

The Opening Knight Players present...

The Swashbuckling Sisters and The Story of The Seven Seas



*Ellington High School
Gordon C. Getchell Auditorium*

May 3-4 7:30

May 5 2:30

General Admission \$10 Students/Seniors \$8

The Opening Knight Players present...

The Swashbuckling Sisters and The Story of The Seven Seas

Book and Lyrics..... Erin McGrath*

Music and Lyrics Derek Zeoli
Jake Kindall

Director Colleen McGrath*

Musical Direction Jake Kindall

Choreography Charlotte Mund*

Technical Direction Bob Williams*

Co-Advisors..... William Prenetta*
Nicole Willis*

Set Design..... Nate Hamilton*

Head Stage Manager..... Teagan Dieterle*

Assistant Stage Managers Ben Montanari
Sophia Engleman

Poster Design..... Lola Vallez

May 3rd, 4th, and 5th, 2024
Gordon C. Getchell Auditorium
Ellington High School

✱ indicates a member of International Thespian Troupe 5226

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear Audience,

It is with immense joy and gratitude that I welcome you to "The Swashbuckling Sisters and the Story of the Seven Seas," a production close to my heart, written by my talented sister, E. McGrath. Though it started out as just my senior capstone project, this show has become a labor of love. The cast and crew have been working endlessly on this project since September with grace and excitement. Throughout this process, it has been a joy to collaborate with a team of incredibly talented individuals, both adult and student, who have brought this world to life on stage. Without them, none of this would've been possible.

This story, though fantastical, is not too far from my life. I am the youngest of four girls, and though our age difference is greater, our relationship is the inspiration for our four leads. Each girl has qualities and quirks that, though minute to some, warm my heart and remind me of my big sisters. This experience has helped me to feel closer to them than ever before, something I will be forever grateful for.

I hope this show will be a gift. Whether that be an escape from the realities of life, a chance to laugh, or a message that you needed to hear. Whatever you walk away from here with, I hope that your heart feels a little more full of joy and love.

To my sister Erin, I offer my heartfelt gratitude for entrusting me with the honor of directing your work. And to my other dear sisters, Brigid and Molly, I thank you for your endless love and support through my life thus far. All three of your talents, dedication, and kindness continue to inspire me every day.

And to you, our audience, thank you for joining us on this journey. Your presence here tonight is a testament to the importance of supporting and celebrating the arts, and we are deeply grateful for your support.

May you all "dream big dreams, if you have the chance" and not forget "life can be a dance."

With love and appreciation,


A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Colleen McGrath". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'C' and 'M'.

Colleen McGrath, Director

• EVARISTO INSURANCE •

Personal and Commercial Insurance

304 Somers Road | 71 Raymond Road
Ellington, CT 06029 | West Hartford, CT 06107
860-870-8122
evaristoinsurance.com

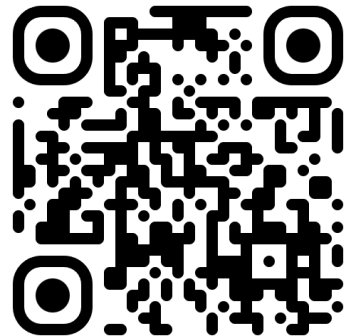


Johnny Appleseed's
Farm
PICK YOUR OWN
Apples, Peaches & Pumpkins
ROUTE 83 & 13 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD
ELLINGTON, CT 06029
PHONE: (860) 875-1000
FOR PICKING CONDITIONS & INFO.
KENYON & KIMBERLY SHORES
OFFICE: (860) 875-1030



Deborah S. Griffin DMD, LLC

Individualized
Care.
Incomparable
Service.



Congratulations to The Opening Knight Players!

