



508 Main St., Laurel MD 20707

301-617-9906

Miss Bennet Christmas at PEMBERLEY

*by Lauren
Gunderson
and Margot
Melcon*



Directed by

Ilene Chalmers

Produced by

Maureen Rogers



*Clicking the QR code for more information on
upcoming performances and audition
opportunities*



Presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the
Dramatists Play Service collection.

Cast

Carly Brownstein

Mary

John Matherus

Arthur

Dana Fleischer

Lizzy;

Joseph Downs

Darcy

Jessie Duggan

Lydia;

Melanie Belkin

Jane

Andrew Rappa

Bingley

Jenny Ephruss

Anne

Lauren Barnes

Winifred the Maid

Heather Norden

Fanny the Maid



Production Staff

Ilene Chalmers	Director
Lori Bruun	Stage Manager/Assistant Director/ lighting design
Tatum Moss	Assistant Stage Manager/intimacy/ dialect coach
Maureen Rogers	Producer
Marge McGugan	Assistant to the Producer
David Chalmers	Set/Props
Linda Swann	Costumes
George Fulda	Piano arrangements and performance
Maureen Rault	Hair, makeup; dramaturgy
Dana Fleischer and Tatum Moss	Photography
Marge McGugan	Programs



Meet the Cast



Melanie Belkin (Jane) is thrilled to be joining the lovely cast and crew of *Christmas at Pemberley*. She is glad to live out her dream of finally being the voice of reason. She has performed on the stage before as Karma in *Laughing Stock* (LMP) and as Stephanie in *Web of Murder* (BCT). In her free time, she loves watching shows, playing video games, and taking naps. She would like to formally apologize to her cat, Misha, for being away so many evenings during the rehearsal process. Many thanks to her wonderful friends and family!



Lauren Barnes (Winifred the Maid) has made her return to the stage after many, many, (many) years away. She recently played Verna Volker in LMP's *Laughing Stock* and is excited to be back for her second LMP production. She also just performed with BCT in their last production, *Web of Murder*. Her favorite role, however, is still Mom to her 3 awesome kids. She would like to thank her family for their sacrifices and unwavering support, and her friends (new and old) for the “gentle” nudging to continue to pursue this hobby that brings her so much joy and excitement.



Carly Brownstein (Mary Bennet) is happy to be returning to Laurel Mill Playhouse! Previous roles include Abigail in *The Crucible* (Silhouette Stages), Mary in *Laughing Stock* (Laurel Mill Playhouse), and Angel in *No Laughing Matter* (Greenbelt Arts Center). She would like to thank her family and friends for their support and the cast and crew for making this such a wonderful experience! Enjoy the show!



Joe Downs (Fitzwilliam Darcy) is pleased—indeed, exceedingly pleased—to reprise this role at Laurel Mill Playhouse. Recent performances include *No Laughing Matter* (Bill Williams) at the Greenbelt Arts Center and *The Wisdom of Eve* (Tally-Ho Thompson) here at LMP. Joe also lent his stage-combat skills to *Into the Woods* with Second Star Productions. He extends his heartfelt thanks to the cast and crew for proving themselves decidedly more than merely tolerable.



Jessie Duggan (Lydia) is excited to return to LMP where she was last seen as Clea in “*Black Comedy*” and as a dog in “*Sylvia*.” Previous credits include Annabella/Pamela/Margaret in “*The 39 Steps*” (MCP, VCC), Aggie in “*The Games Afoot*” (Cockpit in the Court) and Jean in “*POTUS*” (STS). Unlike Lydia, Jessie spends far too many hours reading science! She sends all her love and thanks to her friends and family, especially her Alex, for their continued support. Thank you to the cast and crew for being such fun to work with!



Jenny Ephrussi (Anne de Bourgh) is delighted to make her Laurel Mill Playhouse debut, and what better way to do it than by lurking around Pemberley with impeccable posture and just a hint of aristocratic angst? Her most recent roles include Ruth in *Blithe Spirit*, several delightfully unhinged characters in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, and Olivia in *Twelfth Night*. She's enjoyed the chance to explore everything from classic comedy to modern musical theatre and couldn't be more delighted to join such a funny and warm-hearted holiday production. She hopes you enjoy your time at Pemberley!



