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WHITE CHRISTMAS

THE MUSICAL

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All of us here at Gateway have been dreaming of the 2012 holiday season - and now the presentation of *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* and *The Rat Pack is Back* bring the opportunity for you to witness the talents of many talented, long-time members of the Gateway family. Although it's been said many times, many ways, we can't say it enough: thanks to the generous support of donors and patrons like you, kids from 1 to 92 are living out their dreams at the Gateway.

On stage you'll see 11-year-old Gateway Acting School students, Alison Cordaro and Rebecca Goldfarb living out their dreams, starring alongside professional actors. You'll also catch our Director of Development, Scot Allan, and our Company Manager, Michael Baker, getting back to their roots on the Gateway stage. At the head of the creative team for Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* are two Gateway dreamers. Director, Dave Ruttura was once a Gateway stage manager and casting associate with (now-realized) Broadway dreams. Actor, dancer, choreographer—Mary Giattino, has lived all these dreams - as a Radio City Rockette, on many National Tours and on the Great White Way, but remember, Broadway—we knew her first!

All of 2012's dreams were realized thanks in no small part to the bold generosity of outstanding individuals like you. From *Cats* with the illustrious Ken Page and the unforgettable Jessica Hendy, to *9to5*'s laugh-riot Sally Struthers, all the way through Gateway-favorite, *Phantom*, this season has been full of the kind of dreams only theatre can fulfill.

To those whose donations made 2012's dreams a reality: we cannot thank you enough.

If you have not yet renewed your gift or if you're thinking of joining us as a Contributing Member for the first time, please remember that your tax-deductible donation will ensure that the next generation of dreamers like Alison, Rebecca, Scot, Michael, Dave and Mary has the opportunity to live out their dreams here at Gateway and beyond. We can't do it without you!

You can also support the Gateway's dreamers by becoming a subscriber to the upcoming 2013 season. There are details later in this program about how to get on the mailing list for information about how to purchase your season tickets early in 2013.

Thank you for spending part of your holiday season with us as an invaluable part of the Gateway family.

Happy Holidays!

Paul Allan, Producer



Pictured above,
Gateway's 2012 *The Rat Pack is Back*.



Presents

Irving Berlin's

WHITE CHRISTMAS

Based upon the Paramount Pictures Film

Written For the Screen by Norman Krasna, Norman Panama and Melvin Frank

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY IRVING BERLIN

BOOK BY DAVID IVES and PAUL BLAKE

Original Stage production directed by WALTER BOBBIE

Orchestrations
LARRY BLANK

Vocal and Dance Arrangements
BRUCE POMAHAC

Featuring

ALISSA ALTER

MATTHEW LABANCA
STEVE BRADY

TRISTA MOLDOVAN
BETH GLOVER

CHRISTOPHER VETTEL

Associate Producer
JEFF BELLANTE

Producer
PAUL ALLAN

General Manager & Casting
DOM RUGGIERO

Production Manager
BRIAN LOESCH

Company Manager
MICHAEL E. BAKER

Production Stage Manager
JOVON E. SHUCK

Lighting Design
JOSE SANTIAGO

Original Scenic Design
and Scenic Pieces
ANNA LOUIZOS

Musical Director
NATHAN W. PERRY

Wardrobe Supervisor
MARIANNE DOMINY

Choreographer
MARY GIATTINO

Directed by
DAVID RUTTURA

Choreography recreated from Original Broadway Production Choreographed by RANDY SKINNER

Scenery provided by: The Corker Group LLC

Costumes for this production provided by Maine State Music Theatre Costume Rentals
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Produced by the Greater Patchogue Foundation &
Hibernian Festival Singers

Irving Berlin's WHITE CHRISTMAS

CAST OF CHARACTERS

In order of appearance

Bob Wallace Christopher Vettel*	Cigarette Girl Kelly Skidmore
Phil Davis Matthew LaBanca*	Snoring Man Michael E. Baker*
Betty Haynes Trista Moldovan*	Mrs. Snoring Man Kim Dufrenoy
Judy Haynes Alissa Alter*	Train Conductor Jake Primmerman
General Henry Waverly Steve Brady*	Dance Captain Matthew J. Kilgore*
Martha Watson Beth Glover*	Seamstress Kim Dufrenoy
Susan Waverly* Alison Cordaro and Rebecca Goldfarb	Assistant Seamstress Elish Conlon
Ralph Sheldrake Michael E. Baker*	Ed Sullivan Announcer Scot Patrick Allan*
Rita Janelle Neal*	Sheldrake's Secretary Kim Dufrenoy
Rhoda Nikki Della Penta*	Ensemble Scot Patrick Allan*, Michael E. Baker*,
Ezekiel Foster Blake Armitstead	Elish Conlon, Nikki Della Penta*, Laurie DiFilippo,
Mike Scot Patrick Allan*	Alicia Hemann, Graham Keen, Matthew J. Kilgore*,
Tessie Kim Dufrenoy	Edward Andrew Lawrence, Janelle Neal*, Jake Primmerman,
Jimmy Sean Quinn*	Sean Quinn*, Sara Michelle Reardon, Kelly Skidmore,
	Amy Van Norstrand, Chaz Wolcott

* Actresses playing the role of Susan appear at alternating performances.

UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance

Bob Wallace MICHAEL E. BAKER*	Betty Haynes ELISH CONLON
Phil Davis MATTHEW J. KILGORE*	Judy Haynes LAURIE DIFILIPPO
Ralph Sheldrake/Snoring Man JAKE PRIMMERMAN	Martha Watson KIM DUFRENOY
General Henry Waverly MICHAEL E. BAKER*	Announcer/Mike EDWARD ANDREW LAWRENCE

THE ORCHESTRA

Conductor/Keyboard I NATHAN W. PERRY	Trumpet II TIM OUIMETTE
Keyboard II KORRIE PALIOTTO	Trombone JOE FERRANTE
Reed I MICHAEL KENDROT	Violin MARNI HARRIS
Reed II MITCH KAMEN	Bass FRANK HANSEN
Trumpet I DAN YEAGER	Drums PETE DESALVO



The Musicians employed in this production are members of 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.



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

WARNING – The photographing or sound recording of any performance is strictly prohibited. Gateway Playhouse offers a wireless sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired. Inquire at the box office for more information.

FIRE NOTICE — The exit indicated by a red light and sign nearest to the seat you occupy, is the shortest route to the outside. In the event of fire or other emergency, please do NOT run. WALK to that Exit. However, under normal circumstances, when leaving the Theatre, use the center rear exits. SMOKING is prohibited in the BUILDING, as required by the Suffolk County NO SMOKING Ordinance. Smoking in any area designated "No Smoking" renders the offenders subject to a fine, or imprisonment, or both.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Scene 1: Somewhere on the western front of WWII, Christmas Eve 1944

Happy Holiday	Bob, Phil, Sheldrake
White Christmas	Bob, Phil, Sheldrake, GIs

Scene 2: The Ed Sullivan Show, 1954

Happy Holiday/Let Yourself Go	Bob, Phil, and Chorus
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Scene 3: Backstage of The Ed Sullivan Show, after the broadcast; Backstage at Jimmy's, a none-too-classy nightclub

Love and the Weather	Bob and Betty
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Scene 4: Jimmy's Back Room, later that night

Sisters	Betty and Judy
The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing	Phil, Judy, and Quintet

Scene 5: A train car, later that night

Snow	Phil, Judy, Bob, Betty, Mr. Snoring Man, Mrs. Snoring Man, Passengers
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Scene 6: The front desk of the Columbia Inn in Vermont, later

What Can You Do With A General?	Martha, Bob, and Phil
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Scene 7: The Barn Rehearsal Hall, the next day

Let Me Sing and I'm Happy	Martha and her Boys
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Scene 8: The front porch of the inn, later that night

Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep	Bob and Betty
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Scene 9: Ralph Sheldrake's office, New York; Martha's switchboard, morning

Scene 10: The Barn Rehearsal Hall, later that day

Blue Skies	Bob and Ensemble
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ACT II

Scene 1: Onstage in the Barn Theatre, the next day

I Love A Piano	Phil, Judy, and Ensemble
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Scene 2: Betty's Room at the inn, soon after

Falling Out of Love Can Be Fun	Martha, Betty, and Judy
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Scene 3: The Barn Theatre, shortly thereafter

Sister (Reprise)	Bob and Phil
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Scene 4: The Regency Room, New York, the next evening

Love, You Didn't Do Right By Me/How Deep Is the Ocean	Betty, Bob
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Scene 5: The Ed Sullivan Show, the evening after

The Old Man	Bob, Men
-----------------------	----------

Scene 6: The front desk of the Columbia Inn, the next day

Let Me Sing and I'm Happy (Reprise)	Susan
---	-------

Scene 7: Backstage at the Barn Theatre, that evening, Christmas Eve

How Deep Is the Ocean (Reprise)	Bob and Betty
The Old Man (Reprise)	Bob, Phil, Sheldrake, Men
White Christmas	Company

Scene 8: Curtain Call

I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm	Company
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SCOT PATRICK ALLAN



ALISSA ALTER



BLAKE ARMITSTEAD



MICHAEL E. BAKER



STEVE BRADY



ELISH CONLON



ALISON CORDARO



NIKKI DELLA PENTA



KIM DUFRENOY



LAURIE DIFILIPPO



BETH GLOVER



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SCOT PATRICK ALLAN (Mike) created the development department at Gateway in early 2011. Yup, he's the guy who introduces each performance and makes you really excited about the show you are about to see! (He also reminds you how important your support is to the Playhouse). He is elated to be on the stage after curtain goes up as he has been so many times before. Gateway acting credits include *Evita*, *42nd St*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Sweet Charity*, *Hello Dolly!* and *A Christmas Carol*. Scot spent a few years on the Broadway revival tour of *Grease!* where he played Eugene and understudied American Idol winner Taylor Hicks as Teen Angel. Other tours include: *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, (u/s Jimmy Smith) and *Grease!* starring Frankie Avalon (Eugene, u/s Doody). Regionally he has performed at the Pioneer Theater Co., McCarter Theater, Forestburgh Playhouse. Scot appeared in and served as associate choreographer on *Handel's Messiah Rocks!* which was a television special featuring the Boston Pops and starred Tony Award-Winner LaChanze. Scot would like to take a moment to thank all of the generous donors who make it possible for him to work at such an amazing theater that offers so much to the Suffolk County area and Long Island as a whole – I am proud to know you. Happy Holidays!

