
19th Annual
Candlelight
Tours
Old City Cemetery
Museums & Arboretum
endstation
theatre company

Welcome to the

19th Annual

Candlelight Tours!

SIX HAUNTED HISTORIES AS TOLD BY THE GHOSTS THEMSELVES..

All proceeds benefit the Southern Memorial Association, the caretaker of Old City Cemetery since 1866.

Our mission is to make Old City Cemetery a sustainable and enduring landmark that engages the greater Lynchburg community through its history and horticulture.

A Welcome from Old City Cemetery's Staff

Thank you all for joining the staff of Old City Cemetery and Endstation Theatre Company at Randolph College for our 19th Annual Candlelight Tours!

This year has brought both exciting opportunities and new ways of working together. As we continue to grow the Candlelight Tours, our partnership with Endstation Theatre Company at Randolph College allows us to combine our strengths, share resources, and create an even more collaborative experience. Together, we are excited to continue bringing you the high-quality production and storytelling you have come to enjoy while building a strong foundation for the future of this beloved tradition.

The stories you will experience this evening all share themes of resilience and perseverance—lessons from the past that continue to carry meaning into today and tomorrow. These stories remind us of the strength found in community, in perseverance, and in the willingness to work together.

As the staff of Old City Cemetery, we are grateful to help preserve and share these stories with you. We are equally grateful for the friendships, partnerships, and memories created through Candlelight Tours over the years. We leave you this evening with a message of hope and gratitude. The new partnership between Old City Cemetery and Endstation Theatre Company is a wonderful example of what can happen when we work together. More hands make for lighter lifting, and we are stronger together than apart.

Thank you for supporting Old City Cemetery, for sharing in these stories, and for helping us keep history alive!

Best regards,
Old City Cemetery
Staff

A Welcome from Endstation's Theatre Directors

For 20 years, Endstation Theatre Company at Randolph College has been bringing professional theatre and compelling storytelling to the Greater Lynchburg Area. Along the way, we have created 14 original plays that shine a light on the people, places, events, and stories that have shaped Central Virginia.

Our work has explored some of the region's most significant—and sometimes difficult—stories: Good Birth, examining the Central Virginia Training Center and its connection to the American Eugenics Movement; Whirlwind, celebrating Dr. Robert Walter "Whirlwind" Johnson and his extraordinary contributions to tennis; Br'er Cotton, confronting policing and gun violence; The Bluest Water, recounting the devastation Hurricane Camille brought to Central Virginia; Buried Deep: The Lynchburg Pools, revealing the story of the desegregation, closure, and burial of Lynchburg's three public pools; and T-Room...The Musical, celebrating Lynchburg's beloved blue-roofed eatery.

At the heart of all of this work is a simple mission: tell YOUR story.
We are honored to bring that commitment to Old City Cemetery's Candlelight Tours. Within these historic grounds lie the stories of generations of people whose lives helped shape Lynchburg and Central Virginia. Through theatre, we have the opportunity to give those stories a voice once again—to remember, to question, to learn, and perhaps to see our community's history in a new way.

It is Endstation's hope that Old City Cemetery will continue to grow as a place where art, history, conversation, and understanding come together—a place where the stories of those buried here are not simply remembered, but experienced.
Tonight, we invite you to step into the past with us. Listen closely. Imagine the lives behind the names. And allow these stories to remind us that history is not simply something that happened long ago.
History is made of people.
These are their stories.

Welcome to the 19th Annual Candlelight Tours.

Teresa Harris and Patrick Earl

Thank You's and Acknowledgements

The City of Lynchburg

Randolph College

Amy and Ray Dinstel

Dave and Kathy Firtel

Robin and Rick Loving

Mark and Barbara Day

Claudia Patterson

Dr. & Mrs. H.C. Eschenroeder, Jr.

