

from the director

As we celebrate Pull-Tight's 50th birthday this season, it seems the perfect moment to revisit this beloved classic. *On Golden Pond* thoughtfully illustrates all the hard and beautiful realities of family — abiding love, old grudges, new beginnings, challenging transitions. Watching the Thayers, we reflect on the enduring nature of family. And for me, it has also been a time to remember my history with the Pull-Tight family.

This organization has been a lifeline for me for 27 years. Many of the friendships I have forged at Pull-Tight have proven as constant and close as the bonds of blood. The people contributing to this production create a perfect picture of all that is wonderful about this theatre community.

Within the cast, we have two veteran Pull-Tight actors, two that are returning to our stage after decades away, one young performer in his first straight play and a man treading the boards for the first time ever. My production staff includes some of Pull-Tight's earliest members working alongside brand new volunteers. I'm fortunate to work with some dear old friends who know me well, and I'm thrilled to get to know new folks that will be a part of Pull-Tight's future. Others in the Pull-Tight community have loaned props, offered the use of their truck, brought cookies, moved furniture, and helped paint, saw and clean. I'm so grateful for every single one of them.

Like the Thayers, Pull-Tight is a growing family. Sometimes messy, often glorious. We have well established traditions and milestones to celebrate, and we welcome fresh faces and innovations that inject new life into our community. I'm grateful to call this place home and am so glad you have come today to see the show. Welcome to the family.

~ Heather Bottoms