

SPOTLIGHT

401 North 6th Street

February 1, 2020

www.fslt.org

Dates: Opening Night Gala of FSLT's production of *The Glitter Girls* will be Thursday, Feb. 13. Regular performances will be Feb. 14-15 and 19-22. A Sunday Matinee will be offered on Feb. 16.

Show Times: All evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. Patrons may be seated after 6:45 p.m. The matinee begins at 2:00 p.m. Patrons may be seated after 1:15 p.m.

Season Flex Pass Seat Selection: Seat selection begins 7:00 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 1. Select seats online at fslt.org or call the Box Office at 479-783-2966 (extn: 2) to request seats on the phone. Flex Pass patrons may also purchase an additional ticket for every pass they have.

General Public Tickets: Tickets available beginning 7:00 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 6. Purchase online at fslt.org or call the Box Office at 479-783-2966 (extn: 2) to purchase on the phone. Gala Opening Night tickets \$27 / All other performances \$12.

Box Office Phone Calls: Be prepared to leave a message with details about your seat/ticket request including a phone number where you can easily be reached. During variable hours, volunteers will return calls in the order they are received.

Reminder: To reach the Box Office, select Extn: 2

Online Option

Online ticketing and seat selection are available at www.fslt.org.

THE GLITTER GIRLS

Offers a Sparkling Start to the 2020 FSLT Season

Arpege: So how much money are you giving to the winner of your game?

Trudy: I thought sixteen million would be fair. One million for each of the years the Glitter Girls have been glittering.

- The Glitter Girls

Part Southern sass and part cutthroat reality game show, *The Glitter Girls* – running February 13-22 – focuses on a group of tiara-wearing, hard-drinking women friends in Hickman Hills, Georgia. Directed by Eric Wells, the hilarious show features a cast full of FSLT favorites. The show is written by Mark Dunn, the playwright who penned 2019's popular production *Happily Ever After: A Wedding Comedy*.

Rich, eccentric Trudy Tromaine (Angela Covey) is determined to share her fortune with her pals, The Glitter Girls, a group of close female friends who have met and shared a sisterhood for 16 years. With the help of her mysterious and suspiciously masculine maid, Arpege (Aaron Ray), Trudy is staging a big illness to find out which friend is most worthy to get control of \$16 million.

The contenders for the money are a varied bunch: Twenty-something Charlie Seaburn (Hunter Seegers) is standing in for his difficult Glitter Girl mother who is traveling abroad. Young social worker Patty Wesley (Jamie Lambin-Bolin) is a "legacy" Glitter Girl who has bonded with the group after her mother's death. Flossie Price (Rikkee Workman-Black) is an outspoken countrywoman with a penchant for wild stories. Former pole dancer and alleged town tramp Valerie Fairhope (Tina Dale) has her eye

See *The Glitter Girls* on page 3



Last Chance To Buy Your Pass

Two types of 2020 Season Passes are available for purchase through February 12. Don't miss out on the savings and the perks. Buy online at fslt.org or call 479-783-2966.

Spend Time With Your Valentine

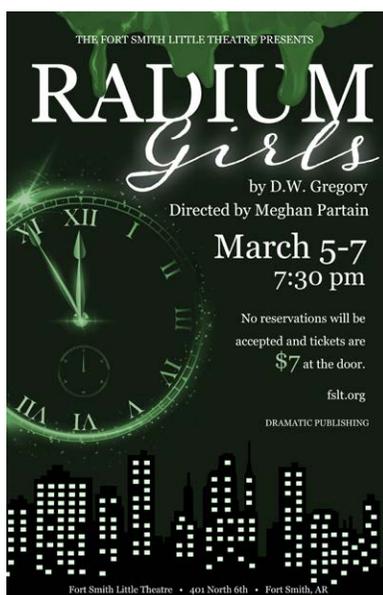
Gala Opening Night for our upcoming performance will be February 13. Attendees will enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres, wine and champagne prior to the performance, with dessert and coffee at intermission. General public tickets are \$27. Flex Pass patrons may upgrade to the Gala show for \$15.



Director's Letter

2019 was what I would call an amazing year at FSLT. Now I am looking forward to the vision that FSLT has for 2020! As busy as I am with work and completing my education degree, I still find myself with the relentless urge to be involved in our prestigious Fort Smith Little Theatre. With that said, I am honored to be back in the director's chair in bringing *The Glitter Girls* to life on our stage. After directing 2019's *Happily Ever After: A Wedding Comedy*, I have found a playwright that I have fallen in love with based on his work with dynamic characters, relationships, and storylines. Mark Dunn has a great resume of plays that are so fun you must read them. That is what led me to the script of *The Glitter Girls*! A mixture of unique characters with interesting relationships find themselves in a scenario of both hilarity and moments that touch your heart. All this creates what I call a perfect formula for a show to perform on the FSLT stage. Once again, I have a cast and crew I call a Dream Team that has made this show experience an absolute joy. I encourage everyone to come, relax, and enjoy our production of *The Glitter Girls*. I promise this show will leave you with giggles and a glittery smile from ear to ear!

