

The Colchester Sun

NEWS SPORTS GALLERY CALENDAR COMMUNITY OBITUARIES SUBMIT CONTACT

Arts Beat

Kevin Christopher

Kevin Christopher is the co-founder of The Saints and Poets Production Company — a performing arts group dedicated to puppetry arts in theatre and film. He is also the Executive Director of Lake Champlain Access Television in Colchester.

As a child, Christopher loved "Sesame Street" and "The Muppet Show." Growing up, he nurtured his interest in theater and puppetry by attending West Virginia University on a theatre scholarship. Coincidentally, West Virginia University is one of a handful of schools in the country that offers a degree in puppetry. Christopher became highly involved in that department as a writer, director and performer.

His theatrical endeavors — and admiration of Jim Henson — extended beyond college, ultimately leading to the co-founding of The Saints and Poets Production Company in 2010.

The Company's productions have included "The Rocky Horror (Puppet) show" in 2010, "The Pillowman" and "Charlotte's Web" in 2011 and most recently, "Peter Pan" — which takes the stage May 11-20 at the Main Street Landing Performance Arts Center in Burlington. "I think people come into 'Peter Pan' expecting to see certain things: the green tunic for Peter, the red coat for Hook, and, of course, the flying," explained Christopher. "We've made a real effort to throw those preconceived ideas out and start fresh; to make this production unique and our own."

He added, "My hope is that audiences don't miss the familiar, but instead walk away with new notions about what this play is and should be."

Christopher credits everyone he works with as his motivation. From the performers and artists to the technicians and volunteers, he expresses, "These folks continually impress me and inspire me to do better work."

The company is already gearing up for its first original work: "The Moreau Horrors." It is an original musical written and directed by Seth Jarvis with music by Adam Cooper Wood. Based upon based on the novel "The Island of Dr. Moreau" by H.G. Wells, the production will run Nov. 29-Dec. 9 at the Black Box Theatre at Main Street Landing.

Order "Peter Pan" tickets: 802-86FLYNN or <http://colchester.essexreporter.com/www.flyntix.org>

Find out more about The Saints and Poets Production Company:
<http://colchester.essexreporter.com/www.saintsandpoetsproductions.org>



Kevin Christopher working on the Peter Pan set.
Photo submitted



Christopher's tip for his actors: "If you're engaged, believing what you're saying and, most importantly, enjoying what you're doing, an audience will follow you wherever you take it." (l-r) Isabelle Fenn (Peter Pan), Eva Espenshade (Wendy Darling) and Marianne DiMascio (Captain Hook). Photo by Brent Harrewyn