It is always gratifying to be publicly recognized for one’s work, and the 2017-18 Season was a bonanza for us. We kicked off the season with the crowd-pleasing *The Legend of Georgia McBride*, we inspired illuminating conversations around *The Book of Will* and *Skeleton Crew*, and we garnered outstanding critical praise for *The Beauty Queen of Leenane* and *Cry It Out*. But it is the art and the artists that define our purpose.

With that in mind, we look towards our future. World premieres continue to be in the forefront of our artistic vision through the support of our Interplay program, seeking to develop work that reflects and challenges our audience’s values and beliefs. The 2018-19 Season includes two world premieres, *Landladies* by Sharyn Rothstein and *Mansfield Park*, Kate Hamill’s new adaptation of the Jane Austen novel.

We are also looking towards new ways of making our work available to a wider audience, including an “Arts for Everyone” program that will provide free tickets to our community partners, and the launch of our Artistic Fellow program to encourage wider artistic input in programming and casting, supporting our goals of inclusion and diversity.

Northlight continues to deliver on our artistic promises, and our audience values our commitment to outstanding artistry—evidenced by our incredible subscriber loyalty and a single ticket audience that draws from around the entire Chicagoland area. This perhaps is the most gratifying aspect of our work, and for which we are most grateful.

BJ Jones
Artistic Director
It is an exciting time at Northlight as the work on our stage continues to exemplify our signature “intensely entertaining” style, and our work offstage increases its reach and impact in our community. This season we’ve focused on telling our story, and we’re encouraged and gratified that as we share the magnitude of the work that we do, our family of Northlight supporters and partners grows in numbers and strength.

This year we were proud to receive a three-year grant from the Davee Foundation, an unprecedented award that is significant for its ability to transform our organization. This longer-term commitment from the Davee Foundation allows us to elevate our current programming and infrastructure across our organization and, even more important, build and grow our education and community access programs as well as marketing and publicity efforts.

Additionally, The Shubert Foundation now supports Northlight Theatre more significantly than in any time in the past ten years. One of the great theater funders in American Theater, this years’ Shubert grant puts Northlight near the top of their Chicagoland giving.

Meanwhile, the continued development and growth of our Board of Trustees and Advisory Council demonstrates an increasing awareness and investment in our organization by community leaders. And our subscription renewal rate of 85% (an industry high) illustrates the long-standing loyalty of our patrons—a dedication we’ve earned through our ongoing commitment to their audience experience!

Northlight now serves nearly 4,000 students in Skokie, Evanston, and Chicago through our educational outreach. Evanston Township High School, one of our longest-running school partnerships, is a participant in Speak Up!, Northlight’s theatre for social change program. School president Marcus Campbell told us: “Speak Up! has been the model for us in tackling difficult conversations. The program has been essential in giving an avenue for educators to really explore what’s being discussed around us.”

Northlight has big plans for the future, and as we look ahead, testimonials like Mr. Campbell’s are the guiding light that lead the way. We believe in the power of theatre to challenge audiences to think in a new way, to broaden perspectives, and to move beyond the boundaries of the stage to educate, to inspire conversation, to build relationships, and to empower our community. We are strategically seeking options for growth and expansion of our programming, our audiences, our artists, the students we serve, and the community partners we believe in.

On behalf of the Northlight Board of Directors, our robust Advisory Council, our amazing staff and our loyal audience, thanks to all for their support and belief in the impactful mission of Northlight Theatre to be a beacon for storytelling, conversation, education, and innovation in the American Theater.

Timothy J. Evans
Executive Director
“THE THEME ABOUT UNDERSTANDING YOUR CALLING IN LIFE AND BEING TRUE TO IT WAS LOVELY. THE MUSIC AND STAGING WAS FABULOUS. I’M ALWAYS AMAZED AT WHAT NORTHLIGHT DOES ON SUCH A SMALL STAGE. KUDOS!” —Northlight Subscriber
2017|18 SEASON

THE LEGEND OF GEORGIA McBRIDE
By Matthew Lopez
Directed by Lauren Shouse
September 14 – October 22, 2017
This heartwarming, music-filled comedy resonated with audiences who found it entertaining, uplifting, and fun.

THE BOOK OF WILL
By Lauren Gunderson
Directed by Jessica Thebus
November 9 – December 17, 2017
World Premiere
The preservation of Shakespeare’s work was at the center of this tale of two actors who, with the help of their wives and colleagues, set out not only to print a collection, but to uphold a legacy for the world.

