The logo for The Public Theatre is prominently displayed on the left side of the image. It features the word "PUBLIC" in large, bold, block letters with a geometric design of overlapping red and pink shapes. The word "theatre" is written in a smaller, white, lowercase serif font, with "the" in italics, positioned to the left of "PUBLIC". Below "PUBLIC" is the word "THEATRE" in a large, white, bold, serif font. The background of the entire image is a photograph of an empty theater with rows of dark seats, viewed from the side, creating a sense of depth and perspective.

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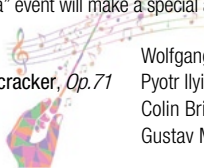
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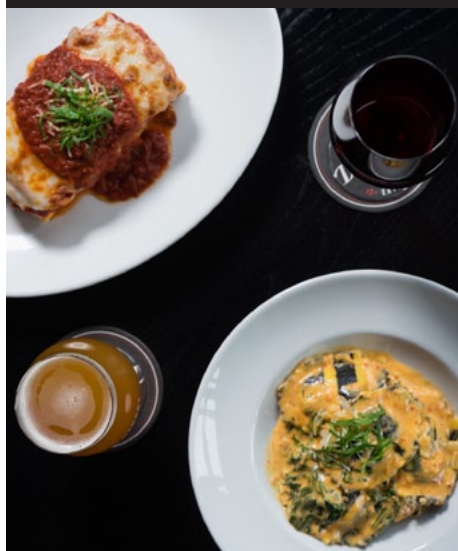
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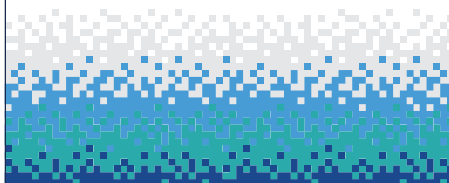
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The Public Theatre was founded to bring high quality professional theatre to the people of Maine, at an affordable price. We strive to make our presentations accessible to all, especially those less likely by tradition or inclination to attend live theatre. In choosing our season, we look for plays that speak from the heart; that are life-affirming and uplifting even when the subject matter is dark or painful; that use our language in powerful and provocative ways; that invite the audience to see their world in a new way. Artistic excellence is central to the mission of The Public Theatre.

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# Screwball COMEDY

by **Norm Foster**

Directed by  
**Christopher Schario**

Stage Manager  
**Lisa Bragdon\***

Costume Design  
**Debra Susi**

Set Design  
**Kit Mayer**

Lighting Design  
**Matt Cost**

Sound Engineer  
**John Morrison**

## CAST

(in order of appearance)

Bosco/Peter/Chauncey/Reginald ..... **Danny Vaccaro\***  
Jonesy/Delores/Gloria..... **Heather Dilly\***  
Jeff Kincaid ..... **Mike Anthony\***  
Mary Hayes ..... **Jessica DiGiovanni\***

***Screwball Comedy will be performed with a 15 minute intermission***

SCREWBALL COMEDY was first produced by the Foster Festival in  
St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada in August, 2017

**SCREWBALL COMEDY is staged by arrangement with Pam Winter,  
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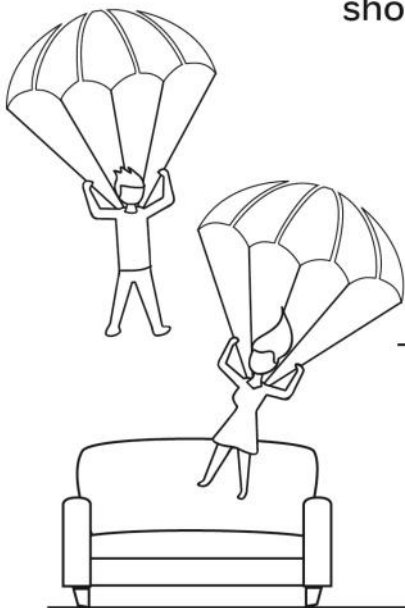


