

PATRON

A publication spotlighting The Strand

Winter 2012



**Jagged
Stones
NYE
pg 18**

**Holiday
Show
Shopping
Guide
pg 9**

**NEW:
Patron
Puzzler
pg 38**

**A Sneak Peek
at Steel Magnolias
pg 20**

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Thanks for picking up a copy of the *Patron!* The *Patron* is published by the Earl Smith Strand Theatre with the purpose of informing our patrons about upcoming events, important news, and fun facts. Thank you for your support of The Strand!

Layout/Design: Cassi Costoulas
Editor: Manda Costoulas

Editorial

Andrew Cole
Manda Costoulas
Katie Pflugradt
Andrew Yeni

Advertising

To advertise in future issues, contact Cassi Costoulas at cassi@earlsmithstrand.org or 770-293-0080, ext. 302.

Get on the Mailing List

Over 5,000 Strand patrons will enjoy this issue. The Strand also publishes a weekly e-newsletter with upcoming events and other information.

If you'd like to be added to the mailing list or e-news list, please contact the Box Office.

BOX OFFICE INFO

Buy tickets by calling 770.293.0080, online at www.EarlSmithStrand.org, or by visiting 117 North Park Square Marietta, GA 30060. Box Office hours are M-F from 9 AM - noon & I - 4 PM.

Atlanta Lyric Theatre patrons can purchase tickets through the Atlanta Lyric Theatre Box Office. Tickets can be bought over the phone at 404.377.9948, and online at atlantalyrictheatre.com

Table of Contents

The Basics5
 The Strand's Show
 Stopping Shopping Guide9
 Post- Thanksgiving
 Movie Weekend.....12
 I'll Have a Bluegrass
 Christmas.....15
 Forecast Calls For Snow.....17
 Ring in the New Year
 with The Jagged Stones.....18
 Inside the Director's Studio:
 a Sneak Peek at Steel Magnolias....22
 Holiday Night and
 Lights in Marietta.....23
 Introducing:
 The Strand (Pre-show) Lounge.....27
 2012: A Year in Review.....29
 Board Spotlight:
 Bob Ash.....31
 Usher Spotlight:
 Jan Gariety.....35
 Volunteering For Art.....35
 Strand Staff.....37
 Patron Puzzler.....38





From the very beginning performers have connected us all with the artists in our souls. AT&T is honored to support The Earl Smith Strand Theatre. Bravo, everyone. Your dreams make our lives better.

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Directions

Earl Smith Strand Theatre
117 North Park Square Marietta, GA
30060

The Strand is located on the north side of the historic Marietta Square at the corner of Cherokee St. and North Park Sq.

Going north on 75

Get off on exit 263 toward Marietta and merge onto South Marietta Parkway. After 2.8 miles, take a right onto Atlanta Road. After 0.4 miles, The Strand Theatre will be on your left at the northeast corner of the historic Marietta Square.

Going south on 75

Get off on exit 265 and take a right onto North Marietta Parkway. After 1.4 miles, take a left onto Church Street. After 0.4 miles, take a left onto North Park Square. The Strand Theatre will be on your left at the northeast corner of the historic Marietta Square.



The Strand is Soooo Social

Like our FB page, follow us on Twitter, or check in to Earl Smith Strand Theatre on Foursquare!



Twitter: StrandMarietta



Facebook : www.Facebook.com/EarlSmithStrand

Strand FAQ

Q: Do you offer tours?

A: We offer private tours to groups of 10 or more. Just call our box office to schedule!

Q: When can I look inside The Strand?

A: The Strand is typically closed when there's not an event going on. We do often have non-ticketed events such as Brew with a View or free movie nights that allow newcomers to take a look around certain areas of the facility.

Q: When is your box office open?

A: Our Box Office is open from 9 AM- noon and 1 PM -4 PM Monday through Friday. Box office is also open 2 hours before all ticketed events.

Q: How can I find out what is happening at The Strand?

A: There are several ways to stay in the loop:

- 1) Our Upcoming Events flyer is available outside the theatre.
- 2) Our website is updated daily with events.
- 3) Our Upcoming Events e-mail is released every week. To be added, visit our web page and click the "Join Our Mailing List" button.
- 4) We post all of our events on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Q: How do I rent the theatre and/or event rooms?

A: You can contact our events manager, Andrew Cole, at andrew@earlsmithstrand.org or fill out the form found on the website by clicking "Event Room Rental" on our home page.

Q: How do I buy tickets?

A: There are several ways to purchase tickets:

- 1) By phone: 770.293.0080
- 2) Online: www.EarlSmithStrand.org
- 3) The Box Office: 117 North Park Square | Marietta, GA 30060, M-F (see hours above)

Q: Are there volunteer positions available?

A: Yes! If you'd like to get involved, e-mail katie@earlsmithstrand.org.

Q: Who is the Atlanta Lyric Theatre?

A: The Atlanta Lyric Theatre is a separate organization from The Strand. As our resident musical theatre company, The Lyric produces a full season of shows at The Strand. In August 2008, The Lyric announced its partnership with the Friends of the Strand, Inc. to relocate to the newly renovated Strand Theatre. The Lyric is the only local professional musical theatre company in the metro Atlanta area.



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S.A. White Oil fuels the southeast while supporting local nonprofits and arts organizations, including The Strand. Thank you, Kim Gresh and S.A. White Oil Co.!

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The Strand's Show Stopping Shopping Guide

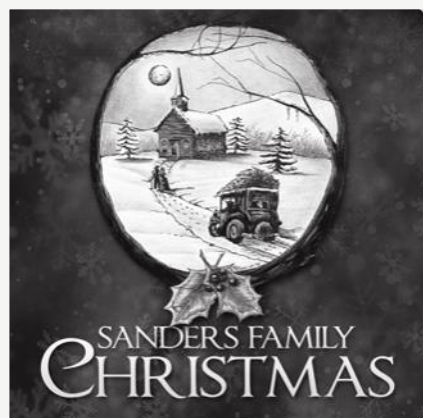
Staff Writer Manda Costoulas



You're about to sit down to Thanksgiving dinner, and you see the loving faces of your friends and family. Your heart swells, your eyes glisten with tears of love – then you remember that Christmas is only a month away and Aunt Joanne is an absolute nightmare to shop for. Well you can stop your shopping panic in its tracks, because The Strand has you covered. Any theatre lover will swoon over our delightful holiday gift options.