ALISSA ALTER (Judy Haynes) is beyond thrilled to be here at Gateway Playhouse! Favorite credits include: 1st national tour of *A Chorus Line* (Lois, u/s Val, Kristine, Bebe & Connie), Arena Stage's *The Music Man* (Dance Captain), North Shore Music Theatre's *42nd Street* (Phyllis Dale). Alissa is a graduate of Skidmore College and proud equity member. Many thanks to Paul, Mary, David, Nathan, my new Gateway family, MSA, mom, dad, BB and my Shane. For Sassy.

BLAKE ARMITSTEAD (Ezekiel) Blake is thrilled to be part of the production of *White Christmas*, and would like to thank The Gateway Family, Paul, Dave, Dom, and Michael for giving him an opportunity to act. Blake started acting in High school. His first big role was the Tinman in *Wizard of Oz*, which inspired him to pursue his acting career. Blake attended, and graduated from The School for Film and Television in New York City, and performed Improv at *Don't Tell Mama's*. Blake would like to thank his loving family, and Rachel for their support. For Aunt Carol.

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MICHAEL EDWARD BAKER (*Sheldrake u/s Bob Wallace u/s General Waverly*) Michael is thrilled to be a part of this amazing production with such a talented cast and crew. Over the past ten years, Michael has been involved at Gateway Playhouse in many capacities- teaching in the acting school, assisting in the casting office and for the last five seasons as Company Manager. Michael has been seen in National Tours, NYC theatres and on the screen. Favorite regional theatre credits from near and far include: *Miss Saigon*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Ragtime*, *The Secret Garden* and more. Favorite Gateway credits include *Ave Q* (Brian) and *A Christmas Carol* (The Ghost of Jacob Marley). When not at Gateway, Michael has studied improv at the Groundlings School in LA and has appeared several times this year on DiscoveryID channel, commercials and more! He thanks his Gateway Family, Jessica, JP, Rick, and Mom for their support. Michael has a BFA in Acting and is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association. For Dad.

STEVE BRADY (*General Waverly*) is delighted to have been promoted to General after appearing as Colonel Pickering in *My Fair Lady* at Gateway earlier this season. Previously at Gateway: *A Christmas Carol*, *the Musical*, *Hello Dolly!*, *Urinetown*, and *The Fantasticks*. He's appeared on Broadway, *Inherit the Wind*, and Off-Broadway at The Mint, Perry Street Theatricals, and Irish Arts Center. Regional credits include *Better Days at Triad Stage*; *12 Angry Men*, Rep Theatre of St. Louis; *King o' the Moon*, Cincinnati Playhouse; *Spin*, The Wilma; *Tartuffe*, Gulfshore Playhouse; *Enigma Variations*, Royal Alexandra, Toronto; *The Seafarer* and *The Ladies Man*, Shadowland. He's toured nationally in *The Exonerated*, and went around the world with *West Side Story* in 2009. On TV, Steve's enjoyed appearances on *Law & Order*, *Law & Order CI*, *Spin City*, *Seinfeld*, *Beverly Hills 90210* and others with residuals too small to mention. A proud Equity member since 1984. As always, for Susie.

ELISH CONLON (*Ensemble u/s Betty Haynes*) is excited to be making her Gateway debut. She is a recent graduate from Montclair State University with her B.F.A in musical theatre. Off-Broadway: *Requiem For A Lost Girl* (choir). Regional: *42nd Street*, *A Chorus Line*, *Anything Goes*, *Fiddler On the Roof*, *My Fair Lady*, *Sideshow*, *Sweet Charity* and others. She would like to thank the Gateway family for this wonderful opportunity.

ALISON CORDARO (*Susan Waverly*) is thrilled to be back on the Gateway Stage after recently being a part of the children's production of *Into the Woods* and *The Little Mermaid Jr*. Alison has also played roles in other Gateway productions and has come to feel at home on the Gateway stage. She can be seen in the movie, *Brooklyn's Finest*, *Chucky Cheese* commercials, and is the voice of Geraldine from *The Very Fairy Princess* book series. Alison enjoys her acting lessons as well as singing and studying tap, ballet, and jazz. She is 11 years old and lives in Ridge with her Mom, Dad, brothers Joseph and Justin and her dogs Buster and Turbo. She would like to thank Dave and her family here at Gateway for giving her the opportunity to be a part of *White Christmas* and would like to wish everyone a healthy and happy holiday season. Alison hopes you enjoy this production as much as she has enjoyed being a part of it.

NIKKI DELLA PENTA (*Rhoda*) is delighted to make her Gateway Playhouse Debut! Broadway: *Spamalot*, *42nd Street* (Phyllis u/s), *A Christmas Carol*. Other: *Spamalot* (1st National and original Vegas co), *The Producers* (Riverside), *Funny Girl* and *Oklahoma* (Sacramento), *West Side Story* (MUNY). *Radio City Rockette* with appearances on *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno, and *The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade*. Numerous BCEFA performances, industrials, and has also danced with the *Backstreet Boys*. Thanks to Mary and Dave for this wonderful opportunity. Sending Christmas love to my family!

