

PLAYBILL

NIAGARA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

On Golden Pond

ERNEST THOMPSON

AUTHOR



NIAGARA PROSCENIUM ALUMNI PLAYERS

November 3, 4 and 5, 2022

proudly presents

On Golden Pond

ERNEST THOMPSON

AUTHOR

Direction by

DENNIS WILSON

Assistant Direction by

SUSAN MARCOLINI

Costumes by

DENNIS WILSON

Original Music Composed by

TOM VITELLO

Technical Direction by

RICH MERANTO

Sound and Lighting by

**NICK FAGIANI and
WES SLUSSER**

Produced by

TOM VITELLO

“ON GOLDEN POND” is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Welcome to the Niagara Falls High School Performing Arts Center!

*Please familiarize yourself with the following reminders as a courtesy to yourself,
other patrons and the performers:*

- **Restrooms** are located in the front lobby. Please be discreet if you have to leave during the performance.
- Please **turn off all cellular phones and other electronics** as a courtesy to other patrons and the performers. Cellular frequencies will interfere with the wireless audio system used in this theatre.
- Please **remain seated through the entire act** of the performance to avoid distracting the performers and patrons.
- The use of **flash photography, video and audio recording including via mobile device is strictly prohibited**, as it is hazardous to the performers and a contract violation. Please help us by observing this rule.
- While we appreciate your enthusiasm, please be mindful of proper theatre etiquette as this is not a sporting event.
- **Thank you and enjoy the show!**

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS SHOW?

*Please click on the link to help us
determine our advertising strategies.*

[Click here!](#)

Thank you!

The NFHS Theatre Department



SYNOPSIS

SETTING

In and around the living room of a summer home on Golden Pond, in Maine.

ACT ONE

Scene One.....The middle of May. Early afternoon.
Scene Two.....The middle of June. Mid-morning.
Scene ThreeThe middle of July. Early evening.

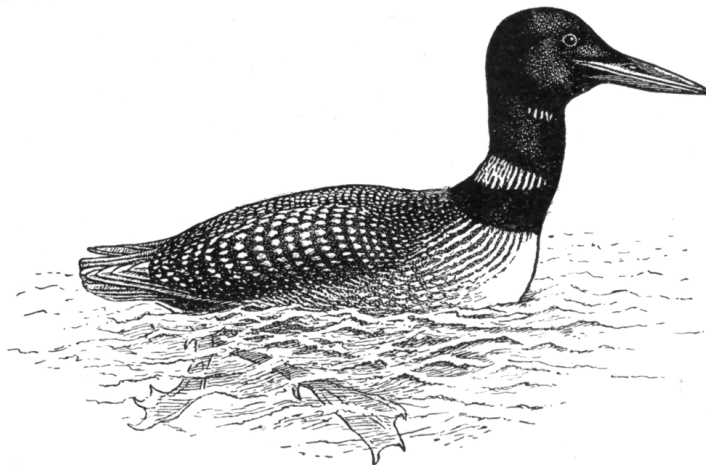
ACT TWO

Scene One.....The middle of August. Early morning.
Scene Two.....The middle of September. Late morning.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Norman Thayer, Jr.....Leonardo Lipomi (*NFHS 1989*)
Ethel Thayer..... Lenore (Frazier) Uhrich (*NFHS 1990*)
Chelsea Thayer Wayne Robin Kayser (*NFCSD Employee*)
Bill Ray..... Ricco Slaiman (*NFCSD Employee*)
Billy Ray Evan DalPorto**
Charlie Martin..... Jack Nadrowski (*NFHS 2019 and NFCSD Employee*)
The Operator..... Debbie (Paonessa) Tramontano (*NFHS 1970*)

** Current NFHS student



On Golden Pond



PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....	Dennis Wilson (LSHS 1985/NFCSD Employee)
Assistant Director	Susan Marcolini (NFCSD Employee)
Costumes	Dennis Wilson (LSHS 1985/NFCSD Employee)
Producer.....	Tom Vitello (NFCSD Employee)
Technical Director	Rich Meranto (LSHS 1985/NFCSD Retired)
Lights and Sound	Nick Fagiani (NFCSD Employee)
	Wes Slusser (NFCSD Employee)
Original Music Composer.....	Tom Vitello (NFCSD Employee)
Programs and Posters.....	Tom Vitello (NFCSD Employee)
Box Office.....	Jacob Kopera (NFHS 2006)
	Barbara Rodgers (LSHS 1969/NFCSD Retired)
Concessions	Student/Parent/Alumni Volunteers
50/50 Tickets.....	Student/Parent/Alumni Volunteers

