Choreographer: Kathryn Van Meter
Director: Brian Yorkey
May 14 – August 2, 2015
Music Director: R.J. Tancioco
Assistant Director/Choreographer: Director: Steve Tomkins
By Douglas Cohen and William Goldman
No Way To Treat a Lady
The year’s new musical, No Way To Treat A Lady was a musical comedy with a murderous twist and featured an all-star cast of Village Theatre favorites. BroadwayWorld.com proclaimed “The show is a silly, raucous, dark, and twisted sure-fire crowd pleaser and with my three letter rating system I give the show a solid YAY followed by an evil maniacal laugh. This may be no way to treat a lady but it’s certainly the way to treat an audience.”
Finaly, the year ended with a dazzling production of Cabaret directed by Issaquah native and Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winner Brian Yorkey. The Huffington Post called this show, “a vibrant, glib production that entertains from opening curtain to final ovation,” and audience members agreed, raving that it was “the best show I’ve seen in one of our local venues” and “a performance worthy of Broadway in NYC.”

THe 2014-2015 Mainstage Season was a highlight year for Village Theatre, as the organization surpassed 19,000 Season Ticket holders for the first time, ending with 19,334 Season Ticket holders between Issaquah and Everett.

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS
The Season opened with an energized production of In the Heights, the Tony Award-winning hit by Lin-Manuel Miranda. This exciting show featuring electrifying choreography by Daniel Cruz. One audience member proclaimed, “Just when I thought we saw the best show, this tops it out.”

The holiday season show exceeded all shows that came before it, with Mary Poppins taking the spot as Village Theatre’s most successful production to date. The soaring production featured 96 performances in which Mary flew across the stage and over the audience, Bert tap-danced upside down on the prosenium, and magic reigned supreme. Directors Steve Tomkins and Kathryn Van Meter assembled “practically perfect” cast and the production team pulled together what is considered to be the most technically challenging show Village Theatre has produced.

Next on stage was the play Around the World in 80 Days, a madcap comedy that had audiences laughing with laughter as six actors played 39 different characters from Jules Verne’s classic novel. As The Seattle Times said “This theatrical magic is possible not only because of the skill of the actors, much of the credit goes to set designer Carey Wong, costume designer Karen Ann Ledger, and sound designer Brent Warwick. Praise goes to the entire production crew for technical wizardry and theater art.”

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Village Theatre’s Youth Education and Community Outreach programs served over 55,000 young people, families, and educators throughout the Puget Sound. Available to all regardless of the ability to pay, the programs provide healthy out-of-school activities, stimulate learning through the arts in schools, provide access to the arts for underserved populations, develop young artists, and promote skills for enriched and successful lives.

Nearly 39,000 youth were impacted by Village Theatre Youth Education Programs. Youth attended shows with their families or schools, engaged in in-school workshops or residencies, or were involved in the after-school program, KIDSTAGE. 19% of the 24,087 youth education students in KIDSTAGE; or school programs including Pied Piper, received financial assistance, free programs or free tickets.

Program Quality Initiative (YPQI). The YPQI is both a professional development program and data driven assessment tool that helps ensure youth engagement and program quality. Two elementary schools on the Eastside continued their partnership with KIDSTAGE to bring theatre arts into every classroom. These programs are in their fourth year. Work began with the Everett School District to provide field trips to the theatre as well as workshops to all 6th grade ELL (English Language Learners) students.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH
Pied Piper is a theatre for young audiences series and arts in education program that brings “literature to life” in the classroom and on stage for schools and the public.

Nearly 300 people attended a free Sensory Friendly performance thanks to funding from The Mark and Vickie Fund of the Nysether Family Foundation. Free Performances for the Public

• Event KIDSTAGE performed for 2,000 audience members this summer in the Wintertide Theater with six free performances of Jungle Book Kids and selections from Peter Pan.
• Nearly 300 people attended a free two KIDSTAGE performances during the City of Everett’s popular Wintertide event.

YOUTH EDUCATION
KIDSTAGE is a youth development program that advances Skills for Theatre… Skills for Life through after-school classes, camps, productions and apprenticeships, and in-school workshops and residencies. 3,090 students directly worked with professionals, artists, and educators to build social and theatrical skills and explored all facets of theatre and musical theatre.

Village Theatre’s KIDSTAGE program was funded for a third year by the Raikes Foundation to continue work with the nationwide Youth

BY THE NUMBERS 2014-2015 VILLAGE THEATRE’S YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

55,340 Total number of youth and adults impacted by the program
38,579 Youth-avored total
45 Average number of artist contact hours per student
19% Of all youth served receive scholarships/free programs
39% The percentage of students engaged directly with teaching artists/directors receive free programs or scholarships
10 Number of full scale musicals produced by youth with KIDSTAGE
VILLAGE ORIGINALS

The Festival of New Musicals is held each summer in August, drawing professionals, directors, writers, composers, and producers from all over the country, even internationally. The Festival utilizes both First Stage Theatre and the Francis J. Gaudette Theatre in order to have five readings of new musicals along with a more elaborate developmental production. As a part of The 15th Annual Festival of New Musicals, we presented a developmental production of Great Wall, a soulful new musical that takes a fresh and honest look at the American Dream. An alumni of Village Originals developed the show.

Capital Campaign

In 2005 Village Theatre developed a comprehensive $14 million capital campaign. Under the title of Building for the Future, the campaign was originally chaired by the late Craig Watjen and philanthropist Peter Hewitt. In honor of Craig, Village Theatre developed a special campaign around his legacy that focused on the completion of Phase I and II; the final $100,000 for these phases was completed with a gift by Microsoft in the fall of 2014. The 2014-2015 Season focused on efforts to complete funding of Phase III for the newly named Cope Gillette Theatre (formerly Second Stage and Youth Education Center) in Everett. Due to these efforts and the continued support of the Everett philanthropic community, Village Theatre launched the final, and public, phase of the campaign in the Fall of 2015 to raise the remaining $257,000.

