

# Welcome to Our 42nd Season!



Welcome to the Rochester Rep and our 25/26 Season, an exciting season of community theatre, right here just off Broadway!

We're proud to bring you six unforgettable productions, each chosen to inspire, entertain, and spark conversation. Your presence and support make our work possible, and we are deeply grateful. Thanks to patrons like you, the Rep continues to thrive. Settle in, enjoy the performance, and know you're a vital part of this journey!

**Philip Wayne-Davis**  
Managing Director

**Board of Directors**  
**Benjamin Hain, President**

## Land Acknowledgement

The Rochester Rep wishes to acknowledge that our theater resides on the native lands of the Dakota Sioux and Ojibwe peoples. We pay our respects to their peoples of the past, as well as future generations.

In an effort to avoid lip service, this acknowledgement will be absent from our curtain speeches as we work to find *tangible* ways to go beyond a simple verbal statement. We understand the importance and impact of this work, and we as a company are striving to do our part in dismantling systemic racism and prejudice in its many forms.

## Why A Digital Program?

By offering a digital program, we hope to be more environmentally friendly and reduce printing costs. By using less paper, we reduce our carbon footprint while also giving you remote access to the program from anywhere.

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Lisa Higgs  
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Alyssa Keller

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Up Next:

### *Perfect Arrangement*

A Madcap Comedy of Secrets  
Directed by Kendra Verhage  
Performing March 6th - 22nd

It's the 1950's in Washington DC, and two seemingly perfect, all-American couples live in perfect harmony. But beneath the surface, all four are hiding their own secrets. As their carefully constructed facades begin to crumble, their lives, and friendships, are pushed to the breaking point in this madcap comedy.



Join us for the rest of our  
42<sup>nd</sup> Season!

## ROCHESTER REPERTORY THEATRE'S 2025-2026 SEASON

A MUSICAL  
COMEDY OF  
EMPOWERMENT

OCTOBER  
3-4, 9-12  
AND 16-19



A  
HEARTWARMING  
MUSICAL OF  
FAMILY

NOVEMBER  
28-29  
DECEMBER  
4-7 AND 11-14



A POETIC  
DRAMA OF  
HEALING

JANUARY  
15-18 AND  
22-25



A MADCAP  
COMEDY OF  
SECRETS

MARCH  
6-7, 12-15  
AND 19-22



A  
PROFOUND  
DRAMA OF  
IDENTITY

APRIL  
24-25 AND 30  
MAY  
1-3 AND 7-10



A MUSICAL  
COMEDY OF  
SECOND  
CHANCES

JUNE 12-13,  
18-21 AND  
25-28



TICKETS (507) 289-1737

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The Rochester Repertory Theatre Presents:  
***The Women of Lockerbie***

By Deborah Brevoort

**Production/Design:**

Director.....Cheryl Frarck  
Stage Manager/Asst. Director .....Lynne Drumm  
Scenic Design.....Chris Smith  
Mural Painting.....Susan Zahasky  
Lighting/Sound Design.....Ed Boos  
Costume Design.....Cara Edwards

**Cast:**

Flora Nesbitt/Chorus.....Karen Mulvihill-Petri  
Rhona Thompson/Chorus.....Kris Liedtke  
Eva MacDougall/Chorus.....Becca Messick  
Moira McPherson/Chorus.....Patricia Barrier  
Madeline.....Kendra Weber  
Bill.....Nick Taylor  
Olive.....Becci Miller  
Hattie.....Thea Nixon  
George.....Kevin Mergen

**Director's Notes**

While we all must face grief in our lives, it's amazing to me that we do it so poorly for each other. Comments swirl around us, "So sorry for your loss; how are you doing; if you need anything, let me know; you can donate his/her things to Goodwill, find another hobby, take your mind off things, let the grief go, you have to move on." Which is why ***Women of Lockerbie*** speaks so powerfully to me.

The script is inspired by the real-life kindness of Lockerbie women who washed the clothes of victims in the 1988 Pan Am 103 bombing, during a memorial service for the victims seven years later. Parents who lost their son, attempt to reconcile their grief as they search for his remains. At the same time, six local women go up against the American government in order to obtain the clothing of the victims being kept in a warehouse as evidence, and deliver the clothing to the victims' family members.

Like a Greek tragedy with a chorus, exploring grief, healing, and love overcoming hate, and by contrasting individual suffering with community compassion, and transforming a horror of tragedy on grand scale into one of shared humanity, as humans deal with the blurred line between grief and acceptance, this play focuses on the victims of this tragedy. We, as the chorus, come to understand that because evil is an ever-present element of life, we must focus on the victims rather than the cause of it, terrorism. We must understand that because evil is an ever-present element in life, the point of this story is that evil only triumphs when we allow it to, and the best way to combat it is through fierce acceptance of each other in moving beyond grief.