THE CREW

Stage Manager.....	Charity Hosler**
Assistant Stage Manager	Leah Scrivano**
Light Operator.....	Ashley Kinney**
Prop Master.....	Benjamin Martinez**
Stage Make-up and Hair	Katherine Sirianni-Morock (NFHS 1995/NFCSD Employee)
House Manager.....	Kaelyn Walter**
Stage Crew	Kendall Arbatosky**
	Benjamin Martinez**
	Jadyn Moore**
	Ava Ogrodowski**
	Camilla Ralands**
	Elizabeth Wagner**
	Kaelyn Walter**
Ushers	Kendall Arbatosky**
	Benjamin Martinez**
	Jadyn Moore**
	Ava Ogrodowski**
	Camilla Ralands**
	Elizabeth Wagner**
	Kaelyn Walter**

** Current NFHS Student

Please visit the
NFHS Theatre Department
Webpage for future performances,
alumni show information, show archives
and the NFCSD Theatre Hall of Fame.

www.nfschools.net/Page/5140

Are you interested in participating in future
Niagara Proscenium Alumni Players
productions?



Follow us on Facebook for future audition
announcements and performances.

www.facebook.com/AlumniPlayersNFHS

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

THE CAST

(in alphabetical order)

EVAN DALPORTO (Billy) - is a sophomore at Niagara Falls High School. Evan has been in shows such as *Clue On Stage* (Colonel mustard) and *An Evening Of Stephen Sondheim* (Narrator). Evan recently was cast in a short film called *Nothing Will Ever Be The Same* (Jeffery) filmed in New York City. After high school, Evan wants to attend University of Southern California to study and pursue a career in acting.

ROBIN KAYSER (Chelsea) – Robin is a Student Support Secretary at Niagara Falls High School, where her youngest son Zack attends school as a junior, and her older son Brandon graduated from in 2021. As a child, Robin was a member of several school choirs and ensembles across Southern Ontario. In her early teens she was a member of the Sonlight Cantata in Lawrencetown, Nova Scotia. More recently, Robin experienced background acting on the set of the motion picture, *A Quiet Place 2*. Robin would like to thank her family for all their support and encouragement.

LEONARDO LIPOMI (Norman) - Leo has acted in theater for over 20 years, with companies in Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Lewiston. Some of his past roles-shows are: Father Walsh in *Back Cover*, Clevinger in *Catch 22*, Thomas in *Making God Laugh*, Gareth in *Tales of the Driven*, Stephen in *In Crazy Love*, Juror 9 in *Twelve Angry Men*, The Ghost in *The Inexperienced Ghost*, David in *God's Favorite*, Nick in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, Floyd in *The Fourth Wall*, King Charles in *The Lark*, Jesus Christ in *The Passion Play* and Adam in *The Diaries of Adam & Eve*. He thanks his family and friends for their love and support and the Niagara Proscenium Alumni Players for this wonderful opportunity. Leo is the Accounting Manager for Gurney, Becker and Bourne Real Estate.

JACK NADROWSKI (Charlie) – is a graduate from Niagara Falls High School, Class of 2019 and an employee of the Niagara Falls City School District. He's previously appeared as both Mr. Pinky and Brad in *Hairspray*, the Rabbi in *Fiddler on the Roof*, and the Man on the Street in *Dennis Wilson's The Therapist*. This is his second alumni production after *Evita* in 2021. Special thanks to my family for all of their love and support.

RICCO SLAIMAN (Bill) - Ricco is honored to become a part of The Niagara Proscenium Alumni Players of NFHS. He has performed in many shows as a member of the Western Door Playhouse at the NACC. Past roles include Biff Loman in *Death of a Salesman* and Juror 8 in *Twelve Angry Men*. Ricco is currently in his 24th year as a teacher in the Niagara Falls City School District. In his spare time, he enjoys coaching youth baseball, reading and spending time with family. He'd like to thank his wife, Cassie, and children, Francesca and T.J., for their love and support.