From your friends at



**ELLINGTON CENTER
ANIMAL CLINIC**



66 Main St, Ellington CT 06029

860-871-3064 www.ellingtonvet.com



**BUILDERS OF QUALITY
BARN & GARAGES**

Rt. 83 Ellington
860-896-0636
TheBarnYardStore.com

**The
BARN YARD**

Juliano's
POOLS & SPAS

RANKED IN TOP 50
POOL BUILDERS USA

TOP 50
BUILDERS

321 Talcottville Rd.
Vernon, CT
(860) 870-1085

522 Church St.
Hebron, CT
(860) 530-1780

561 Gold St.
Manchester, NH
(603) 633-1640

www.JulianosPools.com

Click "Request a Quote" on Our Website for More Information!



Experience the Juliano's Difference

Our team of expert builders will help design and install the pool of your dreams. Visit our online pool gallery to browse through hundreds of custom Juliano's Pools.

We also offer a variety of services, including repairs, upgrades, and weekly cleanings to keep your pool in top condition!

Visit Us at One of Our Sister Locations!

Majestic
POOLS & SPAS

5 Apple Meadow Rd
Hudson, NY
(518) 822-1082

DREWNOWSKI
POOLS & SPAS • SINCE 1959

1815 Main St
Agawam, MA
(413) 786-7214

CYPRESS
POOLS & SPAS

115 Wade Rd
Latham, NY
(518) 783-5232

MR. POOL & SPA

1353 Riverdale St
West Springfield, MA
(413) 266-2774

CAST

The Sisters

Cecelia Swashbuckling May Cavanagh
Constance Swashbuckling.....Mo Veach*
Clare Swashbuckling.....Maribelle Galbraith
Christabelle Swashbuckling..... Emma Ferraro

The Townspeople of Cessabit and Pirate’s Province

The Governor Grace Currier*
Mary Reed.....Lucy Ferolano
Anne Bonny Zenia Aleesha
Calico Jack Jamie Jean-Baptiste
Blackbeard.....Amelia Crocker*
Cessabitian Girls Courtney Miller, Isabella Miller

The Pirates

Quartermaster Mollie Virkler
First Mate Lyla Voiland
Boatswain Charlotte Mund*
Swabbie.....Nora Borst
Bill..... Zenia Aleesha
Bruce Grace Currier*
The Ruthless Rough Dog Reeves..... Miley Gagne

The Parents

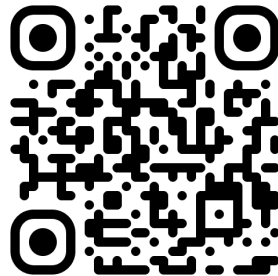
Mama..... Lyla Voiland
Papa Mollie Virkler

CAST

The Storytellers

Storyteller One	Miley Gagne
Storyteller Two.....	Lucy Ferolano
Storyteller Three.....	Isabella Miller
Storyteller Four	Courtney Miller
Storyteller Five.....	Amelia Crocker*
Storyteller Six.....	Zenia Aleesha
Storyteller Seven.....	Grace Carrier*

The Opening Knight Players would like to thank the **OKP Parents Group, EHS Administration, and the EHS Custodial Staff**, who have made the 2024 performances of *The Swashbuckling Sisters and the Story of the Seven Seas* possible through their hard work and determination. Special thanks to Carol Feindel for her help with costumes, and Mrs. Karen Rusich for her dedication to OKP and help with printing. We would also like to thank our sponsors of the 2023-2024 season.

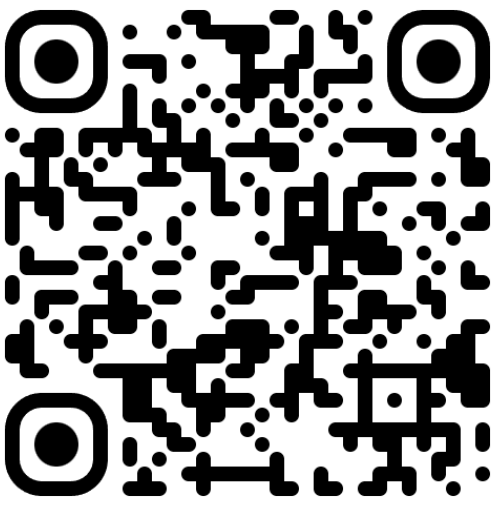


Scan the QR code to view this program, the synopsis of this show and other information on the OKP website.

