

## PRODUCTION CREW

**Laurie Bersack, Music Director/Rehearsal Accompanist/Piano** -- Laurie is a retired middle-school chorus accompanist. She loves playing in the pit for FCT shows and had the privilege of playing in the orchestra for *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Laurie enjoys quilting, clogging, singing in her church choir and grandmothers her 2 grandchildren. She thanks her husband, Joe, for his incredible support and love during their 46 years of marriage.

**Carole Tessier, Rehearsal Accompanist/Keyboard** -- Carole is so happy to return to FCT for another Christmas production with the amazing Diane King! She was last seen in 2019 in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, alongside six of her nine children! This time you will hear Carole, (but not onstage) as she adds a touch of accompaniment to the scenes. She joins three of her children in helping to bring this beautiful story to life. All glory be to God!

**Heather Woodward, Set Painting** -- Heather has painted sets for Fresta Valley Christian School's musicals for over 10 years. She earned a Lofty Award painting sets for *She Loves Me*, her first FCT show! When not in a theater, Heather has been a familiar face for twenty years at The Paint Shop, where her eye for color has made her a valuable resource for those needing help selecting paint for their homes through the shop and by private consultation.

**Stub Estey, Producer** -- Stub has had minimal time in theater in the past 60 years, but lots of experience with administrative tasks, which he offered to Diane to free up her creative genius!

**Bekah G Perez, Stage Manager** -- Bekah was the Head Stage Manager for Fresta Valley's drama program for 4 years and has done 8 shows in total. In addition, she painted and stage-managed for Hope Drama, and had the pleasure of shadowing and learning from former FCT Stage Manager Susan Larson, which was an absolute pleasure! Bekah plans eventually to make stage management a full-time career and looks forward to growing in the field.



**SHOAH**  
JAN. 21 - FEB. 6, 2022

**NOISES OFF**  
MARCH 11 - 27, 2022

**THE PAJAMA GAME**  
APRIL 29 - MAY 17, 2022

**Youth Productions**

**EMMA: A POP MUSICAL** EARLY 2022

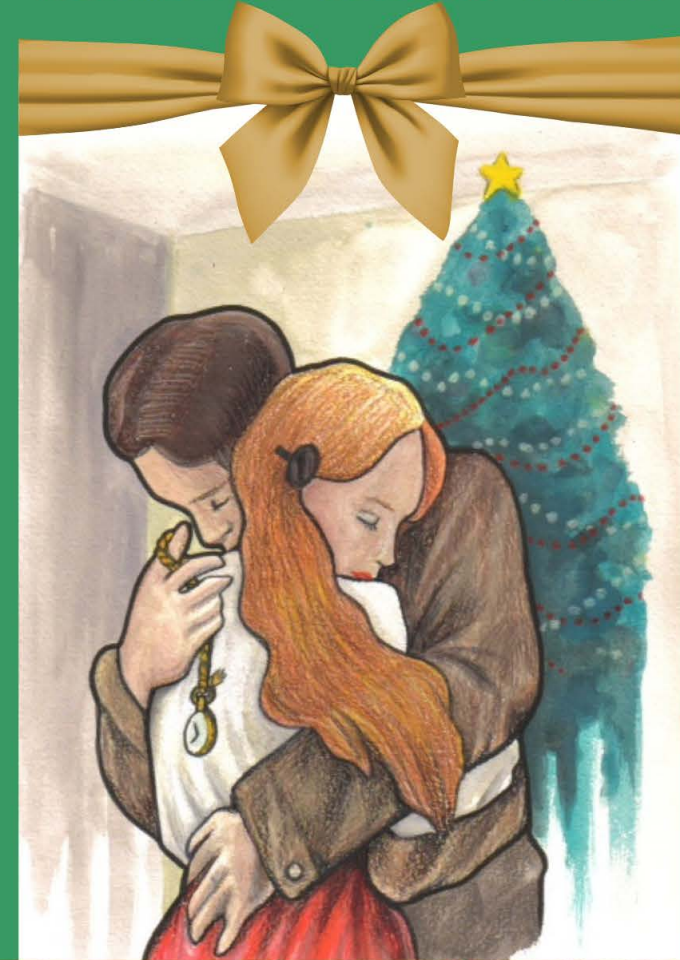
**JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH** SPRING 2022

