



25TH ANNIVERSARY
TRIBUTE JOURNAL

HONORING

FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

STEPHEN BURDMAN

MAY 7, 2024

ABOUT OUR HONOREE



Stephen Burdman founded New York Classical Theatre in 2000 and is the vision behind the creation of Panoramic Theatre. He initially planned to become a doctor while studying Computer Science in college.

On a lark, Stephen auditioned for a production of *Hamlet* and that experience completely changed the course of his life. He founded NY Classical to give all people the chance to discover classical masterpieces as he did.

Since then, Stephen has directed 37 plays for NY Classical (38 with this summer's production of *Henry IV!*). He holds an MFA from UC Irvine and is an alumnus of the National Theater Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. In 1989, he was selected to participate in the first young theatre artist exchange with the (former) Soviet Union and has been a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society since 1994. Stephen has directed over half of the Shakespeare canon and received the 2022 Sidney Berger Award from the Shakespeare Theatre Association for outstanding talent and commitment to the works of William Shakespeare.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Manhattan Sites
26 Wall Street
New York, NY 10005

African Burial Ground N.M.
Castle Clinton N.M.
Federal Hall N.M.
General Grant N.M.
Governors Island N.M.
Hamilton Grange N.M.
Theodore Roosevelt
Birthplace N.H.S.
St. Paul's
Church N.H.S.
Stonewall N.M.

Dear Stephen,

It is with great appreciation and fondness I congratulate you on the 25th year of NY Classical Theatre. Realization of your vision to create an institution offering free theatre to the masses is indeed an honorable accomplishment.

NY Classical Theatre's relationship with Castle Clinton National Monument is long and includes momentous occasions. In 2006 NY Classical Theatre staged the first play at the site in 100 years and in 2013, you were there offering the arts to uplift New Yorkers when the site reopened after Hurricane Sandy. After each 'season' at the site, the feedback from visitors is overwhelming enthusiasm and gratitude. Park service employees who staff the event are always complimentary of the NY Classical Theatre staff's reverence and respect for the cultural resource.

We welcome each year NY Classical Theatre can stage a production at Castle Clinton to engage, enlighten, and entertain visitors. We hope our relationship continues another 25 years!

Sincerely,

Shirley McKinney, Superintendent
Castle Clinton National Monument

Congratulations Stephen on
your 25 years wishing you
continued success

ART & ILENE GREENWALD

REBECCA GRUDZINA-MACIAS

Bravo Stephen! Take a
bow for 25 years!!!

THE MALTER FAMILY

Stephen, Congratulations
on your 25th anniversary at
New York Classical Theatre

LINDA SCHWARTZ



Saluting Stephen Burdman,
Founder and Artistic Director
of NY Classical Theatre,
on 25 years of visionary leadership.

Your passion has shaped culture
and inspired generations. Here's to many
more years of artistic excellence!



THEMARDINEYGROUP.COM

(AKA Megan, Jackson, Cory & Mariah)

Dear Stephen,
We are very proud of you and
your contributions to the arts.
Congratulations on the 25th
anniversary of
New York Classical Theatre!

ELLIE AND MARK LAINER

Stephen,

I salute your vision, determination,
and brilliance.

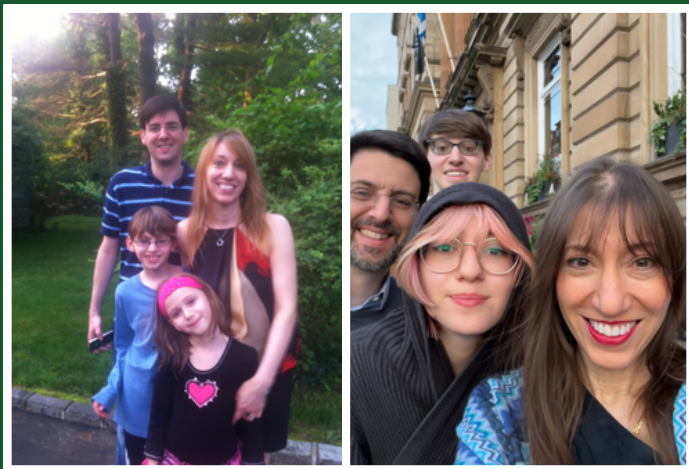
May this well deserved honor help
you manifest many more years of
New York Classical Theatre
productions.

