



2024 2025 SEASON

# THE MUSICAL OF MUSICALS (The Musical!)

Music by Eric Rockwell Lyrics by Joanne Bogart Book by Eric Rockwell and Joanne Bogart

Sharynn & Jerry Chirpich

Jeanne & Larry Lovelace

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**Catherine & Richard** Luckett Show Sponsors

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## A Note from the Managing Artistic Director

#### Welcome to SLO REP's 78th season!

We invite you to embark on an extraordinary journey through the rich tapestry of theatre. This season promises to be a celebration of live theatre, featuring a lineup that will captivate and inspire.

Our season opens with *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)* a hilarious exploration of musical theatre genres that will dazzle our audiences. Next, brace yourself for the gripping thriller *Misery*, where suspense meets psychological drama in a tale that will keep you on the edge of your seat.



In early 2025, SLO REP will transport you to a historic recording session with *Million Dollar Quartet*, a rocking tribute to music legends Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins. Following this, *The Cake* serves up a poignant story of love, acceptance, and the power of baking in a changing world.

*I Hate Hamlet* brings laughter and charm as we navigate the complexities of art and life, followed by the heartwarming classic *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, which reminds us of the enduring innocence and joy of childhood.

Thank you for joining us on this theatrical adventure. We look forward to sharing these incredible stories with you and creating unforgettable memories together in our 78th season at SLO REP.

Enjoy the show!

**Kevin Harris** 

Lein

Kevin Harris (Managing Artistic Director) grew up on the Central Coast performing with many local theatre groups, including the San Luis Obispo Little Theatre. He went on to study at the Tisch School at NYU and at the Atlantic Theatre Company. He was the Artistic Director of San Luis Obispo's first professional theatre, Centerpoint Theatre Group and the Theatre Manager of the Contemporary Art Center in New Orleans. He received his Master of Fine Arts in Directing from the University of Iowa and worked throughout the country and in the Middle East directing and as a collaborator on original plays. He has taught at the University of Iowa, University of Chicago, and has led dozens of workshops on A Practical Handbook for the Actor across the country. Kevin feels privileged to be part of bringing live theatre to San Luis Obispo.

## Sharynn and Jerry Chirpich

Jerry and Sharynn Chirpich are both originally from Minnesota and were married in 1958. Jerry worked at Deluxe Corporation and Sharynn worked for Bank of America in the San Fernando Valley for 30+ years before retiring and moving to San Luis Obispo in 1994.

Jerry is an avid golfer and has competed in several major golf tournaments (with Sharynn as his caddy) in California and in Europe. He was president of the San Luis Obispo Country Club for two years and Sharynn served on various committees at the Club as well.



The Chirpichs have been ushers at the PAC for 20+ years and both volunteer at the Prado Day Center, Hope Chest Hospice, Womenade and Must Charities. In their spare time they also serve as volunteers at many Festival Mozaic events, housing visiting musicians in their home and work special events for Opolo Winery. However, SLO REP has always been of special interest to them. They have been season ticket holders for many years and Jerry serves on the Board of Directors. Sharynn has volunteered her time on our Gala Committee and is always by Jerry's side whenever help is needed.

Sharynn and Jerry are glad to live in such a great community and are grateful to SLO REP for the opportunity to sponsor *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)* 



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## Larry & Jeanne Lovelace

Jeanne and Larry Lovelace originally met through a mutual friend at a party and discovered many common interests. Good thing, since they have now been married more than 48 years.

The couple enjoyed long careers in the Los Angeles area before relocating to Arroyo Grande several years ago. Larry jokes that he has "ketchup in his veins", having worked almost exclusively in the hospitality and food service industries ever since graduating college. Jeannie has a BS degree in Medical Technology and



worked in pathology and chemistry before taking on bookkeeping for a local winery as her sunset job before retiring.

Avid adventurers, Jeanne and Larry enjoy traveling by bicycle, ships, riverboats, trains, planes and automobile. They have seen parts of this great planet that they never imagined they would see or experience. Foodies at heart, they also love trying new foods from different cultures. Life is an adventure for the Lovelaces and they savor every moment.