FCTstage.org 540-349-8760

Fauquier Community Theatre welcomes you to

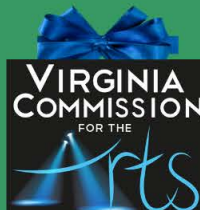
# Gift of the Magi - The Musical

November 26 - December 12, 2021



Music and Lyrics by Beverly Bremers, Book by Faith Grant  
Adapted from O. Henry's short story  
Directed by Diane King

Show Sponsor:



Supported in part by NEA and VCA

# *Gift of the Magi - The Musical*

Music & Lyrics by

**Beverly Bremers**

Book by

**Faith Grant**

Directed by  
**Diane King**

Produced by  
**Stub Estey**

Music Direction by  
**Laurie Bersack**

Vocal Direction by  
**Gabrielle Buonocore**

**Place:** New York City

**Year:** 1905

Adapted from O. Henry's short story  
"The Gift of the Magi"

Produced by special arrangement with Heuer Publishing LLC

**Mission Statement** - Founded in 1978, Fauquier Community Theatre (FCT) enriches and entertains a range of audiences through a variety of live theatre productions that enhance the cultural life of the community. The theatre offers a range of challenging creative opportunities that inspire people of all ages and backgrounds to participate in theatre. FCT cultivates an appreciation of the performing arts, educates through experience, participates in community activities, and partners with other arts and community groups.

**GO TO FCTstage.org or call 540-349-8760 and GET INVOLVED!**

Email: [Info@FCTstage.org](mailto:Info@FCTstage.org)

Mailing Address: PO Box 3046, Warrenton, VA 20188

Venue: 4225 Aiken Drive, Warrenton, VA 20187

## MEET THE CAST (Cont'd)

### Isabella McDonald (Caroler/Alice/Beggar Mother)



Isabella is a 10th grader in the CFPA program at Colgan High School. Some of her past roles include Tanya (Mamma Mia!) at Westfield Theatre, Imogene Herdman (Best Christmas Pageant Ever) at Fauquier Community Theatre, and Jane (*Emma: A Pop Musical*), also at FCT. She would like to thank her family for their support and Diane King for this wonderful opportunity. She hopes you enjoy the show!

### David Morgan (Santa/Henry)



Dave was most recently seen as the Roman Centurion in FCT's *Jesus Christ Superstar*, where he made many great friends among the cast. Prior to that he was seen in Upper Room Theatre's *Beauty and the Beast* as Maurice, which is much closer to his role in the *Gift of the Magi - The Musical*. Dave can be seen with some of his fellow cast members in *Fools! Improv*.

### Lucy Underwood (Newsgirl)



Lucy is a sixth grade homeschool student. At this time of year, she fondly reminisces about her last role at FCT as Gladys in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. (It truly was the BEST!) Lucy would like to thank Mrs. King for directing her, her mom for helping her, and her sister for encouraging her. She would also like give thanks to God for the opportunity to be in this performance that shows love and sacrifice.

### Diane King, Director

Diane directed FCT's *Sanders Family Christmas*; *She Loves Me*; and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever - the Musical*. Bitten by the theater bug in 2002 when two of her children were in FCT's *The Music Man*, Diane continued her theater passion at Fresta Valley Christian School where she has directed their drama program for the past 18 years. Her real-life roles are wife to Ron, mother to four adult children, and grandmother to four granddaughters.

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FCT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, supported in part by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, which receives support from the Virginia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. FCT is also appreciative of local grants from the PATH Foundation, Claude Moore Charitable Foundation, and NOVEC.

