

The MYPT Professional Staff

The Methuen Young People's Theatre is pleased to have the services of these experienced professionals to work with our summer musical theater program. They have worked with MYPT for over a decade and during that time have directed eight different Gilbert & Sullivan operettas at MYPT. We are fortunate to have them continuing to direct our summer program.

Joseph Gori
Director

Joe has been involved with music education and musical productions in the Merrimack Valley for 30 years. During that time, Joe has served as Choral and /or Musical Director at Methuen High School, Haverhill High School, Merrimack College, Saint Mary's Parish in Lawrence and Holy Angels Parish in Plaistow. Among the many productions he has directed are *Fiddler On The Roof*, *Guys 'n Dolls*, *Hello, Dolly*, *The Music Man*, *Camelot*, *Bye-Bye Birdie*, *Into The Woods*, *The Mystery Of Edwin Drood*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Noises Off* and *Pippin*. Joe earned his B.S. at Berklee College of Music and a master's degree at the University of Massachusetts – Lowell and studied with the HB Acting Studios in New York City.

Ben Hellman
Director

Ben's involvement with Gilbert & Sullivan started as a cast member in MYPT and has grown to include more than twenty G&S productions. Ben has performed in, directed or worked back stage for dozens of professional and community productions, including *Camelot*, *Carousel*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Desert Song*, *Robin Hood*, *Dracula* and *The Fantastiks*. As a theater professional, Ben has worked with College Light Opera Company in Falmouth, MA, the Hampton Playhouse in Hampton, NH, the Round Barn Theater in Nappanee, IN, and American Family Theater, a touring children's theater company. He also spent a year performing with and managing a song and dance troupe on a cruise ship. Ben earned his B.A. in theater at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and M.A. in teaching English at Salem State College. He teaches English at Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School.