

RockValleyCollege

# Starlight<sup>™</sup> THEATRE

— PROUDLY PRESENTS —

# GUYS & DOLLS

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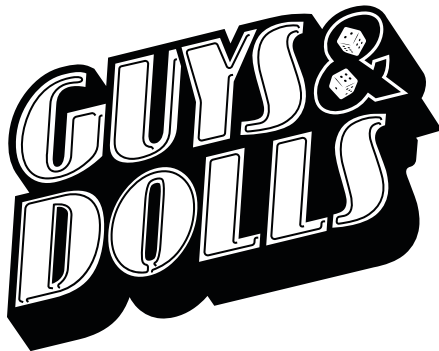
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**ABE BURROWS  
& JO SWERLING**

**In the Bengt Sjostrom Theatre  
June 12 - 15 & July 17 - 21, 2024**

Producing Artistic Director.....	Christopher D. Brady
Director .....	Mychall Miller-Cornejo
Choreographer .....	Elle Laesch
Music Director .....	Steve Wolfgram
Accompanist .....	Mark Miller-Cornejo
Stage Manager.....	Zachary Marquardt
Scenic Designer.....	Carmen Turner
Technical Director .....	Brandon Mechler
Costume Designer .....	Victoria Benson
Lighting Designer.....	Bryan Rivera
Sound Engineer.....	Angely Bautista
Intimacy Designer.....	Spencer Clark
Assistant Director .....	Sophia Fanara
Assistant Choreographer .....	Nailah Brooks
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Grace Hahn-Varona
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Jess Spencer

Starlight Theatre acknowledges  
support from the Illinois Arts Council.



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## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to Starlight Theatre for the 2024 Season under the stars!

Guys & Dolls teleports us to the bustling streets of Damon Runyon's mythical New York City where the high-stakes game of love and luck are bountiful in all shapes and forms! This show brings the classic feel of "Old Broadway" into our modern day world, while providing a sense of nostalgia for those who grew up with the movie featuring Frank Sinatra and Jean Simmons, among many others. Filled with toe-tapping tunes, sharp-witted humor, and an infectious sense of Broadway magic, Guys and Dolls promises an unforgettable night of romance, mischief, and the irresistible rhythm of the city that never sleeps.

Theatre is a huge part of the human connection. We get lost in the world created on the stage to find entertainment, but also relatability. Our Guys & Dolls focuses on the relationships that are built through the trials and tribulations one endures as we venture through life. We get so caught up in expectations we believe we must meet, that we forget to take a moment to appreciate and revel in the joy presented in front of us. This show teaches us that releasing judgements about others allows us to create meaningful relationships, even ones that we never would have expected could become a reality.

The cast, team, and myself hope this show has you in awe with the lush sounds of the orchestra, high energy choreography, and a story that we hope has you dancing in our seats while also learning to appreciate all the relationships that come your way. We on the team are thankful this show has brought us all together. None of the magic you witness on the Starlight stage would have been possible without the cast, crew, team, and staff who have worked tirelessly over the last few months. I'm thankful for this amazing directing and production team. This would not be the show it is today without the joint efforts of Sophia, Elle, Nailah, Steve, Mark, Zach, Grace, Jess, Carmen, Vicki, Bryan, Spencer, & Angely. Thank you all for all that you have done for this community and this show!

A final word to the last puzzle piece that makes our season as amazing as it is - thank YOU so much for joining us under the stars. At the end of the day, we are thrilled to be able to have this opportunity to bring this art form to you all! We hope you enjoy this production and end the night filled with memories to last a lifetime. Thank you and enjoy the adventure!

