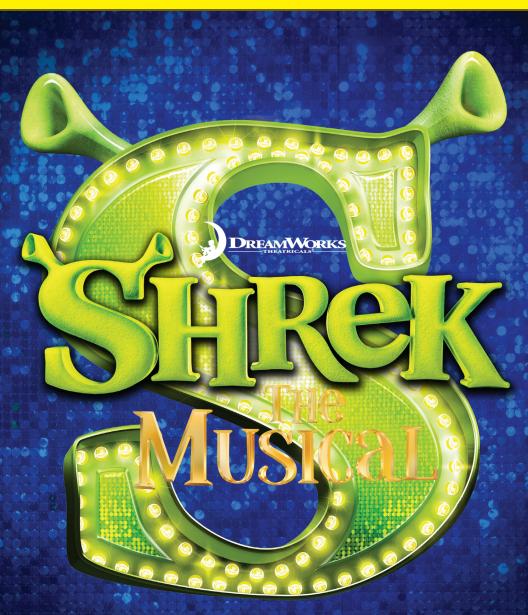
# STAGEBILL

### FORT WAYNE CIVIC THEATRE





NOVEMBER 4-19, 2023





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> Since 1876, Barrett McNagny has been committed to supporting local organizations that enhance our community and our way of life through board service, volunteering time, donations, and monetary contributions. We are proud to have assisted over 100 organizations in northeast Indiana over the past year, including the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, an organization that brings art to life.



#### 715th PRODUCTION

Presented November 4-19, 2023



Book and Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire Music by Jeanine Tesori

Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions

Original Production Directed by Jason Moore and Rob Ashford

"I'm A Believer" by Neil Diamond

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Shrek The Musical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

#### Director GAVIN THOMAS DREW

Music Director **ROLIN MAINS** 

Asst. Music Director DELANEY RICE

Asst. Stage Managers BOBBI JO CARROLL AND BRITTANY MAY

> Sound Designer MARIAH ROBERTS

Lighting Designer ANDREW HOLDERFIELD Choreographer CAPRI PARRISH WILLIAMS

Stage Manager BRITTNEY LYNNE KOZA

> Costume Designer SARAH MOLONEY

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Scenic Designer
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Hair and Make-Up Designer HARLEY KUCINSKY

1



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#### Steel Dynamics, Inc. Mark Millett, President and CEO

Steel Dynamics is proud to support the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre and its cultural endeavor here in our community. We look forward to another season of outstanding performances.

## 2023-2024 SHOW SPONSORS - PRODUCERS

## **ADM - Asphalt Drum Mixers**

As the owners of Asphalt Drum Mixers, we are very excited that our employees, friends, and family have the opportunity to enjoy the wonderful shows that the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre puts on each year. We love the diversity in the productions and really enjoy supporting all the Arts in the Fort Wayne area.





#### AWS Foundation Patti Hays, Chief Executive Officer

AWS Foundation applauds Civic Theatre's "Project Lights Up!" sensory friendly performances. Creating a performing arts experience that is welcoming to individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities and their families means everyone can enjoy the theatre experience. We are delighted to support the Civic Theatre as they answer the need for inclusion of people of all abilities.

#### Fort Wayne Metals Scott Glaze, Chairman and CEO

"Supporting the arts is integral to the essence of a community - plays, concerts, orchestras, and dance all have a vital role in forming a vibrant and well-rounded society." -Scott Glaze





#### Upstate Alliance of REALTORS® David Belew, Executive Officer

The Upstate Alliance of REALTORS® is privileged to support the Civic Theatre. As REALTORS®, we recognize the importance of building strong communities. The Civic Theatre is a unique gem that contributes to the vitality of Northeastern Indiana by celebrating the cultural arts and building community pride. We applaud the dedicated

cast members, staff, and volunteers at the Civic who help make Northeastern Indiana a great place to live, work and play. We look forward to more outstanding performances this season.

## 2023-2024 SHOW SPONSORS - CO-PRODUCERS



#### Ambassador Enterprises Arlan Friesen, President

The Civic Theatre and their extraordinary team make each performance memorable and provide experiences that enrich our lives. As a legacy-minded private equity firm, we're proud to support organizations like the Civic Theatre who make a positive impact on our community and help create a better tomorrow.

#### Apollo Mfg., Apollo Design Technology, Inc., Avid Labs, and Blue Pony - Joel Nichols, Owner

We are honored to sponsor the staff, actors, and volunteers of the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre. My family, friends, and employees have enjoyed countless outstanding performances by very talented individuals. We look forward to another year of first-class community theater. Let the show begin!





#### Fort Wayne Civic Theatre Guild Margaret Ankenbruck, Guild President

The Guild is so happy to be able to sponsor and support the Civic Theatre. We are grateful to the audience members who purchase products from us at all the performances. If you love theatre and want to support the Civic, then please contact me about becoming a Guild member. Sit back and enjoy another great Civic show!

## **OmniSource Corporation**

OmniSource is proud to sponsor Fort Wayne Civic Theatre and the production of *Shrek The Musical*. We believe that the arts are vital to any community. We applaud Civic Theatre's outstanding performances



that involve so many talented volunteers from the community both on and off stage.



#### Sweetwater John Hopkins, CEO

Sweetwater is delighted to sponsor the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre and its mission to enrich northeast Indiana through music and drama. The Civic Theatre's ability to encourage, cultivate, and showcase local talent is remarkable. Sweetwater, and its more than 2,000 employees, looks forward to another great season of music, laughter, and entertainment.

## HERE'S TO ANOTHER SHOW-STEELING PERFORMANCE

Steel Dynamics is delighted to sponsor the 2023/2024 Season at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre. On stage, as in steel production, it takes hard work, talented people, passion, and innovation to deliver a great performance. Enjoy the show!



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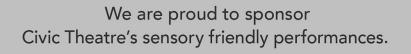
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Individual gifts of \$100 or more are recognized for the 12-month period following the date of the donation. Totals are recalculated prior to each production and recognized accordingly. Any recent donations of \$100 or more not listed will be included in the next Stagebill. Grants and Sponsorships are recognized by season.



