



~ ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: DANNY HOSKINS '93 ~

As we look at East Rochester alumni to spotlight, we remain amazed at the number who have been extremely successful in the broad field of the performing arts, and realized that ER has been home to many of the finest entertainers and performers locally, nationally, and internationally. These talented individuals remind us that it's possible to pursue even the greatest of dreams beginning in our own small hometown. With this in mind, we decided to occasionally focus on those graduates who have gone on to careers in music, acting, and theater. While we know we'll never be able to highlight all of them, please feel free to write to eralumnispotlight@gmail.com if you have any suggestions of artistic alumni we can profile in the future!

Danny Hoskins, ERHS Class of 1993, holds many titles.... actor, director, teacher, and playwright. One might also add 'visionary' to this list, as Danny constantly strives to provide new and exciting experiences for actors and actresses, students, theater technicians and patrons, and the community.



Danny credits his introduction to the theater world to his Middle School music teacher, the late Don Tirabassi – who, he says, not only took several students to their first professional production, at the Auditorium Theater, but was certainly his first, and most influential, mentor. While at ER, Danny performed in *Oliver*, *Damn Yankees*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Annie*, all under the direction of Mr. Tirabassi.

Upon graduating from ER, Danny attended Elmira College as a criminal justice major, then switched to math for a short time. By his sophomore year, however, he realized his true passion was theater – so he changed his major one final time, and in 1997 earned a bachelor's degree in theater arts, with a minor in music.

Danny then spent a couple of years acting in New York City and on some small national tours. In 2000 he decided to pursue further training, so he enrolled at the University of South Carolina and earned a master's in acting. The next few years found him in Atlanta as an apprentice at the Alliance Theatre, where he not only performed, but also developed and directed original works.

Just a few weeks after returning to Rochester in 2006, Danny auditioned for Jack Haldoupis (then the artistic director at Blackfriars Theatre, on East Main Street near Alexander Street), earned a role in *Little Women*, and started rehearsals. He began to see Rochester as the rich artistic community it is – opportunities in theater, music, dance, and art abound, and Danny quickly became an active participant. While working at Young Audiences of Rochester for three years, he acted in more Blackfriars shows under Mr. Haldoupis (who had become another of his highly influential mentors) and was soon given an opportunity to direct. Danny then joined Rochester Children's Theatre (now known as D.E.E.P. Arts, for Develop, Explore, Enrich, and Perform) as the associate artistic director for three years, and artistic director for two.

In 2014, as he was considering leaving Rochester, he learned that Mr. Haldoupis was planning to retire from his position at Blackfriars. Danny applied, was hired, and spent 2014-15 as the associate director under his mentor. In '15 he became the new artistic and managing director for the theater, and is now in his second season in this role. During his two years with Blackfriars, Danny has brought several new ideas and innovations to the theater. Its artistic integrity and quality were well-developed when he arrived, so he's now concentrating on growing what Blackfriars offers, and is striving to further develop the great potential he sees in the theater. In speaking with Danny, one senses his extreme passion for activating Blackfriars' potential through community engagement, educational opportunities, and professional collaborations. Under his leadership the theater has partnerships with

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We plan to add a veterans page to our Website this coming fall, to honor and thank current and former area residents who have chosen to serve and protect their country as members of America's armed services. While our focus will be on servicemen and women from East Rochester, we've decided to also include veterans from nearby communities – because they, like our ER brothers and sisters, are neighbors who have given selflessly for the good of our country and our world.

We began this project earlier this year with very little information about who all these people are, where they lived, and when they served. Over the next couple of months we'll be working with school personnel to design the new page, while collecting the names of veterans whose information will be included when it becomes a reality. Because we haven't really found a reliable, updated source for compiling a comprehensive list, we're asking for everyone's help in its creation. To add someone (yourself, a family member, or a friend), please e-mail as much of the following information as you have to Kimberly Romach '00 at kimberly.romach@gmail.com.