SKELETON CREW
By Dominique Morisseau
Directed by Ron OJ Parson
January 25 – March 4, 2018
The third play in Dominique Morisseau’s Detroit trilogy, Skeleton Crew was one of Time Magazine’s 10 Best Shows of the Year, and was a powerful, personal view of the nation’s financial crisis.

THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE
By Martin McDonagh
Directed by BJ Jones
March 15 – April 22, 2018
Kate Fry and Wendy Robie’s fierce performances as a highly dysfunctional mother-daughter duo were the highlight of this macabre Irish comedy.

CRY IT OUT
By Molly Smith Metzler
Directed by Jessica Fisch
May 10 – June 17, 2018
National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere
This insightful new play put a spotlight on new motherhood, the dilemma of returning to work versus staying at home, and how class impacts parenthood and friendship.

THEATRE ATTENDANCE

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<tr>
<th>Production</th>
<th># of Performances</th>
<th>Subscribed Tickets</th>
<th>Individually Sold Tickets</th>
<th>Complimentary Tickets</th>
<th>Student Matinee Tickets</th>
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<td>Georgia McBride</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>5,431</td>
<td>1,865</td>
<td>754</td>
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<td>Book of Will</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>5,547</td>
<td>3,167</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>9,904</td>
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<td>Skeleton Crew</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>5,431</td>
<td>1,623</td>
<td>793</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>8,504</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beauty Queen</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>5,530</td>
<td>3,038</td>
<td>817</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>9,558</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cry It Out</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>5,403</td>
<td>1,641</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7,844</td>
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<tr>
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<td>206</td>
<td>27,342</td>
<td>11,334</td>
<td>3,967</td>
<td>1,217</td>
<td>43,860</td>
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</table>
“IT’S WHY ONE GOES TO LIVE THEATER! THIS EXPERIENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE ON A SCREEN.” –Northlight Subscriber

Skeleton Crew
Anji White, Jacqueline Williams, and Bernard Gilbert
A variety of free audience events add depth and context to each production, as well as offer a platform for civil discourse. Some events are held at Northlight, while others occur at local libraries or community spaces. Each production also features a number of post-show discussions led by Northlight Artistic staff and joined by members of the cast and/or a featured guest expert.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

BACKSTAGE WITH BJ
Behind-the-scenes discussions with Artistic Director BJ Jones (held every production).

TECH TALKS
Observation of a technical rehearsal while elements such as lighting and sound are layered into the production.

“SKELETON CREW AT HOME”
A local expert panel reflected on the play’s underlying themes of homelessness, unemployment, and the financial burdens of home and family as they relate to our own community.

“PARENT-ARTIST ADVOCACY”
*Cry It Out* Playwright Molly Smith Metzler and Director Jessica Fisch, both working moms, led a discussion about the unique challenges faced by working parents in the arts.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS & VENUES:
The Book Stall
Connections for the Homeless
Curt’s Cafe
Evanston Public Library
Family Promise Chicago North Shore
Highland Park Public Library
Irish American Heritage Center
Lurie Children’s Hospital
National Able
Parent-Artist Advocacy League (PAAL)
Skokie Public Library
Vi Living at the Glen
Wilmette Public Library
Women Employed
Youth Opportunity United (Y.O.U.)
Youth Job Center

Pictured left: Artistic staff, audience, and cast members participate in a post-show discussion after a performance of Skeleton Crew.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Our Philosophy: Northlight utilizes theatre in its broadest capacity to act as a conduit between us and our community. Our programs fulfill self-identified needs within that community using applicable theatre skills and resources in partnership with community organizations. These dynamic engagement and outreach initiatives align with Northlight’s mission of reflecting our community to the world and the world to our community.

PARTNERS

FAMILY FOCUS promotes the well-being of children by supporting and strengthening families in and with their communities. Northlight works with the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Group on presenting their writings about their experience in life and as grandparents, helping these caregivers gain the skills and confidence to share their stories with an audience.

Y.O.U. is a youth development agency that provides services and leadership to meet the emerging needs of young people and their families in our community. Northlight partners with five Y.O.U. after-school enrichment sites to run a Speak Up! theatre for social change program with 3rd-5th graders.

YWCA EVANSTON/NORTH SHORE is working to eliminate racism, empower women, stand up for social justice, help families, and strengthen communities. Northlight runs a monthly workshop for women in the Domestic Violence Residency Program with the goal of building confidence and self-care skills through theatre activities.

