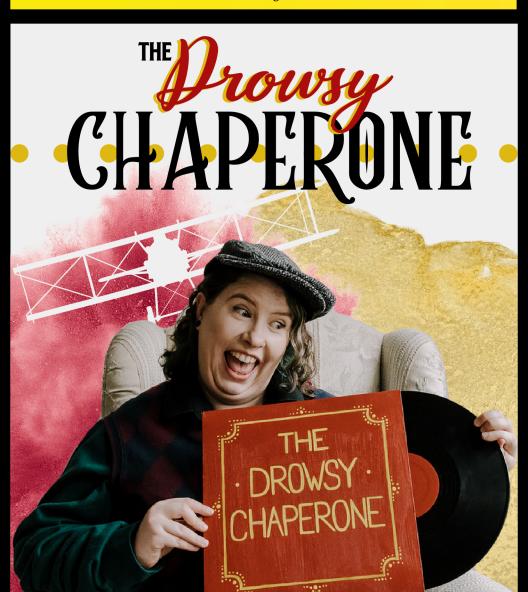
PLAYBILL

Market Hall Performing Arts Centre Anne Shirley Theatre Company Peterborough, ON



Book by Bob Martin and on McKeller

Orchestrations by Licensed by Larry Blank

MTI

Music & Lyrics Lisa Lambert a Greg Morriso

Land Acknowledgement

Before we start our performance, we would like to acknowledge the place many of us call home.

As a visitor to this land, we have an important responsibility to acknowledge the grounds on which we are privileged to gather in the pursuit of higher education.

Our university (Trent Peterborough/Trent Durham GTA) and the Market Hall Performing Arts Centre are located in the traditional and treaty territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg. We believe that it is not only important to recognize the Mississauga for their care for, and teachings about the earth and our relations, but to honour those teachings through our interactions today and every day hereafter.

Nearly 100 years ago, Canada and seven Mississauga and Chippewa First Nations signed agreements that became known as the Williams Treaties. These agreements were intended to be the foundation upon which sovereign peoples would build a common relationship but led to long-standing disputes about compensation, settlement, and harvesting.

In light of this history and understanding our role as Treaty People, may we dedicate this performance to moving forward in the spirit of partnership, collaboration, and reconciliation, as we learn together and contemplate the possibilities that lay ahead.

Directors Note

What an amazing feeling it is to be back to live theatre, and we thank you for being a part of the Anne Shirley Theatre Company's return to the stage. I could not have asked for a better cast and crew to work with during my return to the directing realm, as well as such an amazing piece of writing to bring to life. The Anne Shirley Theatre Company has been notoriously run by students and alumni, and I am so honoured to be a part of the big picture and journey that ASTC has to offer. Our goal was to make up for lost time and come back with a hunger to bring joy and laughter back to the stage. When I pitched The Drowsy Chaperone, my goal was to arouse the community as well as students back into doing something they love to do. I must say, the first time I watched *The Drowsy* Chaperone, I was not its biggest fan; I was much too serious for my own good. I went back to watch this show for a second time and realized all it was is "fun, and that's what a musical is supposed to be." Set in the 1920's we watch as a Man annotates all the best parts of the show and highlights what makes us love musicals and our craft. These students have poured their time, hearts, and effort into this production, even with their busy schedules, and the creative team and I have used as many resources as we can to make this production the best return ASTC has ever had! This cast and crew deserve all of the praise and I hope you laugh like you never have before. We couldn't be more ecstatic to share this journey with you. This show leads the way for fun, laughter, emotion, and crazy all in one, and I cannot wait for you to see it. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show; OH... and don't forget to try the Toledo Surprise, I hear it's to die for!

We want to thank you for joining us at Market Hall Performing Arts Centre. All of the proceeds from this production go directly back into our not-for-profit organization which encourages students and the community to enjoy their love for creating and bringing artistry to the stage. Every dollar you spend and donate helps make this a reality for us year after year. If you read a little bit more about me, I come from the professional world of theatre, and I cannot contain my big ideas for these productions. The sky is no limit, BUT, DOLLARS ARE. To keep our shows going and the confetti flying, we kindly ask you to donate what you can to support the Trent University community and the Anne Shirley Theatre Company. This production would not be possible without the help of our many donors and your generous support. If you enjoy the show, please consider leaving a few extra dollars at the door to support our program and community.