DEBBIE (PAONESSA) TRAMONTANO (Operator) –Debbie is a 1970 graduate of NFHS who has

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

worked on her class reunions for 42 years, chairing for the last 30 yrs. She has certifications in Interior Design, and Human Resources Administration from SUNY at Buffalo. A lifelong love of music and the arts, she was a member of the chorus at North Jr., also performing in dance and the Drama Club in *Two Crooks and a Lady*. As an adult she started Ice Dancing in Thorold, Ontario, later joining the adult precision (synchronize) teams of Reta's Roses and Midnight Ice, who were 3 times bronze medalists in the Canadian National Precision Competition. Also enjoying roller skating in the off season, she met her husband of 42 years, John, an avid skater in his own rite. As a retired snowbird she wintered with her husband for over 22 years in Lake Havasu City, AZ, where she joined a snowbird chorus performing at many association functions, as well as soloing at many activities. There, she found a love of singing at weekly snowbird jam sessions, introducing her love of jazz, soft rock and ballads to their country/bluegrass music. Debbie appeared in the chorus/ensemble of the alumni production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Dennis Wilson's *The Therapist*, a web series and is proud to be part of this year's alumni cast of *On Golden Pond*.

LENORE (FRAZIER) UHRICH (Ethel) – Lenore is a 1990 Graduate of Niagara Falls High School. She has been seen in the NFCS D ALUMNI Production of *Evita* and was most recently featured in *An Evening of Stephen Sondheim*. Lenore is an avid musical theater performer and has appeared in productions of *A Chorus Line*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Godspell* and as The Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* as well as *Les Miserables*. *On Golden Pond* marks her first time performing in a non-musical.

THE PRODUCTION STAFF

(in alphabetical order)

CHARITY HOSLER (Stage Manager) is a junior at NFHS. She is a board of director for the class of 2024 and participates in Zonta Club. She is a member of the NFHS chapter of the National Honor Society and enjoys volunteering at Hopeclub of Niagara in her free time. She has previously been involved in shows in middle school as well as being the assistant stage manager for the alumni production of *Evita*, and stage manager for *Clue* and *An Evening of Stephen Sondheim*.

ASHLEY KINNEY (Light Board Operator) is a senior and is thrilled to be working on another NFHS Production. Ashley was the light board operator for the NFCS D Alumni Productions of *Evita*, *Clue* and *An Evening of Stephen Sondheim*. When not working on shows, Ashley loves to spend time reading and watching TV. Ashley would like to give thanks to the cast, crew and her family for all the support.

SUSAN MARCOLINI (Assistant Director) is delighted to once again, join the talented students at NFHS. Some of her past credits include, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *A Chorus Line*, *Ragtime*, *Mame*, *Pippin*, and several more. She enjoyed working with the Niagara Experience Players for many years and holds a B.A. in dance from the University at Buffalo. She began choreographing for Niagara Falls High School

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

in 1989 for a production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. She is currently employed by the Niagara Falls City School District as a speech language pathologist.

RICH MERANTO (Technical Director) is a recent NFCSD retiree after a 30 year career of teaching at Niagara Falls High School, where he taught mathematics, media production and helped the students in the program run the Our Schools Channel, OSC. Rich was also the head coach of three Varsity sports at NFHS (Girls Soccer, Indoor and Outdoor track). In his many years as tech director, Rich has built apartments, high school gyms, swimming pools, houses, apartments for homeless people, cruise ships, sports cars, small Russians villages (again), giant hairspray cans, schools, night clubs, burger stands, radio stations, courtrooms, French barricades, bridges, trains, libraries, restaurants, a town in Iowa, embassies, and even four hair salons. When he isn't doing all that he's probably watching *Doctor Who*. Most recently, Rich began with his family, Meranto Media, Inc., a company that helps cities, towns, school districts, churches, theatres, and small businesses design, create, and install a small media production studio which can produce and broadcast their events and programming for platforms like Facebook, YouTube, cable access channels and websites. <http://www.merantomedia.com>.

KATHARINE SIRIANNI-MOROCK (Make-up/Hair) is a graduate of NFHS Class of 1995 and is very excited to be part of this alumni production. While at NFHS, Katharine appeared in *Up the Down Staircase*, *The Wiz*, *Hello Dolly!*, *Broadway Bound: A Musical Review*, *Bye, Bye Birdie*, *Curtain Call: A Musical Review* and *Kiss Me Kate*, in which she played the role of one of the gangsters. Katharine has been in the Annual Alumni Production of *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Evita*, as well as Niagara Falls High School's production of *A Night with Stephen Sondheim*. Katharine graduated from Niagara University with a Bachelor's in Social Work and went on to work at Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center as an inpatient social worker on both the Children's and Adult Psychiatric units, while she attended State University of New York at Buffalo to pursue her Master Degree in Social Work. Katharine currently works for the NFCSD as a School Social Worker at Cataract Elementary School. Katharine would like to thank her three children and husband for all their support.