Phase I: Craig & Joan Watjen Technical Studios

Construction of the Craig & Joan Watjen Technical Studios in Issaquah was completed in October of 2007. The Technical Studios have proven to be a great addition to the operation of Village Theatre, allowing the artistic and production departments to be more efficient and grow the capabilities of production, quality design, and construction.

Phase II: First Stage Theatre

Village Theatre re-built First Stage Theatre, which was originally constructed in 1913. Completed in 2009, the reconstruction maintained the historical feel and facade, while incorporating state-of-the-art production equipment and modern patron amenities. Today, First Stage is home to our KIDSTAGE and Village Originals programs. The new theatre has doubled the classroom space, incorporated a larger lobby, expanded restrooms, and added dressing rooms. A new telescoping 193-seat system was installed to provide for maximum flexibility, allowing cabaret productions, reception space, and special event occasions, as well as a traditional theatre environment.

Phase III: The Cope Gillette Theatre

(formerly Second Stage and the Youth Education Center) Over the past year many naming gifts have been inspired in part by the leadership gift by Saundra Cope and Walt Gillette. The lobby is to be named the Steve and Carol Klein Lobby; the Orchestra Chamber will be named for the Bill and Susie Rucker Family; the girls dressing room will be named by Karen McMahen, Sid and Betty Morrow have named the Pied Piper Office; the KIDSTAGE Production Manager Office has been named by Bui and Sandy deCilla; the Prop Loft has been named by Tyrol and Tom Lucas; and the Bad and Norma Haines family have named the Theatre Kitchen. We are additionally thankful to the Northstar Family Foundation for their support of $50,000.

Phase IV: Endowment

The Board of Directors, along with Village Theatre leadership and the Development Team, have set a goal and started planning for a comprehensive $14 million endowment campaign for Village Theatre.

Financial Information

During the 2014-2015 Season, Village Theatre produced five outstanding shows on its Mainstage season with a total 387 performances. The Mainstage saw attendance of 96,163 patrons in Issaquah and 58,861 in Everett. Total number of subscribers increased 4.7% over the prior year, bringing the total to 19,334. Total earned revenue from operations increased 8.9%, mainly due to our highly successful production of Mary Poppins. Through the generous support of foundations, corporate, and government partners, contributions exceeded $2.3 million dollars, which represents a 10.4% increase from the prior year. Operating expenses increased 9.3% from the prior year mainly due to higher production and increased labor costs. Through the combined efforts of a supportive community and a creative and dedicated Village Theatre team, the campaign saw the year with an operating surplus before depreciation (a nonsubsidized expenditure) of $230,899. When combining operating expenses and capital campaign activity, the overall change in net assets was an increase of $53,841.

KIDSTAGE continued to grow and saw a 5% increase in revenue. Attendance at the 10 KIDSTAGE productions throughout the year was over 15,000. The Pied Piper program presented five shows to school groups and families and saw overall attendance of 16,760. The Village Originals program, which continues to attract local, as well as national, attention from writers and directors across the country, produced another successful Festival of New Musicals in the summer. It also produced another developmental production of Great Wall at First Stage Theatre and for the first time presented a Village Originals production in Everett at the newly opened Cope Gillette Theatre.

Beginning in 2005, Village Theatre launched a capital and endowment fund campaign. The campaign proceeds were used to purchase land and build the Craig & Joan Watjen Technical Studios—which house the scene, prop, and paint shops—reconstruct First Stage Theatre, convert an Everett City building to student and education facility, provide financial stability by establishing an endowment, retire the current mortgage, and cover the cost of the campaign. The campaign goal as of August 31, 2015 was $13.8 million. As of August 31, 2013 and 2014, $9,744,587 and $9,467,276 respectively, had been pledged or given towards that goal. The Craig and Joan Watjen Technical Studios were completed in 2007 and reconstruction of First Stage Theatre was completed in March 2011. The Everett Youth Education Center (now called The Cope Gillette Theatre) was completed in September 2011.

Village Theatre has a strong financial position. For the year ended August 31, 2015, Village Theatre has an operating surplus before depreciation of $230,899, a net asset increase of $53,841, and $14,846,704 in total assets. This strong position ensures the financial stability of the organization and enables us to continue our mission to enrich the lives of our community through the performing arts.
**THE MISSION OF VILLAGE THEATRE**

To be a regionally and nationally influential center of excellence for the arts.

**To promote a season of top quality productions**

To commission and produce new musicals that achieve national exposure.

To training people in theatrical career opportunities and enriched lives.

To develop a broad-based approach for live theatre.

To promote positive values through art.
Donors

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$5,000 to $9,999

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Lisa & Kevin Conner

Chad Bentsen & Kristen

Dan & Portia Anderson

Shanna Marie Waite

Sue Short

Mitchell Artist

Gary & Marilyn Kneepkens

Neil Hoyt & Donald Jenny

Steven J. Hazlerig

Linda Cheung

Steve Bolliger & Megan & Seth Adams

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VILLAGE THEATRE STAFF as of August 31, 2015

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Paul and
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Sallie’s Waterfront
Salon Jade
Salish Lodge & Spa
Roy Gabay Productions
Rotary Club of
Paul and
Riverdog
Canine Coaching
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Jessica Spencer, Casting and Company Manager
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Laurel Blaine, Properties Carpenter/Welder
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Jenni Leavitt, Costume Shop Assistant
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Joel Arpin, KIDSTAGE Production Coordinator, Issaquah
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Ruthann Tacher, KIDSTAGE Registrar and Coordinator, Issaquah

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