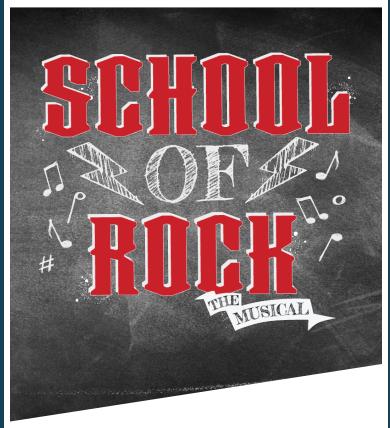
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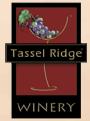
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WELCOME



David R. Kilpatrick Executive Director

Thank you so much for coming to our summer production, *School of Rock*. This is a fun story about the power of music to release our inner artist. The movie was enjoyable, but the stage play is so much more rewarding with the youth playing their own instruments while also learning who they are and how they can fit within the world. They are sharing their passion, as I hope you are sharing yours!

Today's production wraps up our 105th Season and what a year it has been! Our 106th Season that starts in September promises to be even more special with musicals, comedies, and theatre for families along with new performance environments, new

classrooms, and expansion of production spaces. The Playhouse will be a place you will want to call your home away from home!

Our 2024-25 Season includes a visit to 1960s New Jersey and a beast's castle, a float down the Colorado River, a musical about a really cool guy, and finally, pie. For the youth in our community, we will go to Market Street, meet a wimpy kid, find a lost stuffed bunny, and visit Wonderland. Every time you come to The Playhouse you will ask: Where are we today? I promise, you will be amazed and enthralled. So, make an easy decision, become a season ticket holder, and enjoy an entire year of entertainment. And, if you have already renewed, thank you!

For more than 100 years, we have had one goal: To create extraordinary, shared experiences through live theatre. Our volunteer performers, backstage technicians, guest services members, and the entire staff want you to experience the best we have to offer. If there is anything we could do to make your time with us more special, please tell us. This is your community theatre: by the community and for the community.

Again, thank you for choosing to spend time with us. We are grateful for your support of theatre and all art forms in the Greater Des Moines.



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 Honor of Kathy Pingel Etta Berkowitz

In Memory of Daniel L Power Mark Smith & Artis Reis

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In Honor of Dane Van Brocklin Steve Van Brocklin

In Honor of Stella Webster Lu Ann White

In Memory of Roberta Vivian Willis Norman & Charlotte Willis

In Honor of All the Wonderful Volunteers Linda McClure

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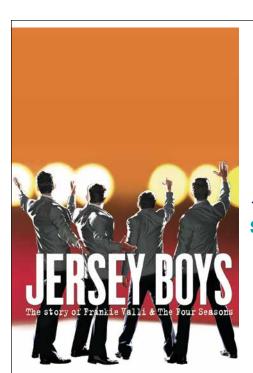
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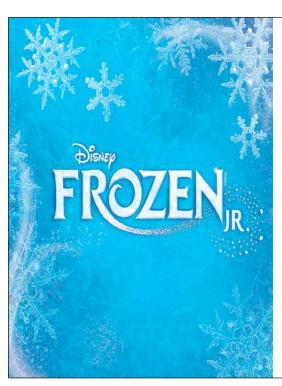
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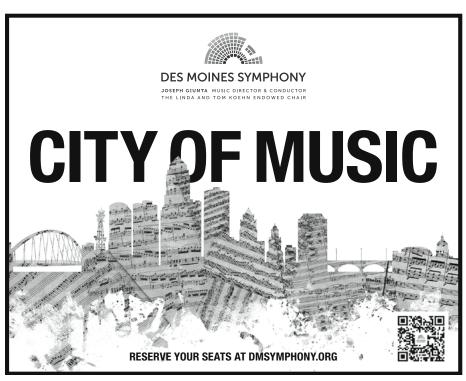
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GUEST INFORMATION

Accessibility

The Playhouse strives to make its facility and performances accessible to all quests. 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 quests, 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

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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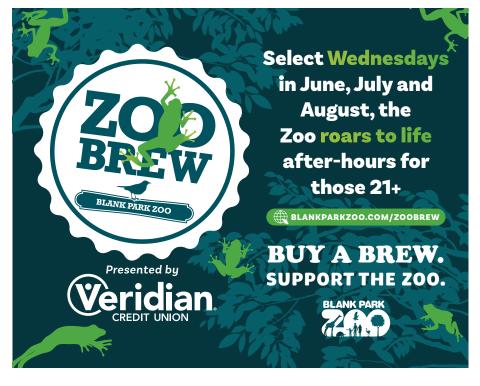
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Ticket office and administrative office: 515-277-6261

Group sales reservations: 515-277-6261

School matinee reservations: 515-974-5365





SCHOOL OF ROCK

Katy Merriman, Playhouse Artistic Director

Many of you know School of Rock composer Andrew Lloyd Weber for his famous musical scores such as The Phantom of the Opera, Jesus Christ Superstar, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and many more. Some of you may recognize Jack Black's name from box office hits like High Fidelity, King Kong, Nacho Libre, Jumanji, The Holiday, and more, or as the lead singer of the hard core and hilarious rock band, Tenacious D. Black also starred as Dewey in the 2003 film version of School of Rock. Sir-nay-Baron Lloyd Webber and Black, the creator of the song "Turd Whistle," may seem like an unlikely duo, but Lloyd Webber's musical genius turns out to pair quite nicely with the rebellious, wannabe rock star, Dewey. If these two heavy hitters haven't left you star struck enough, the musical's script was written by Julian Fellowes, the creator of Downton Abbey.