Sincerely,  
Mychall Miller-Cornejo  
*Director, Guys & Dolls*



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## A LETTER FROM THE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Luck seems to be your lady tonight; you're here at Guys and Dolls!!! Welcome to this classic and joyous show! Guys and Dolls is a staple of musical theatre because it's fun, because of its music, and because it tells us that the power of love overcomes - a central theme to most musical theatre, and a timeless theme as well. Oh, does it start as a bet? Sure it does...but who actually wins and who actually loses? In this game of chance, can fate help us tip the scales? Can our belief in love? These questions are so fun to pose as we dance through this lively and charismatic piece! We wanted to bring this musical back out to the Bengt Sjoström stage because of its mass appeal, sure, but also because of the adventure it brings to the season! It's the only musical from the season that's been under our roof before (though in 1999 the iconic roof didn't exist...!)

One of my favorite aspects about musical theatre is that, given time, fresh ideas come from the well-written classics. I'm proud of the medium for this. It shows how much effort and talent is put into the artform. And, I've got to say, I'm so proud of this team assembling such a remarkable cast and putting together such a wonderful, original telling of this classic piece. It brings me joy that you have chosen to witness it tonight (or possibly today). It gives me just as much joy, however, to not only welcome you to the show itself, but also the Bengt Sjoström Theatre, home of Starlight Theatre! If you didn't know or couldn't tell, we are a pavilion-style, open-air theatre with a roof that articulates like a flower into the sky, giving you an experience unlike any in the world right here in Rockford, IL!

If this is your first time here, welcome...welcome and even more welcome! We are honored to have you share in what we do. What you're about to witness is a community operating at its best! Multiple and diverse artists coming together as one to give their same community - their very neighbors - an epic and quality adventure that is witnessed upon the stage, but more importantly etched into our minds and coveted in our hearts. For those of us who've been here before, whether we've trod the boards or have simply witnessed the magic from these familiar blue seats, we can measure our lives by the singular nights that we've spent out here. We remember that our first child was born during the season of Ragtime & Geppetto & Son; we remember who we nestled with when the rain was blowing sideways during Phantom of the Opera; we remember our favorite actors when we see them again onstage; we remember the times we shared with our loved ones and the memories we made; and, most of all, we remember how our hearts are filled with joy every time we come into this space. There's nothing like it in the world. Our community. Our Theatre.

So, dear friends, let us unfurl our hearts like the blossoming of our roof, for tonight we share in an adventure together. Something that will be uniquely ours. Others may have seen this show elsewhere, but you're seeing this show uniquely here, uniquely with these people, and uniquely at this time. Together, let us breathe life into the dreams that dwell under this beautiful night sky. Welcome, one and all, to the experience that is Starlight Theatre. Thank you so much for being a part of it.

Sincerely,



Christopher D. Brady  
*Producing Artistic Director - Starlight Theatre*

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

*(in order of appearance)*

Arvide Abernathy .....	Larry Brown
Agatha Abernathy .....	Carla Mullin
General Matilda Cartwright .....	Mary Peterson
Nathan Detroit.....	Robbie Strader
Miss Adelaide.....	Maggie Polsean
Sarah Brown .....	Keira Alejandro
Sky Masterson.....	Mattsen Heller
Nicely-Nicely Johnson.....	Ben Bonzi
Benny Southstreet .....	Aaron Hill
Rusty Charlie.....	Joshua Lindahl
Harry the Horse.....	Dennis Rabon
Angie the Ox .....	Teddy Noel
Society Max .....	Charlie Horner
Lieutenant Brannigan .....	Michael Epling
Big Julie.....	Guillermo Hernandez
Hot Box Master of Ceremonies .....	Ellen Tarr

Hot Box Dancers ..... Melissa Bice, Chanel Black, Colleen Brown, Jenna Christ, Jessica Falco, Molly Heller, Shelby Hill, Chloe Konieczki, Chelsea Meyer, Natalie Picchi, Hanna Raczek, Tiana Smith

Mission Band ..... Jehona Bexheti, Kendra Golden, Jack Hill, Aubry Musfelt, Deja Sandkam, Cheyenne Serrano, Robin Smith