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**DANNY VACCARO** (*Bosco/Reginald/Peter/Chauncey*) is thrilled to be back on stage and sharing some laughs with a live audience. Thank YOU for coming back to live theatre! Danny has toured the country with the Tony Award winning production of *La Cage aux Folles* and as Otto Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*. He has also been the face of Foster Grant Readers - and really needs them now. New

York credits include The Tinman in MSG's *Wizard of Oz*, Tripp in *Streakin'*, and the original Sr Robert Anne in *Nunsense A-Men*. Select Regional: Albin; *La Cage*, Stephen; *Slow Food* (Geva Theatre), Charlie; *The Foreigner*, Pirelli; *Sweeney Todd*, Jamie; *The Last 5 Years* (Barter Theatre), Jacob Marley; *A Xmas Carol* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), Bobby; *A Chorus Line* (Walnut St. Theatre), William Batulcar; *80 Days* (Fulton Opera House). TV: *Law & Order-SVU*, *Younger*. Danny is a graduate of Northwestern University and a proud member of Actor's Equity. Love to The Irish5, Jamie, Mom and Dad.



**HEATHER DILLY** (*Jonesy/Delores/Gloria*) is thrilled to be returning to The Public Theatre for the seventh time. Previously she appeared in *Gun Shy* (Catelyn), *Secrets of a Soccer Mom* (Allison), *Indoor/Outdoor* (Matilda), *Lovesick*, *Human Error* and *Women in Jeopardy*. Heather hails from New York City where she has appeared off-broadway in *Walk Two Moons* (Mom), *Bag Fulla Money* (Becky) and

the award winning show *Screenplay* (Susie). Big thanks to Chris, Janet, Lisa and the whole wonderful Public Theatre crew. All the love in the world to my son Gray.



**MIKE ANTHONY** (*Jeff Kincaid*) is thrilled to be returning to The Public, having last appeared in 2017's *Ripcord*. When not performing, Mike spends his time bartending for *Hamilton* on Broadway, and, to keep things interesting, investigating evidence for life beyond death. His recently published book, *Life At Hamilton*, chronicles his time at the show, and was an Amazon #1 Best Seller. You can also see Mike in the Netflix documentary

series *Surviving Death*. He wrote a book about that too (because if you're gonna do stuff, you might as well write books about it, he supposes) called, *Love, Dad: How My Father Died...Then Told Me He*

Didn't. As always, he thanks his mom, and his entire family (here and there), for...everything.



**JESSICA DIGIOVANNI** (*Mary Hayes*) is jazzed to be back at The Public Theatre! Select Off-Broadway: *Seared* (MCC), *Close Up Space* (MTC), *Of Good Stock* (MTC), *Bike America* (Ma-Yi Theatre Co.), *Training Wisteria* (Cherry Lane Theatre), *Terms of Endearment* (59E59), *A Better Place* (The Duke). Regional: *Time Stands Still* (The Public Theatre of Maine – Broadway World Nom.), *Bike America* (The Alliance Theatre), *The Fox on the Fairway* (Flat Rock Playhouse). Select Film & TV: *Forever* (ABC), *Twenty Five* (Indie Series Awards Nom. – Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy), *The Narcissists*, *The Resort* (Best Actress – Ziiff), *A Stand Up Guy*, *Sleepwalkers*, *The Blacklight*, *Fugitive Zero*, *Switch*. Jessica's voice can also be heard in multiple commercials nationwide and as the Transformer, Windblade. Training: Fordham University at Lincoln Center, Moscow Art Theatre (MXAT) and LAMDA. [www.jessicadigiovanni.com](http://www.jessicadigiovanni.com) @thejessdigi