Ornaments

Have a theatre lover in your family? This ornamental tribute to The Strand marquee will bring a touch of drama to anyone's tree! It has a light yet sturdy construction, and its attractive gold coloring attracts the eye to its delicate design. A classic throwback to the original Strand, this ornament is sure to please even your hardest to shop for friends and family. Ornaments are available for purchase at The Strand Box Office, open M-F 9am-12pm & 1-4pm. \$20



A Bluegrass Christmas

A yearly classic, *Sanders Family Christmas*, will be performed and produced by Playright Productions during two show runs: one at the end of November and one at the end of December. Celebrate your holidays with the Sanders family in a singing and dancing tradition! Tickets are available for purchase at The Strand Box Office, open M-F 9am-12pm & 1-4pm. \$20-\$35



White Christmas

White Christmas, the delightful winter classic, will be gracing The Strand's Steven W. Imler stage during the month of December. The Atlanta Lyric Theatre cast and crew brings a very merry Christmas to Marietta in this magical musical based on the Bing Crosby and Rosemary Clooney 1954 movie classic. Tickets are available through the Atlanta Lyric Theatre Box Office at 404.377.9948 or online at AtlantaLyricTheatre.org. \$28-\$48

Shop



Go Behind Closed Doors at

**The Marietta Pilgrimage
Christmas Home Tour
December 1-2, 2012**

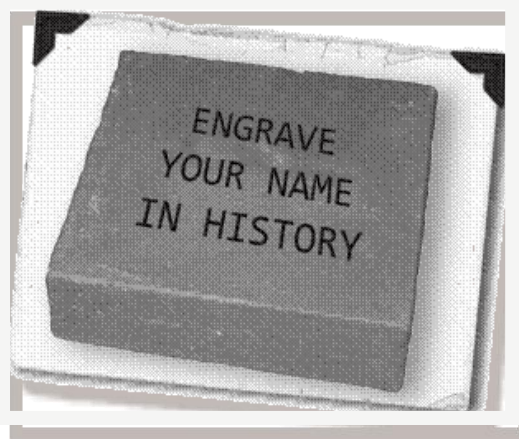


Strand Pride T-Shirts

Snuggle up with a comfy official Strand T-Shirt this holiday season! The front of this black T-Shirt boasts the official Earl Smith Strand Theatre logo, featuring The Strand Marquee. The back of the shirt has a bold white font which reads “A Monument Devoted to the Best in Music, Photoplays, and Theatrical Arts.” \$20

Classy Holiday Party

There is no lovelier place to celebrate the holidays than in one of The Strand’s beautiful event spaces. The fourth floor terrace overlooks the twinkling and magical Glover Park Square, adorned with lights and garland for the holidays. If you are looking for a company holiday party, be sure to book your date soon, space is filling up fast! Make sure to ask one of our event staff about holiday deals and pricing! More information on event space rental is available on page 23, and online at earlsmithstrand.org. Please contact Andrew Cole or Catherine Rhodes for booking at myevent@earlsmithstrand.org. \$500-\$2000

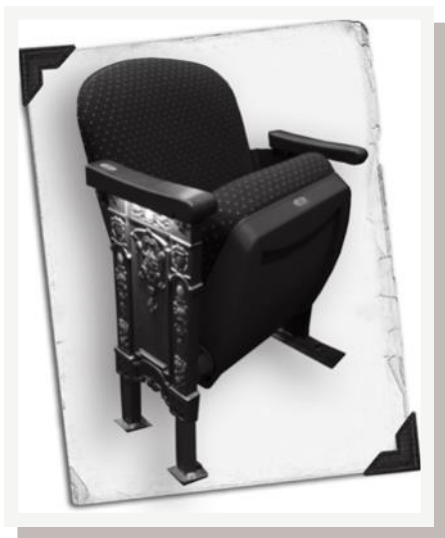


Bricks

Give the gift of dedication by purchasing an engraved brick for a loved one. The Strand’s “Walk of Fame” hosts the names of patrons who have purchased a brick – either for themselves, friends, or family. By purchasing an engraved brick, you can support the theatre for the future, and leave your mark on the present. 4x8: \$200, 8x8: \$1500

Seats

Join hundreds who have supported the Friends of The Strand, including Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, by “taking a seat” at The Strand. When you join the exclusive Grand for The Strand Club for \$1,000, your seat commemoration will be displayed on a plaque on a theatre seat. Commemorations range from listing your name to dedicating a seat in honor or in memory of your family or friends. Seat Dedication: \$1000.





Post-Thanksgiving Movie Weekend

Staff Writer Andrew Yeni

After you finish gobbling down turkey and watching that final Thanksgiving Day football game, what better way is there to enjoy Thanksgiving Weekend then by watching some classic films at The Strand? Why bother driving



sub-par action film when you can come down to the Earl Smith Strand Theatre to see some timeless classics?

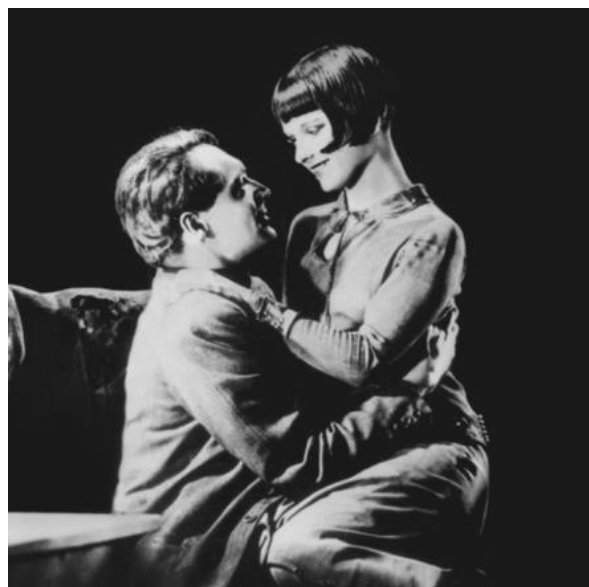
This trio of classic films starts with Hitchcock's classic, **North by Northwest** (1959) on Friday, November 23 at 8pm. This classic mystery film, starring Cary Grant, revolves around Madison Avenue advertising man Roger Thornhill. He finds himself thrust into the world of spies when he is mistaken for a man by the name of George Kaplan. Foreign spy Philip Vandamm and his henchman Leonard try to eliminate Thornhill, but when he tries to make sense of the case, he is mistakenly framed for murder. Now on the run from the police, he manages to board the 20th Century Limited bound for Chicago where he meets a beautiful blonde, Eve Kendall, who helps him to evade the authorities.

