

A PUBLICATION OF GOODSPEED MUSICALS

# CURTAIN!

Summer 2023



**2022 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT INSIDE!**



# GOODSPEED IS THE HOME OF THE AMERICAN MUSICAL

For Goodspeed, being the Home of the American Musical means engaging audiences and artists at all stages of the musical theatre experience, while maintaining a tradition of excellence, innovation and world-class entertainment. It is more than producing seven shows a year at The Goodspeed and The Terris Theatre. It's also preserving the art form for future generations by educating new musical theatre artists and audiences through our productions, educational programs and the support and development of new works. Over the past 60 years, Goodspeed has:

- Produced **284** musicals
- Sent **21** shows to Broadway
- Launched **85** world premieres
- Played **15,089** performances
- Performed for **37,773** hours (4 years and 4 months of non-stop musicals)
- Enjoyed **2,518** hours of applause
- Employed **4,746** actors
- Delighted more than **5.3 million** patrons

And none of it could happen without your support. Thank you.

## MISSION

Goodspeed has developed a three-year strategic plan through 2025. One of the highlights of this plan includes a new mission statement:

***Goodspeed Musicals' mission is to share the joy of musical theatre; to delight, inspire, and challenge audiences; to nurture creators; and to build and support a broad, diverse, and inclusive community.***

Goodspeed will fulfill this mission by focusing on three goals through 2025:

1. Sustain Goodspeed's pre-eminence as a statewide and national leader in musical theatre by broadening and modernizing the concept of the classic musical as well as developing new work that advances and enriches the art form.
2. Grow Goodspeed's organizational culture around accountability, community, and equity.
3. Secure Goodspeed's future and develop a financially sustainable operating model through revenue growth and expense assessment.

## GOODSPEED FACILITIES

### THE GOODSPEED



Preserving the historic **Goodspeed Opera House** (which is listed on the State Register of Historic Places, and recognized Nationally) for future generations is an important part of our operations. But at Goodspeed, we create history every day. Goodspeed is home to the original productions of *Man of La Mancha*, Irving Berlin's *Holiday Inn*, and *Annie*, and recipient of two special Tony Awards for outstanding achievement in the musical theatre. Each season, three to four musicals are produced at The Goodspeed, and a total of 21 productions have opened on Broadway, earning 15 Tony Awards.

### THE TERRIS THEATRE



**The Terris Theatre** in Chester, Connecticut is specifically dedicated to the development of new musicals. It is the birthplace of more than 85 musical premieres. Six have gone on to Broadway, including *Amazing Grace*. Other notable titles include *A Sign of the Times*, *My Paris*, *Snapshots*, and *The Great American Mousical*, which was directed by Julie Andrews.

## THE ARTISTS VILLAGE



Goodspeed owns and maintains 34 houses which accommodate as many as 121 artists and artisans at a time. These homes are managed by Goodspeed's company management team and maintained by Goodspeed's facilities team. For every production turnover, each bedroom must be vacated and cleaned within 48 hours of the end of each production to make room for the next cast and crew. In addition, a fleet of cars and vans transport artists to and from the theatre and other locations while they are staying on the Goodspeed campus.

## SETS AND PROPS



Behind each Goodspeed production is a wealth of technical and engineering expertise. **The Chauncey Stillman Production Facility** and our adjacent paint shop house one of the largest and best-equipped scene shops in the country. In this 33,000-square-foot facility numerous artisans, technicians, and crafts persons build, weld, and paint all the scenery and props used in each Goodspeed show. (PHOTO: Carpenters Ethan and Arcaroli Callum McCabe with Technical Director Dominick Pinto)

## COSTUMES



Costumes seen on Goodspeed's stages are designed from scratch and expertly sewn in our Costume Shop, or they are selected from the Goodspeed costume collection of more than 600,000 costume pieces and garments that occupy more than a mile of hanging rail in the **Barrington Costume Center**. Most productions require as many as 250 costumes, not including hats, shoes, wigs, and other accessories.

