, or for political reasons, or more often than not, because the producers want a star for financial reasons. An actor talented enough for a leading role will land a small part or a spot in the chorus of a Broadway production because he or she is not a "name" - but they will be cast as the lead in a regional's production. Even when an actor does get cast in a big role on Broadway, the show will eventually close, and the actor will be out auditioning again. Then there is the fact that regionals revive more shows every season than Broadway ever could, affording actors the opportunity to play roles that haven't been offered on Broadway in decades. For example, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, opening at Gateway August 1st, debuted on Broadway in 1949 and was revived there in 1995, making all of the Lorelei Lee hopefuls at Gateway's auditions too young to have auditioned for either. Opportunities also often conflict, and a role can open up when an actor is otherwise committed, for example, being in rehearsal when auditions for another show are being held. Actors experience this often, and tell themselves that it was not meant to be.

In an article written about the rehearsal and subsequent opening of Gateway's 2004 production of *CATS*, *New York Times* writer Julia C.



Kingsley Leggs- Broadway 2006/*The Color Purple*

Mead observed ; "Jennifer Zimmerman performed on Broadway in "*Les Misérables*" and on national tours of "*The Scarlet Pimpernel*" and "*Evita*." At Gateway, she landed the plum role, Grizabella, "People think regional theater gets the leftovers, the second-rate performers, but it's not true," Ms. Zimmerman said. "Broadway has become so commercial, which means experienced, talented professionals have to step aside when a movie star takes the lead. So we reach out to regional theater."

The bonus for Gateway patrons then is that they can see Broadway talent right in Suffolk County at a fraction of the cost of going into the City. Currently on stage in *Dreamgirls* are Jenelle Lynn Randall, Erich McMillan-McCall, Jesse Means, Tyrick Wiltz Jones, Trisha Jeffrey, Regge Allan Bruce and Kingsley Leggs - all of whom have Broadway credits in a wide variety of roles and productions that include *The Color Purple*, *Hairspray*, *All Shook Up*, *Show Boat*, and more. And it isn't just actors - Gateway also hires stage managers, directors, choreographers, musicians, set designers, and technicians with Broadway and national tour experience,



Gateway 2005/*The Full Monty*

including *Dreamgirls* director/choreographer John Dietrich.

Still, while the experience of being on Broadway is magical, in the end, actors agree performing is what keeps them in what many consider to be an unpredictable and insecure business. Talk to someone in the theatre, though, and you'll find it is just this unpredictability that keeps them fresh. It's the challenge of new shows, new roles, and new experiences that allows Gateway to bring the best talent to its patrons, season after season. ☆



Lisa Brescia-*Aida*/Broadway Evita/Gateway

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THE GATEWAY WINDMILL

One of the most recognizable features of the Gateway property is the wisteria-covered wooden windmill that stands next to the office building. The exact origins of the structure are lost to time; it was probably built between 1868 when the house that is now the office was built, and 1884 when the Mott family acquired the former Osborne estate. The brick building attached to it was built first and the windmill went up around it.

Gateway's founder, Harry Pomeran, along with his wife Libby and their children, Sally, David and Ruth, bought the property in the early 1940's and began operating it as a hotel. "We never called it a windmill, it was always 'the pump house', because under the stairs there is a huge artesian well," executive producer Ruth Allan remembers, "It pumped all the property's water and it was known as the best water in Bellport."

The family made the hotel as self-sufficient as possible, raising chickens, and growing fruit and vegetables. The Pump House became something of a fruit cellar, where Libby stored all her canned goods. "During the 1940's we had 200 chickens, and because we didn't have hotel guests in the winter, Mom preserved the eggs in brine. She also made jelly, and pickled pears from the pear tree. For us, the pump house was also my Dad's toolshed," said Ruth. The local wildlife found uses for the building as well - a family of white owls took up residence in the top of the tower.

On September 15, 1944, the Great Atlantic Hurricane made land for a second time on the East Coast, slamming into Long Island with 85 mph winds. The windmill's wheel fins were the only casualties of the storm on the Gateway property. "They were found as far away as Head of the Neck Road," said Ruth, "That night we stayed up praying and not one of those fins came down on anyone's



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house." Harry Pomeran had installed an electric pump by then, so the fins were not replaced. Harry also reinforced the interior corners of the tower with steel. The building became a landmark, being the tallest structure around, it could be seen coming in from Bellport Bay. "It would be easy just to take it down, but it would be very hard not to have it. That, the barn, and the old wing of the house, that's Gateway. It's important to preserve it because of its antiquity," declared Ruth.

Over the years, age and weather took their toll on the windmill. The top of the structure had been steadily leaning at the rate of 2-3 degrees a year, but by this past autumn, the pitch had worsened to where the Allan family began to worry that a bad nor'easter would blow it off. The Bellport Fire Dept was called in to lend the services of their snorkel truck to temporarily shore up the building. Two weeks later a crane was hired to remove the top, and the family decided to begin restoration.

Architects Keith DeLucia from J&B Designs and Jack Rosebery from Rosebery Architectural Studio, Medford firms specializing in historic buildings, have created a design that will bring the windmill back to its 1940 look including the roof, picket fence around the top, wheel and fins. Paul plans for the restored windmill to be functional, "It should generate enough electricity to power itself, its lighting, etc," he said. Gateway Playhouse will offset the restoration costs with a special event, "The Summer Wind" a concert that will feature songs and singers from Gateway's best-loved productions.