You love watching it, and we love showing it! **The Princess Bride**, a fan favorite for the ages, is back at The Strand for its 25th anniversary on November 24th at 8pm! A beloved tale of adventure, revenge, and true love, this 1987 film is a timeless classic. With unforgettable characters such as Westley the cunning hero (Cary Elwes), Buttercup the beautiful princess (Robin Wright), and Inigo Montoya the master swordsman (Mandy Patinkin). *The Princess Bride* is a movie for adults and children alike to enjoy.

A story within a story, the adventures of Westley and Buttercup bring together a young boy and his grandfather in the modern day through the timeless event of the bedtime story. Arrive early to enjoy live organ pops variety show and sing-along featuring The

Strand's Mighty Allen Theatre Organ at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$7 for students, seniors, and military. Dress as a princess or pirate and get \$2 off your ticket! No swords allowed, sorry Inigo.

Rounding out our Thanksgiving weekend is the silent film, **Pandora's Box** on Sunday, November 25 at 3pm. G.W. Pabst's film that catapulted Louise Brooks to international acclaim and made her the icon of the Jazz Age tells the tragic story of Lulu, the hedonistic dancer and prostitute. Released in 1929, after the advent of "talkies", *Pandora's Box* caused quite a scandal due to its racy content. Brooks radiates sexuality with her subtlety of expression and gesture, a quality which enralls many modern critics. This classic silent movie will be accompanied throughout by Ron Carter on the Mighty Allen Theatre Organ.

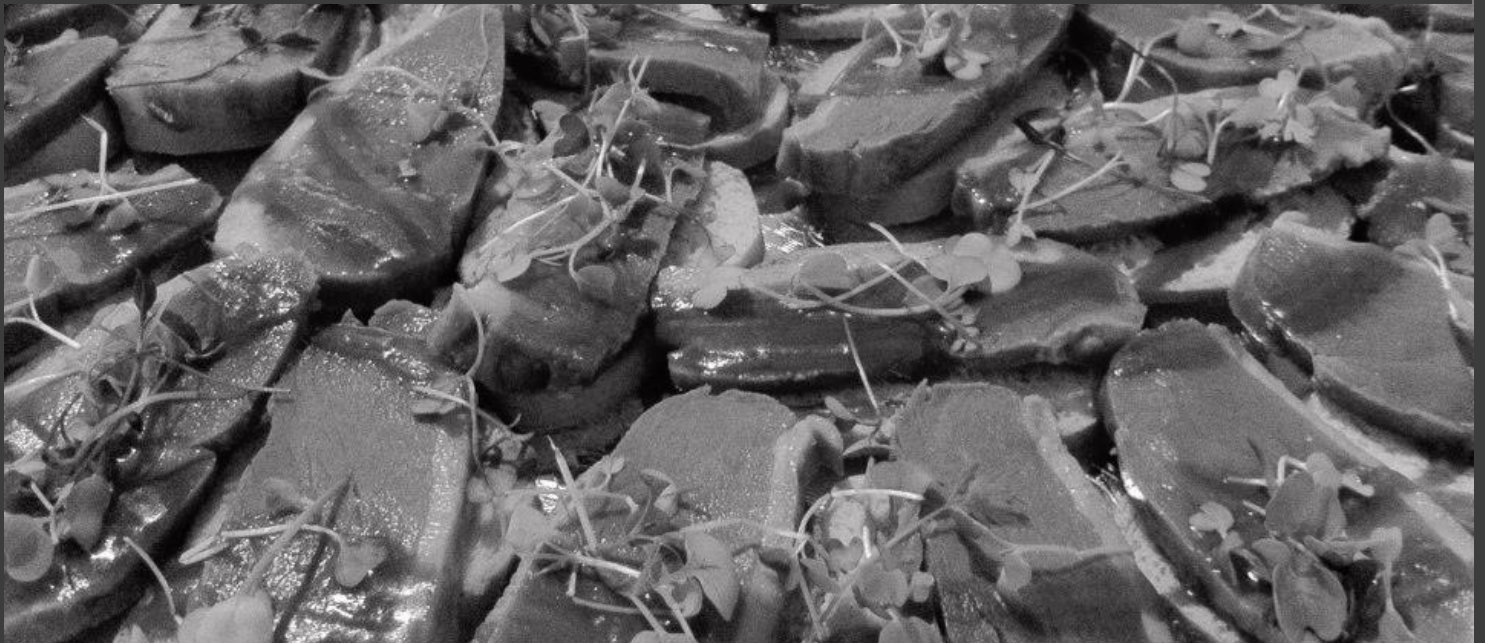




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I'll Have A Bluegrass Christmas with PlayRight Productions

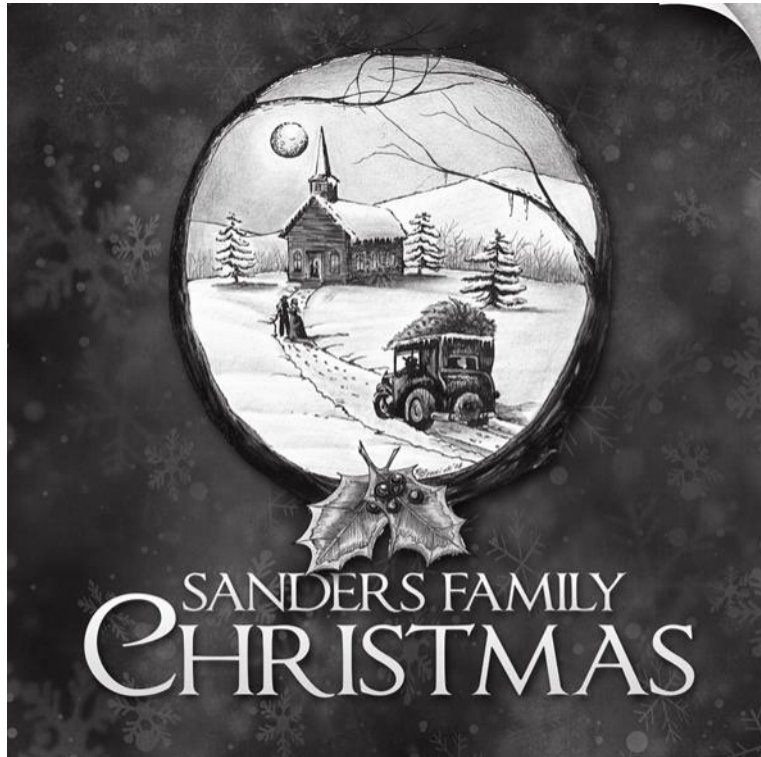
Staff Writer Manda Costoulas

Miss your yearly tradition of a down home Christmas with the Sanders family? Well, you're in luck, because the Sanders family clan is back just in time for the holidays with a nostalgic evening of bluegrass music and yuletide cheer.

