

# BACKSTAGE

The Village Inn Dracut



YOU'RE A GOOD MAN,  
**CHARLIE BROWN**  
THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

# ACTORS inc

presents

## YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN

Based on The Comic Strip "*Peanuts*" by Charles M. Schulz

Book, Music and Lyrics by Clark M. Gesner

Additional Dialogue by Michael Mayer

Additional Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa

**Produced in association with:**

**Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc.**

**560 Lexington Avenue**

**New York, NY 10022**

**(212) 688-2525**

**Book**

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**Music and Lyrics**

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March 27, 28 and 29, 2009

April 3, 4 and 5, 2009

Director & Choreographer

**Bill Allsbrook**

Director & Choreographer

**Corinne Hickey**

Music Director

**Jasen Wheatley**

Show Pianist

**Ernie Houle**

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## In Memoriam



### Bill Allsbrook: May 21, 1945 – February 10, 2009

In late 2008, Bill Allsbrook joined the ACTORS inc family when he signed on to direct and choreograph *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. From the time he first arrived at auditions through the time of rehearsals, Bill's passion for theater became more and more apparent. The cast and crew knew Bill on paper and were immediately overwhelmed with his impressive resume. As they got to know the person who was Bill Allsbrook, they learned that he was much, much more. Bill had a drive for perfection and a never-ending knowledge of the way a production should be. One Sunday, when Bill arrived home after a long rehearsal, he bound up the stairs, elated at the way things had been going. Two days later, Bill passed away. ACTORS inc sends sincere condolences to Bill's family and friends. There is no doubt he will be sadly missed by all who knew him.



# YOU'RE A GOOD MAN..... BILL ALLSBROOK

You will forever be in our hearts  
--Your Peanuts Gang



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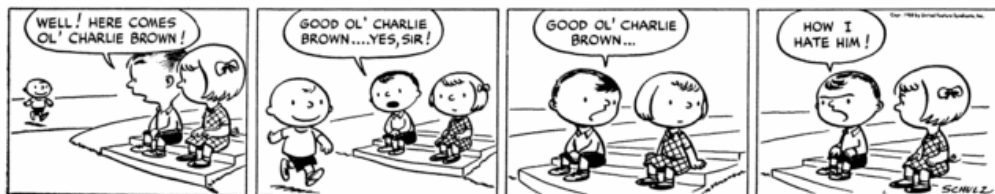
# A Brief Show History

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN opened on March 7, 1967 and played for 1,597 performances in New York at the theatre 80 St. Marks with Gary Burghoff in the title role. This version was revived briefly on Broadway in 1971 and played for 32 performances at the John Golden Theatre. A new revival version was presented on Broadway in 1999 and played for 149 performances at the Ambassador Theatre with award-winning performances by Roger Bart and Kristin Chenoweth as Snoopy and Sally.

## About Charles M. Schulz

According to [illustration-house.com](http://illustration-house.com), **CHARLES M. SCHULZ** is the most widely syndicated cartoonist in history, with his work appearing in over 2,300 newspapers. He published more than 1,400 books, won Peabody and Emmy awards for his animated specials, and was responsible for the most-produced musical in the American theatre, "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown". All of this diversity, recognition and continuous success began with his comic strip, dubbed *Peanuts*.

While his strip dealt in psychology, social commentary and often bitter humor, its hallmark was its perspective: all these issues experienced, evaluated and ultimately decided upon by children. "There is a market for innocence" says Schulz, whose discipline still drove him to his studio every day (until his death) "to get feelings of depth and roundness, and (to know) the pen line is the best pen line you can make...I don't think I'm a true artist. I would love to be Andrew Wyeth or Picasso...But I can draw pretty well and I can write pretty well, and I think I'm doing the best with whatever abilities I have been given. And what more can one ask?"