* indicates a member of International Thespian Troupe 5226



Roofing



MUSICAL NUMBERS

Cessabit.....	Whole Cast
Not Your Average Princess Story.....	Constance
If We Wore Their Shoes.....	Sisters
Pirates We Be	Whole Cast
Respectin’	Pirates and Sisters
The World Can Be Our Oyster	Sisters
If We Weren’t Pirates	Pirates
Sharin’.....	Pirates and Sisters
Confident, Capable, Courageous	Whole Cast
Trustin’	Clare and Cecelia
Confident, Capable, Courageous Reprisal.....	Sisters
The Ballad of a Rough Dog.....	Rough Dog Reeves and Sisters
Life Can Be A Dance.....	Whole Cast

The Swashbuckling Sisters and The Story of the Seven Seas was originally performed as a part of the 2018 Tisch All Studio Festival under the direction of Caitlin Shea Moore and the stage management of Syona Varty. Book and lyrics were written by Erin McGrath, and music and lyrics were written by Derek Zeoli.

Ellington High School and OKP alumni Jake Kindall (2023) and Nate Hamilton (2022) returned to help with musical direction and set design respectively. We greatly appreciate your help!



CREW

COSTUMES

Supervisor Peg Carbonneau*
Chair..... Nora Borst
Assistant Chair Olivia Gabriel
Crew Marilyn Afriyie
Li Adrienne Burce
Courtney Miller
Isabella Miller
Layla Proulx

HAIR

Supervisor Charlotte Mund*
Chair..... Teagan Dieterle*
Assistant Chairs..... Emma Ferraro
Isabella Miller
Crew May Cavanagh
Kaylee Simmons
Nicole Thomann*
Lyla Voiland

MAKEUP

Chair..... Amelia Crocker*
Crew Mylie Gagne
Mazie Griffin
Virgil Mead
Lola Vallez

CREW

LIGHTS

Co-Chairs Jedidiah Smalley
Jackson Stearns
Crew Jacob Powell

PROPERTIES

Co-Chairs Emily Goodin*
Gianna Vannelli*
Crew Avery Lagasse*
Everly Oliver
Lola Vallez

SCENIC PAINTING

Co-Chairs Sawyer Brown*
Alex Mafuz*
Crew Avery Lagasse*
Courtney Miller
Layla Proulx
Sharvya Thejreddy
Mo Veach*

SETTINGS

Chair Courtney Miller
Crew Kaylee Simmons

✱ indicates a member of International Thespian Troupe 5226

CREW

SOUNDS

Chair..... Maura Armstrong*
Crew Jacob Thomann
Nicole Thomann*

STAGE CREW

Chair..... Nicole Thomann*
Crew Mylie Gagne
Kaylee Simmons
Jacob Thomann

HOUSE

Chair..... Avery Lagasse*
Crew Juliana Barbosa
Meaghan Bucklin
Sahasra Darisi

PUBLICITY

Supervisor Landon Moreau
Chair..... Layla Proulx
Crew Olivia Gabriel

PROGRAMS

Chair.....Braeden Lagasse

✱ indicates a member of International Thespian Troupe 5226

BRY-REN **JAMES inc.**

**PAINTING • ROOFING
REMODELING**

COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL

FREE ESTIMATES LICENSED & INSURED

*Your Source for Quality,
Integrity & Satisfaction!*

860-872-8980

bryrenjames2@gmail.com



...All You Need Is Us!

BRY-REN JAMES PAINTING • REMODELING • ROOFING **COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL**



**INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
REMODELS • KITCHENS • BATHROOMS
REPAINTS • POWERWASHING
DECKS • BASEMENTS • FLOORING
ROOFING • EPOXY COATINGS**

860-872-8980

Book Now & Lock In Your Pricing!

Good luck to OKP for a great season!
Thank you Ellington residents for all of
your support of my local business.