In *Sanders Family Christmas*, (the sequel to the ever-popular *Smoke on the Mountain*) the Sanders family returns to Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. It's

Christmas Eve 1941 and Reverend Mervin Oglethorpe has invited them to sing and witness, getting the congregation into the down home holiday spirit before the boys, including one of the Sanders' own, are shipped off to World War II. More than two dozen Christmas carols, many of them vintage

hymns, and hilarious yuletide stories from the Sanders family keep the audience laughing, clapping, and singing along. Richly entertaining, this infectious musical brings cheer to audiences eager to see how their friends from *Smoke on the Mountain* have been getting along. As the family celebrates the season and welcomes the Savior, Mervin plans a surprise of his own!



Sanders Family Christmas is produced by PlayRight Productions. PlayRight Productions was created in 2007 by Cobb County native Renee Burruss-Davis and her partners to make uplifting, professional-quality musical theater accessible to more people. The company tours exclusively providing an on

-going opportunity for actors and musicians to share their God-given gifts. As a showcase for extremely talented performers to hone their craft while presenting wholesome family entertainment, PlayRight fills a very specific niche in the industry. At the present time there are four shows offered by PlayRight: *Smoke on the Mountain*, *Sanders Family Christmas*, *Forever Plaid*, and *Cotton Patch Gospel*. The

founding partners of PlayRight Productions are Renee Burruss-Davis, Doug Allen, and Barry Piacente.

Sanders Family Christmas is playing for two weekends only this winter: Thursday through Saturday, November 29th-December 1st @ 8:00pm; and Thursday through

Saturday, December 27th-29th @ 8:00pm, with a Sunday Matinee on December 30th @ 2:00pm.

Tickets are \$35-\$20 and are available through The Strand Box Office at 770.293.0080, or online at EarlSmithStrand.org.



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LOGAN DENNINGHOFF ANNA KIMMELL

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DECEMBER 7 - 23, 2012

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Forecast Calls For Snow At The Strand This December

Atlanta Lyric Theatre Release

This holiday season, audiences of all ages will enjoy the uplifting story of the Tony Award nominated hit musical *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*. Presented by Atlanta Lyric Theatre, *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, the stage reinvention of the beloved classic film, will play the Earl Smith Strand Theatre December 7 - 23, 2012.

The musical tells the story of two showbiz buddies who put on a show in a picturesque Vermont inn and find their perfect mates in the bargain. Full of dancing, laughter, and some of the greatest songs ever written, *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* is a merry and bright theatrical experience for the entire family. Many Irving Berlin classics are showcased, including "Count Your Blessings," "Sisters," "Happy Holiday," "How Deep is the Ocean," and the unforgettable title song, "White Christmas."

Dustin Lewis will star as song and dance man Bob Wallace, the

role made famous by Bing Crosby in the classic 1954 film. **Logan Denninghoff** makes his Atlanta Lyric Theatre debut as Mr. Lewis' army buddy, the charismatic ladies' man, Phil Davis. **Mary Nye Bennett**, who has appeared in *The Lyric's Legally Blonde The Musical*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *42nd Street*, will play Betty Haynes, one-half of the beautiful and talented sister act that teams up with Bob and Phil. And, as Betty's younger sister, Judy Haynes, **Anna Kimmel** has appeared in the national tour of *The Wizard of Oz* and was last seen at The Lyric in *Grease*.

Steve Hornibrook will play General Henry Waverly, Bob and Phil's former commanding officer and proprietor of the Vermont inn. Last seen in Atlanta Lyric Theatre's 2003 production of *The Pirates of Penzance*, **Stuart W. Schleuse** plays the role of Bob and Phil's former Army buddy Ralph Sheldrake. **Austin Tijerina**, who appeared in The Lyric's *Anything Goes*, is the Columbia Inn's neurotic stage manager, Mike Nulty. As the Columbia Inn stagehand Ezekiel Foster, **George Deavours** has appeared in *The Lyric's Grease*, *Gypsy*, and *Anything Goes*. **Mary Stewart Sullivan** makes her Lyric debut as General Henry

Waverly's precocious granddaughter, Susan Waverly.

Others in the cast include **Becca Potter**, **Kelly Chapin Schmidt**, **Priscilla Curtis**, **Jessica Bailey Pack**, **Fenner Eaddy**, **Ian Blanco**, **Natalie Rhae Goodwin**, **Craig Baker**, and **J. Koby Parker**.

Atlanta Lyric Theatre's production of *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* will also feature Ron Carter on the Strand's Mighty Allen Theatre Organ fifteen minutes prior to each curtain playing your favorite holiday carols.

Irving Berlin's White Christmas is directed by The Lyric's artistic director, Brandt Blocker, and is choreographed by Karen Hebert. The creative team also includes Lee Shiver (Set Designer), Mary Parker (Lighting Designer), Lindsey Paris (Costume Designer), Bobby Johnston (Sound Designer), and George Deavours (Wig Designer). JP Peterson is the production stage manager.

All performances are held at the Earl Smith Strand Theatre at 117 N. Park Sq., on the historic Marietta Square. For tickets and information call 404-377-9948 or visit www.AtlantaLyricTheatre.com.

Ring in the New Year with The Jagged Stones

Staff Writer Manda Costoulas

2012 was a big year for Mick Jagger – he hosted American Idol, that guy from the Voice wrote a song about his sweet moves, and he added even more leather to his ensemble. Well get ready Mick, because there’s about to be some competition around town for biggest voice and loudest screech. Stephen Skipper is the front man for the Jagged Stones, a Rolling Stones tribute band that took Marietta by storm last year during their first performance on the Strand Theatre’s Steven W. Imler Stage.

