

# *Standing* OVATION

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**Mar. 13 - Apr. 5, 2020**



**THE PLAYHOUSE**

**#DMPlayhouse**

# Welcome to your Playhouse!



**David R. Kilpatrick**  
Executive Director

Thank you for choosing to spend some time at The Playhouse today! We know that you have options and we are grateful that you picked *Singin' the Rain*. This production, which is based on the movie by the same name, has been a challenge to bring to the stage. In addition to the rain, which we insisted would be real, our tale includes big costumes, lots of locations, and a special floor to highlight the incredible dancing. Yet as much work as this show required, it was still so much fun to do!

We've just announced our 102nd season and are very excited about the adventures we will get to create. The season begins with a classic musical about strong women, *Chicago*, and continues with an Agatha Christie mystery, *Murder on the Orient Express*. The rest of the John Viars Theatre Season includes the musical *Kinky Boots*, the comedy *Calendar Girls*, and ends with *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. Of course, we can't forget our family holiday performance *The Sound of Music*. The season has a little something for everyone – a full year of entertainment and value. Make it easy on yourself and decide to see all of the shows: become a season ticket holder.

Once again, thank you for choosing The Playhouse. We are grateful for your support of the arts, of theatre, and of your community theatre.

Enjoy the show!



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ever been on a  
family vacation  
and laughed to  
tell about it.

**May 29 - June 14, 2020**

**FOR TICKETS:**  
515.277.6261  
[DMPlayhouse.com](http://DMPlayhouse.com)

From all the volunteers, cast, crew,  
and staff at The Playhouse...

# Thank you for your support!

**To make a donation, please contact:**

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In our first century, The Des Moines Playhouse changed lives one at a time. The Century Club is a celebration of The Playhouse's first 100 years. The goal is to increase the endowment by \$1 million, one gift at a time. The culmination of small gifts from many supporters will create a sustainable future for your theatre.

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## ABOUT

# *Singin' in the Rain*

Katy Merriman, Artistic Director

As we emerge from a February thus far filled with snow, sleet, and failed attempts at hygge, I can think of no better musical to lift us out of the winter blues and usher in spring than *Singin' in the Rain*. Not only will it prepare you for spring and the April showers to come, this production will simply lift your spirits. Adapted from the 1952 film written by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, *Singin' in the Rain* is considered one of the best movie musicals of all time. The stage version you are about to see is no less beloved, romantic, musical, or...rainy than the film.

Comden and Green's romantic comedy is set during the transition of silent films to "talkies," films accompanied by sound. Many scenes of the film and play capture the hilarity of navigating the beginnings of sound technology and integrating sound into film. Microphones were placed on set in hidden locations to pick up actors, and cameras and equipment would have to run in a separate closed booth to avoid the noise of the equipment when recording. Two of our *Singin' in the Rain* stars, Don Lockwood (Charlie Reese) and Lina Lamont (Maggie Schmitt), demonstrate a few of the issues with this microphone placement and the challenges of early recording, the most pressing being that until this point in history an actor's voice was not of concern when casting.

The now standard practice of recording actors' voices years in advance of creating animation for a movie was the reverse at the dawn of talkies. A device called the Vitaphone was used to record actors in real time onto a single phonographic record which would then be synced up in real time with a projection of the film. As you will see in *Singin' in the Rain*, it was a painstaking and sometimes nearly impossible task to make work and was eventually replaced by the much-preferred sound-on-film method (also called "optical sound").

While *Singin' in the Rain* provides an entertaining look at an important time in the history of film, it is also a love story that will leave you feeling glorious and tapping your way home from the theatre. Enjoy an uplifting couple of hours watching this live performance, and let this story encourage you to jump in a few puddles and dance in the rain now and then.



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# HOUSE INFORMATION

**Accessibility** The Playhouse strives to make its facility and performances accessible to all guests. Theatres are wheelchair accessible. Service animals are welcome. Assisted listening devices are available at Mainstage performances. If your hearing aid has a T-coil, toggle to that setting to receive the audio signal directly without any headset or other equipment needed. Large-print programs are available at all performances. ASL interpreted performances and audio description are regularly scheduled for most productions. For these and other needs, please call the ticket office with specific service requests.

**Cameras** The taking of photographs and the use of recording devices are not allowed during a performance and are a violation of state and federal copyright laws.

**Cancellations** If a show is cancelled due to bad weather, an email will be sent to ticket holders. Cancellations will be noted on the phone system, website, and social media sites. Tickets for a cancelled performance may be exchanged for another performance. Please be sure the ticket office has your email information and current phone in the event a performance is cancelled. The Playhouse does not sell its contacts and does not sell or trade its email addresses.

**Concessions** A variety of beverages and candy are available for purchase. No outside drink or food are allowed in the theatre. Beverages and candy are allowed in the auditoriums. Avoid the line at intermission by pre-ordering your drink and then picking it up at the designated location. Staff reserve the right to deny alcoholic beverage service to anyone at their discretion.

