

Steel Magnolias

By Robert Harling

Originally produced by the W.P.A. Theatre, New York City, 1987.
(Kyle Renick, Artistic Director)

September 4-13, 2025

Directed by John Collier





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A Note from the Producing Artistic Director

Welcome to Civic Theatre's 2025–2026 Season: ***Elevate***.

Each season, we aim to tell stories that move, inspire, and reflect the world around us; and this year, we are reaching even higher. With *Elevate*, we explore what it means to lift each other up through powerful storytelling, shared laughter, meaningful connection, and the transformative magic of live theatre.

This season is about more than just entertainment, it's about hope, growth, and imagination. Our lineup is filled with plays and musicals that challenge us to rise above, lean in, dream bigger, and believe in something greater. Some shows will take you to new heights emotionally; others will make your spirit soar with joy and laughter. In a time when it's easy to feel overwhelmed or disconnected, theatre reminds us of our shared humanity.

Behind every production is a passionate team of artists, volunteers, educators, and supporters who make this work possible. We are so proud of the many ways Civic Theatre brings people together on stage, behind the scenes, and in the audience and gives us space to feel, think, and grow. Whether you're joining us for your first performance or your hundredth, your presence helps elevate our mission and fuels everything we do.

Thank you for believing in the power of local theatre. Thank you for showing up for the artists, for the community, and for yourself. We can't wait to share this season with you and continue to elevate your theatre experience!

Raquel Lopez
Producing Artistic Director

Coming Up

CIVIC theatre

see yourself here



Steel Magnolias
Sept 4-13, 2025



Beetlejuice, Jr.
October 10-12, 2025



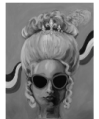
***Young Frankenstein,
The Musical***
Nov 13-22, 2025



***A Christmas Carol
The Live Radio Play***
Dec 11-14, 2025



The Hobbit
Jan 16-18, 2026



The Revolutionists
Feb 12-21, 2026



***Disney The Jungle Book
KIDS***
March 13-15, 2026



Birthday Candles
April 9-18, 2026



FUN HOME
May 14-23, 2026



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for tickets***

2025-2026 General Information:

The Bob Sauers Box Office: Opens one-hour prior to every performance in our theater lobby. Tickets are always available online at www.lafayettecivic.org

MainStage Single Ticket Prices:

- Adults (19-64) \$24 plays/\$26 musicals
- Seniors (65 & over) \$21 plays/\$23 musicals
- Active Military/Veterans (with valid id) \$21 plays/\$23 musicals
- Youth (18 & under) \$15 plays/\$17 musicals
- College Student Rush \$12 plays/\$14 musicals (with valid college id; 15 mins prior to curtain; pending availability)

Civic Youth Theatre Single Ticket Prices:

- \$14 plays/\$16 musicals (2 yrs and up/under 2 yrs must be on lap)

Patrons with Physical Limitations or Disabilities: Accommodations are available for patrons with restricted mobility, wheelchairs, or with hearing limitations. Personal hearing assistance is available upon request at the box office counter.

Late Seating Policy: Civic Theatre does not allow late seating. Performances begin promptly at scheduled times. Please be in your seat prior to curtain. Latecomers will not be allowed in the theater until intermission (when applicable). Viewing will be available via tv monitor in our lobby. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Lobby Bar & Concessions: Lobby Bar opens one-hour prior to curtain for every performance. Food and drink purchased at our lobby bar are allowed in the theater. No outside food or drink allowed. Please dispose of trash in our convenient lobby receptacles.

Smoking: Smoking or vaping is strictly prohibited inside the Monon Depot Theatre and within 8 feet of outside entrances.

Right to Refuse Service: Civic Staff and House Management have the right to refuse service to audience members for any reason without issuing refunds.

Electronic & Communication Devices: Absolutely no cell phone activity during performances. Photographs and recordings are strictly prohibited. Turn off all sound making devices prior to curtain. Violators of this policy will be asked to leave and will not be refunded.

