

Vagabond Players Presents

Things My Mother Taught Me



By Katherine DiSavino
Directed by Denise Brookson

September 24th - October 11th, 2026
Thursday - Saturday 7:30pm, Sundays 2:00pm

Bernie Legge Theatre
Queen's Park, New Westminster
www.vagabondplayers.ca/tickets OR 604-521-0412

THINGS MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com





Mandie Vredegoor – Olivia Keegan

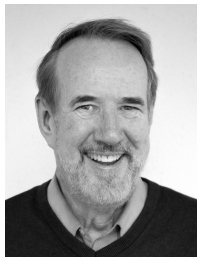
Mandie is blessed to have died, cried & laughed her pants off, on stage & screen for 20+ years. She's studied with Toronto Film School & numerous acting studios across Canada. Credits include *Grease* (Sandy), *Lysistrata* (Lysistrata), *St. Scarlet* (Ruby), *Cowtown* (Angela), *Heartland* (CBC), *Once Upon a Time* (ABC), & *stand-up comedy* (LMG). When not writing scripts, performing, or producing, she's hosting events or weeping into a Haig novel. She thanks her parents for their undying support, her husband for his creative encouragement, the TMMTM crew for becoming family and YOU, the audience, for choosing live theatre over Netflix.



Karryn Ransom – Karen Keegan

Karryn is delighted to be part of bringing this story to life. Previous theatre credits include *The Ladies Foursome*, *Goodnight Desdemona*, *Good Morning Juliet*, *The Memory of Water*, *Who Saw Him Die*, and *Hotbed Hotel*. Karryn got her start on the original *Degrassi* series in Toronto. When not doing theatre things, Karryn moonlights as a high school teacher.

Endless gratitude to her family, Denise, and the cast and crew for making it all happen. She dedicates her performance to mothers everywhere, especially Judy and Jenny.



David Wallace – Carter Keegan

David is delighted to be back to tread the boards with Vagabond Players. Former roles here include Ken in *Rumors*, Mark in *Spirit Level*, Lewis in *Evelyn Strange*, and Leo in *Design for Living*. On other stages, favourite roles include; Man 2 in *The 39 Steps* (16 different characters, sometimes simultaneously, and a sheep), a scheming executioner who has never actually carried

out his professional duty in *The Mikado*, a stammering Congregationalist minister in *A Prayer for Owen Meany*, and the wildly idealistic, if maybe a little crazy, Don Quixote in *Man of la Mancha*.



Gabriel Negron – Gabe Lawson

Born in New York, Gabriel has a degree in Video Media and Creative Writing and is thrilled to be making his stage debut with Vagabond Players and this wonderful play. He has loved theatre for many years and given the name of his role, felt this was the best time to take a gander out from behind the stage and perform on it himself. He is grateful for the support, trust, and

wisdom of his cast mates and the crew. The guidance of the director and the experience of this cast have built a lasting foundation for this performance and others to come. Welcome, and enjoy the show!



Mary Adams – Lydia Lawson

Mary is delighted to be back on stage with Vagabond Players. Favourite roles here include Carol in *The Last Romance*, Aida in *Over the River and Through the Woods*, and Liz in *The O'Conner Girls*. Mary has previously performed in Langley, White Rock, Burnaby, and Vancouver. She was the recipient of two Community Theatre Coalition awards for acting.

She has also been part of the cast for a couple of independent films by screenwriter and director Brad Proctor, that have been shown at international film festivals. Mary thanks Denise for casting her, and she appreciates all of the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication to bringing this show to life. She is grateful for all the support from family and friends. Mary hopes you enjoy the show!



Dave Tanchak – Wyatt Lawson

They say returning to the stage after a long absence is "just like riding a bike" but the fact is, the mechanics of one are not remotely like the other. Dave has tested the theory this past year, with turns as Hank in *Suburban Standoff* and Caleb in *Five Alarm*, both with Emerald Pig Theatrical Society. These came after a 35-year hiatus in which the closest he came to "acting" was

pretending to be on the phone to avoid a conversation. Dave is delighted to now bring the same awkward bike-riding energy to his Vagabond Players debut. He'd like to thank Denise for the opportunity to continue his triumphant return, the cast and crew for being fabulous, and his

mother, for everything she taught him, none of which (as far as he can tell) prepared him for what's about to happen on stage tonight.



Miles Lavkulich – Max

Miles is very happy to be back onstage for his first time in 6 years working with this cast and crew. His last role was Henry in *The Lion in Winter*. Special thank you to Denise for thinking of me and to Julia for letting me play.

About the Playwright



Katherine DiSavino is a Los Angeles writer. She is a Co-Executive Producer and writer for Apple TV’s *Silo*. Prior to that, she wrote for *Nancy Drew* and *The Outpost* on The CW. Katherine is a 2019 Sundance Episodic Lab fellow and was featured on Tracking Board’s “Young & Hungry” list of the top 100 New

Writers in Hollywood. She currently has several feature films in development, one of which is with a major studio. Katherine’s four published plays have been translated into multiple languages and performed around the world. Theatrical critics have called her work “true-to-life,” “superbly written” and “entertaining and laugh-out-loud funny.” She is represented by Kendrick Tan at Lit Entertainment Group.

Synopsis

Olivia and Gabe are moving into their first apartment together. They have just packed up all of their belongings and driven halfway across the country to start a new life together in Chicago.

Their moving day doesn’t go exactly as planned and things become slightly more complicated when all of their parents show up to help! Can a two-bedroom apartment contain all of the love, laughs, worry and wisdom that’s about to happen?