**Elevator** An elevator between levels is located at the east end of the building.

**Emergency Exits** Please note the exit nearest your seat location. In the event of an emergency, ushers will provide direction.

**Etiquette** Latecomers will be seated at an appropriate break in the play. Lobby chimes are sounded five minutes before curtain as well as the close of intermission. Disruptive, unruly guests, regardless of age, will be asked to leave. Cell phones should be turned off.

**Lost Items** Lost items will be held in the ticket office.

**Parking** Free parking is available in the Playhouse lots and on streets surrounding the theatre. After 5:00 PM daily, free parking is available in the Shops at Roosevelt's east/back parking lot. Parking in the west/front Shops parking lot is restricted to Shops customers at all times. The Playhouse is not responsible for loss of any personal property left in vehicles.

**Performance Content** The Playhouse does not rate subject matter as sensitivities vary from person to person. Questions about content, age appropriateness, or other aspects of the show such as strobe lights and other theatrical affects should be directed to the ticket office.

**Performance Schedule** The regular Mainstage performance schedule is 7:30 PM Wednesdays through Saturdays and 2:00 PM Sundays. The regular Kate Goldman Children's Theatre performance schedule is 7:00 PM Fridays, and 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM Saturdays and Sundays. The Family Holiday Classic performance schedule is 7:00 PM Fridays, and 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM Saturdays and Sundays. All times are subject to change.

**Tickets** Each audience member must occupy a seat and have a ticket, including infants.

**Ticket Office Hours** The ticket office is open Noon to 6:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday and two hours prior to curtain time. It is also open on performance days through intermission. Tickets are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, online. Ticketing fees are the same whether purchased

## Des Moines Community Playhouse

831 42nd Street  
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Songs By  
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(Original Movie Choreography by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen)

Produced by Arrangement With Maurice Rosenfield, Lois F. Rosenfield and Cindy Pritzker, Inc.

Director/Choreographer: **Erin T. Horst**  
Music Director/Conductor: **Brenton M. Brown**  
Scenic Designer: **Teena Sauvola**  
Costume Designer: **Angela Lampe**  
Lighting Designer: **Joyce Liao**  
Sound Designer: **Michael Duede**  
Properties Designer: **Sarah Beth Weinberg**  
Stage Manager: **Kyle Bochart**  
Technical Director: **Nate Lawrence-Richards**  
Artistic Director: **Katy Merriman**

### Cast

\*Indicates Playhouse Debut

|                       |                              |  |   |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| Dora Bailey .....     | <b>Preshia Paulding</b>      | Man on Screen .....                      | <b>Adam Yankow</b>                                  |
| Zelda Zanders .....   | <b>Sophia Montoya-Suson*</b> | 1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Director ..... | <b>Mark Mangum</b>                                  |
| Olga Mara .....       | <b>Lindsay Mickelson</b>     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Director ..... | <b>Chris Hanian*</b>                                |
| Mary Margaret .....   | <b>Elyse Hall*</b>           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Assistant Director ..... | <b>Jordan Potter</b>                                |
| R. F. Simpson .....   | <b>Donald Kom</b>            | Wardrobe Mistress .....                  | <b>Preshia Paulding</b>                             |
| Roscoe Dexter .....   | <b>Nicholas Root</b>         | Hairdresser .....                        | <b>Lauren Taylor</b>                                |
| Cosmo Brown .....     | <b>James Kolnik</b>          | Production Singer .....                  | <b>Eric Fredrickson*</b>                            |
| Lina Lamont .....     | <b>Maggie Schmitt</b>        | Sid Phillips .....                       | <b>Gavin Runles</b>                                 |
| Don Lockwood .....    | <b>Charlie Reese</b>         | Miss Dinsmore .....                      | <b>Preshia Paulding</b>                             |
| Young Don .....       | <b>Jack Gabby</b>            | Male Diction Teacher .....               | <b>Mark Mangum*</b>                                 |
| Young Cosmo .....     | <b>Miles Burrell*</b>        | Sound Engineer .....                     | <b>Gavin Runles</b>                                 |
| Villain .....         | <b>Eric Fredrickson*</b>     | Ensemble .....                           | <b>Eric Fredrickson*, Emily Davis,</b>              |
| Lady-in-Waiting ..... | <b>Riley Keough*</b>         |  | <b>Elyse Hall*, Chris Hanian*, Riley Keough*,</b>   |
| Rod .....             | <b>Chase Stine</b>           |  | <b>Mark Mangum*, Lindsay Mickelson, Joy Mielke,</b> |
| Kathy Selden .....    | <b>Stephanie Schneider</b>   |  | <b>Sophia Montoya-Suson*, Dina Perez,</b>           |
| Policeman .....       | <b>Jordan Potter</b>         |  | <b>Jordan Potter, Lauren Taylor</b>                 |
| Butler .....          | <b>Gavin Runles</b>          |  |   |

*Singin' in the Rain* is presented with a 15-minute intermission

*Singin' in the Rain* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.MTIShow.com](http://www.MTIShow.com)

