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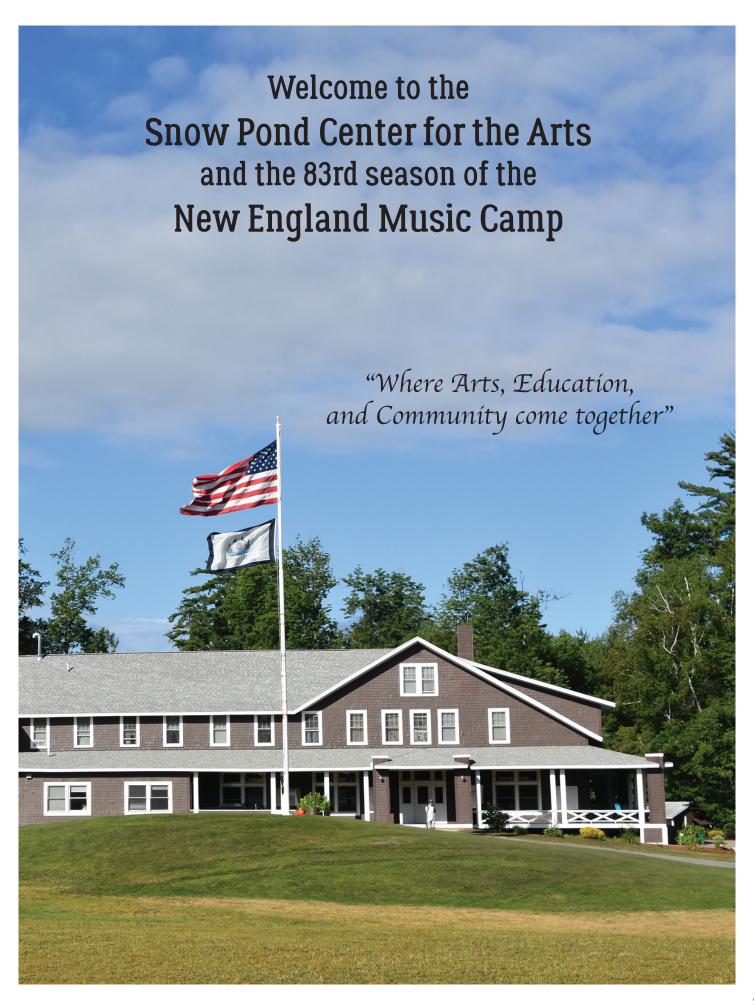
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## **EVENTS**

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Tasting & Diner, The Lodge

OCTOBER 18
BONNIE LEE GIBSON

Spiritual Medium & Dinner, The Lodge

OCTOBER 25

BIGELOW BREWERY BREWS, BURGERS & BRATS

Tasting & Dinner. The Lodge

**NOVEMBER 2** 

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lasting & Dinner Fundraiser, The Lodge

**NOVEMBER 15** 

RUSTIC OVERTONES
W/ SARA HALLIE RICHARDSON
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Dinner & Concert, The Lodge & Alumni Hall

DECEMBER 7

DON CAMPBELL MAGICAL CHRISTMAS NIGHT

Dinner & Concert, The Lodge & Alumni Hall

**DECEMBER 14** 

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INFORMATION/REGISTRATION: WWW.SNOWPOND.ORG

## **WELCOME TO SNOW POND**

**TRENDING** (Definition): Something that is hot news/ conversation within the general public. Something that everyone is talking about, and sharing their views on.

I am often asked if I am musical, which sadly I am not. My major in college was math and economics and I started my career in the insurance industry as an actuary. Actuaries are the folks that look at data and trends and make predictions about the probability of adverse things happening for which you need insurance. For obvious reasons, actuaries are usually not seen in public, nor are they often invited to any social gatherings. Luckily, before it was too late, I moved to other areas of insurance. I found my interest



was more in finding creative ways to alter trends or to develop new products that compliment these trends. That experience has been invaluable in the development of Snow Pond.

Eighteen months ago, we asked a group of our Central Maine neighbors to provide input as to how Snow Pond could do more to bring all of our communities together. Two overall outcomes resulted from that feedback. First, you will see a notable increase in community events in the evenings and over weekends beginning this fall. Later this fall, we will also be opening our recreational trails for daily public use. At the same time we will be working on the next phase of renovations to the Bowl - the outdoor amphitheater, which will allow us to host much larger events beginning next June. We are very much looking forward to seeing you and your families at these new events.

