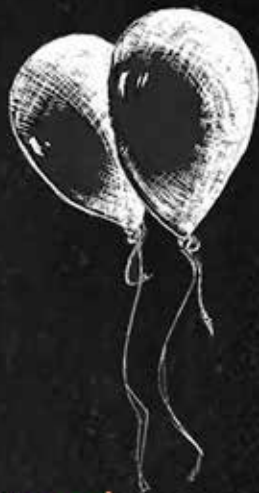


theatre **KAPOW**

tiny
beautiful
things



Based on the best-selling book by Cheryl Strayed

Adapted for the stage by Nia Vardalos

Co-Conceived by Marshall Heyman,
Thomas Kail, and Nia Vardalos



Presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

June 9 and 10 at 7:30pm

June 11 at 2:00pm

Bank of NH Stage, Concord



Capitol Center
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www.tKAPOW.com

Director's Note

Tiny Beautiful Things is the final show of theatre KAPOW's 15th season and the final show of our first full season as the resident theatre company here at the incredible Bank of NH Stage. We are so grateful for the opportunity to make our artistic home here in Concord and many of us have commented on the fact that after a few shows experimenting in this space we truly believe we have found a way, with this show, to make the BNHS truly feel like home. For 15 years our work has been based on the belief that when artists and audiences are placed in close proximity and authentically occupy the same space, the unique power of theatrical storytelling is unlocked. As I reflect on this show, I think I have come to understand why it works so well in this space. Just as Sugar finds ways to relate to each letter writer by sharing her personal experiences, we as a company have leaned into our experience making theatre in a whole host of different spaces. We've always loved to alter the audience perspective and, I believe, we have found a nice way to do that with this show. The beauty of this piece is the way that the three letter writers stand in for the hundreds of real life letter writers who reached out to Sugar for advice. Towards the end of the play Sugar say's "I am Sugar and so are all of you!" That statement extends beyond the other actors on stage and includes all of us in the audience. We, by experiencing these letters together, are an active part of the storytelling process. Thank you for being here and taking part in this collaboration.

~Matt Cahoon, Artistic Director

Intimacy Coordinator's Note

Tiny Beautiful Things is based on the experience of a writer engaging with real people through an advice column blog. While the overall feeling of this show is positive, cathartic, supportive, and uplifting, it features the words of real people portrayed in the play as the letter-writers. The words in their letters express their most desperate questions and profound struggles around difficult topics. No acts of violence are depicted or reenacted, but these topics are discussed from the perspective of healing. This performance discusses topics of child abuse, sexual assault, sexual abuse, incest, miscarriage, disordered eating, death of an adult child, drug abuse, misgendering and rejection by parents, and suicide.

We understand that some of these topics may be triggering for some audience members, and we encourage you to do what you must to care for yourself during this performance.'

~Kyrie Ellison-Keller, Intimacy Coordinator

theatre KAPOW and the Bank of NH Stage present

Tiny Beautiful Things

Based on the best-selling book by Cheryl Strayed

Adapted for the stage by Nia Vardalos

Co-Conceived by Marshall Heyman,

Thomas Kail, and Nia Vardalos

Sugar..... Carey Cahoon
Letter Writer #1..... Peter Josephson
Letter Writer #2..... Rachael Chapin Longo
Letter Writer #3..... Madaline Falcone
Director..... Matt Cahoon
Stage Manager..... Samantha Autumn
Intimacy Director..... Kyrie Ellison
Lighting Design..... Tayva Young
Costume Design/ Wardrobe Barbara Hollbrook
Scenic Design Matt and Carey Cahoon
Image Design..... Neva Cole

~ One act with no intermission ~

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The Company

Carey Cahoon (Sugar) was last seen with tKAPOW as Hana in *Mr. Wolf*. For tKAPOW's 2017 production of *Living in Exile* as Briseis she won the NH Theatre Award for Best Actress (Professional). She also won the 2017 NH Theatre Award for Best Actress as Queen Marguerite in *Exit the King*, and in 2014 for her roles in tKAPOW's 3-person *Macbeth*. Other favorite roles include Sarah Goodwin in *Time Stands Still*, Cassandra in *Agamemnon*, Hedda Tesman in *Hedda Gabler*, Jessie in *'night, Mother*, the Pilot in *Grounded*, Penelope in *The Penelopiad*, and Ashlee in *Dance Nation*. Carey has also performed, directed or designed with Glass Dove Productions, Boston Playwright's Platform, Stage One Productions, the Palace Theatre, and the Anselmian Abbey Players. She holds a BA in Classics from St. Anselm College, and trained at the Atlantic Acting School, Shakespeare & Company, and with SITI Company. Careycahoon.com

Maddy Falcone, she/her (Letter Writer #3) is overjoyed to be working with theatre Kapow on this truly special show! Madaline is a New England based theatre artist, screen actor and life drawing model. Some of her previous roles include Ms. Lauren in *The Cookie Referendum* with Free Soil Arts, 1 in *Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again* with Studio 506, Nina in *Stupid F#cking Bird* with Balefire Productions, and Naomi in Nathaneal Molnar's upcoming film, *What Hides Within*. Madaline would like to thank her family and fiancé for their endless supply of love and support. She would also like to thank this magnificent cast and crew for welcoming her into their world

with such warmth and excitement. You can see Madaline next as Maddy in Sarah Secunda's forthcoming film *Into the Water*. Enjoy this show!