## MEET THE CAST (Cont'd)

### Jamey Pellegrini (Hunnicuttt)



This is Jamey's second performance with FCT, but he is a veteran of the stage. Some past favorite roles include Seymore (*Little Shop of Horrors*), Tateh (*Ragtime*), Marry'n Sam (*Lil' Abner*), Mr. Potter (*It's a Wonderful Life the Musical*), and Adam/Noah (*Children of Eden*). He wants to thank his wife

and family for their much appreciated continued support in both his life and on the stage.

### Cariña Stinson (Betsy)



Cariña is humbled and thrilled to be part of her first production with FCT, and brings a decade's worth of stage experience from other roles such as Princess Winnifred (*Once Upon a Mattress*), The Wizard (*Wizard of Oz*), and Shere Khan (*The Jungle Book*). She wishes you a blessed

holiday season and to remember your Christmas cheer!

### Mark Joseph Tessier (Nestor)



Mark returns to FCT after roles in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and *Shrek*. He is excited to share the stage with his big bro Jack and little sis Rose. Mark also is performing as Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol* at TORCH. When not onstage, Mark loves doing the High Jump on

sofas in his House, playing defense in Soccer, and feeding his brother's snake Cornelia.

### Rose Noelle Tessier (Annabelle)



Rose is delighted to return to the Fauquier Stage in a Diane King musical after her debut two years ago in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. A 3rd grader at All Saints Catholic School, Rose plays soccer, loves her animals, and taking care of her little sister Eva. She is thrilled to be performing with her

big brothers Jack & Mark.

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FCT's 2021 - 2022 playbill and this program can be found at [FCTstage.org](http://FCTstage.org).

FCT is grateful for all the community support and of course from supporters and audiences like you.

## Special Thanks

To All those who contributed time and energy to make this show a success!

FCT Board of Directors, Mike Markley Board Chairman and  
FCT Executive Director.....Debra Smyers  
FCT Artistic Director.....Sheryl Solow  
FCT Board Liaison..... Ryan Miner  
FCT Set & Properties Inventory Manager..... Doug Barylski  
Photographer..... Stephen Rummel

FCT Lights-Funded in part by grants from the Jesse and Rose Loeb Foundation  
Rehearsal Venues-Hope Christian Fellowship and Fauquier Enterprise Center

### Director's Notes

#### "Giving Gifts of Sacrifice"

*"The magi . . . were wise men . . . who brought gifts to the newborn Christ-child. . . Being wise, their gifts were doubtless wise ones. And here I have told you the story of two . . . who were not wise. Each sold the most valuable thing he owned in order to buy a gift for the other. . . Of all who give gifts, these two were the most wise. . ."* ("The Gift of the Magi", O. Henry, 1905)

This story demonstrates that sacrificial giving, while appearing foolish, in reality, makes a long-lasting impact on both the receiver and the giver. *"Love and large-hearted giving . . . can leave deep marks. It is never easy to cover these marks, dear friends— never easy. . ."* ("The Gift of the Magi") To know such love is a gift in itself: a husband for a wife, a mother for a child, a soldier for his country.

Yet, these examples pale in comparison to the sacrificial giving expressed by the God of the universe for mankind. If we really examine what we celebrate at Christmas, the birth of Jesus may appear quite foolish (see, 1 Corinthians 1: 27-31) – a baby, God in human form, gives up the glories of heaven, to live a life of humble service and sacrifice on behalf of ungrateful, rebellious people. Yet, God, in his wisdom, devised this plan to save us from our sins and secure for us eternal life. It is my desire that you accept God's gift this Christmas (see, John 1:1-14 & Romans 5:8). Then, in response to this gift, be like the magi who *"brought the things they most prized . . . giving gifts of sacrifice."*

- Diane King, Director

## THE CAST (in order of appearance)

Caroler/Emily/Hula Girl.....	Evelyn Lehmann
Caroler/Alice/Hula Girl/Beggar Mother.....	Isabella McDonald
Caroler/Officer Brown.....	Jiles Burnham
Caroler/Officer O'Reilly.....	Stub Estey
William.....	Martin Kelly
Betsy/Hula Girl.....	Cariña Stinson
Maddy.....	Betsy Hansen
Nestor.....	Mark Tessier
Annabelle.....	Rose Tessier
Della.....	Gabrielle Buonocore
Jim.....	Jack Tessier
Hunnicut.....	Jamey Pellegrini
Porter/Beggar Father.....	Preston Mulford
Santa/Henry – Fridays.....	Mark Kaiser
Santa/Henry – Sats./Suns.....	David Morgan
Newsgirl/beggar child.....	Lucy Underwood
Maddy's dog.....	Stella

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During the performance, the taking of photographs, videotaping, or making electronic or audio and/or visual recordings of this production is strictly prohibited.

