

STANDING OVATION

THIS PRODUCTION
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APRIL 5 - 21, 2024



#DMPlayhouse

Great Red Wine

*made in Iowa
from Grapes
grown in Iowa*



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.

2021 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 the Winery at 641.672.WINE (9463) for information about hours, Seated Wine Tastings, and Wine & Food Pairing Events at Tassel Ridge Winery.

Tassel Ridge Dry Red Wines...Simply Extraordinary®

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David R. Kilpatrick
Executive Director

Thank you so much for joining us today. Our spring musical is always a fun and exciting experience, and this performance will be no different. Seeing a music icon brought to life and learning about their history and backstory is so rewarding. Think of this play as a tapestry of Carole King's life! I hope you enjoy it as much as we did as we put it together.

There are three more shows in our 2023-24 Season. Our final family series production is *Ivy + Bean The Musical*. Then, in the mainstage series, we have a wonderful laugh riot, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, directed by our very own John Viars. We wrap up the season with Andrew Lloyd Webber's *School of Rock* in which the youths will play their own instruments. You and your family won't want to miss any of them!

We just announced our 2024-25 Season and what a season we all are looking forward to! In the Signature Series we present *Jersey Boys*, *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Men on Boats*, *Waitress*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. In the Kate Goldman Family Series we once again are bringing popular books to life on stage with *Last Stop on Market Street* (a co-production with Pyramid Theatre Company and City Voices), *Diary of A Wimpy Kid*, *Knuffle Bunny*, and *Alice in Wonderland*. These are 10 exciting opportunities to be transported to another place and time, surrounded by friends and family. Also included with your season tickets: great seats and wonderful discounts. Become a season ticket holder today – you know you want to!

As we think about The Playhouse's future, we recognize it has been an exciting winter getting our interior spaces ready. Now we begin our exterior addition so that we can have even more space supporting our productions, teaching our classes, and celebrating with our patrons. Thank you for ALL that you did to make this dream for the community come true.

For more than 100 years, The Playhouse has presented shows for you, the community. We believe in the power of theatre to transform lives. And we thank you for believing in it too!

Beautiful The Carole King Musical

VOTE for your favorite performances!



**Scan the QR code to tell us who
your favorite performers were today!**

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:

Jordan Bles

Director of Philanthropy
515.974.5370
jbles@dmpplayhouse.com

Donors listed are current from Mar. 1, 2023 to
Feb. 20, 2024.

An * indicates a deceased donor.



Cast of OurTown 2023-2024 Season.

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Donors who generously support The Playhouse at the \$1,000 level
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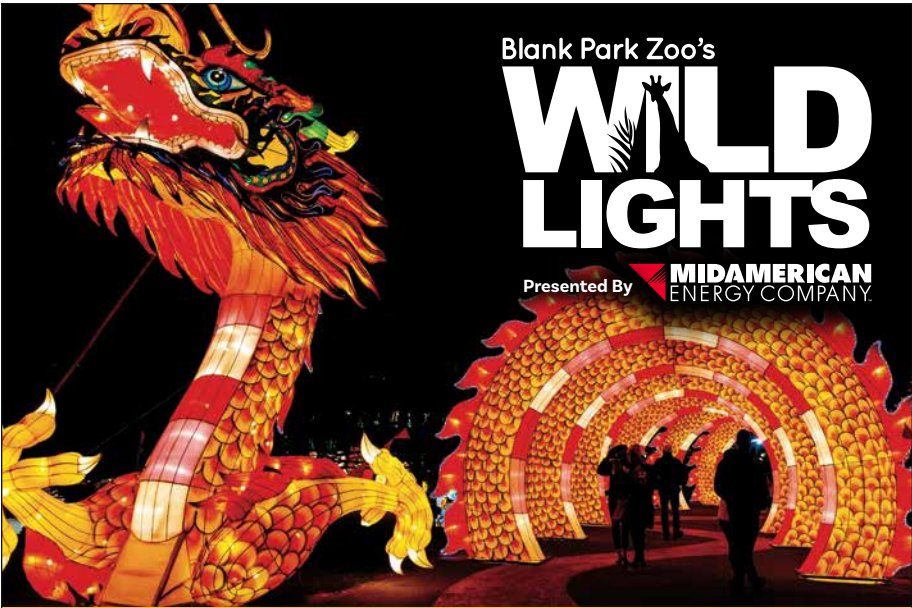
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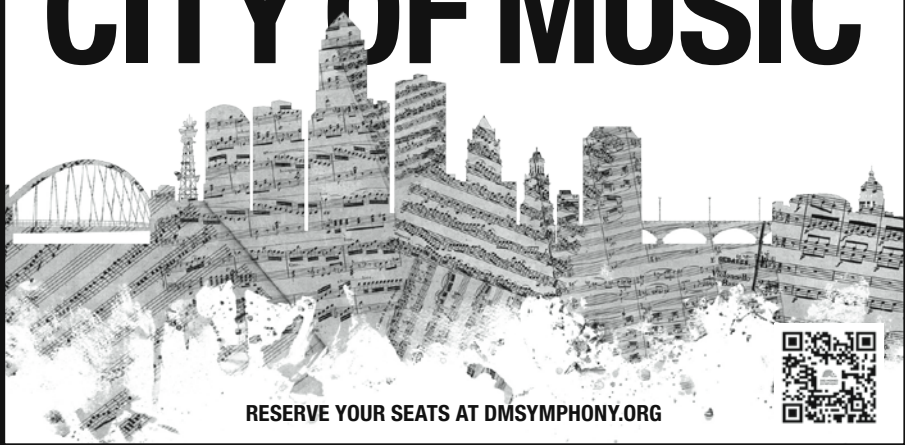
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GUEST INFORMATION

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.