KIM DUFRENOY (*Tessie*, *Mrs. Snoring Man*, *Sheldrake's Secretary u/s Martha Watson*) is a familiar face to Long Island theatre goers. She has appeared regionally in over 100 leading roles and has worn the hat of Producer, Director, and Choreographer. Twice a year, you can see Kim as her reoccurring character "Rosie" on the *Julie London Show* and in *Funny Girl* in February. Other credits include: TV, Commercials, ABC's *Cindy Eller* with Keira Sedgwick, headliner at *Bally's* in Atlantic City, numerous tours and backup singer for Peter Lemongello's return tour. Off stage Kim teaches voice/acting and is a part time Sous Chef. Much love to Chris, Daniel, Noelle, and Max. Much thanks to the Gateway family for inviting me back for another show!



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A Special thanks to all the businesses who sponsored Gateway's 2012 Season and our 2nd annual Gala *Dressing For the Night*:

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And a very special thanks to all of the volunteers who generously donated endless amounts of time in the 2012 season:

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Gateway Playhouse would like to thank our volunteer staff for their dedication and support. It is much appreciated.

Marie Rachek - Head Usher

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LAURIE DIFILIPPO (*Ensemble u/s Judy Haynes*) is delighted to be making her Gateway Playhouse debut. Favorite credits: *42nd Street* (Lorraine), *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* (Swing, U/S Tessie), *Crazy For You* (Louise), *National Tour of Beauty and the Beast* (Enchanted Object/Townsperson), and *Melody Lingers On* (Kathy). Additionally, Laurie danced with the NYC based tap company CPDPlus and before moving to New York, was a choreographer at *Disneyland* in California. Love and thanks to my husband, Joe!

BETH GLOVER (*Martha*) is thrilled to be back after portraying Margaret the drunk in *9 to 5*! Favorite Credits: 1st Nat'l Tours: *All Shook Up* (Mayor Matilda), *Dirty Blonde* (Jo/Mae), *Promises Promises* (Marge), *The Taffetas* (Donna); NYC: Lily in the Drama Desk Nominated *Take Me Along* at Irish Rep.; Cora opposite John Rubinstein in the Lortel winning *Counsellor-at-Law* at the Peccadillo. Regional: SFBACC Best Actress for Big Edie/Little Edie in *Grey Gardens* at TheatreWorks-Palo Alto, CA; Audrey in *As You Like It* at Shakespeare Theatre Co. Goodspeed; Paper Mill, Pioneer, Walnut Street and more. World Premieres: *Book of Candy* and *The Good Girl is Gone* both at Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey. National Commercials & TV; Netflix her

latest Film—*Immigration Tango*. Current club act: *Mississippi VooDoo*. Beth dedicates this one to musical theatre lovers who, like her, cry when it snows on stage. Complete credits: www.bethgloveractress.com

REBECCA GOLDFARB (*Susan Waverly*) Broadway - *Godspell* (Lindsay), Off Broadway - *My Perfect Pet* (Cailin), Regional - *Annie* (Annie), *Into The Woods* (Little Red), *Seussical* (JoJo); TV: Primetime: *What Would You Do*, *Team Umizoomi*, *WonderPets*, *Sesame Street*; Radio/TV commercials: *Disney*, *Fidelity*, *Amazon*, *Subway*, *Olive Garden*. Rebecca's thrilled to be in another Gateway production and thanks David, Paul, Michael, Dom, and Mary for this amazing experience and making this holiday season extra special for her. Happy Holidays! www.rebeccalynngoldfarb.com

ALICIA HEMANN (*Ensemble*) is originally from St. Louis, MO, and is excited to be making her Gateway Playhouse debut in *White Christmas*. Other credits include: *Oklahoma!*, Tokyo Disney Resort, and Busch Gardens Williamsburg, VA. She is a graduate of Oklahoma City University where she received a B.P.A. in dance performance. Many thanks to Mom, Dad, Garrett, and the rest of her family and friends for their continual love and support!

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WHO'S WHO

GRAHAM KEEN (*Ensemble*) is elated to be working on *White Christmas* here at the Gateway. National Tours: *Young Frankenstein* (Ensemble); *Music Man* (Ensemble, u/s Quartet). Regional Favorites: *42nd Street* (Billy Lawlor); *Hello Dolly!* (Ambrose Kemper); *Hairspray* (IQ); as well as various ensemble credits in *Mack and Mabel*, *Cabaret*, *Drowsy Chaperone*, *42nd Street*, *On Your Toes*, *Lady Be Good*, *Ragtime*, and two *High School Musicals*. BA Wagner College, native of Nashville, TN. Endless love to family and friends for all of the support and inspiration.