Crapshooters..... Abigail Barker, Matthew Chagoya, Miranda Fishe, Becca Francis, Zachary Garner, Annabelle Gawaran, Ryan Hoffman, Madison Leeder, Tez Lockhart, Ryan Pickerill, Garrett Pierce, Ellen Tarr, Kaitlyn Tesdorff, Jacob Thiede, Arthur Vinke

**BACKSTAGE/  
RUNNING CREW**

**STAGE SPOTS**

Ethan Loax  
Evan Turley

**HOUSE SPOTS**

Destiny Robinson  
Lindsay Johnson

**FLOOR**

Dalia Gonzalez  
Jazlyn Oberg  
Matt Martin  
Chloe Doner  
Ryleigh Christ  
Jess Sorg-Spencer  
Grace Hahn-Varona  
Zander Eisele  
Addyson Powell  
Riley Freeman



**MUSICAL SYNOPSIS**

**ACT ONE**

Overture .....Company  
 Runyonland .....Company  
 Fugue For Tinhorns..... Nicely-Nicely Johnson, Benny Southstreet, Rusty Charlie  
 Follow the Fold .....Sarah Brown, Mission Band, Company  
 The Oldest Established .....Nathan Detroit, Nicely-Nicely Johnson,  
 ..... Benny Southstreet, Crapshooters  
 I'll Know .....Sarah Brown, Sky Masterson  
 A Bushel And A Peck .....Miss Adelaide, Hot Box Dancers  
 Adelaide's Lament .....Miss Adelaide  
 Guys and Dolls.....Nicely-Nicely Johnson, Benny Southstreet, Ensemble  
 Havana .....Sky Masterson, Sarah Brown, Company  
 If I Were A Bell..... Sarah Brown  
 My Time Of Day ..... Sky Masterson  
 I've Never Been In Love Before..... Sky Masterson, Sarah Brown

**ACT TWO**

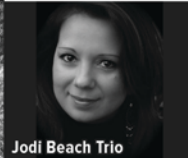
Entr'acte ..... Orchestra  
 Take Back Your Mink .....Miss Adelaide, Hot Box Dancers  
 Adelaide's Second Lament .....Miss Adelaide  
 More I Cannot Wish You ..... Arvide Abernathy, Agatha Abernathy, Sarah Brown  
 The Crapshooters' Dance..... Crapshooters  
 Luck Be a Lady..... Sky Masterson, Crapshooters  
 Sue Me.....Miss Adelaide, Nathan Detroit  
 Sit Down, You're Rockin' The Boat ..... Nicely-Nicely Johnson, Company  
 Marry the Man Today..... Miss Adelaide, Sarah Brown  
 Guys and Dolls (reprise) .....Company

**MUSICIANS**

- Nevagay Abel, *Clarinet/Tenor Sax*  
 Mark Bond, *Sax/Clarinet/Flute*  
 Sarah C Byrnes, *Alto/Saxophone/Flute/Piccolo*  
 Mark Miller-Cornejo, *Piano*  
 Marquelle Cnota, *Violin*  
 Zoe Hart, *Flute*  
 Leela Hereña, *Percussion*  
 Andrew Hunter, *Trumpet*  
 Amaya Livingston, *Cello*  
 Gracie McMahon, *Oboe/English Horn*  
 Carlos Perez, *Tenor/Soprano Saxophone*  
 Tammy Schulz, *Cello*  
 Benjamin Wolfgram, *Trombone*  
 Kathryn Wolfgram, *French Horn*  
 Ryan Wolfgram, *Bari Sax/Tenor Sax/ Clarinet*

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CAST & TEAM BIOS



**KEIRA ALEJANDRO**  
(Sarah Brown) [She/They] is beyond excited to spend her first summer with Starlight! Coming from Tucson, Arizona, the humidity

is not her favorite, but the opportunity to perform with this cast has been a blast. You may have seen her in productions at Rockford University, where they appeared in *Urinetown* (Hope Cladwell), *Songs For A New World* (Woman 2), and most recently Ken Ludwig's, *The Game's Afoot* (Daria Chase). A special thank you to her friends Robbie and Kay for encouraging her to audition, and as always—thank you to her mom, ily.icfy. Remember to follow the fold and enjoy the show!