Project Lights

Experiencing the joy of theatre in a supportive sensory friendly environment brings the wonder of performing arts to people of all abilities.

# Enjoy the Show!



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#### NOTES FROM THE EXECUTIVE/ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

#### Welcome to the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre!

The Fort Wayne Civic Theatre is proud to be one of the oldest downtown arts destinations in Northeast Indiana and to be celebrating our 96th Season. We continue to enrich the Arts and Cultural makeup of our community, bringing tourism downtown while other area businesses benefit from patrons pre- and post-show activities.

By now you have probably heard about Arts United's plans **I** for renovating this building, the Arts United Center. The Civic **I** Theatre will temporarily move out starting June 2024. We will



Phillip H. Colglazier

continue to produce high quality shows at the Embassy Theatre, the Foellinger Outdoor Theatre, and at the Parkview Physicians Group ArtsLab across the street. We are excited about our future and to announce our "On the Road" 2024-2025 season soon! You will learn all the details soon, including our Inspire Campaign: Impact Tomorrow Today, which will empower us during this transition and will ignite creative imaginations for generations to come. Stay tuned for more information on this much needed transformation and the Civic Theatre's 2024-2025 On the Road Season!

**Our Vision** - To be the regional leader in live theatre experiences through artistic excellence and innovation.

**Our Mission** - Fort Wayne Civic Theatre entertains, educates, inspires, and enriches the community through exceptional live theatre experiences.

Our Values - In pursuit of our vision and mission we:

Strive for excellence Steward our resources Promote diversity Change lives Nurture the creative soul Pursue innovation Educate our community

We are thrilled to have Gavin Thomas Drew make his Civic Theatre directorial debut with *Shrek The Musical*. You have seen Gavin on the Civic Theatre stage in several productions and now he shares his magical touch in creating the Kingdom of Duloc. Thank you to the Civic Theatre staff and volunteers who dedicated many hours of creativity and hard work on this show! Thank you one and all!

#### We hope you will plan to join us for our 96th Season by purchasing a Flex Pass! Get your Season Subscription today online at www.fwcivic.org

#### Fort Wayne Civic Theatre remaining shows of the 2023-2024 Season!

Shrek The Musical: Nov. 4-19, 2023 The Color Purple: Feb. 9-18, 2024 Six Degrees of Separation: March 15-24, 2024 Jersey Boys: May 4-19, 2024

Please consider making a donation to the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre with your season ticket order! In the best of times, ticket sales account for only about 1/3 of our revenue and the need for the financial support of our patrons and community has never been greater.

Thank you to all for your support, your return, and for your applause! Phillip H. Colglazier, Executive/Artistic Director



**100% Club** Donors who have completed the total (\$1,480 or more) contribution to our 100th Anniversary Endowment Campaign.

## Lead Gift - Wayne & Linda Boyd

Anonymous (2) **Robert & Doris Albertson** Bruce Aulick & Deborah McMahan Linda S. & Kenneth J. Balthaser Linnea & George Bartling John & Cathy Batuello Cheri & Mark Becker Chuck & Lynn Betack Annie & David Bobilya The Brookshire Family Albert & Tamarah Brownlee **David & Susan Chipps Civic Theatre Guild Rick & Laura Claypool** Kelly & Beth Clevenger Phillip H. Colglazier Valorie A. Colglazier **Judith A. Cox Derek & Lindsey Daniels** George & Nancy Dodd V. Jane Drummer & Aniya Hart David Dver **Ben & Sharon Eisbart Cynthia Elick** Sandra & Thomas Elyea Merry E. Ewing Sharon & John Fallon Steve & Brenda Fishbaugh **Beth Fisher Chris & Karan Flick** Linda Gaff Rev. John P. Gardner Michael Gavin & Carol Shuttleworth **GE Foundation** (Matching Funds) **Roy & Mary Gilliom** Melanie & Bob Hall Iohn D. & Sharon Hartman Patti Hays **Cindy S. Henry** Leslie L. Hormann **Edward & Mary Lou Hutter** Indiana Michigan Power/Marc Lewis Jerry & Rosalyn Isch **Bob & Donna Jesse** The Betsy & Jeff Kachmar Fund

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#### In just 4 years we will celebrate our 100th Anniversary Season!

You can be a part of securing the future of the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre for years to come with your gift to Civic Theatre's 100th Anniversary Endowment Campaign.



If you would like to be a part of this important campaign we ask you to pledge to contribute a total of \$1,500 or more to be paid by June 2028 (over and above your traditional annual giving). You can determine a payment schedule at the time you submit your pledge form. Or, if you prefer, simply make a one-time 100th Anniversary Endowment Fund donation of \$1,500 or more.

Your donation to the 100th Anniversary Endowment Fund will be appropriately recognized in each Civic Stagebill program through our 100th Anniversary Season. Your generous gift will be part of a strong financial foundation that will ensure the Civic Theatre's place in our community for decades to come, nurturing generations of actors and technical stage volunteers.

#### Call or email the Civic Theatre's Development Director to request your pledge form or to make your 100th Anniversary Endowment donation today! Kathy Whiteman - (260) 422-8641 x 230 kwhiteman@fwcivic.org

Thank you to these donors who are making an on-going commitment to support the 100th Anniversary Endowment Campaign.

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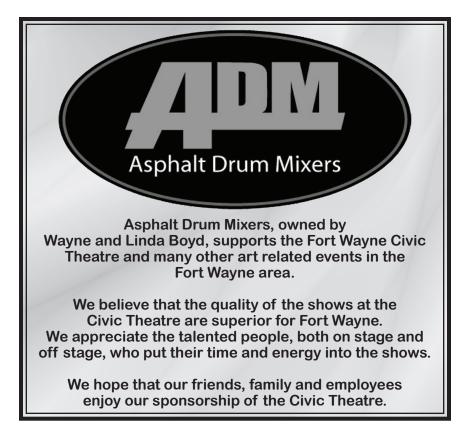
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#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**

### GAVIN THOMAS DREW



It's a Big, Bright, Beautiful World...and *Shrek The Musical* is a shining example of that, right here at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, where the arts are alive and talent abounds. It has been my good fortune to lead this amazing cast through the swamps and sights of Duloc and beyond. It's not my first rodeo with this "ogre" of a show... As a 17-year-old, I appeared in *Shrek The Musical* at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre in 2014. Then, I reprised my role of Pig #2 again at a small theatre in Oklahoma City in 2016. So, to say me and Shrek are old pals, is an understatement.