The Broadway adaptation of *School of Rock* premiered in 2015 at the Winter Garden Theatre starring Alex Brightman, also known by musical theatre fans for originating the title character

in the Broadway adaptation of *Beetlejuice* in 2019. After a successful opening, *School of Rock* transferred to the West End and opened there in the fall of 2016, making it the first Lloyd Webber musical to open on Broadway instead of the West End since *Jesus Christ Superstar* in 1971.

One of my favorite themes in this musical is that we need to listen to our youth. They are wise, honest, and have important things to say. Dewey begins this story as a broke, fired, exband member, but being around a classroom of students transforms him. A redeeming quality of Dewey is that he treats his classroom like peers. Together, they all achieve far more than anyone expects. He teaches them to be themselves and to stand up for what they think matters, even if the adults around them aren't listening. While 2003 was 20 years ago, this message is one I hope my own kid comes away from the show understanding.

I hope you enjoy this one - it rocks!



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Opening July 12, 2024 Closing July 28, 2024

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SCHOOL OF ROCK

Based on the Paramount movie by Mike White

Book by Julian Fellowes Lyrics by Glenn Slater New Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Presented by MidAmerican Energy Foundation

Director/Playhouse Artistic Director: Katy Merriman Music Director/Conductor: Brenton Brown Choreographer: Michael Tomlinson Scenic Designer: Nicholas Amundson Costume Designer: Jessica Van Essen Lighting Designer: Sam Stephen Sound Designer: Brian Dodson Properties Designer: Sarah Beth (Bee) Weinberg Stage Manager: Jen Green Assistant Music Director/Conductor: Eric Layden Assistant Stage Managers: Finn Coons, Troy Ellerbroek

Cast

*Indicates Playhouse Debut		
Dewey	Austin Meyers*	Gabe Brown/Mr. Hamilton/
	Jaqueline Giltner*	Jeff SandersonPhilip Daniel Scott*
Ned	lan Crumley*	Theo/Mr. Williams
Patty	Katharine Hyland*	Stanley/Mr. Mooneyham Tanner Tillotson *
Shonelle	Aislin Koopman*	Bob/Mr. Spencer Derek Schwab*
Katie	Berry Stevens*	Mr. Janes/Mr. Sandford/
James	Micah Talley*	Security Guard
Marcy	Vivian Rosalie Coleman	Doug/Mr. Noble/
Mason	Blake Dreckman	Mr. Ward Dionysus Lewis Manuel Jr
Tomika	Kodä Denise Scott	Ms. Sheinkopf/Police Officer Chelsea Haaland
Freddy	DJ Simmons*	Snake/Mrs. Turner/
	Shea Beilgard	Ms. Gordon Katherine Watkins*
Billy	Evan Moyer*	Emo Girl/Mrs. Macapugay/
Lawrence	Andrew Nelson	Mrs. Travis Aaliyah Trimble *
Summer	Meara Wallace*	Emo Girl/Ms. Bingham/Waitress/
Sophie	Adeline Pollmann*	Security GuardBerkeley Coyne
Madison/Cover	Liliana Haaland	Mrs. Hathaway/Mr. Wagner Joy Mielke
Henry/Cover	Henry Goerend	

School of Rock is performed with one 15-minute intermission.

School of Rock is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of The Really Useful Group, www.concordtheatricals.com

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Scene 1: The Olympic Powerhouse	
I'm Too Hot for You	No Vacancy, Dewey
Scene 2: Dewey's Bedroom	
When I Climb to the Top of Mount Rock	Dewey
Scene 3: Horace Green – The Assembly Hall	
Horace Green Alma Mater	
Here at Horace Green	Rosalie
Scene 4: The Apartment	
Variations 7	
Children of Rock	
Mount Rock (reprise)	Patty
Scene 5: Horace Green – The Hallway Outside the Music Room	
Queen of the Night	Rosalie, Dewey, Gabe
Scene 6: Horace Green: The Classroom	
You're in the Band	Dewey, Students
You're in the Band (reprise)	Dewey, Students
Scene 7: Students' Homes	•
If Only You Would Listen	Students
Scene 8: Horace Green - The Classroom	
In the End of Time	Dewey
Scene 9: Horace Green - The Faculty Lounge	•
Faculty Quadrille	Teachers
Scene 10: Horace Green - The Classroom	
In the End of Time (Band Practice)	Dewey, Students
Stick It to the Man	Dewey, Students
Scene 11: Horace Green - The Halls	,
Scene 12: The Palace Theatre - Backstage	
In the End of Time (The Audition)	Dewey, Students
Stick it to the Man (reprise)	Dewey. Students
(
ACT II	
Scene 1: Horace Green – The Classroom	
Time to Play	Summer, Students
Scene 2: Horace Green - The Faculty Lounge	,,
Scene 3: Horace Green – The Classroom	
Amazing Grace	Tomika
Math is a Wonderful Thing	
Scene 4: The Roadhouse	
Where Did the Rock Go?	Rosalie
Scene 5: The Apartment – The Living Room	
Scene 6: Horace Green – The Classroom	
School of Rock (Band Practice)	Newey Students
Dewey's Confession	
Scene 7: The Apartment – Dewey's Bedroom	bewey, Nosalie, Fatty, Nea, Falents
If Only You Would Listen (reprise)	Students
Scene 8: The Palace Theatre – Onstage	Students
I'm Too Hot for You (reprise)	No Vacancy
School of Rock	
Stick it to the Man (Encore)	
Finale	
i iiiaic	i un company