LEAH SCRIVANO (Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior at Niagara Falls High School. She has been in productions before such as *Lion King Jr* (Sarabi), *Frozen, Jr.* (Sven), *Freaky Friday* (Ensemble), *Evita* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Clue* (Assistant Stage Manager), *An Evening of Stephen Sondheim* (Assistant Stage Manager). She loves theater and is thrilled to be working with this show.

TOM VITELLO (Producer) is currently a Spanish teacher at Niagara Falls High School. Tom graduated from the SUNY College at Buffalo in 1998 with a BS in Spanish Education and a MS in Education in 2000. Tom is also a 1995 graduate of NCCC where he earned an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts/Humanities - Social Science. Tom's has over 100 theatre credits to his name including: *Anything Goes!*, *The Pajama Game*, *Guys and Dolls*, *A Chorus Line*, *Forum*, *The Music Man*, *Grease*, *Hello*,

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Dolly!, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Godspell*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Company*, *Pippin*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Evita*, *Children of Eden*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Annie*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Barry Manilow's Copacabana*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Les Misérables*, *Chicago*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Ragtime*, *Willy Wonka*, *The Addams Family*, *Hairspray*, *Mamma Mia!* and *West Side Story*. Other music credits include: Handel's *Messiah*, Berlioz' *Messe Solennelle*, Mahler's *Symphony 8 – Symphony for a Thousand*, Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*, and other selected works all performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and the Holy Trinity Lutheran Concert Choir. Tom was as the Music Director, Arranger and Studio Musician for two CD recordings, *My Father's Hymns* and *Broadway and Beyond*, by local artist Lee Stevens. In 2008, Tom performed in concert with Grammy Award Winning Singer/Songwriter Kenny Loggins at Artpark. Tom has worked with the theatre departments of Lewiston-Porter, Starpoint, City Honors School and Niagara Falls High School and has been on the production staff for several productions at NCCC. Tom served as the Drama Club Advisor/Director for Niagara Catholic from 2000 to 2006. For the Fall 2005 semester, Tom was an Adjunct/Musical Director for the theatre department of N.C.C.C. Tom proudly is co-founder of the Niagara Falls City School District Theatre Hall of Fame. In 2021, Tom was the Executive Producer of the web series *Dennis Wilson's The Therapist*, for which he composed and recorded all the underscoring and theme song, *Journey*. Tom is very excited to have written and recorded the instrumental music for this production of *On Golden Pond*. In January, Tom will be performing at Feinstein's 54 Below on Broadway in New York City as pianist for a special engagement of the Stage Door Medium with Jimmy Moses. He would like to thank family and his husband, Jacob for being so supportive and always working the box office for every one of the NFHS theatre productions.

KAELYN WALTER (House Manager) is a junior at Niagara Falls High School. She has worked as both cast and crew in numerous films in the Western New York area, and most recently played The Cook in the NFHS performance of *Clue* and was the House Manager for *An Evening of Stephen Sondheim*. Tonight, she will be working behind the scenes once again, but hopes to continue her acting career after high school by attending University of Southern California. She would like to thank everyone for their support over the past few years and hopes you all enjoy tonight's show!

DENNIS WILSON (Director) was born and raised in Niagara Falls, NY. He attended Niagara University where he earned a BFA in Theatre Arts and a Med in Education Administration from Grand Canyon University. Upon graduation from Niagara University, Dennis became heavily involved in community theatre in Buffalo, NY. He relocated to New York City in 1995 and was immediately cast in theatrical productions. The next few years Dennis engaged in a professional acting career. He was blessed to be able to become a member of The Actor's Equity Association (AEA).

Dennis has performed in the National and Canadian Touring Companies of *Five Guys Named Moe* (Little). Regional credits include: *Once On This Island* (Papa Ge), *Toys in the Attic* (Gus), *Ain't Misbehavin* (Andre), *The Zoo Story* (Peter), *A Chorus Line* (Mike & Bobby), *Cabaret* (Kit Kat Girl), *West Side Story*

(Luis), *Dutchman* (Clay), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Judas), *Hair* (Tribe Member), *Smokey Joe's Café*.

