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Sunday, February 19, 2017, 12:30 p.m., Dinner Theatre



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# Director's Note

*"They say things happen by design, by decree, demand or law; I say most things fall in line by the luck of the draw."*

I fell in love with the musical *Violet* in 2010. I proposed it to the DLO board three times, but there was never a season into which it fit. Why? Most people have never heard of it, which meant that attracting audiences would be hard. The cast is diverse, with three leads, all in their 20s. Both of these things meant a challenge casting the show. There are sensitive themes that run throughout the show. Was the community ready for it?

At last! At last! I proposed *Violet* again about a year ago, and was thrilled (and terrified, knowing the challenges) when I finally got a yes from the Board.

We've done something right, because here you are, which means we drew an audience. Casting was heartbreak (so many excellent auditions) and joy but ... would we ever be able to find the right actor for Flick? Those were scary weeks. But, as in *Field of Dreams*, we built it, and they came (including our Flick)...and here we are, by design (a long time planning), decree (the Board said YES!), and, maybe not by demand or law. I think there was an element of luck and a good dose of destiny. It needed to be now, because *Violet* needed this production team, this crew, these musicians, especially this cast, and an audience that is ready for the message. We are grateful to have you join us on this journey.

*~Jeanne Dunn, Director*

## VIOLET

Music by Jeanine Tesori      Lyrics and Book by Brian Crawley  
Based on "The Ugliest Pilgrim" by Doris Betts

VIOLET is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International, (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th St., New York, NY 10019 Tel.: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

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Mar 31, Apr 1-2, 7-9, 2017

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# Cast

Violet.....Mallory Middendorf  
Flick.....Phillip Bryant  
Monty.....Bryan Jenkins  
Young Vi.....Ellis Mansfield  
Father.....Paul Strain  
Old Lady/Hotel Hooker.....Melanie Clark  
Preacher.....Mark Learnard  
Music Hall Singer/Mabel.....Natalya Bourn  
Almeta/Lula Buffington.....Ashley Bourn  
Virgil/Bus Driver/Radio Singer/Waiter.....Craig Krukewitt  
Billy Dean/Bus Driver/Radio Singer.....Theodore Klein  
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## ACT 1

"Water In The Well".....Violet, Young Vi  
"Surprised".....Violet  
"On My Way".....Violet, Old Lady, Flick, Bus Driver, Company  
"M&Ms".....Company  
"Luck of the Draw".....Father, Young Vi, Flick, Monty, Violet  
"Question 'n' Answer".....Monty, Violet  
"All To Pieces".....Violet, Flick, Monty  
"Let It Sing".....Flick  
"Who'll Be The One" (If Not Me).....Radio Quintet  
"Last Time I Came To Memphis".....Monty  
"Lonely Stranger".....Music Hall Singer, Hotel Hooker  
"Lay Down Your Head".....Violet  
"Anyone Would Do" (Reprise).....Music Hall Singer,  
.....Hotel Hooker, Landlady

## ACT 2

"Anyone Would Do" (Reprise).....Music Hall Singer,  
.....Hotel Hooker, Landlady  
"Hard To Say Goodbye".....Flick, Violet  
"Promise Me, Violet".....Violet, Flick, Monty  
"Raise Me Up".....Lula, Choir  
"Down The Mountain".....Father, Young Vi  
"Look At Me".....Violet  
"That's What I Could Do".....Father  
"Surprised" (Reprise).....Violet  
"Promise Me, Violet" (Reprise).....Young Vi, Flick, Violet  
"Bring Me To The Light".....Flick, Violet, Company

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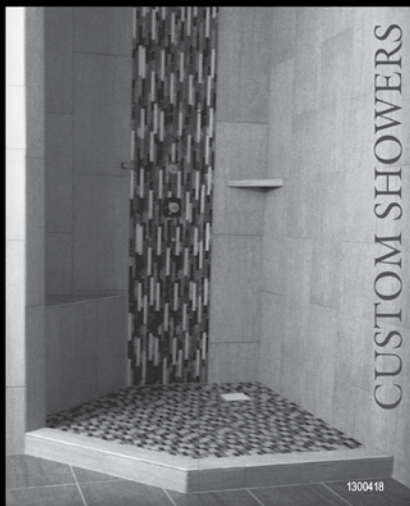


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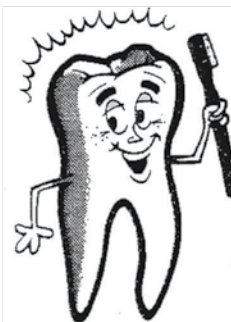
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# Production Team

