

SHOWING SOON!



*presents*

*an original comedic drama by  
Georgia Playwright Sandra Jones Cropsey*

***“Who’s There?”***

*February 25th  
through  
March 7th, 2010*

*Check out our new website at  
[www.mainstreetplayers.org](http://www.mainstreetplayers.org)*

MAIN STREET PLAYERS PRESENTS

DECEMBER 11-20, 2009

# THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

BY BARBARA ROBINSON



**PRIMERICA**

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is proud to support Main Street Players

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIRMAN

On behalf of Main Street Players Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your overwhelming support in the past few months. We brought to you our concern over the possibility that we may have to close Main Street due to the loss of a major grant, and mailed out a request to you asking for financial assistance. We were astounded at your response and generosity.

The board also decided that it would pursue additional fund-raising avenues. When we were not able to do an early fall production, we decided to do a Haunted Theatre and once again, the response was overwhelming. During the month of October, you would not have recognized this building. It was transformed into a maze of theatrical horrors and approximately 600 people of all ages dared to brave the terror within. Many thanks to Robert Chauncey, Marian Sorensen, Joe McKaughan, Bryan Clanton, Shad Leach, Norma Richardson and the “scaractors” for their assistance with this fundraiser.

We are working on a couple of other possible fundraisers in the future. One features a young man that has performed on our stage in many past productions. He is currently touring with his own band and has a tremendous following. He wants to give back to Main Street with a benefit concert. Look for additional information on that in the near future. One definite plan features a play written by Ms Sande Cropsy. We will be producing “Who’s There” and without spilling the beans, it is a hilarious southern comedy. This is scheduled for late February through early March.

Again, many thanks for your continued support.

We here at Main Street Theatre wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a most prosperous New Year.

Donnie Beall  
Board Chairman

## MAIN STREET PLAYERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Norma Richardson .....	President
Donnie Beall .....	Board Chairman
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Maurene Sorensen

## THE SHOW

# The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

By Barbara Robinson

Artistic Director .....	Norma Richardson
Director .....	Marian Bolton Sorensen
House Managers .....	Donnie Beall
	Landra Chasteen
Box Office .....	Donna Johnson
	Nancy Beall
Back Stage Manager .....	Kim Harmon
Assistant Stage Manager/Understudy .....	Marquavius Mayes
Set .....	Shad Leach
Costumes .....	First Baptist Church
	Creative Costumes
Lighting Design .....	Spencer O'Brien
Lighting Intern .....	Jackson Sullins
Props Master/Mistress .....	Marian Sorensen
Makeup .....	Carlee Beall
Program .....	Donnie Beall
Advertising .....	Mettelen Moore
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— Bette Davis —



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## THE PLAYERS

Robbie Burke .....	Father
Laura Lee Happel .....	Mother
Emma Chasteen .....	Beth
Timothy Parker .....	Charlie
Blake Gregory .....	Ralph
Kimeon Few .....	Imogene
Hayden Flanders .....	Leroy
Austin Grant .....	Claude
Caden Phillips .....	Ollie
Mikeria Bouie .....	Gladys
Imani Askin .....	Alice
Virginia Martin .....	Armstrong/Clausing
Christy Laster .....	Slocum
Kat Martin .....	Clark
Katrina Lazenby .....	McCarthy
MacKenzie Johnson .....	Maxine
Walton Strickland .....	Elmer
Marquis Ford .....	Hobie
Emma Tingle .....	David/Darlene
Natalie Fowler .....	Beverly
Katie Gunnels .....	Shirley
Christina Martin .....	Juanita
Jacob Gunnels .....	Doris/Donald
Victoria Hornsby .....	Vicki
Rob Muldoon .....	Rev. Hopkins
Reshad Starr .....	Fireman
Matt Sullins .....	Fireman

The play will be performed in two acts with a 15 minute intermission.