**NORM FOSTER** (*Playwright*) has been the most produced playwright in Canada for the past 20 years. Born in Newmarket, Ontario and raised in Toronto, Norm attended West Hill Collegiate Institute and then went on to study Radio & Television at Centennial College in Toronto. Upon completion of his studies, he began a radio career that would span 25 years. In 1980 he ended his radio career in Fredericton, New Brunswick where he was introduced to the world of theatre. In 1982 he penned his first professionally produced play, *Sinners*. His next play, *The Melville Boys* would go on to be produced across Canada and the United States, including a well-received run off-Broadway in New York. Norm has produced over fifty plays, including *The Affections of May*, the most produced play in Canada in 1991



**CHRISTOPHER SCHARIO** (*Executive/Artistic Director*) has been Artistic Director of The Public Theatre since 1993. His adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*, published by Dramatists Play Service in 1996, was developed for The Public Theatre and has enjoyed successful productions at professional and amateur theatres throughout the world. In New York he directed for Roundabout Theatre, Westbeth Theatre, Spectrum Stage, American

Academy of Dramatic Arts, Drama Project and Madison Avenue Theatre. Regional theatre directing includes Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Boulder Ensemble Theatre, Kentucky Repertory Theatre, Toledo Repertory Theatre and Millbrook Playhouse. He has acted Off-Broadway, on national tours, regional theater, summer stock, dinner theater, films, soaps and commercials. He has taught at Carnegie-Mellon University, University of Colorado, University of Tennessee, American Academy of Dramatic Arts, as well as privately in New York. He received a BFA in Acting from Ohio University and an MFA in Directing from Carnegie-Mellon University.



**JANET MITCHKO** (*Co-Artistic Director*) Aside from being the Co-Artistic Director of The Public Theatre, Janet has spent much of the past almost 30 years in creative heaven as both a director (*Dancing Lessons, Middletown, Sexy Laundry, Hound of the Baskervilles, Around The World in 80 Days, etc*) and actress (*Women in Jeopardy, A Doll's House, PART 2; The Ladies Foursome; Good People; Time*

*Stands Still; etc*), and is proud to call The Public Theatre her artistic home. Prior to life in Maine, Janet lived in NYC earning her living as a professional actress, voice-over talent, and director as well as teaching acting at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts. She is a graduate of the acting program at Carnegie-Mellon University, and the oh-so-grateful mother of Emily.

**LISA BRAGDON** (*Stage Manager*) has been working as an AEA Stage Manager for over 25 years. She has worked at big theaters and small, and loves working at The Public Theatre. Very proud to have the Public named Best Theatre in Maine by Down East Magazine. Previous Theatres include Arena Stage in Washington D.C., The Huntington in Boston, The Barter in VA., and Portland Stage Company here in Maine. A Registered Maine Guide for the last 26 years she spends summers guiding wilderness canoe trips for Dave Conley at Canoe the Wild, and filming for her YouTube channel "3 Minutes with a Maine Guide".

**KIT MAYER** (*Set Designer*) is pleased to be returning to The Public Theatre for his 12<sup>th</sup> production. Previous designs include: *Under the Skin, The Ladies Foursome, Outside Mullingar, Tigers Be Still, Deathtrap, Fuddy Meers, Shirley Valentine, Sleuth, Rumors, and Steel Magnolias*. A resident of western Wisconsin, he is a freelance designer and scenic

artist in the upper Great Lakes region. As a founding member and designer for the Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre in Fairbanks, AK he has done a considerable amount of work there as well as internationally in Australia, Canada, Germany and the UK.

**DEBRA SUSI** (*Costume Designer*) is thrilled to be a part of The Public Theatre's production of *Screwball Comedy*. Previous Public Theatre productions include *Middletown*, *Things My Mother Taught Me*, *Sexy Laundry* and *Women in Jeopardy*. Debra's directing & costume design credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *West Side Story*, *The Secret Garden*, *Communicating Doors*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Into the Woods*, *Oklahoma!*, *Chicago* and many more at The Waterville Opera House. For the past 20 years Debra has worked as both a high school and middle school Theatre Arts teacher. To all my family and friends for their continued patience, love, and support of my artistic work, thank you. Thank you, AB and JM for this opportunity.