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# Cast of Characters

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Craig Dawson McKerley

**SALLY BROWN**

Samantha Wheatley

**SCHROEDER**

Jasen Wheatley

**SNOOPY**

Michael Giblin

**LINUS VAN PELT**

Matt Thomas

**LUCY VAN PELT**

Becca Shanahan

# Production Staff

Director & Choreographer

**Bill Allsbrook**

Director & Choreographer

**Corinne Hickey**

Music Director

**Jasen Wheatley**

Show Pianist

**Ernie Houle**

Stage Manager

**Alexandrea Johnson**

House Manager

**Ann Elfert**

House Staff

**Heather Legenza**

Playbill/Graphic Design

**Matt Thomas**

Set Designer

**Steven Galligani**

Costume Designer

**Ralene Clark**

Costume Assistant

**Lisa Cosseboom**

Make-Up Artist

**Holly Miller**

Lighting /Sound

**Alexandrea Johnson**

Props

**Joanie Ruzzo**

Box Office

**Stephen Nelson**

Website Design

**Dave Cunningham**

The cast and crew of You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown would like to extend a special thanks to **Tony and Laura Rocha at EFTS.**

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# Musical Numbers

## ACT I

Opening — Full Company

“You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown” - Full Company

“Schroeder” - Lucy

“Snoopy” - Snoopy, Sally and Lucy

“My Blanket and Me” - Linus with Full Company

“The Kite” - Charlie Brown

“The Doctor Is In” - Charlie Brown and Lucy

“Beethoven Day” - Schroeder with Full Company

“The Book Report” - Full Company

## ACT II

“My New Philosophy” - Sally and Schroeder

“The Baseball Game” - Charlie Brown with Full Company

“Glee Club Rehearsal” — Full Company

“Little Known Facts” - Lucy, Linus and Charlie Brown

“Suppertime” - Snoopy with Full Company

“Happiness” - Full Company

Bows - Full Company



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# Who's Who in the Cast

**MICHAEL GIBLIN** (Snoopy) is performing with ACTORS inc for the second time and is very excited about it. You may remember his unforgettable performance as Marryin' Sam in ACTORS inc's *Li'l Abner*. Mike has spent the last 20 years performing with the SRO Players and would like to thank them for corrupting him and shaping him into the man he is today. Along with all of the SRO Players, Mike was a recent recipient of the Thomas G. Kelakos Community Service Award. Aside from the SRO Players, Mike has played the lead role in "The Drowsy Dad". He loves this role and continues it every Saturday morning. You may have seen him in "The Line at the Bank", "The Car Next to You in Traffic" or "That Guy Has No Idea Anyone's Watching Him". Thanks to my wife and kids for allowing me to continue performing.

**CRAIG DAWSON MCKERLEY** (Charlie Brown) is thrilled to be joining the cast of *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* here with ACTORS inc. Craig received his training at the University of New Hampshire, where he appeared in numerous musicals. Some favorites include: *Seussical: The Musical*, *Once On This Island*, *Company*, *A Little Night Music*, and *Titanic*. He has also been seen regionally in productions of *Chicago*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Hello, Dolly!*, and *Kiss Me, Kate*, just to name a few. Thanks as always to family, friends and MDMML... and thank you to ACTORS inc for working around my insane schedule.

**REBECCA SHANAHAN** (Lucy) has been in theater for most of her life, and wouldn't have it any other way. Becca is one of the founding members of ACTORS inc and has performed with them as Reverend Mother in *Nonsense*, Cling in *Sandbag*, *Stage Left*, *Appassionata Von Climax* in *Li'l Abner*, as well as their productions of *Godspell* and *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*. In 2007 she directed ACTORS inc's production *The Odd Couple – Female Version*. Before ACTORS inc, Becca worked as a production assistant for the Wheelock Family Theater for 7 seasons, directed for the Colleges of the Fenway and performed with the Merrimack Valley Players and Play By Players. When she is not on stage, Becca is the proud mother of Kevin and Angelina, and works at Keller Williams Realty in Andover, MA.

**MATT THOMAS** (Linus) is very happy to be back on stage with ACTORS inc in the Merrimack Valley. Matt started his career in theater way back in his years at the Morey School where you might have seen him when attending your own kids' performances of *Cabbage Patch Kids*, *Cinderella* and *Rip Van Winkle*. After a 20 year hiatus from theater, Matt returned to the stage that his repressed memories had protected him from oh too well. Matt has most recently been



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# Who's Who in the Cast

seen in ACTORS inc's performances of *Sandbag*, *Stage Left* (Prison Guard and Judge Been), *Godspell* (Herb) and *Li'l Abner* (Earthquake McGoon). Matt's delusions led him to believe that he'll one day end up on Broadway... when they move it to his living room that is... Matt would like to thank his family, friends and of course, the super-pooch, for their never-ending love and support. Matt would like to send a special thanks to Mary/Molly for being his "prop queen" (you know what I mean).