Special thanks to Denel James and First Baptist Church for pageant costumes and David's Surgical for supplying Armstrong's wheel chair and the Spalding County Fire Department.

## DIRECTOR NOTES

*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* is a memory play. Told from the perspective of Beth, it is a timeless piece; it could have happened 40 years ago or just yesterday. I have chosen the present to unfold this tale about some unruly children who crash the ritual Christmas pageant rehearsals in search of cookies and doughnuts and Twinkies. It is one of my favorite plays, because embedded in its simplicity and humor are great teachings. It is about belief. Belief that people can change if given a chance, belief that if you have high expectations others will rise to the challenge, belief that a miracle sent from God can exalt the human spirit. Hopefully, like the characters in this play, you too, will find your nourishment.

Marian Bolton Sorensen  
Director

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\_\_\_\_ *Yes, I would like to be a supporting member of Main Street Players. Main Street Players is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation making your donation tax deductible.*

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*Congratulations  
Katie & Jacob  
on your first  
Main Street performances!*

*We are so proud of you!*

*We love you!  
Mom & Dad*

*Congratulations  
Hayden!*

*Love, Mom, Dad,  
Evan and Faith*

# Griffin Ballet Theatre 2009-2010 Season

**“THE ARMED MAN”**  
With Griffin Choral Arts  
Griffin Auditorium  
March 26 & 27th, 2010

**“ALICE IN WONDERLAND”**  
Griffin Auditorium  
April 30th, May 1st & 2nd, 2010



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# Griffin Choral Arts

2009-2010 Season

*Bringing the Best Choral Music to the Community...*

*The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace* with the Griffin Ballet Theatre

**March 26 & 27, 2010, 7:30 pm**

*I Hear America Singing*

**Thursday, May 6, 2010, 7:30 pm**

[www.griffinchoralarts.org](http://www.griffinchoralarts.org)

## PROFILES



**VICTORIA HORNSBY (Baby Angel/Viki)** is in the chorus in school. She has performed in several plays prior to *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She was born April 6, 2000 and is nine years old and has three brothers but no sisters. Victoria likes to cheer and play soccer. Besides acting she belongs to a swim team, does ballet and tap, sings and considers herself a real "girly-girl."



**KATRINA LAZENBY (Edna McCarthy)** lives in Griffin with her husband Doug and son Skip. She is on the board of directors of the Main Street Theatre and is thrilled to be part of this production. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* is her favorite holiday play and she read the story to her kids every year whether they wanted to hear it or not. She is not an actress but she is a bit like Edna McCarthy. Thanks to Marian for amazing organization and direction and to the cast for being the best kids ever!



**MARQUAVIUS MAYES (Assistant Stage Manager/Understudy for Ralph)** is really glad to be working with Main Street Players. This is his first time as a stage manager. He starred in a play as Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. He attends Kennedy Road Middle School.



**CADEN PHILLIPS (Ollie Herdman)** is excited to be making his acting debut at the Main Street theatre. He is happy to have the opportunity to be in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. In real life he is a third grader at Jordan Hill Elementary and attends Hill Street Church of Christ. Caden enjoys playing Xbox 360 and making ramps for his bike.

**DONNA JOHNSON (Stage Manager)** is playing a different role at Main Street Players as Stage Manager. It has been interesting.

## PROFILES



**LAURALEE HAPPEL (Mother - Grace Bradley)** is making her acting debut at Main Street Players after a 20 year break from the stage. A theatre major from Valdosta State University, she played Mary in *Vanities*, Mom in *Charlotte's Web* and a chorus girl in *Cabaret*.



**AUSTIN GRANT (Claude)** is excited to be with Main Street Players. He was an angel in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* in 2004, an elf in *The Shoemaker and the Elf's* and a robot in the *Velveteen Rabbit*.



