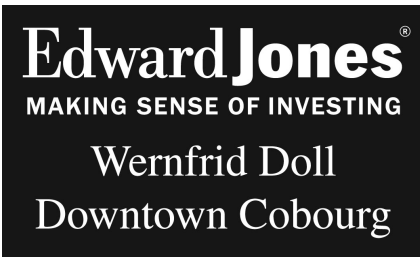




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Cobourg & Port Hope



 northumberland players present

Miracle on 34th Street

Adapted by
Mountain Community Theater
from the novel by
Valentine Davies

Produced by David Hoare
Directed by
Heather Jopling

Based upon the
Twentieth Century Fox
motion picture
*Miracle on
34th Street*



A LIVE RADIO PLAY

FIREHALL THEATRE, COBOURG

DECEMBER 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 2015, 8:00 PM

DEC 6, 13, 20, 2015, 2:00 PM MATINÉES

Director's Notes

As a child, I fell madly for the characters and message of *Miracle on 34th Street*. That adoration has grown through the past 4 decades with each subsequent viewing of the classic film.

When the Northumberland Players began producing radio plays, I knew I wanted to direct Valentine Davies' story. The joy of Kris Kringle and his campaign of belief is a powerful allegory – not just for Christmas and all winter holidays, but for humankind.

Though the setting of the radio play is Manhattan, the values it espouses are very small town. Support, love, open-mindedness, faith... all run through this script. As today's world seems to spin out of control, I hold fast to the notion that people are innately good, love is stronger than hate and collective goodwill can and will smother evil.

I would like to thank the wonderful cast who collaborated with me on this play. Watching as they explored their many characters has been a true joy. There have been many smiles and much laughter during this rehearsal process.

Whatever way you celebrate the winter holidays, I wish you the merriest, brightest and most joyful of seasons filled with love, laughter and generosity of spirit!

Heather Jopling

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Jack Boyagian for being our Go-To-Solver guy. A huge holiday thanks to Beth Hunt for her jingly help! Maureen Holloway, your assistance with all things production related was invaluable. To all the set construction/movers – we couldn't do it without you. And a special thanks to our Front of House folks



northumberland players
enriching lives dramatically

Who are Northumberland Players?

Northumberland Players is live, local, and committed to bringing quality theatre to the whole family.

In its 39 years, Northumberland Players has won Theatre Ontario awards for performance, directing, music and production. They also have a very active young people's theatre program which performs a major children's Christmas production and runs drama camps throughout the summer months.

Northumberland Players provides opportunities in all aspects of quality theatre — over 300 enthusiastic, **un-paid volunteers** who work as actors, directors, producers, set builders, costume makers, etc., are proof there is passion for live theatre in Northumberland County. When you attend a not-for-profit theatre company, your entertainment dollars stay in the community, the cultural and economic benefits rippling throughout Northumberland County.

Home for Northumberland Players is the historic **Second Street Firehall** in Cobourg. The building houses the Players' administrative office, rehearsal spaces and a ground-floor theatre. The **Firehall Theatre** is an intimate venue adaptable to present both classic and innovative theatre.

Northumberland Players Costume Warehouse at Unit 4, 450 Campbell Street in Cobourg, is the home of the Players' vast collection of period and contemporary costumes available for rentals for theatrical and other events. Northumberland Players also leases **The Third Space** on Loveshin Road for set storage and construction.

Over 10,000 people attended our productions last year. We hope even more people will see our shows during the 2015-16 season.

Be a Player - There are many roles!

We also welcome members and volunteers to join us in producing quality theatre.

