

SUNOL REPERTORY THEATRE

*Celebrating 41 Years
of Comedy and Melodrama*

~ PROUDLY PRESENTS ~



THE RISE OF THE SUPERHEROES

written by Marty Matthews

March 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23

2024

Evenings at 8:00 pm

Sunol Glen School Theater

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT SUNOL GLEN SCHOOL

The Rise of the SUPERHEROES

Superheroes, in an attempt to become relevant again, open a detective agency. The master criminal escapes from prison and a new, mysterious villain begins to harass them... Is the city of Warkopolis doomed? Can they save the day?

Directed by Klay Kunkel and Robin Spindler

Produced by special arrangement with Heuer Publishing

ACT ONE

SCENE 1: Heroes Looking for Work

SCENE 2: Name Please

SCENE 3: New Digs

SCENE 4: Would this involve breaking any laws?

SCENE 5: Heroes up a tree?

SCENE 6: Becky pulls out all of the stops

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

SCENE 1: Gym Time

SCENE 2: To the bus stop!

SCENE 3: Superheroes, come out & play

REFRESHMENTS

Sunol community groups offer refreshments during intermission to raise funds for their worthwhile projects.

Please join them in the cafeteria for a delicious variety of desserts.

March 1..... SRT DONATIONS, CHARACTERZ CAFE AND COFFEE ROASTERZ
 March 2 INTERNATIONAL HORSEMANSHIP FOUNDATION
 March 8 SUNOL COMMUNITY CLUB
 March 9 LITTLE BROWN CHURCH
 March 15 4H
 March 16 GIRL SCOUTS
 MARCH 22 COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)
 MARCH 23 SUNOL COFFEE

THE CAST OF CHARACTERS IN ORDER OF SPEAKING

Piano Player	Maretha Davel
Black Fly	Meredith Sarboraria
Possum Girl	Annecy Hall
Tremendous Man	Matt Paez
Little Trembler	Rowan Bobertz
Cam Eleon	Lea Blevins
Blue Bird	Stephanie Granados
Elementis	Donna Blevins
Guard	Derek Johnson
Sully Izacrook	Patti Balch
Beckey Luthor	Jacqueline Lai
Principal	Grare Davis
Captain	Phil Mumford
Officer 1	Chris Bobertz
Officer 2	Bob Canning
Mayor	Sandi Bohner
Cat Lady	Robin Spindler
Fox Girl	Mia Ricard

THE CREW

Producer	Diane Tiessen
Director	Robin Spindler
Director	Klay Kunkel
Technical Director	Derek Johnson
Musical Director	Maretha Davel
Costume & Set Director.....	Patti Balch
Publicity	Sandi Bohner
Treasurer	Klay Kunkel
Secretary	Donna Blevins
Stage Manager	Barbara Egbert
House Manager	Diana Rohini LaVigne
Set Construction..	Irv Tiessen, Derek Johnson, Patti Balch, Diane Tiessen, Klay Kunkel, Stephanie Granados, Robin Spindler
Set Crew	Dan Ricard, Irv T, Chris Sehenuk, Klay K, Pete Grayson
Light & Sound	Patti Canning, Orv Barr, Erlinda Dearborn, Beverly Benson
Videographer	Mary Conant
Ticket Sales	Klay Kunkel
Program, Graphic Designs	Derek Johnson, Diana Rohini LaVigne
Photographer	Alex Vlacos

Video equipment courtesy of Alex Vlacos

Gym Equipment courtesy of Nancy & Al Contenti and Solveig & Bill Shearer

Refreshment Donation for 3/1 thanks to SRT members and Characterz Cafe & Coffee Roasterz

Sunol Repertory Theatre is a program of the
Sunol Business Guild, a 501c3 nonprofit organization

PRODUCER AND DIRECTOR'S NOTES

For the past 24 years SRT performances have had the good fortune to be musically enhanced by the fantastically creative talents of Allen Schell. We are proud to formally fete him and want audiences to share in honoring him and help shower him with the gratitude and appreciation he has truly earned and deserves. With each season his excellent skills and personal attention to detail have always provided pleasure to all.



Thank You, Allen

WHO'S WHO

Patti Balch (Sully Izacrook) This is Patti's 38th season playing fun and memorable roles such as Otis Crummy, Sybil, Pistol Pearl, Roller Derby Gramma, Terrible Tilly, Crazy Nannette, Purity Snow and so many more. Among her favorite adventures are sharing a couch with a dead guy, roller skating, riding a coal car, being tied to railroad tracks and being blown up in a sawmill. She is Gramma to Eli, Owinn, Olivia and Tyler. Patti enjoys golf, deep sea fishing, flying and boating. As a faux artist/muralist she is the owner of PBW Designs. She thanks the casts, crews and audiences throughout all the years. SRT is a special family of amazing friends. Thank you all!