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

## Act I

|   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| <i>Overture</i> .....                   | Orchestra         |
| <i>Fit As A Fiddle</i> .....            | Don, Cosmo        |
| <i>All I Do Is Dream Of You</i> .....   | Kathy, Girls      |
| <i>You Stepped Out Of A Dream</i> ..... | Don               |
| <i>Make 'Em Laugh</i> .....             | Cosmo             |
| <i>Beautiful Girl</i> .....             | Production Singer |
| <i>Lucky Star</i> .....                 | Kathy             |
| <i>You Were Meant For Me</i> .....      | Don, Kathy        |
| <i>Moses Supposes</i> .....             | Don, Cosmo        |
| <i>Good Morning</i> .....               | Kathy, Cosmo, Don |
| <i>Singin' In The Rain</i> .....        | Don               |

## Act II

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <i>Entr'acte</i> .....                    | Orchestra            |
| <i>Would You?</i> .....                   | Don, Kathy           |
| <i>What's Wrong With Me?</i> .....        | Lina                 |
| <i>Broadway Melody</i> .....              | Don, Cosmo, Ensemble |
| <i>Would You?</i> .....                   | Lina, Kathy, Cosmo   |
| <i>Lucky Star (Reprise)</i> .....         | Kathy, Don           |
| <i>Finale - Singin' In The Rain</i> ..... | Company              |
| <i>Bows/Exit Music</i> .....              | Orchestra            |

## Orchestra

Conductor: **Brenton M. Brown**

Violin 1: **Margaret Williams**

Violin 2: **Hannah Cool**

Bass: **Jeff Jensen**

Reed 1: **John Morgan**

Reed 2: **Aaron Ehrlich**

Reed 3: **Jake Kiese**

Trumpet 1: **Audrey Husted**

Trumpet 2: **Steve Day**

Trombone: **Brandon Kowalsky**

Percussion: **Benjamin Poppen**

Drums: **Zane Gedler**

Keyboard: **Brian Hutzell**

Orchestra manager: **Brenton M. Brown**



**Miles Burrell** (*Young Cosmo*) appeared as Theo in *Pippin* at Drake University. He has taken performance classes at The Playhouse (*Annie Kids*) and Des Moines Performing Arts (*Press Start, The Grunch*). Miles is a fifth grader at Walnut Hills Elementary, Waukee, and sings in the honor choir. Other areas of interest include playing piano and video games, watching movies, sledding, and cooking.



**Emily Davis** (*Ensemble*) last appeared at The Playhouse as Kristine in *A Chorus Line*. Previous area credits include *The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein* and *You Can't Take It with You* (Alice) at The Playhouse, *Closer* (Alice) at Open Door Rep, *A Doll's House* (Christina Linden) at Iowa Stage Theatre Company, and *Oleanna* (Carol) at Tallgrass Theatre. Emily spends her days as an actor, director, educator, adjudicator, and supporter of her fellow theatre artists.

**Eric Fredrickson** (*Villain/Production Singer/Ensemble*) is receiving his B.F.A. in acting from Drake University, where his favorite role has been Aegisthus in *Electra*. His stage credits include Fred/Young Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* at Iowa Stage Theatre, Laertes in *Hamlet* at Oxford Shakespeare (London), and Albert in *Bye Bye Birdie* at the American Gothic Performing Arts Festival (Ottumwa). Eric hosts the podcast *Solid or Sullied: A Shakespeare Podcast* and counts among his favorite podcasts *No Holds Bard* and *Shakespeare Unlimited*.

**Jack Gabby** (*Young Don*) is familiar to Playhouse audiences as Fudge in *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, Oompa Loompa in *Road Dahl's Willy Wonka*, Winthrop Paroo in *Meredith Willson's The Music Man*, Flounder in *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, and Michael in *Elf – The Musical*, all roles for which he received Dionysos Awards for Outstanding Performance. Jack is an eighth grader at Johnston Middle School.



**Elyse Hall** (*Mary Margaret/Ensemble*) is new to The Playhouse but not the stage. She played Glinda in *The Wizard of Oz* and Princess Tiger Lily in *Peter Pan* at Des Moines Christian High School. She was nominated for a Cloris Award for her role as Eva in *Bring It On* at Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. Elyse is a senior at Des Moines Christian who enjoys volunteering with Hope Ministries and Meals From the Heartland, seeing theatre, painting, and playing the ukulele.



**Chris Hanian** (*2nd Assistant Director/Ensemble*) is a freelance lighting designer who has worked for theatres across the country including New London (NH) Barn Playhouse and the Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre in Logan. His past stage credits include Doody in *Grease* (Waterloo Community Theatre), Paul in *Hair* (University of Northern Iowa Strayer Wood Theatre), and Justin Hicks in *Fox on the Fairway* with the Cedar Falls Community Theatre. Chris' interests include reading, watching movies, and singing.



**Riley Keough** (*Lady-in-Waiting/Ensemble*) is making her Playhouse debut. She is a senior at Drake University, earning her B.F.A. in musical theatre. Among her Drake shows are *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Little Women*, *As You Like It*, and *Pippin*. In her spare time she enjoys listening to podcasts.