- Eric Wells, *Director*



Radium Girls First 2020 Off-Season Offering

In 1926, radium was seen as a miracle cure and luminous watches made with radium were all the rage—until the women who painted them became ill with a mysterious disease. This is the story of how Grace Fryer, a dial painter, fights for her day in court versus her former employer and eventually the U.S. Radium Corporation.

FSLT performer, Meghan Partain, makes her directorial debut with this compelling story that is told with warmth and humor. Eleven performers take on multiple roles to tell the sweeping true story. Critics called this show “powerful” and “engrossing”.

Performances on March 5, 6, and 7 begin at 7:30 p.m. (doors will open at 6:45 p.m.). Tickets are \$7 per person at the door (open seating). As this is an off-season production, there will be no advanced ticket sales, and admission is not provided by your season pass.

Join us for a night of drama brought to you by a very talented cast that includes Lindsay Vickery as Grace Fryer, Gary Cameron as Charlie Lee, and Jon Gustafson as Arthur Roeder. Appearing in multiple roles are Jamie Lambin-Bolin, Lynne Gustafson, Emilee Dale, Jennifer Roller, Tina Dale, Aaron Ray, Eric Wells and John Hall.

The Glitter Girls opens February 13

on Trudy's money with attitude to spare. Widowed Mayvonne Rausch (Micki Voelkel) is a seventh grade teacher with a huge heart. Sad-sack Corinne Culvert (Meredith Rice) is the unluckiest woman in town. Political wife and catty dress store owner Mamie Ewing (Carole Rogers) stirs up trouble whenever she can. Completing the group is Dowd Foster (Brandon Bolin) whose Glitter Girl wife, Mary Katherine, has just passed away. When the group starts to vote the contenders "off the island," the knives come out, secrets start to emerge, and the wisecracks fly!

Director Eric Wells has a great support system backstage with assistant director Emilee Dale, producer Sherry Hester, and stage manager Audra Sargent. Susan Hickam is wardrobe mistress, Joanne Peterson is handling props. Reece Whitt is responsible for set design and is aided by set crew Ember Whitt and Gary Cameron. Sound design is by Eric Krigbaum, while lighting design is by T.J. Dudley. Light and sound operators are Don Clack and Brittany Bateman. Show art is by Zack Valentine.

Wells is happy to be directing another Mark Dunn comedy: "After directing *Happily Ever After: A Wedding Comedy*



last year, Mark Dunn became a favorite writer of mine. When reading his script for *The Glitter Girls*, I fell in love with his characters, their personalities and their relationships, and I felt that our audience would

enjoy them as much as I do."

He said, "Probably the biggest challenge was the casting. More than 30 talented individuals auditioned. I could have cast this play at least four or five different ways. But at audition callbacks, I saw the final cast come together, and I couldn't be happier with my casting choices."

FSLT veteran Rikkee Workman-Black agrees: "There are some awesome actresses in this cast...women who have been on our stage many times over many years. Being in a cast with them has been a dream of mine." She adds, "The biggest challenge for me is keeping a straight face and not laughing at others' lines."

Audiences will appreciate the mixed cast of long-time FSLT performers with a fresh face or two. Angela Covey has been onstage at FSLT since the 1970s: "Because learning lines and enduring hours of rehearsal are hard work, I'm crazy at my age to be doing this. But I was drawn to this show because it's a lighthearted comedy, and I knew I would enjoy the camaraderie of the cast and crew. I think this show will give our audience a good feeling and a welcome break from the winter doldrums." Meredith Rice, in contrast, is performing only her second role on our stage: "There are a lot of very experienced thespians in this cast. While that means I can learn from their talent and experience, it also means I have to work hard to keep up. They set a high bar."

The Glitter Girls opens with a gala performance February 13 and closes February 22. Seat selection for Season Flex Pass patrons begins at 7 a.m., Saturday, February 1. General public ticketing begins at 7 a.m., Thursday, February 6. Purchase tickets/select seats online at fslt.org or call 479-783-2966 (extn: 2) to purchase through a box office volunteer.