MATTHEW J. KILGORE (*Dance Captain*, *Ensemble u/s Phil Davis*) is excited to make his Gateway debut! IBWC year seven!!! Broadway: *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*. Off-Broadway: *No, No, Nanette*. Tours: *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Evita*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *42nd Street*. TV: *Smash*. Thanks Mary and Dave for believing in me. This one's for you Grandma! www.matthewkilgore.net

MATTHEW LABANCA (*Phil Davis*) Broadway: *Young Frankenstein* (Frederick u/s, original cast), *White Christmas* (Jimmy/Scooter). National Tours: *Crazy for You* (Bobby), *The King and I* (Kralahome), *Anything Goes*, *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Simeon, cast album). Regional: *Backwards in High Heels* (Fred Astaire), *Singin' in the Rain* (Don Lockwood), *The Wizard of Oz* (Tin Man), *Hello, Dolly!* (Cornelius), *JC Superstar* (Pilate). TV: *30 Rock*, MTV's *Made*, and *Live from Lincoln Center*. Met Opera extras chorus. Matthew is currently workshoping his one-man show *Good For You*. He thanks all his friends and family for coming out to support him tonight! www.matthewlabanca.com

EDWARD ANDREW LAWRENCE (*Ensemble u/s Announcer, Mike*) is thrilled to be back for his second production at the Gateway Playhouse. Originally from Gillette, Wyoming, he trained at Interlochen Arts Academy and Marymount Manhattan College. Credits include; *West Side Story* European/Asia Tour (Scherzo Soloist), *CATS* National Tour, Gateway Playhouse (Alonzo), and *Annie Get Your Gun*. Love and Thanks; Mom, Dad, Gateway Playhouse, and everyone whom has been there in my journey of life, love, and happiness. Appearing courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.

TRISTA MOLDOVAN (*Betty Haynes*) comes directly from the Broadway production of *Phantom of the Opera* where she played Christine, a role she also played on the national tour (Denver Ovation Nomination, San Fran engagement, LA closing). Favorite regional: Maggie in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Arkansas Rep), *Simeon's Gift* (Bay Street with Juile Andrews), Sarah in *Guys and Dolls* (Riverside Theatre), Cosette in *Les Miserables* (regional

premiere, Pioneer Theatre Co.). TV: *Celebrity Ghost Stories*, *All My Children*, *Guiding Light*. Next up: Abigail in *1776* at Pittsburgh Public Theatre. Love to Stephen (newly wed!). Thanks to everyone at Gateway. Happy Holidays!

JANELLE NEAL (*Rita*) is truly excited to be performing at Gateway Playhouse, with the cast of *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*. Past credits include: *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Muzzy), *Dreamgirls* (Deena understudy), *Guys & Dolls* (Hotbox Girl), *42nd Street* (Ethel), *Aida* (Nehebka), *Seesaw* (Sophie), *Oklahoma* (Ellen), *Anything Goes* (Charity), *Disney's Beauty & the Beast*, and *Black & Blue*. She's also performed overseas in Japan, Europe, Switzerland, Russia, and Germany. She thanks God, family and friends for their support.

JAKE PRIMMERMAN (*Ensemble u/s Sheldrake, Snoring Man*) is thrilled to be making his Gateway Playhouse debut in this production of *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*! Regional credits include *42nd Street*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Will Rogers Follies*, *Hairspray*, *Angelina Ballerina The Musical*, and *Christmas on Ice*. TV/Film: *Smash*, *The Rachel Ray Show*, *State Debate*. Endless thanks to my family, friends and mentors for supporting and inspiring me. www.jakeprimmerman.com

SEAN QUINN (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to return to the Gateway after being part of their 60th season's *A Chorus Line* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. There's no better way to celebrate the holidays than in your tap shoes and he gives many thanks to Mary, Randy and David for this opportunity. Proud AEA member. Love to his family, amazing friends and his Greek. Merry Christmas and Enjoy the show!!! www.Seanpatrickquinn.com

SARA MICHELLE REARDON (*Ensemble*) is delighted to make her Gateway debut with *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*! Favorite credits include *Annie* (Boylan Sister-NSMT), *White Christmas* (Papermill Playhouse), *Career Transitions Benefit* (42nd St Opening Number-City Center NYC) and the 25th Anniversary National Tour of *CATS* (Victoria). Sara holds a BFA in Dance from The University of the Arts (Philadelphia). Endless love and thanks go out to her family and friends for their support.



LASTING HOMETOWN FRIENDSHIP SETS THE STAGE FOR "IRVING BERLIN'S WHITE CHRISTMAS"

At the heart of *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, and perhaps all familiar holiday tales, lies a story of unwavering friendship.

Much like the inseparable song and dance duos of Wallace and Davis, or the Haynes sisters, the creative pairing of director David Ruttura and choreographer Mary Giattino is a big part of what gives this holiday blockbuster its charm.

The two Suffolk County natives-turned-Broadway collaborators became friends a decade ago, while cutting their theatrical teeth at Long Island's oldest professional theatre. "David was part of a group that I grew up with at Gateway," said Mary, a former Rockette and alum of the Gateway Acting School.

"We became immediate friends," David said, adding that even their birthdays are just two days apart.

This friendship soon transformed into an artistic partnership when the two were asked to create an original stage version of *Peter Pan* from the ground up. Up to that point, David worked on the stage crew and Mary sang and danced in the ensemble. Each was barely into their 20s at the time.

David recalls that their *Peter Pan* was extended by popular demand, which is "unheard of for a children's show." In the years that followed, the two moved up the Gateway ranks — he as an Associate Artistic Director and she as a dance captain and choreographer — until they made their way into the Broadway spotlight, accidentally together.

