

FootLights

ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

Kentwood Players presents



Book and Lyrics by
Howard Ashman

Music by
Alan Menken

Based on the film by Roger Corman, screenplay by Charles Griffith

Directed and Choreographed by **Michael-Anthony Nozzi**

Musical Direction by **Joshua Eli Kranz**

Produced by **Shari Barrett** and **Sheridan Cole Crawford**

September 13 - October 19, 2013

Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m.

Westchester Playhouse
8301 Hindry Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Reservations (310) 645-5156

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Book and Lyrics by
Howard Ashman

Music by
Alan Menken

Based on the film by Roger Corman, screenplay by Charles Griffith

Originally produced by the WPA Theatre (Kyle Renick, Producing Director)
Originally produced at the Orpheum Theatre, New York City by the WPA
Theatre, David Geffen, Cameron Mackintosh and the Shubert Organization

Vocal Arrangements by Orchestrations by
Robert Billig Robert Merkin

Directed and Choreographed by
Michael-Anthony Nozzi

Musical and Vocal Direction by
Joshua Eli Kranz

Produced by
Shari Barrett and Sheridan Cole Crawford

Set Design and Decoration Lighting Design
Michael-Anthony Nozzi Hollister Starrett

Costume Design Sound Design
Maria Cohen and Bruce Starrett
Arlene Cohen

Audrey II Puppets Designed and Built by **Michael-Anthony Nozzi**

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019
Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax:212-397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

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The videotaping of this production is a violation of United States copyright law and an actionable federal offense.

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Ronnette.....	Elizabeth Adabale
Crystal	Amanda Majkrzak
Chiffon.....	Brittney S. Wheeler
Mr. Mushnik.....	Peter Miller
Seymour Krelborn	Brett Chapin
Audrey	Kristin Towers-Rowles*
Customer.....	Michael Sandidge
Radio Interviewer	Cole Edward Wagner
Orin Scrivello, DDS	Randy Brown
Voice of Audrey II.....	John Devereaux
Dental Nurse	Shari Barrett
Mr. Bernstein.....	Cole Edward Wagner
Mrs. Luce.....	Ruth Andrea Featherstone
Skip Snip	Michael Sandidge
Patrick Martin.....	Rusty Gregg
Skid Row Ensemble	Shari Barrett, Randy Brown, John Devereaux, Ruth Andrea Featherstone, Rusty Gregg, Carly Linehan, Fiona Okida, Michael Sandidge, Hollister Starrett, Cole Edward Wagner
Puppeteers.....	David Contreras, Rusty Gregg, Barbara Haberman, Adeline Hall, Trevor Hart, Stephanie Hotz, Kobe Kubes, Fiona Okida, Michael Sandidge, Ethan Schyman, Hollister Starrett, Cole Edward Wagner, LilaRose Yelin
Voice of the Almighty	Greg Abbott
Audrey (Sept. 20, 21, 22)	Carly Linehan
Swings	Rusty Gregg (Seymour) Carly Linehan (Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette) Michael Sandidge (Bernstein, Patrick Martin) Cole Edward Wagner (Voice of Audrey II)

* Member of Actors Equity

Musicians

Keyboard/Conductor	Joshua Eli Kranz
Electric Bass	Michael C. Flick
Drums	Anthony Barbarotta

During the performance please turn your pagers to silent,
and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches.
There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane.
Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins.

Synopsis of Scenes and Musical Numbers

The action takes place around Mushnik's Skid Row Flower Shop
and an uptown dentist's office.

The time is early 1960's from September through the following Spring.