**JASEN WHEATLEY** (Schroeder and Music Director) was seen on stage in ACTORS inc's performances of *Nonsense* (Sister Mary Melody), *Li'l Abner* (Abner Yokum) and *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (Music Director and Organist). He has also been seen as a singing member of the Standing Room Only Players for the past 12 years, 9 of which were spent as their rehearsal pianist. Along with all of the SRO Players, Jasen was a recent recipient of the Thomas G. Kelakos Community Service Award. Jasen has also sung with the Actor Singers and the First United Baptist Church Choir.

**SAMANTHA WHEATLEY** (Sally Brown) has been performing with the Merrimack Repertory Theatre in YAAP (Young Artists At Play) for the past five years. In the summer program of 2008, Sam played the role of Princess Stefanie for their original production of *Le Cabaret Grimm*. Sam has also been dancing since she was three years old at Walkers School for Gymnastics and Dance. About five years ago Sam started dancing with the Academy of Performing Arts, New England. In their most recent recital, Sam landed the part of Dr. Joyce Dementia in *Night of Imagination*. APA also put on an original production called the *Pied Piper*, where Sam played the female lead, Cassie MacDonald, and had two solos. As of right now, Sam is part of the Lowell High School Spindles Show Choir and this is her first year with ACTORS inc. Sam couldn't be more excited! Sam is especially excited to be working side by side with her brother Jasen.

**BILL ALLSBROOK** (Director/Choreographer) was a graduate of Temple University with a Bachelor of Arts in Drama. He also had a Masters in Theater Arts. Bill began directing and choreographing in the late 1960s when he was approached by the Guber/Gross organization to stage many of their summer theater shows from Delaware to Massachusetts. Bill appeared on Broadway right out of high school in *Camelot*. After many Broadway productions, Bill ended his career on the Great White Way in *Cabaret* and *Applause*, for which he won a TONY Award. Bill was never lacking work as he appeared many times on

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# Who's Who in the Cast

the *Ed Sullivan Show*, the *Dean Martin Show* and *Hollywood Palace*. Bill had also been seen in several movies, including the recently released *Pink Panther Deux* where he played an English Ambassador. Having done many national commercials, you might remember Bill most as Mr. Six for Six Flags Theme Parks. For the past twelve years, Bill directed numerous regional and community theater groups, including the premiere of *Our Town the Musical* in Austin, TX this past fall. Bill won Best Actor and Best Choreographer for his performance as the King in *King and I*. Bill looked forward to a long association with the wonderfully talented folks of ACTORS inc and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

**CORINNE HICKEY** (Director/Choreographer) is a veteran performer, director and choreographer who comes with an impressive list of theatre experience. She has appeared with various stage companies and dinner theatres throughout New England. Some of her major roles include Velma Kelly in *Chicago*, Anita in *West Side Story*, Bonnie in *Anything Goes*, Charity in *Sweet Charity*, Adelaide in *Guys & Dolls*, Fraulein Schneider in *Cabaret*, Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Aunt Eller in *Oklahoma*, Edna Edison in *Prisoner on Second Avenue*, Truvy in *Steel Magnolias*, Mavis in *Stepping Out*, and Nurse Ratched in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. As a director and choreographer, some of her credits include: *42nd Street*, *Grease*, *Oklahoma*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Gypsy*, *Anything Goes*, *Godspell*, *Lend Me a Tenor* and *Sandbag, Stage Left*. Kudos to this cast and crew.

**ERNIE HOULE** (Show Pianist) has had a very successful career in the music industry spanning over 40 years. At age 13, Ernie performed his first solo classical recital and his first musical, *The Dragon's Breath*. At age 17, Ernie turned "pro", playing as the show pianist for *Little Mary Sunshine*. Throughout the years that followed, Ernie continued playing musicals and doing other freelance work after attending Lowell State Teacher's College. From 1974 to 1999, Ernie played numerous show clubs and over a thousand weddings as a bandleader. Shows Ernie has played include: *Hello Dolly*, *Mame*, *Cabaret*, *Unsinkable Molly Brown*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *South Pacific*, and *Grease*. Currently, Ernie is the full time music director/organist at St. Margaret Church in Lowell.