Secondly, Snow Pond has started organizing a cohesive regional Community and Economic Development planning effort, which has quickly gained support from members of all area communities. In addition, we have found interest from some national organizations which support "Creative Placemaking." Creative Placemaking has been a very effective economic development tool for rural areas using arts, culture, and education as defining and unique characteristics of place. We would expect that as this project comes together it will have a broader scope and will leverage all of the unique assets of the Belgrade Lakes Region.



As most of you know, there has been a growing interest in Maine around economic development and efforts in support of this are being made across the state. However, these efforts have been greatly hampered by several trends that are relevant to us in Maine and others in rural America; the most notable of which is the outmigration of young people to suburban or urban areas resulting in a rapidly aging population. In Maine, the median age has climbed from 38 to 45 in fifteen years, now the highest in the US. For actuaries like myself, this is a rather shocking increase for this period of time, and cause for some potentially big implications. It is quite clear that without more scale (i.e. a larger number of talented individuals, particularly young talent) Maine will have a very difficult time achieving sustainable economic growth.

More formal meetings will begin around the 1st week of October and the initial discussion items will be the identification of the regional assets and the reversal of adverse trends. One of the potential goals or mission might be something similar to the following: Attraction and retention of young professionals, artists, entrepreneurs, trades, and farmers resulting in sustainable economic prosperity & an engaged vibrant rural community.

Ultimately discussions will also include everything from quality affordable housing to the preservation of farmland, transportation, recreation, tourism, and much more. The development of a branding and communications plan for the region will also be an essential outcome. We expect this planning initiative to last for 18 months and we hope to hear from everyone. All input is important so please reach out and share your story.

Speaking for all of us at Snow Pond, I can say that we are committed to Central Maine's long-term economic prosperity through in-migration, the promotion of the arts, quality education, tourism, farming and recreation. When compiled together in a coordinated and cohesive plan these initiatives will attract more visitors who will ultimately witness a vibrant and culturally rich region. Snow Pond is proud to be a catalyst for this trend. If you would like to participate in this meaningful discussion, please contact me at john.wiggin@snowpond.org.

Warmly, John Wiggin





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Maine Arts Academy





## TOGETHER - THIS COMMUNITY ROCKED THE BOWL!

As we close out this beautiful summer season with The Stranger - A Tribute To Billy Joel, I couldn't be more humbled by this communities' overwhelming generosity. It is on behalf of the entire Snow Pond family that I sincerely thank so many of you who gave your time, expertise and resources to the Rock The Bowl Campaign! I am proud to share that we have completed the second of three phases of renovations to the Bowl. You may have noticed some of the improvements including: new natural turf and landscaping; the widening of the entrance road; more ambient and safety lighting; along with a new massive rigging system, which will allow us to improve our lights and sound needed for the larger national touring artists we wish to attract. Next year, we will be adding eight feet to the front of the stage and are planning to add a new and much larger concession area, along with additional restrooms.

## **WHY YOU ASK?**

With these renovations, the Bowl will be one of the premier outdoor concert venues in New England, allowing all of us to enjoy major national music performances in our own backyard! When complete, the Bowl will be able to accommodate as many as 7,500 guests. Snow Pond will gradually scale up to this capacity over the next four-years, to ensure that every patron has a safe, high-quality and enjoyable experience.

## **SUMMER 2020**

I'm thrilled to share that we are in the process of laying out next summer's lineup. From Maine bands to national touring acts, it's sure to be a summer season you won't want to miss! Is there a special band or entertainer that you would like to see on the Bowl stage? Please email me any suggestions or comments you might have to: christa.johnson@snowpond.org, I'd love to hear from you!

I'll see you next summer when we Rock The Bowl!

Christa Johnson
Director of Development

A special thank you to our General Contractor, Peachey Builders!









## A WORD FROM COMMUNITY LEADERS!

"The Bowl in the Pines is a historic and cultural gem in our region. We are pleased to provide our support of this important renovation project that will bring even more opportunities for people to enjoy the arts in Central Maine."

