

# Join Encore for our 2021-2022 Theatrical Season

## October 22-31, 2021

This story of unspeakable horror begins when a young governess arrives at an English estate to oversee two precocious orphaned youngsters. There's also a motherly cook, but these four aren't alone - they're haunted by fears and phantoms and by ghostly shadows. Who is welcoming this and where are they coming from?

## December 3-12, 2021

Humorist Jean Sheperd's memoir of growing up in the midwest in the 1940s follows 9-year-old Ralphie Parker in his quest to get a genuine Red Ryder BB gun under the tree for Christmas. Ralphie pleads his case before his mother, his teacher and even Santa Claus himself at Higbee's Department Store. The consistent response: "You'll shoot your eye out!" All the elements from the beloved motion picture are here and A Christmas Story is destined to become a theatrical holiday perennial.

## February 11-21, 2022 ~ Dinner Theatre!

Stampeding elephants! Raging typhoons! Runaway trains! Unabashedly slapstick! Hold onto your seats for the original amazing race! Join fearless adventurer Phileas Fogg and his faithful manservant as they race to beat the clock! Danger, romance, and comic surprises abound in the whirlwind of a show as five actors portraying 39 characters traverse seven continents in Mark Brown's adaptation of one of the great adventures of all time.

## April 29-May 8, 2022

Based on the hit 1996 film, The Spitfire Grill is a heartwarming and inspirational musical tale of redemption, perseverance, and family. Set in a small Wisconsin town, the show features a gorgeous soulful score everyone will love!



Presented by  
**ENCORE!**

Moore County's Center for the Performing Arts

For Ticket Information visit  
[EncoreCenter.net](http://EncoreCenter.net)

2021  
**September  
10-19**

**Steel  
Magnolias**

By Robert Harling

160 E New Hampshire Ave  
Downtown Southern Pines  
910-725-0603



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This project is supported  
by the Arts Council of Moore County  
and The North Carolina Arts Council,  
a Division of the Dept. of Natural  
& Cultural Resources

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

## CAST

Truvy Jones .....Theresa Thomas  
Annelle Dupuy-Desoto.....Cana Strong  
Clairee Belcher .....Janet Smith  
Shelby Eatenton-Latcherie .....Grey Coleman  
M'Lynn Eatenton.....Arlene McCue  
Ouiser Boudreaux.....Jamie Barnes

## PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer.....Sarah Lankford  
Director .....Jacob Toth  
Stage Manager/Sound Operator.....Becky Podlogar  
Assistant Stage Manager.....Fritz Barnes  
Lighting Design/Operator.....Stuart Rose  
Costumes.....Mimi Carter  
Set Construction.....Brandon Lankford  
Painting .....Lauren Kennedy

## SPECIAL THANKS

- Thank you Theresa Thomas for allowing us to borrow so many set pieces!
  - Eclectic on 5 for the Fur Coat
  - Chas Chapman (owner of CREATE) for the Salon Chair
- Rita Marley-McKenzie with As We Grow Consignment for costume donations
  - Stars Charter for donations towards our set
- Thank you Gwen Koning and George Small for your help!

We are so happy to welcome you back into the Encore Theatre for the Opening of our 3<sup>rd</sup> Season. We have an exciting line-up for you this season. All 6 of our productions either started as a movie on the Big Screen OR like our first show was turned into a major motion picture after it's downtown premier in New York City. There is a lot to enjoy about STEEL MAGNOLIAS. The narrative is charming, witty, and even sarcastic. The memorable dialogue, along with the tender and sensitive plotline, makes it an easy piece to love.

However, I've learned that underneath this lies a whole other level of significance. This story resonates with truths about who we are as people, and about how we rely on the connections we make with people in our lives; connections that mold us and change us and ultimately define us. This story celebrates friendship that lasts a lifetime and the rare moments in life when we feel comfortable enough in our surroundings to drop the mask we wear on a daily basis. Under the guise of southern accents, and "poofy" hair, STEEL MAGNOLIAS is a story that everyone can relate to as we can all see pieces of ourselves and our friends and family in the characters.

If there was a way for me to gift something to the audience it would be that they find each of their own "Steel Magnolias". Someone like Truvy to help us find the joy in situations and help us "smooth out the rough spots" in our lives, someone like Annelle who will accept us as we are and pray for us daily..."Sometimes twice", someone like Clairee with their "own special brand of humor" to lighten situations when things get too serious, someone like Ouiser who teaches us that we can always find friendship and love even if we feel we don't deserve it and that it's okay to be in a bad mood sometimes, someone like M'Lynn who just wants us to be happy and pushes us to be our very best self, and someone like Shelby who reminds us to live life to the fullest and that having "30 minutes of wonderful" is better than "a lifetime of nothing special."

My suspicions however, is that you already do. So hopefully this story will help you recognize them better in each of your own lives. As Shelby says "Sometimes we don't know how lucky we are" or M'Lynn, "I don't know if I'm lucky to have what I have, or know what I have."

We should take care of each other knowing our most meaningful contribution is to be a good listener. And when we're telling the story of this past year, if it gets too dark, throw in a quote from Clairee, "Annelle, honey. You're going to have to lighten up."

Enjoy the show,



## CAST AND CREW



**Teresa Thomas (Truvy)** is excited to have her first performance on the encore stage. She has played the role of Truvy 3 times and directed *Steel Magnolias* 2 times at other theatres. Teresa attended Catawba College, (BA) studying Theatre Arts Education (K-12). At NC Central University she received a Masters in Library Science. She taught theatre in Moore County at North Moore High School and retired as Media Specialist at Candor Elementary in Montgomery County. She loves to travel and spend time with her 3 grand children, Lawson, Laiken and Amelia.