The Jagged Stones, comprised of Skipper, Barry Zion, Eddie Brodeur, David Lang, Joel Edwards, and Martin Abbott, nearly blew the roof off of The Strand with their hard hitting rock and powerful vocals – and they’re back again to ring us into the New Year this December 31st. Forget watching the ball drop from your living room in your socks and slippers - bust out your hairspray and glitter and do New Year’s up right.

In a brand new, and frankly awesome, partnership with Marietta Hilton and Conference center, The Jagged Stones are bringing their A game to create a New Year’s eve nobody will ever for



get. The Marietta Hilton and Conference Center is teaming up with The Jagged Stones and The Strand to offer a NYE’s package that’s hard to pass up. \$199 gets you a room for the night at the stunning Marietta Hilton (just a few minutes away from the Marietta Square), two tickets to the show, a shuttle to take you to and from the hotel to the theatre, and a full breakfast to bacon away all of that champagne you drank the night before. There are a limited number of hotel packages, so if you’re a holiday nut like we are, you better get your rock and roller’s hands on one of those bad boys right away.

About the band:

“These days, the satisfaction of an unadulterated rock ‘n’ roll experience isn’t easily found. Those looking to be soothed by the savage beat are getting their ya-yas out with The Jagged Stones, an uncanny tribute to The

Rolling Stones. “The World’s Greatest Rock ‘n’ Roll Band” comes to life with the same unbridled spirit and raw energy that made The Rolling Stones the iconic act it is today.

The Jagged Stones deliver every pout, preen and raunchy riff fans expect, bringing the entertainment level of an over-the-top arena show up close and personal. Stones classics including “Jumpin’ Jack Flash”, “Satisfaction”, “Start Me Up”, and “Brown Sugar” sound as fresh and exciting as they did the first time you heard them on the radio. Die-hard fans will bubble over when they hear deeper cuts rubbing audio elbows alongside those and other Stones standards.”

-caqa.org

The Jagged Stones will be rocking and rolling from 9pm through midnight, giving birth to the New Year in true style. Get ready to bring in 2013 with drinks and good music with new friends. After all, nobody’s a stranger on New Year’s Eve!

RING IN 2013

THE JAGGED STONES

NEW YEAR'S EVE ROLLING STONES TRIBUTE SHOW



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shuttle to & from show, and full breakfast)

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**WITH OPENING
ACT BARRY
RICHMAN BAND**

Events



Kim Gresh (L) will be playing the part of Ouiser and Cassandra Buckalew (R) will be playing the part of Shelby in the upcoming *Steel Magnolias*

Inside The Director's Studio: A Sneak Peek at *Steel Magnolias*

Staff Writer Manda Costoulas

There are few shows that can really capture the heart and soul of southern living, and it's hard to imagine one better than *Steel*

Magnolias. Named for the strength of steel and the delicacy of flowers, *Steel Magnolias* is a funny and at times heartbreaking look inside the lives of six southern women.

Steel Magnolias is coming to The Strand stage in January of 2013. Earl Reece, the Executive Director of The Strand and the director of *Steel Magnolias* answers some questions on the show, working with the cast, and the future of The Strand.

Patron: All of the action of the play takes place solely on one set – Truvy's beauty salon – and there are only six characters in the show. Are working with those types of restraints challenging?

Earl Reece: One of the best things about this cast is the fact that they are working on the show because they love performing and are committed to helping The Strand. I actually proposed this show to Kim Gresh and Cassandra Buckalew over a

year ago. They take Strand projects very seriously. Ouiser is the character who is outspoken, blunt, to the point and aggressively opinionated. Who better to play this part than Kim Gresh? No one is more loved and respected in our community than these two ladies. It's fun to work with great friends. I think the setting—Truvy's beauty shop—is perfect.

P: We'll be seeing a few repeat performances by community members that have starred in other productions on The Strand stage – such as *The Odd Couple* and *The Sunshine Boys*. I'm referring, of course, to the dramatic duo Kim Gresh and Cassandra Buckalew. How is working with two such dynamic personalities?

ER: Everyone in the community knows that Kim, Cassandra, and I are close personal friends. The amount of energy and enthusiasm that they bring to the stage is refreshing. I do have to admit that there are times when I have to encourage them to stay on task and remain focused. They get so “into” what they are doing that it's hard not to get caught up in their excitement.

P: Is it a challenge or a blessing to work with material as well-known as *Steel Magnolias*, especially here in the South?

ER: Any time you are working with an iconic show like *Steel Magnolias*, there are challenges. The one thing that I don't want to do is make the



Photos taken at Square Cutz

show a cartoon. I've already talked with Kim, and I told her—do not talk in a Southern accent, just talk the way you normally do. It's funny to watch a movie about the south. We frequently comment that “we don't sound like that”, when honestly we sound worse – or maybe better.

P: What were some of the deciding factors in bringing this show to The Strand?

ER: Perfect timing, perfect script, and perfect cast.

P: Like every artistic industry, theatre has taken a hit economically since the late-2000's collapse. In the shadow of tough economic times, what is The Strand's motivation to continue producing quality and accessible live entertainment?

ER: The Lyric does a great job producing and presenting musical theatre to our community. *Steel Magnolias* is an extremely popular play that has a message for everyone. We are fortunate to have great support from our friends, our patrons, and our community and city leaders.

Steel Magnolias will be playing the third weekend in January at The Strand.

Tickets will go on sale soon and will be available at The Strand Box Office at 770.293.0080, or online at EarlSmithStrand.org. If you'd like to be kept up to date on what's new at The Strand, join our mailing list by visiting EarlSmithStrand.org and clicking the “Join Our Mailing List” button. Mailing list patrons will receive sneak peeks on ticket sale dates, upcoming events, and even discounts not available anywhere else!



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UNIQUE FLORAL DESIGNS

156 Church Street, Marietta, GA 30060
770-499-1700



Holiday Nights & Lights in Marietta

Staff Writer Andrew Cole

The Earl Smith Strand Theatre is a beautiful venue for holiday socials. Every year, local companies host their cocktail parties, luncheons, and dinners in event rooms at the historic Strand Theatre. The Strand's rooftop terrace boasts a one-of-a-kind, panoramic view of

downtown Marietta: buildings illuminated with thousands of white Christmas lights, luminaries lining the walkways in Glover Park, lit white snowflakes on the street lamps, and an enormous Christmas tree at the center of it all.

