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#DMPlayhouse

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Iowa In the Dark

is a dry red with light, fresh notes. First impressions are tangy acid followed by black cherry fading to plum, a dry mid-palate, and a long, pleasing finish. Made from Marquette, St. Croix, Petite Pearl, and Steuben grapes grown in Iowa, it's a versatile wine that pairs well with grilled meat and spicy foods.

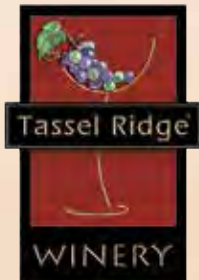
2019 Iowa Sabrevois

is a dry red with bold aromas of spices and leather on the nose followed by blackberry and plum notes with hints of baking spice, smoke, and licorice on the palate. Made from Sabrevois grapes grown in our Iowa vineyards, it pairs well with grilled meat.

2020 Iowa

Reserve Marquette

is a dry red with bright cherry notes and hints of baking spice on the nose and palate followed by a long, moderately acidic finish. Made from Marquette grapes grown in our Iowa vineyards, it pairs well with spicy foods.



Tassel Ridge wines are sold at over 400 retailers in Iowa. For a list, visit www.tasselridge.com/retail. Or Tassel Ridge Winery can ship wine directly to you in Iowa, Arizona, California, Colorado, DC, Florida, Minnesota, Missouri, and Texas. Call the Winery at 641.672.WINE (9463) to place your order. Adult signature required for receipt of wine. Visit www.tasselridge.com, our Facebook page, or call 641.672.WINE (9463) for updates on hours, Wine Tasting, and Wine & Food Events.

Tassel Ridge Dry Red Wines...Simply Extraordinary®

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David R. Kilpatrick
Executive Director

Thank you for joining us today for our 104th Season Opener, *Guys and Dolls*. We know that you have many options so we are grateful you chose to spend time at The Playhouse.

Our season promises to be a full one with something for everyone. In the John Viars Theatre, you can travel to storybookland and experience *Cinderella* or join with us and Pyramid Theatre Company to bring to life an American classic, *August Wilson's The Piano Lesson*. Next, at a shoe factory we learn that to change the world we have to first change ourselves in *Kinky Boots*. Our travels continue to Virginia where *Native Gardens* shows us two sets of neighbors, one old school and one new, and both discover that there is still a lot of growing to do. Finally, our season will end with plants taking over the world but doing so with great songs and lots of fun in *Little Shop of Horrors*.

We don't stop there. In our Kate Goldman Children's Theatre season, we will experience the value of being kind in *Harriet the Spy* and the great joy found in doing everything with friends in *Go, Dog. Go!* We also learn that bullying hurts everyone, the bullied and the bully, in *The Hundred Dresses*. Finally, the season ends with *How I Became a Pirate*, where traveling is fun as long as you return home at the end of your journey.

Lots of locations, so much fun, and countless new friends can all be found at The Playhouse.

We invite you to consider becoming a season ticket holder. Make the commitment to yourself and your family to enjoy all that The Playhouse offers. We promise you a special theatrical event, every time. It is our mission to create extraordinary, shared experiences through live theatre, with a vision to be the home for artistic collaboration where any story can be told.

We are very excited to present our production of *Annie Jr.*, a Penguin Project in the John Viars Theatre. The Penguin Project is a group of youths, ages 10-21, who take to the stage to perform a modified version of a well-known Broadway musical. All roles are filled by young artists with developmental disabilities. They are joined on stage by a dedicated group of peer mentors – youths the same age without disabilities who have volunteered to work side-by-side with the artists through four months of rehearsals and to the final performance. The program demonstrates that the special challenges of a disability should not hinder a child's ability to participate in life's experiences.

As we begin our newest season, we know that we are supported by you, who believe in the power of theatre and the need for the arts in the community. We recognize the honor and responsibility it is to serve you. Thank you for this opportunity.

See you at The Playhouse.



VOTE for your favorite performances!



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Outstanding performances are recognized at
the Dionysos Awards each September.



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

Thank you for your support!

To make a donation, please contact:

Ryan Crane

Director of Philanthropy

515.974.5370

rcrane@dmplayhouse.com

Donors listed are current from Mar. 1, 2022 to

Aug. 31, 2022.

An * indicates a deceased donor.

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Partnership Program

Special thanks to the corporate partners who support John Viars Theatre and Kate Goldman Children's Theatre productions.

Guys and Dolls

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Angela Lampe
Lincoln Savings Bank
Workspace, Inc

Harriet the Spy
Nationwide

Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella
Corteva Agriscience

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Nationwide

August Wilson's The Piano Lesson
Prairie Meadows

The Hundred Dresses
Nationwide

Kinky Boots
Edward Jones

How I Became a Pirate
Nationwide

Native Gardens
EMC Insurance

Little Shop of Horrors
MidAmerican Energy Company

Playhouse Archives Online

The conversion of thousands of print materials to digital files is nearly complete. In 2022, The Playhouse will unveil a website on which donors can find many historical records from prior plays and performances. The donors listed below made contributions toward the effort.

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We recognize those families who made a donation above and beyond the cost of Summer Camp/class registration:

Angela Bergeron
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Corporate Matching Gifts

Your personal gift to The Playhouse may be eligible for a corporate match, increasing your impact. Many corporations recognize the volunteer work of their employees by making a donation on their behalf. We extend our thanks to the following for matching employees' and retirees' contributions and honoring employees' volunteer efforts.