## MEET THE CAST (Cont'd)

### Betsy Hansen (Maddy)



Betsy is so happy to be a part of this wonderful cast. She has been on stage since the age of 6, and has been doing shows with FCT since 2011. She would like to thank Diane for the opportunity to play Maddy. Betsy thanks Meg and her parents for always supporting her passion for the arts. Thank you for coming to see this show! Enjoy!

### Mark Kaiser (Santa/Henry )



Mark started in community theater at FCT in 2019, playing Alfie Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*. Fortunate enough to win a Supporting Actor Lofty, he was cast as a priest and apostle in the pandemic-delayed *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Unfortunately, those delays saw him move away from the opportunity to continue in that production. *Gift of the Magi - The Musical* has been a great way for him to return to the stage.

### Marty Padraig Kelly (William)



Marty is excited to join his second production at FCT. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Theatrical Performance from Franciscan University of Steubenville. Past productions include *Jesus Christ Superstar* (2021), *Miracle Worker* (2020), *Much Ado About Nothing* (2016), and *Peter Pan* (2015). Marty would like to thank FCT for giving him this opportunity, God for His patience, and his cat for always being the best. (What do you call a cat on the beach? "Sandy Claws").

### Evelyn Lehmann (Emily/Ensemble)



Evelyn is thrilled to be performing in another show with FCT! She is extremely grateful for this brand new experience, and wants to thank her super supportive family! Evelyn is a senior in high school, hoping to start her Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Performance next year. Some of her favorite moments with Fauquier Community Theater include being a stagehand for 2018's *Big Fish* and the Eliza understudy in 2019's *My Fair Lady*.

### Preston Mulford (Porter/Beggar Father)



Preston is making his FCT debut with *Gift of the Magi - The Musical*. After taking a few years off to finish his degree at William and Mary, he is excited to get back on stage and give. Favorite roles include the Mikado (*The Mikado*) and Ken Gorman (*Rumors*). A huge thank you to the amazing cast and production staff making this show possible.

## MEET THE CAST

### Gabrielle Buonocore (Della Young)



Gabrielle is thrilled to be performing in her third Fauquier Community Theatre production. Past production credits include *Soul Girl (Jesus Christ Superstar)* and *Helen Armstrong (The Best Christmas Pageant Ever)*. Gabrielle also recently appeared as Lowbutt in Upper Room Theatre

Ministry's *Honk!* She is so thankful for a second opportunity to work with Diane King and an incredible cast. Many thanks to Jack for his constant support. John 15:13

### Jack Tessier (Jim Young)



Jack is excited to be back again at FCT, after completing his run in *Jesus Christ Superstar* as the Apostle John.

He's especially thrilled to be performing with his younger siblings, Mark and Rose! When not onstage, Jack finds himself in the director's seat, having directed four

successful plays, most recently *The Summoning of Everyman*. Jack thanks Diane and the entire cast and crew, especially Gabrielle, the best co-star a guy could ask for.

### Jiles Burnham (Officer Brown/Caroler)



Jiles is super excited for his third show at FCT! He is currently attending his second year at LFCC in Warrenton while working full time. After a long day at work, getting together with friends to sing songs and tell a story is always a great way to end the evening. *Gift of the Magi* -

*The Musical* is a heartwarming tale of unfortunate gift giving. Enjoy the show!

### Stub Estey (Officer O'Reilly/Caroler)



Stub is a retired AT&T executive, collegiate instructor and avid golfer who put his bluegrass band on hold for HOA Board work. Before he got back to the band, he discovered FCT and performed here in *My Fair Lady*;

*It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*; *Bad Auditions on Camera*; and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Thanks and love to Nancy for her support while he treads the boards.