Our Beloved Volunteers

Candlelight Tours
Endstation Theatre Company

Spirit Storytellers

Lucy Harrison Miller Baber — Chantel Oakley

Maria Wilson — Desiree Younger

Thomas Jefferson Anderson — Mikhail Elliot

Maggie Wilson — Even Tyree

Pvt. John Furgason — William Arrington

Spirit Guides

Madeline Bedrosian, Marianne Criswell,

Rachel Swank, Sarah Segreti,

Melinda VanClapdurp, and Matt Morrison

Production Staff

Directors — Patrick Earl and Teresa Harris

Technical Director — Bobby Vinson

Stage Manager — Merika Emery

ASM — Bee Bostic

Costume Designer — Meg May

Spirit Story Tellers



William Arrington

William recently graduated with a bachelor's in Theatre Arts and is at the beginning of his professional career. He is very excited to work on his second production with Endstation Theatre, his first being The Merry Wives of Lynchburg, and to bring the character of John L. Furgason to life. He thanks his family, friends, and fiancée, Melody, for supporting him throughout his journey in the arts.



Mikhail Elliott

Mikhail will be proudly performing as Thomas Jefferson Anderson in this year's production of the Candlelight tours. He is happy to add it to the list of other performances he's done, along with Loeb in Never the Sinner, Mortimer in The Fantastiks, and Herr Schultz in Cabaret. Away from the stage, he enjoys drawing, writing, and spending time in nature.



Desiree Younger

Desiree Younger is so excited to be apart of Old City Cemetery's Candelight Tours for the very first time to bring Maria Wilson's story to life! Her passion for theater began at a young age, but truly blossomed in high school with many roles in shows like Agnes of God, Cinderella, and Little Women. A 2025 graduate of the University of Virginia with a B.A. in Human Biology and now on the road to medical school, Desiree has continued to pursue theater in a variety of professional productions, including Into the Woods with BCE, the staged reading of Whirlwind with Endstation, and most recently The Day is Past and Gone at Poplar Forest. Desiree would like to thank Old City Cemetery, Endstation, and all those who come out to help and support productions like these, of stories that deserve to be told.

Spirit Story Tellers



Even Tyree

Even is a Lynchburg local and lover of theater, music, and literature. They hold a BA in Integrative Studies focused on Philosophy, Psychology, and Theatre from Randolph College, where they currently work in the Registrar's Office. You can find them singing with The Lynchburg Pops Community Band and The Lynchburg Kicks Dance Band. Even would like to thank everyone at Old City Cemetery for maintaining one of Lynchburg's most beautiful and peaceful places, and for all the work they've done to continue telling our town's history.



Chantel Oakley

I recently moved here from Alabama and am so excited to be a part of the CT family! I'm also thrilled to bring Lucy to life and make her character my own. This new chapter is such an exciting adventure, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to be here. A special thank you to my parents and my two children for their endless love, encouragement, and support. They have always believed in me and continue to inspire me every step of the way. I can't wait to create new memories, meet amazing people, and enjoy this journey with the CT family!

Spirit Guides



Rachel Swank

Rachel discovered her love for theatre arts in 2021 working lights for Renaissance Theatre and has been dabbling in local theatre ever since. She has filled a variety of roles both on and off stage with Renaissance Theatre, The Academy, LTP, Opera on the James, the Little Dinner Theatre Players and more and sings with the Seven Hills Chorus. Rachel is excited for her first performance with Endstation and is thankful for her second opportunity to work with Old City Cemetery as a Spirit Guide to help share the tragedies, triumphs, and experiences of Lynchburg's people, places, and days long past.



Madeline Bedrosian

Madeline is so excited to be a spirit guide for candlelight tours! She has been involved in community theatre for a few years and recently played Anne Frank at Little Towne Players. When she is not onstage, Madeline enjoys all things art, including painting, drawing, and her latest



Matt Morrison

As an experienced, versatile comedian, Matt has an extensive background in improv, sketch, stand-up comedy, and live theatre. With over 40 years as a voice actor in animated features, audiobooks, webisodes, and commercials, he can play any character, on screen or on stage.

With a Bachelor of Arts degree in Film and Television from California State University, Northridge, he has also studied with the legendary L.A. Groundlings and at the Orange County Crazies comedy organizations. Newly transplanted from Los Angeles, Matt is thrilled to join Endstation Theatre Company's legendary production of Old City Cemetery's Candlelight Tours.

Spirit Guides



Melinda VanClapDurp

Melinda has an enduring passion for theatre in all its forms - whether taking the stage, working behind the scenes, or simply sitting in the audience soaking it all in. Something about the collaborative magic of live performance has always drawn her in, no matter which side of the curtain she is on. She is grateful and excited to be part of the Old City Cemetery tours, joining a tradition that brings history to life in such a unique and memorable way.