Act One

Prologue

"Little Shop of Horrors" Crystal, Ronnette, and Chiffon

Scene 1

"Skid Row (Downtown)" Company
"Da-Doo" Chiffon, Crystal, and Ronnette
"Grow For Me" Seymour

Scene 2

"Ya Never Know" Mushnik, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette, and Seymour
"Somewhere That's Green" Audrey

Scene 3

"Closed for Renovation" Seymour, Audrey, Mushnik, Skid Row ensemble
"Dentist!" Orin, Chiffon, Crystal, and Ronnette
"Mushnik and Son" Mushnik and Seymour
"Sudden Changes" Seymour
"Feed Me (Git It)" Audrey II and Seymour

Scene 4

"Now (It's Just the Gas)" Orin and Seymour

Coda

"Act I Finale" Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette, and Audrey II

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II.
Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

Act Two

Scene 1

"Call Back in the Morning" Seymour and Audrey
"Suddenly, Seymour" Seymour, Audrey, Chiffon, Crystal, and Ronnette
"Supertime" Audrey II

Scene 2

"The Meek Shall Inherit" Company

Scene 3

"Sominex/Supertime" (reprise)..... Audrey and Audrey II
"Somewhere That's Green" (reprise) Audrey
"Finale Ultimo" ("Don't Feed the Plants")..... Company

Director's Notes

This has been one of the greatest theatrical experiences of my life. Going into the production with expensive royalty rights, the expense of renting Audrey 2 plants, and it being a musical unto itself, I am so honored by Kentwood Players for trusting me and my vision of our production of "Little Shop of Horrors." By allowing me to go full throttle into it and giving me the go ahead to make and create the puppets in my own vision, I was able to create this production without sacrificing my creativity. We had a long auditioning process with only 8 roles and a small ensemble. And so many talented people came out, it was a tough decision but we ended up with one of the best all-around casts I have ever assembled. From the first rehearsal, the cast and crew bonded and the production just soared from the start. There are 4 major parts to a musical like this one: 1. The cast and crew must be behind the production from the start and we had it. 2. The theatre itself must be on board with the show and sell it to the public. 3. The work has to be put into the production by continuing to tweak it to make it better and better until it has risen to the place we started out wanting the production to be, and 4. The audience. It is your enthusiasm and energy while watching the production that is essential. Without the audience there is no Theatre. I thank everyone associated with "Little Shop of Horrors" for your love, trust, faith and energy. You have given me the greatest gift of all: your time, talents and belief in me.

Thank you,
Michael-Anthony Nozzi

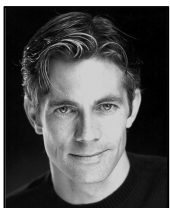
About the Cast



Elizabeth Adabale (Ronnette) – Elizabeth is thrilled to be starring in her first production with the Kentwood Players. A recent graduate of the University of Southern California, she now teaches high school biology. Some of her most favorite roles have been Katisha in *The Mikado*, the Fairy Godmother in *Cinderella* and Mrs. Jones in *How to Succeed....* She thanks God and her family for support and hopes you enjoy the show!



Shari Barrett (Nurse, Ensemble) – Best known as Kentwood Players' Publicity Director, Shari's most recent stage appearances include *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Camelot* with the Aerospace Players and five productions with Shakespeare on the Green in Griffith Park. Shari thanks Mikey and Joshua for encouraging her to sing out, and as always to her Mom, Charlotte, and Ed Cotter for being true inspirations. "This one's for you Dad, the first Seymour in my life."



Randy Brown (Orin) – Once upon a time, Randy came from far-away Iowa to Pasadena to study engineering, but he got bit by the acting bug, put himself through drama school by working for the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (no lie) and turned his back on the ways of science for the glamour of show biz. Today, he is overjoyed to return to the Kentwood Players after appearing in *Legends* in 1992 and *A Chorus Line* in 1997.



