

Volunteer Vibe

Tennessee Performing Arts Center

A Special Thanks from Kathleen O'Brien,
TPAC's President and Chief Executive Officer

What does it take to seat nearly
60,000 audience members in Jackson
Hall over three weeks of *Wicked*?

TPAC volunteers!



I am sincerely grateful to all of you for your many hours of service, your professionalism, and your ongoing kindness to our patrons. I know how much more challenging it can be when we are welcoming a sold-out house of patrons night after night.

I can't imagine a performing arts center with a better team of dedicated volunteers. During *Wicked*, and throughout the year, you continue to make vital contributions to TPAC's success and ability to serve diverse audiences.



I am most grateful.
Kathleen

Broadway iTunes

Do you love Broadway music?

Then you must check this out. Thanks to the Broadway League and a partnership with Apple and iTunes

17 Broadway songs are available to download for free.

All you have to do is go to

www.broadway.org/itunes/tpac

and use the passcode
TPACBROADWAY

Jersey Boys, Wicked, The Phantom of the Opera, West Side Story, Chicago... just to name a few!

Coming Soon to TPAC

Jackson Hall
Addams Family

January 3-8, 2012

Rodney Carrington

January 14, 2012

Spamalot

January 27-28, 2012

South Pacific

February 7-12, 2012

Polk Theater

Anjelah Johnson

January 19 & 20, 2012

Mary's Holiday Memories

Some of my many holiday memories have been with my show families. The show must go on and many do during the week of Christmas. Whether I was touring or in New York with *Mary Poppins*, the cast and crew became each others family. These were the people you were with day in and day out. From Christmas Dinner, Secret Santa's, to holiday sing-alongs we always made the holidays special.



Dec. 2010 NYC visiting my friends at *Mary Poppins*

When I wasn't with a show and even now my favorite memory/tradition is singing *O Holy Night* at my hometown Christmas Eve service.

I've been doing it for 20 years with a dear friend who resides in L.A. We each come back home and gather with friends and family for this special evening.

No matter what your Holiday traditions may be, whether with family or friends. I hope that you enjoy the season and the times you get to spend with them.

Happy Holidays!! ~ Mary



Inside this issue:

Volunteers Make a Difference	2
On Broadway	2
Check This Out	2
Getting to Know You	3
Holiday Memories	4
Potluck	5
Holiday Ideas	5



TPAC Volunteers Make a Difference with Accessibility Services



The Tennessee Performing Arts Center is now offering open captioning (OC) for patrons with hearing loss at each show in our Broadway Series. If you attended the Sunday matinee of Memphis, when the service was successfully launched, you saw an LED screen with red lights on stage left, next to American Sign Language interpreters. The dialogue and lyrics scroll in time with the action on stage—similar to closed captioning on a television.

The feedback from patrons (including those who did not use the captioning) was overwhelmingly positive. Several deaf patrons expressed that open captioning allowed them to fully engage with a theatrical performance for the first time in their lives. The service opened a whole new world for them.

OC is a welcome addition to the services that TPAC offers to people with disabilities, including ASL and Audio Description (AD), also at the Sunday matinees of Broadway shows. TPAC also provides ASL and AD on request for shows in the annual HOT Season for Young People.

Thanks to the contributions of our volunteers, our arts center has become a leader, locally and nationally, in making the arts accessible to all people.

Open captioning was made possible at TPAC through a grant from Theatre Development Fund (TDF) as part of a national initiative. As its mission statement reads, TDF was created with the conviction that the live theatrical arts afford a unique expression of the human condition that must be sustained and nurtured. TDF's twofold mission is to identify and provide support, including financial assistance, to theatrical works of artistic merit, and to encourage and enable diverse audiences to attend live theatre and dance in all their venues. TDF's many programs and operations include the TKTS "discount booths" in New York City. To deliver the services covered by the grant, TDF contracts with a company called c2, a pioneer in live performance captioning for hard of hearing and deaf patrons at theatrical and cultural events.

For a number of years, the volunteer team of **Graham Sugg, Nancy Sugg, Chris Tietjen, & John Tietjen** has assisted patrons with sight loss, providing outstanding service. They greet them on arrival, guide them to their seats, assist them in various other ways, and give them Braille programs and headsets so they can listen to descriptions of the action on the stage. Our blind and visually impaired patrons have a great appreciation and affection for these volunteers who have helped to open a whole new world for them at TPAC as well.

As an organization, TPAC is proud of how well our volunteers meet the needs of patrons, including those who have mobility challenges or use wheel chairs and other assistive equipment. Our audience members greatly appreciate your kindness, sensitivity, and professionalism.



Check some of these great
new shows out on Broadway!!!

- *Porgy and Bess*
- *Godspell*
- *On A Clear Day You Can See Forever*
- *War Horse*



Check This Out

On Dec.1 Playbill launched www.playbillvault.com
a comprehensive database of everything Broadway. One of the highlights is that you can look up any show and it will not only list more information than you ever wanted, it also has the actual Playbills to view.

Getting to Know You...