**ABIGAIL BARKER**  
(Crapshooter, Runyonland New York) [She/Her] is making her Starlight onstage debut. In 2016, she was a violinist in the

pit orchestra for *Phantom of the Opera* at Starlight. Previously, she performed at Byron Civic Theater, including *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava), and *A Christmas Carol* (Belle), as well as playing in multiple pit orchestras there. Her love for theater started in the early 2000s when she performed in *Joseph* and the *Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Annie* with her Father. Abi would like to thank her husband and family for all of their support.



**JEHONA BEXHETI**  
(Runyonland Ensemble, Mission Band) [She/Her] is so excited to be back on the Starlight

stage this summer, working with some of her best friends, and is looking forward to making new friends along the way. This is her fourth show, and she has also been part of the Starlight Shakes. When she's not onstage, she can be found working on the sets as part of the day crew, where she paints and builds! (Cause girls can do that too). She wants to thank her family for supporting her and Arthur for being, well, Arthur...



**MELISSA BICE**  
(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is back for a second season on the Starlight Stage; last seen in *Footloose* as a Church Lady

who shared a gambling addiction with Rev. Moore. Melissa is also the brains and baker behind "Queen of Tarts." That's right, this Queen acts and bakes floral cupcakes for weddings and events.



**CHANEL BLACK**  
(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is overjoyed to be back home at RVC Starlight Theater! She recently played

Pilar in the 22-23 *National Tour of Legally Blonde The Musical*. Other favorite credits include: Deloris in *Sister Act* (Crane River Theatre), Lorraine in *Jersey Boys* (Crane River Theatre), Consuelo in *West Side Story* (RVC Starlight Theatre), and *Newsies* (Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre). She thanks her friends and family for their continuous support, especially her daughter, Cloud. "Keep on, keeping on."  
@ChanelEBlack



**BEN BONZI**  
(Nicely-Nicely Johnson)

[He/Him] is super excited to be on the Starlight stage once again. He has been doing theater at Starlight since he was three years old. He was last seen in *Footloose* (Travis) and *Rocky Horror* (Brad Majors). Ben would like to thank the entire creative team for the opportunity to bring Nicely to life, and he dedicates his performance to his parents, his sister, Sam, and his wife, Marisa. "Thank you for your never-ending support and love. Now get your popcorn and sit down, cause we're about to rock the boat!"



**COLLEEN BROWN**  
(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is thrilled to be back for her second Starlight season. She is an alumna of Rockford

Dance Company and Dance at Illinois. This show is incredibly special because she is sharing the stage with her dad! She is also thrilled to be doing the same role her mom did in Starlight's 1983 production of *Guys and Dolls*. She would like to thank the creative team for this opportunity and her family and friends for their unending support.

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**LAWRENCE BROWN**

(Arvide Abernathy) [He/Him] is thrilled to be on stage this summer in his first season with Starlight. He studied

voice at The American Conservatory of Music in Chicago and Indiana University, and has sung with various choral organizations throughout the years. The Starlight family has kindly welcomed him into their fold, for which he is grateful! Finally, Larry knows that if it weren't for his wife, Nancie (1983 Hot Box Dancer), and daughter, Colleen (2024 Hot Box Dancer), he would not have made it through the process of joining this wonderful production! Much love to them both!



**MATTHEW CHAGOYA**

(Crapshooter) [He/Him] is an NIU student in his first performance at Starlight. Matt is someone who is quick on his feet

and brings a new flavor onto the scene. He's fun, kind, and all-around great person to talk to. It's as he says, "full of surprises."