- Cheryl Frarck, Director

**Special Thanks**

Tony Drumm, Chris Smith, KTTC/Midwest Access, Bagpipers (Ewan Ferguson and Perry Lokennand, Steve Franks), Paul Zahasky, Mara Smith, Meg Mary Robsahm (M. Ed., Counseling Psychology Certified Life Coach & Grief Specialist, Specializing in Loss and Life Transitions)

This production is performed through a special agreement with  
**Dramatist Play Service Inc.**

**ANY VIDEO, PHOTO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING OF  
THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**



To read the full digital program, including company bios, scan any of the QR codes in the lobby or visit [www.RochesterRep.org](http://www.RochesterRep.org)

## Cast Bios



**Karen Mulvihill-Petri (Flora Nesbitt/Chorus)**  
Karen is just beginning her adventure in the theatre. *The Women of Lockerbie* is her second production with the Rochester Rep. She was in The Rep's 2025 production of *She Kills Monsters*. In 2020, Karen was in Upstage Theater's production of *The Great Gatsby*. By day she wears many different hats as a wife and mother of a big, blended family and co-owner/teacher of Everwild Nature Preschool. In

what little spare time she has, she enjoys watching sports, especially basketball and football, spending time with her family and friends, and planning her next adventure.



### Kris Liedtke (Rhonda Thompson/Chorus)

Kris is excited to join this fabulous cast in her first Rochester Rep performance. After acting in high school and college, she stepped off the stage to watch her incredible kid sing, dance and act. Love you Kota! To Kris there is no greater joy than passing on the love of the performing arts to the next generation. Previous credits include KMHS, St Olaf College, Rochester Civic Theatre and the Mantorville

Theatre Company.



### Becca Messick (Eva MacDougall/Chorus)

Becca Messick is a familiar face at The Rep! She was last seen in *A Winnie the Pooh Birthday Tail* as Rabbit at the Civic Theatre, and *Miss Holmes Returns* at The Rep. She has been involved in the community theatre scene in Rochester and surrounding area since she was 8! She has a bachelors in theatre and film studies, and has also directed 3 shows at the Mantorville Opera House. Fun fact: she was just touring the Scottish Highlands in October!



### Patricia Barrier (Moira McPherson/Chorus)

Patricia has been an actor, singer, dancer and choreographer in over 25 productions. She was recently seen as Mrs Wiggins in the Rep's production of *Miss Holmes Returns*. She has performed at the Rep, Rochester Civic Theatre, Absolute Theatre, Mantorville Opera House, Stewartville Performing Arts Center and Brave Community Theatre of Spring Valley. Patricia is a playwright and will present a

staged reading of her play *A Woman's War* at the Rep in February. Patricia is honored to continue her creative work in the Rep family.



### Kendra Weber (Madeline)

Kendra is delighted to return to the Rep stage, and across the pond, in *The Women of Lockerbie*, to share this tale of grief and healing. She previously appeared in *Miss Holmes Returns* (ensemble, u/s Josephine Baker). Kendra lives in rural Rochester, along with her husband, two cats and fourteen dogs. She is grateful for the continued support of her family and friends as she explores creative outlets in her "empty nest era."



### Nick Taylor (Bill)

Nick is excited to be back on stage at The Rep and is grateful to be part of such a vibrant and supportive theatre community. He was most recently seen as Bob Ewell in *To Kill a Mockingbird* at the Rochester Civic Theatre. His previous Rep credits include Inspector Geoffrey Lestrade in *Miss Holmes Returns* and Martin Frazier in *Typhoid Mary*. Nick holds a bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts from Saint Mary's University and is passionate about storytelling. Now more than ever, he

believes in the power of theatre as an inclusive space where everyone's voice can be heard, respected, and celebrated.



#### **Becci Miller (Olive)**

Becci hasn't trod the boards at the Rep for some time and was last seen on the Mantorville stage dancing The Nutcracker. She has been more than happy to assist in shows as prop master or ADSM but is excited to be portraying Olive. She would like to thank her husband, Ed, for his patience in helping learn this beautiful character.



