

Welcome to *Katie's Hope*

We're so excited that you are considering being a part of Sycamore Tree Theatre Company's 2024 production of *Katie's Hope*. This musical was almost 9 years in the making before it was first produced 10 years ago in 2014. Written by Tom and Denise Diffie, composed by Lorilee Brasseur, and arranged by Steve Richards, this original musical provides us with a vehicle for reaching our communities with a message of hope and the importance of trusting in God as our world changes around us. It allows us to provide a way for people who might not ever step inside a church to make a connection with CrossPointe Church so that when they have a need they will know where they can go.

Everyone has gifts and talents. Yes, a production like this requires actors and musicians, but it also requires seamstresses and researchers, ushers and technicians, designers and greeters, carpenters and graphic artists, marketers and cooks, bakers and servers of all sorts. It needs people who will pray for those involved and for those who will attend, people who will prepare meals and people who will help promote it so others will come.

Of course, as with any worthwhile endeavor, your involvement will cost you something, whether it is simply time that you aren't using elsewhere or it is giving up some other activity for a short period of time. We hope that the excitement of this production will be so infectious that you will decide it is worth that cost.

We would love for you to join us in this adventure.

- *Katie's Hope* Production Team

David Potter	david.potter@sycamoretreetheatre.org
Denise Diffie	diffie5@comcast.net
Michelle Potter	michelle.potter@sycamoretreetheatre.org
Steve Richards	stevesdg@msn.com
Tom Diffie	diffie5@comcast.net

P.S. To stay up to date with information about the production, visit www.SycamoreTreeTheatre.org.

Synopsis: *Katie's Hope*

The McCleery family, in 1847, arrives at the dock in Cove, Ireland to await the ship that will take them from their famine-torn homeland. There, they join a diverse group of fellow immigrants hoping to escape the starvation and disease sweeping the land. As they gather and wait, the McCleerys – husband and wife, Sean and Katie, and their children; 17-year-old Shannon, 13-year-old Paddy, and precocious 8-year-old Molly – along with their fellow passengers, lament the fate that is driving them from their homeland, but express their hopes and dreams for a better life in America. Katie, especially, is having a difficult time leaving her parents and her home. Despite their dire circumstances, a joyful Irish spirit and resiliency shine through as the immigrants hold a Ceili – a party – on the night before they leave Ireland.

The McCleerys and their fellow immigrants board the ship and endure more hardship and heartache as they make the long, tortuous crossing to America. But they continue to cling to Hope, and if someone brings out the “whistle and the fiddle” they try to keep up their spirits with a little Irish dance. When they finally arrive in a rather inhospitable New York City at Christmastime, though, will they find the hope and new life they seek?

Katie's Hope is an award-winning musical, and a work of historical fiction, with an alternately heart-warming and heart-breaking script; soaring Irish music; spirited choreography and dance; and a stirring message of hope and faith, and the indomitable Irish spirit.

Don't miss *Katie's Hope*, a Christmas musical from Sycamore Tree Theatre coming in November 2024.