**JENNA CHRIST**

(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is thrilled to be back under the stars for her sixth Starlight season. In the

past, Jenna has been backstage at Starlight as an Assistant Stage Manager (ASM) for *Once Upon A Mattress*, *Dreamgirls*, and *Cinderella*. She was last seen on the Starlight stage in *Hello, Dolly!* (2022). Jenna is so excited to be onstage this year, as well as backstage as an ASM for *Newsies* and in the booth for *The Color Purple*. She would like to thank Mychall and the *Guys and Dolls* team for giving her the chance to perform and believing in her every step of the way. She would also like to give a special thanks to her boyfriend, Garrett, her best friend, Andrew, and her family for their constant support through the long rehearsal process.



**MICHAEL EPLING**

(Lt. Brannigan) [He/Him] is grateful to be returning to Starlight after appearing in *Footloose* and *Oliver!* last season. He is thankful for and appreciative

of the hundreds of dedicated and talented volunteers who bring Starlight to life. And says, "Thank you to our wonderful and supportive audiences like you." The Heat is on!



**JESSICA FALCO**

(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is excited to be making her RVC Starlight debut! She last

played Pamela in *Head Over Heels* at Steel Beam Theatre, Susan in *Tick Tick Boom!*, Joy (Lou Nominee for Supporting Actress) in *Cinderella* at Theatre 121, and Ulla in *The Producers* at Stagecoach Players. In Elgin Community College's Modern Broadway Review, she portrayed Sara in *Ragtime*, Satine in *Moulin Rouge*, Sister Mary Robert in *Sister Act*, and Elphaba in *Wicked*. Other credits include *Heathers* (Heather Chandler), *August: Osage County* (Johnna), and *Kiss Me, Kate!* (Lois Lane) Jessica wants to thank her friends and family for their love and support! A special thanks to the directing team for this incredible opportunity!



**MIRANDA FISHE**

(Crapshooter) [She/Her] is so excited to be a part of her first Starlight season! Theater holds a special place in her heart, and she

couldn't be more thrilled to be surrounded by so many talented and creative individuals while doing what she loves most. When she isn't acting, she enjoys dancing, writing, and traveling. Miranda would like to give a huge thank you to the entire cast and team of *Guys and Dolls* for making this production incredible and bringing its silly and charming qualities to life!



**BECCA FRANCIS**

(Crapshooter) [She/Her] is so excited to be spending another summer under the stars at Starlight. You may have previously seen her in

*Cinderella* (2023) or *Hello Dolly!* (2022). She would like to thank her family and friends for their constant love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show. Yaahtzee!



**ZACHARY GARNER**

(Crapshooter) [He/Him] is excited to return for his seventh season at Starlight and hopes you enjoy the show.

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**ANNABELLE GAWARAN**

(Crapshooter, Runyonland New York) [She/Her] is so excited to be back for her third

Starlight season! Last season, she performed in *In The Heights*, and was the sound engineer for *Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella* and *The Stinky Cheese Man & Other Fairly Stupid Fairy Tales*. She'd like to thank her family and friends for all of their love and support!



**KENDRA GOLDEN**

(Mission Band, Martha) [She/Her] is thrilled and grateful to be joining this cast for her inaugural performance at

Starlight Theatre. She was last seen onstage in *The Secret Garden* with Walla Walla Summer Theater. A scientist and educator by vocation, Kendra holds a special place in her heart for the performing arts. She is currently a member of the Rock Valley College Concert Band and the Rock Valley Master Chorale. She would like to thank her family for their encouragement and support.



**MATTSSEN HELLER**

(Sky Masterson) [He/Him] recently played Tophers in *Cinderella*, Bill Sikes in *Oliver!*, Jack in *The Stinky Cheese Man*, and

Ferdinand in *Love's Labour's Lost*. He would like to thank his beautiful wife, Molly, for going on these adventures together. When he grows up, Mattsen would like to be Anthony Bridgerton.