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Tribute Program

The Tribute Program provides an opportunity to celebrate milestones such as birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and graduations. It can also be a way to honor the memory of friends and relatives.

In Honor of Mike Brandt
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In Memory of Dr Louis Fingerman
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In Memory of Joan Ghrist
Dawn Taylor

In Honor of Parker & Oliver Burt
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In Honor of David R Kilpatrick
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In Memory of Mary Jane Pollack (Bookey)
Suzie Glazer Burt
Kathryn Clarke
Karen Engman
Emily Ferdman
Lawrence Kirsner
Lindsay Koressel
Beth Lane
Harriet Ross
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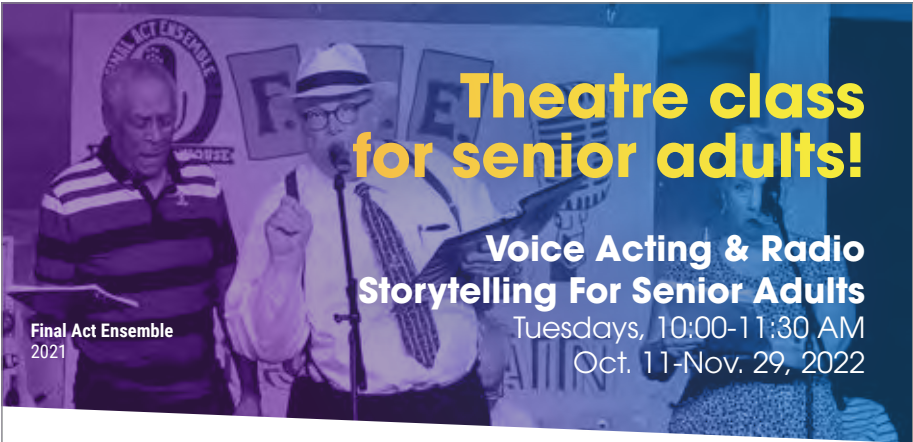
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We recognize and honor those donors who have included The Playhouse as

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An * indicates a deceased donor.

Don't see your name? Those listed in this program have generously supported The Playhouse since March 1, 2022. If we've made a mistake, please contact Katy McCaull at 515.974.5359 or kmccaull@dmplayhouse.com. Gifts of \$100 or more are listed in every playbill throughout the season. Gifts under \$100 are recognized in the spring musical playbill each year.



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JOHN VIARS THEATRE

Guys & Dolls

Sept. 16–Oct. 2, 2022

RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S

Cinderella

Dec. 2–18, 2022

AUGUST WILSON'S

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June 2–18, 2023

Little Shop of Horrors

July 14–30, 2023

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Harriet The Spy

Oct. 28–Nov. 13, 2022

Go, Dog. Go!

Jan. 6–22, 2023

The Hundred Dresses

Feb. 24–Mar. 12, 2023

How I Became A Pirate

Apr. 21–May 7, 2023

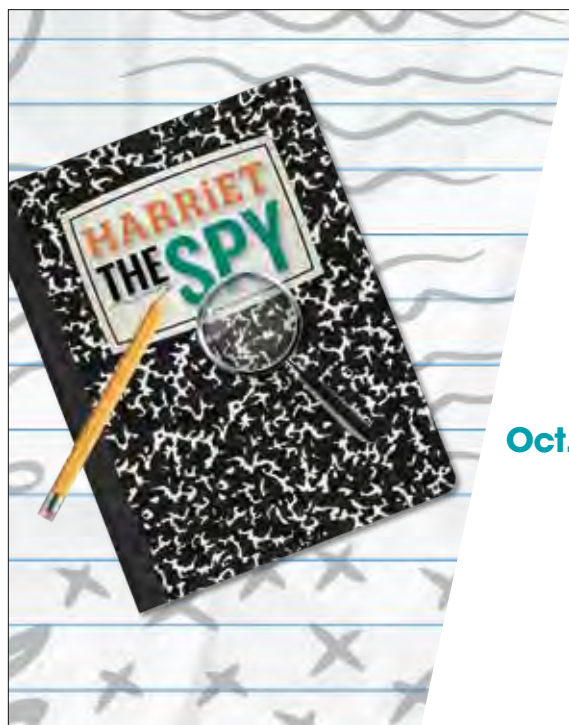
Calendar Girls
2021-22 Season



THE **PLAYHOUSE**

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2022

GUEST INFORMATION

Accessibility

The Playhouse strives to make its facility and performances accessible to all guests. Our theatres are wheelchair accessible. Service animals are welcome. Assisted listening devices are available in the John Viars Theatre. 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. ASL interpreted performances and audio description performances are available upon request. 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 may be available for purchase and are allowed in auditoriums. No outside drink or food are allowed. 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 phone ringers 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 John Viars Theatre 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.

Preshow Talk

A preshow talk for each John Viars Theatre performance will begin 30 minutes prior to curtain in the west lobby.

Tickets

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

Ticket Office Hours

The ticket office is open Noon to 5:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday, and 90 minutes before each performance. Tickets are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, online. Ticketing fees are the same whether purchased online, by phone, or at the ticket office.

Des Moines Community Playhouse

831 42nd Street
Des Moines, IA 50312



DMPlayhouse

@dmplayhouse_

DMPlayhouse.com

**Ticket office and
administrative office:**

315-277-6261

Group sales reservations:

315-277-6261

School matinee reservations:

315-974-5365

98.9 FM

A melodic rock station with soul; a musical melting pot, blending rock and roll with jazz and soul; stirring in some blues and acoustic music, and flavoring with world beat and reggae. KFMG features musicians who live in our town and our state, and musicians who are coming to our town.