What everyone associates most with the windmill is the wisteria that grows over it, probably planted in the 1880's. Every year, the Allans, the Gateway staff, and patrons eagerly look forward to its blooming. "We've had to cut it back several times because it gets so heavy," said Ruth, "but it always comes back". As will the windmill. ☆

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 ProducerPaul Allan
 Associate ProducerJeff Bellante
 General ManagerGale Edwards
 Company ManagerErin Kraus
 PublicistLinda Unger
 Assistant to the Producer.....Keith Llewellyn
 Assistant Company Manager.....Aaron Kelley
 Musical ContractorJeff Hoffman
 Music LibrarianJoe LoSchiavo
 Administrative AssistantSarah Good
 Administrative InternsRyan Lewis and Jennifer Perkins

ARTISTIC

Artistic/Casting DirectorRobin Joy Allan
 Director/Choreographer.....John Dietrich
 Musical DirectorDarren Ledbetter
 Scenic Designer.....Kelly Tighe
 Lighting Designer.....Doug Harry
 Sound Designer.....Cody Spencer
 Associate Choreographer.....Michelle Weber
 Associate Casting/Artistic DirectorMichael Baker
 Assistant Musical DirectorBrendan Whiting
 Costume CoordinatorSteven Stines
 Wig DesignerJon Jordan
 Sound ConsultantDominick Sack
 Production PhotographerJeff Bellante

PRODUCTION

Production ManagerBrian Loesch
 Production Stage ManagerDom Ruggiero
 Wardrobe SupervisorMarianne Dominy
 Technical DirectorGerald Frenz
 Associate Technical DirectorSpencer Padilla
 Lighting Supervisor.....Patrick Johnston
 Associate Scenic Designer/Props MasterBrittany Fahner
 Sound EngineerFrederick Boynton
 Assistant Production ManagerJose Santiago
 Assistant Master ElectricianJustin Hoffman
 Assistant Props MasterJennifer Blazek
 Scenic PainterDiana Wright
 TechniciansSheena Crespo, Ricky Haug, Joseph Loesch, Corey Kloos,
 Linda Luscombe, Cade Spencer, Michelle Quartin, Michelle Wall
 Wardrobe.....Megan Moore and Patrick Herb
 Make-up StylistBrian Strumwasser
 Stage Management InternsJason Nathaniel Adams and John Burke
 Sound InternHarrison Santiago
 Electrics InternsSarah Frankel and Adam Zeek
 Scenic/Props InternsDede Ayite, Olivia Gagne and Jessie Siobahn
 Senior Production InternAshley Haughwout
 Production InternsJelani Eastmond, Michael James Johnson,
 Adele Marks, Brendan Smith

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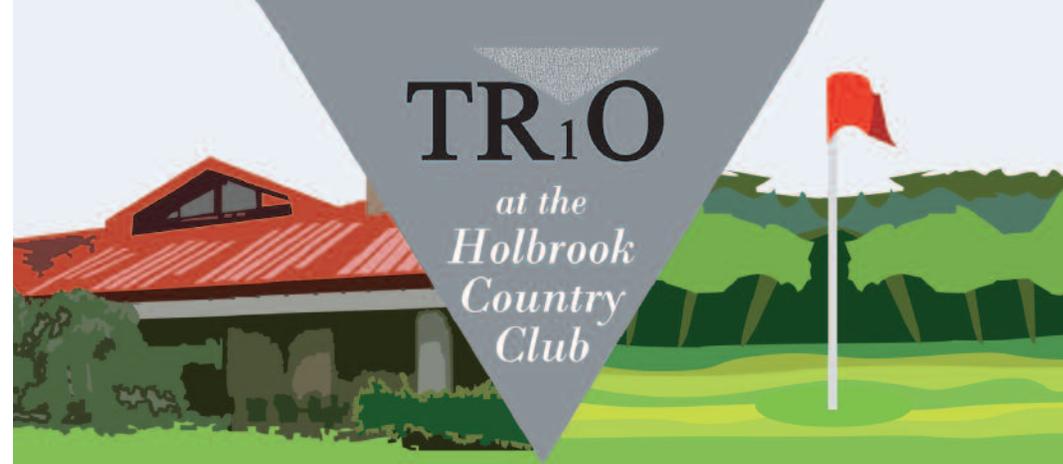
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A NOTICE ABOUT PARKING

We strongly encourage our patrons to always park on Gateway grounds. Parking is no longer allowed on Maplewood Drive **north** of the back Gateway exit. Parking is also prohibited on the **east side** of the street (Gateway side). Observe the No Parking signs.

The Village of Bellport has advised us that cars parked in these areas **will be ticketed**. Please park on the west side of the street, opposite the Gateway fence, between the back exit and South Country Road.

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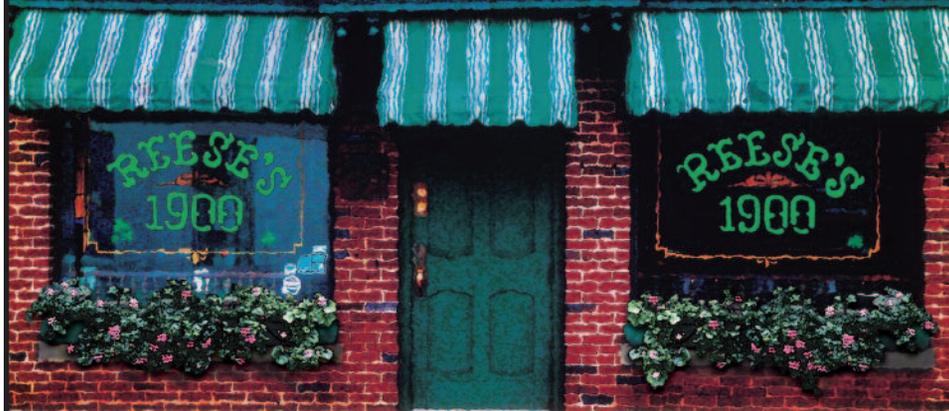
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