



South Coast Repertory

Theatre for Young Audiences

2016/17 SEASON • JULIANNE ARGYROS STAGE

MR. POPPERS'S PENGUINS

book by Robert Kaulzlaric

music & lyrics by George Howe

based on the novel by Richard and Florence Atwater

directed and choreographed by Art Manke

Nov. 4 - 20, 2016





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Julianne Argyros Stage • November 4 - 20, 2016

presents

MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS

BOOK BY

ROBERT KAUZLARIC

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY

GEORGE HOWE

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY

RICHARD & FLORENCE ATWATER

SET DESIGNER

**KEITH
MITCHELL**

COSTUME DESIGNER

**ANGELA
BALOGH CALIN**

LIGHTING DESIGNER

**JOSH
EPSTEIN**

SOUND DESIGNER

**MICHAEL K.
HOOKER**

PUPPET DESIGN
AND DIRECTION

**SEAN T.
CAWELTI**

PRODUCTION
MANAGER

**JACKIE
S. HILL**

CASTING

**JOANNE
DENAUT, CSA**

STAGE MANAGER

**ROXANA
KHAN**

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

ALBY POTTS

DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER

ART MANKE

LEONA

ARONOFF-SADACCA

EDUCATION HONORARY PRODUCER

Snell & Wilmer
LAW OFFICES

CORPORATE HONORARY PRODUCER

WELCOME

Be sure to check out our website for the *Mr. Popper's Penguins* study guide, which features additional information about the play, plus a variety of other educational resources.

scr.org



KEEP COOL



The Theatre for Young Audiences program is made possible in part by a major grant from
THE SEGERSTROM FOUNDATION.

MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS was originally produced by Lifeline Theatre, Chicago, Illinois and premiered there in 2015. Copies of the novel MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS by Richard and Florence Atwater are available in print from Little Brown and in eBook from Open Road Media.

The Cast

(in alphabetical order)

Gentleman, Puppeteer SCOTT MCLEAN HARRISON
Mrs. Popper MARLENE MARTINEZ
Mr. Popper ALEX MILLER
Mr. Johnson, Delivery Guy, Barber,
Reporter, Policeman, Bus Driver, Theater Manager,
Sven Svenson, Admiral Drake, Puppeteer A.J. SCLAFANI
Radio Announcer, Puppeteer MILES TABER
Mrs. Callahan, Curator, Passenger,
Mr. Greenbaum, Copper, Puppeteer NICOLE WEBER

The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

For Your Information

NO BABES IN ARMS ALLOWED. Everyone must have a ticket; no children under the age of four for Theatre for Young Audiences performances.

To cause the least disruption, SCR patrons who have not entered the theatre when the performance begins will be asked to watch the monitors in the lobby until an appropriate break in the performance. Latecomers, as well as those who leave the theatre anytime during the performance, may be assisted to alternate seats by the House Manager at an appropriate interval and may take their assigned seats at intermission. SCR accepts no liability for inconvenience.

Special seating arrangements may be made for disabled patrons in advance by calling South Coast Repertory's Ticket Services Department at (714) 708-5555.

As a courtesy to all patrons, please turn off all electronic devices or switch them to non-audible mode before the performance begins.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this performance is strictly prohibited.

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South Coast Repertory

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PAULA TOMEI Managing Director

DAVID EMMES & MARTIN BENSON
Founding Artistic Directors

JOHN GLORE Associate Artistic Director
BIL SCHROEDER Marketing & Communications Director
LORI MONNIER General Manager
SUSAN C. REEDER Development Director
JOSHUA MARCHESI Production Manager