Dana Fleischer (Elizabeth) considers herself so lucky to have the chance to portray Elizabeth for the second time. A few past credits include Craig in *Laughing Stock* (LMP), Bernadette in *POTUS* (STS), Marianne in *Absence of a Cello* (BCT), Elizabeth in *Pride & Prejudice* (LMP), and Corie in *Barefoot in the Park* (LMP). Huge shout out to her friends and family for putting up with her schedule. She hopes you enjoy this show even half as much as she's enjoyed working on it.



John Mathews (Arthur) is thrilled to return to LMP for his third show. Previously, he was seen here at LMP as Lloyd in *Noises Off* and Chris/Inspector in *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Chris/Inspector.) Other recent favorites include Actor in *The Woman in Black* (PWLT), Alexei in *No Laughing Matter* (GAC), and Arbuthnot in *Murder on the Orient Express* (RCP). He would like to thank Black (Linda and his family for their undying support, this amazing cast and creative team for making this such a fun experience, Maddie for being her amazing self, and his car for all the great times driving to and from Glen Burnie and Ilene's basement.



Heather Norden (Fanny) is excited to be back at LMP serving up lots of laughs in this funny and heartwarming show! Previous roles include Daisy in *Laughing Stock*, Leila in *The Wisdom of Eve* and Poppy in *Noises Off* at LMP, Mrs. Phelps in *Matilda* (2nd Star) and Mrs. McCarthy in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Upstage Artists). She'd like to thank her husband and son, both Archibald (a fine regency name!), for supporting her love of theater, and this very talented group of actors and creators for making Pemberly such a fun place to be!



Andrew Rappa (Bingley) is happy to be back with a performance here at the Laurel Mill Playhouse with Ilene Chalmers and Friends! You will probably remember him most recently (and without an accent!) performing at the Bowie Playhouse with Bowie Community Theater as Keith Latimer in *Web of Murder*. His other BCT credits include *The Last Night at Ballyhoo* as Joe Farkas (2019), *Wait Until Dark* as Roat (2022), and as Frank Lubey in *All My Sons* (2023) all under Ilene Chalmers' direction. Andrew's other recent credits were performing as Tim in *Noises Off* (2024) and as Clement in *The Wisdom of Eve* (2025) at Laurel Mill Playhouse. Andrew would like to thank his friends, cast, and crew, for all their efforts putting this show together and making this such a fun show to be a part of.

Meet the Production Crew

Ilene Chalmers (Director) Ilene is delighted to be back at Laurel Mill Playhouse for her 6th time in the position of director. Her most recent production at LMP was *Sylvia*. Ilene directed *The Absence of a Cello*, *Wait Until Dark* and *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* at the Bowie Playhouse for Bowie Community Theatre. The summer of 2018 Ilene was one of three female directors for BCT's "Year of the Woman" where she directed *Becky's New Car* which garnered two W.A.T.C.H. Award nominations. Ilene was seen in *Jekyll & Hyde the Musical* this past April in the role of Lady Savage and directed *12 Incompetent Jurors* at Laurel Mill Playhouse where she also directed *An Inspector Calls* in 2017 and *I Hate Hamlet* in 2016. Ilene holds a degree in Theater from the University of Maryland, College Park and has over 50 years of experience in acting, directing and teaching. Ilene's acting credentials include Mrs. Morehead in *The Women* and Madge Geisel in *The Game's Afoot* at Spotlighters Theatre in Baltimore. She's also been seen as Aunt Tilly in *It's a Wonderful Life*, Mrs. Boyle in *Prelude to a Kiss* and multiple roles in *Love, Loss and What I Wore* at HCC Arts Collective in Columbia, MD, Dorie in *Ferris Wheel*, Soupy Sue in *Urinetown the Musical* and the Prosecuting Attorney in *The Exonerated* while living in Connecticut, just to name a few. Ilene has also been a staff writer for DC Metro Theater Arts. Ilene would like to thank her incredibly talented group of actors and creatives who made this such a fun journey. Ilene would like to thank David, her super creative set construction and designing husband, for his constant love, talent and support. I feel exceedingly blessed to have you in my life.