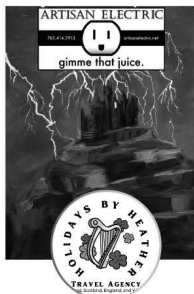
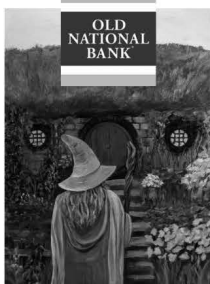
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Oct 10, 2025
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THE ELEVENTH HOUSE



Young Frankenstein
The Musical
Nov 13, 2025
ROGER STEWART
HOLIDAY INN-LAFAYETTE-CITY
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A Christmas Carol
The Live Radio Play
Dec 11, 2025
THE OUTPOST



The Hobbit
Jan 16, 2026
HOLIDAY INN
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The Revolutionists
Feb 12, 2026
REVOLUTION BBQ
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Disney Jungle Book KIDS
March 13, 2026
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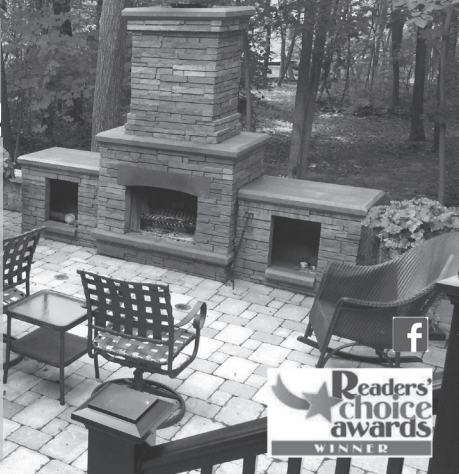
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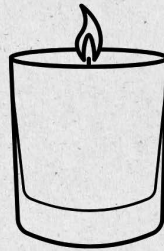
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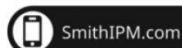
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Lafayette Master Chorale and guests
7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11 | Jefferson High School

Imagine Singing with the Animals

Lafayette Children's Choir
4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8 | Grace United Methodist Church

Carols of Christmas

Lafayette Master Chorale
3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 | First Baptist Church

Imagine Changing the World

Lafayette Children's Choir
4 p.m. Saturday, April 18 | Congress Street United Methodist Church

E Pluribus Unum: Out of Many, One Song.

Lafayette Master Chorale
7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 2 | St. Mary Cathedral

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***The Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette
Production of***

STEEL MAGNOLIAS

By

Robert Harling

Originally produced by the W.P.A. Theatre, New York City, 1987.

(Kyle Renick, Artistic Director)

Brought to you by Purdue Pride LGBTQ Center and Joy Matson and her farm family.

Directed by

John D. Collier

PRODUCTION TEAM

Stage Manager – Kyle Brown

Assistant Stage Manager – Nancy Killian

Costumes – Nancy Marshall

Senior Sound Designer – John O'Malley

Lighting Designer – Jordan Gooch

Hair/Make Up – KJ Nutt, Phoenix Myers & Sage Harrington

SET MOBILIZATION CREW

Christy Carr, James Cook, Dan Rayman, Allison Russell, Trey Gorden, Jacob Danek, Craig Martin, Laurie Russell, Benji Braswell, Will Lewis, Tom Gall & John D. Collier

SET CONSTRUCTION CREW

Dan Rayman, Jacob Danek, Craig Martin, Craig Campbell, Kyle Brown, Trey Gorden, Tom Gall, Laura Gorden, Lisa Heinold, Jake Sleva, Jeff Smith & John D. Collier

SET PAINTING CREW

Jeff Smith, Nancy Marshall, John Lewandowski, Lisa Heinold, Laura Gorden & John D. Collier

PROPERTIES

Paula Werle, Anabella Stroup, Ally Shinkan, Elisa Hostettler & John D. Collier

CAST

TRUVY JONES Julie Baumann
ANELLE DUPUY-DE SOTO Delaney Jones
CLAIREE BELCHER..... Marcella Holmes
SHELBY EATENTON-LATCHERIE..... Ellie Macias
M'LYNN EATENTON Raquel Lopez
OUISE BOUDREAUX Meg Foley

TIME

1980's

PLACE

The interior of Truvy's Hair Salon, in the fictional town of Chinquapin,
Louisiana.

ACT ONE: SCENE I: April

SCENE II: December

ACT TWO: SCENE I: June, eighteen months late

SCENE II: November

There will be a 15-minute intermission.