Larry and Jeanne are longtime supporters of live theatre in all its many forms – musicals, dramas, classics – they love it all. They are excited to be sponsoring *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)* at SLO REP this summer and hope you enjoy the show!



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## **Richard and Catherine Luckett**

Richard and Catherine Luckett are longtime patrons of the arts on the Central Coast. Between them, they have sat on Boards of Directors for the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center, SLO Symphony and the PCPA Foundation. Richard is a proud member of the SLO REP's Board of Directors and both Cathy and Richard serve as Co-Chairs of SLO REP's Capital Campaign for *A New Stage*.



A nuclear engineer, Richard retired from PG & E where

he worked at Diablo Canyon Power Plant for many years culminating with a "sunset assignment" in Washington D.C. and a stint working with Homeland Security. Catherine, a Speech/Language Pathologist and Resource Specialist, worked for San Luis Coastal Unified School District as an itinerant SLP for 12 years and then in the Preschool Early Education Program, which she developed with fellow SLP, Kathy Hamrick. She retired in 2002 to follow Rich to Washington D.C.

The Lucketts love to travel and have visited all seven continents since Rich retired in 2006.



## Carl & Lulu Mitchell

"We enjoy seeing people happy and SLO REP makes people happy!"

- Lulu and Carl Mitchell



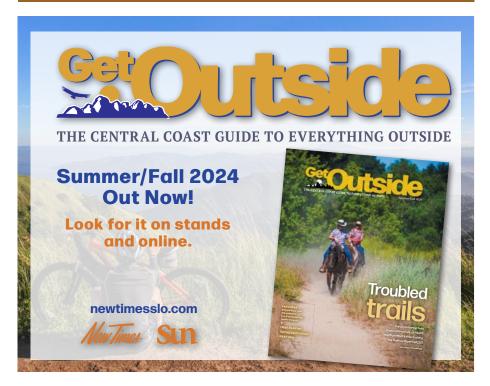






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2024-2025 Season

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## About the Authors

**Eric Rockwell (Music and Book)** is an alumnus of the BMI-Lehman Engle Musical Theatre Workshop, where in addition to creating *The Musical of Musicals* with Joanne Bogart, he developed the score to *A Little Princess* with lyricist Margaret Rose. He has also composed the scores to several musicals for children and is winner of the 2015 Shubert Fendrich Memorial Playwriting Contest for *Golly Gee Whiz*, a fun-loving homage to the Judy Garland-Mickey Rooney movie musicals of the thirties. The show won a National Youth Theatre Award for Outstanding Original Musical. Eric also created *Up To You*, a musical

described as "Mean Girls meets High School Musical." In addition to being nominated for an Innovative Theatre Award, it was also honored with a 2012 NYT Award for Best New Musical. Other shows created for young audiences include Peter Pan, a musical adventure, The Trials of Alice in Wonderland, based on the work of Lewis Carroll, The History Mystery, a musical time-travel adventure and most recently, Rockin' Robin Hood. As a "serious" composer, Mr. Rockwell made his Carnegie Hall debut with a heartwarming Christmas carol entitled "The Annoying Drummer Boy."

#### Joanne Bogart (Lyrics and Book) began her

collaboration with Eric Rockwell at the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop. For *The Musical of Musicals (The Musical!)*, published by Samuel French, they were honored with a 2004 Drama Desk nomination for Best Musical, as well as individual nominations for Best Music and Best Lyrics. In addition, the show received a 2004 Lucille Lortel nomination for Best Musical and a 2005 Drama League nomination for Best Musical. It ran off-Broadway for 583 performances and has had subsequent productions in regional theatres across

America and internationally in London's West End, Scotland, Australia and Canada. Ms. Bogart and Mr. Rockwell have worked together on several musicals over the years including their parody of Mickey and Judy musicals, *Golly Gee Whiz*, which won the 2009 National Youth Theatre Award for Outstanding New Musical. Ms. Bogart's other collaborations with Mr. Rockwell include productions of *The Trials of Alice in Wonderland* and *David and Goliath*. In addition to acting off-Broadway and in regional theatre, Ms. Bogart has written for several shows on The Disney Channel.