**MOLLY HELLER**

(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is excited to be back for her second season at Starlight performing in *Legally Blonde*, as well as *Guys &*

*Dolls*. Molly's love for music and performance began at a young age, and she eventually went on to earn her degree in music and master's degrees in other fields. Special thanks to her family and friends for the support along the way.



**GUILLERMO HERNANDEZ**

(Big Julie) [He/They] is excited to be back for another season of

Starlight! It has been five years since their Starlight debut in *West Side Story* (2019). You most likely recognize them from last summer's production of *In The Heights* as Piragua Guy! You may have also seen them this summer in *Legally Blonde!*



**AARON HILL**

(Benny Southstreet) [He/Him] is so happy to be back on the Starlight stage after a seven year hiatus. Being a part of this show has

been a true joy and he's grateful to have been able to work with this incredible cast and creative team. After recently moving back to the area, Aaron was extremely excited to work with so many old friends such as Colleen, Teddy, and Elle. But more than anything, sharing the stage with his wife, Shelby, is something Aaron will always cherish and be grateful for.



**SHELBY HILL**

(Hot Box Dancer, Miss Adelaide Standby)

[She/Her] is so excited to be back at Starlight after a seven-year hiatus!

Some of her previous roles include *The Leading Player* in *Pippin*, a Disciple in *Godspell*, and Mrs. Mayor in *Suessical*. She would like to thank her incredible husband, Aaron, for encouraging her to audition again and always supporting her. Shoutout to her cats, Ruby and Mr. Sweatpants.



**RYAN HOFFMAN**

(Crapshooter, Nathan Detroit Standby) [He/Him] is returning for his 15th season at Starlight, he was most recently in *Footloose* (Willard),

*Disaster!* (Scott) and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Linus). He is also involved at Dixon Stage Left: *Clue* (Assistant Director), and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Black Stache). He currently teaches math at Dixon High School, where he directed their spring production of *Pippin*, and performs music around the Dixon area. He would like to thank everyone involved at Starlight who helps make it the wonderful place that it is, as well as his friends and family near and far for their continued love and support.



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CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED**CHARLIE HORNER**

(Society Max) [They/Them] has a passion for theatre that was ignited at a young age when they landed the role of Molly in

*Annie*. Some of their favorite roles include Rusty in *Footloose*, Sandy in *Grease*, and Sally Bowles in *Cabaret*. They have had the opportunity to work with wonderful actors, directors, and coaches, such as Tracy Letts at Steppenwolf and Rachel Rockwell, and Roberta Duchak at Drury Lane in Chicago. Following a brief hiatus, Charlie is overjoyed to make a comeback to the stage alongside such talented individuals. Offstage, Charlie draws strength and encouragement from their family and extends a heartfelt appreciation to their mother, brother, and late father for their unwavering support of their talent and aspirations.

**CHLOE KONIECZKI**

(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is going into her senior year at NIU pursuing a BFA in Acting. Her most recent

performance was the world premiere of *Booked and Blessed* or *BUST*, along with the world premiere of *Rage Play* (Cece) at NIU, and *Oliver!* here at Starlight Theatre. Some other notable works include *The Children's Hour* (Rosalie Wells), *The Little Mermaid*, and *How I Became A Pirate* (Jennifer Jacobs), among over 30 other plays and musicals. Along with a few short films and a TV series "*The Deadersons*." She thanks her mom for always supporting her in her many adventures!

**MADISON LEEDER**

(Runyonland New Yorker, Crapshooter, Sarah Brown Standby) [She/Her] is a rising junior at Millikin University

pursuing her BFA in Musical Theatre, and is proud to be making her Starlight debut! Some of her favorite past credits include Lulu/Sally Bowles U/S in *Cabaret*, Judy Haynes in *White Christmas*, and Sarah Brown in *Guys & Dolls*. When not onstage you can find her spending time with her friends and family, playing violin, or riding her horses. She would like to thank her friends and family for all of their love and support, and the Starlight family for welcoming her with open arms and giving her this opportunity.