If you are thinking of becoming a sponsor or donor, please contact anneshirleytheaytrecomany@trentu.ca



The Man in Chair, a mousy, agoraphobic Broadway fanatic, seeking to cure his "non-specific sadness", listens to a recording of a fictional 1928 musical comedy, The Drowsy Chaperone. As he listens to this rare recording, he is transported into the musical.

The plot of the show-within-a-show centers on Janet Van De Graaff, a showgirl who plans to give up her career in order to marry an oil tycoon, Robert Martin. However, Janet is the star of "Feldzieg's Follies", and a lot of money is riding on her name to sell the show; Feldzieg, her producer, is being threatened by two gangsters employed by his chief investor (A reference to the gangsters-turned-actors in Kiss Me Kate). Disguised as pastry chefs, these two pun-happy thugs threaten Feldzieg to stop the wedding, in order to ensure Janet's participation in the next production of Feldzieg's Follies. In order to save himself, Feldzieg enlists Aldolpho, a bumbling Latin Lothario, to seduce Janet and spoil her relationship with Robert. Meanwhile, Janet is having doubts about her groom. Disguising herself as a French woman, she tempts Robert into kissing her, and a massive misunderstanding emerges.

Watching from his armchair, Man in Chair is torn between his desire to absorb every moment of the show as it unfolds and his need to insert his personal footnotes and his extensive-but-trivial knowledge of the musical performances and actors, as he frequently brings the audience in and out of the fantasy. As the show goes on, more of his personal life is revealed through his musings about the show, until, as the record ends, he is left again alone in his apartment but at least he has his favourite record to turn to whenever he's blue.

Musical Numbers

ACT 1

Overture Orchestra	
Fancy Dress	
Cold Feets Robert, George, Featured Dancers	
Show Off Janet, Company	
As We Stumble Along Drowsy Chaperone, Company	
I am Aldolpho Aldolpho, Drowsy Chaperone	
Accident Waiting to Happen Robert, Janet, Company	
Toledo Surprise Gangsters, Feldzeig, Kitty, Company	
ACT 2	
Bride's Lament Janet, Company	
Love Is Always Lovely in The End Mrs. Tottendale, Underling	
I Do, I Do in the Sky Trix, Company	
As We Stumble Along (Reprise)	

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE WILL HAVE A 20 MINUTE INTERMISSION FOLLOWING ACT 1

THE DROWSY CHAPERONE Orchestra

Conductor - Mark Hiscox

Keyboard 1/Assistant Conductor - Justin Hiscox

Reeds - John Barrett, Cyndey Kamping, Stephanie Harnden,

Maya Pereira, Katherine Carlton

Trumpets - Lori Davidson, Andy Coffin

Horn - Peter Sudbury

Trombone - Peter Hanmore

Guitar/Banjo/Ukelele - Tim Moody

Bass - Sam Quinn

Drums - Nick Gilroy

Percussion - Kelsey Van Blarcom

THE CAST

Man In Chair	Tristan Cruise	
Underling	Blair Waller	
Mrs. Tottendale	Maggie Brennan	
Robert	Samuel Hall	
George	Taylor Allen	
Mr. Feldzeig	Elias Trivett	
Kitty	Robyn Hawthorne	
Gangster #1	Jessica Johnson	
Gangster #2	Carmen Milewski	
Aldolpho		
Janet VanDeGraaff	Abigail Carey	
Drowsy Chaperone	Anna Hykawy	
Trix	Sarah Johnson	
Ensemble	Maya Chowen,	
Ashley Downer, Miriam Felman, Kate Ormerod, Jenna Milner		



The use of any recording device, audio or visual, and photography, with or without flash, is strictly prohibited during the duration of this performance. Please turn off all electronic devices before the show begins.

