

Peoria Players Theatre 2019 Board Nominees

Tim Chambers



I first became involved with Peoria Players Theatre in 2015 as a cast member of *Damn Yankees*. What was just supposed to be a quick appearance in the opening number turned into so much more. Like many PPT members, I have been onstage, worked backstage, hauled trash, built sets, made supply runs, learned to apply makeup, and attended cast parties of shows which I wasn't even associated.

The 100th season was an exciting time to be involved with PPT. This season alone, I am proud to have been a cast member of 3 shows, helped with renovation projects, and served on the social committee. Previously, I served on play selection committee for the 2016-2017 season.

Peoria Players Theatre and its members have given me so much over the past 4 years. I would love the opportunity to give back through a position on the Board of Directors. I understand the experience to transition from a completely new member to an engaged part of the community and would like to help enable other newcomers do the same. I appreciate your consideration and would be honored to serve you and the theatre as a member of the Board. **TIM IS THE ONE ON THE LEFT IN THE PICTURE.*

John Donlan



My name is John Donlan and I am running for my second term on the Peoria Players board. I have been serving as vice president for the past two years, as well as chairman of the set construction committee. I believe in the last four years that I have served on the board that we have accomplished great things for Peoria Players.

I became involved in Peoria Players about ten years ago when my daughters began performing. Over the years I have come to love being a part of this community. I have a range of experience with the theater as the parent of performers, actor, stage manager and other areas of the show production. In addition, I have obtained donations for several shows and as a business owner as a dentist, have many contacts in the community. I believe these attributes make me a valuable member of the board.

I look forward to continue working with the current and newly elected board members and to keep the theater a jewel for this community.

Troy Hamilton



Hello, my name is Troy Hamilton, and I am thrilled to run for the Board of Directors for Peoria Players.

My first involvement with theatre was the show *Rock of Ages*. I was very proud to be a part of the 99th Season as well as the 100th Season in the production of *Elf*. I'm absolutely hooked on the process. The people and family type of atmosphere it provides is the main reason why I love spending time here. Prior to the theatre I was in several Rock Bands including 7West and The Midnight Special.

I'd be honored and thrilled to take on the big responsibility of being on the board and bringing a different perspective. I would always represent the theatre's best interests at heart while standing up for what I believe in as well. As a musician in Central Illinois for 15 years, I'm able to bring that unique perspective to the group. I respectfully hope to get your vote. I promise to work hard and make my time with this amazing community of people worth it. Thank you!

Bill Kalman



I was born in Rock Island, IL and grew up in a small town outside of the Quad Cities named Orion from 3rd grade on. My father owned the pharmacy in Orion and I would work there a few hours a week starting in junior high. In high school, I developed a love for theater when I participated in three plays and three musicals. With the theater department we also took two field trips a year to Circa 21 dinner theater matinee performances where I was exposed to semi professional productions. After high school I attended the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy. My love for theater and the arts grew in college with season tickets every year to Hancher Auditorium in Iowa City. I graduated the University of Iowa College of Pharmacy in 1990 and moved to Peoria. I took a job with SuperX Pharmacy which later

became Revco then CVS Pharmacy. I worked for them as a staff pharmacist 2 years and a pharmacist-in-charge for 12 years. While at CVS I met Monica Kube and we were married in 2002 and settled in Germantown Hills. In 2003 we had our first child, Helaina. I left CVS in 2003 to work for Hometown Pharmacy in Creve Coeur and Chillicothe for 6 years as a pharmacist-in-charge. We had our second child, Hunter, in 2005. Hometown Pharmacy had to close with a change in Caterpillar's in-network pharmacies. I returned to CVS for three years before joining Essential Wellness Pharmacy in 2013. In 2015, Monica and I purchased Essential Wellness Pharmacy. In 2017, I had the joy of being in my first community theater production with my daughter, *Bye Bye Birdie*, at Corn Stock Theatre. I played Maude the bartender and a shiner. I also have been in the Peoria Players productions of *The Wizard of Oz* as the Winkie General and *Elf* as Mr. Greenway. I have helped behind the scenes with set construction on multiple productions at both Corn Stock and Players as well as stage crew and assistant stage manager on several other productions. My years of being a pharmacist-in-charge and being an owner of a small business have given me management skills and increased business sense, combined with my love of theater, which can bring a different skillset to the Peoria Players Theatre board to further the success and promote growth for the theater during the coming years.

Chris Paternoga



Hi, I am Chris Paternoga and I'm running for my second term on the Peoria Players Theatre board. I am so honored to be asked to run again and I look forward to the opportunity of serving on the board another term.

I have been involved with the Peoria theatre world since 2003, when my daughter was in CCT. I had the privilege of serving on their board for several years until our family moved to Indiana, where I was involved with local theatre there. Upon returning to the Peoria area I jumped back into my home at PPT and earned a position on this board.

