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NEWS FEATURE

STONINGTON

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Broadway stars in two shows at Opera House

Popular stars of the Great White Way and opera houses around the world return to the Stonington Opera House stage for two nights of show tunes and hidden gems of the American musical theater.

Tuesday, July 25, will feature Broadway classics sung by John McVeigh, Fred Rose, Lisa Vroman and Bonne Kramer, accompanied by pianist Ben Kiley.

On Thursday, July 27, the performers return with a different program featuring, according to a press release unexpected, unconventional, and thoroughly entertaining takes on the Broadway canon.

The concerts have been organized by tenor John McVeigh who has performed principal roles with the Metropolitan Opera since 1997, including last season's *Turandot* and *The Marriage of Figaro*. In addition to his European career, McVeigh has performed with almost every major opera house in the United States and serves as vice-chair of the board of directors of Opera House Arts.

Fred Rose has appeared on Broadway in the Tony-winning productions of *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Cabaret*, the Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess*, and many more. Rose also appeared as Emile DeBeque in a New London Barn Playhouse production of *South Pacific*, which was directed by OHA's Summer Artistic Director Kathryn Markey.

With a repertoire that ranges from Stravinsky to Weill to Broadway, Lisa Vroman is considered "one of American Musical Theater's most beautiful voices." Her Broadway debut was in *Aspects of Love*, and she was the first to play both Fantine and Cosette in *Les Misérables*. She starred as Christine Daaé in *The Phantom of the Opera*, and went on to garner Theatre Critics' awards for the role in a record-breaking run in San Francisco. Her soprano has graced the stages of the New York Festival of Song, The Lyceum in London, the San Francisco Symphony, Utah Opera, and the MUNY theatre of St. Louis and she is frequent guest soloist with theater and opera companies, and orchestras around the world.

Bonne Kramer is an actor, singer, and bassoonist who has toured nationally and internationally in Broadway shows including *Into the Woods*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Scarlet Pimpernel*, and *The Andrew Sisters Live 21 Piece Big Band Salute*. Kramer also wrote and performs in *BasSOON It Will Be Christmas*, a holiday symphony pops concert highlighting her unique musical and comedic talent. She has appeared in numerous off-broadway shows, workshops, and regional theaters.

To purchase advance tickets, visit operahousearts.org. Tickets will also be available at the door. Parental discretion is requested for children as some songs contain adult language or themes. Hancock County students may attend free.

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