These folks are helping run the show backstage

DRAMATURG: Kat Zukaitis
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT: Natalie Figueredo
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: Mark Anthony Vallejo
COSTUME DESIGN ASSISTANT: Kaitlyn Kaufman
ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER:
Ginevra Lombardo
ASSISTANT SOUND DESIGNER: Ben Scheff
ASSOCIATE PUPPET DESIGNER: Jack Pullman
STAGE MANAGEMENT INTERNS:
Elena L. Perez, Thomas Nagata
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR: Dan Gold
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR: Sam Levey
A2/AUDIO ASSISTANT: Kay Matsuyama
AUTOMATION OPERATOR: Emily Kettler
DRESSER: Jessica Larsen
ASSISTANT PUPPET DESIGNERS: Mark Royston,
Morgan Rebane
ADDITIONAL WIG STAFF: Melanie Hinchee,
Jessyca Harper
ADDITIONAL COSTUME STAFF: Lalena Hutton,
Lauren Smith, Sarah Timm, J Wendy Wallace
ADDITIONAL SCENE SHOP STAFF: Dan Petrich,
Steve Baker
ADDITIONAL PUPPET BUILDERS: Lori Meeker,
Exely Dillingham, Greg Ballora, Kristin
Charney, Robyn Schultz
HOUSE MANAGER: David Nguyen

And these folks helped get it ready for you

THESE FOLKS BUILT THE SCENERY

Jon Lagerquist, TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
John Gaddis IV, ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Amanda Horak, MASTER CARPENTER
Alex Johnson, Matt MacCready, SCENIC CARPENTERS
Judy Allen, LEAD SCENIC ARTIST
Jennifer Stringfellow, Christine Salama,
SCENIC ARTISTS

THESE PEOPLE CREATED THE PROPS

David Saewert, PROP MASTER/ PROPERTY
SHOP MANAGER
Byron Bacon, PROPS BUYER
Brianna Catlin, Rachel Bennick, PROPERTIES ARTISANS

THE FOLLOWING MADE THE COSTUMES

Amy L. Hutto, COSTUME SHOP MANAGER
Laurie Donati, FULL CHARGE COSTUMER
Catherine J. Esera, CUTTER/DRAPER
Laura Caponera, WIG AND MAKEUP SUPERVISOR
Bert Henert, WARDROBE SUPERVISOR
Gillian Woodson, WIG AND MAKEUP TECHNICIAN

THIS GROUP DEALS WITH LIGHTS & SOUND

Lois Bryan, MASTER ELECTRICIAN
Andrew Stephens, Dan Gold, STAGE ELECTRICIANS
Will McCandless, SOUND AND VIDEO SUPERVISOR
Danielle Kisner, Sam Levey, SOUND ENGINEERS
Vincent Quan, PRODUCTION SUPPORT TECHNICIAN