Rachael Chapin Longo (Letter Writer #2) received her BS in Theater from Skidmore College and her MA in Educational Theatre from NYU. She is an actor, director, educator and playwright. Rachael has dedicated herself to educational theatre and has worked as a professional teaching artist and education director; creating curriculum and teaching classes in acting, directing, playwriting and movement. Her directing credits include *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Laramie Project*, *The Death of a Caterpillar*, *West Side Story*, *The Tempest*, *South Pacific*, *Sister Act*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *The Ash Girl* and *Silent Sky* (for which she was a finalist for a NHTA "Best Director" Award in 2019). Acting credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Crucible*, *Desdemona*, *Mr. Burns: A Post Electric Play*, *The Penelopiad*, *The Burial at Thebes*, *Natural Shocks*, *Gideon's Knot* and *The Wolves*. She recently joined the cast of *The Dinner Detective*, a murder mystery show performed year-round in Boston. Rachael has taught theater at the college level for many years and is the owner of Shawsheen Arts Studio in Andover, MA. She is also a company member and actor with theatre KAPOW. She most recently appeared as "Beth" in the tKAPOW production of *Breadcrumbs*. She is grateful to have the support of her tKAPOW family as she continues to train and learn and feels very lucky to work with the amazing artists on the *Tiny Beautiful Things* team. Special thanks to her incredible family for all their support and cheers.

Peter Josephson (Letter Writer #1) is in his thirteenth season as a member of the theatre KAPOW company. An accomplished actor and director, he has won two New Hampshire Theatre Awards for his roles in *Penelope* and *Exit the King* (both with tKAPOW). He has performed with the New Hampshire Theatre Project, the Winnepesaukee Playhouse, and the Seven Stages Shakespeare Company, and has appeared in numerous productions with theatre KAPOW, including *Agamemnon*, *A Dream Play*, *Macbeth*, *Buried Child*, *A Tempest Prayer*, and most recently *Mr. Wolf*. He is the director of The Riverbed Theatre Workshop. For almost 40 years (!) he has benefited



Humans love stories: creating them, telling them, adapting them. How and why do we retell them in different ways and remake them in different forms?

Meg Cronin, Professor of English and Director of College Writing at Saint Anselm College will lead a post-show discussion after the 2 pm matinee on Sunday, June 11.

theatre KAPOW explores the truths of human experience through the passion and electricity of live theatre performed to the highest standards of excellence. tKAPOW produces the best dramatic works from across ages and cultures to inspire and challenge both artists and audience.

We put stories on stage to create a safe space to start a conversation to begin to heal communities, families, and hearts.

*Your support
makes our work possible!*



Click above to give!

from the love and support of his wife, without whom he would be a shadow of his present self. This performance is dedicated to the Habib and Taranow families.

Matt Cahoon (Artistic Director) is the Artistic Director of theatre KAPOW. Matt has directed many productions for the company including: *The Boyg*, *Agamemnon*, *A Dream Play*, *Raining Aluminum*, and *The Penelopiad*. His work with theatre KAPOW has resulted in three NH Theatre Awards for Best Director. Matt has directed for a number of other companies including the Winnepesaukee Playhouse (*Accidental Death of an Anarchist*, *Miss Julie*, *Robin Hood*), Jean's Playhouse (*Kimberly Akimbo*), and LaMaMa ETC. (*The Life and Times of Lee Harvey Oswald* in NY and *Me and Bea* at LaMaMa International in Spoleto, IT). Matt's theatre training includes work with Double Edge Theatre Company, SITI Company, the New England Center for Circus Arts, and Tectonic Theater Project. In 2013, Matt attended the International Symposium for Directors at LaMaMa Umbria in Spoleto, Italy. After 18 years as the Director of Cultural Programming at Pinkerton Academy, Matt is excited to be the new Theatre Director at New Hampton School.

Samantha Autumn, she/her (Stage Manager) - BFA '26 Theatre Education & Performance. Emerson College Credits: Musical Theatre Society's *Ride the Cyclone* (Stage Manager); *Kidding Around's A Tail of Socks The Street Cat* (Props Lead, Assistant Producer), *Kidding Around Board* (Education Coordinator). HS Credits: *Pippin* (Catherine), *She Kills Monsters* (Vera). Samantha is so excited to join the tkapow family and work with an awesome group of people!!

Kyrie Ellison (she/they, Intimacy Director) is a performance maker, designer, and Intimacy Advocate based in New Hampshire. Her work utilizes the choreographic, through stage combat and movement, to build femme communal spaces & speculative narratives to confront oppressive forms. She's curious about the stories we tell each other to "just get through it" and how they relate to the fairy tales and tropes made popular by writers. Since graduating with her M.F.A in Theatre from Sarah Lawrence College,

Kyrie is working as Assistant Director of Theatre for the New Hampton School in New Hampton, NH, and collaborating with theatreKAPOW as an Intimacy Director.