The Cobb County Medical Society was the first organization to host a private party at The Strand in November of 2008, before the theatre was open to

the
public.
Society
Executive Director

Joanne Thurston says The

Strand is a spectacular setting for a holiday event because of the theatre's convenient location, the patio overlooking the Marietta Square, and the "holiday feeling" in Glover Park.

A new addition to the theatre's holiday festivities is the Strand Christmas Carolers. A group of 4 – 8 professional performers will be adding to the cheer and festivities in the Marietta scene throughout December. Director of the group, Catherine Rhodes:

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All ages and levels welcome.

Sign up by the end of the calendar year and receive a permanent \$10 discount per lesson.

It's not too late to perform in the holiday recital. The deadline for enrollment to participate is December 1st.

Searching for a truly useful present this Christmas? How about the gift of self-confidence? That's what quality study in the performing arts can provide. Gift certificates are now available in the amount of your choice.

For more information, please contact Catherine Rhodes.
(770) 293-0080 ext. 286 rhodes@earlsmithstrand.org



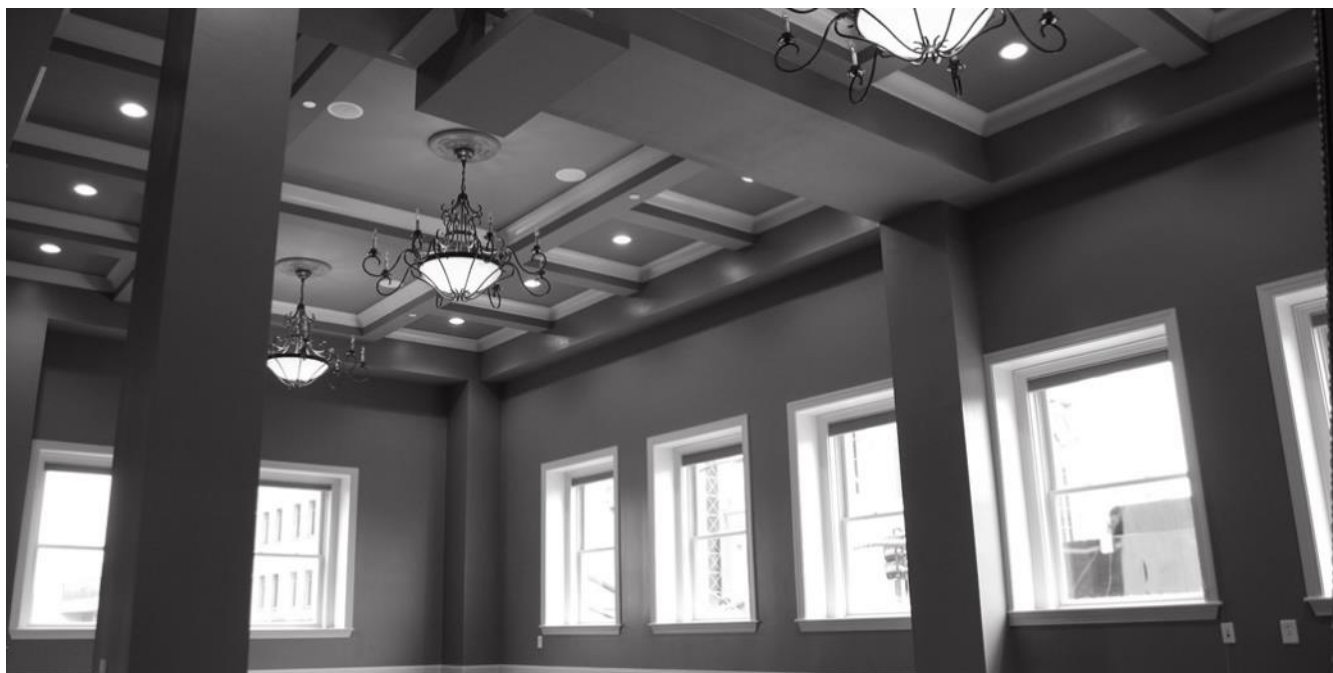
“This is our first time offering an interactive performance option for renters and so far, we’ve been very well-received. I’m excited to show the community all that The Strand can do.”

In addition to holiday events, The Strand is a popular venue for weddings, concerts, movies, rehearsal dinners, receptions,

birthday and anniversary parties, corporate retreats, and fundraisers. Since reopening in December of 2008, the theatre has held at least 385 events every year. If you’re looking for a unique venue boasting lavish art deco décor and a rich history, look no further.

Celebrate the holidays with your

company, colleagues, and clients at The Strand. The Strand is offering never-before deals on the 2nd and 4th floor event rooms through the end of the year. For more information, please contact Andrew Cole, Strand Events Manager, at 770-293-0080, ext. 286 or email andrew@EarlSmithStrand.org.



YOUR HOLIDAYS

plumbing go out right before a
horde of five year olds are coming
over for a sprinkler party?

don't worry. we've got this.





Staff members Andrew Cole and Manda Costoulas take the new Lounge for a test drive.

Introducing: The Strand (Pre-show) Lounge

Staff Writer Katie Pflugradt

It's an hour before your favorite band takes The Strand stage, you've been waiting for this show all week, and you're aching for some live entertainment. Only problem: the concert doesn't start for a while and your arts hunger needs to be fed immediately. A cold beer would be nice, too.

Don't worry, we're here for you. The Strand is proud to announce the opening of our very own pre-show hangout: The Strand Lounge. Our staff has been working hard on transforming our second floor event space into a warm, relaxing place to pass the time before your performance begins. If you've ever been to our second floor, you know that it doesn't take much to make it welcoming. With the addition of some furniture, a bar, and several overwhelmingly talented performers, The Strand Lounge has become the place to be.

So, the next time you're counting down the minutes to your most beloved musical, go ahead and leave hours before you need to. You can always come grab a drink, relax, and soak up some entertainment at The Strand Lounge. Yeah, we're excited, too.

