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**BELOIT CIVIC THEATRE**  
*Now in its 86th year*  
*Presents*



By  
**A.R. GURNEY**

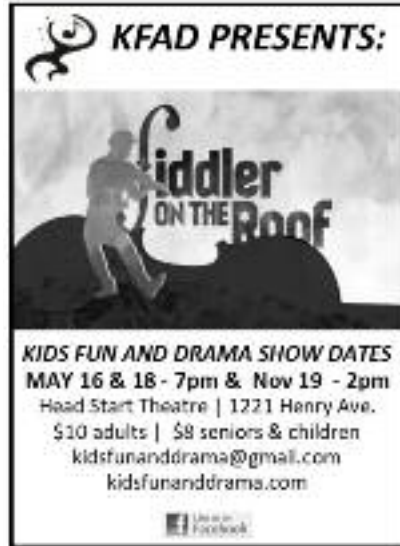
April 25, 26, 27, 28 and May 2, 3, 4 at 7:30 p.m.  
Also 3 p.m. matinees on April 27, 28 & May 4  
2019

**Elizabeth Reinholz Theatre**

*Produced in Association  
Dramatists Play Service  
New York, New York*

**DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

“It has been a real joy to work with this group of actors, stage manager and crew.” I said nearly those same words almost twenty years ago when BCT first produced Sylvia. I never imagined I would be so lucky twice! Maybe it was the draw of this charming script that brought yet another talented and dedicated bunch together. After all, everyone loves dogs, right? But the words are as true now as they were then. Look around the theater tonight; you might see the original cast seated near you. Some of them promised to come. But if you don’t see them, turn your eyes to the stage for another treat. Relax, laugh, enjoy this incarnation of A. R. Gurney’s classic, sweet comedy about love. Then go home and hug your dog. Thank you for coming.



**PLEASE NOTE**

Refreshments will be available during the intermission. All proceeds go to the Beloit Civic Theatre Helen Hayes Teed Scholarship Fund. Each year awards are given to students going on after high school to study theatre arts or communications.

Please be aware that Beloit Memorial High School is a “non-smoking” facility. Please respect the school policy and state law and refrain from smoking on school grounds.

No photography is allowed during performance.

Please turn off ringing cell phones during performance.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, please leave your name, address, and phone number with one of the volunteers at the ticket tables in the lobby. Address changes may also be given to one of our lobby personnel.

Please check out our website at [www.beloitcivictheatre.org](http://www.beloitcivictheatre.org)

Gift certificates are available for the entire season or for individual shows. They make wonderful gifts for all occasions. If interested, contact our box office at (608) 362-1595 or Loren Sass at (608) 365-0235.

**Proud to support the Beloit Civic Theatre in its 86<sup>th</sup> season**



Much like theater, the effectiveness of investing lies in a unified vision with elements put together by a good director

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By  
**A.R. GURNEY**

**Elizabeth Reinholz Theatre**

*Produced in Association  
Dramatists Play Service  
New York, New York*

*Special Thanks to:*

*Janet Palmer for her invaluable contributions  
to the musical aspects of this production  
Beloit Memorial High School Theatre Department*

## THE CAST

Sylvia .....Zoe Chipalla  
Greg .....Rob Connor  
Kate.....Elizabeth Armstrong  
Tom, Phyllis, Leslie.....Matthew Tiritilli

## THE SETTING

New York City, late summer, 1996.

Please note that herbal cigarettes will be used on stage  
and that the play contains some adult language.

## THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Director .....Donna Balsley  
Stage Manager .....Les Blumreich  
Set Design .....Loren Sass  
Set Construction .....Donna Balsley, Zachary Biegelow, Les Blumreich, Deb Burns,  
.....Mike Fallon, Dee Fischer, Tom Lepinski, Mary Mowers,  
.....Loren Sass, Ed Skwarlo, Gerry White. Tom Young  
Lighting and Sound .....Peter Tropp, Zachary Biegelow  
Costumes .....Elizabeth Armstrong, Donna Balsley, Rebecca Wallendal  
Properties ..... Lisa Scholten, Dee Fischer, Donna Balsley  
Running Crew .....Deb Burns, Dee Fischer, Mary Easland  
Make-up Design .....Dee Fischer  
Special Music Advisor .....Janet Palmer

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Margie Bertholomey

## WHO'S WHO



*Elizabeth  
Armstrong  
as Kate*

**Elizabeth Armstrong** (Kate) Elizabeth, a member of the Beloit Civic Theatre Board of Directors, appeared in *Something's Afoot*, and *Nunsense: A Musical Comedy* for Beloit Civic. She has also appeared in many other area theatres; among them, Lakeland Players, Spotlight on Kids, and Theater Unlimited in such productions as *Barnum*, *The King and I*, *Quilters*, *Oliver*, *Mame*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Carousel*, *Camelot*, *Sweet Charity*, *Mary Poppins* and more. Elizabeth is a social worker for Beloit Regional Hospice, and she is married to Brian, an ordained United Methodist Pastor. They have two daughters and 4 beautiful grandchildren. "So much fun!" Elizabeth says, "I love to sing! I have found a real home in the theater. Besides being on stage, I love to make costumes and have costumed shows like *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* and *Hello, Dolly!*" Elizabeth would like to thank her very supportive husband who "...puts up with my hours of practice. Thank you for your patience when I turn our home into a costume making shop or borrow your stuff for props!" She also thanks Donna Balsley for "...her patience, direction and costume expertise!"