Director.....Jeanne Dunn  
Music Director.....Karen Grove  
Producers.....Tammy & Karissa Jones-Miller  
Stage Manager.....Sarah Mills  
Costumer.....Jennifer Scarlet Lee  
Set Design/Construction.....Gary Lickfett  
Painting Crew.....Cast & Friends  
Props.....Tammy & Karissa Jones-Miller  
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Piano.....Ann Wagle  
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# The Cast



## **Ashley Bourn (Almeta/Lula Buffington)**

Greetings from Ashley! She is very excited to be in her 2nd DLO show. She recently embraced the role of street urchin Ronette in DLO's *Little Shop of Horrors*. Singing and spending time with family and friends is what she lives for! Ashley would like to give special thanks to her family for their continuous support as well as to the cast/crew of this show. xoxo

**Natalya Bourn (Music Hall Singer/Mabel)** is the daughter of Pastor Franklin & Mrs. P.J. Bourn of Battle Focus Ministries World Outreach. She is also the mother of a zealous little boy, Byron Bourn. This is her 2nd show with DLO; she previously played the role of Crystal in DLO's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. She has been singing for most of her life and enjoys every opportunity she has to share her gift of song with others through theatrical performances. Natalya is so excited to be a part of Violet!



**Phillip Bryant (Flick)** may be new to DLO, but he has been passionate about music since he was a child. His talent was nurtured on gospel melodies at home and at his church, Old Landmark. Phillip has been blessed to have the opportunity to share the gift God has given him, traveling throughout the country, ministering through song and laughter. He has performed in gospel stage plays, musicals, live recordings, spoken word events, and comedy shows. Videos of his comedy and ministering events have been widely distributed via social media (often over 50,000 views). He greatly appreciates the support of his family, friends and fans!





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# The Cast



**Chorus**  
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Isabelle Peters, Brad Pollert



**Sarah Mills**  
(Stage Manager)



**JEANINE TESORI (Composer)** won the Tony Award for Best Original Score with Lisa Kron for the musical *Fun Home*, which is currently playing on Broadway. She has also written Tony-nominated scores for *Twelfth Night* at Lincoln Center; *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (lyrics, Dick Scanlan); *Caroline, or Change* (lyrics, Tony Kushner); and *Shrek The Musical* (lyrics, David Lindsay-Abaire).

The production of *Caroline, or Change* at the National Theatre in London received the Olivier Award for Best New Musical. Her 1997 Off-Broadway musical *Violet* (lyrics, Brian Crawley) opened on Broadway in 2014 and garnered four Tony nominations, including Best Musical Revival. Opera: *A Blizzard on Marblehead Neck* (libretto, Tony Kushner; *Glimmerglass*) and *The Lion, The Unicorn, and Me* (libretto, J. D. McClatchy, Kennedy Center). Music for plays: *Mother Courage* (dir. George C. Wolfe, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline), John Guare's *A Free Man of Color* (Lincoln Center Theater, dir. George C. Wolfe), and *Romeo and Juliet* (Delacorte Gala). Film scores: *Nights in Rodanthe*, *Every Day*, and *You're Not You*. Ms. Tesori is a member of the Dramatists Guild and was cited by the ASCAP as the first female composer to have two new musicals running concurrently on Broadway. She is the founding artistic director of *Encores!* Off-Center at New York City Center, and is a lecturer in music at Yale University. Most of all, she is the proud parent of Siena Rafter, a senior at LaGuardia High School for the Arts.

# The Cast

**Mallory Middendorf (Violet)** has worked with DLO for many years both as a performer and as a director. She loved directing (the popular and hugely successful!) summer youth shows *Once on This Island Jr.* and *Annie Jr.* One of her favorite performance roles was Percy in *Spitfire Grill*. You may also have seen her in *The Secret Garden*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *A Little Night Music*. She would like to thank her husband, Kurt, and son, Rowan, for their love and support!



**Paul Strain (Father)** has been active in performing arts for 30 years as a performer, instructor, clinician, technical guy, occasional judge and constant fan. He thanks his kids for making him try out, Jeanne Dunn for choosing a show containing a part that could have been written just for him, and the DLO Musical Theatre board for supporting her vision. He hates writing these things in the third person.