## BEHIND THE SCENES

Rehearsal Pianists -- Laurie Bersack / Carole Tessier

Choreographer -- Gabrielle Buonocore

Set Design -- Diane King

Set Artistry Lead -- Heather Woodward

Light Design -- Dan Martin

Costumer -- Evelyn Lehmann

Costume Assistant -- Erica Davies

Lobby Designer -- Brooke Lyn Clark

Assistant Stage Manager -- Meg Gupta

Set Construction Lead -- Ron King

Set Construction and Painting Crews: Joe Bersack, Gabrielle Buonocore, Stub Estey, Mark Kaiser, Dave Morgan, Preston Mulford, Marty Kelly, Diane King, Jamey Pellegrini, Cariña Stinson

Barbershop Quartet Consultant -- Antony Takahashi

Choral Group Consultant -- Marianna Constable

Hair/Makeup -- Evelyn Lehmann, Cariña Stinson, and Cast

Audition Pianists -- Brent Croushorn and Laurie Bersack

Dog Wranglers -- Meg Gupta, Lucy Underwood and Rose Tessier

Red Kettle Bell Ringer -- Katie Schlenker

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"The magi, as you know, were wise men—wonderfully wise men—who brought gifts to the Babe in the manger. They invented the art of giving Christmas presents." - "The Gift of the Magi", O. Henry, 1905

## MUSICAL NUMBERS Act One

**Scene 1** – Christmastime: A New York City street in 1905  
"Gift of the Magi"..... Caroling Quartet

**Scene 2** – City Street, December 22, 1905  
"Christmas Cheer"..... Full Company

**Scene 3** – Jim and Della's apartment, later that night  
"If Only Money Grew on Christmas Trees"..... Jim and Della  
"Christmas Tree Bells"..... Instrumental

**Scene 4** – Hadley's Five and Ten, December 23rd, late afternoon  
"Dinner for One"..... Maddy  
"Sad Maddy"..... Instrumental

**Scene 5** – The Bank of New York, December 23rd, 4:15 pm  
"King of the Isle "..... William, Jim, Hula Girls  
"Oola Boola Hula"..... Jim  
"Porter"..... Instrumental

**Scene 6** – City Street, December 23rd 4:50 pm  
"I'll Scratch Your Back"..... Hunnicutt  
"The Hardest Thing" ..... Della / Jim

### 15 Minute Intermission Outdoor concessions (weather permitting)

At intermission, please consider making a contribution to the Salvation Army of the Piedmont's Red Kettle Campaign, which began in 1891. The kettle out front is attended by our own Katie Schlenker, to help our neighbors in Fauquier, Orange, and Culpeper counties find a way to meet basic needs.

## MUSICAL NUMBERS Act Two

**Scene 1** – City Street, December 24, morning  
"Christmas Jeer"..... Full Company

**Scene 2** – The Bank of New York, December 24, 9am  
"The Arrest"..... Instrumental

**Scene 3** – Jim and Della's apartment, later  
"Newsboy"..... Instrumental

**Scene 4** – City Street, December 24th, later in the day  
"Why?"..... Annabelle, Nestor, William, Betsy

**Scene 5** – Della / Jim's Apartment; and jail, December 24th, late day  
"Dinner for One (Reprise)"..... Jim / Della

**Scene 6** – Hadley's Five and Ten  
"Cranberries" ..... Della, Maddy

**Scenes 7 & 8** – City Street to Police Station moments later  
"Cranberries", cont'd..... Della, Police Officers  
"Good Police Work"..... Instrumental

**Scene 9** – Jim and Della's apartment, later that day  
"Gifts You Give me Every Day"..... Della and Jim

**Scene 10** – Jim and Della's apartment, Christmas Day  
"The Greatest Gift"..... Full Company

*Special thanks to Michael and Patricia Atkins for the gift of a baby grand piano used in rehearsals*