We are as musically diverse as our city and our listeners,
and we invite you to join us.



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Dec. 2 - 18, 2022



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GUYS AND DOLLS

Katy Merriman, Playhouse Artistic Director

Guys and Dolls began as an adaptation of two short stories penned by Damon Runyon. Runyon, born 1880, is best known for the particular type of gambling, hustling New Yorker he portrayed in his short stories; a “Runyonesque” character type so distinct, they’re known right down to the colorful moniker and distinctive dialect (“Runyonese”).

“Good Time Charlie,” “The Seldom Seen Kid,” “Big Jule,” and “Nicely Nicely Johnson” are only a few of the many characters who mix elevated language of the early 20th century with slang from the underbelly of New York City. If you’re still unsure of what this language sounds like, you’re about to hear 12 crap-shooting sinners demonstrate it for you.



As we prepared a 2022 production of *Guys and Dolls* at The Playhouse, we discovered that many of us have early theatre experiences with this particular show. A favorite of American theatres, both community based and professional, perhaps some of you are seeing this show for the second, third, or tenth time. You may fondly remember playing Sky Masterson in your high school spring musical or, for me, the third ensemble girl from the left in the background of “Take Back Your Mink” and a horn player in the Mission Band (dreams of playing Sarahs and Adelaides were yet to be realized for me at age 14).

Whether this is your first experience or twentieth, I hope *Guys and Dolls* whisks you away to a simpler, fantastical, *comical* version of early New York City where the crap games are a-plenty and there is no one way to find love. We’re all flawed, life is chaotic and funny, and we’d best enjoy the hell out of it, whether converting sinners or selling newspapers.

Please enjoy this “whole beautiful thing,” an outrageous fable in a bright and fictional New York City filled with the “best” and “worst” of Runyonland.

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653rd Production
104th Season

Opening September 16, 2022
Closing October 2, 2022

Des Moines Community Playhouse Presents in the John Viars Theatre

GUYS AND DOLLS ***A MUSICAL FABLE OF BROADWAY***

Based on a Story & Characters of Damon Runyon
Music & Lyrics by Frank Loesser
Book by Jo Swerling & Abe Burrows

Presented by **InfoMax Office Systems**

Director/Playhouse Artistic Director: **Katy Merriman**
Music Director: **Tina Haase Findlay**
Choreographer: **Michael Tomlinson**
Scenic Designer: **Teena Sauvola**
Costume Designer: **Angela Lampe**
Lighting Designer: **Alex Snodgrass**
Properties Designer: **Nate Weber**
Stage Manager: **Jenna N. Darsee**
Intimacy Director: **Lyndsy Darland**
Assistant Director: **Toni K. Farris**
Assistant Stage Manager: **Korey Williams**
Conductor: **Brenton Brown**

Cast

In Order of Appearance

*Indicates Playhouse Debut

Nicely-Nicely Johnson.....	Greg Millar	Sky Masterson.....	Evan Schettler
Benny Southstreet.....	Gavin Runles	Joey Biltmore	Brad Church
Sarah Brown.....	Taylor Anne Layden	Mimi	Maggie Schmitt
Arvide Abernathy.....	Dean Messerly	General Matilda B. Cartwright.....	Breigh Edwards*
Agatha.....	Amy Leonard	Big Jule.....	Madison Ray
Calvin.....	Emmitt Reyerson*	Master of Ceremonies.....	Noah Fraizer*
Martha.....	Bridget Paur*	Allison.....	Riley Jensen*
Harry the Horse.....	Keelin Reilly*	Ferguson	Lexus Thiessen
Lt. Brannigan	JP Ungs	Vernon.....	Michael Beasley
Nathan Detroit.....	Giovanni Bahena	Waiter.....	Uriel Rodriguez*
Society Max.....	Zac Logemann*	Dancers/Ensemble.....	Elise Cameron*,
Angie the Ox.....	Chance Reeves*		Madeline Davis, Jillian Gabby,
Miss Adelaide.....	Kaelan Bohn		Lauren Gabby, Mitchell Nieland

Time & Place: A fictional 1940s New York

Guys and Dolls is presented with a 15-minute intermission.

Guys and Dolls is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com.

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

<i>Overture</i>	Orchestra
<i>Runyonland</i>	Orchestra
<i>Fugue For Tinhorns</i>	Nicely, Benny, Harry
<i>Follow the Fold</i>	Sarah, Arvide, Mission Band
<i>The Oldest Established</i>	Nathan, Nicely, Benny, Guys
<i>I'll Know</i>	Sarah, Sky
<i>A Bushel and a Peck</i>	Adelaide, Hot Box Girls
<i>Adelaide's Lament</i>	Adelaide
<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Nicely, Benny
<i>Havana</i>	Sarah, Sky
<i>If I Were a Bell</i>	Sarah
<i>My Time of Day</i>	Sky
<i>I've Never Been in Love Before</i>	Sarah, Sky

ACT II

<i>Entr'acte</i>	Orchestra
<i>Take Back Your Mink</i>	Adelaide, Hot Box Girls
<i>Adelaide's Second Lament</i>	Adelaide
<i>More I Cannot Wish You</i>	Arvide
<i>The Crapshooters' Dance</i>	Orchestra
<i>Luck Be a Lady</i>	Sky, Guys
<i>Sue Me</i>	Adelaide, Nathan
<i>Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat</i>	Nicely, Ensemble
<i>The Guys Follow the Fold</i>	Ensemble
<i>Marry the Man Today</i>	Adelaide, Sarah
<i>The Happy Ending</i>	Ensemble
<i>Bows</i>	Orchestra