I am a behind the scenes character - designing and building sets. I also enjoy helping out on any committee or really wherever I'm needed. I helped design the new lobby and saw it through completion, along with painting the inner lobby and sprucing things up. There's more I'd like to see to completion!! I would appreciate your vote for another term on your Peoria Players Board and my opportunity to serve you!!

Tyler Smith



My name is Tyler Smith, and I am running for the Board of Directors for Peoria Players Theatre. I consider Peoria Players to be my second home and I want to continue to help serve the theatre and the community of Peoria in every way that I can.

My first encounter with Peoria Players was in a Community Children's Theatre production in 2009. At that time I was 11 years old. Needless to say, I've been hooked ever since.

After participating in Community Children's Theatre for several years, I auditioned for my first adult show, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, in 2009. I was fascinated by how many adults came together to make the show a success. I continued to perform in other shows, including

The Wedding Singer, A Christmas Carol: The Musical, Meet Me in St. Louis, Cinderella, Damn Yankees, Beauty and the Beast, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, and most recently, West Side Story.

In addition to performing onstage, I have participated in several fundraisers, worked backstage, and have also worked on sets.

Even though I have never served on the board of directors at Peoria Players, I am currently involved in the following activities:

- I serve on the Board of Directors for the Metamora Thespian Society.
- I am a member of the Social Committee at Corn Stock Theatre.
- I teach and direct drama at Chesterton Academy of the Sacred Heart High School in Peoria, Illinois.

- I am an assistant director of the musicals at both St. Philomena Grade School and Metamora High School.

I believe that I am an excellent candidate for a position on the Board of Directors for Peoria Players Theatre for the following reasons:

- **Conceptual Thinker** – I am a fast learner, and I am also intellectually adaptable to different situations and concepts. These abilities help to qualify me for the challenge of successfully succeeding as a board member for Peoria Players.
- **Tough-Minded** – I am a tough-minded individual who does not dwell on disappointments. I am also capable of functioning normally in unpleasant environments and circumstances, which allows me to keep focused even when there are distractions and inconveniences. These traits will enable me to effectively handle any difficult conditions and circumstances that I will encounter as a board member for Peoria Players.
- **Assertive** – I am an assertive individual who enjoys convincing others to consider my position and point of view. This trait is clearly an asset for any person whose goal is to help Peoria Players Theatre continue to grow and thrive in the future.
- **Self-Sufficient** – I am resourceful, decisive, self-reliant, and independent. This is another positive trait for an individual who wishes to be a valuable board member for Peoria Players.
- **Endurance** – I am the type of person who is willing to exert sustained effort and persistence to accomplish the tasks and goals of any organization that I am associated with. This trait, combined with my energetic and determined approach to everything that I do, will help me to serve the Peoria Players Theatre in a meaningful and productive way.
- **Loyal** – I am an individual who is devoted and loyal to my family, friends, and the people that I work with. I am both honest and responsible, and I am not afraid to stand up for and support the people that I'm associated with. This trait will help the board to operate in an efficient and cohesive manner.

I am pleased and honored to be a candidate for the Board of Directors for Peoria Players Theatre. If you elect me to the board, I will diligently work at serving and promoting Peoria Players Theatre and the community that it represents.

I would greatly appreciate your vote to elect me as a board member for Peoria Players. I promise that I will work hard to make sure that the next 100 years of Peoria Players Theatre will be as exciting, profitable, and entertaining as the first 100 years were.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Laura Steffey



Hi and Hello from Laura Steffey! I am so energized to be running for a seat on the Board of Directors of Peoria Players Theatre.

I credit my love of music and theatre to my beloved mother. Our house and car rides were always jamming to music and especially show tunes. She was so talented and I am so grateful that she passed along her love and interest to me. She would cast me as 'an extra' in the events she planned and was my biggest supporter when I found my own stage legs in high school performing in over 8 productions. I continued my involvement with Artistic Community Theatre in Pekin and served on the Board of Directors for many years. I took a hiatus to raise a family and was thrilled when my daughter became involved in theatre at her high school. I spent the next 4 years being a theatre mom helping and teaching the students about back stage etiquette and managing props, etc. The theatre bug struck again in 2012 when my daughter and I were cast in *Hairspray* at CST. I was again, hooked!

I was beyond thrilled to be a part of *Mamma Mia!* – wow, what an experience, *The Wizard of Oz*, where I was also trusted with being Production Secretary. I was PS for *Elf*, *The Musical* as well. Good Times!

I've been trying to find a way to become more involved with Peoria Players Theatre and I look at this as an opportunity to learn, help and grow. I am ready to jump in with both feet and help where I can. I've helped behind the scenes (set building & painting) and volunteered at shows with raffle sales but I WANT TO DO MORE.

It would be an honor and a privilege to have your vote. Thank you and I truly appreciate your consideration and here's to our mutual love of all things theatre!