MUSICAL NUMBERS

You're in the Band by Andrew Lloyd Webber, Glenn Slater, Jon Lord, Ian Gillan, Ritchie Blackmore, Roger Glover, Ian Paice, Lou Reed, Charles Strouse & Martin Charnin. Published by The Really Useful Group Ltd. / B Feldman & Co. Ltd. / Warner Chappell North America Ltd. & Chappell-Morris Ltd.

In the End of Time by Jack Black and Warren Fitzgerald. Published by Sony / ATV Music Publishing Ltd.

Queen of the Night by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Math is a Wonderful Thing by Mike White & Jack Black. Published by Time for My Breakfast & Sony / ATV Harmony UK.

Edge of Seventeen by Stevie Nicks. Published by Welsh Witch Music /Kobalt Music Publishing Ltd.

Variation 7 by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Published by The Really Useful Group Ltd.

School of Rock by Mike White & Samuel Buonagurio. Published by Spirit Music Publishing Ltd. & Sony / ATV Harmony UK

ORCHESTRA

Conductors: Brenton Brown, Eric Layden

Drums: **Jordan Gould**

Keyboards: Kathy Gedler, Francine Griffith
Guitars: Andrew Beeman, Luke Lavelle, Don Salting

Bass: Gary Goudelock

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Shea Beilgard (Zack) is well known to Playhouse audiences from his roles in Our Town (Wally Webb), A Christmas Story the Musical (Randy, a Dionysos Award nominee), Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical (Eric), The Hundred

Dresses (Willy Bounce, a favorite role), Pippi Longstocking, and Judy Moody & Stink: The Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad Treasure Hunt. When not performing, Shea enjoys playing Dungeons & Dragons, Fortnite, ice skating, and theoretical physics.



Vivian Rosalie Coleman (Marcy) made her Playhouse debut as Susan Walker in Playhouse on the Air Presents: Miracle on 34th Street, and she's been a familiar face ever since. Other Playhouse credits include Bean in Ivy + Bean

The Musical, Harriet in Harriet the Spy, and Lamb/ Judge in Charlotte's Web. She has also performed in Elf the Musical and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Great Theatre, Minnesota). Of all the roles she's portrayed, her favorite was Marta in The Sound of Music (Playhouse).



Berkeley Coyne (Emo Girl/Ms. Bingham/Waitress/Security Guard) has performed numerous roles at lowa Stage Theatre Company, Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre, and StageWest in Des Moines. Her favorite role has been

Penelope in *The Penelopiad* (Stagedoor Manor, Loch Sheldrake, NY). At The Playhouse, she has been in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *Peter Pan*, and several Performance Academy productions including *Hairspray Jr* (Penny Pingleton). Berkeley is a junior at Drake University where she is majoring in anthropology and studio art.



lan Crumley (Ned) had several roles at Linn-Mar High School with his favorite being Beast in Disney's Beauty and the Beast. Outside of the theatre, lan participates in Des Moines Choral Society and practices classical singing. He also

produces and writes music for the duo Gold Revere, which has accumulated 25+ million streams on their songs across all platforms. Ian is an actuary analyst at Verisk Analytics.



Will Donaghy (Theo/Mr. Williams) is a recent graduate of Iowa State University. His most recent Playhouse role was Hans in Cabaret. Playhouse audiences have also seen him in Charlotte's

Web (Wilbur), Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (Jeremy Potts), West Side Story, Billy Elliot (Older Billy), and his favorite show to date, A Chorus Line (Mark). Will enjoys going to concerts and playing pickleball in his free time.



Blake Dreckman (Mason) is an incoming eighth grader at Waukee Timberline School where he will continue his involvement in choir, show choir, band (flute, piccolo), jazz band (piano), and theatre. He previously performed as TJ

in Sister Act Jr. with Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre as well as Young Charlie in Kinky Boots, Gander in Charlotte's Web, and Eric in Ivy + Bean The Musical at The Playhouse. When not performing, Blake enjoys playing tennis and pickleball.