Music by
Eric Rockwell

Lyrics by Joanne Bogart

Book by Eric Rockwell & Joanne Bogart Original New York production by The York Theatre Company

James Morgan, Producing Artistic Director

Commerically produced in NYC by Melanie Herman

## THE MUSICALOF MUSICALS (The Musical!)

Directed by Suzy Newman Musical Direction by Lacey McNamara & Minhui Lee

Choreography by John Keating

Costume Design by Kaila Grenz Wig Design by **Reneé Van Niel** 

Scenic Design by **Dave Linfield** 

Sound & Lighting Design by Kevin Harris Prop Design by Suzy Newman

## Cast of Characters

Big Willy, Billy, William, Bill, Villy	Tim Stewart
June, Jeune, Junie Faye, Junita, Juny	. Edella Oroz Westerfield
Jidder, Jitter, Mr. Jitters, Phantom Jitter, Jütter	Michael Tremblay
Mother Abby, Abby, Auntie Abby, Abigail Van Schtarr, Fraulein Abby	Kelly Ann Dunn*

\*Ms. Dunn is a member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under a Special Appearance Contract.

MUSICAL OF MUSICALS is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

## Act 1

### CORN!

#### In the Style of Rodgers & Hammerstein

Oh, What Beautiful Corn - Big Willy I Couldn't Keer Less About You - June I Don't Love You - Big Willy Follow Your Dream - Mother Abby Dream Ballet - Company Sowillyquey - Big Willy Clam Dip - Company Daylight Savings Time - Company Corn Finale - Company

#### A Little Complex In the Style of Stephen Sondheim

Welcome to the Woods - Company The Ballad of Jitter - Company Jitter's Oath - Jitter Birds - Jeune Getting Away With Murder - Jitter Billy-Baby / A Melody? - Jeune, Billy Stay with Me, Jitter - Jeune, Billy Jeune's Patter - Jeune We're All Gonna Die - Abby Complex Finale - Company

#### Dear Abby In the Style of Jerry Herman

Dear Abby - Company Take My Advice and Live - Aunt Abby, Company Show Tune - William, Junie Faye Did I Put Out Enough? - Aunt Abby Dear Abby Finale - Company

### 15 Minute Intermission.

## Act 2

#### Aspects of Junita In the Style of Andrew Lloyd Webber Aspects of Junita / Prologue - Bill,

Company I've Heard That Song Before - Junita Sing A Song - Phantom Jitter Junita's Recitative - Junita Go Go Go Go Junita - Company We Never Talk Anymore - Bill, Junita A Sense of Entitlement - Company Over the Top - Abigail Von Schtarr Aspects Finale - Company

#### Speakeasy In the Style of Kander & Ebb

Hola, Aloha, Hello - Jütter Juny With a J - Juny Color Me Gay - Villy Just Don't Pay - Company Easy Mark - Fraulein Abby Round and Round - Company

#### Epilogue

Done - Company

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## Director's Notes

The fact that you've just read these eight words means that you have at least a passing interest in theatre, and since you've bought a ticket to a show with the word "musical" in the title *more than once*, leads me to believe that you either really dig musical theatre, or you love someone enough to accompany them here today. Maybe you got the time wrong for your dinner reservation and needed a (somewhat) comfortable seat for a couple of hours. Great. Any one of those things is more than enough to bring with you to watch these five delightful and talented humans perform for you.



If you're an aficionado of all things Broadway, *have a blast* with your fellow theatre nerds talking this out on the way home. If you've always thought that a 'Hammerstein' was a German building tool that you could also drink beer from, *no problem*. What you are about to watch is a culmination of thousands of shared experiences, the appreciation for a century of groundbreaking, gutsy artists, and most of all, the joy we all feel doing this for you.

I hope you have fun.