Almost everyone has seen the 2001 (feel old?) DreamWork's film *Shrek*, or one of its three sequels. Far less are familiar with the original source material, a children's book called *Shrek!*, written and illustrated by William Steig. The book tells the tale of a repugnant, green-skinned, fire-breathing seemingly indestructible Ogre who enjoys causing misery with his repulsiveness. After his parents decide that he must be sent out into the world, they kick him out of their swamp. Along the way, Shrek soon encounters a witch, is taken to a castle by a donkey, battles a knight, and marries a princess who is even uglier than him. Together, they live happily ever after and vow to scare the socks off anyone who ever dares come near them. So, you know... a classic love story!

Beyond the incredibly gifted designers, technicians, and production team that have worked on the show you are about to see, I have been blown away by the insane talent of this magnificent cast. After an overwhelming audition turn-out, we can safely say that we have amassed the most talented cast in Fort Wayne, a majority of which are making their Fort Wayne Civic Theatre debut. I cannot wait for you to experience this screwy but delighted crazy stew that this cast has been cooking up for the last seven weeks. Sit back, relax, and enjoy this hilarious, crude, and downright adorable story. If you look past the fart jokes, you might just find a whole lot of heart.

GAVIN THOMAS DREW (Director) is a nationally recognized director, performer. and playwright. Locally, he is the Artistic Director of Summit City Music Theatre. He attended Oklahoma City University for Musical Theatre and Directing. His starring turns as Igor in Civic Theatre's production of Young Frankenstein and a host of characters in *Forbidden Broadway* garnered him praises and two Anthony Awards. He won a BroadwayWorld Award for Best Supporting Actor for his role in Summit City Music Theatre's You're a Good Man. Charlie Brown as Snoopy. He won another for Best Ensemble of a Play with Nina Raine's *Tribes* at the University of Central Oklahoma. As a director, he has led casts to award-winning performances at AACT Festival and is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild. As a profoundly deaf performer and director with cochlear implants, he takes pride in mentoring disabled/ differently abled casts and holding seminars on inclusion and accommodation for all talents. He has quest lectured on disability in theatre at the University of Central Oklahoma and Oklahoma State University. He is proud to be making his Civic Theatre directorial debut with this talented cast and production team. He would like to thank his wife, Emily, for her endless support.

## BIOGRAPHIES

JEANINE TESORI (Music) won the Tony Award for Best Original Score with Lisa Kron for the musical Fun Home. She has also written Tonv-nominated scores for Twelfth Night at Lincoln Center; Thoroughly Modern Millie (lyrics, Dick Scanlan); Caroline, or Change (lyrics, Tony Kushner); and Shrek The Musical (lyrics, David Lindsay-Abaire). The production of *Caroline, or Change* at the National Theatre in London received the Olivier Award for Best New Musical. Her 1997 Off-Broadway musical Violet (lyrics, Brian Crawley) opened on Broadway in 2014 and garnered four Tony nominations, including Best Musical Revival. Opera: A Blizzard on Marblehead Neck (libretto, Tony Kushner; Glimmerglass) and The Lion, The Unicorn, and Me (libretto, J. D. McClatchy, Kennedy Center), Music for plays; Mother Courage (dir, George C. Wolfe, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline), John Guare's A Free Man of Color (Lincoln Center Theater, dir. George C. Wolfe), and Romeo and Juliet (Delacorte Gala). Film scores: Nights in Rodanthe, Every Day, and You're Not You. Ms. Tesori is a member of the Dramatists Guild and was cited by the ASCAP as the first female composer to have two new musicals running concurrently on Broadway. She was the founding artistic director of Encores! Off-Center at New York City Center, and a lecturer in music at Yale University. Most of all, she is the proud parent of Siena Rafter. (Bio courtesy of MTI).

**DAVID LINDSAY-ABAIRE (Books and Lyrics)** is a Pulitzer Prize winning playwright, screenwriter, lyricist, and librettist. His most recent play, *Ripcord*, opens this fall at Manhattan Theatre Club. His previous play *Good People* premiered on Broadway, was awarded the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play, The Horton Foote Prize, The Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award, and two Tony nominations. His play *Rabbit Hole* received the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, five Tony nominations, and the Spirit of America Award. David also wrote the book and lyrics for *Shrek The Musical*, which was nominated for eight Tonys, four Oliviers, a Grammy, and earned David the Ed Kleban Award as America's most promising musical theatre lyricist. David's other plays include *Fuddy Meers, Kimberly Akimbo, Wonder of the World*, and *A Devil Inside*. In addition to his work in theatre, David's screen credits include his film adaptation of *Rabbit Hole*, DreamWorks' *Rise of the Guardians*, and the upcoming *Family Fang*, starring Nicole Kidman, Christopher Walken, and Jason Bateman. (Bio courtesy of MTI).



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# BECOME PART OF THE FORT WAYNE CIVIC THEATRE FAMILY

We rely on the support from our amazing community. It is what has kept us around for nearly 100 years! *How can YOU help?!* 

## BE A PATRON

Ticket sales are a vital part of our revenue. And it's just not any fun to perform to an empty house, so come see us often. And bring your friends!

"I have been attending Civic Theater for many years and enjoy it every time! There are many very good, very talented people in our area and it is a chance to enjoy their performances. Being at the Theater gives me a chance to sit back and relax for awhile. Thank you, Civic Theater, for being part of the Ft. Wayne arts community!