Away from Gateway, David and Mary soon were reunited thanks to *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*. Each landed positions with the show separately — he as assistant director and she as assistant choreographer on the national tour. When the production transferred to Broadway in 2008, the pair followed it onto the Great White Way.

Mary marvels at how lucky the two were to be assisting "at such a young age," considering

the reputations of their bosses, Walter Bobbie — the Tony Award-winning director of "Chicago" — and Randy Skinner — the Tony nominated choreographer of "42nd Street." Despite this potential hindrance, the two made some lasting relationships with Mr. Bobbie and Mr. Skinner.

This production is, of course, not the first time David and Mary have sat in the captain's chair. He is currently on leave from his position as Resident Director of *Spider Man: Turn Off the Dark*. She has served as Associate Choreographer for *Billy Elliot* national tour and has choreographed countless musicals for the Bellport stage.

Given the pair's extensive experience with the show, each are tuned in to the delicate balance needed to maintain the integrity of the original, while still allowing for the unique qualities of the Gateway cast.

"Every time you have different performers, you have a different interpretation and that keeps the show fresh and exciting," David said.

"We have two less male dancers than in the original choreography, which is the only difference between the Gateway and Broadway company. And the intent will be the same," Mary said. "There are seven production numbers in the show. It's huge, a classic Broadway piece.

"The set is like a series of Christmas cards," David said, adding that the original Broadway set will be seen during the show. "It's a complex show with vivid pictures that embody the spirit of the period."

Given their long-standing friendship, Broadway experience and local roots, the song and dance duo of David and Mary proves the old lyric true: "For the holidays, you can't beat home sweet home."



Article by Don Rebar
Photo Courtesy of Linda Leuzzi

KELLY SKIDMORE (*Ensemble*) is delighted to be performing for the first time at Gateway Playhouse. Last year, she was seen performing *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* at Paper Mill Playhouse. Favorite credits include: *Backwards In High Heels* (Ginger Rogers), *Mame* (Peegen Ryan), *Mack & Mabel*, *Crazy For You*, and the Asia tour of *42nd Street*. BA in Art Education, Otterbein University, OH. Thank you to all my family and my one and only Duce. Happy Holidays!

AMY VAN NORSTRAND (*Ensemble*) is delighted to return to The Gateway Playhouse and join the cast of *White Christmas*! Amy is a recent graduate of Point Park University, receiving a degree in Musical Theater and Dance. Most recently, Amy was seen in *9 to 5* (*Ensemble/Doralee u/s*) at the Ogunquit Playhouse and Gateway Playhouse, and in *42nd Street* (*Ensemble/Phyllis u/s*) at the John W. Engeman Theater. Other credits include *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Alice), *Evita* (*Ensemble*), *Peter Mills' Illyria* (Maria), and *The Light in the Piazza* (*Ensemble*) at the Pittsburgh Playhouse. Look for her next in the co-production of *Thoroughly Modern Millie* at the Maltz-Jupiter Theater and Paper Mill Playhouse. Merry Christmas everyone!

CHRISTOPHER VETTEL (*Bob Wallace*) is happy to be back at Gateway where, previously, he's appeared in *I Love a Piano* (Alex), *City of Angels* (Jimmy Powers) and *1776* (Richard Henry Lee). National Tour credits include the 30th Anniversary National Tour of *Annie* (Bert Healy) and the 2nd National Tour of *Sunset Boulevard* (Cliff/Joe Gillis u/s). He's performed off-Broadway in *Wanda's World* (45th St. Theatre) and *Cactus Flower* (Westside Theatre). Overseas credits include the German Company of *Sunset Boulevard* (Joe Gillis) and the European tour of *Cabaret* (Cliff Bradshaw). Regional credits include *Radio City Christmas Spectacular* (Santa Claus), Westchester Broadway's *Phantom* (Count Phillippe de Chandon), Flatrock Playhouse's *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (Adam Pontipee), Fireside Playhouse's *Titanic* (Andrews), and Goodspeed Opera's World Premiere of *Flight of the Lawnchair Man* (Charles Lindbergh). He has also appeared, as soloist, with the Opera Company of Boston, Opera Cleveland, and the Boston Symphony Orchestra, in the final concert conducted by Leonard Bernstein. For more info, visit www.chrisvettel.com, or Chris Vettel – Fan Page on Facebook.

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A MINUTE WITH ALISON CORDARO AND REBECCA GOLDFARB

11-YEAR-OLD STARS OF *IRVING BERLIN'S WHITE CHRISTMAS*

How did you become interested in theatre?

Rebecca: When I saw my older brother doing shows I always wanted to run onstage with him. I auditioned for my first show, *Children of Eden*, and got in. Now, my younger brother is currently doing *A Christmas Carol* in Northport. He's seven and it's his first show.

Alison: I was very dramatic as a kid, so my mom thought, 'why don't we put you into class?' My first show was Gateway's *Holiday Spectacular*. I've been taking classes here since I was six.

What type of training have you had?

A: I've taken fun and games, Broadway songs, accelerated acting, scene work with [Acting School Director] Robin Allan... there's so many to remember! I'm in class Fridays and Saturdays. I also take tap from [Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* choreographer] Mary Giattino at Stage Door. I'm also a student at Longwood Middle School in Ridge.