CAST (In Order of Appearance)



Tristan Cruise - Man in Chair

Tristan Cruise is a local artist who has mostly worked behind the scenes. She was the props builder and scenic painter at 4th Line Theatre for, Bombers: Reaping The Whirlwind (2017), The History of Drinking in Cavan (2017), Crow Hill (2018), Who Killed Snow White (2018), Bloom: A Rock 'n' Roll Fable (2019), and Carmel (2019). Tristan is also a Trent alumnus who worked with ASTC throughout her undergrad. She was a lead makeup artist for Sweeney Todd (2015), props master for Heathers (2016), Bare: A Pop Opera (2017), and head of makeup and costumes for Heaven (2016), and Wit (2017). In 2018 she directed The Hunchback of Notre Dame with ASTC, with it being the production she holds closest to her heart. Although she has played many characters in various plays in her on-stage career, The Drowsy Chaperone marks the first character she's played in a musical since her high school production of South Pacific nearly 15 years ago (2009).



Blair Waller - Underling

Blair Waller is a 4th-year Biology student at Trent University. Born and raised in Hamilton, he performed in several productions in high school appearing as Bill in Mamma Mia and Leaf Coney Bear in the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Additionally, he was cast in two plays for the Sears Drama Festival: The Velvet Guillotine and Bring on the Dancing Horses. Blair received piano lessons starting at a young age, switching to viola at 10 and participating in orchestras and choirs in and outside of school throughout high school. Recently, Blair was cast in a musical put on by the Anne Shirley theatre company in 2020, the Theory of Relativity. Cast as Adam, a mathematician confounded by the illogic of love, he enjoyed his time immensely. In his spare time, Blair is a homebody often found playing DnD or playing with his cat Daisy.



Maggie Brennan - Mrs. Tottendale

Maggie Brennan is a Toronto based performer with experience working behind the scenes. She graduated with honours from Rosedale Height's School of the Arts musical theatre program where she performed and worked on the set construction team in *Legally Blonde* (2019) and the cancelled production of *Anything Goes* (2020). Maggie has been involved with the arts since childhood with her mother as her first teacher. She began taking formal dance lessons in tap and ballet in middle school and was a part of several choirs. This is Maggie's first performance since the beginning of the pandemic. In her spare time Maggie likes to crochet. She is currently working on a sweater.



Samuel Hall - Robert

Samuel Hall was formerly a Northumberland-based actor who performed with various theatre companies. He performed as Shrek in CCl's Shrek the Musical, was awarded the 2020 Eastern Ontario Drama League award and has been involved in over 25 theatrical productions. He is also the Camp Director of the Northumberland Players Theatre Camp. Hall is currently working on the third year of his BSc for Mathematics at Trent University. He is also working towards his Bachelor of Education and a Dramatic Arts Teachable. Sam is thrilled to be back on the stage and making his Peterborough theatre debut. ASTC's The Drowsy Chaperone is not only his first opportunity to perform on a Peterborough stage but is also the first production he has starred in since the beginning of the pandemic. He is excited to roller skate his way through this production and many more in Peterborough.



Taylor Allen - George

Taylor Allen has been a theatrical performer for 10 years at school and with Original Kids Theatre Company. Hailing from London, Ontario, her credits include the Artful Dodger in Oliver! (2016), ensemble in Cinderella (2019), and Fruma Sarah, Yussel, and a Bottle Dancer in Fiddler on the Roof (2019), for which she received CCH Drama's Outstanding Commitment to Character award. Taylor specializes in musicals, but has experience acting in plays as well; her most notable role was as Macbeth in CCH's Scots on the Rocks (2019), a parody of the classic Shakespeare play. Not only is ASTC's The Drowsy Chaperone Taylor's debut on a Peterborough stage, but it also marks her 20th production. Currently, Taylor is in her second year of studying Conservation Biology at Trent University. After a one-year break to focus on her first year of studies at Trent, Taylor is thrilled to be back on the stage.



Elias Trivett - Mr. Feldzeig

Elias Trivett started his theatre career in Muskoka with roles such as Tulsa in Gypsy (2016) and Jimmy/Chad in Almost, Maine (2019). He gained experience with stage managing and directing in the Sears Festival, including the award-winning show Korrigan. Elias then jumped into the Peterborough arts scene when he began his adventure at Trent University pursuing a BA in Business and Psychology. With ASTC, Elias has played Bobby in Cabaret (2019) and Oliver in Theory of Relativity (2020). During the lockdown, Elias took Zoom Master Classes with Broadway's Alex Brightman, Stratford's Steve Ross, and Bad Dog Theatre. Most recently, Elias had the role of The Prince in St James Players' production of Beauty and the Beast (2022). This year Elias has taken on the joint role of Cast Member and Company President and is excited to graduate with a full bucket!