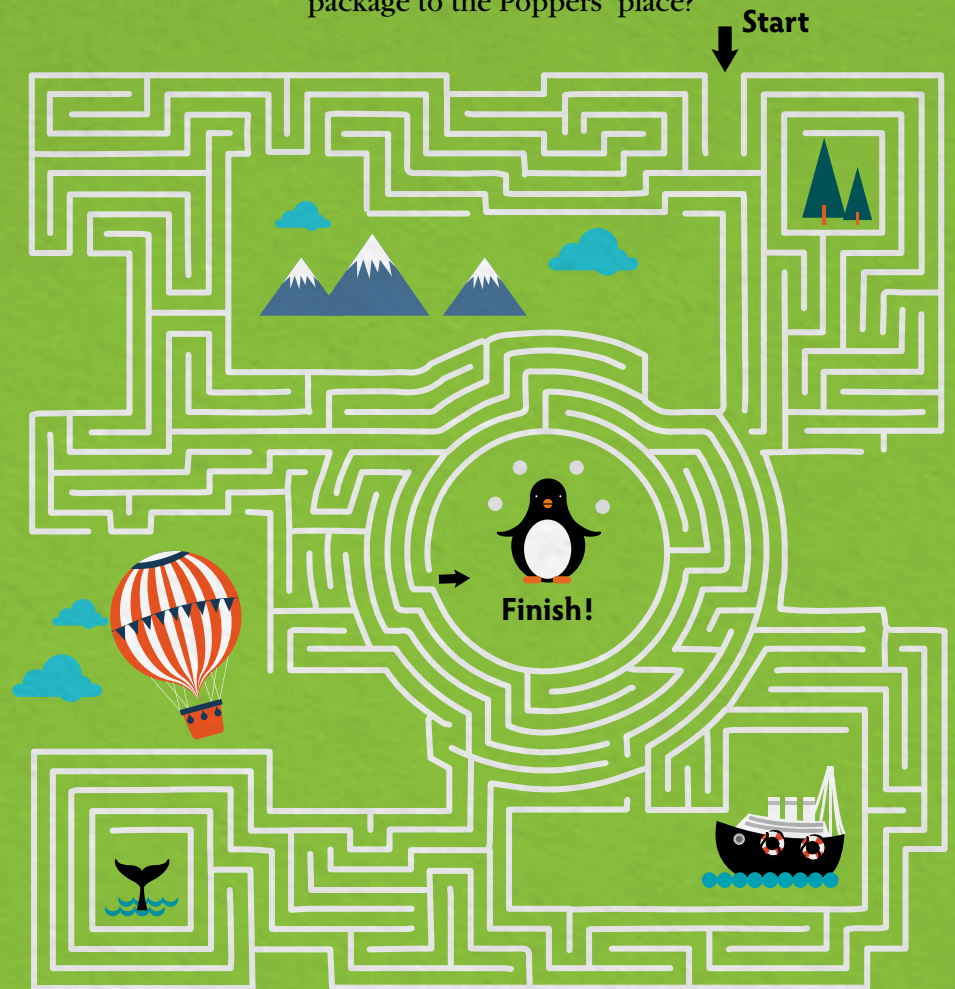
Songs

- Mr. Popper/A Thousand Miles Away.....Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Callahan,
Mrs. Popper, Mr. Popper
- A Rainbow 'Round the CornerMr. Popper, Captain Cook,
Mrs. Callahan, Reporter
- Build a HomeMr. Popper, Mrs. Popper,
Captain Cook, Greta, Ensemble
- DeterminationMrs. Popper, Mr. Popper, Penguins
- Popper's Performing PenguinsMrs. Popper, Mr. Popper,
Mr. Greenbaum, Theater Manager, Penguins
- FinaleMr. Popper, Mrs. Popper,
Mr. Greenbaum, Admiral Drake, Penguins
- Determination – reprise.....Company



A Package for the Poppers

There's a prettily packaged parcel for the Poppers and it's marked important! Can you help the postal carrier deliver this mysterious package to the Poppers' place?



What's the best piece of mail you've ever received? What's the best message (or present) you've ever sent someone else?



What's in a Name?

Mr. Popper names his penguins after famous explorers and expeditions. Here are a few of the namesakes for Popper's Performing Penguins. Can you match the historical figure with the description?



Queen Victoria



Ferdinand Magellan



Isabella of Castile



Captain Cook

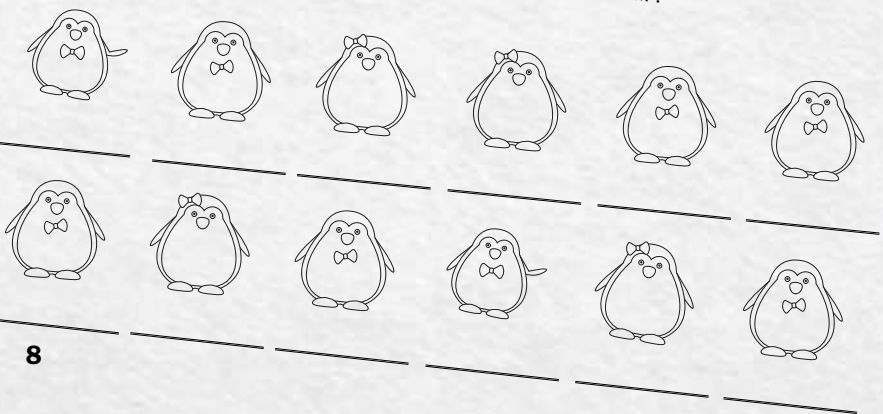


Christopher Columbus



Ferdinand of Aragon

Imagine that you have 12 penguins of your own. What would you name them? Try to come up with 12 names that have a theme. Then color in your penguins to give them some individual flair!