R: I go to Fulton Avenue School in Oceanside and take dance closer to home. I've done some shows at community theatres, but I felt that I was over-directed there... just told to 'turn out.' I started at Gateway this year with *Into the Woods*. Here, I was encouraged to connect and listen. Robin helped me with that.

Your favorite onstage memory?

A: I loved meeting the other cast members of *Holiday Spectacular*. I had such a great time, especially being backstage with [Gateway Acting School classmate] Mia Mulvey!

R: I said my first line during *Children of Eden*. It was a single word, and I got to say it while giving a hug to another character. It was really special because I was only in the ensemble.

How did you react to being cast in *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*?

A: I heard from my mom and I was really excited! I called my dad and the rest of my family. They're all coming to the show.

R: My mom told me, 'Rebecca, you're going to be doing a show real soon!' I was in the car and couldn't believe it. I think I shook the whole thing... it was an earthquake. My family is coming... and my dance school, too!

Can you tell us about your character, Susan Waverly?

R: Susan's fun and outgoing... her own person. She wants to be grown up and hangs around the adults.

A: She's also very curious and wants to get in on the singing and dancing after watching Martha.

What do you do when you're not in rehearsal, at school, at auditions, or in acting classes?

A & R: Sleep!

Article by Don Rebar

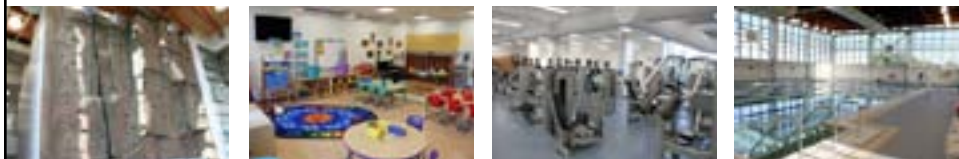


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WHO'S WHO

CHAZ WOLCOTT (*Ensemble*) is "counting his blessings" for this opportunity! He's been dreaming of a *White Christmas* for years! National Tour: *Cats* (Mistoffelees). Regional: Lyric Theatre's *42nd Street* (Andy Lee), Fulton Theatre's *Gypsy* (Yonkers-u/s Tulsa), Music Theatre of Wichita's *Damn Yankees* (Mickey) & *Cats* (Mistoffelees), Westchester Broadway Theatre, Casa Mañana and Gretna Theatre. BFA Oklahoma City University. Gateway debut! Tons of love to Mom & Louie. Immeasurable gratitude to the Gateway Team! www.chazwolcott.com

JOVON E. SHUCK (*Production Stage Manager*) comes to Pinetree, Vermont and Gateway directly from the savannahs and Pridelands of the Gazelle Company of *The Lion King*. Other credits include: *Noises Off*, *The Graduate* and *The Lion King* (Broadway); Monty Python's *Spamalot* (First National Tour); *The Irish Curse* (Off Broadway); *Saint Heaven* (SCA Rich Forum); *The Seagull* (NYSF/Public Theatre); six Christmases with *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular*; six summers at Gateway Playhouse; and eight wonderful years with Sheila Marie.

DAVID RUTTURA (*Director*). Theater Directing credits include *Hot Mess in Manhattan* (Araca Project), *Wicked Fox* (Juilliard), *Electra in a One-Piece* (Good Company/The Wild Project), *He Who Laughs: Live* (TAI Group/Ars Nova), *Moustache Guys* (Second Generation), *The NewMusicalTheatre.com Launch Concert* (Le Poisson Rouge), *Koberet* (Joe's Pub, NYMF), *Eddie Goshen is Dead* (Fordham Playwrights Program), *Red, White and Purple* (Ensemble Studio Theater). David is the Founder and the Artistic Director of Good Company (goodcompany.org). Film Credits include web-series *Dick Punch* (Good Company) and *STALKTalk*. As an Associate Director, David has worked on Broadway (*Follies*, *Lombardi*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *White Christmas*, *A Man for All Seasons*), Off-Broadway (*Atlantic Theater Company*, *Roundabout*), regionally (*Kennedy Center*, *LaJolla Playhouse*, *Philadelphia Theater Co.*), and internationally (*Ben Hur Live*). Currently, Resident Director of *Spider-Man: Turn off the Dark* on Broadway. David got his professional start working backstage as a substitute technician at Gateway and over a number years, worked his way through the ranks learning the ins and outs of theater from all angles. During his time here, he directed *Peter Pan* & *The Jungle Book* for Gateway's Children's Theater, both choreographed by Mary Giattino, and a longtime collaboration and friendship began. David is eternally grateful for

the invaluable skills he was able to learn during his formative years at Gateway and is thrilled to be back home working on this very special show with Mary. Thanks to Paul, Dom, Jovon and the rest of the gang for making this one possible.