## THE SCHERER LIBRARY OF MUSICAL THEATRE

Extending its mission beyond the stage, Goodspeed is home to one of the largest musical theatre libraries in the nation. **The Scherer Library** currently houses 2,264 libretti, 3,570 scores, 30,000 copies of sheet music and a 11,100+ vinyl record collection. Used by theatre historians and educators across the country—as well as actors, directors and choreographers in residence—the collection contains scripts, scores, sheet music, and recordings of virtually every Broadway and Off-Broadway musical ever produced. In addition, the Library is an invaluable resource to Goodspeed's own music and production departments.

## MUSIC



Long before a production is ready for the Goodspeed stage, special attention is paid to the music. Each musical is given new musical arrangements, orchestrations, and when necessary, dance arrangements. Goodspeed's Music Department spends close to a year working on each score in addition to the five weeks it spends rehearsing with the orchestra and cast before they are ready to play. (PHOTO: Resident Music Director Adam Souza rehearses with Kate Baldwin and Max von Essen)

## EDUCATION: The Arts Education Collaboration

Goodspeed looks to the future by educating new audiences and encouraging emerging musical theatre artists through The Max Showalter Center for Education in Musical Theatre. In this way, we help to preserve the American Musical and Goodspeed for future generations.

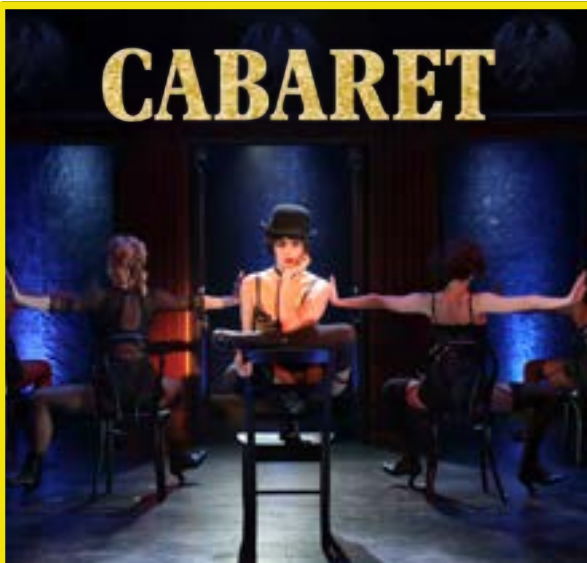


We think it is important to engage young and underserved students in the creative process of musical theatre, making the art form accessible to new generations of theatergoers. Each season, through our Arts Education Collaboration, we bring over 800 elementary, middle, and high school students to one of our production at The Goodspeed or The Terris, and give them a special "behind-the-scenes" look into the making of a show; as well as in-school workshops prior to, and after attending the show. For many students, it's their first time seeing a live production. The entire program is underwritten by Goodspeed and its generous funders, and is provided at no cost to the schools or students.

# THE 2022 SEASON IN REVIEW

2022 began with cautious optimism. We were finally reopening the theatre after being closed for the pandemic. But, would the subscribers return? Would we sell enough tickets to meet our sales goals and keep everyone working? Would the audience like the shows? The answers were yes, yes and yes!

We began a little slower than past seasons, but soon enough, the houses were full and fortunately stayed full for the rest of the season. Overall, 80,143 people attended our shows which was much closer to pre-pandemic levels than we had expected. We had 8,300 subscribers in 2022, which is down from 12,000 in 2019, but hopefully will grow stronger in 2023 (there's still time to get your season tickets for this year—just call the box office!). For the year, we employed 62 year-round staff members; 88 actors; 72 musicians; and 67 directors, choreographers and other creative artists. We also introduced over 800 students to the magic of theatre and offered several Open Caption performances and a special Sensory Friendly Performance of *Anne of Green Gables*. All of this could not have happened without the support of our members—thank you!