- A) This woman was queen of several important regions in Spain during the late 1500s. She is remembered as a powerful ruler who supported Christopher Columbus' expeditions to the New World.
(Hint: This was the most popular name for baby girls in the United States in 2009 and 2010.)
- B) An 18th-century British naval captain and explorer who led the first ship to cross the Antarctic Circle. He was notably kind to his men, and his ships were much cleaner and healthier than was usual at the time!
(Hint: Mr. Popper's first penguin is named after this man.)
- C) This Italian explorer set sail from Spain in 1492 with three ships—the Niña, the Pinta and the Santa Maria—and hoped to sail around the world to Asia. Instead, he was one of the first Europeans to land in the Americas.
(Hint: There's a national holiday named for him, which is celebrated on the second Monday of October.)
- D) This man ruled parts of Spain in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. With his wife, he supported Christopher Columbus' voyages to the Americas.
(Hint: He was married to Isabella of Castile.)
- E) This woman was one of the most famous queens of the United Kingdom. A territory in Antarctica, discovered in 1841, is named for her.
(Hint: She ruled from 1837 to 1901, making her the second-longest-reigning monarch in the history of the United Kingdom.)
- F) This Portuguese explorer led the first expedition to circumnavigate (sail all the way around) the world in the 1520s—although only one of his five ships made it all the way around the globe.
(Hint: He's got the same first name as the king in another clue.)

Who's Who in the Cast



SCOTT MCLEAN HARRISON
(GENTLEMAN, PUPPETEER)

I should have known I would grow up to be an actor: I used to sneak off with the family video camera to make home movies of myself playing twins in “The Adventures of Scott and Frott.” (I’m guessing you didn’t see that series, eh?). However, I always thought I wanted to be an architect. But then I acted in the high school play and, well...I do believe it changed my mind! After that, I studied

broadcast journalism at the University of Oklahoma before moving to New York City. I’ve done lots of TV, musicals and plays and have been able to perform all over North America. I’ve even worked with Disney and Nickelodeon, where I learned how to bring puppets to life by working with puppeteers from “Sesame Street.” Oh—and I just moved to your wonderful state a few months ago. Thank you for the sunshine!

MARLENE MARTINEZ
(MRS. POPPER)



As a little girl, I always was so excited to go to South Coast Repertory to see a matinee performance. Mostly because my parents would take me to McDonald's after the show... but also because I loved theatre! I would go home and practice all my favorite parts. So much so, that my mom would hide my tap shoes because they made too much 'noise'. I preferred to think of it as rhythmic music. Anyway, that didn't stop me. My life was a musical! I went on to study musical theatre and received my bachelor of fine arts from Cal State Fullerton. I even got to perform right here in Costa Mesa at Segerstrom Center for the Arts with the Broadway national tour of *Mamma Mia!* So keep on clicking your heels, with a shuffle ball change and time step, because it just might bring you back home!



ALEX MILLER
(MR. POPPER)

I am super excited to be back at SCR, where you may have seen me as James in *James and the Giant Peach*, the Prince in *The Prince and the Pauper* and Frog in *A Year with Frog and Toad*. Originally from chilly Chicago, I grew up performing in fun shows like *Oliver*, *Pippin* and *Mame*. I've also been on cool TV shows with my identical twin brother (yes, there are two of me!) like “Pushing Daisies” “Scare Tactics” and “Victorious.”

Because I am a huge animal lover, my sister and I have an animal ambulance business and we help furry creatures in need. Much love to my family and friends and the newest Poppers, Jarvis and Giselle. Enjoy the show!

A.J. SCLAFANI

(MR. JOHNSON, DELIVERY GUY,
BARBER, REPORTER, POLICEMAN,
BUS DRIVER, THEATER MANAGER,
SVEN SVENSON, ADMIRAL DRAKE,
PUPPETEER)



Hi, I’m A.J. and when I was little, I would pretend to be a ninja or a secret agent and I would fight the imaginary bad guys who were hiding throughout my house. I hoped that I would be able to be a clown or a ninja or a commando when I grew up; now that I’m an actor, I get to be all those things and more! I’ve been a knight, a jester, a cat, a monster and everything in-between in my years of acting! I grew up in Mission Viejo, but I’ve lived in San Diego, as well as Virginia, where I earned two masters degrees in Shakespeare. In addition to being an actor, I’m also a college professor. I hope you enjoy the show!