Sarah Segreti

Sarah enthusiastically acted in her high school theatre productions in Michigan before moving to Lynchburg in 2016 to pursue a degree in film production, later writing and directing her own award-winning short film, The Casketmaker. After marrying her husband, Andrew, in 2025, she decided to begin pursuing her Master's of Science in Nutrition at Liberty University. Recently, she has reignited her love for performing and has begun to take part in local productions. She is thrilled to be a part of the Old City Cemetery Tours this year and is looking forward to putting her love for character work and the city of Lynchburg to good use.



Marianne Criswell

Marianne is excited to join Old City Cemetery Candlelight Tours this year. She has been involved as a rear guide for many years and has always enjoyed the tour. She loves learning more about our fair city's history. She is so glad that she has retired so she has time to get involved!

Production



Patrick Earl

Originally from Grand Rapids, Michigan, Patrick earned his B.S. in Theatre and Biology from Aquinas College. He continued his studies at the University of Houston's PATP where he received his MFA in Acting. He worked regionally at The Alley Theatre and Mainstreet Theater in Houston, TX and 6 years as an actor and fight director at the American Shakespeare Center. Credits include Hamlet in Hamlet, Benedick in Much Ado About Nothing, Andrew Jackson in Bloody, Bloody, Andrew Jackson, Scrooge in A Christmas Carol, and Crumpet in The Santaland Diaries. Currently, he lives in Lynchburg, VA where he is an adjunct professor at Randolph College serves as Executive Director of Endstation Theatre Company. He is excited to be co-directing the 19th Annual Candlelight Tours!



Teresa Harris

Teresa's theatrical work includes writing and/or directing a wide range of stage productions and staged readings. For the past decade, she has written historical dramas for Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest and Old City Cemetery Candlelight Tours. In 2023, Teresa served as executive producer of the docuseries I AM FIFTH STREET, a project celebrating the legacy of Lynchburg's historic Fifth Street district.. Most recently, she made her musical theatre directorial debut with Ain't Misbehavin' at the historic Dumas Theatre in Roanoke. She is excited to be co-directing this year's Candlelight Tours.



Meg May

Meg graduated in 2012 with a BA in Theatre from Sweet Briar College, and has been doing theatre in Lynchburg and surrounding areas ever since. Most recently, designing the costumes for 1776: The Musical at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest. Thank you to Old City Cemetery and Endstation for this opportunity!

Production



Merika Emerson

Merika is thrilled to be a part of her first production with Endstation Theater. She loves working behind the scenes and has previously worked on Second Samuel, Willy Wonka, Cinderella, and Tartuffe. When not doing theater, Merika works at a library, so is constantly reading, and enjoys all manner of arts and crafts. She lives in the woods with her partner, Josh and their two cats, Bucket and Simon.



Bobby Vinson

Currently residing at the Academy Center of the Arts, Bobby Vinson has spent the last 10 years working in theatre around the greater Lynchburg Area. After 17 years of acting, he has taken up a new role in technical design and producing. This will be his first time on the creative team with Candlelight tours, after acting as Lt Colonial Francis during the 2020 season. He is thrilled to be part of a fantastic team and can not wait for the surprises that are in store.



Bee Bostic

Bee is very excited to be participating in the Candlelight Tours for the first time! Being a longtime lover of all things theatre, they have taken on a number of roles in productions across the community, both onstage and backstage. Bee is thrilled at the opportunity to work with an incredibly talented cast and crew, and help bring history to life in such a unique and engaging way. After all, Bee loves a good ghost story!