Cedric Fevrier (Mr. Janes/Mr. Sandford/Security Guard) is a familiar face at The Playhouse, most recently portraying Blue Dragon in Dragons Love Tacos. His other Playhouse stage credits include Agatha Christie's Murder on

the Orient Express (Hercule Poirot, Dionysos Award recipient), The Farnsworth Invention, Curtains, Duck Hunter Shoots Angel, The Producers, Native Gardens, and The Boxcar Children. He is on The Playhouse's education staff and made his feature film debut last year in The Cross, winning the lowa Motion Picture Association Award of Achievement–Actor.



Jaqueline Giltner (Rosalie) is enjoying her first role at The Playhouse, but audiences may have seen her in Tallgrass Theatre Company's production of *Pippin* (Fastrada). Professionally, Jaqui teaches voice lessons from her

home studio. As an active member of National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), she has had several students place nationally at the NATS student auditions. Jaqui and her husband, Andy, have two daughters, Sydney and Riley, and a very spoiled basset hound.



Henry Goerend (Henry/Cover) made his Playhouse debut as Pinky Whitehead in Harriet the Spy. Henry's theatre résumé includes Van in The Claw and Saturday in Leap Day (Des Moines Performing Arts), Snyder in Disney's Newsies

Jr. (Waukee Middle School), and Peter in The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe (Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre). Henry enjoys baking, geocaching, and playing board games.



Chelsea Haaland (Ms. Sheinkopf/ Police Officer) made her Playhouse debut in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and 24 years later she still shares her many talents. She was a Playhouse education intern while in college, later

joining the education staff as a teacher. She directed *Charlotte's Web* and has directed several shows at Waukee High School. Chelsea is the K-12 related arts curriculum facilitator for the Waukee Community School District. She and her husband Thomas have two children, Grayson and Liliana, the latter being in this production.



Liliana Haaland (Madison/Cover), a seventh grader at Waukee Middle School, is already an awardwinning actor! She received the 2022 Dionysos Award and the Rising Star Cloris Award for her title role in Roald Dahl's Matilda the

Musical at The Playhouse. She is active in theatre at school and was the stage manager for Waukee Middle School's sixth grade one act plays. Liliana enjoys watching movies with her little brother, crafting, and listening to music.



Katharine Hyland (Patty) is excited for her first show at The Playhouse. She is not new to theatre, however, having portrayed Vivienne in Legally Blonde, Georgia in Curtains, and Judy in 9-5 at ACTORS in Ames. She has also

performed in productions with Revival Theatre Company in Cedar Rapids, and Starlighters II Theatre in Anamosa. Katharine teaches choir and show choir at Southeast Polk Junior High where she is also the co-director/music director for the school musical.



Aislin Koopman (Shonelle) is new to the theatre and excited to make her debut with The Playhouse. Aislin, who will be an eighth grader at Southeast Polk Junior High, plays tenor saxophone in concert and jazz bands and sings soprano

with the school's Sudden Impulse show choir. Aislin also participates in gymnastics.



Dionysus Lewis Manuel Jr. (Doug/ Mr. Noble/Mr. Ward) made his Playhouse debut this winter as Howie Newsome in Our Town and is back for his third mainstage show! His most recent Playhouse role was a favorite, one of the Drifters in Beautiful: The Carole King Musical.
Dionysus is an associate teacher at Jesse Franklin
Taylor Education Center. In his free time, he enjoys
reading and playing video games.



Joy Mielke (Mrs. Hathaway/Mr. Wagner) participated in Playhouse classes as a youth and made her Playhouse debut as Beanie in Two One-Acts: The Adventures of Nate the Great and Gooney Bird Greene and Her True Life Adventures. She

is equally experienced behind the curtain, having worked on the stage crew for several Playhouse shows, and as assistant mentor coordinator for the Penguin Project. Joy works as a surgical nurse for UnityPoint and enjoys reading and spending time with her dog.



Evan Moyer (*Billy*) is enjoying his first show with The Playhouse. While new to theatre, he is not new to the performing arts, having been a part of Des Moines Metro Opera's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. When

not performing, he attends Carlisle Middle School where he will be in eighth grade and is a member of the Indianola Sea Turtles, a competitive swim team.



Austin Myers (Dewey) works as an operations dispatcher at DART and is excited to be making his Playhouse debut in School of Rock. His favorite musical is The Phantom of the Opera whose composer, Andrew Llovd Webber,

also wrote the score for this production. Austin enjoys spending time with his family, coaching his son's tee ball team, and singing.



Andrew Nelson (Lawrence) made his Playhouse debut as Nigel in Roald Dahl's Matilda the Musical and has additional credits with The Winterset Stage. Andrew will be a high school freshman this fall at Adel DeSoto Minburn High School.

He plays piano and saxophone, sings in the show choir, studies voice and dance, and plays soccer. Andrew has found the perfect show as he and his friends are forming a rock band of their own!