Northlight Teaching Artist Kaiser Ahmed with participants of the Family Focus Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Group
“THERE ARE VERY FEW PLAYS AROUND THAT PRESENT SO WELL THE EXPERIENCES AND RELATIONSHIPS OF EVERYDAY WOMEN WHO ARE HURTING. BRAVA! MANY OF US AUDIENCE MEMBERS WERE WIPING AWAY OUR TEARS WHEN EXITING THE THEATER.” –Northlight Patron
EDUCATION

Northlight’s Education Department approaches all aspects of education programming with a spirit of collaboration to encourage students’ artistic growth through self-expression and unbridled creativity.

SCHOOL YEAR AT-A-GLANCE

- **6** Student Matinees
- **45** Schools/Organizations
- **50** Classrooms
- **27** Teaching Artists/Apprentices/Interns
- **2869** K-12 Students Served

NEW INITIATIVE

NLYC
Northlight Youth Council is a brand new opportunity for passionate North Shore and Chicago teens to help build the next generation of theatre makers. NLYC engages young adults in a variety of student-driven opportunities and allows them an up-close, inside look into the world of stage production. This program allows for members to attend Northlight performances, attend performances at other theatres, analyze and discuss the plays they see, do community service work, meet with Northlight artists and staff to gain a holistic overview of theatre company operations, and plan and throw NLYC’s Spotlight events around each season production.

SCHOOLS SERVED:

Addison Trail High School
Alfred Nobel Elementary School
Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School
Buffalo Grove High School
Christopher House
Dawes Elementary School
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Literary & Fine Arts School
Evanston Township High School
Fairview South School
Glenbrook South High School
Guerin College Preparatory High School
Hanson Park Elementary
Jesse Sherwood Elementary School
Jewish Child and Family Services
John Middleton Elementary School
Libertyville High School
Maine East High School
Mariano Azuela Elementary School
Mother McAuley High School
Mozart Elementary School
New Trier High School
Newton Bateman Elementary
Nichols Middle School
Niles North High School
Niles West High School
Oakton Elementary School
Orrington Elementary School
Roycemore School
Science and Arts Academy
Stevenson High School
Taft High School
Thomas Edison Elementary School
Vernon Hills High School
Walker Elementary School
Washington D. Smyser Elementary
Washington Elementary School
William P. Gray Elementary
Students at William P. Gray Elementary in Chicago in a Northlight on Campus showcase. This program focuses on theatre skills and acting fundamentals, developed through student adaptation of a familiar story.

Evanston Township High School students participate in Speak Up!, a theatre for social change residency that brings current events into the classroom and asks students to address issues in their community.
Northlight celebrated the theatre’s extensive history of producing new work with a festive event at The Evanston Golf Club on November 4, 2017. Chicago-based singer/producer Michael Ingersoll served as Master of Ceremonies as well as provided musical entertainment for the evening. 275 guests attended the event which raised $250,000.

HOST COMMITTEE
Julie Chernoff, co-chair
Susie McMonagle, co-chair
Candace Corr and BJ Jones
Nancy Cunniff and Alan Zunamon
Jane and Timothy Evans
Donna and Gene Frett

Catherine Hayden and Tom Carmichael
Karen Hunt
Neal Moglin and Mark Tendam
Trimmy and Neal Stamell
Marcia Mead Stillerman

GALA SPONSORS

Executive Director Tim Evans with Leadership Award recipient Jim Offield and wife sujo

Artistic Director BJ Jones with Speak Up Award recipient Harry Lennix
## FINANCIAL REPORT

### INCOME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Earned Income</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ticket Sales</td>
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<td>Education Programs</td>
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<td>Scene Shop Outside Projects</td>
<td>$19,992</td>
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<td>Royalties/Other Earned Income</td>
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<td><strong>Total Earned Income</strong></td>
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<td>Individuals</td>
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<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
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### EXPENSES

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<td>Education Programs</td>
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<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
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<td>$3,146,271</td>
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### Change in Net Assets

$352,234
“WE LEFT THE SHOW SPELLBOUND BY THE BRILLIANCE OF THE WHOLE EXPERIENCE. STORY TELLING AT ITS FINEST. HIGHLY MEMORABLE.” –Northlight Patron
# THANK YOU

## NORTHLIGHT VISIONARIES CIRCLE
The Northlight Visionaries Circle consists of lead supporters, contributing $1,000 or more to Northlight’s Annual Fund. These members help to realize the vision, both present and future, of Northlight Theatre with their generosity. Members engage with the theatre and artists on a deeper level through special events, education site visits, backstage tours, lunches with our directors, and our Donor Exclusive Newsletter. Circle members are also invited to attend dress rehearsals, Opening Nights, and more.