ORCHESTRA

Conductor: **Brenton Brown**

Violin 1: **Margaret Stagner**

Violin 2: **Hanna Cool**

Violin 3: **Paul Ching**

Cello: **Michael Terrell**

Bass: **Bridget Shoemaker, Rachel Hymes**

Reed 1: **John Morgan**

Reed 3: **Dana Slotter**

Reed 4: **Steve Britt**

Reed 5: **Thomas Sparks**

French Horn: **Kelsey Mueller-Spude, Amanda Stout**

Trumpet 1: **Dan Meier**

Trumpet 2: **Joel Poppen**

Trumpet 3: **Steve Day**

Trombone: **John Kendeigh**

Percussion: **Drew Selim, Seth Rezek**

Keyboard: **Josh Whitver**

Orchestra manager: **Brenton Brown**

CAST NOTES



Giovanni Bahena (*Nathan Detroit*) is returning after making his Playhouse debut last fall in *Cabaret* (Bobby). However, they are no stranger to the stage having appeared in *King Lear* (Oswald) and *Long Day's Journey Into Night* (Edmund) with the Iowa Stage Theatre Company. Offstage, Giovanni enjoys cooking, baking, and hosting.



Michael Beasley (*Vernon*) has appeared in numerous Mount Pleasant (IA) Community Theatre productions and at The Museum of Repertoire Americana as an entr'acte performer for *Toby and Susie*. They were last seen on The Playhouse stage in *Ronald Dahl's Matilda The Musical*. A singer/songwriter, they are a principal performer with The Lounge Act. They like connecting with nature through gardening, ultra-hiking, and mycology; creating joy through macramé; dancing in the kitchen; and jamming with the family band.



Kaelan Bohn (*Miss Adelaide*) is in her second year at Drake University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing, and works as a phlebotomist at Broadlawn Medical Center. She was active in her high school's theatre program and earned special recognition from the IHSMTA (Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards) for her role in *Seussical The Musical* (Gertrude McFuzz). Kaelan first appeared at The Playhouse in *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical* (Penelope Square), part of the summer 2020 tent theater series.



Elise Cameron (*Dancer/Ensemble*) is studying performing arts and music with emphases in acting, directing, musical theatre, and dance at Iowa State University. At ISU, she has been in *Songs for a New World*, *9 to 5 The Musical* (Judy), *Street Scene Opera* (Mrs. Jones), and more. One of her favorite roles has been Serena in *Legally Blonde The Musical* (ACTORS, Ames). Outside of singing and dancing, Elise enjoys coloring and watching Disney.



Brad Church (*Joey Biltmore*) is familiar to Playhouse audiences from numerous shows including *Big The Musical* (Josh), *Meredith Willson's The Music Man* (Harold Hill, Dionysos Award nominee), *Ronald Dahl's Willy Wonka* (Willy Wonka, Dionysos Award winner), *Monty Python's Spamalot* (Sir Robin), *Cabaret* (Cliff, 2001-02 season), *The Who's Tommy* (Cousin Kevin), and *The Producers* (Franz Liebkind). Brad is an avid moviegoer and enjoys checking out breweries

all over the country. By day, he is a quality assurance specialist for Disability Determination Services.



Madeline Davis (*Dancer/Ensemble*) counts among her Playhouse shows *Billy Elliot the Musical* (Ballet Girl), *Singin' in the Rain* (Ensemble), *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* *The Musical!* (Actor 5), and the title role in the Performance Academy production of *Mary Poppins Jr.* Other area credits include *Into the Woods* (Lucinda) with Tallgrass Theatre Company. She was recently named teen female actor of the year by the International Modeling & Talent Association. Maddie is a sophomore at Grand View Christian School.



Breigh Edwards (*General Matilda B. Cartwright*) is making her Playhouse debut. She previously performed with Progress Iowa for their *Hamilton* parody, *The Reynolds Pamphlet*, and their political satire show, *The Sound of Progress*. Her hobbies include vintage fashion and pursuing the perfect crème brûlée.



Noah Fraizer (*Master of Ceremonies*) is a new to The Playhouse but not the stage. At Dowling High School, he appeared in *Disney's High School Musical* and *State Fair*. He is in his second year at Des Moines Area Community College where he is studying music. Noah enjoys reading, singing, and talking with friends.



Jillian Gabby (*Dancer/Ensemble*) grew up on The Playhouse stage, first performing as Tessie in *Annie* (2009). She received a Dionysos award for her role as Young Cosette in *Les Misérables*, a show very dear to her heart. Recent appearances include *Catch Me If You Can* (a favorite) and *Disney's Newsies*. A graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in linguistics, Jillian spent a year in Paris and now works as an English tutor. She is ecstatic to be back on stage alongside her sister, Lauren.



Lauren Gabby (*Dancer/Ensemble*) first appeared on The Playhouse stage in the 2010 production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Children's Chorus). Her favorite role was Mary in *Little House Christmas at Plum Creek*. Other shows include *9 to 5 The Musical* (Iowa State University), *Les Misérables* (The Playhouse), and *The Christmas Apple* (The Bridge). Lauren is a senior at Iowa State University studying fashion communications and public relations.