SPECIAL THANKS

Roselyn A. Kaspar and Connie Kaspar (misc. Costume and set pieces), Annette Champagne (dialect consultant), Denise Laussade (dialect consultant liaison), KJ Nutt & Friends Hair Salon (set furniture and properties), Integrate Build (use of Box Truck), Renee Cason (curtains), Critt Hunter (framed wall painting), Dennis Kovar (magnolia branches), Nancy Marshall (time, talent and input)

NOTE TO AUDIENCE: The videotaping or audio and/or visual recording of this production is a violation of United States Copyright Law and an actionable federal offense.

A Note from the Director

In October of 1987, my dear friend, Alice Schwind, and I road-tripped to New York City to visit my brother, Joseph, who very generously treated us to 4 Broadway shows in 3 days! We saw *Les Misérables* with Colm Wilkinson as Jean Valjean at the Broadway Theatre, *Burn This* with John Malkovich at the Plymouth Theatre, and *Driving Miss Daisy* with Morgan Freeman and Dana Ivey at the John Housman Theatre - big shows, in big theatres with big stars. The fourth show was *Steel Magnolias* in the much smaller Lucille Lortel Theatre in the West Village (off-Broadway). All of the shows were incredible, but there was something special about *Steel Magnolias* - it moved me in a way the three bigger, more highly produced shows didn't.

Maybe it was the intimacy of the Lucille Lortel Theatre, where the stage, like our own stage here at Civic, is just a couple of feet from the audience.

Maybe it was the set that was dressed and detailed so realistically to depict a beauty shop, converted from an enclosed carport attached to Truvy's house, that it made me believe I was sitting in the shop with them.

Maybe it was the script that was written so beautifully by playwright Robert Harling (reportedly in just 10 days) to help him cope with his real-life grief following the death of his younger sister, Susan Harling Robinson, from diabetes-related complications.

Or, maybe it was the cast of 6 women actors who delivered powerfully stunning performances that perfectly captured the intense bond among this group of strong, resilient southern women whose characters were based on family and friends from the playwright's hometown of Natchitoches, Louisiana.

In reality, it was all of those things - the intimate space, the realistic set, the inspired story and especially the brilliant performances that made the show so memorable for me. My hope is that this production will do the same for you. I am so honored and privileged to have collaborated with this talented and dedicated cast and crew who have worked tirelessly to bring this show to life for Civic audiences today. Although written and set in the mid-1980s, the play's themes of friendship, fortitude, resilience, and the power of love and laughter are timeless. The playwright was once quoted as saying, "I wanted to write something that would make my mother laugh through her tears. I never expected it to resonate with so many people." He dedicated the play to his sister, Susan, and her son, Robert.

Please, enjoy the show, let it resonate with you, and allow yourself to laugh, cry, and be moved by these 6 "*Steel Magnolias*" from Chinquapin, Louisiana.

John D. Collier

As an expression of my own sense of loss and in memory
of two very good friends and civic volunteers,
I'd like to dedicate this performance of *Steel Magnolias* to:



Amy Carlile

January 29, 1965 – April 29, 2025



Dave Lahr

November 21, 1938 – June 2, 2025

Amy Carlile, a very dear friend who worked backstage on many Civic shows with me and others throughout the 1990s. She loved Civic Theatre and the friends she made here.

Dave Lahr, a longtime Civic volunteer and board member, who worked tirelessly behind the scenes for over 4 decades to keep Civic's facilities in shape and helped build dozens of sets along the way.

This "simple set" is for Dave!



Julie Baumann (Truvy Jones) is an elementary music teacher with TSC. She is the former Director of Education and Outreach here at Civic and has over 25 years experience teaching and directing youth theatre. She has performed at the Red Barn (Frankfort, IN), Second Story Repertory (Redmond, WA), and on three different civic stages. Julie is thrilled to be one of the newest members of the One Size Fits All improv troupe, and is looking forward to directing CYT's upcoming production of Jungle Book KIDS in March. She is most grateful to her family for their support and encouragement to get back on stage.



Meg Foley (Ouiser Boudreaux) is excited to unleash her grumpy old woman in the character of Ouiser Boudreaux in *Steel Magnolias*. She is also honored to be part of this production and work with its wonderful director John D. Collier, her very talented and heartfelt castmates, and the show's dedicated and amazing team of Civic veterans—stage managers, designers, and crew. Meg previously performed at Civic in *The Christmas Cabaret* last December and in a staged reading of *Three Tall Women* in 2011. Special thanks to her husband, family, friends, and two-year-old Corgipoo Dolly, who has never lost all her hair.