*Rob Conner  
as Greg*

**Rob Conner** (Greg) Rob has appeared in and directed several shows for Beloit Civic Theatre since first appearing on our stage in 1992 as Captain Andy in *Showboat*. These shows include, among others, *Greater Tuna*, *She Loves Me*, *Cinderella*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Baby*, and *Laura*. He also appeared as The Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz* and Mr. Banks in *Mary Poppins* for Spotlight on Kids. Rob recently retired after 33 years in education as a teacher, academic learning coach, and principal. Rob and his partner John live in Janesville with their three dogs, Zeke, Eli, and Adah.



*Zoe Chipalla  
as Sylvia*

**Zoe Chipalla** (Sylvia) This production marks Zoe's second production with Beloit Civic Theatre, and at 20, she has been performing for 13 years. Her previous credits include *The Spitfire Grill*, *Les Miz*, *Footloose*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *Suessical the Musical*, and many more. Zoe is currently a second-year student at Rock Valley College where she is pursuing her Associate of Arts degree, and she hopes to continue her Bachelor's degree after she graduates in the fall of 2019. When she finds time in her schedule, Zoe enjoys singing, hiking, being outdoors, and photography. Zoe would like to thank her mom, her brother, her best friend, Hannah, and her boyfriend, Nick, for their constant

love and support. She would also like to thank her grandparents for their guidance, for being role models she can look up to, and most of all, for encouraging her to share her passion on stage again. Above all, she says, “I owe it all to God for opening new doors and for keeping me grounded. Every show I’ll be performing goes to Him.”



*Matthew Tiritilli  
as Tom, Phyllis,  
and Leslie*

**Matthew Tiritilli** (Tom, Phyllis, Leslie) Matthew celebrates his 20th year of involvement with Beloit Civic theatre; in fact, his first production for the group was *The Gazebo* with fellow Sylvia cast member Rob Connor, and director, Donna Balsley. Also a former board member, Matthew appeared for Beloit Civic Theatre in this season’s *Catch Me If You Can* and previously in *She Loves Me*, *Private Lives*, *All My Sons*, *Mame*, *The Apple Tree*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *The Importance of Being Earnest* for BCT. Over the summer, Matthew appeared as Edna Turnblad in *Hairspray* the Musical for Gateway Arts in Rockford. Matthew lives in South Beloit and works as a caregiver for the company, Comfort Keepers.



*Donna Balsley  
as Director*

**Donna Balsley** (Director) Donna, a member of the Beloit Civic Theatre Board of Directors, has served as costume designer for the group since 1991. Donna also gathers and builds props for every production along with working on set building and décor. She has previously appeared in *Moonlight and Magnolias*, *The Dining Room*, *A Talent for Murder*, *Seniors of the Sahara*, *The Last Romance*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *Deathtrap*, *Cliffhanger* and *Over the River and Through the Woods*. In addition to her work at BCT, she has appeared in many plays at other area theaters: Janesville Little Theater, New Court Theatre, U-W Players for Spotlight on Kids, and for New American Theatre. As costumer, she has worked with the following organizations, costuming over 100 shows: Janesville Little Theater, U-W Players, Spotlight on Kids, Center Stage, Opera for the Young, Hononegah High School, Rockford Mendelssohn Club, New Court Theatre, and New American Theatre, and, of course, BCT. Donna is “a proud “Nonna” to 4 grandchildren. I have two beautiful daughters and equally beautiful sons-in-law.

## AUDITION NOTICE

Auditions for our fall show will be held in the theatre on July 29 and 30, 2019. Janet Palmer will direct next season's musical. The title will be announced at our annual meeting on June 5th. The number of actors and the ages of actors in the show are flexible. Production dates are: September 26, 27, 28 and October 3, 4, 5, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. There are also 3 p.m. matinees on September 28, 29 and October 5.

If you wish to audition but are unable to be present on the above dates, you may email the director at [janetpalmer1212@gmail.com](mailto:janetpalmer1212@gmail.com) to arrange an earlier date and time.

You may request to be added to our actor database if interested. Postcards announcing auditions are mailed before each show’s auditions. Just give your name, phone number and postal mailing address to anyone working in the lobby or e-mail us at [beloitcivictheatre@gmail.com](mailto:beloitcivictheatre@gmail.com)

## RESERVE NOW FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING

Season brochures announcing our new season will be mailed in June. Beloit Civic Theatre’s annual meeting will be held Wednesday, June 5th at the Our Lady of the Assumption Church at 2222 Shopiere Road in Beloit. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Food will be served beginning at 6:30 p.m. Current season members are invited for an evening of complimentary appetizers and desserts. Our new season for 2019-20 will be announced, the student scholarship winners will be awarded, and a vote will be taken for five BCT Board of Directors members. Mark your calendars! **Season members need to make a reservation for the event. Please email the names of all the people in your group who plan to attend to: [lorensass@mac.com](mailto:lorensass@mac.com)**

**You may also call the theatre at 608-362-1595 and leave a message.** Make sure your message includes ALL the names of the people coming, as well as a phone number, so we can confirm your reservation. You will need to either call or email before May 20th if you plan to attend the annual meeting. We are limited to accept the first 200 responses because of space limitations and fire laws.