Brett Chapin (Seymour) – Brett is pleased to be making his debut appearance with Kentwood Players. Past shows include *Rent*, *Into the Woods* and *West Side Story*. Brett reviews live theatre for Actors Entertainment Network. He is a proud voting member of LA Stage Alliance and Marketing Chair at Theatre Palisades, as well as co-host/creator of LA LA Land Talk, a nationally broadcast, guest driven talk show, highlighting Los Angeles entertainers (130+ episodes, 250,000 viewers weekly).
brettchapin.com and lataklive.com/new/lalaland



John Devereaux (Voice of Audrey II) – John has performed in professional regional productions of *Once on this Island* as Agwe and *Ragtime* as Coalhouse Walker, Jr. He was most recently seen as Collins in Beyond The Stage's production of *Rent*. He can also be seen in the indie drama, *Be My Teacher* and on a number of commercials including a national *Wheel of Fortune* spot. Currently, John just wrapped shooting for the latest Lifetime thriller, *Deadly Spa* directed by Marita Grabiak See more at www.john-devereaux.com



Ruth Andrea Featherstone (Mrs. Luce, Ensemble) – Ruth is a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. In her hometown, she is noted for being this generation's "Mahalia Jackson." Ruth received her vocal training from Pittsburgh's Center for Musically Talented Students and Fillion School of Music. Her stage and television list of credits includes, *I Have A Dream*, *Freedom Fighters*, *Precious Lord*, *Seven Heaven*, *Bobby Jones Gospel Explosion* and *Ragtime*. Ruth's purpose in life is to give God the highest praise, lift up the name of Jesus, encourage the Redeemed Ones, and evangelize the world through songs.



Rusty Gregg (Patrick Martin, Ensemble) – This show is Rusty's Los Angeles debut. The road to this point has taken him from home in Northern California, through college in San Diego where he most recently was Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast* with Star Repertory Theatre. And now he has finally done a show in LA (and is planning to do many more).



Carly Linehan (Audrey understudy, Ensemble) – A Westchester native, Carly is delighted to be making her Kentwood Players debut in a show that is near and dear to her heart. (Thanks, Mom!) Carly has a B.A. in Theater Studies and has spent plenty of time teaching and directing for local youth theater companies. Past shows include *Little Women* as Amy, *Peter Pan* as Peter Pan, and *Annie* as Lily St. Regis. Love and thanks to Mikey, Joshua, and the entire *Little Shop* team. Isaiah 40:31.



Amanda Majkrzak (Crystal) – You may have seen her, most recently, as The Girl on the Swing in *Ragtime* and the ghost of Ophelia in *Fortinbras* here on the Kentwood stage. Her favorite well-known shows to date include *Ragtime*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Fortinbras*, *Into the Woods* and *Noises Off*. Amanda wants to thank her *Little Shop* family especially Mikey, Joshua and the “Dynamic Trifecta” for making this one of her best theatrical experiences to date! Much love to Dave and her family whose support and love make everything possible.



Peter Miller (Mushnik) – This is Peter's sixth production at Kentwood and one that was definitely worth the wait, as he's wanted to be in this show since he was 13! Peter recently played William Barfee in *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at Theatre Palisades, as well as Bellomy in *The Fantasticks* at Sierra Madre Playhouse. Some of Peter's favorite roles have included the Lecturer in *Reefer Madness*, Dr. Carrasco in *Man of La Mancha* and Mandrake in *Freud and the Android*.



Fiona Okida (Ensemble) – This is Fiona's fifth production with Kentwood, and she has been challenged for every show. She was a dying sheep in *Candide*, a blind girl in *Miracle Worker*, dresser/crew in *39 Steps*, a newsboy/immigrant in *Ragtime*, and now a squirming vine and homeless person on skid row in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Thanks to Shari, Mikey, and all the cast for accepting her into this fun production. “Feed Me!”



Michael Sandidge (Customer, Skip Snip, Ensemble) – Michael is happy to return to Kentwood after making his LA stage debut here as Laertes in *Fortinbras*. Some of his personal favorite performances are Nathan Detroit in *Guys & Dolls*, Ko-Ko in *The Mikado* and Mortimer Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, which he also directed.