Chris Bobertz (Officer 1) Chris is in his second year of SRT. In addition to his role as actor, he is a father of three (his son Rowan is joining us this season) and a full-time IT Manager at Faire Wholesale. Prior to joining our SRT family, Chris performed Stand-Up Comedy across Northern California for 6 years or so. He once performed for 1500 people at the "Keep Chico Weird" event in one of Chico's original theaters. On another memorable occasion, he performed at the Chico Comedy Festival at the Sierra Nevada Brewery, two venues that were on his "bucket list, ACHIEVED! He owes his presence with us to his wife Kristen who encouraged the 2 boys and him

to try out and has provided all the support anyone could hope for.

Rowan Bobertz (Little Trembler) This Sunol Glen Fourth Grader loves to make his friends laugh and telling jokes at the school talent show. Last year he played Imakeed and has literally forgotten every bit of it. When asked if there was anything else he would like to share, he answered “I’m hungry!”

Donna Blevins (Elementis) Donna is having fun in her 9th play at SRT. She’s been a cop, clairvoyant, mannequin model, snooty hotel boss, Sneaky Skunk & romance-loving Paige Turner. She also performs with Encore Players, Asbury Players of Livermore & Foodbank Players in Alameda. She volunteers with Livermore Library directing Readers Theater programs. Thanks to the cast, crew & audience for supporting live theater.

Lea Blevins (Cam Eleon) Lea is an up-and-coming supervillian in this year’s play. What could be better! A resident of Livermore, she is returning for her ninth season with SRT, including one season as co-director. Lea has loved many roles such as the murderer in “Murder in the House of Horrors”, the snooty French desk clerk in “Hotel Escargot” and one of the Sneaky Skunks in “One in a Million”. She has also performed locally with Encore Players, Asbury Players and Las Positas College Performing Arts. Her day job is as a communications specialist. Thanks to all loved ones and theater supporters.

Sandi Bohner (Mayor Quigley) Sandi is the co-Manager of Stanley Junction Senior Apartments with her husband, Bill Webster. You may also see her on weekends as one of Fenestra Winery’s pourers. She has participated in SRT in a variety of roles throughout the years. She remembers walking down the aisle in character - looking for her pig and a boy yells out “I ate him” Sandi values the friendships that have developed in SRT and finds donating the proceeds to the school to be very rewarding.

Bob Canning (Officer 2) Besides SRT, Bob has participated in the Pleasanton Seniors Improv group, Encore Players and numerous small roles in Livermore Valley Opera. He most memorable and terrifying SRT experience was as the villain in “Treasure of Shiver River”.

Patti Canning (Light & Sound) has been volunteering for SRT since 2017 and we are so happy she found us. She got started as a prompter and

worked her way up to helping and then being the center of lights and sound. “SRT has a great group of people, working for a worthy cause.”

Maretha Davel (Musical Director) Maretha is a classically trained music teacher, composer and musician (piano and flute). She performs regularly at Sunol Glen School, in the classroom for her lovely students and at our music concerts She loves to make beautiful music in many places, playing flute and piccolo for two productions, Allegiance (Palo Alto Players) and Big Fish (Sunnyvale Community Players), and has a lot of fun exploring musical theatre. Maretha loves all types of music, and especially building community through music.

Grare Davis (Principal) Allen Schell, our phenomenal pianist and my good friend got me involved in SRT—thought it would be a good retirement gig and it has been. Prompting, painting, producing and occasionally acting has been a source of great fun while making great friends. My non-singing lessons from Allen were perhaps the most laughable. Thanks Allen!

Connie De Grange (Refreshments) Connie has been a part of the SRT crew for more than 35 years: from creating the programs to managing the house and organizing various community groups for intermission refreshments. She especially enjoys booing the villain when played by her husband. Connie currently chairs the Sunol Citizen Advisory Council and is active in supporting the community of Sunol.

Barbara Egbert (Stage Manager) Barbara is a Freelance Editor and participates in many community organizations in addition to SRT. In past productions, she has taken on many backstage roles, serving as Stage Manager, House Manager, and Dresser over the years. She also played Dr. Joanna Vanderveer in the 2013 production “Murder in the House of Horrors”. She was Stage Manager for the debut production of “Caught in the Villain’s Gaze” twenty years ago, when her daughter Mary played Sign Girl.