## **Andrew Silsby**

CEO, Kennebec Savings Bank







"Snow Pond is a great cultural, educational and recreational resource that FirstPark proudly promotes to prospects who are considering expansion or location of their businesses to central Maine."

### Jim Dinkle CEO, FirstPark

"The Peachey Builders team is very proud to have had the opportunity to construct Snow Pond's new stage equipment support structure. This was a fascinating and unique project! We enjoyed working with John and everyone at the Center and appreciate your trust in us!"



President, Peachey Builders



"Sidney, Maine is very fortunate to have such great live performances at this breathtaking location on the waterfront on Messalsonskee Lake in the Belgrade Lakes Region."

Gail Rizzo

Lakepoint Real Estate



## A WORD FROM COMMUNITY LEADERS!

"We are proud of United Way's new partnership with Snow Pond to provide arts-based after school programming for underserved children in the Kennebec Valley region. Together, we can ensure a bright future for all local students!"

## **Courtney Yeager**

Executive Director,
United Way of Kennebec Valley





"This is our 46th summer of attending concerts at the Camp. Whenever possible, we bring guests and invite others to share the beauty of the campus and to join us at a concert. We are proud to have NEMC in our community and proud to support the Snow Pond Center for the Arts."

## Wally & Cindy Buschmann

Sidney residents and Neighbors of Snow Pond

"This is an incredibly exciting time for Mid-Maine and the redesign – along with new initiatives – at Snow Pond Center for the Arts creates an inviting and scenic waterfront oasis where we can attract students, visitors, and continue to grow the region's arts community. We are thrilled that Snow Pond Center for the Arts continues to be an idyllic setting that welcomes guests and visitors from all over the state and country."

## Garvan Donegan

Director of Planning & Economic Development
Central Maine Growth Council



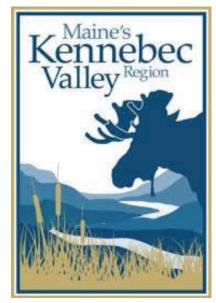
### SNOW POND CENTER FOR THE ARTS AND THE WONDERFUL OUTDOORS!

What comes to your mind when you think about Snow Pond Center for the Arts? Is it music, concerts, weddings, events, arts education - and did I mention music? All wonderful and true impressions, but I'd like to add a few new and different memories from the eyes of an outdoor lover.

FROZEN FISH - At this year's annual Winter Carnival and Ice Fishing Derby we had a larger crowd than anticipated - much, much larger! Approximately 1,000 people participated in the Ice Fishing Derby and some huge fish

were brought into the weigh-in. The carnival benefited from amazing weather, which allowed kids of all ages to visit campus and play wicked hard - Maine style! There was ice skating, downhill sledding, crackling bonfires and smores galore, along with FatBiking and snowshoeing on the trails. It was so much fun that we are doing it again on February 29, 2020! Please mark your calendars; my goal is to make this the largest fishing derby in Maine!

WILDLIFE & TRAILS - I'm thrilled to announce that the new Snow Pond Community Trails opened in 2019 and work has continued throughout the year. Just across the street from the Snow Pond entrance, the trails meander through hundreds of acres of designated wading bird habitats and offer an opportunity to see a variety of wildlife. These non-motorized trails are open to all, including walkers, bikers, snowshoers and skiers. We are still waiting for someone to spot the first moose on the trails, in fact, I have a little incentive to get you motivated. Spot and photograph the first moose and win two year-long passes to all of Snow Pond's summer and winter concerts! The contest starts now - keep me posted at mike.guarino@snowpond.org.