CAST NOTES



Riley Jensen (*Allison*) is a recent graduate from Earlham High School where she performed in many shows including *Into the Woods*, *The Sound of Music*, *Guys and Dolls*, *The Addams Family*, and *She Kills Monsters* and participated in the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards. She also qualified for several group and individual All-State events through the Iowa High School Speech Association. Her classmates inspired her to try theatre and she fell in love with it. Riley is a barista at Beans and Beignets.



Taylor Anne Layden (*Sarah Brown*) is no stranger to The Playhouse having been a student, then an intern, and now a teaching artist in the education program. She was musical director for *Disney's Freaky Friday* at The Playhouse, and *Bring It On The Musical*, *School of Rock – The Musical*, and *Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach Jr.* with Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. Stage roles include *Ordinary Days* (Claire) at Tallgrass Theatre Company and *Company* (Jenny) at Iowa Stage Theatre. Taylor is a teacher for Urbandale schools.



Amy Leonard (*Agatha*) was last seen on The Playhouse stage in 2016 in *Mary Poppins* (Miss Lark). Other Playhouse shows include *Honk!* (Ida), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Narrator), *Seussical The Musical* TYA (Sour Kangaroo), *Ragtime* (Ensemble), and *Junie B. Jones and A Little Monkey Business* (Junie B.). Amy is a denial specialist at Mission Cancer & Blood. She is the very blessed wife of E.M. and an enthusiastic supporter of her children, Alana and Mick, and their musical adventures.



Zac Logemann (*Society Max*) is a recent graduate from Earlham High School where his shows included *The Wizard of Oz* (Munchkin), *Seussical The Musical* (Max the Dog), *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Townfolk), *Into the Woods* (Steward), *The Sound of Music* (Friedrich von Trapp), *Guys and Dolls* (Benny Southstreet), and *The Addams Family* (Gomez). Zac likes playing volleyball, kayaking, and camping.



Dean Messerly (*Arvide Abernathy*) has numerous musical theatre credits throughout the Midwest including *Church Basement Ladies* (Pastor Gunderson, Waterloo Community Playhouse), *A Christmas Carol – A New Musical* (Bob Cratchit, Cedar Falls Community Theatre), *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Dick Deadeye, Madison Savoyards, Wisconsin), and Fagin in multiple productions of *Oliver!* At The Playhouse he was

Marcellus Washburn in *Meredith Willson's The Music Man*. Dean's favorite role is dad to his biological, step-, adopted, and foster children. He has served on several mission trips to a school for deaf children in Belize.



Greg Millar (*Nicely-Nicely Johnson*) started at The Playhouse with *Hello, Dolly!* Since then, he has had lead roles in *Annie*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Leaving Iowa*, *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* *The Musical!*, and many more including his favorites, *Harold in The Full Monty* and *Santa in Elf The Musical*. Greg has stage managed over a dozen shows and taught several summer and spring break classes. He and his wife, Carol, have three children, Ben, Shelby, and Taylor.



Mitchell Nieland (*Dancer/Ensemble*) has many Greater Des Moines credits including Conrad Birdie in *Bye Bye Birdie* and Judah in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Urbandale Community Theatre and Paul/Gremio in *Kiss Me, Kate* at Ankeny Community Theatre (Cloris Award nominee). His Playhouse shows include *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *A Chorus Line* (Don), *West Side Story* (A-Rab), and *Disney's High School Musical 2*. Mitchell lives in Des Moines with his fiancé, Kevin, and their two dogs, Schroeder and Sally.



Bridget Paur (*Martha*) is new to The Playhouse stage but has prior stage credits including *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Ensemble), *Little Women* (Aunt March), and *My Fair Lady* (Mrs. Higgins) at Williams Bay (WI) High School. Bridget was in *Big Love* (Eleanor) at Coe College in Cedar Rapids from which she received her degree in biology. In her free time, Bridget enjoys knitting, sewing, and baking.



Madison Ray (*Big Jule*) has played Tom Collins in *Rent*, Sarge in the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth*, and Production Singer in *Singin' in the Rain* at The Playhouse, Eddie in *Kata Klysmic Productions' The Rocky Horror Show*, and Michael in *tick, tick...BOOM!* at Des Moines Onstage (a Cloris Award nominee). Madison is the lead singer/songwriter for The Finesse and enjoys drinking coffee, cooking, and stealing your heart.

CAST NOTES



Chance Reeves (*Angie the Ox*) is studying musical performance and meteorological science at Des Moines Area Community College. While at Southeast Polk High School, he played Lumiere in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (a favorite role)

Lucas Beineke in *The Addams Family*, and Harold Hill in *Meredith Willson's The Music Man*. A security guard at the Des Moines Art Center, Chance enjoys playing video games, snowboarding, and recording covers of his favorite songs to give to friends.



Keelin Reilly (*Harry the Horse*) is new to Des Moines and The Playhouse.

He grew up on the East Coast where he was involved in productions of *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Robert) and *Cabaret* (Herr Schultz) with Johns Hopkins Barnstormers (Baltimore, MD), *Monty Python's Spamalot* (Sir Lancelot) and *Titanic* (Andrews) at Delaware Allstate Theatre in Wilmington, and *Avenue Q* (Princeton) at Archmere Academy (Claymont, DE). After completing his bachelor's degree at Johns Hopkins University, Keelin moved to Des Moines to take a research position with Corteva Agriscience.