Derek Johnson (Guard, Technical Director) Derek enjoys the physical nature of the show. From being a ridiculous character onstage, to the process of turning an empty stage into a unique and joyful event that we call Theatre. Off stage, Derek is an engineer/scientist who works out of his basement in Sunol.

Annecy Hall (Possum Girl) Annecy played Purity Dean in SRT’s 2023

production of “Caught in the Villain’s Gaze”. She always wanted to be a performer and thinks getting to sing and acting on stage for the first time in a public production with SRT was an honor. Annecy is a Behavioral Therapist by profession.

Klay Kunkel (Director)

I’ve been involved with SRT since 2001/2, acting, directing, board member, treasurer, set and prop builder ... but the most fun is being onstage! Creating with the other actors, having forgetful moments, recovering ... or not and getting direct feedback from the audience. Its been a great experience and I have made many long-term friends ... as dysfunctional as it is, it’s our joyously dysfunctional family!

Jacqueline Lai (Becky Luthor) This is her first year in SRT and she is very excited to have this opportunity to work with such a passionate group of people. Her past experiences in the performing arts include dancing ballet with the San Jose Dance Theater where she was a soldier, gingerbread cookie, and little Arabian girl in the Nutcracker. As part of the Magical Strings West, a violin performance group, she will travel to Chicago this spring. She has also enjoyed the Sunol Glen Talent Show, Trashion Show and playing clarinet and tenor sax and singing in other bands.

Phil Mumford (Captain Hawkins) Phil began with SRT in 1984 (pre-dating The Simpsons by five years) and took the starring role as Jack Swan in Dark Deeds at Swan’s Place the following year. His favorite play as director was “Zorro’s Back in Town” and his favorite roles were the ship’s captain in Peril on the High Seas and Captain Dimples in How the Other Half Dies. His only other performing experience was teacher at Sunol Glen School for 31 years.

Matthew Paez (Tremendous Man) He watched many rehearsals of the 2023 play and seeing how fun they made it convinced him to join, and he can’t wait for the show! (That’s why your mother warned you about those theater people!) Matthew works in food service and as an artist.

Mia Madeleine Roster Ricard (Fox Girl) Mia returns as Fox Girl, in her second SRT production. Mia lives locally with her parents Dan and Jessica in Kilkare Woods, and attends Sunol Glen as a third grader. She is eight years old and active in 4-H and Girl Scouts. Mia enjoys reading, making art and caring for animals big and small.

Diana Rohini (House Manager) Returning to SRT for a second season,

Diana Rohini spent time as the lead in the Tina & Tony’s Wedding spin-off, Nina & Nathan’s, an interactive live theater production in Boston, MA. Additionally, she has been in commercials for Disney, Budweiser, and Tiffany’s was the host of a few cable shows including Its All Art and Bay Area Bikes. During the day, Diana Rohini is a communications executive and a long-time journalist. Additionally, she is a California Master Naturalist, and a certified Environmental Educator, that hosts group camping trips for the community a few times a year.

Meridith Sarboraria (BlackFly) Meridith may still remember lines as Heidi Clair in “Treasure of Shiver River” (2020&2022) and Carrie in “One in a Million”, but she will never forget ad-libbing a stage fall in the opening scene as Lucy in “Caught in the Act” and injuring her tailbone. Never mind the pain, almost every scene needed Lucy. The show must go on! Meridith is also a Winemaking Consultant & Travel Advisor.

Robin Spindler (Director) Robin has been involved with SRT since 2014. She has loved being on stage and would be hard pressed to pick a favorite moment - it is all fun! This year Robin is co-directing for the first time and is learning a lot about herding cats, and enjoying the different perspective that a director brings.

Diane Tiessen (Producer, Prompter) Having been involved with SRT since 1996, she has done several delightful and fun roles on stage as well as director and co-director. Most memorable was being Burlap Bonnie in “The Treasure of Shiver River”for SRT’s 39th season. This became very unusual and historic as the play opened and closed on the same night due to the Covid Pandemic shutdown. SRT rallied in May of 2022 to finish that play outside in the Sunol Depot Gardens. We are proudly presenting the 41st season at and for Sunol Glen School once again.

Irv Tiessen (Sets, Props) Irv has been active with SRT since before the millennium as a master props and set maker under the given name “The Irvolini Magic Company”. As an “actor” (editors quotes), he can be remembered as the white wigged judged, part of a tap dancing trio, and elevator operator and the dead guy on the couch in “How the Other Half Dies”. He states that his various talents are always enjoyed and appreciated.