**James Kolnik** (*Cosmo Brown*) is in his tenth year with The Playhouse where his shows include *A Chorus Line* (Mike), *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.* (White Rabbit), *Rent* (Angel), for which he received a 2013 Dionysos Award nomination), *Hairspray* (Corny Collins), and *Disney's High School Musical 2* (Ryan Evans). He has also taught at The Playhouse. Jim's many interests include health and fitness, watching movies with his husband, Nicholas, and spending time with their dogs.

## CAST NOTES



**Donald Kom** (*R. F. Simpson*) is the director of electric services for the City of Ames. While this is his Playhouse debut, he has "done just about everything" at ACTORS, the community theatre in Ames,

including playing Mr. Hart in *9 to 5: The Musical*. Don likes old Mustangs.



**Mark Mangum** (*Male Diction Teacher/Ensemble*) is a professional artist who has illustrated official trading card artwork for Star Wars, Marvel, Netflix, and AMC. He works at

Corteva Agriscience as an IT delivery lead. He enjoys visiting National Parks and playing tabletop and video games with his wife, Megan, and their sons, Jude and Ezra. This is Mark's return to the stage, having played Harold Hill in *Meredith Willson's The Music Man* at Bondurant-Farrar High School.



**Lindsay Mickelson** (*Olga Mara/Ensemble*) sang and danced in Playhouse productions of *Elf – The Musical*, *The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein*, *Pinkalicious* (Bird), and *Mary*

*Poppins*. She is a magician's assistant/box jumper for Ben Ulin Productions and Entertainment Group and tours with master magician Lance Burton. Lindsay is also an administrative assistant in the real estate department at Hy-Vee Inc. In her spare time, she enjoys working on small projects around the house.



**Joy Mielke** (*Ensemble*) has been involved in theatre ever since her first Playhouse class when she was five years old. Her Playhouse stage credits include *A Christmas Story* (Bumpus Hound/Ensemble),

*Ragtime*, *Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"* (Squirrel 2), *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, and *Junie B. in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!* (May). She has also volunteered backstage on the shift/fly crew for shows. Joy is a freshman at Drake University majoring in health science.



**Sophia Montoya-Suson** (*Zelda Anders/Ensemble*) is pursuing her B.F.A. in musical theatre at Drake University where she played Mandy in *Time Stands Still* and was in the ensemble of *Pippin*.

In her free time, Sophia enjoys riding horses and playing with make-up.



**Preshia Paulding** (*Dora Bailey/Wardrobe Mistress/Miss Dinsmore*) won Playhouse Dionysos Awards for Outstanding Performance for her role as Judy Garland in *Beyond the*

*Rainbow* (2010), as Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof* (2014), and as Annie Wilkes in *Misery* (2017). Her extensive résumé includes theatre, television and radio voiceovers, jingles, the Kris Kristofferson mini-series, *Amerika*, and several films. Preshia is a mother of six, a grandmother, and a legal administrative assistant for the Fiedler Law Firm.



**Dina Perez** (*Ensemble*) is studying musical theatre at Drake University. She made her Playhouse debut in *Catch Me If You Can* (Ensemble). Other shows include: *Electra* and *Vices* at Drake

University; and *Les Misérables* (Eponine), *A Chorus Line* (Maggie Winslow), and *Urinetown The Musical* (Hope Cladwell) at the Chicago High School for the Arts. Dina loves to sing, dance, act, and watch Netflix, especially *Stranger Things*.



**Jordan Potter** (*Policeman/3rd Assistant Director/Ensemble*) began his Playhouse affiliation as assistant stage manager for *Catch Me If You Can*. He moved on stage for *Disney's Newsies*

(Smalls) and *Disney's Freaky Friday One Act* (Adam). Jordan is a sophomore at Des Moines Area Community College. He also works at Centro.



**Charlie Reese** (*Don Lockwood*) is a favorite with Des Moines audiences from shows such as *The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein* (Dr. Frankenstein, Cloris Award winner) at The Playhouse, *Ordinary Days* (Jason) at Tallgrass Theatre, *Avenue Q* (Princeton/Rod) at StageWest, and *Company* (Bobby) and *Adore Us Line* (Joe Biden) at Iowa Stage Theatre Company. Charlie works as a compliance senior associate for Wells Fargo. He enjoys dancing around the house with his wife, Megan Helmers, and their pets.



**Nicholas Root** (*Roscoe Dexter*) made his Playhouse debut as Robert Martin in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Other area credits include Sasha in *Fiddler on the Roof* at The Playhouse, El Gallo in *The Fantasticks* at Ankeny Community Theatre, Gomez Addams in *The Addams Family* at Knoxville Area Community Theatre, and his favorite, The Beast in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* at Urbandale Community Theatre. Nick is a bankruptcy specialist at Wells Fargo.