Adeline Pollmann (Sophie) has performed as Young Fiona in Shrek the Musical and as Peach/Coral in Finding Nemo Jr with Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. In her classes at The Playhouse, she has

appeared as Bones in *Pirates Past Noon* and Mother Goose in *Mother Goose Has Talent*. Adeline will be a sixth grader this year at Des Moines Merrill Middle School. She enjoys crocheting, dancing, reading, and doing puzzles in her free time.



Derek Schwab (Bob/Mr. Spencer) is making his Playhouse debut, having appeared in Pippin last summer at Tallgrass Theatre. A senior sample prep technician at BioLife Plasma Services, he likes playing D&D and spending time

with his family and dogs.



Kodä Denise Scott (Tomika), a fifth grader at Waukee Elementary, first graced The Playhouse stage in 2018 as Little Coalhouse in Ragtime. Her passion for theatre has grown since then and she is excited to bring her talents and

enthusiasm back to a cherished venue. With a love for storytelling and a dedication to the arts, Kodä is pursuing her dreams and eagerly looking forward to contributing to another memorable production.



Philip Daniel Scott (Gabe Brown/ Mr. Hamilton/Jeff Sanderson) is excited to contribute his talents to The Playhouse and be a part of this artistic community. He is no stranger to a big stage, having had the honor of

singing at Carnegie Hall in 2009. He also led a 100-member college gospel choir. While Philip plays multiple instruments, singing remains his true passion. He is especially excited to share the stage with his daughter, Kodä, and create lasting memories together. Philip is a manager with Ruan Transportation.



DJ Simmons (*Freddy*) first took to the stage in sixth grade, later appearing in *Finding Nemo Jr.* with Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre and *The Wizard of Oz* (Wicked Witch) at her school. A seventh grader at Waukee Middle School,

DJ is involved in choir, band, show choir, and honors choir. She has been studying drums for more than five years and hopes that every girl in the audience walks away knowing they can rock out and chase their dreams.



Berry Stevens (Katie) has a wealth of theatre experience, appearing as Sylvie in 67 Cinderellas, Queen's Guard in Alice and Wonderland, and two years of mime and improv shows with Indian Hills Junior High, West Des Moines, where

they just completed eighth grade. As part of their experience in *Cinderella*, they even designed their own wedding dress! Berry is interested in sewing, clothing design, and learning new instruments.



Micah Talley (James) has already left his mark on lowa's theatre scene, playing Aladdin in Aladdin Jr. at West Des Moines' Western Hills Elementary, Pugsley in The Addams Family at Stillwell Junior High where he is an eighth grader,

and Wally the Walrus in *The Claw* with Tallgrass Theatre. Micah stays active by rock climbing, swimming, and playing baseball. He also enjoys cooking, reading, acting, and singing.



Tanner Tillotson (Stanley/Mr. Mooneyham) has worked as a set designer and sound technician. As an actor, his favorite role was Roger in Rent with Des Moines East High School. His other roles include Ram in Heathers with Des

Moines Young Artists' Theatre, Orlando in *As You Like It* and Arvide in *Guys and Dolls* at Simpson College. Tanner is a speech teacher in the Waukee Community School District. He likes anything musical related, superheroes, and playing Dungeons & Dragons.



Aaliyah Trimble (Emo Girl/Mrs. Macapugay/Mrs. Travis) graduated from West Des Moines Valley High School this spring and will be attending Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia to study film and television as well

as acting. She has appeared in numerous school productions and, at Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre, was Young Republicanette in *Heathers the Musical*. At The Playhouse, Aaliyah grew up taking classes, worked with classes as a PIP (pre-intern program), and volunteered backstage as assistant stage manager.



Meara Wallace (Summer) is returning to the stage after appearing as Dory in Finding Nemo Jr, Susan in The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, Elf in Shrek the Musical, #14 in The Wolves, and Sister Mary Robert in Sister Act Jr,

all with Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. Meara will be a freshman at Dowling Catholic High School, and looks forward to participating in theatre, choir, and golf.



Katherine Watkins (Snake/ Mrs. Turner/Ms. Gordon) is a sophomore at lowa State University where she is majoring in genetics. Her previous theatre credits include Susanna in The Crucible, Ensemble in Head over

Heels, and Melody in Off Center (Ten Minute Play Festival) with ISU Theatre. Katherine works as a barista at Starbucks, and relaxes by cross-stitching, baking, and watching movies.



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 Our Town; Go, Dog. Gol;

Guys and Dolls; Rodgers + Hammerstein's 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 The Glass Menagerie (Laura), King Lear (Cordelia), Our Town (Emily), and Fun Home (director) with lowa Stage Theatre Company. She has coached for lowa High School Speech Association (IHSSA) and serves on the education committee for the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT). Prior to her time in Des Moines, Katy worked with numerous theatres in the Midwest as a performer, director, musician, and administrator.