CAST (In Order of Appearance)



Robyn Hawthorne - Kitty

Robyn Hawthorne has been part of the Peterborough theatre community for over 10 years. You may have seen her as Lisa in SJP's production of Mamma Mia in 2019. Robyn became involved with ASTC in 2021, as a cast member in the radio play The Laramie Project where she played various roles, most notably Marge Murry and Amanda Gronich. At age 12, Robyn began dancing competitively with A. Frost Dance Experience in Peterborough, where she became well-versed in all styles of dance. Robyn has been training vocally with Shannon McCracken since 2015, she is currently part of her performance stream class. Other productions for Hawthorne include; Shrek, Mary Poppins, The Wizard of Oz (SJP), and Guys and Dolls (Adam Scott). Robyn is a fourth-year student at Trent majoring in Mathematics with a statistics specialization. Robyn is so happy to be performing again and with such a wonderfully talented group!



Jessica Johnson - Gangster #1

Jessica Johnson (yes, Sarah is her sister) is a classically trained singer and musical theatre enthusiast from St. Catharines, Ontario. She has been involved in a number of professional, community, and school performances, starting with Oklahomal and Anything Goes in secondary school. Johnson has performed internationally with Robert Pilon, Manteca, James Bryan, Barbara Lica, and Canadian pop singer Lights! Since graduating from Laura Secord Secondary School's DNA Musical Theatre program in 2016, she has been featured in Brock University's All By Myself (2016), Garden City Productions' (GCP) Damn Yankees (2017), played the role of Marcy Park in Firehall Theatre's The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (2017), the role of Wednesday Addams in GCP's The Addams Family (2018), and a member of the ensemble in a cancelled production of GCP's Sister Act (2020). Johnson has a high level of proficiency in piano and harp, but not an ounce of formal dance training. Watch her light up the stage in her brand-new tap shoes which she purchased just for this show! She is thrilled to be back in action and expanding her horizons. Many thanks to Dance Capitain Robyn Hawthorne for keeping everyone upright and on their toes (literally!).



Carmen Milewski - Gangster #2

Carmen Milewski has had a passion for theatre and dance since she was in high school, performing as Velma Kelly in her school's productions of *Chicago* as well as Glayds Hotchkiss in *Pajama Game*. She was also a member of the ensemble in *The Addams Family* and *How to Succeed in Business*. Outside of high school theatre, Carmen has performed at the National Arts Centre in the Cappies chorus and as a nominated cast member. Performing is not the only thing that interests Carmen about theatre - she also has worked as a sound and stage technician in multiple plays, dance shows and musicals. This is Carmen's first return to the stage since she was in high school, and she is greatly honoured to be working alongside such a talented cast.



Connor Leshner - Aldolpho

Connor Leshner is fulfilling a bucket list item by being in his first play since 2014, and his first musical ever. He completed two years at a performing arts high school, Arizona School for the Arts, and moved to a public school, where he played a small part in The Best Man, and played the hard-boiled main character Charlie Nickels in Kill Me, Deadly. This is Connor's first stage performance in about nine years. Connor spends his days as a Ph.D. student at Trent University in Psychology, playing Ultimate Frisbee and watching amazing talent, both in movies and on-stage via the Anne Shirley Theatre Company.



Abigail Carey - Janet Van De Graaff

Abigail Carey, a proud Maritimer from Truro Nova Scotia, is ecstatic to be a part of ASTC's *The Drowsy Chaperone!* Abigail, aka, Abby, is a 2018 Toronto graduate from Randolph College finishing with a diploma in the Performing Arts. She was 1 of 3 in her graduating class nominated for the Triple Threat award. Some of her previous roles include two production runs of 9 to 5, first as Doralee (CEC 2016) and again as Roz (Randolph 2018). Other impacting roles include Fiona (*Shrek The Musical*), and Katherina (*Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew*). From the age of 5 Abby was passionate about competing in the local music festival, particularly the musical theatre division. During this time she won several awards including the Rob Bruce cup and Festival Award and earned her a nomination for a spot in the Nova Scotia provincial competition in 2016.