**Gavin Runles** (*Butler/Sid Phillips/Sound Engineer*) is a sophomore at Des Moines Area Community College studying musical theatre. He made his Playhouse debut as Agent Branton in *Catch Me If You Can* and played Jack Kelly in *Disney's Newsies*. His numerous shows at Southeast Polk High School include *Guys and Dolls*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Meredith Willson's The Music Man*, and *Sweeney Todd*.



**Maggie Schmitt** (*Lina Lamont*) is familiar to Playhouse audiences from *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Sibella), *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (The Woman, Dionysos Award for Outstanding Performance), *Ragtime*, and *Disney's The Little Mermaid*. She is also a Playhouse Friday Funday cast member. Other credits include Janet in *The Rocky Horror Show* with Kata Klysmic Productions and Julie Jordan in *Carousel* at the Grand Opera House (Dubuque). Maggie studied vocal performance at Drake University.



**Stephanie Schneider** (*Kathy Selden*) counts among her Playhouse roles Miss Shields in *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical*, Knuckles in *Disney's Newsies*, Val in *A Chorus Line*, and the White Witch in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Other area credits include *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* at ACTORS (Ames) and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* at Urbandale Community Theatre. Stephanie is a huge Star Wars nerd. She works as an asset manager for Wells Fargo and is married to Jay.



**Chase Stine** (*Rod*) has his degree in cinematic studies from the University of Iowa and works at Put It On Video as an operations manager. As a youth, he appeared on The Playhouse

stage in *The Wizard of Oz* (Lollipop Guild member) and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Chase likes filmmaking and photography, combat sports, doing impressions and stand-up comedy, and singin' and dancin' in the rain.



**Lauren Taylor** (*Hairdresser/Ensemble*) is a senior at Drake University, earning her B.F.A. in musical theatre. At Drake, she appeared in *Nice Work If You Can Get It*. She was a principle

cast member of Manhattan Creative Group's *Showstoppers*, a Broadway review at Elitch Gardens in Denver. She made her Playhouse debut as Katherine in *Disney's Newsies*. After graduation, Lauren is off to Abingdon, VA, where she will be a member of The Barter Players at Barter Theatre.



**Erin T. Horst** (*Director/Choreographer*) is a professor of theatre at Drake University and is thrilled to be working on her second project with The Playhouse; her first being the

choreographer for *Catch Me If You Can*. Erin graduated from Minnesota State University in Mankato with an M.F.A. in musical theatre. She is familiar to Des Moines audiences from her roles at Iowa Stage Theatre Co. where she played Helen in *Fun Home* and Marta in *Company*. Her favorite role was Mary Poppins in *Mary Poppins* at Minnesota State University. Erin enjoys many adventurous hobbies such as traveling to Italy and water-skiing.

## CAST NOTES



**Brenton M. Brown** (*Music Director/Conductor*) says *Singin' in the Rain* is his 54th show for The Playhouse! His Playhouse shows include *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical*; *Fiddler on the Roof*; *Les Misérables*; *Mary Poppins*; *Monty Python's Spamalot*; *Into the Woods*; *West Side Story*; *The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein*; *A Chorus Line*; *Disney's The Little Mermaid*; *Mamma Mia!*; *Billy Elliot The Musical*; *Elf – The Musical*; *Catch Me If You Can*; *Disney's Newsies*; and *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. He was awarded the Cloris Leachman Excellence in Theatre Award for best musical direction of The Playhouse production of *Ragtime*. He has appeared onstage as the title character in *Sweeney Todd* at the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre and as L.M. in *Pump Boys and Dinettes* at The Playhouse. Brenton is office director at Golden Openings and artistic director of the Harmony Delegation Chorus. He and his wife, Jessica, enjoy spending time with their children, Lindy and Bennett.



**Teena Sauvola** (*Scenic Designer*) works with Walt Disney Parks and Resorts Live Entertainment as an associate art director at Disneyland. Her work can be seen across all Disney Parks in the U.S., on Disney Cruise Lines, and at Disneyland Hong Kong. She also works at The Hettema Group as a show set designer on world-class theme parks and live experiences around the globe. She is excited to be involved in her first show with The Playhouse. In her free time, she likes to draw, paint, garden, hike, and camp.



**Angela Lampe** (*Costume Designer*) began her tenure with The Playhouse in 1993 and has designed costumes, sets, and props for nearly 300 productions including *Guys and Dolls*, *Meredith Willson's The Music Man*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Ella Enchanted*, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, *Ragtime*, *Les Misérables*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *West Side Story*, *Into the Woods*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Sunset Boulevard*, and *Hairspray*. She has a B.A. from Central College in Pella and a M.F.A. in theatre from the University of Nebraska. She is the recipient of

four Cloris Awards for excellence in costuming and puppetry.