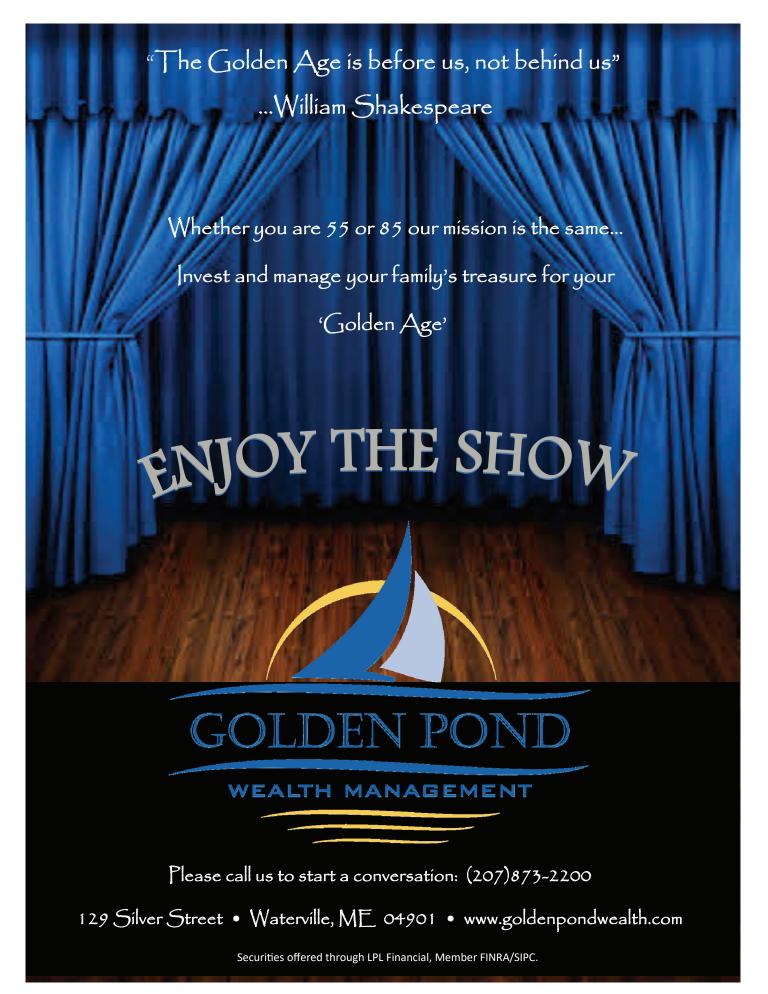
For more information on the new Snow Pond Community Trails visit snowpond.org/trails.

See you outside!

Mike Guarino Community Development









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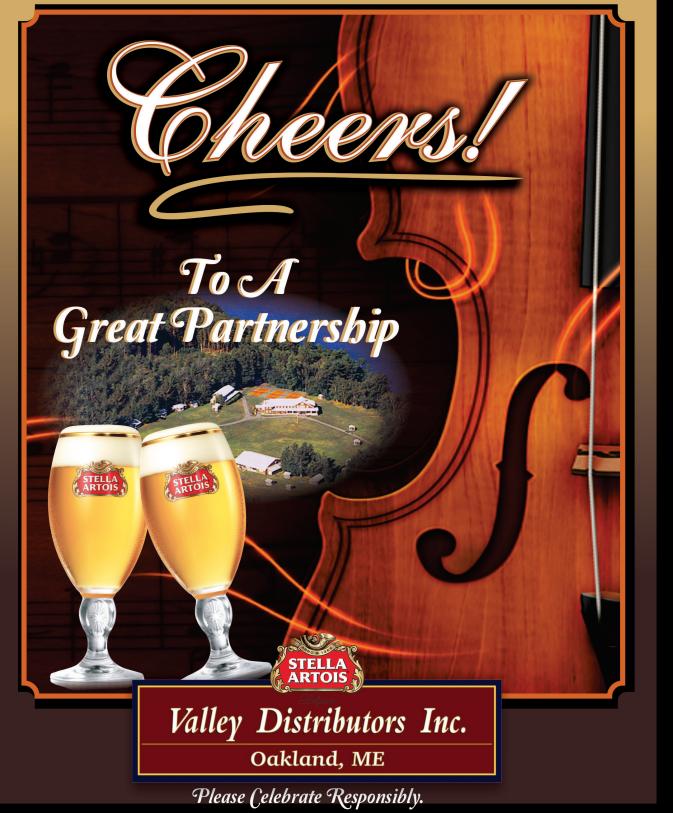
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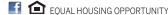
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THE STRANGER is the complete premiere tribute to the music of one of the world's most beloved performers, Billy Joel. Comprised of some of the best and most experienced musicians in the business, this 6 piece band brings together an authentic replication of Billy's timeless music, crowning it with soulful, spot on vocals that makes listening to a Billy Joel song so special. Out front on piano & lead vocals is founder & frontman Mike Santoro. Born and raised in Levittown like Joel himself, Mike not only looks and talks a lot like Billy, but has the piano chops, vocal prowess and stage presence of the Piano Man - so much so that you will soon forget you are watching a tribute show. The STRANGER gives you the Billy Joel experience with the sound of his original band in its prime... energetic, interactive and often unpredictable. Its live entertainment at its best!