**JOSHUA LINDAHL**

(Rusty Charlie) [He/Him] is very excited to be in *Guys & Dolls* this season with such amazing company! He has immensely

enjoyed getting to share this experience, and thinks everyone is awesome. He's excited for the audience to see them shoot some crap, dance like there's no tomorrow, and all things in between tonight! You can also check out Joshua this summer in *Newsies* as Jack Kelly.

**TEZ LOCKHART**

(Crapshooter, Runyonland New York) [He/Him] refers to himself as "The living legend T Nasty" and has returned for his

third season at Starlight. Tez would like to thank his friends and family for their support. He also hopes you take something great from this show.

**CHELSEA MEYER**

(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is a B103 Radio host by day, fried chicken connoisseur by night. Chelsea is so excited to

be back on the Starlight stage for her 11th season. With a laugh that could make a hyena jealous and a talent for tripping over invisible obstacles, Chelsea is the reason caution signs exist. When she's not busy trying to convince her partner to get another dog, you can catch her pondering life's greatest mysteries, like why do socks always disappear in the laundry and is a hot dog a sandwich?

**CARLA MULLIN**

(Agatha) [She/Her] is thrilled to be cast in her 21st Starlight production. Fun fact: Carla

appeared in the last Starlight production of *Guys & Dolls* in 1997. Most recently, she was seen in *Sister Act* and *Mamma Mia* with her Starlight family. Carla enjoys hiking, biking, pickleball, singing, dancing, and traveling. She would like to dedicate her performance this season to her loving and supportive family who always makes life fun!

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**AUBRY MUSFELT**

(Ensemble) [She/Her] is very excited to make her Starlight debut! Aubry is a sophomore at Rockford University pursuing her BFA in

Acting/Directing. She would like to thank her professors for giving her all the tools and support she needs to make theatre a career. She would also like to thank the Starlight directors, and everyone involved with this show, for welcoming her with open arms and giving her such a great opportunity in the Rockford community. Finally, Aubry would like to thank her family, friends, and her partner, Jack, for giving her all of the love and support in the world as she pursues her dreams. Aubry wants to remind you to follow the fold and enjoy the show!



**TEDDY NOEL**

(Angie the Ox)

[They/Them] is so excited to be a part of this season, and to have the opportunity to call Starlight

their summer home again! They are grateful for their partner, Peter, who supports and loves them so selflessly and unconditionally, their amazing DnD crew, who were so patient and understanding about them missing sessions due to rehearsals, and grateful as always, to Edie Hill, who somehow is always the person who convinces them to audition. Teddy is also beyond excited to share the stage with their found family and best friends, Aaron and Shelby Hill. Previously seen in *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy), *The Music Man* (Marian), and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Sally).



**MARY PETERSON**

(General Matilda Cartwright)

[She/Her] is celebrating her 10th year at Starlight but her first time on the stage instead of at the back of the

house or backstage. She would not be here without the encouragement of her friends. She's thankful for her "bullies" and greatest cheerleaders. She owes a huge thank you to the entire team behind *Guys & Dolls* for not only their trust and understanding but also for their friendship. She is so honored to work with them. Lastly, she would like to acknowledge that she would not be here without the time, care, and lessons of the inimitable Victoria Sleger, who may not be with us here on earth anymore, but whose presence is always felt and whose greatness is eternal.



**NATALIE PICCHI**

(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her] is excited to spend her second summer with the Starlight family. Her previous Starlight credits

include *Footloose* (Eleanor Dunbar) and the chancela throwing ensemble member in *In the Heights*. When she isn't on stage she is either analyzing data in her day job or relishing the role of being a mom to two amazing teens. She would like to thank her family for being her biggest supporters and their constant encouragement to step out of her comfort zone. And she would like to thank her husband, Chris, for taking on the extra shifts as teen chauffeur with such excitement and joy. No sarcasm intended. Lastly, Natalie would like everyone to come back later this summer to see her two amazing daughters make their Starlight debut in *Beauty and the Beast*.



