



## Tip Sheet

Public Relations Office, MSC 24

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### January 2008 Educational Theatre Collaborative (ETC)

#### *Pollyanna*

**ETC**

**The Educational Theatre Collaborative (ETC)** is a venture of Plymouth State University, Plymouth Elementary School and Friends of the Arts, and is a two-time winner of the Moss Hart Award for excellence in children's and community theatre. ETC is in its 14th year of producing integrated arts experiences and intergenerational theatre that include community members, elementary, high school and university students and PSU faculty and staff from many towns. The goal of ETC is to produce the highest quality theatre and integrated arts experiences possible, through collaborations with Plymouth State University, area schools, and the community.

The 2008 production is presented in partnership with the PSU College of Graduate Studies and Pollyanna of Littleton New Hampshire, Inc.

**Contacts:**

**Dr. Trish Lindberg, Plymouth State University, (603) 535-2647; [plindber@plymouth.edu](mailto:plindber@plymouth.edu)**

**Online Media Information:**

**<http://www.plymouth.edu/news/media/index.html>**

**Director of Public Relations, Plymouth State University**

**Christopher M. Williams, (603) 535-2476; [cwilliams@plymouth.edu](mailto:cwilliams@plymouth.edu)**

**2008 Production:**

**Pollyanna January 23-27, 2008 World Premiere of new musical adaptation with script and lyrics by Professor Trish Lindberg and musical score by Will Ogmundson with additional music by Cynthia Bizzarro and Kenneth Roberts.**

50<sup>+</sup>-member cast. Rehearsals occur over 21 days, beginning Jan. 2.

**Based on the 1913 novel by Eleanor H. Porter of Littleton.**

Pollyanna, an orphan, goes to live with her dour maiden Aunt Polly in a small New England town. Pollyanna's legacy from her father was an optimistic attitude, exemplified by "The Glad Game" which helped Pollyanna to find something to be glad about in

every situation and to stand up for what she thinks is right. Pollyanna becomes known as "The Glad Girl," transforming the dispirited town into a pleasant and healthy place to live. Pollyanna's optimism is tested when she becomes paralyzed in an accident, but the town rallies around her, teaching Pollyanna an important lesson.

**Main Characters:** The **intergenerational cast of 55** features young people ages eight to 18, university students, and adults from 19 to 69 from the greater Plymouth community and as far away north as Littleton and as far south as Manchester.

*Pollyanna* is portrayed by 15-year old Alyssa Dumas of Manchester

*Miss Polly* is portrayed by mezzo-soprano Eva Nagorka of Plymouth

*Nancy* is portrayed by Plymouth State University Alum Natalie Roy

*Jimmy Bean* is portrayed by Sam Zuk of Littleton

*Dr. Chilton* is portrayed by Bill Bolton of Plymouth

*Mr. Pendleton* is portrayed by Robb Dimmick of Providence, R.I.

*Rev. Ford* is portrayed by PSU Dean of Students, Tim Keefe of Plymouth

*Mrs. Ford* is portrayed by Vicki Etchings of Woodstock

**Performances:** **Jan. 23-26 at 7 p.m., Jan. 26 and 27 at 2 p.m., Silver Center for the Arts, Plymouth State University.**

Tickets are \$22-20 adults, \$18-16 seniors and youth.

Box Office (603) 535-ARTS or online at:

<http://silver.plymouth.edu>.

**Related Events:** **Children's Arts Festival, Grades K - 6, Saturday, Jan. 12**

**Integrated Arts Conference** for artists and educators, Saturday, Jan. 26.

**Lunch with Characters, Saturday, Jan. 26, 11:30 a.m.**

Common Man Inn, Plymouth. Contact Pam Irish, (603) 535-2647 for Character Lunch Tickets \$10 adults; \$7 children under 12 yrs.