**MATTHEW BRIAN COST** (*Lighting Designer*) has been designing lights for theater, dance, music and more for the last twenty years, from his alma mater Colby College to greater New England and beyond. This show marks his debut at The Public Theatre. Other recent credits include *Once* at The Seacoast Repertory Theatre in Portsmouth, NH, *Alice in P31derland* by Project 31 Dance Company at the Boston University Dance Theatre, and *A Grinchley Christmas Carol* by Gold Dust Orphans at The Iron Wolf Theatre in South Boston. Matt lives in East Weymouth, MA with his wife Abby, son Simon and pitbull Roadie.

**JOHN MORRISON** (*Sound Engineer*) is a sound technician from Auburn, ME in his 7<sup>th</sup> season with The Public Theatre. Recent projects include sound design for *Middletown*, *I and You*, *Fireflies*, directed by Judith Ivey, and *Grease*, all at The Public. In addition, he has mixed live performances of David Lang's *the little match girl passion* for Figures of Speech Theater at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. John frequently mixes live music performances at The Opera House in Boothbay Harbor and provides tech support to theater and dance programs at Bates College, and to the Bates Dance Festival. Over the years, John has worked on projects with James Taylor, Spalding Gray, Chris Botti and Milos Forman. It is unlikely that anyone recalls John's audio contributions to early '80's New York productions of *Taking Steam*, *The Smiling Assassins*, or *Mysteries of the Bridal Night*.



**AMBER CALLAHAN** (*Technical Director*) is delighted to return to The Public Theatre as Technical Director and occasional set designer. She spent the previous four years employed in the fields of theater and special education and recently received her certification as a K-12 theater instructor. Upon graduating from USM with a double major in Art History and Chemistry, Amber has acquired several years of experience as an antique restoration technician and upcycling artist. What feels like a lifetime before that, she graduated from UMaine with a double major in Theater and Psychology and worked with a plethora of theaters throughout New England. She would like to recognize her father, Malcolm Callahan, who has been the ultimate hero, friend, and inspiration a daughter could ask for. I love you to the moon and back dad.

**ERIN FAUBLE** (*Master Electrician*) heralds from the little town of Anderson, SC. After graduating with a BA in Musical Theatre from Converse College, Erin went on to do electrician work at Flat Rock Playhouse for such productions as *Amadeus* and *Little Shop of Horrors*, and to design the lights for Theater at Monmouth's *An Iliad*. She aspires to be both a professional Lighting Designer and to be a successful mother to her fur-baby—a small, bossy gray cat with enormous green eyes.

**JENNIFER B. MADIGAN** (*Scenic Artist*) is happy to be painting Kit's wonderful set. She couldn't manage to do this from home. It's great to be back in the mix.

**HANNAH NIES** (she/her) (*Stage Manager Assistant/Company Manager*) is a recent graduate of Wellesley College, where she studied English and Theatre Studies, with a focus in directing. Past productions: *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914* (Four Seasons Theatre), *Lucia di Lammermoor* (Madison Opera), *Small Mouth Sounds* (Wellesley College), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet*, and *Macbeth* (Wellesley College Shakespeare Society). Many thanks to Marta, Lois, David, Sarah, the Fondue Squad, and everyone who's helped me to grow. To Mom: pudding!

**LEO CARON** (*Crew*) is currently a senior at Edward Little High School. He worked at The Public Theatre during the 2018-19 and 2019-20 seasons. He also works at shows at his school. In his spare time, Leo likes to play piano and is learning how to play other instruments.