Suzy Newman

**Suzy Newman's** first directing job was years ago at The Great American Melodrama, thanks to its founder and owner John Schlenker, who, among his greatest skills, has an extreme generosity of spirit. Suzy has continued to direct at the Melodrama and other area theatres. SLO REP directing credits include: *Lost in Yonkers, Greater Tuna, The Nerd, The Foreigner, Independence, The Drowsy Chaperone, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Every Brilliant Thing, Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike* and the closing show of SLO REP's 77th season, *9 to 5: The Musical.* 

## About the Artistic Team

Lacey McNamara (Musical Director) Raised locally in a musical family, Lacey started playing piano at age 4 and never stopped! She holds a BA in Business Administration from ULV and is a certified Music Together® instructor. She has worked with nearly every theatre on the Central Coast including PCPA – Pacific Conservatory Theatre, The Great American Melodrama in Oceano, SLO REP, and CCAT in Cambria. Lacey and her wife, Danielle, own Lyrics and Melodies Studio in Los Osos where she teaches piano lessons. In her spare time, Mrs. "Mac" enjoys scuba diving, volunteering with youth at GALA Pride and Diversity Center, and being "Aunt Ducky" to her nieces and nephew. Quack, quack!

Minhui Lee (Musical Director/Pianist) Minhui Lee is very excited to be joining *The Musical of Musicals* at SLO REP. Minhui is a NYC-based music director and composer hailing from Seoul, South Korea. She has worked with Lincoln Center's Broadway Future Songbook Series, MCC Theater, Oregon Cabaret Theatre, and more. Select credits include *Baby* (Drama Desk Nominee), *Caroline, or Change* (Audelco Winner), and *Kinky Boots* (Fulton Theatre). Ms. Lee holds an MFA from NYU Tisch. Love to Mom. This is for you. *minhuilee.com*.

John Keating (Choreographer) John Keating is a Minnesota native, who earned his BFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. He is currently the Artistic Director at The Great American Melodrama where he most recently directed *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Problem and Lumberjacks in Love*. John has performed regionally with PCPA – Pacific Conservatory Theatre, Cumberland County Playhouse, Artists' Ensemble Theatre, The Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Oregon Cabaret Theatre, Prather Entertainment Group and The Great American Melodrama. In Chicago, John was seen at The Black Ensemble Theatre. The







Goodman Theatre, Emerald City Theatre, Porchlight Music Theatre (Jeff Awards nominee as Best Supporting Actor in a Musical), Griffin Theatre Company, Chicago Commercial Collective, Drury Lane Theatre, About Face Theatre and The Paramount Theatre. John is writing two New Musicals with his writing partner and brother, Marshall. He would like to thank SLO REP, the creative team and incredible cast for this opportunity.

## About the Cast

Kelly Ann Dunn\* (Abby) is very excited and thankful to be back in her home state making her debut at SLO REP with this wonderful cast and crew! Regional credits include: *Big Fish* (Sandra Bloom), *The Robber Bridegroom* (Rosamund), *The Musical of Musicals* (June), *Boeing Boeing* (Gloria), *Grease* (Jan), *Beauty and the Beast* and *Disaster*! She enjoys her work as a Talent Agent by day as well as running, coffee, and good people. Website: kellyanndunn.co IG: kelly.ann.dunn

**Tim Stewart (Billy)** is thrilled to be returning to the Central Coast and is very excited to be back at SLO REP! He was previously seen on this stage in 9 to 5 – The Musical (Franklin Hart), The 39 Steps (Richard Hannay), The All Night Strut, and The Drowsy Chaperone (Robert Martin). He recently appeared at the B Street Theatre in Sacramento as Nikola Tesla in The Prince of Lightning and Chris/the Inspector in The Play That Goes Wrong. He has performed at theatres around the country including Sacramento Theatre Company, Sierra Repertory Theatre, PCPA – Pacific



Conservatory Theatre, Utah Festival Opera, SLO Repertory Theatre, and The Great American Melodrama, to name a few. He is filled with gratitude to be back doing what he loves now that we know what a world without theatre looks like and 2020 is thankfully behind us. Love always to his family, chosen family, and Robert.

\*Ms. Dunn is a member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under a Special Appearance Contract.