-- Patti Robertson

## **BECOME A SUBSCRIBER**

Support Civic Theatre, receive subscriber-only benefits, AND save money on tickets. It's a no-brainer! With Flex Passes, tickets come in quantities of 6 or 20, can be used in any combination, and are available for purchase all season long.

"As a near 40 year supporter of the Civic Theatre, we are thankful and appreciative of the quality of talent that blesses our stage with amazing live performances. The Civic Theatre is a lasting gem that not only is a key to the arts in Fort Wayne, but a cornerstone to the overall quality of life we experience."

-- Al & Cathy Moll

## DONATE ON YOUR TERMS

Make an annual gift; Set up recurring monthly donations; Contribute to our 100th Anniversary Endowment Fund; Set the stage for others by leaving Civic Theatre a gift in your will with our Encore Society; and more. The choice is yours!

"I appreciate the opportunity to budget an affordable monthly gift, but I really value the monthly reminder of who/what I'm giving. There are so many wonderful arts and humanitarian causes to support in Fort Wayne that it's easy to become lost in where my money goes and what it benefits. The monthly transactions and thank you notes are a topnotch way for me to remember the good we're trying to do."

> -- Joe (& Tammy) Hyndman Inaugural Marquee Club members, 2020

## VOLUNTEER

Whether in the scene shop, costume shop, on-stage, or backstage, we are always looking for passionate, dedicated individuals to help create our shows. No experience needed - we will train you!

"The Civic Theatre has such a welcoming and encouraging environment for volunteers. I knew very little about what goes into a theatre set when I started volunteering years ago and now I can paint almost anything from walls, doors, and stairs, to all varieties and colors of bricks!"

> -- Sharon Fallon Volunteer since 2015

For more information on how you can support Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, please contact: Kathy Whiteman, Development Director (260) 422-8641 x 230 or KWhiteman@fwcivic.org

## CAST

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Shrek	Eddia Eagas
Princess Fiona	
Donkey	
Lord Farquaad	Caleb Curtis
Dragon	Debbie Kirkland
Fairytale Creatures	
Gingy/Sugar Plum Fairy	Jordvn Freed
Pinocchio	Josiah Beights
Big Bad Wolf	Carter Thurnall
Pinocchio Big Bad Wolf 3 Little PigsJonathan Lowden, Joshua Moo	dy Anton Phillips Ir
White Rabbit	Cartor Hammon
Peter Pan	
Wicked Witch	
Ugly Duckling	
Papa Bear	
Mama Bear	
Baby Bear	Avalin Smits
Mad Hatter	Ella Moore
Humpty Dumpty	Rachael Kilgore
Elf	Kavla Řoub
3 Blind MiceMarissa Carroll, Jaelyn H	avnes. Anna Ouslev
Puss In Boots/Grumpy	Luke Benson
Tooth Fairy	
1000111 all y	
Ensemble	
<u>Ensemple</u>	Lulu Dunun
Young ShrekBecky	Luke Benson
Mama and Papa OgreBecky	Benson, Josh Engle
King Harold and Queen LillianLandon R	Richey, Leah Pranger
Happy People/Angry MobJared A	ntz, Marissa Carroll,
Tegan Dostal, Jaelyn Haynes, Anna Ou	isley, Michael Taylor
Young Fiona	Faye Holt
Teen Fiona	Tegan Dostal
Captain of the Guard	.Brandon Hathaway
Thelonius	
GuardsJared A	rntz. Michael Taylor
KnightsJared Arntz, Josiah Beights, Josh E	ngle Joshua Moody
Duloc Greeter/Pied Piper/Bishop	lonathan Lowden
Duloc DancersJosiah Beights, Marissa Carr	oll Carter Hammon
Jaelyn Haynes, Jordyn Freed, Josh En	
Ella Moore, Anna Ousle	
Lean I	Pranger, Kayla Roub
Rat DancersTegan Dostal, Jordyn Free	ea, Carter Hammon,
Joshua Moody, Ella	Moore, Kayla Roub
Bluebird	Anna Ousley

**MUSICAL NUMBERS** 

## ACT ONE

"Big Bright Beautiful World".	Shrek, Mama Ogre, Papa Ogre,
King Haro	ld, Queen Lillian, Happy People,
"Story of My Life"	Fairytale Creatures
"The Goodbye Song"	Fairytale Creatures
"Don't Let Me Go"	Donkey
"What's Up Duloc?"	Lord Farquaad, Duloc Performers
"I Know It's Today"	Fiona, Young Fiona, Teen Fiona
"Travel Song"	Donkey, Shrek
"Forever"	Dragon, Donkey, Knights
"This is How a Dream Come	s True"Fiona
"Who I'd Be"	Shrek, Fiona, Donkey

#### **ACT TWO**

"Morning Person"	
"I Think I Got You Beat"	
"Ballad of Farquaad"	.Lord Farquaad, Ensemble
"Make A Move"	Donkey, Three Blind Mice
"When Words Fail"	Shrek
"Morning Person (Reprise)"	Fiona
"Build A Wall"	
"Freak Flag"	Fairytale Creatures
"Big Bright Beautiful World (Rep	orise)"Shrek
"Finale"	Company
"I'm A Believer"	

There will be a 15-minute intermission after Act One.



<u>Audience Survey</u> Performing for you completes the artistic process for us! We would like your opinion of the Civic Theatre, the show, and your experience with us.

Take the Audience Survey by November 29 and you could win 2 free tickets to *The Color Purple* 

> Visit our website fwcivic.org to complete

## CAST



**EDDIE FOGGS (Shrek)** is humbled and truly honored to make his debut at Fort Wayne Civic Theatre! Previous credits include *Grease* (Rump), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Perchik), and *The Taming of the Shrew* (Petruchio). In 2014, he co-wrote and starred in 'Welfare Kings' (48 hr. film festival) for which he also won Best Actor. From 2006-2018, Eddie worked as a standup comedian, yucking it up with acts like Jamie Lissow,

Tom Thakkar, and Ms. Pat. "Thanks to my beautiful wife Jaslin and the many others who challenged me to do my best!"