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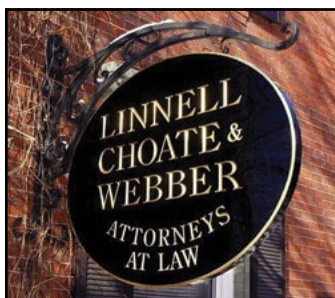
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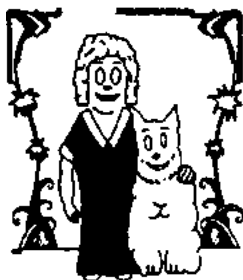
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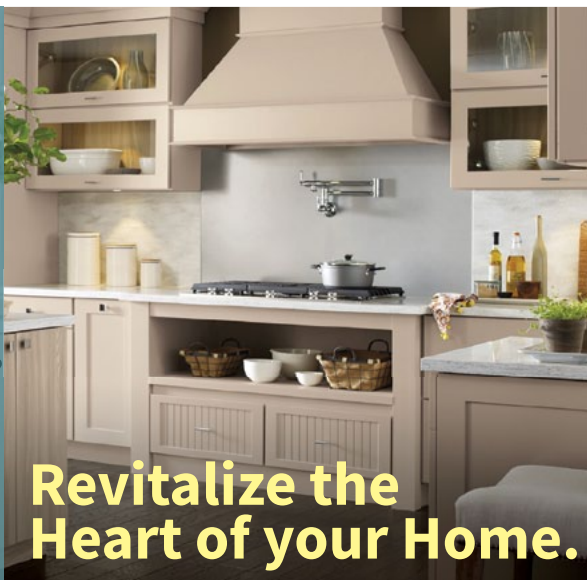


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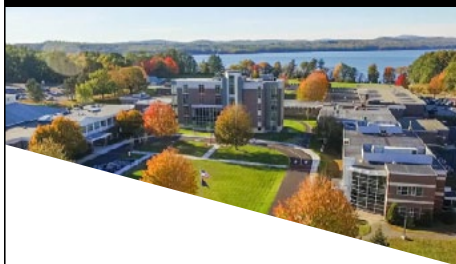


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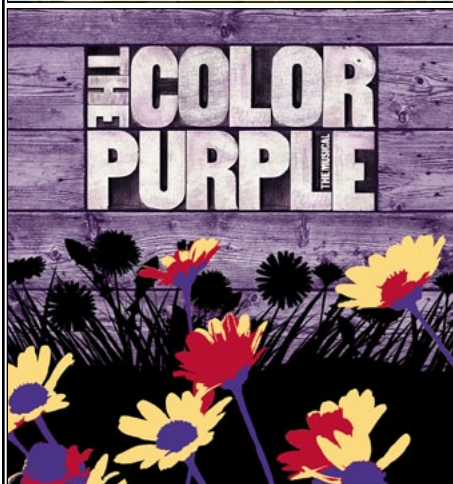
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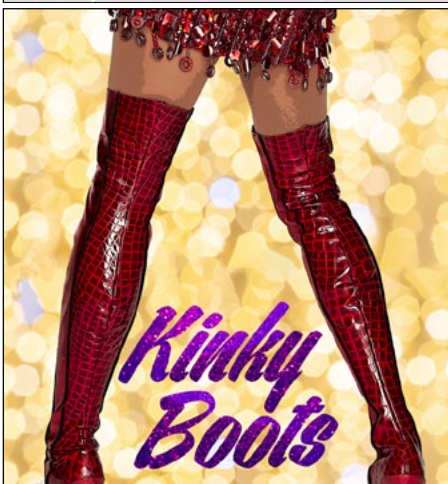
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# 17 Ways to

# HAVE FUN in L/A

- Androscoggin Historical Society
- Auburn Public Library
- Bates Dance Festival
- Bates College Museum of Art
- Community Little Theatre
- Franco-American Collection at USM
- Franco-Trail L/A
- Gendron Franco Center
- L/A Arts
- Lewiston Public Library
- Maine Music Society
- Midcoast Symphony Orchestra
- Museum in the Streets trail
- Museum L-A
- Olin Concert Series
- The Public Theatre
- The Public Art trail



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