Marcella Holmes (Clairee Belcher) is thrilled to return to the LCT stage as Clairee in *Steel Magnolias*. Previous roles include *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (Mrs. Gottlieb), *Sordid Lives* (Latrell Williamson), *Widow in Mink* (Margaret Osgood), and *The Luxury Cruise* (Verla Simpkins). She extends heartfelt thanks to her director for this opportunity and for patiently navigating a cast with strong opinions, to her cast-mates for their laughter and support, and to her husband for embracing another theatrical adventure (and the ever-present southern accent). Marcella dedicates this performance to strong women, loud laughter, and the beauty of Southern charm with a side of sass.



Delaney Jones (Anelle Dupuy-De Soto) is excited to be back on stage in *Steel Magnolias*! Recently, you may have seen her in Civic's Short Play Festival, as Berdine in *Psycho Beach Party*, or in *Tour of Terror*. Other favorite past roles from her hometown of St. Louis include Mayella Ewell (*To Kill a Mockingbird*) and Helena (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*). Off stage, Delaney is a master's student at Purdue University, where she studies invasive insects. She would like to thank the cast and crew for making this show happen, and all of her friends and family for supporting her along the way.



Raquel Lopez (M'Lynn Eatenton) is thrilled to be making her Civic Theatre debut after an eight-year hiatus from the stage! Raquel is a seasoned director, actor, playwright, and arts educator with over three decades of experience in theatre leadership and performance. Raquel has directed at regional theatres across the U.S. and internationally, with work featured at the Prague and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals. She is a published playwright, former Second City performer, and proud alumna of The Director's Lab Chicago. Raquel wants to thank her incredible staff for making this opportunity possible, and her amazing daughter, Joslyn Rae, for her inspiration.



Ellie Macias (Shelby Eatenton-Lacherie) is so excited to make her debut with Lafayette Civic theater as Shelby! Her favorite role was Lady Oliva in Twelfth Night. She has also performed in Midsummers Nights Dream (3 times!), Shrek, Annie, Hamlet, and more! Ellie is the mom to a three month old baby boy. She is a stay at home mom, but has her auctioneers license! She enjoys baking, crocheting, spending time with her son and husband, and doing puzzles. She would like to thank her director, cast and crew for making this a great experience!



Who's Who in the CREW!

John D. Collier (Director/Set Design) John is thrilled to have worked with the fabulous cast and crew of Steel Magnolias and appreciates everyone's hard work, passion, and talent! John has been an active volunteer at Civic Theatre since 1986 as actor, director, set designer, scenic artist as well as past board member and president. During his nearly 40-year tenure with Civic, he has participated in more than 100 productions. John is a retiree of Purdue University and recently retired from the City of Lafayette as well.

Kyle Brown (Stage Manager) Kyle is tickled pink to get back into the booth for this incredible show after several acting stints (most recently in Urinetown: The Musical), directing (Airness), and acting as Artistic Producing Director of the 13th Annual Playfest. Kyle has spent the year sending his written works to theatres all over the country and has been produced in Santa Fe, Houston, Chicago, and Gulf Port, Florida, as well as being published three times. Kyle would like to thank John D. Collier, Nancy Killian, the cast, and crew for a life changing experience. #ArmadilloCake

Nancy Killian (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be working with John D. Collier again. She has worked on a lot of shows for the Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette as well as several companies in Arizona since 1990. She has worked in every position possible, from sets to directing and has loved every one. Nancy would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work. She would also like to thank YOU for supporting the Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette.

Nancy Marshall (Costumes) is honored to have been asked by Director John D. Collier to do costume design for Steel Magnolias, especially since this is her first effort in this position. Although new to this, Nancy has always been interested in clothing, and she raided her closets at home for a number of the costumes and accessories. Nancy is a seasoned set painter, having volunteered for the first time at Civic in 2004 with My Fair Lady, and she most recently painted Psycho Beach Party earlier this year. She also had a great learning experience in fall of 2024, when she worked for one month at Purdue Theater, covering for their charge artist. Nancy would like to thank this wonderfully enthusiastic cast for all of the helpful contributions that made this a lot of fun!