Lori Bruun (Assistant Director/Stage Manager) is excited to be working on another *Pride and Prejudice* related show. She has previously stage-managed *Pride and Prejudice* and more recently performed as Mr. Collins at LMP. In addition to stage managing numerous shows at LMP and a few others at the Bowie Playhouse and for Best Medicine Rep, she directed a few one acts, *Winter*, and the clever and physical comedy, *Black Comedy* at LMP. As always, she is awed by the talented cast and all the creatives who have donated their time and effort to make this show happen. She is grateful to her husband for his support.



Tatum Moss (Dialect Coach & Intimacy Choreography) is excited to be working together with Ilene & Lori again! She is a local playwright and director who has previously directed *Twelve Angry Jurors*, *The Wisdom of Eve*, *Spider's Web*, *Afflicted: Daughters of Salem*, *Laughing Stock*, and her original play, *House*. Tatum would like to thank her friends and family for their continued support, the cast for being so extraordinary, as well as Ilene and Lori for opening their arms and welcoming her into this magnificent production! joy the show!



Linda Swann (Costumer) is happy to be once again playing in the sandbox with LMP and all the folks here. You have probably seen her work at other places such as Greenbelt Arts Center, where she recently finished *Hot L Baltimore*, Anne Arundel Community College with Pasadena Theater Company's *Narnia*, and in Bowie working with Bowie Community Theater on *Web of Murder*, though she has also worked with many other groups up and down the Washington /Annapolis corridor. When not playing with living Barbie dolls she can be found in AACPS teaching young minds how to think critically. She'd like to thank God for giving her this chance to work once again with Ilene and this wonderful group of people. Enjoy the show.



Maureen Roult (hair and makeup) has been designing for several companies throughout the DC area for several years. She particularly enjoys period hairstyles, with Regency being one of her favorites. Her next design project will be VLOC's *The Elixir of Love*, for which she'll also be in the ensemble.

Next at Laurel Mill Playhouse



PRODUCED BY MAUREEN ROGERS

Coming in February 2026



By the Way...

MEET VERA STARK

by Lynn Nottage

Directed by
Lorraine
Brooks



Produced by
Maureen
Rogers



February 20 - March 15, 2026

Laurel Mill Playhouse, 508 Main St., Laurel, MD 20707

www.laurelmillplayhouse.org

A story of ambition, talent, and pride - and the
Hollywood system that held it back.

What's your Super Power?

Acting? Carpentry? Light Design? Sewing?



Volunteer NOW to help with our productions

Sign up on our website www.laurelmillplayhouse.org

Singing Opportunity for Women

Chesapeake Harmony Chorus loves to sing and invites you to visit a rehearsal. We are a women's singing group based in the greater **Annapolis MD**, area. We sing four-part acapella harmony in the barbershop style and are a chapter of **Sweet Adelines International**. We rehearse at Historic Baldwin Hall in Millersville, Md, every Wednesday night at 7:pm. For more information about visiting a rehearsal or joining the chorus, please contact us at Membership1@ChesapeakeHarmony.org.



LAUREL MILL PLAYHOUSE

508 Main Street, Laurel, MD 20707

Reservations - Visit us at: www.laurelmillplayhouse.org

OUR HISTORY

Burtonsville Players Inc., doing business as Laurel Mill Playhouse, is a non-profit, tax exempt (501c3) status, community theater group. Originally organized thirty five years ago as the Burtonsville Players Inc., Laurel Mill Playhouse recently bought and completely renovated a 100 year old building in the middle of historic Laurel, Maryland. This makes Laurel Mill Playhouse one of the few community theater organizations to own their own facility.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide the community with the opportunity to expand the cultural base of the quad-county area. We do this through theater arts, combining music, art, dance, youth, and senior activities.

Our group has the determination to provide space and resources to foster a creative environment.

Our encouragement of individuals to be challenged by new works and skills will lead to discovery and expansion of creative potential in the community.

Our goal is to provide training and initiate outreach opportunities within the counties we serve.

Board of Directors

Corporate Officers

Marvin Rogers – President

Larry Simmons – Vice-President

Diana Simmons – Secretary

Michael Hartsfield – Director

Lorraine Brooks – Director

Lori Bruun – Director

Marge McGugan – Costumes

**Maureen Rogers – Artistic Director
and Public Liaison**



**A proud member of WATCH AND AACT
and Laurel Board of Trade**

Lmp508main@gmail.com

301-617-9906

www.laurelmillplayhouse.org