Artist Bios

MILES TABER

(RADIO ANNOUNCER, PUPPETEER)

Hi! How are you today? I hope you didn't answer that out loud, because I probably can't hear you. Especially if the play is happening right now—people can be touchy about talking during plays. I've been puppeteering for a pretty long time, and accidentally getting people to talk during plays for a very short time. I often puppeteer with a group called Rogue Artists Ensemble, but you can also see me puppeteering marine animals at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach and Izzy the Piranha Plant on the "Play Nintendo Show" web series. Penguins are pretty great, aren't they? Don't answer that one out loud, either. We both know the answer is yes, anyway.



NICOLE WEBER

(MRS. CALLAHAN, CURATOR, PASSENGER, MR. GREENBAUM, COPPER, PUPPETEER)

My first part in a play was in second grade, when my teacher, Mrs. Macmillan, asked me to play the role of a beetle with a golden coat. I guess you could say I was bit by the acting bug, because I've loved it ever since! My family moved a lot when I was a kid, so I also love to travel. I've lived in seven different states, including California

where I attended the Academy for the Performing Arts, a performing arts high school here in Orange County. After high school, I went on to get my bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of Texas, Arlington, and have continued to travel and act ever since! I've been in some films and TV shows, but mostly act in plays and have been able to perform in places like San Francisco, New York and even Edinburgh, Scotland. I hope you enjoy our show!



PLAYWRIGHT ROBERT KAUZLARIC. I live in Chicago with my wife, two cats, lots of books and a banjo. I fell in love with theatre in sixth grade, when I played a tiny little part in my elementary school's production of *Tom Sawyer*, and have acted ever since. I started writing plays when I was in college and have been lucky enough to get to make plays based on some pretty awesome books, like *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!* and *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed*, *Treasure Island* and *The Three Musketeers*. *Mr. Popper's Penguins* was one of my favorite books when I was a kid. It also was one of my dad's favorite books when he was a kid, so he loved to read it to me. My dad loved penguins almost as much as Mr. Popper does and I wrote this play in memory of him.

COMPOSER AND LYRICIST GEORGE HOWE. Some people are born into a family, but I wasn't. I was adopted when I was four weeks old and the couple that took me home—who loved and cared for me—are my mom and dad. That's kind of what happens in *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, isn't it? Both my parents loved the arts, so I grew up listening to a lot of music and going to plays. I lived about an hour outside of New York City and my earliest memories are of sitting in theatres and watching musicals. I loved the songs the best and my parents bought me recordings of Broadway musicals so I could learn them and sing them any time I wanted. I never thought that one day I'd be writing songs for musicals when I grew up. I think I'm a lucky guy because I can share my songs with people all across the country!

DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER ART MANKE grew up in Chicago, where he produced and directed his first play at the age of 11 in his best friend's garage. He continued to act, sing, dance and direct his way through high school, and was a theatre major in college; later, he studied acting in graduate school at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco. After moving to Los Angeles, he co-founded a classical theatre company called A Noise Within. Since then, he has directed many plays at SCR, including *Peter and the Starcatcher*. For television, he has directed several shows including "Hannah Montana."

MUSICAL DIRECTOR ALBY POTTS loves music. He began playing his first instrument in elementary school and knew right away he wanted to be a professional musician. He got his first paying musical job in the eighth grade and has been working ever since. Alby's first piano teacher taught lessons in her house, which her husband had built by hand around a gigantic tree. He made it out of found lumber, stones and junk and kept the tree trunk and lower branches in the living room. He had two grand pianos and the roof leaked when it rained, but nobody seemed to mind. Alby wrote a piano concerto at the age of 13 and his great junior high music teacher, "RO," let Alby perform it with the school orchestra. Teachers who encourage their students are the best! It makes a difference for the rest of your life, just like discipline and practicing. Enjoy the show!