John O'Malley Senior Sound Designer/Voice of "KPPD DJ") is a videographer, musician, recording engineer, writer, former radio disc jockey, and the host of "The Civic Theatre Show," Civic's new podcast. He loves working with our Civic family, staging simple shows with a few sound effects to complex musicals with dozens of actors and a live band. John's recent credits include Urinetown, Psycho Beach Party, School of Rock, Clue, The Prom, 9 to 5, Sordid Lives, Lucky Stiff, The Play That Goes Wrong, La Cage aux Folles, The Rocky Horror Show, Murder on the Orient Express, Mamma Mia, Into the Woods, Dead Man's Cell Phone, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Sylvia, and A Christmas Story: The Musical.

Jordan Gooch (Lighting Designer) Jordan Gooch can't wait to kick off the season with Steel Magnolias. His creative work at Civic balances his numbers-and-spreadsheets Chandler Bing job for Purdue University. He would like to thank his frequent collaborators, the Johns O'Malley and Collier, as well as his wife, Caty Natt, for once again writing his bio. He would truly be lost without her.

Sage Harrington (Hair/Makeup) is a 20 year veteran of the beauty industry, having taught makeup and nails to up and comers as well as volunteering his makeup skills for stage productions (Hairspray, RENT) over the years. He has been a part of a family owned salon, KJ Nutt & Friends, for 18 years, hoping to continue its legacy for another 50 years.

Phoenix Myers (Hair/Makeup) has the beauty industry in his blood. Continuing the family legacy of stylists, he joined KJ Nutt & Friends. He has competed and placed in The Beauty Blitz, a beauty competition. He is excited to put his skills to the test with such a wonderful production.

KJ Nutt (Hair) has been a barber, stylist, and business owner for 50 years. Starting KJ Nutt & Friends in 1977, she brought a unique and incomparable style to Lafayette. A champion barber and educator, she's looking forward to setting her skills to work on this production.



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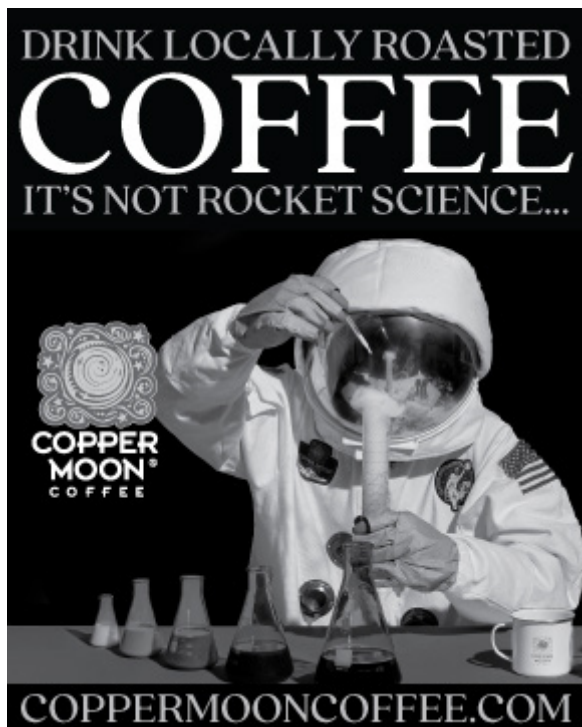
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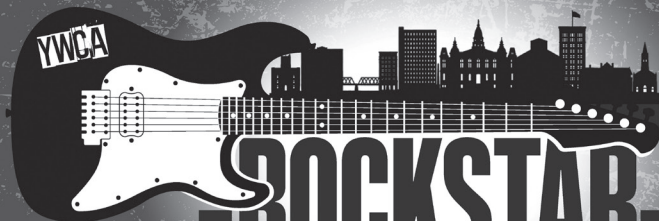
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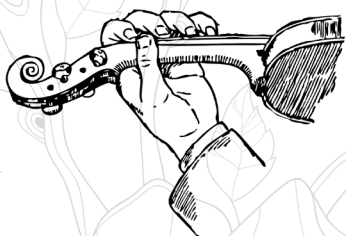
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