Anna Hykawy - Drowsy Chaperone

Anna Hykawy is a performer from the Durham Region with a broad background in theatre and comedy. Since the age of six, her talent has been showcased across numerous productions, including Annie (Annie), The Audition (Carrie), improvisational showcases, and original sketch shows. At her high school graduation, she was awarded the highest proficiency award for the Dramatic Arts. Anna recently made her debut with the Anne Shirley Theatre Company as Amy March in Little Women. She is a first-year student at Trent University in Honours Sociology and plans to specialize in Criminology and Socio-Legal Studies. Anna is thrilled to perform alongside her talented castmates in this positively delightful production!

CAST (In Order of Appearance)



Sarah Johnson - Trix the Aviatrix

Sarah Johnson, younger sister of Jessica, has been a musician since she was a child, and in recent years has entered the world of musical theatre. Johnson has performed in numerous music competitions and has performed on stage with artists such as Robert Pilon and Bakithi Kumalo. Johnson has acted in several shows, with her first performance being the role of Grace in Annie Jr. when she was 12 years old. She was also a part of Laura Secord Secondary school's The Addams Family (2018), and Garden City Production's Beauty and the Beast (2019). Johnson has played a wide variety of instruments and is proficient in clarinet, tenor and baritone saxophone and various percussion instruments. She looks forward to getting back into the world of theatre post-pandemic and hopes to be a part of many shows both on and off the stage.



Maya Chowen - Ensemble

Maya Chowen has been a dancer since she was two years old, specializing in musical theatre in her later years. She has won various scholarships and overall awards for her duets The Spartans and Morning Announcements. Training, teaching and competing in 12 styles of dances and performing in the few plays her school put on, this is Maya's first musical. Having done workshops with Cirque du Soleil and being accepted into Disney's Premiere program, Maya credits her achievements to her dance teachers and improv coaches. Participating in her school improv team since she was 8, she later became her team's captain, competing all around Ontario. When her school no longer had any teachers willing to take on the role of coach, Maya stepped up and led the younger teams in their after-school practices and competitions. Later, Maya then became the stage manager of *The Nutcracker* and finally, joined Trent University's improv executive team.



Ashley Downer - Ensemble

Ashley Downer has been performing along with assisting behind the scenes in the theatrical arts for 5 years, taking part in various school productions and classes. She was involved in the set design of her school's production of *The Little Mermaid* (2019) and was included in a comedic rendition of *Macbeth* (2020) juggling various roles such as the Old Man, the Porter, Malcolm and Donalbain. Along with performing in a play collaboratively written by the students and teacher of her drama class in her last year of high school. Ashley has been a part of the fine arts for longer than her acting career within the theatre, taking basic dance lessons and a few vocal classes, alongside creating within the digital arts. She is presently an undergrad at Trent University aiming for her Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Ashley is thrilled to make her big debut as a member of the ensemble in ASTC's *The Drowsy Chaperone*, being her very first musical!



Miriam Felman - Ensemble

Miriam Felman has been a musical theatre enthusiast for most of her life. She has participated in several productions with New Star Children's Theatre in Ottawa, including West Side Story (Ice), Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat (Narrator), and Peter Pan (Wendy). Miriam also has an interest in writing theatre and was lucky to have her one-act play, State of Mind, produced by her senior drama class in high school. She is currently in her second year at Trent University, studying History and English. This production is her first with ASTC, and she is excited to be joining such a dedicated group of artists.



Jenna Milner - Ensemble

Jenna Milner is excited to return to the stage as part of the ensemble of *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Now in her 4th year at Trent, Jenna has had a passion for theatre since she was young. Participating in school plays and musicals since high school, Jenna played the role of Helena in a 2016 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, starred as Sarah Brown in a production of *Gays and Dolls* (2018), and played the role of Catherine in the ASTC's production of *Theory of Relativity* in 2020. While not a professionally trained vocalist, she has sung alongside her very musical family all her life and with their help has developed her vocal skills over time. Jenna is also a trained violinist with 13 years of experience and has a deep appreciation for music and the arts. When she is not working towards her archaeology degree, Jenna loves to reconnect with nature and has picked up hobbies such as foraging and hiking. She is so happy to be part of a theatre group once again and hopes everyone enjoys the show!