**MAY 13 – JULY 3, 2022**

Book by **Joe Masteroff** | Based on the play by **John Van Druten** and stories by Christopher **Isherwood**  
Music by **John Kander** | Lyrics by **Fred Ebb**  
Music Direction by **Adam Souza**  
Choreographed by **Lainie Sakakura**  
Directed by **James Vásquez**

We were pleased to open the season with *Cabaret*—a musical that is well-known but had never been produced on the Goodspeed stage. The production was beautiful, the costumes were daring and the choreography was outstanding. In fact, our audiences were able to experience a special reconstruction of Bob Fosse's original choreography for the song "Mein Herr," something that is rarely allowed by his estate. The show was a hit with audiences and the critics called it, "Nothing short of fantastic" (*Broadway World*).

Marquee Producing Partners: Hila & Saul Rosen

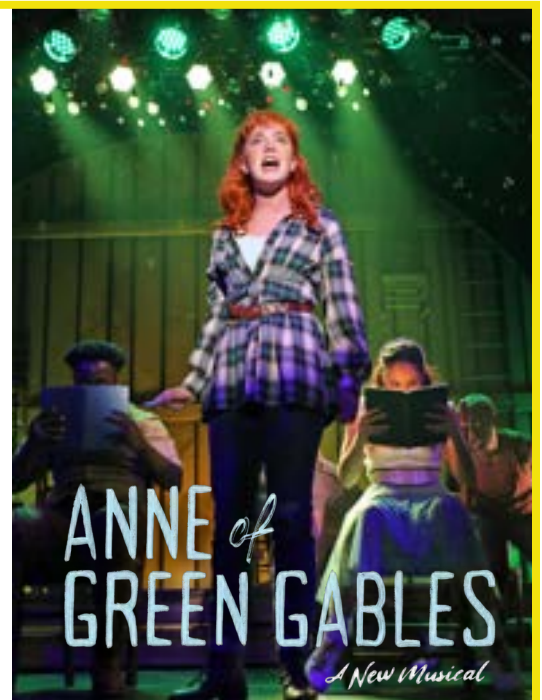
**Did you know?** 49 wigs were used for the cast of *Cabaret*.

**JULY 15 – SEPTEMBER 4, 2022**

Book & Lyrics by **Matte O'Brien** | Music by **Matt Vinson**  
Music Director **Matthew Smedal**  
Music Supervisor **Amanda Morton**  
Choreographed by **Jennifer Jancuska**  
Directed by **Jenn Thompson**

After several years of development and cancellation due to Covid, we were very excited to finally see *Anne of Green Gables* on the Goodspeed stage. This world premiere musical was a huge success artistically and at the box office. The authors were able to take a 100 year old book and create a musical that felt modern and relevant today without sacrificing the beautiful original story—something that is not easily achieved! Families came in large numbers to enjoy this musical together which made the summer of 2022 a very special one for Goodspeed. *Broadway World* called the cast "absolute perfection" while the *Hartford Courant* praised it as "A sharp rethinking of a timeless coming-of-age tale."

**Sponsored by:** The Richard P. Garmany Fund at the Hartford Foundation; The National Endowment for the Arts; The Frank Young Fund for New Musicals, a Program of National Alliance for Musical Theatre; Lucile Lortel Foundation and Webster Bank | **Marquee Producing Partners:** Ms. Jean Selden Green and RADM. Louise C. Wilmot USN (Ret.) & James E. Wilmot



**Did you know?** 530 feet of string lights were used for the *Anne of Green Gables* set.

**September 16 – November 6, 2022**

Music by **Harry Warren** | Lyrics by **Al Dubin**  
 Book by **Michael Stewart** and **Mark Bramble**  
 Based on the novel by **Bradford Ropes** and the motion picture  
*42nd Street* owned by Turner Entertainment Co. and distributed  
 by Warner Bros.

Music Director **Adam Souza**  
 Music Supervisor **Rob Berman**  
 Directed and Choreographed by **Randy Skinner**

From the moment we announced *42nd Street*, we knew it would be a huge hit. Our members and the general public couldn't buy tickets fast enough. In fact, we sold out every performance and wished we could have run the show for many more weeks! Who can forget the endless tap dancing choreographed to perfection by Randy Skinner? Or the eye popping video wall that vividly brought the set to life? The critics called it "Exquisite," "Spectacular," and "Simply divine!" We happen to agree.