Cheers,

CHARLOTTE TRIEFUS

CONGRATULATIONS, STEPHEN

*WITH GRATITUDE FOR MANY YEARS
OF FUN FAMILY MEMORIES*



THE PERLSTEINS

SID SOLOMON &
GRETCHEN PAGE

Dear Stephen, thank you for so
many years of inspiration!

TINA STAFFORD &
ANDY PATERSON

Stephen, Congratulations in
loving memory of my dad,
Dr. Mike Bromberg DDS. He
was always so proud of you and
your accomplishments. Well
done!

Stephen brings so much joy to
everything he does and that joy
is contagious. You could not be
honoring a nicer guy.
Congrats Stephen!

ALISA A BROMBERG MD

ENRIQUE BALL

"Fair thought and
happy hours attend you"



Love,

HEDDY, YETTI, RACHEL,
DAVID, JOSEPH

We have had the pleasure of knowing
Stephen since we were teenagers at Camp
Hess Kramer in Malibu, CA.

In those years he was always kind and
stood out to us to be very knowledgeable
and spiritual.

Many miles and years have passed since
then and we have seen him grow into a
talented Artistic Director who loves what
he does and pours his heart into
New York Classical Theatre.

We're so proud of all your
accomplishments with NY Classical and
lucky to call you a friend.

Congratulations on your jubilee (25th)!
Mazel tov,

WENDY STARR & MARK KAPLAN

Stephen,

*Your creative work and dedication
inspires and enriches so many lives.*

*Congratulations on 25 years of
accomplishment and commitment to
the New York City community.*

So very proud of you!

Love,

Mamasita

“All the World’s a Stage...”

Dear Stephen,

*You made New York City the stage for
thousands and thousands.*

*And those thousands became the players as the
thespians walked in front of us, behind us, and
around us.*

*And the Acts were your acts of generosity of
heart and spirit in bringing free theatre to all
who willed and desired it.*

*And it is with love, appreciation and great
admiration, we applaud you for all that you do
in making the world a stage.*

*Much love always, Your loving “schvigger”,
Charlotte Abramson and Family
Adena, Zeke, Ami, Yona, Jonah, Eva, Ezra,
Yishai, (and Chewy!)*

I am so grateful to have been
a small part of NY Classical!

KYLE BONDER

Chesapeake Shakespeare
Company

IAN, LESLIE & JENNY

Mazel Tov to Stephen and
NY Classical from

LORA, DAN, BINAH,
THALIA

Congratulations Stephen
for all of your
accomplishments!

THE GALLANAR FAMILY

I have always taken my three daughters to see Shakespeare wherever we are. Nearly 20 years ago I was going through a divorce, so money was tight. What ho! Like a knight in shining armor comes Stephen Burdman and his excellent brain child NYCT. On a hot summer night, we saw "King Lear," and despite the poked out eyeballs, we all loved it. Even better, the DIRECTOR came over to talk to us afterwards, and it was love at first show.

Since then all three have been devotees of Shakespeare and NYCT; my youngest donated some of her bat mitzvah money to NYCT.

Stephen has been endlessly interesting, creative, patient, enthusiastic, and dedicated. He is a treasure to the New York theatre scene as well as to all who know him.

Congratulations on this impressive milestone, Stephen. Thank you for all of your time and talent.

SHARON DELEVIE, STEVEN HABER, RACHEL SOPHIA, AND ELIANA DELEVIE-OREY

J.P.Morgan WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Wealth Partners

The Canell Group

Congratulates Stephen Burdman on his
25th Anniversary as Founding artistic
director of the New York Classical Theatre

The Canell Group

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Stephen -

Congratulations to you and New York
Classical Theatre on 25 years of excellence in
bringing free theatre to public spaces in
NYC!

Your accomplishments as Founding Artistic
Director fills our hearts with joy. You are an
incredible source of inspiration for everyone,
proving that it's both about the journey and
the destination!

Toasting you for this well deserved honor
and cheers to the next 25!!

We love you!