Kate Ormerod - Ensemble

Kate Ormerod has been singing from a young age. Kate was diagnosed with High Functioning Autism at a young age but refuses to let that slow her down. While mostly self-taught, Kate did take formal vocal lessons for four years before having to cancel lessons to focus on school. Her first show was in elementary school as the mayor's wife in Seussical, for which she received the music award upon graduating. This will be Kate's second time performing in a musical. Before coming to Trent University, Kate graduated with honours and was an active member of her high school choir. While her main focus is on her honours bachelor's of forensic biology, Kate also makes time for her hobbies, with a focus on making stickers and more for her personal side business.

Creative Team and Crew



Brayden Ellis - Director

Brayden Ellis has been a theatrical performer both on and off stage for the past 14 years working in professional as community theatres. Some of his most prominent credits include an understudy in The Sound Of Music (Stratford Festival), Charlie Bucket in Wonka, The Musical (London Grand), a Ninja in Evil Dead, The Musical (London Grand), Terry Connor in Sideshow (WCI RedPlayers), Sebastian in The Little Mermaid (WCI Redplayers), and Telly in Godspell (K2K Productions). Although Ellis enjoys his time performing on stage, he has also had many opportunities to be part of the creative team in many productions including Assistant Director in Cinderella The Musical (K2K Productions), and Aladdin (K2K Productions), Ellis also has a passion for singing and piano and so completed his Royal Conservatory of Music Grade 8 Vocal and Grade 6 Piano exams. He has also been dancing and creating for over 10 years with Artistic Movement Dance Studio. Ellis is very excited to be doing his first lone direction and choreographing debut in Peterborough with the Anne Shirley Theatre Company. He owes his knowledge and success to his teachers and mentors: Christina Cannella, Victoria Bannon, Chuck Baxter, Brian Belleth, and many others along the way. He would like to thank his Mom, Kathy and Dad, Mike for always pushing him to be the best he can be and helping him pursue his passion.



Justin Hiscox - Musical Director

Justin Hiscox is a composer and multi-instrumentalist. He is absolutely thrilled to be back doing shows again with the Anne Shirley Theatre Company (ASTC). Justin is the current music director for 4th Line Theatre, ASTC, The Peterborough Theatre Guild, and assistant music director in the Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School Musical Theatre Program. Justin studied composition with James Tenney and Free Experimental Improvisation with Casey Sokol at York University. Justin is a conductor at Peterborough New Horizons Bands, is the leader of Otis And The Honeylambs (a traditional New Orleans Jazz Band), and is the founder of Davy Jones Locker, Canada's first and loudest seashell choir. He is also a proud member of Peterborough's Walk Of Fame. The Drowsy Chaperone will mark the 61st unique "Broadway" musical that Justin has participated in during his lifetime. He wishes to dedicate this show to the memory of his father Jim, who passed on January 31st of this year.



Vivien Zujko - Producer and Stage Manager

Vivien Zujko has been involved in Musical Theatre on and off the stage since 2008. She has performed in 11 productions, mainly with Milton Youth Theatre Productions, most notably in her role of Shrek in Shrek The Musical (2016). She continued on to perform in a competitive show choir from 2015-2021 where she received intense vocal and dance training with Milton Show Choir, most notably taking home the titles of best choreography, best-set design, and first place in the community groups division at Show Choir Canada (2018). Vivien began working behind the scenes in 2019 with Enter Stage Right as the Assistant Stage Manager in their original production of A Good Man is Hard to Find. In addition to her experience in the arts, Vivien has experience in business with her positions as Project Manager with Junior Achievement (2020) and Events and Partnerships Intern with Drink Daydream (2022). Vivien has also completed a month-long leadership intensive program at Muskoka Woods (2019). She is currently working towards her Honors of Bachelor Arts degree in Business and English from Trent University and is excited to combine her passions for business and the performing arts together to create this show.



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Larry Blank - Special additional composition scores

Tristan Cruise - Makeup and Set Design Associate

Robyn Hawthorne - Hair Associate





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Sponsors and investors play a crucial role in our organization. As a charitable, not-for-profit organization, the Anne Shirley Theatre Company relies on investors, sponsors, and donations, to continue creating productions like the one you'll see tonight for the greater Peterborough community. With their support, we are able to bridge the gap between our costs and ticket sales and this allows us to produce the highest quality performances we can.

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