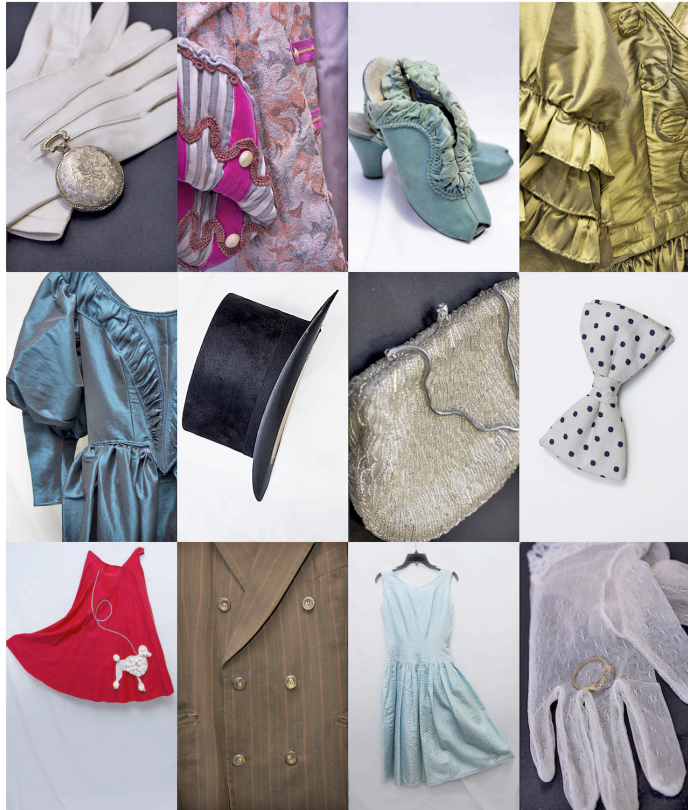
- **Members** have a voice in Northumberland Players, a vote at the Annual General Meeting, and can serve on the Board of Directors. Membership fees provide on-going support for the administration of the Players. Memberships are \$25. A Family Membership of \$40 includes spouses and, as non-voting members, children and youth.

- **Volunteers** participate in all aspects of community theatre in acting, artistic, backstage, clerical, construction, production and/or technical roles on the production teams or in administrative roles. Many have "learned on the job".

- **Donors and Sponsors** provide financial support. For example, a grant from Rotary enabled us to upgrade the sound and lighting in the Firehall Theatre. This year, Northumberland Players has improved the main entrance to the theatre.

Visit us at www.northumberlandplayers.ca for more information, to donate and/or sign up. You can visit the Firehall office at 213 Second Street, Cobourg, or call 905-372-0577. We accept VISA and Master Card. The office is open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fridays.

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Cast

(in order of radio broadcast appearance)

- Robb Howells . . . Foley Artist
- Sharon Rathbone . . . Announcer, Mother 2
- Zoë Brglez . . . Jingle Girl / Announcer / Young Lady / Girl / Tommy Mara
- Jamie Spereman . . . Kris Kringle
- Kevin Martin . . . Drunk Santa / Mr. Shellhammer / ADA Mara / Charley
- Stephanie Carrabin . . . Doris Walker
- Emily Martin . . . Susan Walker
- David Hoare . . . Fred Gailey, Dr. Pierce
- Darryl Seminsky . . . Alfred / Mortimer / Mr. Macy / Louie
- Stacey Toste . . . Mother / Miss Prong / Mrs. Shellhammer / Nurse / Mrs. Mara / Postman
- Grant Coward . . . Mr. Sawyer / Mr. Gimbel / Judge Harper

Production

- Producer . . . David Hoare
- Director & Stage Manager . . . Heather Jopling
- Set Construction Head . . . David McTavish
- Set Construction & Moving . . . David Brister, Jack Boyagian, Frank Burns, Dave Clark, Dean Darnell, John Forder, Ken Forsythe, Garth Holloway, David Hutzel, Ken MacDonald, David McTavish, John Matthew, Rick Morrison, Tim Russell, Michael Vlajkov, Tony Walker, Ian White
- Costumes . . . Lisa Schnalzer-Missen
- Properties . . . Robb Howells
- Technical Design . . . David Hoare
- Photographer . . . Alina Adjemian
- Poster Design . . . Greg Curtis
- Program . . . Maureen Holloway, David Hoare
- Marketing . . . Alina Adjemian, Maureen Holloway
- Box Office . . . Beth Hunt, Tom Hall

Zoë Brglez (Jingle Girl/Co-Announcer/Young Woman/Little Girl/Tommy Mara)

Zoë is thrilled to be joining the cast of *Miracle on 34th Street*. Zoë's first lead role at age 11 was at the Capital Theatre Port Hope as Gertrude McFuzz in *Seussical*, she has performed in *Snow White* as Frightful and *Alice in Wonderland* as The March Hare then also appeared in a Broadway revue and *High School Musical* in Toronto. Zoë thanks her family, Cousin Jenny and vocal coach Beth Hunt for their enthusiasm and support. She also thanks director Heather for allowing her to enjoy this valuable experience. Zoë loves working with this great cast.