Brenton Brown (Music Director) is an experienced member of The Playhouse's team. His shows include Legally Blonde The Musical, Fiddler on the Roof, Les Misérables, Shrek The Musical, Mary Poppins, The Addams Family, Roald Dahl's

Willy Wonka (twice), The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein, Meredith Willson's The Music Man, A Chorus Line, Disney's The Little Mermaid, Miss Nelson Is Missing!, 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 has appeared on stage as the title character in Sweeney Todd and as Max in Lend Me a Tenor, both at the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre, and as L.M. in Pump Boys and Dinettes at The Playhouse. He was awarded the Cloris Leachman Excellence in Theatre Award for best musical direction of The

Playhouse production of *Ragtime*. He and his wife, Jessica, enjoy spending time with their children, Lindy and Bennett.



Michael Tomlinson

(Choreographer) received technical training at the University of Missouri – Kansas City, Broadway Dance Center, and Jennifer Muller/ The Works. He has performed in Cats (Tumblebrutus), Fiddler on

the Roof (Fyedka/Ensemble), Once on This Island (Daniel Beauxhomme), and the National Tour of An American in Paris (Ensemble). Along with Jennifer Muller/The Works, Michael has danced with Seamless Dance Theatre, inc., Wylliams Henry Contemporary Dance Company, MOVE: The Company, Owen/Cox Dance Group, Kansas City Ballet, and Metropolitan Ballet of Topeka. When he is not dancing, Michael plays the violin, works as a makeup artist, hosts parties, and performs in drag as Traci Glam.



Nicholas Amundson (Scenic Designer) earned his B.F.A. in theatre design and technology from the University of South Dakota. He served as scenic designer for Roald Dahi's Willy Wonka, Disney's The Little

Mermaid, and many more at The Playhouse. In the 2019-20 season, he directed and designed James and the Giant Peach in the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre. His favorite thing about theatre is creating out-of-the-box ways to present a story that gives the audience something fun to experience.



Jessica Van Essen (Costume Designer) has spent much of her career in schools as a professor/ costume shop manager and working with professional theatres as a costume designer and technician. Before moving

back to lowa, Jessica spent three seasons with the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, VA, as their costume designer and shop manager, designing such shows as William Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew, The Winter's Tale, and The Comedy of Errors among others. She is delighted to bring the joy of live theatre to younger audiences as well.



Sam Stephen (Lighting Designer) has a B.A. degree in live entertainment design and technology from North Central College, Napierville, IL. They designed Beautiful: The Carole King Musical. 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 (Theatre 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



Sarah Beth (Bee) 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, creating props for Playhouse productions of *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder, Catch Me If You Can*, and *Singin' in the Rain*. Bee recently transitioned from her role as a fourthgrade teacher to working as a Uniserv director for the lowa State Education Association. She enjoys reading, knitting, crocheting, quilting, and snuggling with her menagerie of two cats and a dog.



Jen Green (Stage Manager) has directed The Playhouse productions of A Charlie Brown Christmas, Harriet the Spy, and Junie B. in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells. She served as a costumer for Temporary Insanity with

Tallgrass Theatre and as a stage manager for *I* and *You* and as a dresser for *Rodgers + Hammerstein's The Sound of Music* at The Playhouse. She has numerous stage credits including Mrs. Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*, Mariah in *Twelfth Night*, and Goneril in *King Lear*, all with lowa Stage Theatre Company. At The Playhouse, she received a Dionysos Award for her performance as Williamina Fleming in *Silent Sky*. Jen is the morning show co-host and listener engagement director for Life 107.1 KNWI and is the mother of two amazing adult children, Piper and Benjamin.



Eric Layden (Assistant Music Director) received his Ed. M. in music education from the University of Florida and is the band director at Waukee Middle School. He previously performed as Father in Ragtime and Ziggy in

The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein at The Playhouse. He was the music director for Iowa Stage Theatre Company's production of Adore Us! Line. Eric likes biking and reading. He and his wife, Taylor, have an adorable one-year-old daughter.



Finn Coons (Assistant Stage Manager) is a theatre design and production major at the University of Northern Iowa. At UNI, he has served as light board operator and on the electrics crew for productions. At his alma

mater, Johnston High School, he was sound board operator. Finn is a former Playhouse PIP (pre-intern program). He works as a game master at Breakout Games and likes solving Rubik's Cubes and playing video games.



Troy Ellerbroek (Assistant Stage Manager) has volunteered for virtually every backstage role – sound board operator for Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella, Disney's Newsies, A Christmas Story The Musical, and Rodgers &

Hammerstein's The Sound of Music; stage manager for Weekend Comedy; run crew for Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express; archival videographer – receiving a Volunteer of the Year Award for the 2021-22 season. Troy is a sixth-grade teacher at Westridge Elementary in West Des Moines. He likes running, supporting local hockey, and spending time with family and friends.