**Brian Crawley (Book/Lyrics)** is a playwright and screenwriter. He wrote the book and lyrics for *A LITTLE PRINCESS* (composer Andrew Lipa) which debuted at Theatreworks of Palo Alto in the summer of 2004. He also wrote the book and lyrics for *VIOLET* (composer Jeanine Tesori) which was mounted Off-Broadway by Playwrights Horizons in 1997, then remounted in a concert version in 2003 to help inaugurate their new theater. Other musicals he has written include *EVANGELINE* with Ted Dykstra, and *DOWN THERE* with composer Lewis Flinn. He appears in the documentary *ONE NIGHT STAND*, in which he writes a short musical in 24 hours with composer Gabriel Kahane. For the libretto of *VIOLET*, Brian won the Kleban Award. Prior to the Playwrights Horizons production, and on its behalf, *VIOLET* was given the Richard Rodgers Musical Production Award and an AT&T OnStage Award. Afterwards, besides a Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Musical, *VIOLET* received the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical over all the year's Broadway offerings (as did Paula Vogel's play *HOW I LEARNED TO DRIVE*; the first time two off-Broadway pieces took these top awards in the Drama Critic Circle's history). Brian's plays have been developed or staged at Lincoln Center, New York Theater Workshop, the National Alliance of Musical Theatre, and the Eugene O'Neill summer theater conference. He majored in Theater Studies at Yale and has an MFA in Acting from the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. Brian is a member of the Dramatists Guild.



# The Cast



**Melanie Clark (Old Lady/Hotel Hooker)** This is Melanie's 5th DLO show. She was last seen as Grandma Addams in *The Addams Family*. As always, Melanie is thankful for the love and support of family and friends, especially Kelly who is the wind beneath her wings.

**Jeanne Dunn (Director)** has been involved in over 20 DLO musicals as a performer, director, and/or producer. Favorite roles include Sister Hubert (*Nunsense*), Fraulein Schneider (*Cabaret*), Nancy (*Oliver!*), and Dragon (*Shrek*). She directed well-received productions of *The Spitfire Grill* (2010) and *La Cage Aux Folles* (2014). *Violet* was a seven-year dream, and Jeanne extends heartfelt thanks to EVERYONE involved in making it real. And, as always, to Chris, who makes all this possible.



**Karen Grove (Music Director)** has been involved in DLO for over a decade in numerous capacities. She has been the Music Director for many shows, including *Annie Get Your Gun*, *South Pacific* and *Spitfire Grill*. Karen has also played flute and piano in the pit, substituted for the pianist in rehearsals, and has been accompanist for shows such as *Blood Brothers* and *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Karen currently serves on the DLO board where she is in charge of the box office, and has previously acted as Secretary. Karen is very excited about the music in this show and looks forward to sharing it with you.



# The Cast



**Bryan Jenkins (Monty)** is thrilled to be playing the role of Monty with such a talented cast. Bryan is currently working toward his bachelor's degree in marketing and is playing Nicky Arnstein in DACC's *Funny Girl* this spring. He hopes you enjoy the journey you're about to go on with this awesome cast!

**Theodore L. Klein (Billy Dean/Bus Driver/Radio Singer)** is 15 years old. This is his second DLO show. He has been seen locally in *Chasing Charming*, *Mary Poppins*, and *The Addams Family*. While *The Addams Family* was by far his favorite show, his favorite role was in *Chasing Charming*, where he starred as a minion.



**Craig Krukewitt (Virgil/Bus Driver/Radio Singer/Waiter)** Craig spent over four weeks abroad last year, but still got quite a bit of stage time in, including *Ragtime* (DACC Players), *Oklahoma!* (CUTC), and *Peter and the Star Catcher* (Twin City Squared). This one's for his recently departed Granny Do.



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**Mark Learnard (Preacher)** is making his fourth appearance on the DLO stage (previous credits include *Damn Yankees*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and *La Cage Aux Folles*). He appreciates the opportunity to be a part of this fantastic production. Special shoutouts go to his enduring fan club, Lori and Mindi. Mark isn't a bad man in real life...he just plays one on stage. Enjoy the journey!

**Ellis Mansfield (Young Vi)** is twelve years old, and in 5th grade at Southview, where she is a member of the Show Choir. She has been performing for many years, and has played in at least ten shows with DLO, Red Mask and the DACC Players. Her work includes a number of roles in mainstage adult productions as well as in youth theatre productions. Most recently, you may have seen her in *Ragtime*, *Xanadu Jr.*, as Young Fiona in *Shrek*, in *Annie Jr.*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and as Cosette in *Les Mis*. Thanks to her fabulous Mom, for all of her help and support!



**Karissa and Tammy Jones-Miller (Producers)** Tammy and Karissa became involved with DLO during the production of *LaCage Aux Folles*, directed by Jeanne Dunn. They served as Matt Hester's personal dressers in his role as Albin. They also served as stage "moms," prop mistresses, stage crew, and offered their expertise in matters of burnt chicken. They are excited to now expand their list of roles to include co-producers for *Violet*.