**EMERSEN "EMMIE" CONNER (Princess Fiona)** is so excited to be back at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre! You may have seen her recently as Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre at Summit City's 25th Annual...Spelling Bee, as Cinderella in the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre's Into The Woods, and as Portia in the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre's recent production of Something Rotten!. Emmie spends most of her time baking.



drinking coffee, and cuddling her two cats: Kitten Boy (@kittenboynumber1fan on IG) and Begue. Special thanks to Mindy Cox for single-handedly keeping Emmie's ego in check.



**TIMYA TOWNSEND (Donkey)** is very excited to make her debut at the Civic Theatre as the best pal any guy, or Ogre, could ask for! Timya recently graduated from Purdue University Fort Wayne, receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Musical Theatre. Some of her many LAYERS include *Grease* (Sandy Dumbrowski), *In the Heights* (Vanessa), *Charlotte* (Flora and the Red Menace), *The Laramie Project* 

(Ensemble), *Ghetto* (Dummy/Dijigan), *Sondheim on Sondheim* (Ensemble), and The Last Days of Judas Iscariot (Saint Monica). Big shoutout to the Townsend Family and Friends. Long live Craig Humphrey. IG: @timinipooh

**CALEB CURTIS (Lord Farquaad)** is thrilled to be returning for his third Civic Theatre production, previously seen as Cinderella's Prince/Wolf in *Into The Woods* and Cornelis Hackl in *Hello, Dolly!* (Anthony Award). Other area credits include *Tick, Tick....Boom!, American Idiot,* and *A Christmas Carol.* Caleb is a graduate of Indiana University's Acting Program and additionally was an apprentice with the Commonwealth



Shakespeare Company in Boston. He has worked professionally in many theatres across the country. He would like to thank ALL involved in this production for their time and talents and would also like to thank you, the audience, for supporting live theatre!

## CAST



**DEBBIE KIRKLAND (Dragon)** is fired up to play the Dragon! Debbie is returning after gracing the Civic stage in *The SpongeBob Musical*. When she is not guarding the tower or holding the Princess hostage, you can find her studying for her degree at PFW, working for FWCS, or in her most important role as Mom, where she helps with homework, attends sporting events, and takes time to share a hug or

have a conversation with her three beautiful young ladies. Either way, her performance is guaranteed to be award winning, much like her performance as Mrs. Johnstone in *Blood Brothers*. She wants to thank her village, family, friends and especially "younger, more broke best friends" for all the smiles and words of support.

JORDYN FREED (Sugar Plum Fairy/Gingy) is a Senior at Carroll High School. Her theater credits include Featured Ensemble in IMTF's production of *Les Misérables*, Sugar Plum Fairy/Gingy/Dragon in Carroll's production of *Shrek The Musical*, and a Featured Dancer in IMTF's production of *Phantom of the Opera*. This is Jordyn's second Civic Theatre show and she could not be more honored to be a part of this



incredible cast. She'd like to thank the directors, this beautiful cast, and her family and friends for the unconditional love and support in all her endeavors.



**JOSIAH BEIGHTS (Pinocchio)** is excited to return to the Civic Theatre stage as Pinocchio! He has been seen on stage with the Civic Theatre in *Something Rotten!* (Robin). Josiah has been seen in *Elf Jr.* (Buddy), *Frozen Jr.* (Hans), and *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Trevor). He would like to thank everyone who supports him in his artistic career!

**CARTER THURNALL (Big Bad Wolf)** is excited to make his debut at Fort Wayne Civic Theater as the Big Bad Wolf! Some of his memorable parts are Angus in *Tuck Everlasting* (Blackbox Theatre Company), Karl the Giant in *Big Fish* (BBTC), and Aslan in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Lebanon High School). Carter would like to thank the Moss and Acton families, his directors, cast, family, and Olivia for always supporting his passions. "Enjoy the show!"





**JONATHAN LOWDEN (Pig #1)** is excited to be back on stage with the Civic Theatre where he first appeared in collaboration with the FW Youtheatre in *Matilda* (Bruce, 2020) and most recently in *The SpongeBob Musical*, 2022. For the past 8 years, he's taken classes and performs with Youtheatre, most recently in *Jeremy Thatcher, Dragon Hatcher* (Mr. Hutton, 2023), *Frozen Jr.* (Oaken, 2022), and

*Robynhood* (Sheriff of Nottingham, 2022). King Jon is a Freshman at Snider High School. "Thanks Mom & Dad for driving me to all my rehearsals!"

**JOSH MOODY (Pig #2)** is thrilled to take part in his first ever show with Civic Theatre! Prior to being cast in *Shrek The Musical*, Josh performed in Homestead High School's *Joseph* (Joseph), in IMTF's *Phantom of the Opera* (Passarino/Firmin U.S.), and even in Summit Middle School's production of *Shrek Jr.* (Shrek). Josh would like to thank his friends, family, and the creative team behind *Shrek The Musical* for



CAST

supporting him and giving him the opportunity to do what he loves most.



**ANTON PHILLIPS JR. (Pig #3)** is excited for his first Civic Theatre show and to be a part of the amazing experience that is *Shrek The Musical*. Anton finds joy in performing for his friends and family. He would like to thank his family for always supporting him through theatre and would like to give a special thank you to his dad for showing up to his plays and recording every second of it on his phone.

**CARTER HAMMON (White Rabbit, Dance Captain)** is a Senior in high school and is excited to be returning back to the Civic Theatre stage for the seventh time! You may have seen him in *Something Rotten!* as one of the bard boys and in *Elf* as Michael Hobbs (Civic Theatre). He has also been in many production over the years with Fort Wayne Youtheatre and was in *Hairspray* with IMTF last summer. He would like to



thank the incredible production team and cast for making this such a wonderful and fun experience!



LANDON RICHEY (Peter Pan) is starring in his second Civic Theatre production, his first being *Something Rotten!*. He has previously been in multiple productions with the Fort Wayne Youtheatre, these include *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. Landon has acted in three Homesteads productions, *Footloose, Newsies*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He has

also acted in multiple Indiana Music Theatre Foundation productions including Les Misérables and Hairspray.

