

About Us

Every year since 1924, the Blue Hill Troupe has come together for a season of revelry celebrating our three great passions: Theater, Charity and Friendship. The Troupe's efforts are rooted in a tradition of performing a high-quality Gilbert & Sullivan operetta each spring, a Broadway musical each fall, and several concerts around the city every winter. Over the years, these combined efforts have raised over three million dollars in net proceeds that have been given annually to various diverse NYC-based charities.

The Troupe spans all generations and all walks of life. New members, both front and backstage, are accepted each fall at the beginning of our season and are immediately folded into the family where everyone from singers to sew-ers alike work side-by-side. For the time spent on this labor of love, there are many rewards, including a winter ball and an annual spring outing. The season is also punctuated with parties, both planned and impromptu, some of which have no other reason for being except that we Troupers have fun together!

Blue Hill Troupe's Charities Over the Last 10 Years

Inwood House
The Doe Fund
Urban Pathways
Jericho Project
The New York Foundling
Children's Aid Society
Covenant House New York
Student Sponsor Partners
Young People's Chorus of New York City
NY Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

About Our 2010 - 2011 Charity

This year's charity is The Carter Burden Center for the Aging. Since 1971 the Center has assisted people 60 and older to remain in their homes living safely and with dignity. Each year approximately 3,500 people receive assistance that allows them to remain in their homes and in their communities.

The Carter Burden Center achieves its mission through six programs in four locations which provide services including elder abuse intervention, social model adult day programming, senior center activities and luncheons, art and craft programs, counseling, home visits, daily money management, and volunteer programs such as friendly visiting and access to cultural events.

Proceeds from this year's partnership will support the continuation and expansion of Cultural Connections, a unique program that provides a means for seniors to take part in the cultural life of this city through tickets that are provided at no or reduced cost. Cultural Connections adds a social component to events which facilitates socialization and reduces isolation, two issues that adversely affect elders. As Carter Burden's catchment areas have expanded they are serving more low income elderly. For too many, attendance at cultural events is not an option as their limited income must be used to meet basic needs. Research shows that continued exposure to arts in later life actually enhances good health. Funds raised will help develop a scholarship program for low income elders and make it possible for many more seniors to participate in the vibrant artistic and cultural life of NYC.

Blue Hill Troupe, Ltd.
www.bht.org

BLUE HILL TROUPE, LTD.



2010 - 2011

*Join Us for Our
87th Season*

Being a Member

Whether the Blue Hill Troupe is primarily social, theatrical or charitable is the subject of continual, cheerful debate. We are a group capable of incredible dedication and effort, in large part because we love each other's company. From your first New Members' party to the final company party to the numerous parties in between, you will find that we celebrate at every opportunity.

Our full-scale productions require full-scale commitment; participation is the key to fun as well as success. Our membership encompasses some of the city's finest performing and behind-the-scenes talent, with lawyers becoming romantic tenors, ad executives morphing into seamstresses and architects turning into set designers. As the season progresses, reformed *prima donnas* will discover the glee of being purple with paint, and some once-shy Backstagers will find a ticket or ad salesperson hidden inside, now clamoring to get out. The Blue Hill Troupe is a place to jump in and discover your talents.

Whether you perform on stage or work behind the scenes, here are some Troupe must-haves and must-dos:

- Discover that the "Blue Book," the Troupe phone book, is an essential item
- Remember your membership dues (\$75/yr.)
- Show off your culinary skills in an evening of holiday caroling and partying
- Immerse yourself in Spring Show production activities
- Dance the night away at our Winter Ball
- Sell program ads and tickets
- Serve on committees
- Sing "Hail Poetry," the Troupe "anthem," at any time and in any place possible

Duties and Activities

FRONTSTAGE DUTIES AND ACTIVITIES

Beginning in October, we rehearse every Tuesday (get ready to sing!). This fall, there are nine Tuesday night rehearsals and New Members should plan to attend all of these rehearsals. We learn the score for the upcoming Spring Show as well as concert selections. Once accepted as a member, you can sing in the concerts and the chorus of the Spring Show without further audition. Concert lead roles may be auditioned or assigned, at the discretion of the concert committee. Auditions for lead roles for the Spring Show take place in early December.

After our holiday break, in early January we begin chorus staging rehearsals on Tuesday and Sunday evenings, and the heat will be on to sell program ads and tickets. Frontstage New Members are expected to attend at least two of the first eight Backstage work sessions.

As opening night approaches, you'll be busy! Don't make any plans for the two weeks before the show so we can be ready when the stage lights go up, the overture begins and the magic of performing before an appreciative audience takes over.

BACKSTAGE DUTIES AND ACTIVITIES

Committee heads for Backstage will ask you to sign up for a particular area—painting, props, sewing, lighting, program, advertising, etc.—but you are encouraged to jump in wherever you see a need and wherever you find an interest. The Fall Show is built in September and October, so you can join in right away! Spring Show planning and design take place in the fall; then, in January we roll up our sleeves and get to it! New Members are expected to attend as many January-March worksessions as possible. A member of the production team will call to confirm dates of attendance so that the production crew can schedule the production calendar and organize teams.

Saturdays and Sundays are prime time for hard work, and the legendary parties every Saturday evening are a well-earned reward.

Once we move into the theater two weeks before opening night, it is "all hands on deck!" All new members are asked to help during tech week, and Backstagers will be assigned nights to work during the run of the show. After the run, everyone is asked to help strike the set and clear the theater.

New Members' Schedule

August 26, 2010	Meet-the-Troupe Party at Blackstone's	December/January	Develop invite mailing list
September 1	Membership application deadline	January 4, 2011	First chorus staging rehearsal
September 14/15	Membership Cocktail Parties	January 8	1 st Spring Show worksession
September 21/22	Frontstage Auditions		First principal staging rehearsal
September 28/29	Backstage Interviews	January/February	Concerts
October 4	Fall Meeting	February 5	<i>HMS Pinafore</i> read through
October 5	Frontstage rehearsals begin	February 26	Annual Winter Ball
October 15	New Members' Orientation	February/March	Sell Spring Show tickets & Ads!
October/November	Help with Fall Show production, Sell Fall Show tickets & Ads!	March 26	Move-in to theater begins
November 6	Move-in to theater begins	April 8 -16	Spring Show: <i>HMS Pinafore</i>
November 12 - 20	Fall Show: <i>Little Shop of Horrors</i>	April 30	<i>HMS Pinafore</i> company party
December 4	Spring Show Auditions	May 21	Cabaret
December 14	Caroling & Holiday Party	June 6	Annual Meeting
		June 25	Out-of-Town Show (Newport, RI)