Mr./Mrs./Ms.

last name (and maiden name if applicable), first name

branch of service

years of service (for example, 1963-67)

theater of operations (for example, World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Okinawa, Desert Storm, Fort Sill, Andrews AFB, Continental U.S.)

high school(s) attended, and year(s) of graduation or attendance

other relevant information (for example, B-17 Navigator, USS America CV-66, 1st Marine Regiment, 82nd Airborne, 1st Infantry, USNA)

Our goal is to formally introduce this page on Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017 – Veterans Day.

Your help is greatly appreciated by the Alumni Foundation, and our local veterans and their families.

JAKE CALABRESE '10 NAMED TO BOARD of DIRECTORS

At its March 20, 2017 meeting, the Alumni Foundation's Board of Directors voted to elect **Jacob 'Jake' Calabrese '10** as an interim board member. He fills the position formerly held by Dina Marcoccia '86, who passed away last December.



While a student at East Rochester, Jake was a member of the varsity soccer, golf, and track teams (earning a Section V title for indoor high jump his senior year), competed on the highly successful Science Olympiad team, and was voted Moving Up Day King. He went on to earn a degree in civil engineering from RIT, where he was a member of the Tigers' track team. Upon graduation from RIT, Jake began employment with McFarland Johnson (a planning, engineering, and construction administration firm in Canandaigua) as a junior engineer. An ER resident, he still enjoys playing soccer, golf, and hockey, as well as 'searching for the next adventure.'

Jake and fellow interim board member **Dan Bates '07** will be considered for permanent two-year) membership positions at our Annual Meeting in June.

For a complete list of Alumni Foundation board members please see the box at the bottom of page 5; to learn more about what we do, visit our Website at www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm.

– Carl Tobin '59

2017 Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic Golf Tournament set for Friday, Aug. 4

This year's Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic tournament – the 10th annual – is set to take place at Lima Golf & Country Club on Friday, Aug. 4. The event, hosted by the ER Alumni Foundation, is our major source of the revenue we use for Excellence in Education grants, which benefit all ER students. Last year the SUAC generated more than \$18,000 for the Alumni Foundation; since its inception, the tournament has raised more than \$100,000.

The tournament is designed to appeal to players of all skill levels. Our two main purposes are to raise money for the Alumni Foundation and to bring lots of current and former ER friends together for a fun day of golf and camaraderie. To this end, the tourney uses the 'scramble' format, in which handicaps are not used and each foursome's score is determined by combining the best shots made by all team members on each hole.

Originally known as the East Rochester Open, our tournament was renamed the Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic in 2008. Our intent was to honor our dear friend and a true golfing legend. In addition to his many sporting, social, and charitable contributions, Sam was a founding member of the ERAF Board of Directors and a key member of the ER Open committee.

Registration, a continental breakfast, and a putting contest will begin at 7:15 am; the tournament kicks off with a shotgun start at 9 am. Because there will be more than 200 players, the tourney will be played on both the Charleston Pines and Island Oaks courses. The entry fee of \$95 per person includes the continental breakfast, greens fees, a cart, a drink ticket, tee prizes, a hot dog and beverage at the turn, a fabulous buffet lunch, loads of door prizes, free driving range privileges, and a donation to the Alumni Foundation. On the day of the tournament a putting contest, Mulligan purchases, skins games, and a giant raffle are also available for additional charges. In addition, tickets for lunch only are available for \$25.

During lunch we will also be pleased and proud to honor **this year's Distinguished Alumni Award recipient – Anthony Cilento, ERHS '57**. He is an internationally acclaimed photographer whose subjects and clients have included Presidents Ford and Reagan, Frank Sinatra, Diana Ross, Sting, The Bee Gees, Fleetwood Mac, the Green Bay Packers, and even several Popes. Congratulations to Tony, who will be profiled in our summer newsletter!