2019 Annual Meeting

The FSLT Annual Membership meeting was held on November 21, 2019 at 7 p.m. Reports were given by officers and committee chairs. Five new Board members were elected to three-year terms: Joe Graham, Sherry Hester, Jamie Lambdin-Bolin, Tyler Huntington, and Audra Sargent. Three members-at-large were elected to a one-year term on the nominating committee:

Micki Voelkel, Jill Ledbetter, and Valerie Valentine. The newly elected Board then met to elect officers for the coming year: Steve Dwiggin, President; Melissa Vitale, Vice President; Neal Goodwin, Treasurer; Sherry Hester, Secretary.

Seat Selection/ Ticketing

For Season Flex Pass patrons, seat selection begins 7:00 a.m. **Saturday, Feb. 1.** Flex Pass patrons may also purchase an additional ticket for every pass they have. For the general public, tickets will be available beginning 7:00 a.m. **Thursday, Feb. 6.** Purchase tickets/select seats online at fslt.org or call the Box Office at 479-783-2966 (extn: 2) to order on the phone.

Seat Tickets Checked By Ushers

Seat tickets will be checked at the aisles. If you selected your seats online, you can bypass the Box Office when you arrive and show your print-at-home ticket or your ticket confirmation on your smart phone to an usher. Alternately, go to the Box Office upon your arrival, pick up your seat ticket, then proceed to an usher at either aisle.

A Round of Applause

A round of applause for **Consolidated Printing** of Van Buren, who once again generously donated all of our colorful pre-printed seat tickets for the season, and **Hardgrave, Inc** who donated the extensive remodeling of our box office cabinetry. We also want to recognize **Sodie's Wine and Spirits** who will continue their annual donation of quality wine and champagne for our patrons attending Gala Opening Night performances. Gala patrons will also enjoy delicious coffee donated by **Fort Smith Coffee**. We are very grateful for these local, loyal, community-minded businesses!

In Memory of Katy Boulden

Season 2020 will be dedicated to the memory of Katy Boulden who actively contributed her time and talent over many years as a FSLT board member, producer, director, and actress. In addition, she used her love of language to pen countless newsletters and season brochures, even into her later years.

We are grateful for her contributions, and for the following donations given in her memory:

Benny and Martha Gooden; Bill and Karen Pharis; Louis and Gretchen Jacks; Albert and Jennie MacDade; Jack and Louanna Green; The Cravens Family; and Annidale Sound LLC.

Fort Smith Little Theatre
SPOTLIGHT

P.O. Box 3752, Fort Smith, AR 72913

www.fslt.org

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2020 FSLT Board of Directors

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Audra Sargent
Eric Wells

From the Top...

Dear Patrons - Welcome to 2020 and the 73rd season of the Fort Smith Little Theatre! We are excited about the upcoming season, and we can't wait to share it with you. Season 2019 was a great success, and we think 2020 will be even better.

We have six shows in our regular season that we believe will entertain all comers. Starting off the year will be the comedy, *The Glitter Girls*, directed by Eric Wells. This show will run February 13 thru February 22. From April 16 thru April 25, we will perform *A Southern Exposure*, directed by Lora Rice, followed by *Deathtrap*, directed by Micki Voelkel. This show will run from June 4 thru June 13. Our musical this year is the perennial favorite, *Annie*, running from July 30 thru August 15. Directors will be Eric Wells and Valerie Valentine; Musical Directors will be Barry and Gini Law. Following *Annie* will be the drama, *The Tin Woman*, directed by Jim Moody, running from September 24 thru October 3. Then closing out the 2020 regular season will be *Parfumerie*, directed by Jamie Lambdin-Bolin, starting November 12 and closing November 21. And don't forget that we will offer two off season productions: *Radium Girls*, directed by Meghan Partain (March 5-7) and *The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon*, directed by Tina Dale (December 10-12). So, a very promising season, don't you think? I hope you share our excitement about the upcoming year.

Please also remember that there are always multiple needs and opportunities for those who might want to become involved with our theatre. Always wanted to be in a show? Come out to an audition. We hold open auditions for all of the regular season shows and are always interested in new faces. If your interests are more behind the curtain, think about helping with Box Office, Costuming, Hospitality, Set Construction, and more. For more information about volunteer opportunities, just call the theatre, check fslt.org, or find us on Facebook!

- Steve Dwiggins, *President*

Next Up

Auditions for *A Southern Exposure*, directed by Lora Rice, will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 9. Callbacks will be held on Tuesday, March 10. The cast calls for 4 females ages approximately 20-55+. Production dates are April 16-25. For more information, visit our website, www.fslt.org, or find us on Facebook.



Season Flex Pass patrons are urged to select seats before February 6.