### CAST



**HEATHER BRACKEEN (Wicked Witch, Dance Captain)** is thrilled that the Shrek family has been so freaky fun and welcoming of this old theatre witch. Before Heather and hubby, Jeff Moore, started their family (hi Hannah, Zoe, Ren, and Ella) she was involved in community theatre. FW Credits: One Flew...Cuckoo's Nest, Shadowlands, WIT, Wait Until Dark, Guys & Dolls, Barnum Joseph (1996), Chicago, Best

*Little...House*, *Elf*, and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. "Big shoutout to the WMES drama club kiddos - thanks for cheering me on!"

**LEAH PRANGER (Ugly Duckling)** is thrilled to make her Fort Wayne Civic Theatre debut! She was previously seen this summer as Ethel Toffelmier in *The Music Man in Concert* (Summit City Music Theatre). Leah is a Junior at Purdue University Fort Wayne continuing a degree in Music Education. She is extremely grateful to be a part of this show filled with talented cast members and a hard-working



production team. She would like to thank her parents for supporting her in every musical since the 4th grade!



**JOSH ENGLE (Papa Bear)** is excited to be a part of his first ever Fort Wayne Civic Theatre production! Josh was recently a part of the Summit City Music Theatre's production of *The Music Man in Concert*, which ultimately makes this his SECOND Fort Wayne production. Outside of his passion for theatre, Josh attends Ivy Tech Community College where he is majoring in Nursing. He would like to thank Vivian Mendez,

Mindy Cox, Adisyne Hensel, Sophia Lopez, Jennifer Welsh, Dr. Adam Will, and the entire Adams Medical Group team for following him this far.

**BECKY BENSON (Mama Bear)** is delighted to join the talented cast and crew of *Shrek* for her first Civic Theatre show! Previously, she has participated in the dramatic arts at Blackhawk Ministries through acting, singing, directing, and script writing. Becky would like to thank her sons, Will & Luke, for making life even more fun by sharing a love of theater. She would also like to thank her husband, Cory, for the coffee, love, and constant support.





**AVALIN SMITS (Baby Bear)** is a 10-year-old dynamo making waves in the world of acting and debuting at Civic Theatre! Hailing from Fort Wayne, Avalin discovered her passion for the stage at Fort Wayne Youtheatre, where she honed her skills through dedicated classes and performances. With boundless enthusiasm and undeniable charisma, Avalin has already graced the spotlight in two captivating productions,

leaving audiences spellbound with her exceptional talent. Her infectious energy, commitment, and natural gifts promise a bright future ahead, as she continues to captivate hearts and inspire with each step she takes in her blossoming acting journey.



**ELLA MOORE (Mad Hatter)** is so excited to be in the Civic Theatre's production of *Shrek*! This is her sixth Civic Theatre show, her most recent before being *The SpongeBob Musical* (2022). She also performed in *Annie* (2020), *Matilda* (2020), *Elf* (2018), and *Joseph…Dreamcoat* (2016). Ella is thrilled to be in this show with her mom, taking on the role of the Wicked Witch. She would like to thank her mom, dad, and

three siblings for always supporting her and Gavin, Capri, and Rolin for this amazing experience!!

**RACHAEL KILGORE (Humpty Dumpty)** is excited to make her debut at Civic Theatre with *Shrek The Musical*. She has been involved with theater and drama throughout her high school career at Garrett, most recently seen in FWSMT's *Hairspray*. Since then, Rachael has assisted with costumes for IMTF's *Phantom of the Opera* and *Rent*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and mentors who have all helped her get to where she is today.





**KAYLA ROUB (Elf)** is from Bedford, Indiana and is making her Civic Theatre debut. She was involved in theatre and show choir throughout high school. Kayla is returning to the stage after 6 years when she was last seen as Winifred in *Once Upon a Mattress*. She would like to thank her parents for helping her live out her dreams, her boyfriend, Lane, for being an amazing support, Kelly Gomes for pushing her to

audition, and her friends and family for supporting her throughout her life!

**LUKE BENSON (Young Shrek)** is excited for his debut performance at the Civic Theatre! Last year, he was a caroler in Blackhawk Ministries' Christmas production of *It's a Wonderful Loop*. Luke would like to thank the Civic Theatre and the directors, in particular, for giving him a chance in this musical.





**FAYE HOLT (Young Fiona)** is thrilled to be making her Fort Wayne Civic Theatre debut! She was most recently seen as part of the Children's Ensemble in *The Music Man in Concert* (Summit Music Theatre). Other favorites include a soloist in *The Greatest Showman: A Concert of Humanity* and Little Belinda Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* (Summit Music Theatre). She is a third grader at Blackhawk Christian School

where she enjoys math. Faye loves dance and gymnastics! She would like to thank her mom, dad, and Austin for all their love and support!

## CAST



**TEGAN DOSTAL (Teen Fiona)** is excited to be back on stage with Fort Wayne Civic Theatre. She enjoys working with many theatres in Fort Wayne. Most recently, she was Tina Denmark in Three Rivers Music Theatre's production of *Ruthless The Musical*. Tegan dances in Fort Wayne Dance Collective's Youth Company and is a freshman at Wayne New Tech Academy. In her free time, she enjoys reading,

watching Marvel, listening to and creating music. She would like to thank Carter Hammon and her amazing mother for giving her rides to and from rehearsal.

**BRANDON HATHAWAY (Captain of the Guard)** is returning to the Civic Theatre Stage, most recently having been seen in *Hello, Dolly*! as the Second Cook and in the Ensemble. Prior to *Dolly*, Brandon appeared in *Sister Act* (USF, Ensemble), *The Sound of Music* (USF, Ensemble), and *While the Lights Were Out* (USF, Algernon). Brandon would like to thank his family, friends, and coworkers who have supported him throughout his participation with *Shrek The Musical*!



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**JARED ARNTZ (Guard)** is 20 years old and is making his Civic Theatre debut! This is Jared's first Fort Wayne stage show and he's excited to be performing such an iconic show as *Shrek The Musical*! Jared hopes to have many more Fort Wayne stage performances in the future!