KIM & KERRY WILLS



*“THE GIFT OF STEPHEN
IS PRETTY F**KING
SPECIAL!”*

*Love,
The NTI Class of Fall '87*

Thank you Steve and Melanie Perlstein for introducing us to NY Classical. Our favorite has been *The Rewards of Being Frank!*

ANDY & ARABELLA POLLACK

Mazal Tov! We are so proud of all you have built over these past 25 years! May you go from strength to strength.

Love, Jen, Richard & Family

CANTOR JENNIFER FROST &
RABBI RICHARD PRASS



Happy 25th, Stephen!
Congrats to you and New York Classical Theatre on many amazing years.

MEGAN CARTER

We are thrilled to offer this tribute to the brilliance and creativity of our dear friend Stephen on this wonderful occasion.

From the very start, 25 years ago, NY Classical Theatre has made its mark on our city through performances in our parks, free to all and welcoming of passersby, cyclists, dogs, and other urban phenomena.

It's been our great pleasure to support Stephen and all the talented members of the company in this exng project. We wish you all many more years of work together!

With love and admiration,

ANNE AND LEON HOFFMAN

Happy 25th Anniversary to
New York Classical Theatre!

Congratulations, Stephen, on this
well-deserved honor! Your vision and
drive to provide free, premier
classical theater to all is inspiring.

AMY & NEIL STEINER

Congratulations Stephen on
your outstanding
achievement!

MELISSA KUKLIN

Stephen, a Shakespeare
visionary, daring director,
and my dear friend.



DEBORAH QUAYLE

Best wishes and with great
appreciation for your
accomplishments.

PAM RAAB

Congrats and continued
success. To the next 25!

MELISSA MAXWELL

ARTS INSURANCE PROGRAM

*"Let us Insure your next
Production!"*

BOB MIDDLETON

MAURY DONNELLY & PARR, INC.

Congratulations Stephen on reaching this
incredible milestone! It's inspiring to see how
you've followed your heart and pursued your
love for theatre with an unwavering
commitment over the years. Your
contributions to NY Classical Theatre have
not only enriched the cultural landscape of
New York City, but have also left an indelible
mark on the hearts and minds of countless
individuals (ourselves included!) who have
experienced your performances.

Your dedication and commitment to
bringing the beauty of theatre out into public
spaces where audiences near and far can
enjoy it, is rightly celebrated this evening.

We can't wait to see what NY Classical
Theatre and you accomplish in the next 25
years. Wishing you continued success,
creativity, and fulfillment in all your
endeavors with NY Classical Theatre.

Much Love,
THE SCHWARTZ'S

Congratulations on 25 years of
free, first-rate theater in
New York.

Best wishes for 25 more!

ROSINA B. DIXON

To our dear friend Stephen,

We are delighted to honor you. We can't believe it has been 25 years of NY Classical Theatre. Mazal Tov!

We have enjoyed watching your theater career develop over the years. I, Lisa, have been in awe of your incredible talent ever since the most amazing production of Hamlet I have ever seen - at UC Irvine on April 30, 1994 - 30 years ago! Even though we don't live in New York, we've been lucky to catch some of your plays when we've been in town. What a treat!

Congratulations to everyone at NY Classical!

LISA LAINER-FAGAN AND BRIAN FAGAN

I come to PRAISE Stephen for 25 years of doing "The Bard's" work. Here's to 25 more. Keep making your fellow Zots proud my friend.

KELLY PERINE

Congratulations, and thank you for all of the work you do — and the beautiful Central Park memories.

LEAH AND JOSH WURZBURGER

Dear Stephen,

We are KVELLING over you!
Mazal Tov on this well-deserved honor!

Love,

JEFF NEWELT & ERICA FISHBEIN

Additional Thanks to:

JESSE BERGER

KERSTI BRYAN

HOPE CHERNOV

VIETCA DO

CAROLE EULE

JESSE GRAHAM GALAS

KATHERINE HEALEY

PATRICIA MARIE KELLEY

ALAN KRIEGSTEIN

MARY JO McCONNELL

MICHELLE MISSAGHIEH

SHERRI RAEFORD

SID RAY

NAHMA SANDROW & WILLIAM MEYERS

JENN SCHULTE

ALLISON SMITH

MELANIE SUTHERLAND

JAMES THEIS

JESSICA WANAMAKER

MIRYAM WASSERMAN

MARGERY WESTIN