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<th>PRODUCERS</th>
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<td>Paul and Mary Finnegan</td>
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<td>Mark and Kathy McCarville</td>
<td>Carol and Steve Mullins</td>
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<th>$5,000-$9,999</th>
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<td>Freddi Greenberg and Dan Pinkert M. J. O’Brien Family Foundation Melanie and Dan Peterson Robert S. and Sandra G. Silver Bob and Lisa Silverman Greg and Anne Taubeneck Family Fund</td>
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<th>COMPANY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Anonymous (3) Diane and Karl Berolzheimer Douglas Brown and Rachel Kraft Michael and Joan Callahan Mary Anne and Joe Cappo Marcia Caulkins Cindy Clark and Bob Regan Kathy and Stuart Edwards Timothy and Jane Evans Brian and Susan Fargo L. Klug and B. Farrelly Chris and Karen Felix Abel and Judy Friedman Richard W. Gilbert and Julie E. Gammack Scott Goodman Eleanor Northrop Hall Paul and Mary Ann Harvey Don and Betsy Hohman Kim and Kirk Hoopingarner Donna and Steven Horwitz Dr. Herb and Mrs. Adrienne Kamin Renee Katten Neil and Diana King Leslie and Paul Lehner Carole and Joseph Levy Marcia Mead Stillerman Lois Melvoin Lloyd Morgan Jordan and Jean Nerenberg Kathleen Okrent and Peter Haleas Greg and Nicki Pearson Merrill Prager and John Levine Lisa and Jeff Rosenkranz Keith and Ann Sarpolis Horst and Sara Schastok Ralph and Nancy Segall Neal and Trimmy Stamell Marcie and Avy Stein Claire Sucsy Michael Walker and Anne Murdoch Mary and James West Jane WueLLNER Mr. Eric Haab and Ms. Kim Yee</td>
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ANNUAL FUND
Northlight Theatre gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following donors of $100 or more for activities September 1, 2017 through August 31, 2018.