Julian Fellowes (Book) is an actor, writer, director, and producer, educated at Magdalene College. Cambridge and The Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art. In England, he worked in repertory before appearing in the West End productions of A Touch of Spring, Six of One, Joking Apart, Present Laughter, and The Futurists. As an actor, he is probably best known for the BBC series Aristocrats and for his portrayal of the incorrigible Lord Kilwillie in the BBC's popular series Monarch of the Glen. On the big screen, he has been seen in many films, including Shadowlands, Damage, and Tomorrow Never Dies. As a writer for television, he produced the scripts of Little Lord Fauntleroy (winner of an International Emmy, 1995) and The Prince and the Pauper (nominated for a BAFTA, 1997). His first script for the cinema was Gosford Park, directed by Robert Altman, which won him several prizes including the Oscar for Best Original Screenplay. He worked on Mira Nair's film Vanity Fair and wrote the book of the stage musical of Mary Poppins. He wrote the book for School of Rock for Andrew Lloyd Webber which ran at The Winter Garden on Broadway and at the New London Theatre. He has also written a new book for the revival of Half a Sixpence, which ran at the Noel Coward Theatre in London. His adaptation of *The Wind in the Willows* opened at the Palladium in June 2017. His debut as a film director, Separate Lies, which he adapted from Nigel Balchin's novel, received critical acclaim

in both America and the U.K., winning nominations from the London Critics' Circle as well as the award for the Best Directorial Debut of 2005 from the National Board of Review in New York, His second feature, From Time to Time, adapted by him from the novel by L. M. Boston, had its première at the London Film Festival 2009. It won Best Picture at the Chicago Children's Film Festival, the Youth Jury Award at the Seattle International Film Festival, Best Picture at the Fiuggi Family Festival in Rome, and the Young Jury Award at Cinemagic in Belfast. Julian wrote the screenplay of *The Young Victoria*, released in 2009, and was a writer on The Tourist, starring Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie. His television series Downton Abbey, with Maggie Smith, Elizabeth McGovern, and Hugh Bonneville, was tremendously successful, in the end running to six series and three films, winning many awards along the way, including six Emmys including Best Writer and Best Mini Series as well as a Golden Globe, and the prize for Best Drama at the National Television Awards five times. Among the wins was the SAG Award for Ensemble, which the company won three times, a timely recognition of the wonderful cast. He has written a three-part mini-series of Anthony Trollope's *Doctor Thorne*, starring Tom Hollander and Ian McShane which has been seen in both Britain and the U.S., receiving critical acclaim. He has completed an adaptation of The Chaperone which starred Elizabeth McGovern. His novel Snobs has been an international best seller. His second novel, Past Imperfect, was also a Sunday Times bestseller. His novel Belgravia has been a bestseller both in Britain and in America. Julian presented the BBC drama-documentary series Most Mysterious Murders; hosted a game show about language for the BBC, Never Mind the Full Stops; and appeared in Great Houses with Julian Fellowes and Blenheim at War. In 2008, he was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of Dorset. In January 2011, he was awarded a peerage and became Lord Fellowes of West Stafford. He is married to Emma and they have one son, Peregrine, a border collie called Meg, and Stafford, the tortoise. They divide their time between London and Dorset.



Glenn Slater (Lyrics) co-created Disney's 2010 worldwide smash Tangled (2011 Grammy Winner, 2010 Oscar, 2010 Golden Globe nominee), as well as the Broadway and international hit musicals A Bronx Tale, School of Rock - The

Musical (2016 Tony nominee, Best Score), Sister Act (2011 Tony nominee, Best Score), and Disney's The Little Mermaid (2008 Tony nominee, Best Score; Grammy nominee, Best Cast Album). With longtime collaborator Alan Menken, he has also written songs for the Disney animated film Home On The Range

(2004) and Broadway musical Leap of Faith (2012) Tony nominee, Best Musical), as well as acting as both songwriters and executive producers of the medieval musical comedy ABC-TV series Galavant. In the West End, Slater provided both book and lyrics for Andrew Lloyd Webber's Love Never Dies (2010) Olivier nominee, Best Musical), the sequel to The Phantom of the Opera. His other work includes an Emmy-nominated song for the ABC-TV comedy The Neighbors (2013) and the stage revue Newyorkers at The Manhattan Theatre Club (Lucille Lortel, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle nominations). Slater is the recipient of the prestigious Kleban Award for Lyrics. the ASCAP/Richard Rogers New Horizons Award, and the Jonathan Larson Award. He is an alumnus of the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop and a member of both ASCAP and the Dramatists' Guild.



Andrew Lloyd Webber (Music) has composed the scores of some of the world's most famous musicals. From Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (1969) to Cinderella (2021), his work has been consistently seen

on world stages. Before the COVID pandemic hit, Lloyd Webber had shows continually running in the West End for 48 years and on Broadway for 41. When Sunset Boulevard joined School Of Rock, Cats, and The Phantom Of the Opera, he equaled Rodgers & Hammerstein's record of four shows running simultaneously on Broadway. He is one of the select group of artists with EGOT status, having received Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony Awards. Lloyd Webber owns seven London theatres including the iconic London Palladium and Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. Over the past three years the latter has been completely restored and renovated at a cost of over £60 million. It is one of the biggest projects ever undertaken by a private theatre owner in recent times. His mantra that every penny of profit made from his theatres is ploughed back into the buildings has meant that considerable work was undertaken across his theatre portfolio during the pandemic, including the complete remodeling and reseating of the Gillian Lynne. Lloyd Webber is passionate about the importance of musical education and diversity in the arts. The Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation provides 30 performing arts scholarships every year for talented students with financial need and supports a range of projects such as the Music in Secondary School Trust and commissioning research into diversity in theatre. Lloyd Webber was knighted in 1992 and created an honorary life peer in 1997. To mark his 70th birthday, his bestselling autobiography Unmasked was published by Harper Collins in March 2018.