Emmitt Reyerson (*Calvin*) is excited to appear in his very first Playhouse production. A Bondurant-Farrar High School freshman, he has numerous credits with Class Act Productions in Altoona including *Roald Dahl's James and The Giant Peach Jr.* (James), *The*

Addams Family Young @ Part (Lucas Beineke), and *Into the Woods Jr.* (Jack). Emmitt enjoys singing, traveling, and making new friends everywhere he goes. His future career plans include becoming a music teacher and helping kids make their voices be heard.



Uriel Rodriguez (*Waiter*) says his first theatre experience was *Guys and Dolls Jr.* at West Des Moines Stilwell Junior High School. He has since stage managed several shows at Stilwell and West Des Moines Valley High School and with Des Moines'

Raymond Theatre Company where he is also music director. This past year, he was second violin in the Valley High School pit orchestra for *Brigadoon*. He also plays trombone and piano and composes music. Uriel is a junior at Valley and a barista at Starbucks.



Gavin Runles (*Benny Southstreet*) is a favorite with Playhouse audiences having appeared in *The Sound of Music* (Rolf Gruber), *Catch Me If You Can* (Agent Branton), and *Disney's Newsies* (Jack Kelly, Dionysos Award nominee). He won a Cloris Award for

Best Performance by Leading Actor in a Musical for his role in *Newsies*. Next year, Gavin plans to move to New York City to pursue his performing career.



Evan Schettler (*Sky Masterson*) was last seen at The Playhouse in *Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express* (Colonel Arbuthnot). He has numerous credits at Simpson College where he earned his bachelor's degree in music education. His

Simpson roles include The Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance*, Polyphemus in *Acis and Galatea*, and Tartuccio in *Prospera's Island*. Evan's interests range from running and practicing yoga to video games and Dungeons and Dragons.



Maggie Schmitt (*Mimi*) is familiar to Playhouse audiences from *Singin' in the Rain* (Lina Lamont), *Cabaret* (Sally Bowles), *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Sibella, 2020 Dionysos Award winner), and *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*

(The Woman, 2019 Dionysos Award winner). Other area credits include *King Lear* (Cordelia, Iowa Stage Theatre Company) and *The Rocky Horror Show* (Janet, Kata Klysmic Productions, Des Moines). Maggie works for Ascent Pro Support and enjoys kayaking, reading, and spending time with her cat.



Lexus Theissen (*Ferguson*) most recently performed in The Playhouse's production of *Cabaret* (Helga). Other shows at The Playhouse include *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical* (Ms. Square); *Stuart Little* (Actor 4); *A Christmas*

Story, *The Musical*; *Disney's Newsies*; and *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Andrina). Lexus is the choir director at Carlisle Community High School. She writes and performs music with her husband, Nathan, and their band, L and N Music.



JP Ungs (*Lt. Brannigan*) grew up taking classes at The Playhouse, became a PIP (Pre-Intern Program) in high school, and the past two summers worked as a technical intern. Playhouse stage credits

span *Disney's Alice in Wonderland Jr.* (Mathilda/Rose, 2013) to *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* (Actor 6, 2022). JP is a senior at Drake University earning a BFA in theatre design and technology.

CAST NOTES



Katy Merriman (*Director/Playhouse Artistic Director*) has been an active member of the local theatre community since moving to Des Moines in 2013. Her Playhouse directing credits include *The Sound of Music*; the world premiere of

Escaping the Labyrinth; the co-production with Pyramid Theatre Company, *A Love Offering* (co-directed with Tiffany Johnson); *I and You*; *The Roommate*; and *Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"* Prior to becoming artistic director, Katy appeared on The Playhouse stage in shows including *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), *Les Misérables* (Cosette), *Completeness* (Molly), and *Legally Blonde the Musical* (Elle Woods) and was the music director for The Playhouse Performance Academy from 2016 to 2018. Katy 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*.



Tina Haase Findlay (*Music Director*) has more than 50 years as a performer. She is one of the only women in the Des Moines Jazz Hall of Fame, a two-time Iowa Blues Challenge champion, and two-time winner of Prairie Meadows Vocal

Hero. She has headlined nearly every major music festival in Des Moines over the past 20 years. A composer and arranger, Tina has been a vocal coach for the past 20 years and has 13 years music ministry leadership experience. Her voice can be heard in many commercial jingles such as "Iowa, You Make Me Smile," Northern Lights Pizza, and Des Moines Mitsubishi. At The Playhouse, Tina has appeared in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Narrator), *Ain't Misbehavin'*, and the theatre's Celebration of the Century. She was music director for *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical* and *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!*. Tina says her greatest joys in life are her husband, Brandon, and her daughter, Dove.



Michael Tomlinson (*Choreographer*) spent 2022 and 2020 with Big League Productions' national tour of *An American in Paris* and *South Pacific*. Other dance credits include Jennifer Muller/The Works, New York, NY (principle dancer, teacher, assistant choreographer), Elite Casino Marketing: Disco Live, Motor City Live, Motown Forever, Atlantic City, NJ (dancer), Arthur Murray, Marlton, NJ (teacher, choreographer, 2nd place Rising Star Rhythm champion), Male Call, Provincetown, MA (dancer, choreographer), Williams Henry Contemporary Dance, Kansas City, MO (dancer), MOVE: The Company, Vancouver, BC (principle dancer), Owen/Cox Dance Group, Kansas City, MO (guest artist), Kansas City Ballet, Kansas City, MO (guest artist), Tristian Griffin

Dance Company, Lawrence, KS (guest artist), and Seamless Dance Theater, Lenexa, KS (dancer). A graduate of the University of Missouri – Kansas City with a B.F.A. in dance, Michael teaches yoga and likes hiking, camping, cooking, watching horror and sci fi movies, playing the ukulele, and enjoying and sharing the magic of theatre.