*Marquee Producing Partners: Frank & Amy Campbell, Dr. Anne Rothstein & Ms. Jane Hellman, and Richard & Mable Seymour*



**Did you know?** The LED video wall weighed 2,800 pounds and required a separate generator for power.



**November 18 – December 30, 2022**

Book by Patrick Pacheco and Erik Forrest Jackson  
 Music by Jason Howland  
 Lyrics by Amanda Yesnowitz  
 Based upon the Warner Bros. Picture  
 Music Direction by **Adam Souza**  
 Choreographed by **Marjorie Failoni**  
 Directed by **Amy Corcoran**

The season ended with another world premiere musical, this one based on the classic movie, *Christmas in Connecticut*. Our audiences were the very first to see this screwball comedy which turned out to be a wonderful way to celebrate the season. The Goodspeed was all dressed up for the holidays and people came from all over New England—and beyond—to see the show. One of the critics predicted a long life for this new musical, exclaiming that "this fabulous concoction is certain to become a staple of holiday theater offerings."

*Sponsored by: Morgan Stanley; Geoffrey Paul Financial Advisor*  
*Marquee Producing Partners: Rich Cersosimo & Valerie Koif*

**Did you know?** 5,400 square feet of plywood was used for the *Christmas In Connecticut* set.

**BURRY FREDRIK  
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**2022 SEASON SPONSORS**



PHOTOS: Aline Mayagoitia with Kathy Liu, Terra C. MacLeod, Caroline Kane and Antonia Raye in *Cabaret*; Juliette Redden and the cast of *Anne of Green Gables*; Max von Essen and Carin-Kay Louchiey in *42nd Street*; Raymond J. Lee, Melvin Tunstall III and Audrey Cardwell in *Christmas in Connecticut*.

# NEW WORKS IN 2022

As we look back, in many ways, 2022 was the year Goodspeed accomplished the creation of a complete New Works pipeline. From commissions to two fully-produced new musicals at The Goodspeed, we were ecstatic to be back in person and firing on all cylinders.

Our Johnny Mercer Foundation Writers Grove, which occurred in January 2022 was a unique experience, with nearly 30 artists working on 14 different projects. Fresh off of the Omicron surge, we had to pivot to a hybrid model at the last minute. Despite that small setback, it was an incredibly productive month, and we were thrilled to welcome a majority of the writers in person on campus. One of the highlights of the Grove was meeting Paul Hodge, who introduced us to *The Great Emu War*, which later premiered to rave reviews at our Festival of New Musicals in March 2023.

The 2022 Festival of New Musicals featured readings of three new musicals: *A House Without Windows* with a book by Anna Ziegler and music & lyrics by Anna Jacobs; *HoT* with music by Lynne Shankel and words by Sara Cooper; and *The Gunfighter Meets His Match* with book, music, and lyrics by Abby Payne. These shows were written exclusively by women, providing a wonderful showcase of underrepresented voices in musical theatre writing. Each year for The Festival we partner with The Hartt School, the performing arts conservatory of the University of Hartford, The Boston Conservatory, and other musical theatre college programs to bring in students who are in their senior year to perform in The Festival. Erring on the side of safety, we only had students from The Hartt School join us for the 2022 Festival, but as always, they were sensational performers. Adding in the wonderful cabarets and fascinating seminars, it was a fantastic weekend discovering the new frontier of musical theatre.



Festival presentation of *The Gunfighter Meets His Match*

In preparation for the work to be seen on our stages, we produced a number of readings and workshops in New York City in 2022. Ahead of the world premiere of *Christmas in Connecticut*, we held two workshops of the piece to ensure as successful a production as possible prior to its arrival in

East Haddam. This work primarily involved tightening the book, refining character arcs, and solidifying the opening sequence. In anticipation of its premiere at the Terris in the fall of 2023, *Private Jones* had a developmental lab in May 2022 focused on the incorporation of sign language and integration of Alexandria Wailes, the Director of Artistic Sign Language, into the creative process.