Stephanie Carabin (Doris Walker)

Stephanie, last seen at the Firehall in *All the Kings Women* is happy to be back and loving the fun in keeping the magic alive this Christmas. She dedicates her performance to her four young "Sugar Plums."

Grant Coward (Mr. Sawyer/Mr. Gimbel/Judge Harper)

Grant has been involved with many musical stage productions throughout the GTA for most of his adult life. He sang with the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir for 16 consecutive years including 3 years with the Mendelssohn Singers. A highlight during this time was singing on the Academy Award winning soundtrack of the movie *Schindler's List*. *Miracle on 34th Street* is Grant's 11th show since moving to Cobourg in 2010 which includes the recent production of *Les Miserables* at the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope.

David Hoare (Fred Gailey/Dr. Pierce)

David is a teacher-by-day, programmer-by-night, and lighting-designer-and-actor-whenever-he-can-squeeze-it-in. A graduate of the Tech Design program of Canada's National Theatre School, he has been involved in many productions on both sides of the stage with the Players since moving here 13 years ago with his lovely wife Heather and daughter Rissa. David is thrilled to be working with this great cast and crew in *Miracle on 34th Street*.

Robb Howells (Foley Artist)

This is Robb's fourth different production as the live sound/Foley artist. He has previously clattered around in *The Dead Duck Caper*, a Sam Spade adventure, *The All American Menace*, a Thin Man Mystery, and *It's A Wonderful Life*. Primarily a prop maker, his work has appeared in *Sweeney Todd*, *The Woman in Black*, *Shrek*, and many others. Most recently, he built Chitty for *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. Robb thanks the cast and crew for allowing him to play with his props on stage!

Heather Jopling (Director/Stage Manager)

Heather multitasks as an actor/writer/director/playwright/wife/mother. An actor since the age of 11, she has written and performed several autobiographical one-woman shows – and is the creator/librettist of *Mythos: The Crimson Chorus*, a vampire rock opera, which premiered at the New York New Works Theatre Festival this past summer. Heather has worked on and off stage with the Northumberland Players since 2002 and is thrilled to collaborate with this wonderful cast to bring *Miracle on 34th Street* to local audiences.

Emily Martin (Susan Walker)

Emily is thrilled to be making her theatrical debut at the Firehall Theatre this December. Emily is really enjoying performing as Susan Walker in this production of *Miracle on 34th Street*, and is learning a lot from the more experienced actors. A homeschooled 5th grade student, Emily loves Christmas, and every year watches the movie version of *Miracle on 34th Street* with her

Winter Holidays around the World

Bodhi Day – Buddhism

Christmas – Christianity

Hogswatch – Disc World

Mawlid - Muslim

Festivus – Seinfeld

Pancha Ganapati – Hinduism

Saturnalia – Roman Winter Solstice

Hanukkah – Judaism

Yule – Paganism

Soyal – Zuni & Hopi

Kwanzaa – Pan-African

Winter Solstice – Secular

Did you know that Shabe Yaldā or Shabe Chelle is an Iranian festival coinciding with the winter solstice which celebrates the victory of light and goodness over darkness and evil?