Companion Restroom

A companion restroom is located on the lower level across from the coatrack.

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 Signature Series performance schedule is 7:30 PM Wednesdays through Saturdays, and 2:00 PM Sundays. The regular Kate Goldman Family Series performance schedule is 7:00 PM Fridays, and 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM Saturdays and Sundays. The December 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 Signature Series performance will begin 30 minutes prior to curtain in the west lobby.

Safety Protocols

In order to best serve our whole community, The Playhouse respectfully requests the following items are not brought into theatre:

- Alcohol, drugs, illegal substances, or any paraphernalia associated with drug use
- Weapons of any type, including chains, knives, and firearms (excluding law enforcement officers)
- Pepper spray/mace/other chemicals
- Noisemakers such as air horns
- Laser Pens/Pointers of any type
- Fireworks

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



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BEAUTIFUL: THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL

Katy Merriman, Playhouse Artistic Director

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical debuted on Broadway in January 2014 at the Stephen Sondheim Theatre. Having sold out its entire run in the pre-Broadway tryout at the Curran Theatre in San Francisco, CA, it was no surprise that it also took Broadway by storm. Starring Jessie Mueller as King and Jake Epstein as Gerry Goffin, it brought home two Tony Awards, one for Best Leading Actress for Mueller and the other for Best Sound Design. The cast album also won a Grammy in 2015 for Best Musical Theatre Album. After many successful United States and international tours, we are excited to get to finally present this title in regional and community theatres!

The Playhouse is one of the first community theatres to produce *Beautiful* in our region. As a matter of fact, the community theatre debut of *Beautiful* took place at the Green Room Community Theatre in North Carolina in September 2023. Not only is this the first time The Playhouse has produced *Beautiful*, but the creative team is also working together for the first time. Katrina Ploof's passionate and intentional direction, Napoleon Douglas's electric choreography and philosophic knowledge of the stage, and Tristan Miedema's command of both solo and ensemble music directing combine to form a top-notch team that has pushed this musical to its fullest potential. Be sure to read their bios in this playbill!

Beautiful depicts King's early career and the life and music events that culminated in her first performance at Carnegie Hall in 1971. While the play centers on the story of King's life in the music industry, it also features several performing groups and industry professionals who opened doors not just for King but for people who were underrepresented in the business at the time.

Don Kirshner, a Jewish New Yorker himself, ran his business in the Brill Building at 1650 Broadway. The Brill Building contained over 100 music businesses in the '60s and was known as having its own "Brill Building Sound," most heavily influenced by Latin music, traditional Black Gospel, and rhythm and blues. In an era of American history led by mostly white, male executives after the end of WWII and during the decades of the Civil Rights Movement, this building was buzzing with music to respond to the times. King's success paved the way for future female musicians to thrive in the music industry, and the music she wrote with Goffin helped launched the careers of so many beloved performers. Their 1960s Billboard hit "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow," for example, was the first No. 1 hit by a Black, female group, The Shirelles.

King has garnered countless awards and recognition for her contributions to music. Her songs have been sung by too many famous names to list. (I recommend you Google Aretha Franklin singing "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman" at the Kennedy Center Awards if you haven't seen *that* yet.) If you think you don't know Carole King's music, think again.

We hope that *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* shows you what extraordinary contributions King has made to the music world and perhaps reignites a love and celebration of the music of the '50s and '60s. Enjoy!





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CAST LIST

662nd Production
105th Season

Opening April 5, 2024
Closing April 21, 2024

The Des Moines Playhouse Presents

BEAUTIFUL: THE CAROLE KING MUSICAL

Book by Douglas McGrath

Words and Music by

Gerry Goffin & Carole King Barry Mann & Cynthia Weil

Music by Arrangement with Sony/ATV Music Publishing

Orchestrations, Vocal and Incidental Music Arrangements Steve Sidwell

Originally produced on Broadway by Sony, Paul Blake ATV, Mike Bosner

Presented by **Corteva Agriscience**

Director: **Katrina Ploof**

Music Director/Conductor: **Tristan Miedema**

Choreographer: **Napoleon Douglas**

Scenic Designer: **Brian C Seckfort**

Costume Designer: **Angela Lampe**

Lighting Designer: **Sam Stephen**

Stage Manager: **Abby Kilpatrick**

Intimacy Director: **Lyndsy Darland**

Assistant Set Designer: **Zach Hodgson**

Assistant Stage Manager: **Kat Lindaman**

Artistic Director: **Katy Merriman**

Cast

*Indicates Playhouse Debut

Carole King.....	Charlotte Proctor*	Lead Drifter/Ensemble.....	Marquis Bundy
Gerry Goffin.....	Collin Smith*	Drifters/Ensemble.....	Mark Brewer* ,
Cynthia Weil.....	Ashley Rogers		Dionysos Lewis Manuel Jr, Maia Talarico
Barry Mann.....	Craig Petersen	Shirelle (Beverly)/Janelle Woods	Alicia Kodá Scott
Don Kirshner.....	Josh Sampson	Shirelle (Doris)/Little Eva.....	Faith Brooks
Genie Klein.....	Michelle House	Shirelle (Mickey).....	Tamera Peake
Betty/Ensemble.....	Caitlyn Porter	Lou Adler/Righteous Brother/Ensemble	
Neil Sedaka/Righteous Brother/Ensemble..	Keelin Reilly		Gavin Runles
Lucille.....	Aria Huizenga	Nick/Ensemble.....	Josh Wing
Shirelle (Shirley).....	Nyabhan Teny	Marilyn Ward/Ensemble.....	Em Muench*

Time: 1958-1971

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical is performed with one 15-minute intermission.