SENIOR BIOS

Julian Diamond is a senior at Ellington High School, responsible for the set of this year's CDA performance of "Eyes of Evil," the rhythm section drummer for the jazz band, and the loudest senior in OKP. He is going to UConn to pursue a double major in music education with a minor in Jazz Studies. He won the award for technical adjudication at CDA and has helped with the set work for all shows starting his sophomore year. Beyond that, he also received the Connecticut Association of Schools award for the arts with his homie, Rylan Fischer; the director of "Eyes of Evil." Julian is a seventh year Connecticut Music Eastern Association festival member, a third year New England Music Festival Association festival member, and a fourth year Allstate member. He played most recently in the regional jazz band at Jorgensen theater at UConn, as well as playing for the last three years in a Jazz trio dubbed "The Gentlemen's Trio," consisting of himself, Rylan Fischer, and Jacob Kindall. Throughout his time in OKP, through the ups and downs, it is like a family to him and he is extremely grateful for the experience that he has shared.

Rylan Fischer is the Thespian President of OKP along with Vice President Mo Veach. He has been with the club for four years and in that time has student written and directed three performed plays. These were *Bluebird*, a story of a man grappling with his Alzheimer's diagnosis, *The Flurry*, the story of two friends getting caught in the struggle of a cursed whaling crew, and *Eyes of Evil*, the story of a detective tracking down a serial killer, as well as her own personal identity. For Swashbuckling Sisters, he was in charge of pit recording along with senior Julian Diamond for the show's music. Rylan is a bass player and has also been in the EHS jazz band for four years. Rylan is committed to Emerson College to pursue interdisciplinary studies with a focus on filmmaking. In his free time, he has been known to write obnoxious film reviews, work on writing projects, go on hiking trips, fly fish, and destroy his bank account on vintage clothing.

SENIOR BIOS

Colleen McGrath is currently the President of the Opening Knight Players after being a dedicated member since before her freshman year. Though she started her time at OKP on stage in the 2013 performance of *Charlotte's Web*, since beginning high school, she has been working behind the scenes, as Stage Manager of every production since *The Statue Garden*. She has been a member of Thespian Troupe 5226 since the end of her sophomore year with over eight hundred hours of work. This year she also took a stab at directing, and since September has been working on direction for the *Swashbuckling Sisters and the Story of the Seven Seas*, a show written by her oldest sister. Following graduation, she will be attending Emerson College in Boston to study Theater Education. Though there are too many people for her to thank at this time, she would like to shout of every member of OKP past and present. Without each and every one of you, none of this would be possible.

Landon Moreau is the current Publicity Supervisor, and former Pubs Chair after officially joining OKP the second half of their junior year. While they have not been involved as much compared to the other seniors, they have tried to be super helpful and help out in many different crews where others need help. This year they also took a shot at acting, being seen in the productions of *30x60* as well as *Christmas Lights*. Following graduation, they will be attending the University of Connecticut (UCONN) to study Music Education. They would just like to thank everyone who is involved in OKP for making their senior year the best it possibly could have been, including students and advisors. They would just like to thank all of you for being here, and making everything possible .

SENIOR BIOS

Charlotte Mund is a senior at Ellington High School. She has been in OKP all four years of high school, and has been a part of the hair crew for four years as well. She has worked as a chair since freshman year. She has acted in parts through these four years, including the natural curl redhead Freida from *A Christmas in Pinetree Corners*, and Rockette Tootie Conlon in *Christmas Lights*. After high school she will be attending Eastern Connecticut State University. Along with theater, she has been dancing for years and will continue to do so in college. In her free time she loves hanging out with her two puppies and supplying herself with her espresso. She is also a big housewives fan and loves to watch it with her mom (especially the Jersey housewives). She would like to thank her parents for being her biggest supporters in everything throughout her life.