**Artistic Director:** **Dr. Patricia Lindberg** (603) 535-2647, ETC co-founder with Dr. Dan Perkins

Plymouth State University Professor of Education. Coordinator, M.Ed. in Integrated Arts; founder and artistic director Kearsarge Arts Theatre (KAT); and co-founder with Dr. Gary Goodnough and Dr. Gail Mears of TIGER (Theatre Integrating Guidance, Education, and Responsibility) professional touring theatre company.

Dr. Lindberg's honors include:

- 2007 Excellence in Education Award, N.H. Department of Education
- 2007 Excellence in Children's Theatre Award, NH Theatre Awards
- 2004 Professor of the Year, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education
- 2003 PSU Distinguished Teacher
- 2003 *New Hampshire Magazine* "Remarkable Woman"

- 2003 Youth Theatre Director of the Year, American Alliance for Theatre Education (AATE)
- 2002 Moss Hart Trophy for Best Overall Production of 2002
- 1999 Governor's Arts and Education Award, N.H. State Council on the Arts.

**Music Director:** **Kenneth Roberts** graduated from York University and is music director for several organizations in the United Kingdom. He has conducted and performed as a solo pianist and accompanist at halls, theatres and palaces throughout England, Europe and the U.S. Robert's work as a composer took off with a commission in 1991 to write an opera celebrating closer union between the countries of the European Economic Community. His third opera, *Joe Carpenter and Son*, was performed in Rochester Cathedral. In addition to writing a harpsichord concert, Roberts has scored shows for *Writer's Vamp*, two Kearsarge Arts Theatre (KAT) productions as well as productions for the PSU educational theatre troupe, TIGER.

**Composer:** **Will Ogmundson** is a well-known throughout New England as a pianist and music teacher. He composed the music for the last two NorthEast Shakespeare Ensemble productions at the Lebanon Opera House and is currently working on this summer's production of *Much Ado About Nothing*.

**Choreographers:** **Michael David Stoddard** graduated from Plymouth State University in 2001 with a degree in musical theatre performance, following which he spent a year with an international tour of *Rock and Roll Beauty*, and another year touring with *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. After three years in NYC, Stoddard returned to the Plymouth area to form his own production company, Stoddz Productions, and is a candidate for an M.Ed. at PSU as well as Program Director for Friends of the Arts. Stoddard is a choreographer for TIGER and the resident choreographer for both KAT Company and ETC, where he recently choreographed *Seussical and Beauty and the Beast*. Over the past six years he has taught, performed, directed, choreographed and produced hundreds of theatre classes and more than 40 productions.

**Amanda Whitworth** holds an M.Ed. from Plymouth State University, where she is currently Interim Director of Dance. She has danced for numerous companies and choreographers in NYC and New England, including the Amy Marshall Dance Company, Lorraine Chapman-The Company and Nathan Trice/RITUALS, the Yard, Ann Reinking, Mark Dendy and Kevin Wynn. Locally, she has joined forced with Terminal Hip Dance Theatre, the Ninth State Movement Complex, TIGER, KAT Company and ETC. She is the recipient of numerous awards and honors.

**Costume Designer/ Co-Producer** **Terri Dautcher** is an adjunct faculty member in the business department at Plymouth State University, where she teaches marketing classes to undergraduate students. She also offers marketing and professional

development consulting services to businesses located throughout New England. Her work as a costume designer and creator is a hobby.

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Plymouth State University (PSU) is a comprehensive regional university offering a rich, student-focused learning environment for both undergraduate and graduate students. PSU offers 42 majors and 62 minors in programs that include education, business, humanities, arts, and natural and social sciences. The College of Graduate Studies offers coursework that promotes research, best practices and reflection in locations on- and off-campus as well as online. For non-traditional students, PSU's Frost School of Continuing and Professional Studies offers working professionals opportunities to pursue an undergraduate degree by attending classes in the evenings, weekends and online. Located in a beautiful New England setting, Plymouth State University has been recognized as one of the "Best in the Northeast" by *The Princeton Review*.