Hollister Starrett (Ensemble) – After several years working behind the scenes, Hollister stepped onto the stage in last year's Kentwood Kids' production of *Rockin' Robin Hood*, and hasn't looked back! He has since been seen in *All in the Stars*, *Ragtime*, and as Prince Chulalongkorn in the *The King and I*. Hollister is thrilled to be a part of *Little Shop*, and thanks Mikey, Joshua, and the wonderful production team for the opportunity!



Kristin Towers-Rowles (Audrey) – Breakthru Musical Theatre Performer of The Year 2011 (StageSceneLA). Training: AMDA (NYC) International / Nat. Tours include: *Phantom of the Opera / Les Miserables* in Concert (Christine/Cosette), *The Mikado* (Yum Yum), World Premiere National Tour of *The Christmas Box* (Angel). Recent LA/Regional: *Kiss Me, Kate* (Kate/Lilli + BroadwayWorld Best Actress Nom). *Sunday in the Park with George* (Dot/Marie *Best Actress “Scenie”), *Victor/Victoria* (Norma *Best Featured Actress “Scenie”), *Once Upon A Mattress* (Fred). BroadwayWorld Nominated Cabaret show, *A Lovely Lineage* (about growing up MGM Star, Kathryn Grayson's, granddaughter) at Sterling's at The Federal/Mbar/Sun City. Co-Artistic Director, Sustaining Sound Theatre Co. Many thanks to Mikey, Shari, Joshua, Sheridan, and our wonderful cast and crew. www.kristintowers-rowles.com



Cole Edward Wagner (Interviewer, Bernstein, Ensemble) – Cole is honored to make his Kentwood Players debut in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Past credits include: *Damn Yankees*, *Oliver!*, *Chicago*, *Urinetown*, *Cats*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Additionally, he has appeared as Anthony in a web series called *Club*. He thanks Michael for this incredible opportunity to work with this talented cast and crew. He also thanks his family and friends for their love and support.



Brittney S. Wheeler (Chiffon) – Brittney is a graduate of Concordia University, Irvine's Theatre program with over 19 years of Traditional Gospel/Negro Spiritual roots. An accomplished actor (recently won an Ovation Award for her role in *The Color Purple* at Celebration Theatre where she is also a company member), classically trained vocalist and seasoned choral singer, *Little Shop of Horrors* marks Brittney's second show here at Kentwood! Love and thanks to her parents, the Cast, and Michael-Anthony Nozzi. Matthew 17:20.

The Audrey II Puppeteers: (clockwise from center)



- John Devereaux
(the Voice of Audrey II),
- LilaRose Yelin,
- Barbara Haberman,
- Hollister Starrett,
- Cole Edward Wagner,
- Kobe Kubes,
- Trevor Hart,
- David Contreras,
- Fiona Okida,
- Adeline Hall.

- Not pictured:
- Rusty Gregg,
- Stephanie Hotz,
- Michael Sandidge,
- Ethan Schyman

You are invited to meet and greet cast members
after the performance in the Lobby

About the Directorial Staff

Michael-Anthony Nozzi (Director, Choreographer, Set and Puppet Designer) – Michael has been working in theatre professionally since the age of 12, beginning his work and training at the prestigious Totem Pole Playhouse under the Direction of William H. Putch. “Everything I am, I owe to Bill Putch - his training, support and his belief in me.” Michael has worked Broadway, off-Broadway, national tours, bus and truck companies, summer stock, dinner theaters and ran his own theatre in Pennsylvania for several years, and has directed over 40 plays and musicals including *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* at the Vanguard Theatre Ensemble in Fullerton, and directed, choreographed and designed the set for *Once Upon a Mattress* with the Aerospace Players. He also designed the set for *Doubt* at Kentwood. Michael has also acted in over 200 productions including working with Milton Berle, Douglas Fairbanks Jr., Shelley Winters, Gig Young, and with Jean Stapleton in six productions. Michael thanks Kentwood, his wonderful cast and crew, his friends, and especially his dear friends Carl and Angie and his beloved sister Missy who “has my back 24/7. I am blessed.”