SET DESIGNER KEITH MITCHELL returns to SCR, where he designed *Anastasia Krupnick*, *Junie B. Jones* and *A Little Monkey Business*, *Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!* and *Ben and the Magic Paintbrush*. Yeah, mostly shows with really long titles! He has designed sets for plays at many of the theatres in Los Angeles and around Southern California. He enjoys painting and recently illustrated a book, written by his friend JoAnn Dickinson, called *I Love to Go Camping*. Keith is an artistic associate of Rogue Artists Ensemble, a theatre group that makes shows with puppets, and he also is an Emmy Award-winning commercial art director. He spends his free time in a cabin that he shares with a bat, a tribe of chipmunks and a cadre of lizards. He is a University of Southern California Trojan alumnus, a member of the United Scenic Artists, Local 829 and the Art Directors Guild, Local 800.

COSTUME DESIGNER ANGELA BALOGH CALIN is very excited to be back at SCR and to collaborate with director Art Manke again. She has designed costumes and/or sets at SCR for 14 Theatre for Young Audiences shows and more than 35 other productions including *Abundance*, *The Whipping Man*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Rest*, *The Whale*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *Circle Mirror Transformation* and *Ordinary Days* among others. She also designed sets and costumes for more than 60 productions for Denver Center Theatre Company, A Noise Within, Milwaukee Repertory, The Old Globe, Pasadena Playhouse, Georgia Shakespeare and many local theatres and in her native Romania. She has worked extensively in film and television in the U.S. and Romania, having design credits with I.R.S. Media, Cannon Films, PBS, Full Moon Entertainment and Romanian Films. She graduated with an MFA in set and costume design from the Academy of Arts in Bucharest.

LIGHTING DESIGNER JOSH EPSTEIN has been working as a lighting designer for 16 years. In college at the University of Chicago, he studied political science and did theatre as a hobby. Although he always loved the performing arts, it wasn't until he moved to New York and got his MFA from NYU that his career really got started. Now he travels the country and designs lighting for shows from coast to coast. In Los Angeles, where Josh lives, he has worked at such places as the Mark Taper Forum, Pasadena Playhouse, Kirk Douglas Theater and Geffen Playhouse. In addition to designing, he also teaches lighting at UCLA. When he isn't working, Josh loves to spend every free moment with his wife and three daughters.

SOUND DESIGNER MICHAEL K. HOOKER is based here in Orange County. He actually started working with audio in elementary school because none of his teachers knew how to set up the cafeteria sound system. He now loves sound design as a career because very few people really know what it means. If he does a good job, you probably will hear every note and word in this wonderful show. He is most proud of the many shows he designed for Walt Disney Imagineering, all of which are in faraway Disneylands located in Paris, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong. He is a professor of sound design at the University of California, Irvine.

PUPPET DESIGNER AND DIRECTOR SEAN T. CAWELTI was just three years old when he convinced his parents to buy him his first puppet at a swap meet in

Orange County. Growing up, he was inspired by movies that told stories using puppets and he now is a professional puppet designer and director. He studied theatre at UC, Irvine and studied puppetry at the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. Sean is the artistic director for Rogue Artists Ensemble in Los Angeles, a theatre company dedicated to telling new stories with puppets, masks and media. He is the Center Theatre Group's 2015 Sherwood Award recipient and has won awards for directing, designing things and for writing. Sean is a member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829. seancawelti.com

STAGE MANAGER ROXANA KHAN was an evil witch in a play a long time ago. After a while, she realized she like being backstage quite a lot more. As a young girl, she took classes at SCR, and is so happy that she gets to work here as an adult. As a stage manager, she gets to help everyone on stage by making sure that everything going on backstage happens just right. She and her team work together to orchestrate the scenery, costumes, props, music or anything else you see or hear on stage. She went to school in California and England and has been able to work as a stage manager up and down the west coast, mostly at a big theatre in the forest of Oregon called the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

HONORARY PRODUCER LEONA ARNONOFF-SADACCA

South Coast Repertory is delighted to recognize Leona Aronoff-Sadacca as the Education Honorary Producer of *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, the opening show of this season's Theatre for Young Audiences series.