KATIE'S HOPE

CAST

Katie McCleery	An Irish Immigrant; 35 - 45; wife to Sean, mother to Shannon, Paddy, and Molly. [soloist]
Sean McCleery	Irish Immigrant; 35 - 45; husband to Katie, father to Shannon, Paddy, and Molly. [soloist]
Shannon McCleery	Katie and Sean's 18-year-old daughter. A pretty Irish lass.
Paddy McCleery	Katie and Sean's 13-14-year-old son. Typical young teenager.
Molly McCleery	Katie and Sean's 7-8-year-old daughter. Dark-haired, precocious, and full of energy.
Daniel Bronagin	A wise, older gentleman emigrating to America. Late 50s-70s.
Martin Cullin	An irascible gentleman - 50s-60s. [soloist]
Joanna Cullin	Martin's wife. A sweet, long-suffering woman. She knows how to handle Martin. Approx. same age.
Michael O'Neal	Young man emigrating to America. Early 20s. Optimistic and good-natured. [soloist]
John O'Neal	Michael's younger brother. 17 - 18. [possible soloist]
Telford McCann	John and Michael's friend. Early 20s.
Annie Moore	15-year-old Irish girl. Mature for her age. Emigrating to America with her two younger brothers, for whom she is responsible.
Phillip and Anthony Moore	Annie's brothers. Approx. 9 and 11.
Kathleen	A little orphaned girl in New York City. Approx, 7-8 years old. Very blonde hair, and she wears a cast-off blue and green sequined costume (theatre) dress. She is one of a group of orphans.
Orphans	A group of 10 to 12 orphan children in New York City who keep together. Various ages from 6 to 16 years old - girls and boys. (Some can double as "extra" children on the dock in Ireland and on the ship.)
Mr. Shively	The gruff, unlikable landlord of a run-down New York tenement.
Immigrants (Ensemble singers)	Fellow travelers to New York City - on the dock, on the ship, and in the tenements. (Approx. 12 to 16 in number.)

Audition Process for *Katie's Hope*

EVERYONE please read and fill out the Audition Questionnaire and bring it to your audition! If you are under 18, please indicate your age!

New to Sycamore Tree Theatre

If we have NOT seen you audition or perform with us in the past, please sign up to audition on either MONDAY, JUNE 3rd or WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5th beginning at 6:30 pm.

- **Speaking / Ensemble Role:** Prepare a 2-minute (approx.) memorized monologue and a 1–2-minute song. Note: There is only one speaking role who does not also sing in the ensemble (Mr. Shively in Act 3)
- **Ensemble-Only Role:** Prepare a 1–2-minute song. Please provide your own accompaniment or perform a cappella.
- Keep Saturday, June 8th open for a **callback**. We will let you know if you should be there on Saturday.

Returning Cast Member

If we HAVE seen you audition or perform with us in the past:

- Please indicate your interest in this show by signing up on the SATURDAY sheet and mark "Speaking/Ensemble" or "Ensemble Only".
- Be here on Saturday, June 8th.

Note, however, that if you would like to prepare a monologue and a song, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DO SO. Perhaps you feel that you have grown in your craft and want to show us something new. Or maybe you've been in the ensemble but would like to audition for a speaking role. (Or maybe you just enjoy memorizing monologues!)

If this is the case, then please sign up for either Monday, June 3rd or Wednesday, June 5th...and also be here on Saturday, June 8th.

Why we do it this way

Dividing the audition process between those we have seen and those we have not does, in no way, give preferential treatment to those we've worked with before. We do this simply to save time. The audition process exists, in part, to show the directors something they haven't seen before, so a monologue and song from those we've already seen is not particularly useful in this case.

The Audition Process

Saturday, June 8th from 9:00 am to about 2:00 pm, is where we will get down to the business of casting specific roles. We will have a GROUP ensemble and choreography audition for both adults and children during the first part of the day, and cold readings of scenes from the musical during the second part of the day. If you are auditioning for an "ensemble only" role, you will be free to leave after the first session.

- If you are interested in a specific role, let us know. But we will also be putting different people and groups of people together to read for different roles in order to help us make casting decisions.
- If you are a young girl who desires to audition for the role of either Molly or Kathleen, we will hand out a scene or two from the script with which you can familiarize yourself before the Saturday audition.
- Casting will hopefully be complete and cast list made available by June 18th.

Final note: MAKE SURE we have your email address! AND be sure to read your emails. This is how we will communicate with you in most cases.

