

Dear Friends,

*Here's a first rate opportunity
To assemble with impunity
And indulge in the felicity
Of unbounded thespian-icity!*

The Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert and Sullivan Players are very excited to invite you to our next show, one of the beloved big three: *The Pirates of Penzance*! This operetta is a landmark in the history of music, and its popularity cemented Gilbert and Sullivan's reputation as the greatest comic duo of Victorian England. Lyrics from "I am the Very Model of a Modern Major General," "Poor Wand'ring One," and "I am a Pirate King" have been floating around in my head all summer, and I am eager to hear the cast and orchestra perform them this fall!

We have a fantastic directing team lined up for this semester: our stage director is Chloe Levine '22 and our music director is Veronica Leahy '23. Chloe is an accomplished director, writer, editor, and household name on Harvard's campus, having worked on *The Birthday Party* and *West Side Story* along with four other shows. She is earning her degree in English and Music, and her vision for *Pirates* invokes believability and naturalism without compromising the hilarity and energy of the show. She will also be stage directing *Le Nozze di Figaro* this winter with Harvard College Opera. We are also excited to welcome Veronica back to the (no longer virtual) podium after she led our cast and orchestra in *Cox and Box* last spring. Veronica is a talented musician and music director in the Harvard/Berklee dual degree program. She is a composer for the Hasty Pudding Theatricals and for the 2020 First-Year Musical, *Fake Moos*, as well as a music assistant at the American Repertory Theater. Veronica is also an avid saxophonist, pianist, and woodwind doubler who has played at venues such as the Ravinia Music Festival, the Monterey Jazz Festival, Dizzy's Club, and more.

Backing our directors are an enthusiastic and talented group of producers: Madi Fabber '22, Nadine Jackson '23, Sophie Kim '24, and Ellie Powell '25. Madi joined HRG&SP in Spring 2021 as an actor and hair & makeup designer for *Cox and Box*. She has tackled a number of roles across campus, including actor, writer, designer, and choreographer, but this is her first venture into producing. Nadine is an HRG&SP veteran, having performed in 2019's *H.M.S. Pinafore* and 2020's *Ruddigore*. She designed the poster and program for *Cox and Box* last spring, and is now producing for the first time. Nadine is a member of the Radcliffe Choral Society and occasionally does stand-up comedy. Sophie is a writer and director who joined HRG&SP at the end of 2020 and was a co-writer for the class of 2024's First-Year Musical, *The Fortunate*s. Sophie also has experience with lighting design (*Reasons to be Pretty*) and video editing (*Of Wink and Trance*, with Harvard College Opera) and this fall is an assistant director for *Ubu Roi*. Sophie is also on the board of the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club. Ellie is a first-year student who acted in high school, but is now making her first foray behind-the-scenes as a producer on *Pirates*, which will be her first theatrical show at Harvard. She enjoys writing plays and poetry, having sharpened those skills through Harvard's First-Year Arts Program.

The Pirates of Penzance opens on Thursday, November 11th at 8pm. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we unfortunately will only have one weekend of shows this fall. The performance on Friday, November 12th at 8pm will be our alumni performance, after which will be our Alumni Night reception. Our Milk & Cookies Matinee is on November 13th at 2pm; this is where the cast stays in costume and staff members give a tour of the set while complimentary milk and cookies are served. The last chance for you to see our show will be the 2pm matinee on November 14th. Please note that all in-person audience members will be required to show either proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test taken within the past 72 hours, and we will ask you to remain masked for the duration of the performance. More information about COVID-19 related precautions can be found on our website.

To learn more about our organization, please visit us online at hrgsp.org, which has a plethora of information and archived material, including recordings of past shows, our poster archive, and ways to contact us.

Thank you so much for continuing to support the Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert and Sullivan Players and for allowing us to help share the wit, hilarity, and good music of Gilbert and Sullivan with audiences to come. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Clarissa Briasco-Stewart

Clarissa R. Briasco-Stewart '24
President, HRG&SP



**Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert
& Sullivan Players, Inc.**

P.O. Box 382143, Harvard Square
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02238
hrgsp.org

Board of Directors

Clarissa R. Briasco-Stewart • President

Emma C. Kay • Secretary

Benjamin J. Porteous • Treasurer

Olympia M. A. Hatzilambrou •

Historian

Ben A. S. K. Topa

Jasmyne B. Roberts

Ruth H. M. Jaensubhakij

Sophie Kim

Nadine A. Jackson

Madi L. Fabber

Abigail R. White

Advisor

Professor Logan S. McCarty

The Harvard-Radcliffe Gilbert & Sullivan Players, Inc. is a nonprofit, publicly-supported organization.

Contributions may be deducted as provided in section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.