northumberland players

Board of Directors 2016

Executive

President: Jack Boyagian

Vice-President: Leslee Argue

Treasurer: Garth Holloway

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Laura Garton

Maureen Holloway

Matt Kowalyk

Jody Ledgerwood

Paula Worley

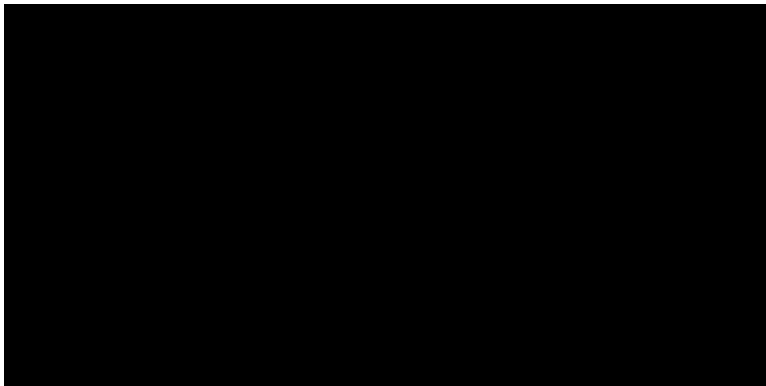
Northumberland Players is a thriving community theatre. What enables the Players to maintain its success for 40 years are willing and committed individuals who serve as directors and participate in the decision-making. Directors attend monthly Board meetings where decisions are made, keep up to date by reading the reports of other directors, and take on the responsibilities according to their interests, skills, and/or desire to learn. Some directors serve for a one-year term, but others return for multiple one-year terms, ensuring continuity for the Players.

Directors can be contacted by leaving a message at 905-372-0577 or by emailing info@northumberlandplayers.com.

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Kevin Martin (Drunk Santa/Mr. Shellhammer/Assistant D.A. Mara/Charley)

Kevin is a father of 6 and a husband of 1. In his spare time he runs his home support business, with the help of his lovely wife Angela. This is Kevin's first production with the Northumberland Players and he is proud to be a part of *Miracle on 34th Street* team.

David McTavish (Head of Set Building)

David tried acting in the 1980's in Peterborough, but found that his handyman skills far surpassed his acting ability, and he has been happily building sets ever since! What time not spent with the Players is spent with his wife, their seven children and their seven grandchildren.

Sharon Rathbone (Announcer/2nd Mother)

Sharon has been an active member of the Northumberland Players for 32 years. She began as an actress, appearing in numerous musicals and dinner theatre shows. For a number of years, she produced and staged managed many productions. Over the last 3 years, Sharon has returned to acting and has appeared in *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Love, Loss and What I Wore* and *Rabbit Hole*. She is thrilled to be a member of the cast of *Miracle on 34th Street*, working with very talented people.

Darryl Seminsky (Alfred/Mortimer/Mr. Macy/Louie)

Darryl makes his second appearance with the Northumberland Players, after last year's *Drinking Alone*. Before this, Darryl made appearances in the occasional YouTube video and performed as Apprentice #1 in his elementary school's production of *Babes in Toyland*. When not on stage, Darryl can be found spending time with his girlfriend and step son and can also be heard weekly on the Retro Lounge, which airs Thursday nights from 9-11 on Northumberland 89.7

Lisa Schnalzer-Missen (Costume Designer)

Lisa is a John L. Walley award winning designer for Best Costuming for Northumberland Players presentation of *It's a Wonderful Life*. Specializing in one-of-a-kind custom headpieces for *A MidSummer Night's Dream* and costuming for *Glass Menagerie*, *Elephant Man*, *Cabaret*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and now *Miracle on 34th St.* Lisa consults, teaches and designs with the psychology of creating costumes to enrich the audience's *experience*, the actor's confidence and the vision of the directors.

Jamie Spereman (Kris Kringle)

Jamie was last seen in The Northumberland Players' production of *Harvey* this past fall. During this special season, Jamie hopes all will have a joyous and wonderful time with their family and friends. Keep the spirit of Santa Claus, or whatever belief you have, alive! It is the time of year to believe in magic!

Stacey Toste (Mother/Miss Prong/Mrs. Shellhammer/Nurse/Mrs. Mara/Postman) Stacey is thrilled to be back performing with the Northumberland Players! Earlier this year, Stacey ventured into community theatre for the very first time when she was cast in the Players' production of *All the King's Women*. She's thrilled to be part of this incredible cast of actors! When she's not working on her Brooklyn accent, Stacey can be found teaching, discussing *Game of Thrones* plot twists, spending time with her family and hanging out at the beach in this amazing town.



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Upcoming Shows

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by Marc Camoletti

Produced by Beth Hunt Directed by Jim Finan

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Musical Direction by Marie Anderson
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TO SHUT THE MOUTHS OF LIONS

Photo by Lana Missen/Uniquely Strange Photography

Written and Directed by Dave Clark
Produced by Mary Elizabeth Clark
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