Joshua Eli Kranz (Musical and Vocal Director) – Joshua recently musical directed, played piano, and performed in a critically acclaimed production of *And the World Goes Round* at the NoHo Arts Center. Some of the other shows he has musical directed are *City of Angels*, *The Apple Tree*, *Grease*, *Bat Boy*, and *Guys and Dolls*. Joshua is an accomplished jazz musician, vocally and instrumentally, involved with music since the age of 1½. Working with each member of the talented *Little Shop* cast is positively joyful. He thanks Michael, Shari and Sheridan for asking him to work with Kentwood Players giving him the opportunity to study Alan Menken’s and Howard Ashman’s music in detail and to teach the music and its spirit and vocal imagery to the cast. He thanks his parents for their constant support. At JoshuaKranz.com you can listen to some of Joshua’s musical compositions. You can hear his live jazz piano at Vitello’s in Studio City.

About the Producers

Shari Barrett (Producer) – This is Shari’s second Kentwood show as producer, and she has directed, assistant directed, stage managed, taken publicity photos, and worked in many crew positions for numerous productions. As an independent publicist, Shari works to “get the word out” about smaller theaters and writes reviews on Broadway World. As a founding member of the LA Stage Alliance Leadership Council Task Force, Shari works together with reps from all over our city to articulate a vision for the theater community of Greater Los Angeles and is proud to call Kentwood Players her “home away from home.” Thanks to our dedicated and hard-working cast and crew for their devotion to the show and team spirit. Now let’s rock the house!

Sheridan Cole Crawford (Producer) – Sheridan has been involved in many aspects of theatre, from acting to directing to costuming, but this is a first for her—coproducing a musical “peopled” with jive-talking plants, vibrating vines, and a motley crew of Skid Row inhabitants. What fun. Enjoy the quirky show and all the hard work by an exceptionally talented cast and crew.

About the Designers

Hollister Starrett (Lighting Design) – Hollister joined the Kentwood Kids program at the age of eight and was immediately drawn to the technical side of theater. His Lighting Design credits include *Alice in Wonderland*, *Greece! The Musical*, *Rockin’ Robin Hood*, and the mainstage production of *Fortinbras*, for which he won the 2013 Marcom Masque award for Best Lighting Design. Hollister is happy to be bringing light to *Little Shop*, and thanks Mikey and the team for the opportunity!

Maria Cohen (Costume Design) – After costuming *Ragtime*, Maria is back doing this show. She has been a fixture with Kentwood Players for many years. She has also worked for the Morgan-Wixson, Pacific Palisades, and the James Armstrong Theaters and has also helped at the Norris Theatre. Maria has her favorite shows: *The Little Foxes*, *A Little Night Music*, *A Few Good Men*, *Anastasia*, *The Constant Wife*, *The Mikado*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Ragtime*, *Rain*, *Ten Little Indians*, and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. Maria will retire from costumes when she can’t do them anymore. She thanks her husband, Michael, for tolerating her being away from home.

Arlene Cohen (Costume Design) – Arlene is delighted to be co-anchoring the costumes with Maria, the true master of costuming! It has been more than 15 years since Arlene last costumed a show at KP and started specializing in creating hats. This is her second show working with Mikey, having designed the hats for his production of *Once Upon a Mattress*. Other favorite shows for doing the millinery include *The Heiress*, *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*, *Canterbury Tales*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *Ragtime*. Favorite hat was for Mammy Yokum in *Li’l Abner*. Love to Sheldon for putting up with me!