**MICHAEL TAYLOR (Guard)** is 17 years old and is incredibly grateful to be joining this amazing cast and crew for his very first Civic Theatre show! When he's not doing theater, you can find him performing at various events (especially around Christmas time) with the Fort Wayne Children's Choir, which he has been in for almost six years. He's glad to be performing on stage again since his last performance in *The* 



CAST

Hunchback of Notre Dame (Ensemble) with Fire & Light Productions.





MARISSA CARROLL (Three Blind Mice) is excited to make her Civic Theatre debut and is looking forward to reviving her role as one of the Three Blind Mice. Her other credits include *Marian: The True Tale of Robin Hood* (Lucy), *Phantom of the Opera* (Ensemble), and *Shrek The Musical* (White Rabbit). When she is not on stage, she can be found singing songs in her car, hanging out with friends, playing card games, or

gossiping with her mom. She hopes you enjoy the show and can't wait to see you in the audience!

JAELYN HAYNES (Three Blind Mice) is making her debut at Civic Theatre and has had a great time working on *Shrek* with this amazing cast. This is especially since *Shrek Jr.*, where she played Fiona, was the first musical that inspired her to pursue theatre outside of school. Jaelyn goes to Homestead High School where she was in *Joseph...Dreamcoat*. The last show she was seen in was this past summer with IMTF,



Phantom of the Opera (Ensemble). She hopes everyone enjoys the show!



**ANNA OUSLEY (Three Blind Mice)** is a Senior at Homestead High School and is very excited to be making her debut with the Civic Theatre as one of the Three Blind Mice. Anna is an active member of Homestead Show Choirs, as well as their theatre department. Past Homestead credits include *Joseph…Dreamcoat* (Potiphar's Wife), *Audience* (Usherette), and *Newsies* (Specs). She was also part of

IMTF's *Phantom of the Opera* this summer as a Ballerina. She'd like to thank her car, Dumpy, for its ability to get her to and from rehearsals.



December 1, 2023 – December 17, 2023

Directed by Gary Lanier

Arena Dinner Theatre 719 Rockhill Street, Fort Wayne, IN

Reserve tickets: 260-422-4226 or order online: www.ArenaDinnerTheatre.org **Evenings:** December 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16 Doors Open - 6:15pm Dinner - 7:00pm Performance - 8:00pm

Matinee: December 10 & 17 Doors Open - 12:15pm Dinner - 1:00pm Performance - 2:00pm

Arena Dinner Theatre is a 501(c)3 Nonprofit Organization ONE CHRISTMAS EVE AT EVERGREEN MALL is presented through special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service. All authorized performance materials are also supplied by Dramatists Play Service.

## CREATIVE TEAM



**ROLIN MAINS (Music Director)** has worked as a selfemployed musician for over 35 years. He has played keyboards on concert tours (Sandi Patty, Donna Summer), recorded in studios from Indiana to Nashville, produced award winning records (Best Instrumental Dove Award, 1998), recorded his own record (A Time To Dance), produced concerts for shows at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center

in NYC, composed and arranged for many companies, and has conducted and music directed for musical theater in the Nashville area for over 15 years, including The Nashville Repertory Theater, Street Theater Company, Chaffin's Barn and Dinner Theater, and Circle Players. During his time in New York City, he music directed shows for Montclair State University and St. John's University, and was an accompanist at Steps on Broadway. He was named "Best Music Director" by the Nashville Scene in 2011. Mr. Mains moved to Fort Wayne, IN in July of 2021 and has since music directed many shows and teaches at the Academy of Music at Sweetwater and is a full-time Lecturer at PFW. He is very excited to be music directing and working with his best friend, Gavin Thomas Drew, on their 5th show together.

**CAPRI PARRISH WILLIAMS (Choreographer)** a native of Edon, Ohio, is an active dance educator, choreographer, and performer in the tri-state area. She received her B.A. in Dance Performance & Choreography from Hope College in Holland, Michigan. Capri made her Fort Wayne Civic Theatre directorial debut this past Spring with the powerfully whimsical production of *Into The Woods*. Local Choreography credits



include The Wedding Singer, The SpongeBob Musical (Assistant Director), The Christmas Schooner (Assistant Director), Legally Blonde, Carrie, The Wild Party, How To Succeed..., You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, The Sound of Music, and Grease. Local performance credits include The Wedding Singer (Holly), A Funny Thing Happened...Forum (Vibrata, Anthony Award), Annie (Star to Be), Legally Blonde (Elle Woods, Anthony Award), Sweeney Todd (Ensemble), Mamma Mia! (Sophie), Newsies (Dancer, Anthony Award), and White Christmas (Dancer). This Spring, Capri celebrated her one-year anniversary as the Marketing Director for the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre. @capriannapaige



**DELANEY RICE (Assistant Music Director)** is a Fort Wayne native and has been involved in theater for the past seven years. She graduated from Snider High School where she played drumset and percussion for many musicals including *Grease*, *The Little Mermaid*, and *42nd Street*. Her most notable musical pit experiences include *Peter and The Starcatcher* at Purdue Fort Wayne and *25th Annual...* 

*Spelling Bee* with Summit City Music Theatre. She currently attends Purdue Fort Wayne and plans to graduate in 2024 with a degree in Popular Music with a concentration in Recording and Production. Delaney is excited to be debuting as Assistant Music Director!

## SHREK THE MUSICAL STAGE MANAGEMENT



**BRITTNEY LYNNE KOZA (Stage Manager)** is excited to be a part of this production as this show marks her 10th season with the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre. Notable productions Brittney has been a part of include FWCT's productions of *Elf The Musical, Seussical, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Newsies, The Rocky Horror Picture Show,* and *Shrek The Musical* (2014). She would like to thank her friends and family for

their continued support and for pushing her to be her best.