**MIKERIA BOUIE (Gladys)** is making her stage debut with *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She has been in literacy days for five years. In the first grade she memorized an eleven stanza poem. She currently attends Kennedy Road Middle School



**KIMEON FEW (Imogene)** is very excited about being in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She has been in a couple of plays in elementary school. Her most recent play was in sixth grade. It was called *Fractured Fable Frenzy* where she was a tree with lines and she was also a girl who was asked to go to a dance by a main character.



**HAYDEN FLANDERS (Leroy)** is very excited to be working with Main Street Players. He has also been in *South Pacific With Camelot*, *Shoemakers and the Elves*, *Charlotte's Web* as Wilbur and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* - all with Curtains Up for Kids. In his real life he enjoys photography and has designed Hayden Flanders.com for his photography. Aside from photography, tennis is another hobby he enjoys. "I think I am very creative and hope to keep going far with my successful life."



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## PROFILES



**ROB MULDOON (Rev. Hopkins)** has appeared in a number of productions at Main Street including *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Clue, the Musical*, *Christmas Belles*, *The Odd Couple*, *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, *The Fantastiks*, and *Moonlight and Magnolias*. He is thrilled to be a member of the Main Street family.



**ROBBIE BURKE (Father)** has directed *Grace and Glorie* and most recently *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. He also put on the acting hat for that production. Other Main Street productions include *Honky Tonk Highway* (multiple characters), Dr. Gibbs in *Our Town*, Uncle Billy in *It's A Wonderful Life*, and Mr. Gilmer & Boo Radley in *To Kill A Mockingbird*. He played McKean in Camelot Theatre's production of *1776*, Billis in *South Pacific* and Tucker C. Bodine in the *Biscuits & Bullet* series. He directed *School House Rock LIVE!*, *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, *Sorry Wrong Number*, *The Swimmer* and *Out the Window*.



**CHRISTY LASTER (Mrs. Slocum)** is making her acting debut at Main Street Players. She is thrilled to have this opportunity, especially with such a well-known play, and is looking forward to many more. In her real life, she is a home school teacher to her two beautiful girls', she chases around her precious little boy, and she is a fun-loving wife to her handsome husband.

**MARIAN SORENSEN (Director)** has been fortunate to pursue the two careers she loves: theatre and education. A lifetime ago she lived in Atlanta and served as the Assistant Director for the Alliance Theatre School. She was a teacher in both the children's and adult acting programs. While there she directed for the Main Stage Lunchtime series as well as youth and adult programs in the Studio Theatre. Credits include *The Midnight Caller*, *Little Foxes*, *Ten Little Indians*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *Tales for the Big Peach* and *Red, White and Blue and You Too!* She is particularly proud of the last two because they were original works created from students' writings. The later work went on to receive the George Washington Honor Medal from The Freedom Foundation. While in Atlanta she was also a drama teacher at Sutton Middle School as well as North Atlanta High School (formally Northside School of the Performing Arts) where she directed/produced 5-7 shows a year. She was very active with Young Audiences, Theatrical Outfit and Theatre in the Square as both an actress and a director. She is delighted to be working with Main Street Players and would like to dedicate this show to the teacher that helped her find her passion for the theatre, Mrs. Pat Lee.

## PROFILES



**EMMA CHASTEEN (Beth Bradley)** is the daughter of Wayne and Landra Chasteen. She is an eighth grader at Rehoboth Road Middle School. She is a cheerleader as well as a member of her school chorus, yearbook, and beta club. This is Emma's second performance with Main Street Players. She was Woodstock in *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* this previous summer. She has also performed in two Curtains Up for Kids shows, *The Shoemaker and the Elves* and *Velveteen Rabbit*.



**TIMMY PARKER (Charlie)** is making his acting debut in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. He attends Kennedy Road Middle School and is very active in sports.



**BLAKE GREGORY (Ralph)** is making his acting debut in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. He attends Kennedy Road Middle School.