Feverly Oliver is a senior at Ellington High School who discovered theater through dance, and has fallen in love with it ever since. She has been involved with OKP since her freshman year, and has helped out both onstage and off. She has acted in various productions including *Covid Conversations* (2020), *30x60* (2020-2021), *Christmas in Pinetree Corners* (2021), *High School Musical* (2022), *One Acts* (2023), and *Christmas Lights* (2023). She has also helped out many crews including props, house, stage crew, and scenic painting for other productions such as *Twelfth Night* (2021), *Radium Girls* (2023), *The Flurry* (2023), *Eyes of Evil* (2024), and *Swashbuckling Sisters* (2024). She is incredibly grateful for the opportunities and experiences she has had with OKP, and all of the amazing people she has met along the way. She would like to thank her parents for their unwavering love and support, and her OKP advisors for the feedback and encouragement they have offered her throughout the years. After high school she plans on majoring in Early Childhood Education, though performing will always hold a special place in her heart.

SENIOR BIOS

Mo Veach has been a member of the Opening Knight Players since moving from Utah two years ago. While she assists backstage with crews such as makeup, costumes, and painting; you'll mostly find Mo onstage acting. She's been in several OKP productions such as *One Acts: Bluebird* (Lucy), *Christmas in Pinetree Corners* (Sally Brown), *Radium Girls* (Mrs. Roeder/Sob Sister.), *The Flurry* (Sabathia), *30x60* (Company), *Christmas Lights* (Marlene Snippet), *Eyes of Evil* (Amanda Sheffield), and *The Swashbuckling Sisters* (Constance Swashbuckling.) Mo also wrote and directed her own staged reading for her Senior capstone this year. *Caught in Black Ink* donated all of its proceeds to The Trevor Project. Mo is pursuing a degree in Secondary English Education from Central Connecticut State University. She still intends to make the arts a major part of her life by getting a minor degree in theater. Mo hopes to run a program just like OKP one day. "Thank you to everyone who was so welcoming when I first came to OKP and thanks to those who will stick by me when I'm gone. I love you all." -Mo.

Mollie Virkler is senior at Ellington High School and has been a part of OKP all 4 years of her high school education. You would have mainly seen her in House selling tickets, concessions, and making sure everything runs smoothly. However this year you would have also seen her acting in our final two productions of the year, *Eyes of Evil* and *Swashbuckling Sisters*. She is still undecided about what college she would like to attend but is very excited to continue her education and major in Nursing. Mollie loves to read, bake, watch TV shows, and do anything with music in her free time. She is a vocalist in the EHS Vocal Ensemble and loves playing her alto saxophone in the Concert Band and Wind Ensemble. Not only does she love playing, she also loves her job as Drum Major of the EHS Marching Knights during the bands marching season. She would like to thank her parents and all the teachers who made an impact on her life throughout her education, especially those in the music departments who helped her find her love of music.

STEM ENRICHMENT

FOR

K-12 Students

—

OUR
PROGRAMS

Math Tutoring

Robotics

Coding

Fun STEM Summer Camps:

LEGO Engineering, Game

Design, App Development &

More

—

LOCATION

Windermere School, Ellington
or Virtual

—

MORE INFO

www.k-rockets.com

860-375-3042

info@k-rockets.com





1815 Main Street
Agawam, MA 01001
(413) 786-7214

www.DrewnowskiPools.com

MA HIC#: 177684 CT HIC#: 638370

CT PLM#: 286650-SP1 CT SPB#: 0000074



 Gunite Pool Renovation Specialists

 Leak Repairs

 Weekly Maintenance

 Openings / Closings

 Liner Replacements

 Chemical Delivery



EXECUTIVE BOARD

Opening Knight Players Executive Board 2023-2024

Co-Advisors William Prenetta, Nicole Willis
President..... Colleen McGrath
Vice President Maura Armstrong
Secretary Sawyer Brown
Points Secretaries..... Emma Ferraro, Alex Mafuz
Social Media Secretaries..... Ashlyn Kindall, Lola Vallez
Freshman Representative..... Courtney Miller
Sophomore Representative Nora Borst
Junior Representative..... Teagan Dieterle
Webmaster Braeden Lagasse
Assistant Webmaster..... Jedi Smalley

Thespian Troupe 5226 Executive Board 2023-2024

Co-Advisors William Prenetta, Nicole Willis
President..... Rylan Fischer
Vice President Mo Veach
Treasurer Emily Goodin