**BOBBI JO CARROLL (Assistant Stage Manager)** is overjoyed to be among this spectacular cast & creative team and was the last Fairy Godmother in the 2014 production of Civic's *Shrek*! A frequent performer/creative team member & Elementary Music Teacher, she delights in sharing her passion for music & performing. Favorite selected credits: Civic- *Into The Woods* (Stage Manager, Anthony Award),



1776 (Richard Henry Lee), *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Baroness Bomburst), and *Cinderella* (Joy); TRMT- *Kinky Boots* (Ensemble) and *The Light in the Piazza* (Ensemble). Love & gratitude to God, Mom & fam, Sarah, Henry, Michelle, & Nova, Reuben & Stephanie, Carmen & Rik. "This Our Story"- "When I'm with you, I am happy."



**BRITTANY "BRI" MAY (Assistant Stage Manager)** is excited to be taking part in her second season at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre! She is currently the Civic's College Intern and she will be graduating this December from PFW with a B.A. in Theatre. Her past credits include *The Spongebob Musical* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Into The Woods* (Deck Crew), and *Something Rotten*! (Flyrail Operator).

## VOLUNTEER!

No experience required...we will train you! We have positions that range from a few hours to the entire production and performance schedule of the show.

To volunteer, contact Ashley Brassell abrassell@fwcivic.org



## IN THE WINGS ARTS-IN-EDUCATION

Acting for the stage is an all-encompassing process which involves a great deal of collaboration from many different people. The art, process, and effects of live performance have a profound impact on the human spirit. We're shown psychology, motivation, conflict, and resolution. Live theatre is a cultural phenomenon which not only demands that society examine itself in the mirror, but also opens hearts to our shared humanity in the process. Whether we are experiencing it from the perspective of an audience Danielle Andersen member or as part of the artistic and production process itself, live theatre encourages us to take risks, to give power



Director of Education

to truth, and to advocate for new and diverse perspectives. It shows us that our strength lies in our authenticity and vulnerability. It helps us feel that we are not so isolated and gives us the sense of being connected to one another in a tangible and organic way.

In an educational environment where funding for the arts in our schools continues to be restricted, the importance of having community arts education accessible to area youth is at an all-time high. The mission of In The Wings is to enrich the educational experience of youth through the medium of Theatre Arts, with an emphasis on reaching the most underserved, economically disadvantaged, and at-risk populations. We do this through partnering with area schools and social service organizations. It is a great investment in the future of our community to ignite a spark of inspiration in the lives of these kids. Having exposure to and hands-on involvement with the theatrical process ignites this spark.

Although free attendance for our special In The Wings performances is an important aspect of the program, it is only one piece of what is available to the youth the program serves. In addition to these performances, we have a robust internship program for both high school and college students, in-depth backstage tours, and workshops for all areas of performance, design, and technical aspects of theatre. The talkbacks with cast and crew following each In The Wings performance offer youth a chance to ask and receive answers to their most pressing questions about the entire theatrical process.

For more information on how you can support our In The Wings program or to get your organization or school involved, email Danielle Andersen at dandersen@fwcivic.org or call 260.422.8641x226

#### In The Wings is funded in part by grants from the following:

AWS Foundation Dr. Louis and Anne B. Schneider Foundation Edward M. & Mary McCrea Wilson Foundation Journal Gazette Foundation Magee - O'Connor Foundation

Fort Wayne Civic Theatre Outreach Programs are made possible with generous support from:



# **Volunteer with us!**



The Fort Wayne Civic Theatre is a people-powered organization and we rely on enthusiastic volunteers looking to work on stage, backstage, and on build crews! No experience is required! We strive to educate while you are volunteering by teaching you how to safely use equipment, from drills and saws to paintbrushes and sewing machines.

#### Why volunteer?

- Learn something new
- Be a part of the magic of live theatre
- Earn free tickets to the shows
- Meet new people
- Share your talents and passions
- Have fun!
- Show themed duck



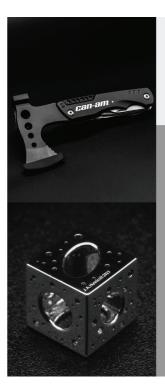


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#### 34



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# FOR TICKETS





## **BEHIND THE SCENES**

Scenic Artist & Volunteer CoordinatorAshley Brassell Assistant Costumer/Rental ManagerAnna Slotterback Stage ManagerBrittney Lynne Koza Assistant Stage ManagersBobbi Jo Carroll and Brittany May Sound Designer & Board OperatorMariah Roberts Light Board OperatorLouwanna Wilson Spotlight OperatorsJoy Henderson and Heather Macon Dance CaptainsHeather Brackeen and Carter Hammon Floor Crew		
Edward Gonzales, Doris Hawley, Rob Higgins,		
Nelson Kung, Rachel Lancaster, Erin Lowden,		
Lee Nayes, Brittany Underwood,		
Craig Welch, and Loren Woody		
Production AssistantJames Oakry		
College InternBrittany May		
High School InternsNadia Baugh, Tyler Bennett,		
Gwen Hofman, and Marlee Brimner		
Wardrobe CrewErin Cluckie, Becca Daugherty,		
Kaitie Jones, and Matteson Watts		
Costume Shop VolunteersLillian Barker, Josiah Beights,		
Erin Cluckie, Heather Conner, Carter Hammon,		
Jessica Herb, Rose Ellen Jordan, Linnea Mazock,		
Kathy Morimanno, Violet Park, Marilyn Petersen,		
Tristan Robinson, Emily Schwartz Keirns,		
Laurel Van Amerongen, Lily Van Amerongen,		
and Jaidyn Workman		
Special Thanks ToDavid Dyer/Tonn & Blank Construction,		
Rat Tappers Handcrafted by Dawn Quick of Donnibelle Studios,		
and Mindy Cox		
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## PURDUE UNIVERSITY FORT WAYNE

**Department of Theatre** 

WILLIAMS THEATRE NOV. 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 8 P.M.

NOV. 12

2 P.M.

**RATED PG-13** 

UNIVERSITY BOX OFFICE 260-481-6555 PFW.EDU/TICKETS

Music by Mark Hollman Lyrics by Mark Hollman and Greg Kotis Book by Greg Kotis Musical Direction by Holly Knott Directed by John O'Connell

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