Beautiful: The Carole King Musical 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>So Far Away</i>	Carole King
<i>Oh Carol</i>	Neil Sedaka
<i>1650 Broadway Medley</i>	Ensemble
<i>It Might as Well Rain Until September</i>	Carole King
<i>Be-Bop-A-Lula</i>	Ensemble
<i>Some Kind of Wonderful</i>	Carole King, Gerry Goffin, The Drifters
<i>Happy Days are Here Again</i>	Cynthia Weil
<i>Take Good Care of My Baby</i>	Gerry Goffin, Carole King
<i>Who Put the Bomp</i>	Barry Mann
<i>Will You Love Me Tomorrow</i>	Carole King
<i>He's Sure the Boy I Love</i>	Cynthia Weil, Barry Mann
<i>Will You Love Me Tomorrow</i>	The Shirelles
<i>Up on the Roof</i>	Gerry Goffin, The Drifters
<i>On Broadway</i>	The Drifters
<i>The Locomotion</i>	Little Eva, Ensemble
<i>You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling</i>	Barry Mann, The Righteous Brothers
<i>One Fine Day</i>	Janelle, Backup Singers, Carole King

ACT II

<i>Chains</i>	Carole King, Ensemble
<i>Walking in the Rain</i>	Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil
<i>Pleasant Valley Sunday</i>	Marilyn Wald, Gerry Goffin, Ensemble
<i>We Gotta Get Out of This Place</i>	Barry Mann
<i>Will You Love Me Tomorrow (reprise)</i>	Carole King
<i>Uptown</i>	Uptown Singer, Ensemble
<i>It's Too Late</i>	Carole King, Ensemble
<i>You've Got a Friend</i>	Carole King, Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil, Don Kirshner
<i>(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman</i>	Carole King, Ensemble
<i>Beautiful</i>	Carole King, Ensemble
<i>I Feel the Earth Move</i>	Carole King, Ensemble

ORCHESTRA

Conductor: **Tristan Miedema**

Reeds: **Dana Slotter, Thomas Sparks**

Trumpet: **Steve Day**

Trombone: **Matt Dutton, John Kendeigh**

Drums: **Jordan Gould**

Percussion: **Katie Barnhart**

Piano: **Kathy Gedler**

Keyboard: **Sonya Siebert**

Guitars: **Colby Drown, Aaron Powell**

Bass: **F. Michael Miller**

Orchestra Manager: **Tristan Miedema**

SONG CREDITS

Be-Bop-A-Lula by Tex Davis and Gene Vincent. Sony/ATV Songs LLC (BMI) and Three Wise Boys Music LLC (BMI).

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Chains by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music (BMI).

Happy Days are Here Again by Milton Ager and Jack Yellen. EMI Robbins Catalog Inc (ASCAP). Special Lyrics by Douglas McGrath and Cynthia Weil.

He's Sure the Boy I Love by Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI).

I Go Ape by Neil Sedaka and Howard Greenfield. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) and Universal/BMG (BMI).

It Might as Well Rain Until September by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI).

It's Too Late by Carole King and Toni Stern. Colgems-EMI Music Inc (ASCAP).

Little Darlin' by Maurice Williams. Cherio Corporation (BMI).

The Locomotion by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI).

Love Potion #9 by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Sony/ATV Tune LLC (ASCAP).

Oh Carol by Neil Sedaka and Howard Greenfield. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI) and Universal/BMG (BMI).

On Broadway by Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil, Jerry Leiber, and Mike Stoller. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI).

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Pleasant Valley Sunday by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI).

Poison Ivy by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Sony/ATV Tunes LLC (ASCAP).

So Far Away by Carole King. Colgems-EMI Music Inc (ASCAP).

Some Kind of Wonderful by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI).

Splish Splash by Bobby Darin and Jean Murray. EMI Unart Catalog Inc (BMI), Trio Music Co In (BMI), and Alley Music Corp (BMI).

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There Goes My Baby by Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller, Ben King, George Treadwell, and Lover Patterson. Sony/ATV Songs LLC (BMI).

Up on the Roof by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI).

Walking in the Rain by Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil, and Phil Spector. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI). EMI Blackwood Music Inc obo Mother Bertha Music (BMI).

We Gotta Get Out of This Place by Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI).

Who Put the Bomp by Barry Mann and Gerry Goffin. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI).

Will You Love Me Tomorrow by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI).

Yakkety Yak by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Sony/ATV Tune LLC (ASCAP).

(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman by Gerry Goffin, Carole King, and Gerald Wexler. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI).

You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling by Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil, and Phil Spector. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc (BMI), EMI Blackwood Music Inc obo Mother Bertha Music (BMI).



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CAST NOTES



Mark Brewer (*Drifter*) is making his stage debut. A freelance organizer, he enjoys communities, communication, and diving into a good plate of food.