The Spirits



Lucy Harrison Miller Baber: 1908-1996

Maria Wilson: 1861-1878

Thomas Jefferson Anderson: 1853-1921

Maggie Wilson: 1860-1946

PVT John Furgason: 1840-1864

The Spirits

Lucy Harrison Miller Baber
1908-1996

Lucy Harrison Miller Baber was a Lynchburg historian, genealogist, and children's advocate. She is perhaps best remembered for her work preserving the history of Old City Cemetery. Along with Evelyn Lee Moore, Baber compiled Behind the Old Brick Wall: A Cemetery Story, published in 1968, documenting the cemetery's history and many of those buried there. Her historical research extended beyond the cemetery, and she also published works on Campbell County marriages and Virginia genealogy. Baber actively advocated for juvenile justice and helped organize Lynchburg's juvenile court system. In 1950, as a member of a Virginia Advisory Legislative Council subcommittee, Baber helped develop legislation that strengthened the juvenile court system, established separate detention facilities for young people, and expanded probation services. She later served on an advisory committee helping implement these reforms. As chair of the Virginia Federation of Women's Clubs' Welfare Department, she also advocated against incarcerating children in adult jails.

Her research notes and papers are preserved at Jones Memorial Library.

The Spirits

Maria Wilson
1861-1878

Maria Wilson was only seventeen years old when her life ended in one of Lynchburg's most tragic events. On October 16, 1878, Wilson attended a wedding celebration at Court Street Baptist Church when a sudden panic swept through the crowded building. As people rushed to escape, Wilson and seven other women were killed after jumping from the building's upper galleries. Wilson was buried at Old City Cemetery, where her grave remains a reminder of the tragedy.

The Spirits

Thomas Jefferson Anderson

1853-1921

Thomas Jefferson Anderson was a pioneering Lynchburg civic leader and one of the first two African Americans elected to Lynchburg City Council in 1885. Born to formerly enslaved parents in Amherst County, Anderson moved to Lynchburg and became active in the city's growing African American community. During his two terms on City Council, he served on the Alms House, Cemetery, and Sanitary Affairs committees, helping address some of the city's most important public concerns. His connection to Old City Cemetery was especially significant: Anderson served as the cemetery's superintendent from 1888 to 1889. He also worked as a grocer and for the railroad. Anderson later lived on Taylor Street and was buried at White Rock Cemetery after his death in 1921.

The Spirits

Maggie Wilson

1860-1946

Maggie E. Wilson's connection to Old City Cemetery became especially significant in 1931, when the Southern Memorial Association erected a Veterans' Bench over part of her family's burial plot. Shortly after the bench was completed, Wilson wrote to Mrs. John H. Lewis, president of the Southern Memorial Association, questioning why the organization had selected her family's plot. She pointed out that the graves were still being cared for, noting the flower pots, lilies, and rose bushes her grandmother, Mrs. William Herndon, had planted there. After Wilson's complaint, they reached an agreement in 1932. The graves of Mary Wilson and George H. Wilson were moved to Spring Hill Cemetery, while the graves of their four children—including Maggie E. Wilson, who died in 1890—remained beneath the bench.

The Spirits

PVT John Furgason

1840-1864

Born in Tennessee, John Fergason served in the Union Army as a Private serving with the 2nd Regiment of North Carolina Infantry. John was captured by the Confederates in the winter of 1864 and was sent to Lynchburg, fighting infection from a gunshot wound. He was sent to Ferguson Tobacco Company for medical care and later died. He was buried beside a mix of Confederate and Union soldiers. In 1866, during the removal of the Union Soldiers, he was mistaken for a Confederate and is still with us today.

Music

Jim Robertson

Jim began playing guitar during the folk music boom of the 1960s and currently performs 18th- and 19th-century American music at the historical sites and museums. He plays a wide range of genres, from Scottish-Irish traditional music to Western Swing to psychobilly-electro-punk-bluegrass to progressive jazz. He was the first person of European ancestry to be awarded the Pandit Dr. Laxmikant Doshi Award for excellence as a student of Indian music. He plays guitar, steel guitar, bass guitar, double bass, 5-string and tenor banjos, bagpipes, ukulele, fiddle, mandolin family, Irish bouzouki, Nyckelharpa, harmonicas, button accordions, concertinas, flute, and whistles!

The Riddle

The number of women who died

Followed by two sets of kids who grew older

Then the favors of a soldier who cried

But not before the children paved over



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Upcoming Events in Old City Cemetery



December 19 | Wreaths Across America Ceremony

Please join us at the Chapel at noon on December 19 for our annual Wreaths Across America Ceremony, as we come together to remember and honor those who have served our country.

To sponsor a wreath, check out our website.

We hope you'll join us for this meaningful holiday tradition.