Bruce Starrett (Sound Design) – Bruce has been involved with the Kentwood Players and the Kentwood Kids since 2009. He has designed sound for many of the Kentwood Kids productions, including *A Grimm Night for Hans Christian Andersen*, *Rockin’ Robin Hood*, and *All in the Stars*. This is his first sound design for a main stage production, and he thanks Mikey, Sheridan, and Shari for the opportunity, and is excited to be working with the talented cast and crew of *Little Shop*!

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 Valerie Ruel, Michael Sandidge, Charlotte Lee Schildkret, Bruce Starrett, Hollister Starrett,
 Max Stormes, Cole Wagner, Lynn Warech, Brittney Wheeler

Special Thanks

Susan Weisbarth, Valerie Ruel, Long Beach Playhouse, Angelica Estevez, John Beckwith,
 Jim Crawford, Colleen Okida, Roy Okida

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
 was originally
 Directed by Howard Ashman
 with
 Musical Staging by Edie Cowan

Kentwood Players is a Member of the
 LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website

www.kentwoodplayers.org



Seymour and Audrey celebrate their newfound love in "Suddenly Seymour."



Orin gets the girls to say "Ah" as he sings "I Am A Dentist."



Audrey has new respect for Seymour after his plant, Audrey II, makes him a media star.



Ronnette, Crystal and Chiffon convince Audrey she deserves a better life... with Seymour.



Mushnik persuades Seymour to accept an offer he can't refuse in "Mushnik and Son."



Ronnette, Crystal and Chiffon warn everyone to "LOOK OUT" for Audrey II.



Audrey knows Orin is a semi-sadist but sticks with him because he is "a professional" dentist.



As Audrey II begins to grow and bring Seymour fame, Seymour wonders how to keep it fed.

Kentwood Players Coming Attractions

It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play
 A Comedy by Joe Landry
 November 8 – December 14, 2013
 Director: Gypsy Foster

Becky's New Car
 A Comedy by Steven Dietz
 January 10 – February 15, 2014
 Director: Susan Stangl

Fiddler on the Roof, a Musical
 Book by Joseph Stein
 Music by Jerry Bock
 Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick
 Based on Sholem Aleichem's stories
 March 14 – April 19, 2014
 Director: Harold Dershimer

Deathtrap
 A Thriller by Ira Levin
 May 16 – June 21, 2014
 Director: George Kondreck

Special Group Rates

If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least
 10 friends, family members, or co-workers,
 special group rates apply if you book your tickets in advance.
 For more information please call (310) 216-9094.

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Season Ticket Order Form

Season Subscriptions are good for SIX (6) CONSECUTIVE productions, and you may start your subscriptions with the show of your choice.

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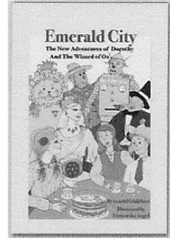


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We Need Your Help

In 1949, a group of dedicated performers came together to provide quality theatre at an affordable price for the Westchester community. More than 50 years later, the Kentwood Players are still going strong.

From Shakespeare to Simon, from Sondheim to Hammerstein, we have worked diligently, putting in countless volunteer hours, keeping our prices low enough to allow all in our community access to a magical evening or matinee in the theatre.

Now, we need your help. We have some critical improvements that will be beyond what we as a small community theatre can manage. We need a new roof, a new heating and air conditioning system, and most of our facility needs to be updated. For the first time in our history, we are asking our wonderful patrons and dedicated community members to partner with us and become sponsors of our beloved theatre.

There are many ways you can help. Of course, we welcome your contributions no matter how large or small. Together we can keep quality theatre in Westchester at prices that are still affordable for our audiences. Please take a look at our sponsorship opportunities and if we can answer any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

THANK YOU FROM THE KENTWOOD PLAYERS

Donation envelopes can be found in our lobby.

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- Listing in our program for an entire season
- Your name on a permanent plaque in our lobby
- Invitation to our special party

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Donations of any size will receive recognition in our programs along with our heartfelt thanks. Kentwood Players is a registered 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation and your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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