Faith Brooks (*Shirelle Doris/Little Eva*) returns to The Playhouse doing what she does best: singing and acting. Previously, she played Lindsay in *Godspell* at Ankeny Community Theater, Lorette Robinson in *Dreamgirls* at Theater Cedar Rapids, and Ella (Cloris Award winner, Dionysos Award winner) in *Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella* and Crystal (Cloris Award nominee) in *Little Shop of Horrors* at The Playhouse. Faith is earning her B.A. in voice performance from Berklee Online.



Marquis Bundy (*Lead Drifter/Ensemble*) was last on The Playhouse stage in *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical* (Sky Square) and *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Peter Van Daan, Dionysos Award nominee). Marquis is a performer, director, and choreographer who has been involved with multiple theatre companies across the Midwest. He directed and choreographed *tick, tick... boom!* for The Home Creative Company in Elgin, IL, and was assistant choreographer for The Playhouse production of *Seussical TYA*. Marquis enjoys video games, lava lamps, and spending time with friends.



Michelle House (*Genie Klein*) is excited to return to The Playhouse stage having appeared in *Kinky Boots* last spring. Her other notable shows include *The Fantasticks* (Mrs. Bellomy, Amelia Earhart Theater, Wiesbaden, Germany); *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Brigadoon* (Choreographer, Jesuit High School, Tampa, FL), and *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Camelot*, and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Ensemble, Jesuit High School, Tampa). Her favorite role was Madame Thénardier in *Les Misérables* at Amelia Earhart Theater, Germany.



Aria Huizenga (*Lucille*) is pursuing her Bachelor of Musical Arts degree at the University of South Dakota. Earlier this season at The Playhouse, she appeared as Sour Kangaroo in *Seussical TYA*. Other credits include roles and dance captain in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Mamma Mia!*, both at the Vermillion (SD) Community Theatre, and musical director for *Disney's High School Musical 2 Jr* at Sioux Empire Community Theatre in Sioux Falls, SD.



Dionysos Lewis Manuel Jr (*Drifter/Ensemble*) is in back-to-back Playhouse shows: He made his Playhouse debut in *Our Town* (Howie Newsome). Dion loves to sing, especially R&B and jazz.



Em Muench (*Marilyn Wald/Ensemble*) is excited to be making her Playhouse debut. She is a proud graduate of Drake University, where she received her B.F.A. in musical theatre. Her favorite role during her time at Drake was Beth in *Little Women the Musical*. She is a current cast member of *The Dinner Detective*. Outside of the theatre, she is the owner and trainer of Barkology Dog Training with her fiancé Nick Bochner.



Tamera Peake (*Shirelle Mickey*) attended classes at The Playhouse as a child and made her Playhouse debut last season as Miss Elson in *Harriet the Spy*. She was involved in theatre at Central College including *The Laramie Project* and *Guys and Dolls*. Tamera practices with a Des Moines roller derby team. She loves cooking exotic meals she finds online or sees in movies, traveling, studying and practicing code, watching animé, and chilling out on the weekends.



Craig Petersen (*Barry Mann*) made his Playhouse debut as Mitch Albom in *Tuesdays with Morrie* and has since appeared in *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (The Musician, Dionysos Award nominee), *The Wedding*

CAST NOTES

Singer (Robbie Hart, Dionysos Award nominee), *Cabaret* (Herr Schultz, Dionysos Award nominee), and *Once* (Guy). His other area credits include Bruce in *Fun Home* at Iowa Stage Theatre Company and Ned Weeks in *The Normal Heart* at Noce.



Caitlyn Porter (*Betty/Ensemble/Dance Captain*) has been on The Playhouse stage in *Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella* and *Kinky Boots* and was assistant music director for the Penguin Project production of *Disney's*

High School Musical Jr. Other area credits include *Home for the Holidays* at Tallgrass Theatre and choreographer for *Shrek The Musical* at Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. Caitlyn is a piano teacher at Arrow Academy and preschool music teacher with Music for Tots. In her free time, she practices Spanish on Duolingo and plays House Flipper on Xbox.



Charlotte Proctor (*Carole King*) began acting at age eight with Class Act Productions (Altoona) where she was involved in 25 shows in four years. At Southeast Polk High School, she appeared in *Shrek The Musical* (Donkey), *Guys*

and *Dolls* (Adelaide), *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy), and *Disney's Newsies* (Kathrine). She played Veronica in Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre's production of *Heathers The Musical*. Charlotte attends Des Moines Area Community College, plays piano and guitar, draws and paints, and likes to roller skate and skateboard.



Keelin Reilly (*Neil Sedaka/Righteous Brother/Ensemble*) is familiar to Playhouse audiences from *Guys and Dolls* (Harry the Horse) and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour Krelborn, Cloris Award nominee, Dionysos Award

nominee). Other credits include Thomas Andrews in *Titanic* (Delaware Allstate Theatre, Wilmington, DE) and Herr Schultz in *Cabaret* (Johns Hopkins University Barnstormers, Baltimore, MD). Keelin is a research associate at Corteva Agriscience who enjoys spending time with his fiancée, Emmeline, gardening, hiking, and writing poetry.