Katie's Hope 2024

May 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 Info Meeting 7:00	10	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

Katie's Hope 2024

June 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Auditions 6:30-8:30	4	5 Auditions 6:30-8:30	6	7	8 Callbacks (by invitation) 9:00-1:00
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Father's Day	17	18 Casting Results Available	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Katie's Hope 2024

July 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Katie's Hope 2024

August 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Prod Mtg 2:00-4:00	26	27	28	29	30	31

Katie's Hope 2024

September 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7 Kickoff 10:00-4:00
8	9 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	10 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	11	12 Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	13	14
15 All Cast Rehearsal 3:00-6:00	16 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	17 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	18	19 Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	20	21
22 All Cast Rehearsal 3:00-6:00	23 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	24 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	25	26 Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	27	28
29 All Cast / Orch 3:00-6:00	30 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30					

Katie's Hope 2024

October 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	2	3 Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	4	5
6 All Cast Rehearsal 3:00-6:00	7 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30 <i>Columbus Day</i>	8 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	9	10 Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	11	12
13 All Cast / Orch 3:00-6:00	14 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	15 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	16	17 Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	18	19 Choreo Rehearsal 2:30-5:30
20 All Cast Rehearsal 3:00-6:00	21 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	22 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	23	24 Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	25	26
27 All Cast / Orch 3:00-6:00	28 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	29 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	30	31 NO REHEARSAL Halloween		

Katie's Hope 2024

November 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Choreo Rehearsal 2:30-5:30
3 All Cast Rehearsal 3:00-6:00	4 Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	5 Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	6	7 Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	8	9
10 SET BLD All Cast / Orch 3:00-6:00	11 SET BLD Drama Rehearsal 7:00-9:30 Veterans Day	12 SET BLD Choreo Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	13 SET BLD	14 SET BLD Music Rehearsal 7:00-9:30	15 SET BLD	16 Tech Load-in, Orch. Set-Up
17 All Cast / Orch 3:00-6:00	18 TECH REHEARSAL 5:30-10:00	19 DRESS/TECH REHEARSAL 5:30-10:00	20 DRESS REHEARSAL 5:30-10:00	21 Perf 7:00 Call Time 5:00	22 Perf 7:30 Call Time 5:30	23 Perf 2:00/7:30 Call Time 12:00
24 Perf 2:00/7:00 Call Time 12:00	25 Tear Down	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

Katie's Hope 2024

Production Team

Executive Producer Michelle Potter

Producers David Potter
Denise Diffee
Tom Diffee

Director Tom Diffee

Assistant Director David Potter

Musical Director Steve Richards

Stage Manager Jen Boyington

Assistant Stage Managers Cyndy Jo Rowley, TBD

Set Designers Ruth & Barry Stainer

Set Build Captain Linc Boyington

Choreographer Peggy O'Toole Weber

Dance Captain Bethany Littrell

Costumer & Designer Deb Marpert

Hair Ellie Haugo

Makeup TBD

Props Mistress Peggy Baker

Sound Engineer Mike Jordan

Lighting Designer Rod Garrett

Video Director Jeff Keith

Getting Involved

Katie's Hope 2024

Name: _____

Email: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Age (if minor): _____ Guardian (if minor): _____

Theatrical productions need people to be involved in lots of different ways:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dramaturge / research | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prop procurement | <input type="checkbox"/> Sound assistant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Set dresser | <input type="checkbox"/> Concessions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stagehand | <input type="checkbox"/> Greeters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backstage management | <input type="checkbox"/> Lobby decoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Costume dresser | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide cast meals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seamstress | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing and promotion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hair and/or makeup | <input type="checkbox"/> Poster and flyer distribution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kid wrangler | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer teams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Set construction / setup / tear-down | <input type="checkbox"/> Rehearsal pianist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting | |

Some roles will (in most cases) require an audition.

- Acting. *Sign up on the audition sign-up sheet.*
- Singing. *Sign up on the audition sign-up sheet*
Circle part: Soprano Alto Tenor Bass.
- Dancing. *Sign up on the audition sign-up sheet.*
- Orchestra. *Schedule a time with the Music Director (Steve Richards)*
Instrument: _____