To avoid course and banquet delays, a maximum of 55 foursomes (220 players) will be registered. We will try our best to accommodate foursome preferences with regard to course selection. Early registration is encouraged and will be sincerely appreciated! Early registrants will be given priority with regard to course selection. In addition, foursomes who have registered and paid by Friday, June 30, will be entered into an 'early bird' drawing, where the winning foursome will receive a full refund of their \$380 registration fee.

Registration forms are available at the ER District Office, the ER Town/Village Office at the Eyer Building (317 Main St.), and Lima Golf & Country Club (7470 Chase Road, Lima), and on ERAF's Website – www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm. You can also copy or clip out the entry form on the opposite page. For lunch-only tickets, please contact me at ctobin@frontiernet.net or 526-6120.

To preserve the nature of this event, at least one member of each foursome must be an ER alumni, a current or former teacher or staff member, a town/village resident, a local business owner/operator, a student, or an Alumni Foundation sponsor.

The Tournament Committee is looking for people to help plan the event, and/or anyone interested in serving as pre- or post-tournament volunteers. If you'd like to help, have a question, are interested in becoming one of our event sponsors, or want to discuss making a donation of any size, please contact me at the email address or phone number above.

– Carl Tobin '59

Please visit the Alumni Foundation's Website, at www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm!

This year's tournament, our tenth, takes place at Lima Golf & Country Club, 7470 Chase Rd. Lima, NY 14485 on **Friday, August 4, 2017**.

We will, again, use a "Scramble" format to encourage participation by players of all skill levels. In 2016, 208 players participated in this event. To accommodate a field of this size, the contest will be played simultaneously on both of Lima Country Club's beautiful courses.

Registration, a continental breakfast and a putting contest will begin at 7:15 AM. The tournament will kick off with a "shotgun" start at 9:00 AM

The entry fee will again be \$95.00 per player. Included in the entry fee is your greens fee and cart, a continental breakfast, driving range privileges, tee prize(s), a hot dog and beverage at the turn, (1) free drink (beer, wine, liquor or a soft drink) at the downstairs dining room bar, a fabulous buffet lunch, loads of door prizes and a donation to the East Rochester Alumni Foundation.

On the day of the tournament a Putting Contest, Mulligan purchase, Skins Games and a giant Raffle are available to players for additional charges.

We will attempt to accommodate foursome preferences with regard to course selection. To avoid course and banquet delays, a maximum of 55 foursomes (220 players) will be registered. Early registrants will be given priority in regard to course selection.

Early Bird Special!

Foursomes who have registered and paid by June 30, 2017 will be entered in an "Early Bird" drawing. The winning foursome will receive a full refund of their \$380.00 registration fee.

While player entry fees cover tournament costs and a modest donation to the Alumni Foundation, this event relies heavily on its sponsors for prizes and awards, as well as the funds needed to underwrite future foundation grants and projects. Your help is critically important if we are to continue supporting East Rochester's children.

PLEASE CONSIDER RENEWING YOUR SPONSORSHIP OR BECOMING A SPONSOR FOR THE FIRST TIME

***** SPONSOR LEVELS *****

Team Sponsor

(Cash donation of \$500.00 or more)

Includes entry fees for one foursome, (2) 18"X 24" Tee Signs, program designation as a *Major Tournament Sponsor* and one year website recognition as a *Foundation Benefactor*.

Key Sponsor

(Cash or product donation of \$175.00)

(2) 18" X 24" Tee Signs, program recognition as a *Key Sponsor* and one year website recognition as a *Foundation Benefactor*.

Hole / Memorial Sponsor

(Cash or product donation of \$65.00)

18"X 24" Tee Sign, program recognition as a *Hole Sponsor* and one year website recognition as a *Foundation Sponsor*.

Friend

(Cash or product donation of \$20.00)

Program recognition as a *Friend of the Foundation* and one year website recognition as a *Foundation Sponsor*.