MARY GIATTINO (*Choreographer*) is so grateful to be back at Gateway working on a show which brings her incredible amounts of joy and at the Theater where she received all of her theatrical training along with the fondest of childhood memories. Choreography credits at the Gateway Playhouse include *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *42nd Street*. For five years, Mary served as Assistant Choreographer (to the amazing Choreographer Randy Skinner) and Dance Captain/Swing, in *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, in both Broadway productions, in addition to LA, Detroit and Toronto companies. Last spring Mary completed her work as Associate Choreographer for the Networks National Tour of *Billy Elliot*, in addition to acting as Resident Choreographer/Swing for the original Touring Company of *Billy Elliot* (Working Title Productions). As a tap expert, she was also responsible for training the children in tap for *Billy Elliot* on Broadway. She was Assistant Choreographer to Mr. Skinner in City Center Encores! productions of, *No No Nanette* and *Of Thee I Sing*. A few favorite performance credits include; Broadway national tour of *42nd Street* (swing), kicking up her heels as a *Radio City Rockette*, shaking hands with President Obama at the Kennedy Center's production of *Some Enchanted Evening* (a tribute to the late Senator Ted Kennedy), in addition to performing in over 30 Gateway Playhouse as well as Gateway Acting School productions and many other Regional Theaters across the country. As a tap teacher she has been on faculty at Steps On Broadway in NYC. Mary is the new Owner and Artistic Director of Stage Door School of Dance, in East Patchogue, NY (stagedoordancer.com). Many thanks to Randy Skinner for his blessing and support to use his beautiful Original Choreography, my amazing friends and family, Ruth, Paul, Robin, my partner in crime - David Ruttura, Matty K. and my amazingly supportive husband, Ricky. MaryGiattino.com

NATHAN W. PERRY (*Musical Director*) Previously at Gateway: *A Christmas Carol* (2006), *Show Boat* (2008), and *'S Wonderful* (2011; also the national tour). Other tours: *The Pajama Game*, *Ring of Fire*, *Shout! the Mod Musical* and the 25th Anniversary National Tour of *Ain't Misbehavin'*. Some regional credits: Harbor Lights Theatre Co. (*My Way*), West Virginia Public Theatre (*Hairspray*), Cohoes Music

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WHO'S WHO

Hall (*Ain't Misbehavin'*, *La Cage Aux Folles* and *Kiss Me, Kate*), Allenberry Playhouse (*The Full Monty*, *Oklahoma!*, *Clue: the Musical* and *Into the Woods*), and Gretna Theatre (*Cole*, *Big River*, *The Fantasticks*, *A Grand Night For Singing*, *The Robber Bridegroom* and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*). In 1991, Nathan portrayed Huck Finn in the *Mark Twain Musical Drama* (Elmira, NY), and has since been confined to orchestra pits and bandstands. Originally from Rochester, where Christmases are frequently white, he holds a degree in Film Scoring from Berklee College of Music, which immediately landed him a job as a pizza deliveryman, and has been seen tickling the ivories at sea from Halifax to Hong Kong. For Mary T., who was Christmas, and always will be.

KORRIE PALIOTTO (*Associate Musical Director*) is a music director, composer/lyricist, and vocal coach from San Diego, California, is delighted to be here at Gateway as associate music director for *White Christmas*. Korrie has music directed at the San Diego Repertory Theatre (*The Who's Tommy*), San Diego Lyric Opera (*Thoroughly Modern Millie, Jr.*), San Diego State University (*A Grand Night for Singing*, *The Boy Friend*, *Zanna Don't*), and Coronado Playhouse (*Lippa's Wild Party*). She is also a dedicated educator, leading outreach programs at the San Diego Opera and San Diego Junior Theatre, and is the co-founder of the Pacific Children's Theatre for which she wrote the score and lyrics for two original children's musicals. She holds her B.A. in music and M.F.A. in Musical Theatre, both from San Diego State University.

JOSE SANTIAGO (*Lighting Designer*) Jose is super excited to be designing *White Christmas* at Gateway. This season is Jose's tenth season with Gateway working in many different capacities. Past designs include: *S' Wonderful* (Gateway), *Meet Me in St. Louis* (Gateway), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (FSU), *Waiting for Godot* (FSU), *The Miser* (FSU), *Later the Same Evening* (FSU) and many dance pieces at Florida State. Many thanks to Paul for allowing me to go from an electrician's intern ten years ago to designing *White Christmas* today. (jsantiagodesign.com)

RANDY SKINNER (*Choreography*) Shows include: *42nd Street* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics, Astaire nominations), *Ain't Broadway Grand* (Tony, Outer Critics nominations), Irving Berlin's *White Christmas* (Tony, Drama Desk nominations), *State Fair* (Outer Critics nomination), *After The Night And The Music* (MTC/Biltmore), *Do Re Mi*, *Of Thee I Sing*, *Face The Music*, *No No Nanette*, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* (the last five at City Center Encores), *Lone Star Love* (Lucille Lortel nomination), *Broadway: Three Generations* (Kennedy Center), *Lend Me A Tenor The Musical* (West End), *Stormy Weather* (with Leslie Uggams/Pasadena Playhouse), *An American In Paris* (Alley Theatre). In Los Angeles: Garry Marshall's *Happy Days*, *Hello Dolly* (with Nell Carter), *Pal Joey* (with Dixie Carter, Elaine Stritch), *Strike Up The Band* (with Tom Bosley). He has received the LA Drama Critics, LA Dramalogue, Bay Area Critics, Connecticut Critics, and Cleveland Times Theatre Award.

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