

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Steel Magnolias, the title itself is the heart and soul of this play. I'm so pleased to be directing such a powerful show. Six women made of Steel, who face life's joys and tragedies. This has always been a great favorite of mine, and every other southern woman I've known. I had the honor of playing Shelby, when I was in high school, and a show like this will always stick with you. The talent I have in this cast is unlike any other I've ever directed before. They bring the story to a whole new light, and with the "fantastical" aspect I have in store, this show will be unlike any other ever performed at the Fort Smith Little Theatre.

"We'll get through this just fine. You what they say. That, which does not kill us, makes us stronger." In many ways, this line from the play summarizes the overall message of the story, but most importantly it summarizes the trials people go through every day. Family is everything. Thus said, I am dedicating my show to my Auntie Ella and Uncle Tim Chapman, who lost everything in a house explosion, and who are still putting up the good fight at Arkansas Children's Hospital's Burn Unit. A special thank you to Tracy and Tammy Ferguson, amazing parents, who never let me sink. Enjoy the show...

~ SUMMER FERGUSON



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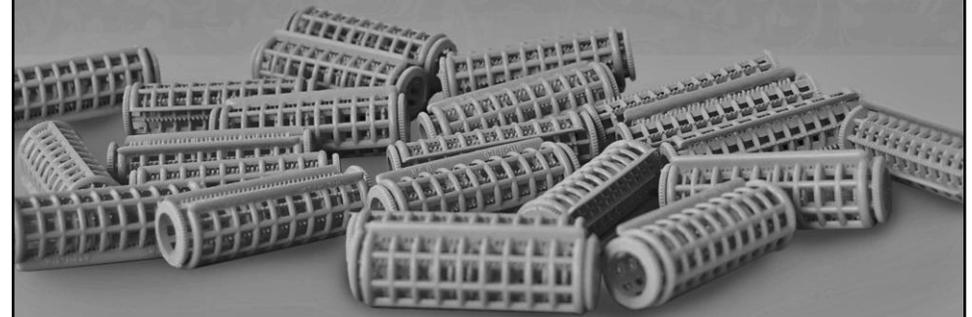
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The Fort Smith Little Theatre Presents:

steel Magnolias

Written by: Robert Harling
Directed by: Summer Ferguson

April 4-7 & April 10-13



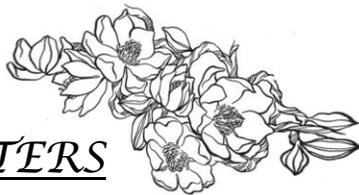
Call 783-2966
for reservations

401 North 6th Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

PRODUCTION CREW

Director	SUMMER FERGUSON
Producers	THERESA STARR & RIKKEE WORKMAN-BLACK
Stage Manager	WESLEY FOX
Production Stage Manager	CHEREE SPANN
Backstage Running Crew	LUKE PERKINSON & STEPHEN MARTIN
Props	NEAL GOODWIN & MARTHA GOODEN
Costumes	JACIE JONES & SIOBHAN KREMERS
Hair & Make-up	MEGAN JOHNSON & KAYLA THOMPSON
Lighting Design	REBEKAH & LUCAS STOLTZ
Sound Design	SUMMER FERGUSON & WESLEY FOX
Lights & Sound	CHUCK HOWARD, JOSH SMITH, & WADE GORDON
Set Design	RON STICE
Set Construction	RON STICE, SUMMER FERGUSON, SCOTT BLACK, CHUCK HOWARD & NEAL GOODWIN
Graphic Design	BOBBY ROGNE



CAST OF CHARACTERS

Angie Ellis as **OUISER**

I am a self-employed network marketer for 'Send Out Cards', helping people create actual honest to God cards on the internet along with other nifty fun things. I have a Masters in Theatre/Acting and have taught high school Drama and Technical Theatre in South Carolina and Washington state. I take care of my disabled son and three grandkids while my daughter-in-laws works. Life is good.

Pattie Smith as **CLAIREE**

I live in Van Buren. I am a paralegal for Cheryl Anderson, Attorney. This year my husband and I will celebrate our 28th wedding anniversary on July 4. We have one son, who has a BA in Theatre from the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. This is my first time acting in a play, and "Steel Magnolias" is one of my many favorite movies. What an experience. I now can check acting-in-a-play off my bucket list! I can relate with Clairee in many ways. But for those of you that know me, Clairee and I share the LOVE OF FOOTBALL, and we are both SCARED-TO-DEATH to get on a plane. I want to thank my husband David, and my son Josh, for their love, support, and countless hours of helping me with my lines. I could have never done it without them.

Lora Rice as **TRUVY**

Oh what fun to pretend to be someone else for a few weeks! I have had the pleasure of this experience about once a year since I first wandered in for an audition back in 1999. Onstage my roles have included a maid, a judge's wife, a scoundrel's wife, a delinquent's mom, a mean old woman, an indecisive customer, an eccentric party

planner – and now a southern hair dresser! Truvy is certainly a fun one to portray. In the real world my roles include corporate controller, mom, sister, Sunday School teacher, and (my favorite) "Nana"!

Monica Longoria as **M'LYNN**

I am from Fort Smith, AR. I am currently the Merch Flow Supervisor at Victoria's Secret. I have twin boys, Kaleb and Kyten. I'm very blessed to have them and love them. I have a BA in Theatre-Acting/Directing from the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. I've been in productions at UAFS and UofA, and commercial and film. It has been awhile since I've been in a production at FSLT. I was Linda in Stagedoor, a hot box / Havana dancer in Guys and Dolls, and Catherine in Echanted April. It's great to be back and playing the role of M'Lynn. I'm thankful for my family and friends – "You have no idea how wonderful you are." I would like to dedicate my performance to two of the strongest and most remarkable women I know. First, my Grandma Joy, who left this world in January. This was one of her favorite movies and I know that she is watching from above, smiling. Second, my Mom – I love you and thank you for being my M'Lynn.

Victoria Walden as **SHELBY**

This is my 4th show at the FSLT. In the last production I worked props. for Hickory Dickory Dead, and I was onstage as Meg in Little Women. I'm the mom of a beautiful two year old – Allison. I've made the most amazing friends and memories being a part of this community theatre.

Kristel Biggs as **ANNELLE**

I live in Fort Smith. In 2005 I earned a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Arkansas-Fort Smith. I have been teaching in the Fort Smith Public School District for 8 years. I have one beautiful daughter, Mackenzy, who has just turned five years old. This is my first play and I have enjoyed every minute. I want to thank all my family and friends for their endless support and love.

Oscar Kourany as **DRUM**

I find that the part of Drum is very liberating – I just point and shoot.

Bobby Rogne as **JACKSON**

I have a beard and a wife.

Eric Wells as **JONATHAN**

Van Buren native who saves cats from trees, loves long walks on the beach, and saves the world on a daily basis – you know, the normal college guy stuff...

Drew Smith as **TOMMY**

I'm the good looking one, with the angelic hair.

Joe Graham as **DOCTOR**

Going from nerdy mailman, to cranky innkeeper, and now a doctor! Oh, the joy of theatre...

NOTE: When Pattie Smith was injured in an accident, FSLT veteran PAULA SHARUM stepped in to play Clairee, a role which she brought to life in just a few days before opening & after programs were printed.