HOURS:

Friday and Saturday nights
6pm — Curtain (8pm)
Soft Opening: Friday, Nov 30
Grand Opening: Friday, Dec 7

New at The Strand

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2012: A YEAR IN REVIEW

The Strand Theatre had a busy year in 2012—a year of fun and fundraising. Take a look at the timeline below to see what The Strand has been getting up to!

MUSICAL REVUES

2012 was a big year for Musical Revues! The Strand produced an unprecedented number of live, original shows with events such as *The Vegas Show*, *Mo' Motown*, *Best of Broadway*, *Salute to America*, and *Strandemonium*. The Strand utilized talent from across the east coast to bring jaw-dropping music and dance to Marietta.



BIG BASHES



Starting with a four-year birthday bash and finishing up with a New Years Eve concert, 2012 has been the year for must-attend events at The Strand. In May, The Strand hosted both *Disco Night*, a dance party on the Steven W. Imler Stage, and the fundraising push of the year with the Call-A-Thon (pictured). The Strand beat its fundraising goal and raised \$65,000 toward paying down the \$1.5 million renovation debt that it took to re-open the theatre.

The Strand had a variety of musical guests on its stage in 2012. Blair Crimmins and The Hookers (pictured) returned to The Strand to kick off its music series, which featured groups such as Jimmy Buffett tribute band A1A, Rolling Stones tribute band Jagged Stones, Half Dozen Brass Band, Basically Frightened and Col. Bruce Hampton, and The Packway Handle Band. The Jagged Stones will be returning to bring in 2013 at The Strand on New Years Eve.

LIVE THEATRE

The Strand put the “theatre” back in Earl Smith Strand Theatre in 2012. The theatre produced its own run of *The Odd Couple* (pictured) in January, and hosted many live productions including *Smoke on the Mountain*, *Fiddler on the Roof Jr.*, as well as another hit season of musicals by the Atlantic Lyric Theatre.

LIVE MUSIC



The Strand would like
to thank the
Downtown Marietta
Development Authority
for their support of the
2012 Music Series at
The Strand



Board Spotlight: Bob Ash

Staff Writer Manda Costoulas

Bob Ash is a highly respected citizen of Cobb County, and The Strand is lucky to have him on our board of directors! Ash was the director of the Public Services Agency in Cobb County, and retired from the Cobb Government after thirty two years of service. He graduated from the University of Georgia with a BS in education and served in the US Navy. He has been married to Lynn Spratlin Ash for 42 years, and they have four children

and four grandchildren. Ash currently enjoys all the benefits of living in the great county of Cobb.

Patron: What is it about The Strand that made you interested in being involved?

Bob Ash: I became involved in The Strand restoration effort in the very beginning discussion of the project. County Commission Chairman Sam Olens asked me to represent the county in the group of community leaders who were talking about the project. At the time, The Strand was a true eyesore on the square and we recognized an opportunity to save a historic structure and through its programs help our community. And Earl Smith asked me to help. He is an enthusiastic leader to whom you don't say "no". I knew with his involvement the project had a real chance for success.

P: These are tough economic times. What is the

motivation that keeps The Strand going?

BA: The theatre brings a variety of good entertainment to Cobb and the surrounding area. And through its programs, it is a real economic engine for the community. Even in tough times, people want good entertainment and The Strand provides that.

P: What do you see in the future for The Strand?

BA: I believe The Strand's future is bright. We have a very enthusiastic Board of Trustees who are all committed to the success of the theatre. With that kind of energy and the great staff we have, good things will continue to happen at The Strand. And we are fortunate to have great community support which is reason for an optimistic view of things to come.

P: What can the community do to keep The Strand strong?

BA: Support the theatre by attending productions and promoting the facility by encouraging others to come with them. And they can continue to help in our fundraising efforts which are a big part of our annual budget.

P: What is the best, and also the most challenging, part of being involved in the arts community?

BA: The best part of involvement is seeing the talent of all those who bring the arts to us. This is in the visual arts and performing arts. It is great entertainment and very important to the quality of life of any good community. The most difficult job is raising money. No arts organizations are able to survive without this effort. It is a challenge but is a necessary and important part of being involved with any arts group. Without fundraising, the great entertainment goes away.

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Usher Spotlight: Jan Gariety

Staff Writer Katie Pflugradt

When you attend an event at The Strand, you are doing more than coming to see a concert or classic movie; you are diving into a nostalgic and entrancing experience. From the marbled floor to The Strand's Mighty Allen Theatre Organ every inch of The Strand makes it clear that a warm, welcoming, and memorable night is ahead of you. Once you grab some popcorn, a few beverages, and a candy bar, you are greeted with a red vest, program, and a smile.

Our usher base at The Strand works on a volunteer basis and is an essential piece in creating Strand memories. The ushers do more than just tear tickets at the door. They know the history of The Strand and of Marietta, and can often tell you first-hand accounts of events that happened on the very ground you're standing on. The joy and insight that these ushers bring to every event enhances the "Strand experience".

We wanted to take some time to recognize one of our most exceptional ushers, Jan Gariety.

Jan moved to Georgia in 1984 from her hometown, Jefferson, Indiana. Along with being the proud matriarch to a son, two grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, Jan works with S P Richards Co. with plans to retire in January 2013. Somehow in her busy schedule, she finds time to dedicate to volunteering at The Strand. We're impressed!

Jan began ushering when her friend, Linda Farley, suggested it to her. "Linda said it was a really fun place to be." (Oh, Linda, we're blushing!) Along with enjoying the musicals and silent movies, Jan says the people are what keep her coming back, "I enjoy meeting the patrons and helping them when I can. The people here are a good group to work with. I hope I can do more after I retire." The feeling is definitely mutual, Jan. Thank you for everything that you put in to The Strand and for your constant enthusiasm to help out.



Volunteering For Art

Staff Writer Katie Pflugradt

Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer? Want to be involved in the arts community, but you don't have time to work on your old tap routine? Consider being a volunteer usher at the Earl Smith Strand Theatre. The Strand currently has over 100 ushers that volunteer a few hours out of their schedule to help patrons and support The Strand as a monumental piece of Historic Marietta.