**Joyce Liao** (*Lighting Designer*) is an award-winning lighting designer. Her recent projects in New York include *Party Face* starring Hayley Mills and directed by Amanda Bearse at the New York City Center Stage II, *Hero* starring Omari Hardwick at the Billie Holiday Theatre, and *The Pill* directed by Randy Curtis Rand at La MAMA. Other Off-Broadway projects include *Dead Dog Park*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Breakfast with Mugabe*, *Final Analysis*, *The English Bride*, *Years of Sky*, and *Ethel Sings*. Her lighting design for *Brothers from the Bottom* was nominated for an Audelco Award. Joyce's lighting work has been seen both across the US and internationally, including Taiwan, Austria, Romania, Columbia, and China. For more information please visit [www.joyceliaodesign.com](http://www.joyceliaodesign.com)



**Michael Duede** (*Sound Designer*) served as the sound designer for *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical*. His involvement with The Playhouse dates back to 2004 when he played the role of Fudge in *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. Michael graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a Bachelor's degree in communication. Michael plays piano, flute, and clarinet, and composes and performs music.



**Sarah Beth Weinberg** (*Properties Designer*) has been onstage in numerous Playhouse shows including *Ragtime*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Babette), and *Peter Pan*. She has also worked backstage on The Playhouse production *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. Her favorite role was Kristin Wise in *Caucus! The Musical* in 2016 with Epic Stage Productions. Sarah Beth is a fourth-grade teacher at Crossroads Park in West Des Moines. She enjoys reading, knitting, and running.



**Sarah Aubin** (*Finale Choreographer/Assistant Choreographer*) is a junior at Drake University pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in acting. She counts among her Drake

shows *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (Ensemble) and *Pippin* (Player). She will be in the school's production of *Songs for a New World* in May. Her favorite role to note is Billie Bendix in *Nice Work If You Can Get It* at The Erica Heilmann Theatre (Oak Lawn Park, IL). Sarah has many interests which include working out, reading, traveling, and hiking.



**Kyle Bochart** (*Stage Manager*) has worked on several backstage crews, most notably flying Peter Pan and Charlie Bucket. He has stage managed *Billy Elliot The Musical* and was assistant stage manager for *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. Kyle made his Playhouse stage debut as Sir Bedevere in *Monty Python's Spamalot*, played Mr. Bucket in *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*, and was part of the barbershop quartet in *Meredith Willson's The Music Man*. Other area credits include *The Diary of Anne Frank* at Repertory Theatre of Iowa and *The Hobbit* (Bilbo Baggins, his favorite role to date) for Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. Kyle is a quality analyst with Wells Fargo.



**Zachary Blevins** (*Assistant Stage Manager*) served on the stage crew for numerous shows at Starlight Theatre in Rockford, IL, including *Chicago*, *Sister Act*, *Les Misérables*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Xanadu*, *Starlight Express*, and more. He also served as stage manager for The Playhouse production of *Catch Me If You Can*. A graduate of Drake University, he works as outreach and events manager for NAMI Iowa.



**Nate Lawrence-Richards** (*Technical Director*) says he is a man of too many talents and obviously not enough focus. He has been a construction worker, cook, librarian, lumberjack, teacher, mechanic, carpenter, and vagabond. His first task at The Playhouse was to build the stage revolve used in *Misery* and *Ragtime*. Playhouse administrators decided he was useful after this and decided to keep him around. Nate has worked as a technical director in Iowa since 2011 with a brief stint in Colorado in 2016.



**Katy Merriman** (*Artistic Director*) has been an active member of the local theatre community since moving to Des Moines in 2013. Her Playhouse stage credits include *Meredith Willson's The Music Man* (Marian Paroo), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), *Les Misérables* (Cosette), and *Legally Blonde the Musical* (Elle Woods). She was the musical director for The Playhouse Performance Academy production of *Meredith Willson's The Music Man Jr.* and directed *Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"* Katy has also worked with Iowa Stage Theatre Company as a resident artist where her performance credits include *The Glass Menagerie* (Laura) and *Our Town* (Emily). She also directed their 2018 production of *Fun Home*. Prior to her time in Des Moines, Katy worked with numerous theatres as a performer, director, and administrator. She has a Bachelor of Music from Butler University in Indianapolis, IN. Katy and her husband, Max Wellman, have a son, Jack.



**Betty Comden and Adolph Green** (*Script*), 1991 recipients of the Kennedy Center Honors and the longest running creative partnership in theatre history, began writing and performing their own satirical comic material in a group called The Revuers, which included the late Judy Holliday. They went on to collaborate with Leonard Bernstein and Jerome Robbins on what was the first show for all of them, *On The Town*. With Jule Styne they wrote the book and/or lyrics for *Bells Are Ringing*, *Peter Pan*, and others. They won Tony Awards for *Applause*, *Hallelujah Baby*, *Wonderful Town*, *On the Twentieth Century*, and *The Will Rogers Follies*. Their many film musicals include *Singin' in the Rain*, *The Band Wagon*, *On the Town*, and *Bells are Ringing*. Their non-musicals include *Auntie Mame*. *Singin' in the Rain* was voted one of the 10 best American films ever made and, by a vote of international film critics conducted by the prestigious magazine *Sight and Sound*, it was ranked third among the 10 best films of all time. As performers, Comden and Green appeared in *On the Town* and later did an evening at the Golden Theatre, *A Party With Betty Comden and Adolph Green*, comprised of material from their own shows and movies, and

## CAST NOTES

from their act, *The Revuers*. In 1977 they did a new version of *A Party* and toured with it. They are both members of the Council of the Dramatists Guild, have been elected to the Theatre Hall of Fame, and the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and have received the Mayor of New York's Certificate of Excellence. Some of their best-known songs include "Just In Time," "The Party's Over," "Make Someone Happy," and "New York, New York."