Ashley Rogers (*Cynthia Weil*) made her Playhouse debut as Peter Pan (Dionysos Award nominee) in *Tinker Bell*. Other area productions include *Bye Bye Birdie* (Rosie Alvarez) at Urbandale Community Theatre, *The Rocky Horror Show* (Janet Weiss) with Kata Klysmic Productions, and *Kiss Me Kate* (Lois/Bianca) at Ankeny Community Theater. Her favorite role was Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Waterloo Community Theatre). Ashley is a real estate closer with Escrow Professional Co who loves vintage fashion, vinyl, and traveling.



Gavin Runles (*Lou Adler/Righteous Brother/Ensemble*) is a favorite with Playhouse audiences, having previously appeared in *Catch Me if You Can* (Agent Barton), *Disney's Newsies* (Jack Kelly, Cloris Award winner,

Dionysos Award nominee), *Singin' in the Rain* (Ensemble), *Rodgers & Hammerstein's The Sound of Music* (Rolf Gruber), *Guys and Dolls* (Benny Southstreet), and *Kinky Boots* (Charlie Price, Cloris Award nominee, Dionysos Award nominee). Gavin is a bartender at Prairie Meadows who enjoys dancing, discing, and going to the movies. He plans to pursue a career in performance.



Josh Sampson (*Don Kirschner*) has been active in area theatre, appearing in *Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella*, *Leaving Iowa* (Dionysos Award winner), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *High School Reunion*, and *Of Mice and*

Men at The Playhouse; *Temporary Insanity* and *Wait Until Dark* at Tallgrass Theatre; and *Borrowed Beats*, *Aura*, *Otherwise Engaged*, and *Proof* at Ankeny Community Theatre. Josh enjoys family time with his wife, Megan, and their children, Max, Sophia, and Lucy, as well as golfing, snow skiing, and anything related to *Star Wars*. He is a systems architect at Advanced Automation.



Alicia Kodá Scott (*Shirelle Beverly/Janelle Woods*) has a passion for the stage. She made her Playhouse debut in *Ragtime*. More recently she portrayed Olive in the Ankeny Community Theatre production of *The Odd Couple*,

CAST NOTES

Female Version which gave her the opportunity to flex her comedic muscles. When she isn't on stage she works as an emergency management specialist in Dallas County. Alicia enjoys spending time with her husband of 14 years and their four beautiful children.



Collin Smith (*Gerry Goffin*) recently moved to Iowa from Boston and is excited to make his Playhouse debut. Some of his favorite past shows include *A New Brain* (Gordon Schwinn, Perrysburg [OH] Musical Theater),

Disney's Newsies (Jack Kelly, Perrysburg Musical Theater), and *Les Misérables* (Marius Pontmercy, Woodbury [MN] Community Theatre). Collin is a product manager at Owens Corning and lives in Ames with his husband, Gunnar, where they enjoy playing the board game Wingspan and listening to records.



Maia Talarico (*Drifter/Ensemble*) made their Playhouse debut in *Ella Enchanted* (Olive, Dionysos Award nominee). More recently they played Tinker Bell (Dionysos Award winner) in *Tinker Bell* and Richard in *Kinky Boots*. A

seasoned actor, their credits include *Rapture*, *Blister, Burn* (Avery) at Iowa Stage Theatre Company, *Keely and Du* (Keely) and *Twelfth Night* (Viola) at the Stella Adler Studio, and *Treasure Island* and *A Christmas Carol* at Iowa State University.



Nyabhan Teny (*Shirelle Shirley*) is earning her B.F.A. in acting from Roosevelt University in Chicago. She made her Playhouse debut as Ronnette in *Little Shop of*

Horrors and was a dance captain for *Heathers The Musical* at Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. Bhan likes reading fantasy books, painting, and sketching.



Josh Wing (*Nick/Ensemble*) has been on The Playhouse stage as Andrej in *Once*, a favorite role, and as Bunson in *Disney's Newsies*. At Ankeny Community Theatre, he played Cecil/Max in *The One Act Play That Goes Wrong* and Jesus Costazuela in *The Odd Couple, Female Version*. He

was also in the Ensemble for Urbandale Community Theatre's production of *The Drowsy Chaperone*.

Josh is a community living instructor. He plays guitar, banjo, and ukulele and writes poetry and music. He likes playing games with his wife, Kailan, and family.



Katrina Ploof (*Director*) is a native of the great state of Maine and the daughter of a music teacher and a vocalist. In the past 40 years Katrina has directed, choreographed, and coached over 250 productions in the U.S.

and Canada including works by Chekov, Shaw, Sondheim, Ibsen, Wilder, Wasserstein, and McNally. She has been adjudicating theatre festivals throughout the U.S. and Canada for over 20 years. Katrina is also a published playwright and has been a member of the Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Laboratory since 2000.



Tristan Miedema (*Music Director/Conductor*) is in his fourth year at Drake University as a teaching associate in musical theater voice. He received a Cloris Award for music direction of *Kinky Boots* (Playhouse) and a

Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival commendation for music direction/conducting of the world premiere of *WINGS* by Danny K. Bernstein at Drake. Tristan is a studio vocal artist for BMK Arrangements in Chicago, specializes in gender affirming voice/speech care for trans and non-binary students, and directs TRANScendent, Iowa's first trans and non-binary ensemble within the Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus. His stage credits include *Light in the Piazza* (Fabrizio) and *Le Tragedie de Carmen* (Lillas Pástia) at the University of Iowa.