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. Teena previously worked with The Playhouse as the scenic designer for *Singin' in the Rain*. In her free time, she likes to draw, paint, garden, hike, and camp.



Angela Lampe (*Costume Designer*) began her tenure with The Playhouse with the 1993 production of *Guys and Dolls*. Since then she has designed costumes, sets, and props for nearly 300 productions including *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 an M.F.A. in theatre from the University of Nebraska. She is the recipient of five Cloris Awards for excellence in costuming and puppetry.



Alex Snodgrass (*Lighting Designer*) is the performing arts center manager with the Waukee School District. He has worked with The Playhouse as stage manager and designer, most recently as lighting designer for *Calendar Girls* and scenic designer

for the summer's Tent Theatre and Live Theatre Drive-In productions. Other credits include lighting designer and prop artisan (Repertory Theater of St. Louis), prop artisan (Opera Theatre of St. Louis), scenic and lighting designer (Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre), props management (Northern Stage, Vermont) and scenic design (Saint Michael's Playhouse, Vermont), and more. He has served as a technical theatre teacher and coach at Des Moines Roosevelt High School and Waukee High School. Alex is the recipient of the 2016 Cloris Award for Best Lighting Design for his work on DMAT's *The Hobbit*.



Nate Weber (*Properties Designer*) started volunteering at The Playhouse in 2019. He was props master for *James and the Giant Peach*. He has enjoyed his summer at the theatre, building sets for *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical* and *Guys*

and *Dolls*.



Jenna N. Darsee (*Stage Manager*) grew up at The Playhouse, taking classes, acting onstage, and later making her way through The Playhouse teaching staff as a PIP (pre-intern program), college intern, and now a member of the education staff. Her favorite roles include Dr. Livesey in *Treasure Island* and Raya in *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* both at Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre, Ma Ingalls in *A Little House Christmas* at The Playhouse, and Beth in *Little Women*, a co-production of The Playhouse and Terrace Hill. Jenna has been a stage manager for many shows, her favorite being *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical* at The Playhouse. Jenna is an art teacher and fine arts lead teacher at Irving Elementary, Indianola. In her free time, she enjoys playing with her dogs Greta Garbo and Ingrid Bergman, collaging, getting lost in the Des Moines Art Center, baking, spending time outdoors, and supporting her friends in their theatre endeavors.



Lyndsy Darland (*Intimacy Director*) has completed her level 1 and level 2 Intimacy Directors and Coordinators (IDC) professional coursework and has found a great passion for partnering with cast and directorial staff on making scenes safe and full

of captivating energy. After partnering on two films, she is helping with her first live performance intimacy coordination in partnership with the director team on *Guys and Dolls*. Lyndsy holds an acting certification from Columbia College (Columbia, MO) as well as a B.A. in English from Simpson College. Her first Playhouse performance was in *The Sound of Music*, her most recent in *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical*, and her favorite role has been Gingy in *Shrek The Musical*. In her free time, she spends time with her family and trains her two Australian shepherd dogs. Lyndsy works at Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield as an administrative assistant.



Toni K. Farris (*Assistant Director*) first volunteered behind-the-scenes at The Playhouse for the 1989 production of *A... My Name is Alice* (properties/shift crew). Since then, she has volunteered on the light crew, running lightboard or followspot, for

numerous productions. She has been a stage manager for *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*, *Proof*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live!*, and many more. She has been assistant

director for the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth* and *The Sound of Music*. Toni is an intellectual property legal assistant at Corteva Agriscience. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, reading, trying new restaurants, and supporting the Liverpool Football Club.



Korey Williams (*Assistant Stage Manager*) has a background in stage management. Locally, she has stage managed productions for Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre (*Hairspray Jr*) and StageWest (*HIR*) and was assistant stage manager

for Iowa Stage Theatre Company productions of *A Christmas Carol* and *Macbeth*. Some of her favorite local productions have been Goldfinch's *Macbeth* and Robert John Ford's *Utopia*. At The Playhouse she was assistant stage manager for *Cabaret*. Korey has theatre and English degrees from Grand View University. Her interests include reading, riding ATVs, and playing guitar.



Brenton Brown (*Conductor*) says *Guys and Dolls* is his 58th show for The Playhouse. His Playhouse shows include *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Les Misérables*, *Mary Poppins*, *Monty Python's Spamalat*, *Into the Woods*, *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*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *A Christmas Story The Musical*, and *The Sound of Music*. 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 artistic director of the Harmony Delegation Chorus. He and his wife, Jessica, enjoy spending time with their children, Lindy and Bennett.