*Private Jones* developmental lab

Last but certainly not least, we established GoodWorks, Goodspeed's new formal commissioning program. The first musicals that will emerge from the initiative are *Little Miss Perfect*, which premiered at the 2023 Festival of New Musicals, written entirely by Joriah Kwamé, and *The Snow Goose* by Scott Gilmour and Claire McKenzie, which is an adaptation of the novella of the same name by Paul Gallico. Both of these stories celebrate the best in humankind—something that is central to the mission of the GoodWorks program.



Scott Gilmour and Clair McKenzie, Joriah Kwamé

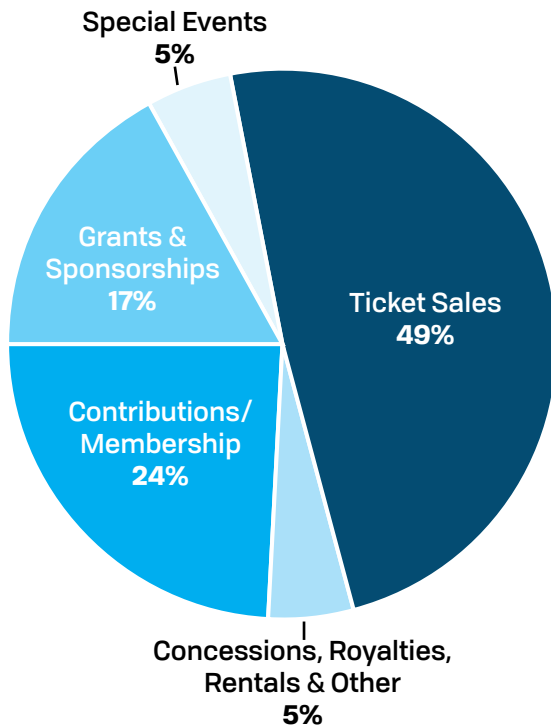
Goodspeed's commitment to supporting new work and fostering the voices at the forefront of the industry is a key part of our mission. As our 60th Anniversary season begins, we welcome two new musicals at the Opera House, and two additional new shows at the Terris Theatre.

We hope you're as excited as we are about the future of musical theatre.

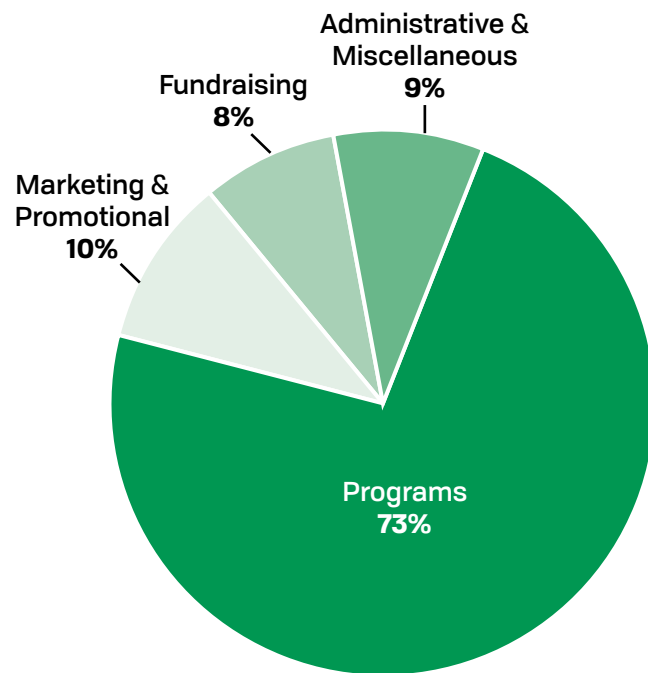
# 2022 FINANCIALS

Financially, Goodspeed had a strong reopening in 2022, achieving an operating surplus. With the reopening of the Opera House, ticket sales were 4 ½ times higher than 2021. In addition, contributions increased with the resumption of full productions at The Goodspeed, including a 10% increase in memberships from 2021 and other contributions—foundations, government, and individuals—increasing by 59% from 2021. With a full season in East Haddam, at the Goodspeed, programming made up 86% of Goodspeed's total expenditures.

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



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