Napoleon Douglas (*Choreographer*) is an international actor, vocalist, and producer who is honored to be working on his first project at The Playhouse. He is the artistic director for Pyramid Theatre Company, Iowa's only

Black theater, and vice-chairman of the board of directors for City Voices, a community-centered music education program. Napoleon's stage credit include *Mr. Holland's Opus* (Louie, Ogunquit [ME] Playhouse, World Premiere), *BRUCE* (Joe Alves & Carl Gottlieb, Seattle Repertory Theatre, World

Premiere), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Judas Iscariot, Arvada [CO] Center), *Dreamgirls* (Jimmy "Thunder" Early, Playhouse on the Square – Best Supporting Actor in a Musical, Winner), *Festival of the Lion King* (Simba, Hong Kong), and principal roles in *Bright Star*, *5 Guys Named Moe*, *Miss Saigon*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Sister Act*, *Superior Donuts*, and *Hairspray*. His film credits include *Wu-Tang: An American Saga* (Hulu), *Oscar Micheaux* (Cannes Film Festival, France & Urban Film Festival, New York - BET Selection). Napoleon was a 2009 Presidential Inauguration Parade Participant with the Isiserettes Drill & Drum Corps.



Brian C. Seckfort (*Scenic Designer*) is happy to be making his Playhouse debut. Professionally, Brian serves as Iowa State University's resident scenic designer and technical director. He holds a dual B.F.A.

for performance and technical theatre from Florida Southern College and an M.F.A. in scenic design and technology from Kent State University. His regional design credits include *A Bright New Boise*, *Athena*, and *The Glass Menagerie* for Iowa Stage Theater Company, *Sweeney Todd* and *Heartbreakers in Hell* for Rubber City Theatre (Akron, OH), *Life Sucks* for Dobama Theatre of Cleveland, *Almost, Maine* with Oil Lamp Theater in Chicago, and *Constellations and Murder for Two* with the Clinton Area Showboat Theatre. In addition to designing, Brian has constructed and painted sets for McLeod Summer Playhouse (Carbondale, IL) and STAGES St. Louis as well as many other companies. To view more of Brian's designs and get in contact with him, visit www.brianseckfort.com.



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 an M.F.A. in theater from the University of Nebraska. She is the recipient of five Cloris Awards for excellence in costuming and puppetry.



Sam Stephen (*Lighting Designer*) has a B.A. degree in live entertainment design and technology from North Central College, Naperville, IL. They designed *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914* and

Once earlier this season at The Playhouse. They have been working on a multitude of permanent design installations in Chicago as well as recently creating *Clue* and *Woman in Black* (Theater Cedar Rapids), *The Addams Family* and *The Legend of Georgia McBride* (Metropolis Performing Arts, Arlington Heights, IL), and *An Enemy of the People* (Saint Sebastian Players, Chicago). www.DesignsBySamuelStephen.com



Abby Kilpatrick (*Stage Manager*), a junior at Drake University, has an impressive résumé. At The Playhouse, she was assistant stage manager for *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914*, designed lights for *Go, Dog. Go!* and *Don't*

Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!, and has volunteered as a backstage crew member or light board operator for a variety of productions. Abby also works as a Playhouse house manager. In her spare time, she is an avid reader.



Lyndsy Darland (*Intimacy Director*) is excited to join *Beautiful* as the intimacy director (ID). Lyndsy pursued her coursework and certification with both Intimacy Directors and Coordinator Professionals (IDC) and Theatrical

Intimacy Education (TIE) in 2020. She continues her education with specialty coursework such as staging intimacy beyond the binary and mental health first aid for youth. She has worked on several Midwest films and in partnership with local theaters on projects including *Guys and Dolls* (Playhouse), *Exit Laughing* (Ankeny Community Theatre), and *Meredith Willson's The Music Man* (CAP Theatre, Altoona). As an actor, singer, writer, and editor who also works full time at Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield in the human resources division, she feels blessed to fill her time with other creatives and cohorts to build a consent-forward culture where everyone can thrive. In her spare time you'll see Lyndsy with her husband Jeff, friends and family, and her two mini-aussies, Nox and Cosmo.

CAST NOTES



Zach Hodgson (*Assistant Set Designer*) is a graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in performing arts. He was assistant scenic designer for *Head Over Heels* at Iowa State University, designed the sets for *Trouble in Mind* for Iowa Stage Theatre Company, and served as assistant technical director for *The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein*, *Cinderella*, *SpongeBob the Musical*, and *Murder for Two* at the Clinton (IA) Area Showboat Theatre, Clinton. Zachary enjoys skiing, cosplay, and board games.



Kat Lindaman (*Assistant Stage Manager*) began volunteering at The Playhouse this season, running the sound board for *Once* and serving on the backstage run crew for *Seussical TYA*. She received her digital marketing diploma from Des Moines Area Community College. Kat likes to crochet.



Katy Merriman (*Artistic Director*) has been an active member of the local theatre community since moving to Des Moines in 2013. Her Playhouse directing credits include *Our Town*; *Go, Dog. Go!*; *Guys and Dolls*; *The Sound of Music*; the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth*; *A Love Offering* (co-directed with Tiffany Johnson and Pyramid Theatre Company); and *I and You*. Other local performance and directing credits include *Once* (Girl) at The Playhouse and *The Glass Menagerie* (Laura), *King Lear* (Cordelia), *Our Town* (Emily), and *Fun Home* (director) with Iowa Stage Theatre Company. Prior to her time in Des Moines, Katy worked with numerous theatres in the Midwest as a performer, director, musician, and administrator.