PAST PERFORMANCES

1982 *The Miller and His Men*

Director: Tom Harland

1983 *Dirty Work at the Crossroads*

Director: Tom Harland

1984 *A Bad Day at Gopher's Breath*

Director: Laurie Foster

1985 *Dark Deeds at Swan's Place*

Director: Laurie Foster



1986 *Egad! The Woman in White*

Director: Tom Harland

1987 *Pure as the Driven Snow*

Director: Wayne Zimmerman

1988 *Dirty Work in High Places*

Director: Wayne Zimmerman



1989 *Caught in the Villain's Web*

Director: Laurie Foster

1990 *Egad What a Cad! And The Ballad of Gopher Gap*

Director: Brenda DuCharme

1991 *The Miller and His Men*

Director: Tom Harland

1992 *Song of the Mounties*

Director: Wayne Zimmerman

1993 *A Golden Fleecing*

Director: Laurie Foster

1994 *Dogsbreath Devereaux the Dastardly Doctor*

Director: Stephan Doyle



1995 *Who Threw the Overalls in Mrs. Murphy's Chowder?*

Director: Wayne Zimmerman

1996 *Lily, the Felon's Daughter*

Director: Stephan Doyle

1997 *Zorro's Back in Town*

Director: Phil Mumford

1998 *Peril on the High Seas*

Director: Stephan Doyle

1999 *The Face on the Barroom Floor*

Directors: Phil Mumford & Chari Xenakis

2000 *The Saga of the Prospector's Daughter*

Directors: Bree James & Lynn Kozma



2001 *Dogsbreath Devereaux, the Dastardly Doctor*

Director: Stephan Doyle

2002 *Caught in the Villain's Gaze*

Writer/Director: Tom Harland

2003 *The Vile Veterinarian*

Director: Phil Mumford

2004 *Trapped in a Villain's Web*

Directors: Stephan Doyle &

Lynn Kozma



2005 *Curses, Foiled Again!*

Director: Diane Tiessen

2006 *Caught in the Villain's Grasp*

Director: Tom Harland

2007 *Taming the Wild, Wild West in a Dress*

Director: Klay Kunkel

2008 *Wagon Wheels a-Rollin'*

Director: Wells Twombly

2009 *Million Dollar Baby*

Directors: Kari Davis &

Klay Kunkel

2010 *She was only Marginally Modest*

Director: Sue Marshall

2011 *Trouble Bubbles at the Hot Springs*

Director: Kathy Morris

2012 *Rogue of the Railway*

Director: Tom Harland

2013 *Murder in the House of Horrors*

Director: Lynn Kozma

2014 *Hotel Escargot*

Directors: Klay Kunkel &

Diane Tiessen



2015 *How the Other Half Dies*

Directors: Lea Blevins &

Klay Kunkel

2016 *Axe of Murder*

Directors: Donna

Blevins &

Phil Mumford

2017 *Shakespeare Goes to Gravel Gulch*

Director: John Ruzicka

2018 *One in A Million*

Co-Directors: Klay Kunkel &

Diane Tiessen

2019 *Caught in the Act*

Co-Directors: Ray Spooner, Sandi Bohner

2020/2022 *The Treasure of Shiver River*

Co-Directors: Georgia Ball, Klay Kunkel, Diane Tiessen

2023 *Caught in the Villain's Gaze*

Written and Directed by Tom Harland



SUNOL REPERTORY THEATRE WOULD LIKE TO THANK
THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES FOR THEIR
GENEROUS SUPPORT.

SUPER ANGELS

The Balch Family
Victoria Cloutier
Diane & Irv Tiessen
Solveig & Bill Shearer
Save Our Sunol
Sunol Business Guild
Louise Throop

ANGELS

Sandi Bohner & Bill Webster	Derek Johnson & Lynn Kozma
Lavigne & Gupta Clan	Barry Jolette & Sally Tappy
Rob Gibbany & Family	Karen Newcomb
Vicki & Tom Harland	The Rolling Hills Gang
International Horsemanship Foundation	Van Dyke Ranch World Peace

PATRONS

Casa Bella	Don & Claire Mittelstaedt
Chambers-Egbert Family	Ralph & Lori Nielsen
Patricia Lee	Lyndsay Skeegan
Dennis Meister	

SPECIAL THANKS

Mollie Barnes & the SGS Staff
Sunol Organizations that provided refreshments
Our Patrons who have been loyal over the years
Volunteer Ushers and many Assistants