Christine & John Tietjen have been volunteering at TPAC since 2008. They are apart of our wonderful team that assist those on Sunday matinees for our signed performances and now open captioning. Serving the public and helping the development of the arts in Nashville are some of the many reasons they began volunteering.

When not at TPAC your best bet of finding John and Christine is somewhere outdoors. They love running, walking , and

“We love assisting those who are experiencing theatre for the first time or offer aide to those that may require a special need”



simply enjoying the wonderful Tennessee seasons.

Milly their dog also enjoys partaking in these activities as well. Traveling is another love of theirs with the Grand

Caymen as one of their new favorite spots. According to Christine and Milly, John claims to be a really poor guitar player, which they support this claim.

Some of their favorite shows at TPAC have been *Wicked*, *Bill Cosby*, *Lion King*, *12 Angry Men...*the list goes on and on. *Fiddler on the Roof* is one show they would love to see at TPAC as it is an all time favorite of theirs. We are very appreciative of the time they give to help assist others.



Jessica Stewart joined our volunteer team this summer by suggestion of good friend Beth March. The arts are something she is very passionate about. Growing up as a dancer (11 years), working behind the scenes on school plays, and having parents who greatly supported the arts are some of the many reasons she wants to give back. During the day she works for RJ Young in the contracts dept. *Phantom of the Opera* is one show that really stuck with Jessica. She remembers seeing it in Louisville and sitting on the edge of her seat most of the show. “Alvin Ailey School of Dance’s Revelations will blow your mind” she says. Although she no longer dances she still is very active training for triathlons and different races (5 half marathons to date). Yoga has become a favorite of hers as well. Knitting, jewelry making and collecting books are some of her hobbies. She has 8 first editions from the Wizard of Oz series. Her pride and joy are a pair of pointe shoes signed by Mikhail Baryshnikov. One show Jessica would love to see is *War Horse*. Growing up on a horse farm she has a love for horses and thinks the story is amazing. She can’t get over how life-like the Broadway horses look. Jessica has been a great addition to our team and we are happy to have her here!

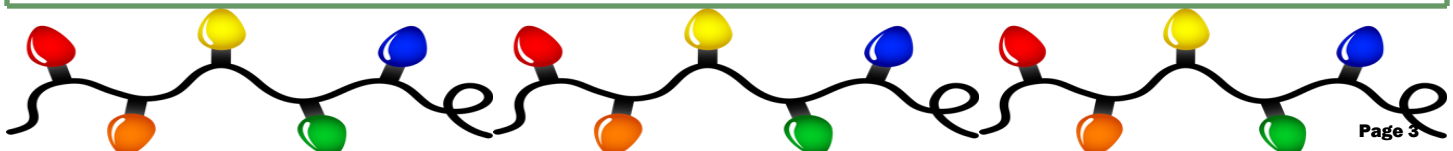


Tori Blackshear

Wanted something fun to do with her mother Linda Johnson so she joined our volunteer team. Two years into it she enjoys all the great benefits. Not only does she love shows and theatre but she has learned some great leadership skills too. During the day Tori is a collector for Caterpillar Financial.



Traveling is one of her favorite things to do. On her days off you can find her on a car trip or plane to DC or New York. *Les Miserables* and *Dreamgirls* are two of her favorite shows she has seen at TPAC. If you ever get the opportunity to volunteer with Tori she is a pleasure to get to know.



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Tennessee Performing Arts Center

Mary Blair
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& Volunteer Coordinator*

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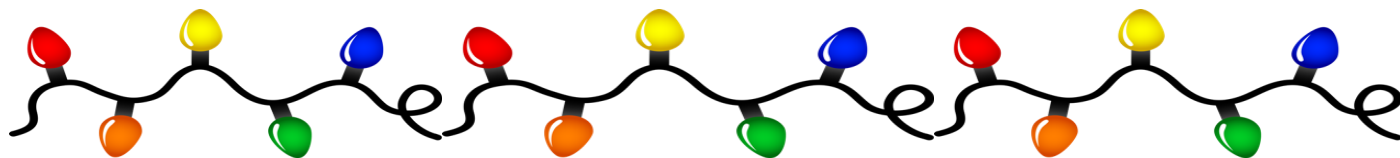
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Please join us for the

TPAC Volunteer Potluck

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
TPAC's Rehearsal Hall
{ MEET IN JACKSON HALL }
6:00 P.M.
PRIZES • FOOD • FRIENDS

RSVP to Mary
mblair@tpac.org

Upcoming Schedules

Be on the Look-Out for upcoming schedule sign-ups.

Tennessee Repertory Theatre

God of Carnage
February 2-18, 2012

Superior Donuts
March 15-31, 2012

HOT Spring Schedule

*Treasured Stories, Diavolo Dance Theater,
Of Mice of Men & Zorro*



Holiday Ideas

If you are looking for some great holiday gift ideas give the gift of a show with a TPAC Gift Certificate!



The Art-O-Mat located on Center Landing has an assortment of great stocking stuffers all for \$5.