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PRODUCTION CREWS

Technical Directors: **Nicholas Amundson, Paul Cartwright**

Dance Captains: **Michael Beasley, Mitchell Nieland**

Run Crew: **Lizzy Brandos, Hudson Pulver, Caiti Ruzika, Emmie Sagar, Korey Williams**

Sound Board Operators: **Brian Dodson, Lindsey Nelson**

Light Board Operator: **Sam Claassen**

Followspot Operators: **Jenny Bryant, Katie Hughes**

Master Carpenter: **Nate Weber**

Charge Artist: **Nicholas Amundson**

Set Painting: **Kathleen Baustian, Harold Hinkhouse, Brooke Krug, Ana-Maria Petcu, Darlene Pullen, Hudson Pulver**

Wig Stylist: **Fred Gazzo**

Costume Crew: **Susan Eisenhour, Barb Mydland, Jill Polk**

Master Electrician: **Virgil Kleinhesselink**

Playhouse Audition Crew: **Hannah Beuse, Cheryl Critelli, Troy Ellerbroek, Toni Farris, Liz Griffin**

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

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

ROALD DAHL'S MATILDA THE

MUSICAL SPECIAL THANKS

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

Guest Services: **Brenda Amro, Thora Anthoney, Michelle Anthoney, Riley Babel, Linda Baltzley, Chance Bender, Miranda Blackford, Corley Blackford, Emery Blackford, Kim Blakesley, Steve Blakesley, Ella Boes, James Bohnenkamp, Barbara Braband, Jay Braband, Madi Brauer, Juls Bruns, Anastasia**

Bull, Sydney Burger, Susanne Carney, Drake Carney, Ellie Chungath, Jennifer Claiser, Kaley Claisher, Meg Cook, Judi Cooper, Carol Culmer, Lydia Davis, Maddie Davis, Makenna Davis, Patty Davis, Jadyn Davis-Ballard, Elliott Dix, Deborah Dunham, Marcella Edmonds, Susan Eisenhour, Sarah Engstrom, Tami Fетters, Kathryn Fitzpatrick, Sara Fitzpatrick, Tyler Gartenberg, Fred Gee, Sharon Gee, Chloe Gilbert, Kathy Gilbert-Gallinger, Avery Gulliford, Alma Hackbart, Sam Hackbart, John Halbrook, Melanie Hall, Keith Hayes, Linda Hendricks, Mary Higbee, Harold Hinkhouse, Ngoc Ho, Tammy Holzhauser, Abigail Houston, Julie Howland, Michael Howland, Caylie James, Margaret Kelley, Abhishek Khanna, Angela Knowler, Susan Lee, Cameron Lindsey, Holly Lowell, Cookie Major, Mary Marshall, Madison Meter, Deb Miles, Leah Morales, Ariana Murdock, Arwen Oakley, Ingrid Oakley, Dale Oakley-Bentlage, Aimee Oakley-Runyan, Judy O'Keefe, Pamela O'Keefe, Carol Palmer, Janet Peck, Kathy Polson, Colton Quintanilla, Debra Quintero, Shirlee Reding, Amber Rutherford, Ridge Rutherford, Emma Sabala, Hannah Siefken, Manushri Singh, Kristi Sithonnorath, Amy Skarin, Jennah Skelton, Barbara Slinker, George Sparks, Ruth Staplin, Sophie Thomsen, Lori VanZee, Nancy Ward, Isabella Webb, Grace Welch, Holden Westman, Janet Whiteside, Kathy Wiseman, Elle Wood

BUFFALO WOMEN SPECIAL

THANKS

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

Guest Services: **Phyliss Allen-Morris, Clifton Antoine, Ann Barfels, Lori Blachford, Sheila Carson, Ellie Chungath, Judi Cooper, Jonathan deLima, Marcella Edmonds, Lana Exline-Byrd, Fred Gee, Sharon Gee, Rain Hall, Kimberly Hawn, Keith Hayes, Therese Herold, Harold Hinkhouse, Amy Leubbert, Rachel Lewis, Cameron Lindsey, Rebecca Newbury, Carol Palmer,**

Kathy Polson, Lory Randle, Aurelia Singleton, Amy Skarin, Siobhan Spain, Lu Spaine, Kate Swegle, Karen Utke, Billy Wade, Isabella Webb, Janet Whiteside, Crystal Woods

CALENDAR GIRLS SPECIAL

THANKS

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

Guest Services: **Riley Babel, Kim Blakesley, Steve Blakesley, Elaine Bohling, Jenny Bryant, Anastasia Bull, Darlene Cangas, Dan Chase, Ellie Chungath, Ann Clime, Meg Cook, Judi Cooper, Carol Culmer, Heather Cushman, Lydia Davis, Patty Davis, Jadyn Davis-Ballard, Deborah Dunham, Mark Ferguson, Susan Ferguson, Janet Flagler, Fred Gee, Sharon Gee, Tesa Greenlea, Genevieve Gualerzi, Janet Habick, John Halbrook, Elyse Hall, Melanie Hall, Keith Hayes, Carol Healy, Stephanie Henzi, Harold Hinkhouse, Kristine Hoisington, Sandi Holland, Caylie James, Charles Johnson, Laurie Johnson, Lexi Johnson, Anne Jung, Lloyd Kaufman, Ruth Kennett, Abhishek Khanna, Marcia Klindt, Tracy Leith, Monica Lewandowski, Cameron Lindsey, Holly Lowell, Savannah Lucas, Linda McClure, Jack Meyer, Marisa Mickunas, Deb Miles, Maggy Miller, Cindy Nicodemus, Nancy Noll, Allyson Norlin, Carol Palmer, Darcy Peck, Janet Peck, Kathy Polson, Mark Pullen, Shirlee Reding, Jose (Joe) Ruth, Maureen Sexton, Madolynne Signs, Kristi Sithonnorath, Amy Skarin, George Sparks, Frank Sposeto, Ava Thornton, Sheryl Thornton, Mason Vanhorn, Lori VanZee, Neli Vosloh, Isabella Webb, Janet Whiteside, Mary Whisenand, Sherill Whisenand, Elle Wood**



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