Douglas McGrath (*Book*) was a filmmaker and playwright. He directed the HBO documentary *Becoming Mike Nichols*. He collaborated with Woody Allen on the screenplay for *Bullets Over Broadway*, for which they were nominated for an Academy Award. He wrote and directed the Oscar-winning *Emma* from the Jane Austen novel; *Company Man*; *Charles Dickens's Nicholas Nickleby*, which

won the Best Ensemble Cast from the National Board of Review; *Infamous*; and the HBO documentary, *His Way*, nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Nonfiction Special. His play *Checkers* opened the 30th anniversary season of New York's acclaimed Vineyard Theatre. His book for *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* was nominated for Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle awards. He began his career as a writer for *Saturday Night Live* in what was incontestably the worst year in the show's history. He has written essays on the arts and politics for the *New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, *The Nation*, *The New York Times*, and *Vanity Fair*. He passed away on Nov. 4, 2022.



Gerry Goffin (*Words & Music*), born in Brooklyn in 1939, met Carole King at Queens College and their musical collaboration began almost immediately. They married in 1959 and that same year wrote their first hit song "Will You Love Me Tomorrow" which was recorded by The Shirelles. The duo penned more than 50 Top-40 hits including "The Locomotion," "(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman," and "Up on the Roof." In 1987, Goffin and King were inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990. Goffin has left an indelible mark on American music.



Carole King (*Words & Music*) has left her mark on pop music. At age 17 she wrote her first #1 hit with Gerry Goffin, "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," for The Shirelles. The dozens of chart hits Goffin and King wrote during this period became legendary, and 1971's *Tapestry* that took King to the pinnacle, speaking personally to her contemporaries and providing a spiritual musical backdrop to the decade. More than 400 of her compositions have been recorded by over 1,000 artists resulting in 100 hit singles and six Grammys.

Barry Mann (*Words & Music*) has written the melodies of some of the most influential pop songs in musical history. In addition to “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feeling,” the most-played song of the last century, and the songs heard in *Beautiful*, he composed later standards like “Somewhere Out There” (winner of two Grammys), “Here You Come Again,” “Sometimes When We Touch,” “Just Once,” and “Don’t Know Much.” Together he and Cynthia Weil have amassed an incredible 112 pop, country, and R&B awards from Broadcast Music Inc for significant radio air play. He has been inducted into both the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Cynthia Weil (*Words & Music*) was the acclaimed lyricist of classic songs such as “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feeling,” the most-played song of the 20th century. In addition to the songs heard in *Beautiful*, she set the words to later standards including “Somewhere Out There,” “Here You Come Again,” “He’s So Shy,” “Just Once,” and “Don’t Know Much,” to name just a few. Weil was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and honored with multiple Grammy nominations and two Grammy awards for “Somewhere Out There” as the Motion Picture Song of the Year and Song of the Year. She passed away on June 1, 2023.



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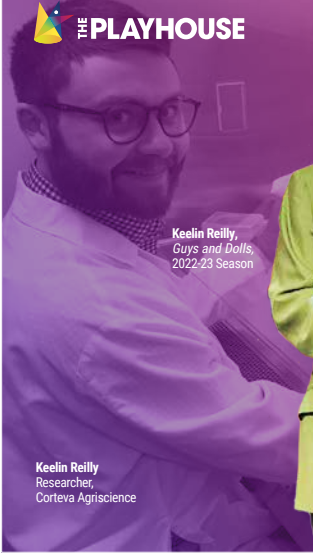
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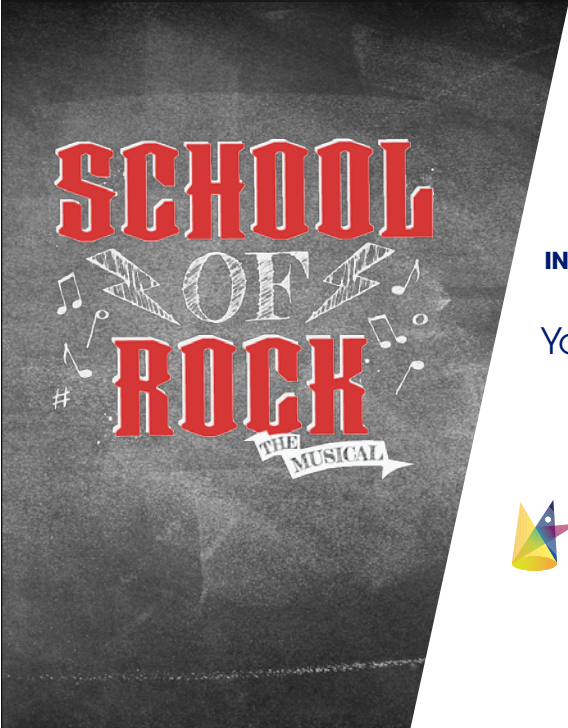
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Abi Houston, *House Manager*
Debbie Jacobson, *Ticket Office Manager*
Abby Kilpatrick, *House Manager*
Angela Lampe, *Associate Artistic Director*
Caulinez Lovan, *Concessions*
Katy McCaull, *Marketing & Philanthropy Coordinator*
Cherie Moen, *House Manager*
Derek Phelps, *Volunteer & Production Coordinator*
Robin Heldt Spahr, *Education Director*
Jessica Van Essen, *Costume Shop, Supervisor*
David A. VanCleave, *House Manager*
Nate Weber, *Education Outreach*