Dennis is an accomplished choreographer, having staged productions of *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Ragtime*, *The Wiz*, *Cabaret*, *West Side Story*, *The King and I*, *Smokey Joe's Café* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

In 2005, Dennis founded a theatrical production company, Dendewil Productions. Dennis also humbly adds the title of author to his credits having written and self-published three books, *My Void My Voice* (Poetry 2012), *Eros Dennis* (Poetry 2013), *Morning Coffee Thoughts* (Positive Affirmations 2016). Dennis wrote, produced and directed his first web series, *The Therapist*, which had its premiere in October 2021 on YouTube. During the summer of 2022, Dennis recorded an audio version of his poetry from his publication, *My Void My Voice*. Most recently, Dennis appeared as the Apparition in an original Regional-World Premiere of *The Magnolia Ballet* at the Alleyway Theatre in Buffalo, NY. Dennis currently resides in Niagara Falls and teaches theatre at Niagara Falls High School.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRODUCER

Good evening, everyone! Welcome to our fourth alumni production of the Niagara Proscenium Alumni Players. In our first three productions, we focused on musicals from a musical review to our hugely successful production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. This year, we decided to take a step back and bring you a play, giving those alumni thespians the chance to come out and show their acting skills.

On Golden Pond has always been a favorite from when I first saw the movie. I always thought the story was so truthful about what a child experiences, yearning to gain acceptance from a parent that didn't know how to show love and caring to their child. I was so thrilled when our director, Dennis Wilson, came to me to request the performance rights for it. We have a phenomenal cast of alumni and district employees and also one of our current students, making for an enjoyable evening of drama and comedy.

Behind the scenes we have a wonderful organization of professionals from the school district that work with many students to put this show together. Our students are so fortunate to have such a dedicated staff to learn and grow as they begin their journey into theatre. Our dedicated cast, featuring alumni going back to the class of 1970 have created such a magnificent rendition of this story. These individuals have come together, sharing their talents, in support of our theatre program so that our current students can watch and learn from their expertise and passion. For that, we thank each and every one of them for helping us to educate our future actors.

In closing, I ask that you please take a moment to fill out the brief survey that is linked in this program on page 3 regarding show advertisement and how you heard about our performances. We are trying something new in advertising this year and want to see how you heard about this show. Finally, thank you for coming to see our show. We certainly hope you enjoy it and come to see our other productions this school year. Each and every one of you keep theatre arts alive in this district and in our community.

Tom Vitello, Theatre Department Producer
2022

NIAGARA FALLS HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE DEPARTMENT

presents

Crimes of the Heart

By Beth Henley

January 26, 27 and 28, 2023 - 7PM



Grease

*The 1950's
Rock n' Roll Musical*

March 23, 24, 2023 - 7PM

March 25, 2023 - 1PM and 7PM

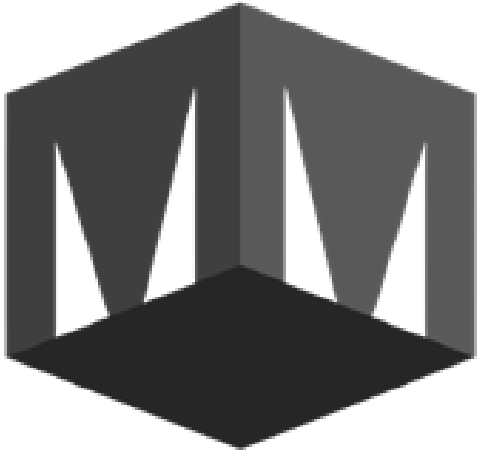


**The Niagara Falls Prep School
Drama Initiative**

January 13, 2023 - 7pm

January 14, 2023 - 1pm & 7pm

All shows located at Niagara Falls High School Performing Arts Center, 4455 Porter Road, Niagara Falls NY, 14305
For more information, visit www.nfschools.net/Page/5140



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Mr. Nicholas Ruffalo, Administrator
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Mr. Bryan DalPorto, Director of District Safety
NFHS Safety Officers

Mr. Rich Meranto
Mr. Nick Fagiani
Mr. Wes Slusser

Mr. Nicholas Vitello and Ms. Barbara Macks - Buffalo Spree Publishing

Mr. Jacob Kopera and Ms. Barbara Rodgers
Mr. Robert Touchette
Mrs. Teresa Kurliovitch
All of the Parent, Student and Alumni Volunteers

Thank you for attending the show!
We hope to see you in January for our next production of
Crimes of the Heart, January 26, 27 and 28, 2023.



The Theatre Department of NFHS wishes you and yours a
Happy Thanksgiving and Holiday Season!