Director's Message



Mothers teach us powerful life lessons through both wise advice and humorous everyday sayings. They show us that effort and dedication help us reach our goals. We learn how to bounce back when life gets hard.

Fathers have an equally important role as advisors viewed through a different lens.

If we are able to listen and learn from those before us, many mistakes would not be duplicated.

I thank this wonderfully, talented cast and crew who have shared their experiences through laughter and tears to tell this heartwarming story. We feel like a family in just a few short weeks.

Sit back and enjoy the show, you may just find some things that resonate from your families.

Thank you to my family and friends for their support.

Denise Brookson

A special thank you to Karen Ostroff for her unending kindness and dedication to this production and most importantly to myself.

Creative Team

Director	Denise Brookson
Costume Design	Cindy Dean
Lighting Design	Scott MacDonald
Sound Design	Manon Ducos
Set Design	Jason Su
Set Decoration	Deb Tom
Set Construction	George Edwards, Tony Hemsley David Dodge, Warren Johnson Stacy Restiaux, Ted Drabyk
Set Painting	Deb Tom, Alice Woodbury Anne Rhodes, Lindsay Macintosh

Production Team



Michelle Roebuck – Production Manager

Michelle started her theatre “career” onstage before discovering that she much prefers being backstage, sourcing props or operating in the booth. During twelve years in London, she worked on more than 50 productions – including one that performed at the Royal Shakespeare Company. Michelle can honestly claim to have trod the boards of all three RSC stages (though not as a performer!). Since returning to Canada, she has worked on various shows; this is her third with Vagabond Players.



Karen Ostroff – Stage Manager

Karen is thrilled to be returning to Vagabond Players and welcomes the opportunity to be a part of this charming play, *Things My Mother Taught Me*. Many thanks go out to Denise Brookson, a wonderful director, and to the warmly welcoming cast and crew, all of whom are truly gifted. She has stage managed many productions over the years, primarily with Stage 43 in Coquitlam, the most recent being *Misery* and *12 Incompetent Jurors* and also with Vagabond Players *The Last Romance*, Pivot Theatre and Emerald Pig in Bard on the Bandstand’s production of *King Lear*. Her sincere thanks go out to family and friends who offer encouragement, strength and support. Enjoy the show!

Production Manager

Michelle Roebuck

Stage Manager

Karen Ostroff

Props & ASM

Elaine Francis

(with assistance from Wil Denhertog)

Booth Operator

Frederick Popowich

Publicity

Publicity

Valerie Lawlor

Show Poster

Stephanie Bennett

Program

Michelle Roebuck

Social Media & Photos

Samantha Alexandra

President's Message



Having been a member of Vagabond Players since 1977, I have worn many hats over the years, including Actor, Director, Carpenter and Board Member. I am truly grateful to all the people contributing their time and efforts to all the shows this season, on stage and off.

Thank you to the cast and crew of “Things My Mother Taught Me.” You have created an amazing show and deserve to be proud.

Vagabond Players continues to offer a wide variety of shows to entertain our audience members. Thank you for being there for us.

Dwayne Campbell

Volunteers

A community theatre run by volunteers, Vagabond Players is always happy to welcome new members both onstage and off. Whether acting or behind the scenes – helping with front of house, stage management, sound, lighting, costume, props, set design, set construction, and more. Join a friendly, creative group of people – no prior experience necessary. Get in touch with us via membership@vagabondplayers.ca.

Auditions

Want to act on our stage? Check for our upcoming auditions at: www.vagabondplayers.ca/auditions.

Theatre Rental

The Bernie Legge Theatre seats 135 plus 2 wheelchair spaces and is available for rental by business, professional or nonprofit groups on evenings or during the day. Rental enquiries may be submitted online at: www.vagabondplayers.ca/rentalenquiries.

Donations

Your support helps to keep our community theatre running. A tax receipt will be issued for all donations over \$20. See www.vagabondplayers.ca/donations.

Our 2026-2027 Productions

Show Time Change: Evening performances will start at 7:30pm

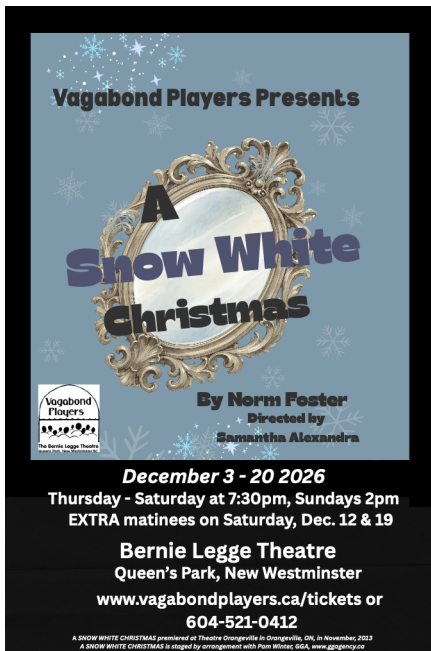
A SNOW WHITE CHRISTMAS

Dec. 3 - 20, 2026

Written By: Norm Foster

Directed by: Samantha
Alexandra

Tickets on sale now



CLUE

Feb. 18 - Mar. 7, 2027

Based on the screenplay by
Jonathan Lynn

Written by Sandy Rustin

Additional Material by Hunter
Foster and Eric Price

Based on the Paramount
Pictures Motion Picture

Based on the Hasbro Board
Game CLUE

Original Music by Michael
Holland

Directed by: Dwayne Campbell

Tickets on sale Dec. 3, 2026

TIMEPIECE

Apr. 29 - May 16, 2027

Written By: Kico González-
Risso

Directed by: Dale Kelly

Tickets on sale Feb. 18, 2027



Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.