Leona is passionate about the importance of getting a good education. She came to America from France as a young girl and, although she didn't speak English when she arrived, she worked hard at school and grew to become a successful businesswoman. She believes that education is the foundation on which we build our future and that including the arts in our studies enriches our lives in many ways.

Leona also believes in the importance of sharing with others. By donating to SCR and helping to make this performance possible, she is sharing with you and hoping that your visit to the theatre is fun and that a seed will be planted in your imagination, inspiring you to always want to learn and do more.

Thank you Leona!



ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION, founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 50,000 professional actors and stage managers. Equity endeavors to advance the careers of its members by negotiating wages, working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits (health and pension included). Member: AFL-CIO, FIA. #EquityWorks.

American History in *Mr. Popper's Penguins*

The Great Depression



Mr. Popper's Penguins takes place in the 1930s, during the Great Depression, a time of poverty and hardship for many Americans. Historians link the beginning of the Depression to a stock market crash in 1929, which caused many people to lose their savings and their jobs. Like many other families, the Poppers worried about having enough money for food—even before they had to feed a bunch of penguins!

Works Progress Administration

During the Great Depression, President Franklin D. Roosevelt developed a plan to help boost America's struggling economy. He called it the New Deal. The Works Progress Administration, or WPA, was an organization created under the New Deal that was designed to put unemployed people back to work. In the play, Mrs. Popper looks for work with the WPA to help pay the bills during the winter months when Mr. Popper is unemployed.




Admiral Byrd

Mr. Popper's favorite explorer is Admiral Drake, who didn't really exist. The Admiral Drake in *Mr. Popper's Penguins* is based on a real-life explorer, though: an American aviator named Richard Byrd. Admiral Byrd led four expeditions to Antarctica and was the first person to fly over the North and South Poles. He became very famous for his achievements—and for the books he wrote about his adventures.




An Expedition of Your Own


In *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, Mr. Popper dreams of visiting the South Pole with his hero, the great explorer Admiral Drake. Imagine that you could travel anywhere in the world. What's your dream expedition?



Where would you go—and why?



What would you do once you arrived?



What would you bring with you on your expedition?
Pick three important (or special) items.



Period Pieces

Mr. Popper's Penguins is a period piece, meaning that it is a work of art that takes place in a particular era. In this case, the play is set in the 1930s, about 80 years ago. Many things have changed since then: the way we dress, dance, eat and even talk! The actors in *Mr. Popper's Penguins* must behave like people in the 1930s in order to put on a convincing performance.

Professional actors often are called upon to appear in period pieces, which can mean playing people from hundreds or even thousands of years ago: they could be courtiers in the Middle Ages, soldiers in the 1860s or immigrants in the 1990s. To immerse themselves fully in their characters, they need to learn about the history and culture of the people they're portraying. They also have to practice the movements and speech patterns of their characters, and get used to wearing period-appropriate costumes. It's a lot of work, but when the actors get it right, the audience gets treated to a pitch-perfect glimpse of a bygone era.

Many of the American theatre's best known plays are period pieces, either because they were written long ago or because a contemporary playwright chose to set a piece in the past. Students in SCR's Theatre Conservatory have the chance to explore a wide range of time periods in their classes. Recent Players productions have transported audiences to early 19th-century England with *David Copperfield*; 1930s New York City with *Annie*; early 20th-century London with *Peter Pan* and *Mary Poppins*; and late 19th-century India with *The Jungle Book*.

Have you seen other plays that you would describe as period pieces? How would those stories have been told differently if they took place today? If you wanted to create a period piece of your own, when would it take place? How would the words and behavior of your characters reflect that time period?

You can learn more about the challenges and rewards of period pieces in SCR's Theatre Conservatory. Check out the website at scr.org/classes, or call (714) 708-5577.

Student actors in the Players' production of *David Copperfield*.

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