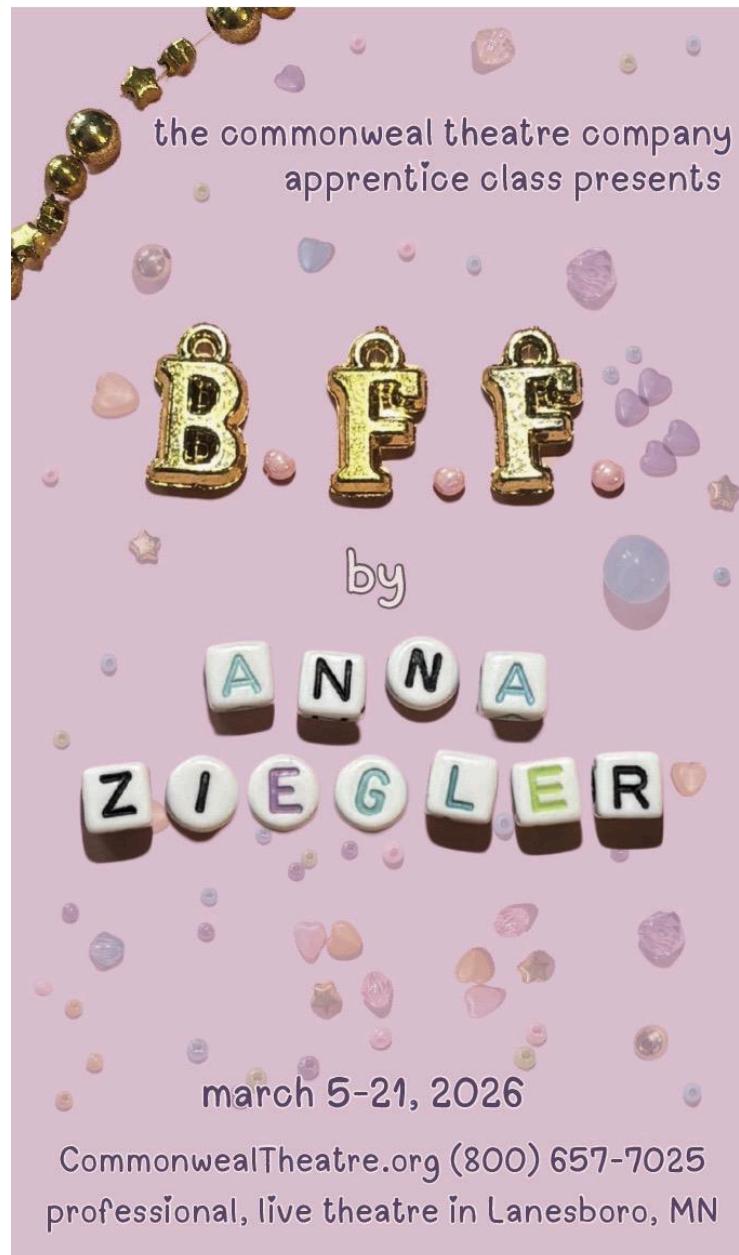
#### **Thea Nixon (Hattie)**

Thea got involved in theater when she was three, playing the wicked witch in an uncle's school project. She loves sewing costumes, reading, stage managing, silliness with her dog and grandchildren and language. Thea has performed in Mankato, shocking her friends when she lost her skirt, Lanesboro, where they had no props, and Chatfield, where she lived in a box, among other places. She is excited to be onstage at the Rep for the first time as Hattie. She hopes you all enjoy Hattie as much as she does.



#### **Kevin Mergen (George)**

Kevin is excited to be on The Rep stage. He was previously seen as Mrs Armstrong in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and Mr. Salt in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. He received his bachelor's of science degree from Clarke University. A published poet, Kevin enjoys writing, traveling and teaching yoga. Kevin would like to thank the cast and crew, mom and dad, family and friends for the continued support.



## Production/Design Bios



### **Cheryl Frarck (Director)**

Cheryl is delighted to be returning to direct on the Rep stage since splitting sides with *Four Old Broads* last season. Cheryl's past directing credits at the Rep include pre-COVID *The Savannah Sipping Society*. Cheryl's acting credits include *Radium Girls*, *Miss Holmes*, *The Good Doctor*, *Dashing Through the Snow*, and *Murder Room*. She also appeared in *Calendar Girls* and as Princess Dragomirov in *Murder on the Orient Express* with Absolute Theatre, and as Pauline in *A Bright New Boise* with In Heart Theatre. Other directing credits include productions at the Mantorville Theatre Company.



### **Lynne Drumm (Asst. Director/Stage Manager)**

Lynne is proud to be part of this deep and healing production. She brings a long history of stage managing at another theatre to her first solo AD/SM gig at the Rep. Working with the actors, director, and other artistic staff has been a collaborative pleasure. Lynne also enjoys being onstage and recently played one of the *Four Old Broads* at the Rep. She hopes you enjoy the show and come away feeling the message of healing that runs through the production.

### **Ed Boos (Lighting/Sound Design)**

Ed likes to play with computers and make noises. Sometimes the local theatre companies let him. This is one of those times!



### **Cara Edwards (Costume Designer)**

Cara has been costuming shows at the Rep for over 25 years. She enjoys the unique challenges that each show presents. She continues to learn new things in the research and creation and loves helping the actors get into their characters through their costumes. Thanks to Mike and Annie as always for holding down the fort while she plays at the Rep.

# MANTORVILLE THEATRE COMPANY

**April 10 - 26: "The Outsider"**

By Paul Slade Smith

Directed by Madeline

Sarasio Meyer



More info:



**507-635-5420**

[mantorvilletheatrecompany.com](http://mantorvilletheatrecompany.com)

Thanks to Our 25/26 Season Sponsor!



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Thanks to our show sponsor for  
*The Women of Lockerbie!*

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This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board and Southeastern Minnesota Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



# The Rochester Repertory Theatre Extends the Deepest Thanks to Our Donors!

## 2025-2026 Season Donors

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### **Supporting Players** (up to \$99)

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### **In Loving Memory of Eric Donaldson**

Ruth Donaldson

### **In Loving Memory of Michelle Nietz**

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If you find an error in how you are recognized, please contact Philip Wayne-Davis at [philip.muehe@gmail.com](mailto:philip.muehe@gmail.com)

This list was updated on **Jan 8th, 2026**