**Arthur Freed** (*Lyricist*) was a lyricist and a Hollywood film producer. Freed began his career in vaudeville and he appeared with the likes of the Marx Brothers. He soon began to write songs and was eventually hired by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. For years, he wrote lyrics for numerous films. In 1939 he was promoted to the position of producer and helped elevate MGM as the studio of the musical. Freed chose to surround himself with film directors such as Vincente Minnelli and Busby Berkeley. He also helped shape the careers of stars like Judy Garland and Gene Kelly. His team of writers, directors, composers, and stars came to be known as the "Freed Unit" and produced a steady

stream of popular, critically acclaimed musicals that lasted until the late 1950s. Freed served as associate producer on *The Wizard of Oz*. His most famous song is "Singin' in the Rain" and two of his films, *An American in Paris* (1951) and *Gigi* (1958), won the Academy Award for Best Picture.



**Nacio Herb Brown** (*Composer*) was a successful writer of popular songs and Broadway theater music in the 1920s, originally doing this as a sideline to his financially successful career in California real estate. In 1928 he was by MGM to write movie music for the new medium of sound film. For his film work, he often collaborated with lyricist Arthur Freed. He appears in the film *The Hollywood Revue of 1929*. Brown's hits included "Fit as a Fiddle and Ready for Love," "Pagan Love Song," "Singin' in the Rain," "Wedding of the Painted Doll," and "You Are My Lucky Star." He wrote the music for the musicals *Singin' in the Rain* and *Take a Chance* and additional music for *Big Deal* and *Earl Carroll's Vanities*. Brown is an inductee of the Songwriters Hall of Fame.



**Auditions**  
**6:30 PM, MON., APRIL 27**  
 PERFORMANCE: May 29-June 14, 2020  
 PRESENTED IN THE JOHN VIARS THEATRE.  
 Directed by Katy Merriman.

**CAST NEEDS:**  
 Men: 3-5 - Ages 16 and up  
 Women: 3-5 - Ages 16 and up  
 Boys: 5 - Ages 8-16 Girls: 5 - Ages 8-12  
 Ensemble: Men, Women, Boys & Girls

**DMPlayhouse.com/audition**



**Auditions**  
**6:30 PM, MON., APRIL 6**  
 PERFORMANCE: May 29-June 14, 2020  
 PRESENTED IN THE JOHN VIARS THEATRE.  
 Directed by David R. Kilpatrick.

**CAST NEEDS:**  
 Men: 3 - Age 18-65  
 Women: 3 - Age 18-65

**DMPlayhouse.com/audition**



## DES MOINES SYMPHONY

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## PRODUCTION CREWS

*Finale* Choreographer/Assistant

Choreographer: **Sarah Aubin**

Assistant Stage Manager: **Zachary Blevins**

Videographer: **Bruce Bales**

Dance Captain: **Sophia Montoya-Suson**

Charge Scenic Artist: **Nicholas Amundson**

Run Crew: **Pilar Burg, Keith Hayes, Cory Hug, Will Johnson, Kyle Lindman, Greg Millar**

Sound Board Operator: **David Galloway**

Master Electrician: **Virgil Kleinhesselink**

Lightboard Operator: **Toni Farris**

Followspot Operators: **Pilar Burg, Adam Fast**

Playhouse Ambassadors: **Judy Blessington, Mary Bricker, Annette Duffy, Alma Hackbart, Pat Henson, Jolene Huen, Jean Leibold, Sunny Liston, Mary Marshall, Mark Morrison, Becky Scholtec, Mary Whisenand, Sherill Whisenand**

Playhouse Partners: **Dani Boal, Mary Bricker, Edward Corpus, Peter Dean, Denise Forney, Anne Frett, Pam Gabby, Micheal Howland, Jill Lippincott, Rebecca Masucci, Greg Millar, Mark Morrison, Charlie Reese, Maxwell Schaeffer, Jackie Schmillen, Tony Tandeski, Josh Visnapuu, Eva Williams**

Audition Crew: **Cheryl Critelli, Sue Dittmer, Bonnie Hodson**

Subscriber Services: **Gloria Filean**

Daytime Ticket Office Volunteers: **Gloria Filean, Cheryl Hamilton**

Playhouse Photographers: **Steve Gibbons, Brent Isenberger**

Playhouse Historians: **Mark Morrison, Lloyd Von Hagen**

*THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK*, SPECIAL THANKS

Due to print deadlines, these individuals could not be acknowledged in the previous playbill.