From his radio hits to classic b-sides, sprinkled with great songs from similar artists such as Elton John, Paul McCartney and many others, it's everything you'll ever want in an evening out of great music. Available for corporate events, festivals, casinos, private affairs, and select venues.

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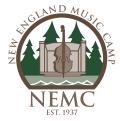












All of our generous donors' contributions to Snow Pond Center for the Arts and New England Music Camp provide scholarships, financial aid, enhance the campus and facilities, and strengthen the educational programs for all!





The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance.

-Aristotle





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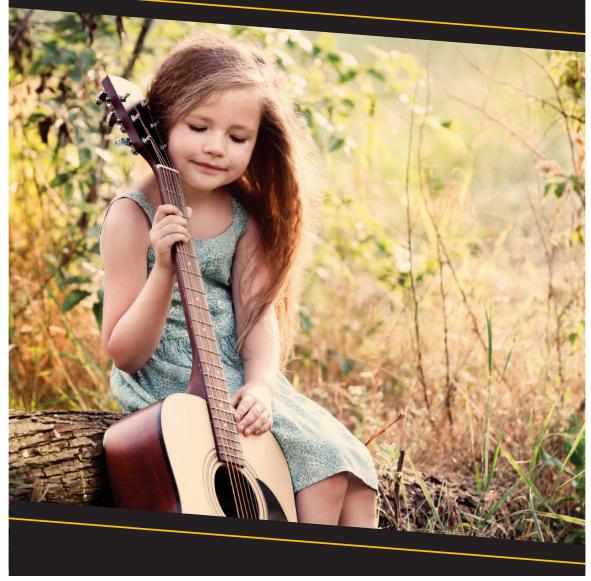
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## **SNOW POND... A SENSE OF PLACE**

As a member of the Snow Pond Community Development Team, I have had the pleasure to be the recipient of many compliments over this last year in regards to all of the campus improvements and expanded programming now in place. While we do take pride in our individual contributions, it's really the work of building relationships that has allowed the realization of these accomplishments.

I'm very lucky that my work has provided me a front row seat to witness the magic, the wonderful "flint and spark' reactions, that occur when individuals from enormously varied backgrounds come together to engage in and support this place. A sense of Place has become a powerful phrase in the world of fundraising and community development. Descriptions vary, but can generally be sifted down to the creation and re-creation of spaces where all are welcome for social engagement, recreation, the pursuit of artistic enrichment, and ultimately, a sense of belonging, i.e. community or in this case Snow Pond.

The truth is, I think Snow Pond has this - that sense of place! The recipe for our place includes programs that draw together individuals, who most likely would have never met, such as a boy from the rural town of China, Maine who's realizing his dream of taking cello lessons with a teenager from Shanghai in the People's Republic of China. It's just plain fun that dissolves barriers when sharing s'mores on a summer evening by the lake. Or by combining seniors and elemetary school children from Central Maine to make music together with African drums.



Now offering activities throughout the four seasons, Snow Pond provides that sense of place by bringing together ice fishing enthusiasts, pond hockey players, a range of dinners and tastings, live bands and fundraising events for our Sidney neighbors and many others.

Join Snow Pond in 2020 and we will continue to watch the magic unfold together. To arrange for a tour, discuss a fundraising event on the Snow Pond campus, or to become a sponsor, please contact me at christine.durgin@snowpond.org.

Looking forward to seeing you at Snow Pond!

Christine Durgin
Community Development

"The Snow Pond staff has been nothing shy of amazing. They opened their arms and offered to host and advise our 1st ever fundraising event for Project Playground. Their willingness left myself as president and the other members of the PTO here at James H Bean speechless at times. Their support and dedication to the community is outstanding!"