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## About the Cast

Michael Tremblay (Jitter) is an L.A. native and received his education at UCLA, CSUN and CSLA. Michael has been sharing stories on the Central Coast as an educator and actor/ singer since 1990. He has appeared in numerous PCPA – Pacific Conservatory Theatre productions, most recently in Shakespeare's *Henry V*. Notable performances at PCPA include: *Julius Caesar* (Julius Caesar), *Mamma Mia!* (Harry Bright), *Legally Blonde* (Professor Callahan), *Caroline, or Change* (Mr. Stopnick), *Ragtime* (Father), *Much Ado About* 

Nothing (Leonato), Sweeney Todd (Pirelli), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Oberon/ Theseus), 1776 (Edward Rutledge) and Camelot (King Arthur). Other local theatre appearances include: Centerpoint Theater Group (John Wilkes Booth in Assassins), Lompoc Civic Theater (Charles Condomine in Blithe Spirit) and Opera SLO (King Melchior in Amahl and the Night Visitors.)

Edella Oroz Westerfield (June) is a Central Coast native and recent graduate of the PCPA Conservatory Program. Some of her favorite shows include *Wolf at the Door, The Clockmaker's Daughter, American Mariachi* and *Murder in the Peacock Lounge*. She is so excited to be making her SLO REP debut and to be a part of this amazing team!

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## About the Production Team

Director	Suzy Newman
Musical Director	Lacey McNamara
Musical Director/Pianist	Minhui Lee
Choreographer	John Keating
Stage Manager	BreAnne Fawcett
Assistant Stage Manager	Robert Frederick Taylor
Costume Design	Kaila Grenz
Wig Design	Reneé Van Niel
Prop Design	Suzy Newman
Scenic Design	Dave Linfield
Sound & Lighting Design	Kevin Harris
Set Construction & Painting Dave	Linfield, Lisa Langere, Greg Peters, Bob Rice, Larry Bolef, Valerie Pallai

**Bree Fawcett (Stage Manager)** started her career in theatrical productions working on film and television sets in North Hollywood, the U.K., and L.A. area. After graduating from U.K.'s National Film and Television school's fall course, she moved with her husband Nicholas to the beautiful Central Coast. Bree has been the stage manager for several SLO REP shows over the last year including *Stones in His Pockets, Once, The Thanksgiving Play* and *Beehive – The 60's Musical*.



## About the Production Team

**Robert Frederick Taylor (Assistant Stage Manager)** appeared in last season's *9 to 5 – The Musical* and is happy to be back on the Central Coast. A New Jersey native who now resides in Sacramento, Mr. Taylor earned a BFA from Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ. Select Regional credits include SLO REP, Sierra Repertory Theatre, Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre, Springer Opera House, Cardinal Stage, Prather Entertainment Group, Ocean City Theatre Company, Park Playhouse. All my love always and Thank You to God, SLO REP, and my Tim. Always for my Mother, Grandmothers, Ree, Uncle Bob and Poppy.

Kaila Grenz (Costume Design) is thrilled to be returning to San Luis Obispo for her debut show with SLO REP! She is passionate about costumes, holds a BA in Production Arts and Design from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and is a graduate of PCPA's technical theatre program. Kaila has a diverse technical background and has worked in various costume roles including cutter/draper, wardrobe supervisor, and wig lead for live performances and films on the Central Coast and abroad. She currently serves as a Lecturer and Costume Assistant at UC Santa Cruz in the Play Performance and Design department and enjoys designing custom dancewear in her spare time. Much love to her family, mentors, and friends for their guidance and support throughout her journey.

**Reneé Van Niel (Wig Design)** designed the costumes and wigs for last season's *9 to 5 – The Musical,* the costumes for *The Thanksgiving Play* and the fabulous wigs for *Beehive – The 60s Musical.* Previous shows at SLO REP include *The All Night Strut, Million Dollar Quartet* and *Steel Magnolias* as costume designer and *The Marvelous Wonderettes* as Wig Designer. She has worked as a costume/wig designer for The Great American Melodrama for many years. Prior to moving to the Central Coast, she toured throughout the U.S. with Theater League for five years as a Costume Designer and Wardrobe Supervisor and designed throughout the Los Angeles Area when not out on the road.

**Dave Linfield (Scenic Design)** has designed and built nearly all of SLO REP's Mainstage productions over the past 15 years. The theatre bug bit him in 1990 when an audition notice for a community theatre production caught his fancy. Over the years, he migrated from performing onstage to working behind the scenes, embracing technical stagecraft as his true calling. Dave's educational background in graphic design and his work experience in retail display and housing construction have blended together in distinctive ways to fuel his passion for designing and building sets.