**EMMA TINGLE (Darlene)** loves being on stage and is enjoying her first production with Main Street Players. She has previously performed in the *Velveteen Rabbit* with Curtains Up For Kids, *Promise U* and *Here We Are* musicals with First Baptist Childrens Ministry. She is a fourth grader at Futral Road Elementary where she is a member of K-Kids and the music club. She also loves and plays soccer.



**MACKENZIE ABIGAIL JOHNSON (Maxine)** is very excited to be in her fifth play at Main Street. She has recently been in *Narnia the Musical* as Lucy Peversie, *Once Upon a Mattress* as Lady in Waiting, *Nuncrackers* as Maria Montinni, and *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* as Peppermint Patty - all with Main Street Players. She has also played in *Les Miserables* as Young Cassette, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* as Oompa Lompa - both with Henry Players. She is now attending Chorus every day at Griffin High School with Mr. James Lindsey and the rest of the students there. She would like to thank her family for their support and God for giving her talent.

## PROFILES



**CHRISTINA MARTIN (Juanita)** is a first grade student at St. George's Episcopal School. She like roller skating and her favorite subject in school is drama. Today she wants to be an actress when she grows up. This is her first production with Main Street Players and she is very excited to be in a play with her sister and her mom.



**KATIE GUNNELS (Shirley)** is excited about her first performance with Main Street Players. She has also performed in *The Velveteen Rabbit* and *Let's Rock*, a children's musical production at Second Baptist Church. Katie is a third grade student at Futral Road Elementary School. She is active in the children's ministry at Second Baptist Church where she is a member of the Kingdom Kidz Choir and Awana. She is beginning her third year as an Upward basketball cheerleader



**JACOB GUNNELS (Donald)** is making his acting debut in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. He will also be making his debut on the basketball court this season when he plays Upward basketball at Second Baptist Church. Jacob is a first grader at Futral Road Elementary School and he holds a green belt in Karate. He and his family attend Second Baptist Church where he is a member of the Kingdom Kidz Choir and Awana.



**VIRGINIA C. S. MARTIN (Armstrong/Clausing)** is very excited to be back on stage, her last performance having been as the Wicked Witch in the Footlight Players production of *The Wizard of Oz* in 1990. Prior to that, she was cast in various plays and musicals including *You Can't Take It With You*, *Pippin*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. She is a Griffin native and a member of the Griffin Rotary Club.



**KAT MARTIN (Clark)** is a seventh grader at St. George's Episcopal School where she is co-publisher of the yearbook, a member of Interact and the Beta Club, and is a cheerleader. She has participated in school plays and attended drama camp in Chapel Hill, N.C. This is her first production with Main Street Players.

## PROFILES



**MATT SULLINS (Fireman)** last starred as a scareactor in the Haunted Theatre on Hill Street. His other theatrical experience consists of numerous church plays and the role of Fritz in the Griffin Ballet's *Nutcracker*. He is the son of Robert and Karol Sullins who is the Director of Griffin School for the Arts and a Main Street Board Member.



**RASHAD STARR (Orderly/Fireman)** last starred as a gruesome scarecrow in the Haunted Theatre on Hill Street. Though he has just started his acting career, he has received numerous accolades. He was also the preacher at the Mock Funeral in Spalding High's 2009 Bonfire. He is a student of the talented Mrs. Prothro's Drama Class.



**IMANI ASKIN (Alice)** is making her MSP debut with *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Other stage credits include *Fractured Fables* and *Miss Louisa*. She also enjoys singing and attends Kennedy Road Middle School.



**WALTON STRICKLAND (Elmer Hopkins)** is a seventh grader at Kennedy Road Middle School. He loves horses, "jacked-up trucks", tractors, cows, and any other livestock. He is making his stage debut with this show.



**IAN BURKE (Understudy for Hobie & Assistant Stage Manager)** is making his first appearance with Main Street Players. He has participated in various performances at school where he is a member of Musical Minds. He is the son of Robbie Burke and Dawn Burke.