While there are several perks that come with volunteering as an usher, the main highlight is getting to meet and assist patrons. Don't

believe us? Take it from the ushers themselves:

"I really enjoy meeting and helping people." - Nancy Mobley

"The variety of shows makes it fun and I have met so many interesting people. I volunteer because I love the arts and the art community" - Linda Farley

"I am happy to be able to support The Strand in a small way by volunteering. I have made a lot of wonderful friends here, and I enjoy meeting and greeting the patrons." - Becca Keinel.

Convinced? Good.

To join our ushering team email katie@earlsmithstrand.org.



Thank you to all of our food sponsors for our Strandelicious fundraiser. All of our guests truly enjoyed your excellent treats!

Australian Bakery Cafe, BLU Greek Taverna,
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 Gabriel's Restaurant and Bakery, Johnnie MacCracken's,
 Miss Mamie's Cupcakes, Marietta Pizza Co.,
 Paul's Pot Pies, Shillings On The Square,
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Strand Staff



Earl Reece
Executive Director



Cassi Costoulas
*Director of Business
Development &
Marketing*



Andrew Cole
Events & Bar Manager



Chuck Polasky
Technical Director



Manda Costoulas
Box Office Manager



Debbie Huckeba
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Katie Pflugradt
*Front of House
Manager*



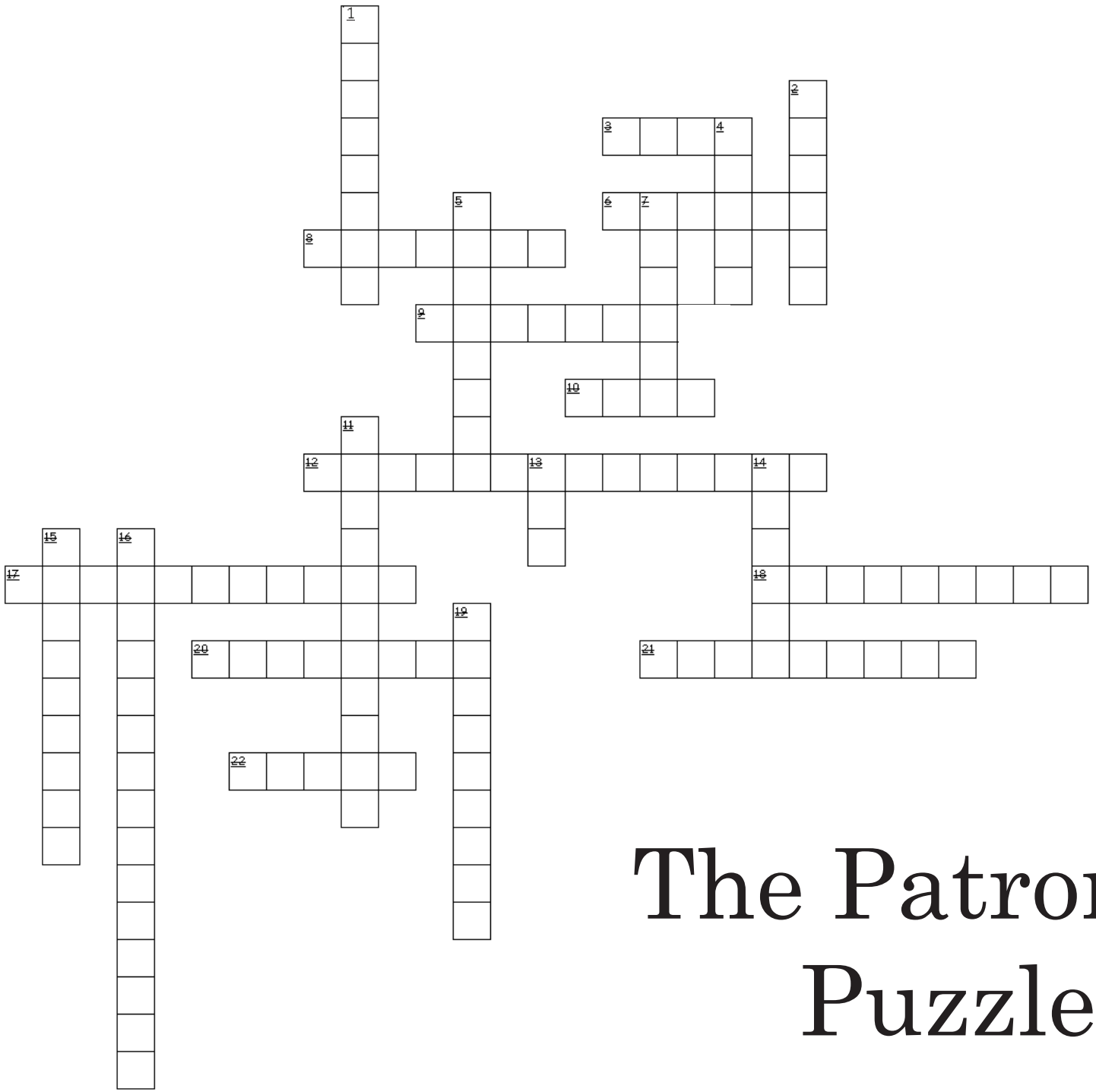
EVENT STAFF

Jared Bier
William Chandler
Kenneth Givens
Cayce Hoover
Joshua Katz
Nikki Maisonet
Taylor Tolbert

INTERNS

Colton Hinderliter
Andrew Yeni

Strand Staff



The Patron Puzzler

Across

- 3. Residents of the Fire Swamp
- 6. Friends of The Strand Board Chairman
- 8. Infamous box opener
- 9. Family name from Smoke on the Mountain
- 10. ___ Smith Strand Theatre
- 12. This federal program started the same year The Strand opened

- 17. The Strand's theater organ
- 18. Southern snow event of 2011
- 20. City named after Mary Cobb
- 21. Kissable parasitic plant
- 22. ___ Christmas, opens December 7

Down

- 1. Mountain with highest point in Metro Atlanta
- 2. "You killed my ____, prepare to die!"
- 4. There are 531 at The Strand
- 5. Type of soda served at The Strand
- 7. Shirley MacLane role of 1989
- 11. Marietta has the largest

- one of these cemeteries in the South
- 13. North by Northwest opp.?
- 14. First Movie shown at The Strand in 1935
- 15. Most recognizable profile in film
- 16. Band that will be playing on NYE this year
- 19. Wintery peppermint treat

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pg 18

**A Sneak Peek
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pg 20

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pg 9

**NEW: Patron
Puzzler**
pg 38