PARTNERS $500-$999
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Sherry Graham Nelson
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Lorie Berger
Anne Berkeley
Donald Bouseman
Jay Brasil and Marcia Selig
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Steven and Phyllis Brody
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Greg Thompson
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Melanie and Robert Cody
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Conway and Elnor Dahmer
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Karen and Luke DeGrand
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Dick Cohen
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William and Lynda Frillman
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Marger and Roger Baron
Carole Bass
Joan Beaubaire
Anne Hatcher Berenberg
Lois M. Berman
Marcia Bingham
Patricia C. Birk
Frances E. Bishop
Martin and Fran Blendermann
Don and Linda Bolte
David Borosh
Hugh and Mary Bowles
Sheila and Ed Bradley
Norma Braude
Deborah and Thomas Brejcha
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Brenda and Walter Bushala
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Rachel Cantor
Nancy G. Carroll
Scott Carter
Bill and Trisha Casey
Mr. Frank Cella and
Mr. Trev Minnaert
Mary Jane Chainski
Richard and Marcia Chessick
Paul and Jennifer Christensen
Lynn and Robert Clark
Diana Cohen and David Spitalnik
Bradley and Jennifer Cohen
Garrett and Myrna Cohn
Jerry Collins
Sally Connell
Mary Alice and Peter J. Costello
David and Kate Cudnowski
John Culbert
Robert and Chie Curley
Jeff and Paula Danoff
Steve and Mary Jane Dawson
Joseph E. and Ruth B. Doninger
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Jerry and Liz Ettinger
Maurice and Ruth Ettleson
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Roy and Marta Evans
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Susan Fine
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Sidney and Jackie Freedman
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Robert and Janet Gemmell
Wayne and Macy Giampietro
Mariellen Gibson
Anneliese and Howard Glick
Debbie Glienke
Alexandra Goddard
Ethel and Bill Gofen
Cindy Gold
Deidra Gold
Joan and Roger Gold
Phyllis and Eugene Goldman
Sally and Ralph Goren
Henry Gould
Dale and Erica Granchalek
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Dalia Kleinmuntz
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Jean Kroll
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Mary S. Kurz
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Gregg and Carolyn Lemein
Sue and Jim Lerner
Judith Levin
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Bonnie and Jay Lyle
Charles MacKelvie
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Matthew and Nicole Magnuson
Colette Major
Anne and Dan Malmed
William Mangold
Edward and Holly Mann
Charlene Marcus
Elizabeth Martin
Howard and Jean May
Bob and Barb McCullough
Arthur and Anne McGivern
Bob and Carine McGreevey
Jim and Cass McHolland
Martin and Laurie Merel
Kenneth Meyers
Nancy Hart and M.T. Stieber
Mara and Bob Mihlfried
Lois Milburn
Tony and MaryLou Mockus
Art Mollenhauer
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Monahan
Laura Montgomery
Robert and Sandra Morgan
Martin W. Morris
Susan Mullen
John and Martha Muno
Denise Murray
Dennis and Linda Myers P.C
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Carol and Pat Navin
Herb and Roberta Nechin
Adele and Seymour Neems
Judy Newton
Margaret T. Nicosisa
Tony and Andrea Nocchiero
Gladys Nutt
Beverly Offen
Stuart and Carol Oken
Wallace and Sarah Oliver
Dr. and Mrs. Don Olson
Tom and Cathy Omundson
Jennifer O’Neil
Jerry Oswald and Kathy Fredricks Oswald
Eleanor Pagano
Michael and Diane Paley
Terri and Brian Parker
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Tim and Jane Pire
Marlene Pochis
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Sally Prager
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Holly Raider
Lynn and Jim Rainwaters
Neal J. Reenan
Nancy and Alan Reinberg
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Raquel Schuman
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Jan and Art Sherman
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Kay Silver
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Gerri Sizemore
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Mel Marino Wolff
James Wood
Michael Wright
Melissa A Wynne
Maureen “Moe” Yanes
Regina and Harvey Young
IN KIND
Anonymous
Abt Electronics
Accents Plus
Adler Planetarium
David Arms
Art and Science Salon
Ayla’s Originals
Ann Bennett
Dalia Benz
Daniel K. Biss
Bookends and Beginnings
Jacklyn and Michael Brennan
Julie Bromley
Chicago Zoological Society, Brookfield Zoo
Malcolm S. Brown
Scott Carter
J & L Catering
Celtic Knot Public House, The
Charcoal Oven Restaurant
The Chicago Architecture Foundation
Chicago Botanic Garden
Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Chicago Symphony Orchestra
Cindy Clark and Bob Regan
Dottie and Barry Coppock
CouCou and Olive Evanston
Jeff and Paula Danoff
The Dearborn
Design Green Landscapes
Timothy and Jane Evans
Evanston Symphony Orchestra
Eve J. Alfille Gallery & Studio
Farmhouse Evanston
FEW Spirits LLC
Fitness Defined
Frank Lloyd Wright Trust
Donna and Gene Frett
Abel and Judy Friedman
The Garden Club of Evanston
Get Fit With Candus
Craig Golden and Michal Heifitz-Golden
Peggy Bagley and Rabbi Douglas Goldhamer Goodman Theatre
Joan and Bill Haase
Brenda Hansen
Harris Theater for Music and Dance
Catherine Hayden and Tom Carmichael
Heath Restaurant
David Heidt
The Homestead
Hotel Lincoln
The Doubletree Hotel
The Hypocrites Theatre
John G. Shedd Aquarium
Koi Chinese & Sushi
Donna LaPietra and Bill Kurtis
The Lewis Family
Lincoln Park Zoo
Lookingglass Theatre Company
Lyric Opera of Chicago
Stephen Manning
Mark and Kathy McCarville
McCormick & Schmick’s
Patrick Metcalf and Breanne Boyd
Mon Ami Gabi
David Mordini and Jerome Fitzgerald
Amy Morton
Museum of Science and Industry
The Music Institute of Chicago
Music Theater Works
Northshore Pilates and Spa
Northwestern University Athletics
North Shore Center for the Performing Arts Foundation
Oceanique
Old Town School of Folk Music
Orange Theory Fitness, Evanston
Trustee Don Perille
Melanie and Dan Peterson
Pro Skin By Afsan
Ronald Raben
Raven Theatre
Redtwist Theatre
Relish Evanston - CLOSED
Richard Driehaus Museum
Room & Board
Brenda Ross
Russo Power Equipment
Rep. Jan Schakowsky
David and Christine Seidman
Kathie Shur
The Spice and Tea Exchange Evanston
Starbucks Coffee Company
Steeple Theatre
Judy Stern
Beverly Stookal
Thomas D. Stringer and Scott E. Waller
Stuart-Rodgers Photography
The Second City
Elizabeth Tisdahl
Trattoria Demi
Treat Nail Lounge
Trio Salon Evanston
Vendôme Management
Victory Gardens Theater
Vinic Wine Company
Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts, Northwestern University
Writers Theatre
WXRT

“FABULOUS! ACTUALLY, THE ENTIRE PRODUCTION WAS BRILLIANT—WRITING, DIRECTING, ACTING AND ENSEMBLE WORK, STAGING, SET, LIGHTING, MUSIC — IT WAS TRULY A LOVE LETTER TO THEATER.”

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