Guest Services: **Ankeny**

**Community Chorus, Rachel Baron, Jennifer Barsetti, Kim Blakesley, Steve Blakesley, Judy Block, Elaine Bohling, Bonnie Braat, Michael Bundy II, Christina Campbell, Darlene Cangas, Ann Clime, Judi Cooper, Carol Culmer, Sarah Engstrom, Rosemary Fritzjunker, Fred Gee, Sharon Gee, Omar Ghaffar, Shemin Ghaffar, Zuhayr Ghaffar, Mason Gray, Donna Gustafson, Angela Harvey, Keith Hayes, Elise Henrichsen, Sheila Henrichsen, Harold Hinkhouse, Ngoc Ho, Judy Hood, TJ Hon, Mary Howland, Grant**

**Johnson, Laurie Johnson, Sue Johnson, Anne Jung, Katherine Jung, William Jung, Linda Kacer, Olivia Kane, Stephanie Kempf, Marcie King, Lloyd Kaufman, Susan Lee, Tracy Leith, Monica Lewandowski, Carol Lucy, Mary Marshall, Nancy McCurdy, Beverly McKnight, Judy O'Keefe, Charlene Opdahl, Barry Orness, Carol Orness, Darcy Pech, Traci Petersen, Diana Pick, Jan Pitcher, Kathy Poetting, Kathy Polson, Jean Pooock, Dell Radcliffe, Shirlee Reding, Sally Rogers, Rotary Club of Des Moines, Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines, Dave Rutherford, Marilyn Rutherford, Pam Schmidt, Zoe Shannon, Shirley Sharp, Walt Sharp, Amy Skarin, Jordan Skarin, Mark Standley, Lois Taylor, Tricia Veik, Nancy Ward, Janet Whiteside, Mardean Wilcox, Sandra Wilcox**

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## Staff

David R. Kilpatrick, *Executive Director*  
Katy Merriman, *Artistic Director*

## Administration

Chris Andersen, *Director of Philanthropy*  
Lee Ann Bakros, *Marketing & Public Relations Director*  
Robin Spaht, *Education Director*  
Taylor Millar, *Education Coordinator/Volunteer Coordinator*  
Mary Hofer, *Finance*  
Samantha Ohlson, *Office Manager/Database Manager*  
Brooke Carter, *Marketing Intern*  
Lindsey Ballard, Elissa Johnson, Cherie Moen, *House Managers*  
Debbie Jacobson, *Ticket Office Manager*  
Shelby Jensen, Jody Kile, Mark Morrison, *Ticket Office*  
Lindsey Ballard, Lynn Bjorlin, Caulinez Lovan, Cherie Moen, Samira Sayeed, Jerri Young, *Bartenders*  
Jerry Eisenhour, *Final Act Ensemble Director*

## Production

Angela Lampe, *Associate Artistic Director*  
Jessica Van Essen, *Costume Shop Supervisor*  
Nate Lawrence-Richards, *Technical Director*  
Tim Harris, *Associate Technical Director*

## Pre-Intern Program (PIPs)

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Crey Abbas       | Allison Koch    |
| Kelsie Anderson  | Taylor Lantz    |
| Annika Baker     | Lauren Logue    |
| Meridan Boyd     | Tatum Lowell    |
| Maggie Brosnahan | Zoe Marckmann   |
| Francesca Cannon | Samantha Miller |
| Julia Cannon     | Kathryn Reeves  |
| Caitlyn Dean     | Lulu Rongerude  |
| Charlie          | Hattie Ruhland  |
| Deyoe-Snyder     | Ashlyn Russell  |
| Carson Doss      | Gabe Schebel    |
| Paige Fahrenkrug | Madelynn        |
| Cael Fitch       | Striker-Seay    |
| Audrey Frett     | Lily Spahr      |
| Sarena Gibson    | Josie Talley    |
| Maren Grant      | Rachel Talley   |
| Natalie Grote    | Kathryn Theisen |
| Grace Harvey     | Eliza Tutty     |
| Teddi Karnes     | Addie Van Dyke  |
| Abby Kilpatrick  |                 |



## THE PLAYHOUSE

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| Allison Engel    | Mary Urban       |
| Suzanne Engman   | Bob Veenstra     |
| Tom Goldman      | Sandra Windsor   |
| Peter Hedges     |                  |

## Education Staff

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Mary Bricker        | Jay Jacobson        |
| Janet Casson        | Nate Jorgensen      |
| Melissa             | Allison Koontz      |
| Chavas-Miller*      | Taylor Anne Layden  |
| Nicole              | Ed McAtee           |
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| Jenna Darsee        | Greg Millar         |
| Peter Dean          | Mark Morrison       |
| Katie Dorrell*      | Maddie Ripperger    |
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| Tali Eisenstadt     | Cody Schug          |
| Anne Frett          | Brett Spahr*        |
| Robin Breen Fulton* | Carol J. Taylor*    |
| Emily Griffin       | Meredith Toeppen    |
| Chelsea Haaland     | Sarah Beth Weinberg |
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\*Master Teacher



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