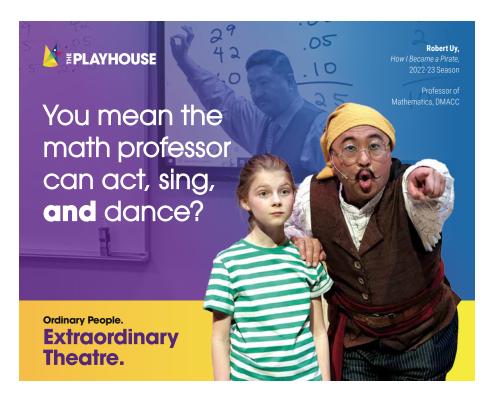
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Technical Directors: Nicholas Amundson, Paul Cartwright

Dresser: Lynette Smith

Run Crew: Mario Calise, Finn Coons, Troy Ellerbroek, Ayden Frisk, Jamie Leonard, Maggie Wise

Sound Engineer: Brian Dodson

Sound Board Operators: **Charlee Bender, Lindsey Nelson**

Followspot Operators: **Mia Dank, Keith Hayes**

Set Construction: Dan Jessen, Dave Piper, George Sparks, Thomas Wilson

Set Painting: Kathleen Baustian, Harold Hinkhouse, Pam Iano, Anne Jung, Shari Piper, Darlene Pullen, Lakayla Robinson, Lorenia Scofield

Master Electrician: Virgil Kleinhesselink

Audition Crew: Pilar Burg, DC Felton, Kate Garner

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IVY + BEAN THE MUSICAL SPECIAL THANKS Due to playbill deadlines, these individuals could not be acknowledged in the previous playbill.

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Anthony, Thora Anthony, Mia
Backous, Naomi Backous, Piper
Backous, Nathalie Batiste,
Corley Blackford, Emery
Blackford, Kim Blakesley,
Steve Blakesley, Lindsay
Compiano, Lydia Davis, Miles
Ekhardt, Tracy Ekhardt, Kathryn
Fitzpatrick, Maarz Friesleben,
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Keith Hayes, Harold Hinkhouse, Tom Ksobiech, Katey Lindaman, Maggy Miller, Ingrid Oakley, Dale Oakley-Bentlage, Aimee Oakley-Runyan, Becky Pillack, Kathy Polson, Mark Pullen, Darlene Pullen, Addison Ramirez, Lisa Richards, Max Shrum, Olivia Simons, Amy Skarin, Lori Van Zee, Amaya Veldkamp, Brynn Weydert, Janet Whiteside

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG SPECIAL THANKS
Due to playbill deadlines, these individuals could not be acknowledged in the previous playbill.

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Meachain
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Juls Bruns, Jennifer Bryant,
Darlene Cangas, Daniel Chase,
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Lindsay Compiano, Karna
Converse, Ken Converse, Judi
Cooper, Rhya Cowden,

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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

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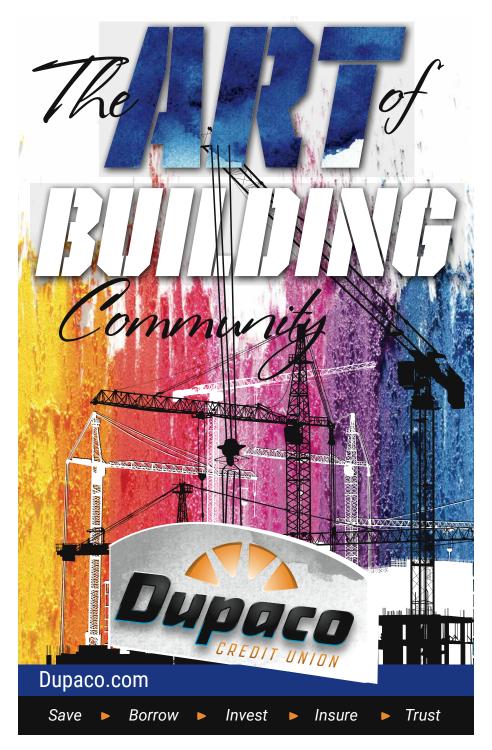
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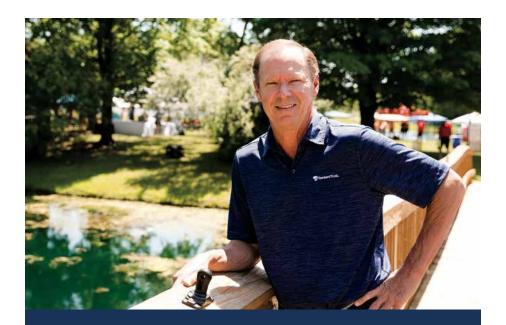
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