Vanessa Doyon
PTO President, James Bean Elementary School





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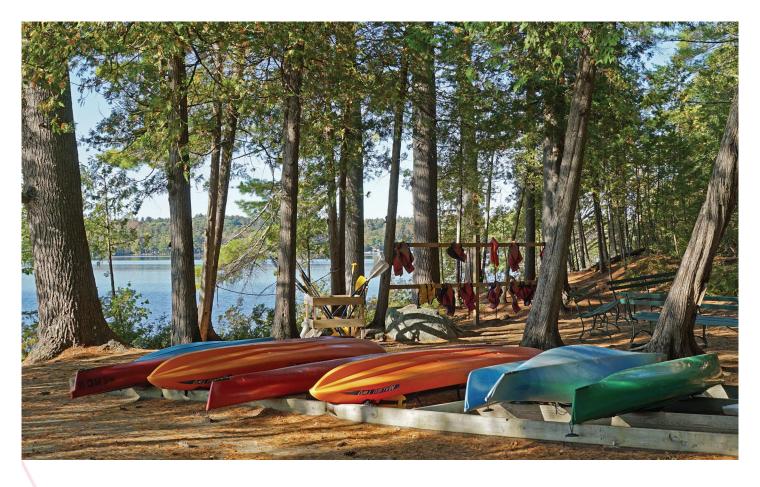
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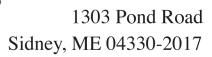
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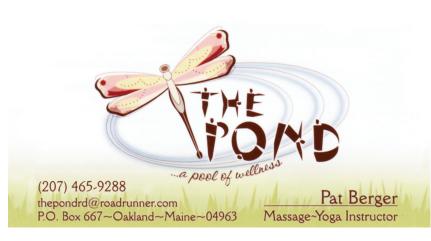
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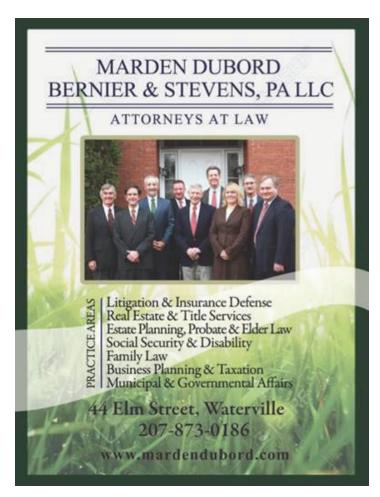
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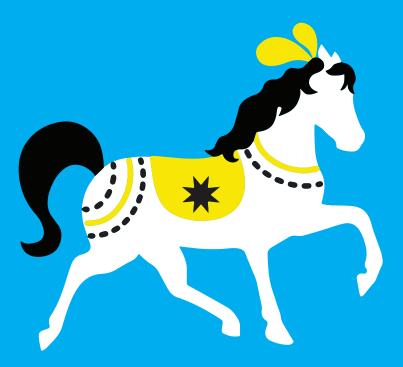
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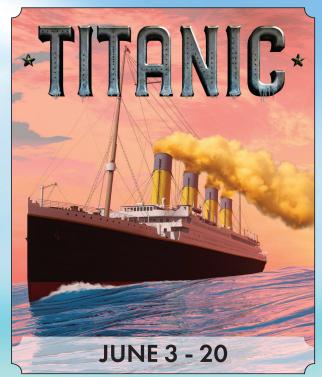


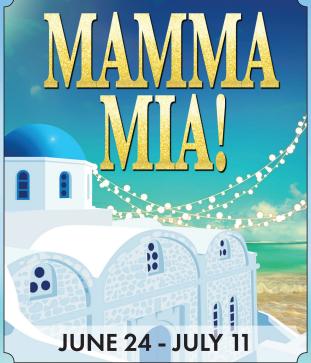
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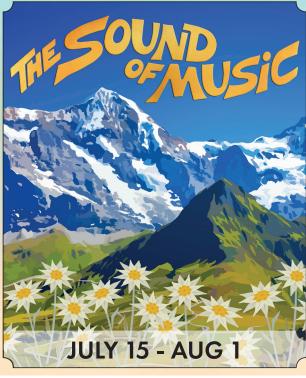
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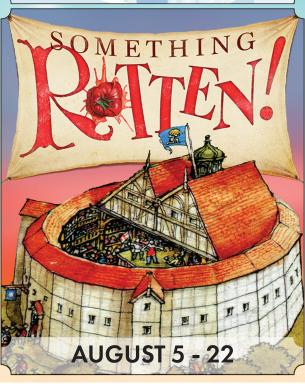
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