**Cana Strong (Annelle Dupuy-Desoto)** is an arts educator in Moore County and has been working as an actress for over a decade. You may have seen her on the Encore stage as June in *Smoke on the Mountain*, Cinderella (and other colorful characters) in the *Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon*, and Hope in *Almost, Maine*. Cana would like to thank the team at Encore, her school team, and her family for relentless support. She is overjoyed to

greet you at the start of what is sure to be an excellent season of theatre at Encore!



**Janet Smith (Clairee Belcher)** is a recovering attorney whose first theater experience was appearing as Clairee in the Scotland County Encore 2019 production of *Steel Magnolias*. Other theater activities include sketch writing and performing in the *Backroom Radio Hour*, a twice-monthly music and comedy hour in Laurinburg during the height of COVID, September through December 2020. This culminated in a Christmas-themed radio play entitled *We'll Meet*

*Again*, co-written with fellow writer and performer, Robert Dyer. Janet and her husband, Greg, have four grown children spread across the Southeast United States, and three precious grandchildren. They call Laurinburg home with their dogs, Hamilton and Jefferson.



**Grey Coleman (Shelby Eatenton-Latcherie)** Although, maroon and merlot are the preferred color palette, she is excited to be back on the Encore stage as Shelby Eatenton... soon to be Latcherie! You may have last seen her here at Encore in *Charlotte's Web* (Charlotte), or i the first season's shows- *Almost, Maine*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

With a BA in Theatre Studies from the University of Central

Florida, Grey has furthered her love of performing in community theatres, entertained on cruise ships, walked as a stilt walker at Busch Gardens, and remembering the first rule of improv ("yes, and..."). Grey would like to thank her friends and family for their constant support, Jacob, Becky, and Fritz for their guide and direction, and the other 5 talented women who've worked hard to put together a great show for Southern Pines.



**Arlene McCue (M'Lynn Eatenton)** love of theater runs deep, but it never took her to the stage until now! She grew up dancing and going to Broadway shows, and is the proud parent of a theater kid. Arlene is a Jersey girl and landed in Foxfire Village, NC, 13 years ago after retiring as a Marine Judge Advocate. She has been a NC Attorney since then. Arlene also started teaching adult tap dancing classes locally several

years ago. She thanks Sarah and Brandon for bringing the Encore Center to Southern Pines and Jacob for this exciting opportunity. Arlene would not have embarked on this journey without her daughter's inspiration and her husband's unwavering support.



**Jamie Barnes (Ouiser Boudreaux)** originally hails from the Delaware/Pennsylvania area where she was a High School Theater Director for eleven years and part of community theater for several decades, performing in *Carnival*, *Anything Goes*, *Oliver*, *A Christmas Carol*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Over the Rainbow* and *Through the Woods*, *It's a Wonderful Life: The Radioshow*. She teaches World History at Pinecrest High School, as well

as the colorguard instructor for the Marching Patriots and Assistant Director for the spring musical. This is Jamie's second performance with Encore.



**Jacob Toth (Artistic Director)** Broadway: Assistant Choreographer: *Grease*. Regional: Director/Choreographer: *The Bikinis*, *Legally Blonde*, *Grease* (Drammy nomination for best direction and best choreography), *Mid-Life the Crisis Musical*. Choreographer: *Ghost*, *Footloose*, *Whorehouse*, *Joseph...*, *Hairspray* (Drammy award for best production), *My Fair Lady*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Music Man*, *Sweet Charity*, *Suds*, *Marvelous Wondrettes*, *King and I*, *Dreamgirls*, *Church Basement Ladies*

*1, 2, 4 & 5*, *Beauty and the Beast*, among others. Director/Choreographer: Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Thank You to Sarah, Brandon, Mom and Dad for believing in and supporting me.. **ENJOY THE SHOW!**



**Becky Podlogar (Company/Stage Manager)** is excited to be starting her third year at Encore as Company Manager and the Stage Manager for this production. Although she has spent the majority of her life working in healthcare, she has felt the pull of the theatre since she was merely 5 years old, meeting her husband when the two starred together in their kindergarten class's play in an elementary school gymnasium. It was their last stage production together until he proposed on the same

stage 17 years later. She has been a stage mom for many years as her daughter has performed in numerous productions around NC. Becky would like to thank her family and friends for their love, support and encouragement. Becky is thrilled to be part of the joy of theatre and the performing arts in Downtown Southern Pines.

## ENCORE CENTER 2021-2022 Sponsors

The Encore Center is a Non-Profit Theatre company and supported by sponsors and community members. We opened our doors August 24, 2019 and are still looking to grow our board and community support! If you are interested in having your name or business advertised in our programs, please pick up a sponsorship form on your way out! All donations are tax deductible!

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We would like to thank the following individuals for their generous contributions to the Encore Center

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

Refreshments are available at the concession stand prior to the performance and during intermission.

Use of cell phones or other electronic devices during the performance is strictly prohibited.

Taking of pictures or the use of any recording device is also strictly prohibited.

Please notify a staff member for any special assistance with accessibility.

Restrooms are located down the hall and to the left.

Contact us:

Main Phone: 910-725-0758 / Box Office Phone: 910-725-0603

Email: [encoreofthepines@gmail.com](mailto:encoreofthepines@gmail.com)

Facebook: Encore Center/ Instagram: [encorebycpas](https://www.instagram.com/encorebycpas)



**Winter Production  
Camp!  
Registration open  
now at  
[encorecenter.net](http://encorecenter.net)**

**Rehearsals:  
Jan. 3rd - 21st**

**Performances:  
Jan. 21st-30th  
(Students Ages 13+)**