2017 PLAYER REGISTRATION

<u>Sign Up For:</u>	<u>Price:</u>
— (1) Team Sponsorship*	\$ 500.00
— (1) Foursome	380.00
— Single Player	95.00
— Key Sponsor	175.00
— Hole / Memorial Sponsor	65.00
— Friend of the Foundation	20.00
Total Amount Included: _____	

***Team Sponsorship includes your foursome's entry fee and a \$120.00 donation.**

PLAYER NAME(S): _____

Please identify your team's captain with an asterisk and include the captain's email or phone number below:

Please send a check and this form to:
 East Rochester Alumni Foundation, Inc.
 c/o Carl Tobin
 3331 County Rd. 20
 Stanley, NY 14561
Thank You!

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Nazareth College, RIT, Writers & Books, and PUSH Physical Theatre, with more to come. He and his staff have developed a summer training program for High School juniors through new college graduates. Danny believes that part of an artist's role is to give back and to expand opportunities for the next generation of artists – and through his work at Blackfriars, he's doing just that.

In addition to all of the above-mentioned experience, Danny's full résumé is extremely impressive. He co-founded the South Carolina-based Pineapple Productions. He has performed both nationally and internationally, including at Hartford Stage Company, Festival Theatre of St. Croix, and Kennesaw Stage, and locally with Blackfriars, JCC CenterStage, and RCT. He has written two original works (*Dracula* and *Jekyll & Hyde*) with PUSH, and has directed several productions at Blackfriars, JCC, and RCT. Danny also served as an adjunct professor of acting at both Nazareth and the U of R for seven years, and since 2007 has taught acting and improvisation at SUNY Brockport.

In October '15 Danny (whose parents, Steve and Joanne Hoskins, still live in ER) married his beautiful wife, Lani Toyama Hoskins, who shares his love of the stage.

Danny Hoskins has become one of the leading names in the Rochester theater world. He is constantly striving to make the city an even better place to enjoy the theater arts, whether as a performer, technician, student, or patron. We are extremely proud to have such an accomplished ER alumnus, and are very excited to see what Danny will bring to the theater community in the years ahead.

For more information about Blackfriars Theatre (whose 2017-18 season is scheduled to include Grease, Twelfth Night, Little Women, Glengarry Glen Ross, and Avenue Q), visit www.blackfriars.org or their YouTube channel.

– Helen Urzetta Tortorici

Forgot what you and your classmates looked like as seniors?

Now on the Alumni Foundation's Website: an 'E.R. Connections' page, where you'll find several useful links – including one to the ER Local History Office's searchable database of ERHS graduates going back to 1910, and the senior portraits of almost all classes since '31. Just go to www.erschools.org/alumni.cfm and click on 'E.R. Connections.' (The features are also easily accessible from the District's homepage – just go to the 'Alumni' tab to access the pull-down menu.)

Alumni Foundation raffle: Browns vs. Jets club seats!

Interested in four club seats for this fall's Cleveland Browns vs. New York Jets game AND in supporting the ER Alumni Foundation? Raffle tickets for the seats (with an estimated value of over \$1,000) are \$20, and only 250 are being sold. The drawing is set for Friday, Aug. 4, at the Sam Urzetta Alumni Classic Golf Tournament; the game is planned for Sunday, Oct. 8 in Cleveland.

For more information contact Martin D'Ambrose '83 at 754-4413 or mgd1965@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!

*** ERAF BOARD OF DIRECTORS ***

Board members: Chris Argento '86, the Hon. Vicki Argento '80, Denise Litzenberger Ash '86, Dan Bates '07 (interim), John Baynes '71, Jake Calabrese '10 (interim), Jerry Cilento '57, Mary Hopkins Cooney '56, Katie Connors DeVito '86, Mary Burton Estey '56, Linda Forbes '75, John Griffith '87, Jenalee Bates Herb '01, Anita Mance '65, Pam Narsisian, Peter Obourn '59, Patty Pullano '63, Tom Quinzi '80, Carl Tobin '59, Helen Urzetta Tortorici, and Dr. Mark Linton (ex-officio)

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