Education Staff

Nicole Chavas-Schwegler	Nate Jorgensen
Allison Crain	Greg Millar
Jenna Darsee	Taylor Millar
Katie Dorrell*	Catie Miller
Rusk Dorsett	Deb Paul
Tali Eisenstadt	Brett Spahr*
Cedric Fevrier	Molly Thorsen
Anne Frett	Kim Van Haecke
Robin Breen Fulton*	Anna Zimney
Maren Grant	*Master Teacher
Ron Hyde	

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Kevin Waetke, *Sammons Financial Group*

Pre-Intern Program (PIPs)

Corley Blackford	Hudson Pulver
Dagny Bradish	Jaslynn Ragsdale
Celeste Brown	Caitlyn Robertson
Anica Burch	Ridge Rutherford
Riley Burnette	Evie Smith
Hannah Butts	Lily Spahr
Vivian Coleman	Nina Spahr
Delaney Dorsey	Quinn Syverson
Mar Feitelson	Sophia Towns
Katelyn Gallagher	Aaliyah Trimble
Kayla Giberson	Emmett Van Haecke
Aya Haidar	Amaya Veldkamp
Kylir Jorgensen	Gennie Weis
Kalya Kothavale	Cyril Werzberger
Brooke Krug	Franny Winn
Mackenzie Larson	Ashlyn Yu
Alex Louis	McKenna Yu
Ailie McLaren	

MISSION

To create extraordinary, shared experiences through live theatre.

VISION

To be the home for artistic collaboration where any story can be told.

STATEMENT ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

We at The Playhouse grieve at the injustice and systemic inequalities committed to marginalized people in our world. We support community as we bond to create awareness and encourage dialogue.

We denounce racism and violence against all people.

Our team makes it our mission to engage and enrich all people to provide lifelong educational opportunities and is committed to creating and supporting an inclusive theatre that will give everyone a platform to heal and to move forward into better days.

Published: June 2, 2020

POLICY ON EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

All volunteers who come to audition for a show at The Des Moines Community Playhouse are welcome, and we do not ask or keep a record of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, sexual identity, age, or disability status.

The Playhouse is deeply committed to and supportive of diversity in local theatre. We work to include and serve all members of the community, to the extent possible, in stage productions and in our educational offerings.

The Playhouse has a strong and well-documented history of reaching out to diverse groups for inclusion in its programming. Our goal is to provide a rewarding experience for all volunteers and participants, from performers and students to their families and our audience members.

Policy published August 18, 2016

Reiterated June 2, 2020

**interesting
stories.**

**personal
connections.**

real issues.



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THE

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“Sensational!”
★★★★ -KATHY

*“A delightful
romp!”*
★★★★ -CHELSEA

“Absurdly enjoyable!”
★★★★ -KRISTIN

AT

ROOSEVELT

STARRING

Shakti Yoga • The Cheese Shop • Iowa IV
Be, LLC. • La Mie Bakery • Sacred Diamond
The Juice Company • DSM Salon & Spa
Worn • Roosevelt Barber Shop • Cabana Swim
Pre-Natal Vision Ultrasound • Silver Fox

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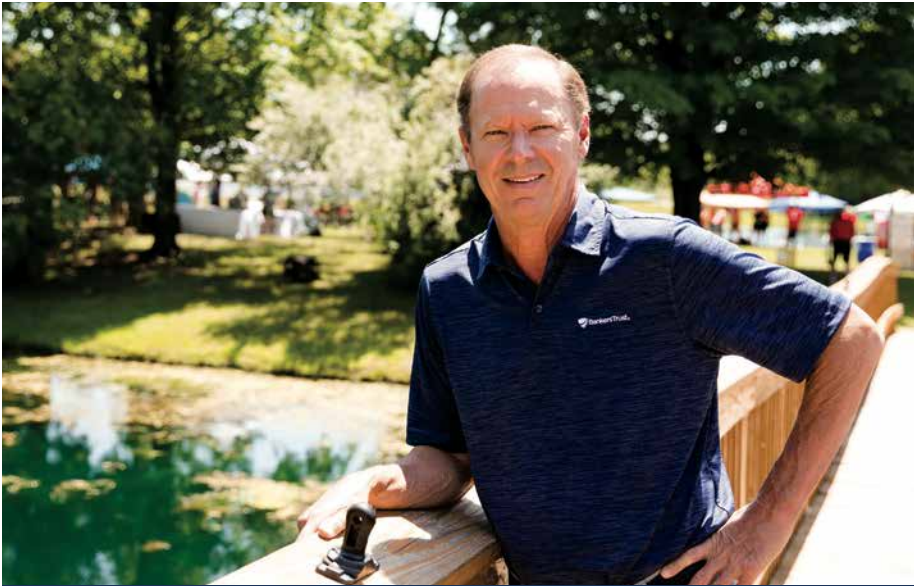
Community



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THE DIFFERENCE IS

COMMUNITY.

Throughout my career, I've supported several nonprofits. One that is especially meaningful to me is Easterseals Iowa, where I've found great reward from serving in nearly a dozen volunteer roles. As a community bank, Bankers Trust encourages all team members to get involved with organizations they're passionate about, and our efforts total over 12,000 volunteer hours each year. We add to this by giving \$1 million annually to causes spanning arts to inclusion to community development.

It's part of our collective commitment to helping our communities thrive. It's part of the Bankers Trust Difference.

Don Coffin
CEO and President



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