## The Show MUST Go On! Unforgettable Characters. Extraordinary Stories. Since 1947.

SLO REP is grateful to ALL of our generous donors. Each and every gift is important to us. Due to space limitations, this list recognizes donations of \$100 or more that have been pledged or received in support of the 2024-2025 Season through July 23, 2024



Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. If you have any questions about your listing, please contact Patty Thayer at **patty@slorep.org**.

## Season 2024-2025 Donors

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For a list of contributors to our Capital Campaign for A New Stage, please visit our website at slorep.org/a-new-stage/

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## Leave a Legacy of Live Theatre for the Future

**Everyone can leave a legacy.** Great or small, planned gifts through your financial or estate plans make a big difference. Your future gift may provide tax benefits for you or your loved ones and will ensure that the enjoyment and enrichment you've experienced at SLO REP is available to our community for years to come.

Please join us in a round of applause for our Legacy Society members whose foresight and generosity will keep live theatre going strong in downtown San Luis Obispo for years to come.

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## **Building the Future**

Thanks to the foresight, generosity, and determination of Dr. Bernhard Singsen, SLO REP has established an Endowment Fund for the future of live theatre in downtown SLO. This fund will grow as we grow, providing security and future funding, ensuring that this organization continues to thrive for years to come.

## **Endowment Fund Donors**

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For more information about how you can build the future of live theatre in downtown SLO, please contact **Patty Thayer** at **(805) 592-3190** or **patty@slorep.org**.

## Special Thanks

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#### Contact

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Suzy Newman Production Manager

**Dave Linfield** Technical Director/ Scenic Designer

**Brian Lampert** Volunteer Coordinator & Front of House Manager

Carey Blauvelt Aaron Jackson Box Office Staff Kerry DiMaggio Education Director

**Rachel Tietz** Assistant Education Director

#### Shannon Peters

Assistant Education Director & Empleo Office Manager

Lester Wilson, Isaac Capp, Carolyn Peters Natalie Mara ...and more! ACT Teaching Artists

Cynthia Ford, Sonya Jackson, Abe Lincoln, Natalie Mara, Carly Medina, Amanda Thayer Assistant House Managers

Artwork: Subplot Studio Photos/Video: RyLo Media Design, Ryan Loyd

#### Mission

SLO REP strengthens theatre's cultural influence and enriches the Central Coast by producing professional theatre, nurturing artists and providing theatre education for children and adults.

## Our Belief

Live theatre's powerful storytelling connects people in ways that open the mind, nourish the soul and illuminate our shared humanity.

#### Vision

To be a nationally recognized regional theatre that:

- Produces professional theatrical productions in a state-of-the-art facility.
- Strengthens the cultural vitality of the Central Coast, entertains audiences, nurtures artists, and cultivates future generations of theatre enthusiasts.
- Creates a strong and sustainable economic impact, attracting residents and visitors to downtown San Luis Obispo.

## Our Commitment

Theatre plays a vital role in our culture and our community and has a responsibility to enact positive change through its work, practices, educational programs and policies. We at SLO REP are committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in all aspects of our work. To learn more about our commitment to you, our community and to ourselves, please visit our website at slorep.org

Land Acknowledgement: San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre acknowledges with respect that the place we work and gather is located on the traditional land of the Northern Chumash people.

SLO REP is a proud member of:





**BY BRIAN FRIEL** 

## UBU'S OTHER SHOE STAGED READINGS

SAN LUIS OBISPO REPERTORY THEATRE Michael Siebrass Artistic Director

UP NEXT "This comedy serves up a postmodern Fortinbras, a bewildered Horatio, a blossoming Osric and lots of tasty ghosts." – LA Times SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2024

# MISERY

By William Goldman Based on the novel by Stephen King

COMING SOON "There are no lulls in famed screenwriter William Goldman's 90-minute stage adaptation of the Stephen King story..." – WNBC NY

**OCTOBER 11-27, 2024** 

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