Barbara Holbrook (Costume Designer, she/her) has a BA in Theatre, an MFA in Costume Design, and a passion for creative collaborations on stage and off. She's delighted to have been with Theatre Kapow for all 3 of this season's shows. Past projects with special places in her heart include *Pippin*, *The Secret Garden*, *Annie*, *Godspell*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Candide*, *Shadowlands*, *The Good Person of Szechwan*, and *The Man of La Mancha*. Her path has taken her through various positions in theater, retail, consulting, and being a mom of three. Barbara's a certified meditation instructor, Reiki Master, yoga teacher (Yoga Alliance RYT-500), and serial pattern disruptor. She lives north of Boston in a multi-generational household where she hones her practices of love, humor, resilience, and unapologetic self-care.

Tayva Young (Lighting Designer) lives in Maine on a small homestead with her husband, her mom and two children. She enjoys gardening, walking by the ocean and the peace that comes with being outdoors. Her love for the theatre and the storytelling process often brings her indoors. She considers tKAPOW her theatre family and could not have asked for a more talented, supportive and imaginative group of people to work with. She enjoys the collaboration process with so many talented individuals, bringing the magic of live theatre to all audiences. She has been honored with two NH Theater Awards for best Lighting Design for *Time Stands Still* and *Living in Exile*. She thanks each and every one of you for supporting the arts as well as her loving family for all their support and love. Enjoy the Show!

Anti-racism and Equitable Space Pledge

We pledge to be held publicly accountable in cultivating an anti-racist, equitable space for learning and creating. We will actively hold ourselves accountable if and when we are not doing our part to stand up against structural racism. We will promote a positive space for all, regardless of race, sexuality, gender expression, or ability. We will listen in order to understand, not to defend or deflect.

We pledge to examine and dismantle our own learned biases. We will sit in the discomfort this brings, and will not let this discomfort render us silent or derail the necessary work.

Thank you for holding us accountable and joining us in this effort to foster an anti-racist, inclusive theatrical community that creates opportunities for all artists and audiences.

Cheryl Strayed (writer) is the author of the #1 New York Times bestseller *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*, which was made into an Oscar-nominated film. Her bestselling collection of 'Dear Sugar' columns, *Tiny Beautiful Things*, was adapted for a Hulu television show and as a play that continues to be staged in theaters nationwide. Strayed's other books are the critically acclaimed novel, *Torch*, and the bestselling collection *Brave Enough*, which brings together more than one hundred of her inspiring quotes. Her books have sold more than 5 million copies around the world and have been translated into forty languages. Her award-winning essays and short stories have been published in *The Best American Essays*, *the New York Times*, *the Washington Post Magazine*, *Vogue*, and elsewhere. Strayed has also made two hit podcasts, *Dear Sugars*, which she co-hosted with Steve Almond, and *Sugar Calling*. She lives in Portland, Oregon.

Nia Vardalos (Adaptor) is a Canadian actress, director, producer and screenwriter. She is best known for starring in and writing the romantic comedy film *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* (2002), which garnered her nominations for the Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay, and the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress – Motion Picture Comedy or Musical. An alumna of the Chicago-based Second City comedy repertory company, Vardalos wrote and performed in over ten revues of sketch comedy and won Chicago's Joseph Jefferson award for Best Actress.

**theatre KAPOW thanks the following people and organizations
for their support of *Tiny Beautiful Things***

Austin Arkell ~ Matthew Lomanno ~ Kyp Pilalas
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wax idiotical films
www.waxidiotical.com

Winner of Best Film
at NH 48 Hour
Film Project

Promotional Videos
Event Videography
Creative Writing

photos by Matt Lomanno

The image is a promotional graphic for Wax Idiotical Films. It features a black background with white text and a logo. The logo consists of a circle containing the letters 'wi' in a stylized font, with a horizontal line passing through the circle. To the right of the logo are three small, black and white film stills: the top one shows a person in a boat, the middle one shows a person with a telescope, and the bottom one shows a person in a kitchen. The text 'wax idiotical films' is at the top left, 'www.waxidiotical.com' is below it, and 'Winner of Best Film at NH 48 Hour Film Project' is to the right. At the bottom left, it lists services: 'Promotional Videos', 'Event Videography', and 'Creative Writing'. At the bottom right, it says 'photos by Matt Lomanno'.

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Meg Cronin

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Walter Maroney

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*acknowledging the land
we inhabit*

tKAPOW's work is based primarily on N'dakinna (En-DA-kin-ah), which is the traditional ancestral homeland of the Abenaki, Pennacook and Wabanaki Peoples past and present. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land and waterways and the alnobak (people) who have stewarded N'dakinna throughout the generations. This moment calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit as well.

We do this to pay respect to the Abenaki, Pennacook and Wabanaki Peoples and their elders past, present, and emerging. We hope to inspire greater curiosity among non-Native peoples about the land on which they live, to halt the erasure of Indigenous history, and to encourage support of Indigenous communities both locally and globally.

We encourage you to more about the Indigenous communities where you are currently. You can visit <https://native-land.ca/>.

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