**RYAN PICKERILL**

(Crapshooter, Sky Masterson Standby) [He/Him] is thrilled to be a part of this show, especially with so many of his talented friends

in the cast and on the creative team! He promises to do his role as Sky's Stunt Double / Foley Artist / Lion Tamer justice. Ryan's first time on stage was in Starlight's 2022 production of *The Rocky Horror Show* (Narrator), and he's been hooked ever since, appearing in *Footloose*, *Cinderella*, and *The Stinky Cheese Man* last summer. He'd like to give a shout-out to his mom for sharing a love for musicals with him from a young age, especially since *Guys & Dolls* is one of her favorites! He'd also like to give shout-out to his dad for not really liking musicals but being supportive anyway. Off-stage, Ryan works for the Education department at the Field Museum in Chicago.



**GARRETT PIERCE**

(Crapshooter) [He/Him] is thrilled to be back on stage and performing again after a very, very long time away. This is his first

season performing at Starlight. He feels honored that the directors took a chance on him to perform in this show. Garrett would like to give a special thank you to his girlfriend, friends, and family for their constant love and support during the long rehearsal process. He is excited to shoot some crap and dance his worries away in Havana.



CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**MAGGIE POLSEAN**

(Miss Adelaide) [She/Her] is thrilled to be back on the Starlight stage for her seventh season and to shake, shimmy, and sing for

audiences in this witty Broadway classic. She would like to thank the entire artistic team for trusting her to carry out their vision and her family for their constant love and support. Sit down and don't rock the boat too much while you enjoy this sizzling show!



**DENNIS RABON**

(Harry the Horse)

[He/Him] is thrilled to be back on the Starlight Theatre stage with this incredible cast and crew!

Some of his previous roles include Coach Roger Dunbar in *Footloose* (Starlight), Shrek in *Shrek the Musical* (Gateway) and Strongman in *Elephant's Graveyard* ([u]sual Suspects). We hope you enjoy this fun, toe-tapping classic! #ItAllBeganWithABaguette



**HANNA RACZEK**

(Hot Box Dancer)

[She/Her] is pleased to be returning to Starlight after a few years away, and what better way

to get back into the rhythm than to be dancing in the Hot Box! She's been involved in musicals and plays for a little over a decade, with her favorite roles being Olivia in *Starlight Shakes's Twelfth Night*, and Erma in her long-ago high school production of *Anything Goes*. A software engineer during the day, Hanna is delighted to give you a show this evening, and she thanks her partner Ian for his unyielding support and her family for their relentless love.



**DEJA SANDKAM**

(Runyonland, Mission Band)

[She/Her] is very excited to be a part of her second season at Starlight! She is very thrilled

to work with some familiar faces from high school theatre to help put on such an amazing show! Deja is currently a student at NIU majoring in Nursing and minoring in Child and Family Studies. She would like to thank her family, friends, and boyfriend for supporting her theatre dreams and college career!



**CHEYENNE SERRANO**

(Mission Band, Runyonland) [She/Her] is so excited to be back on the stage this summer. This is her second season with Starlight.

Previous shows include *In the Heights* (Starlight) and *Beauty and the Beast* (Belvidere High School). Cheyenne would like to thank her family and friends for their continuous support this summer!



**ROBIN SMITH**

(Ruth, Mission Band)

[She/Her] is very excited to make her acting debut at Starlight! When she is not working as a Coding

Educator for OSF Healthcare, you can find Robin camping with her family and friends at Rock Cut State Park. She would like to thank her supportive husband, who encouraged her to pursue a dream, and her children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, whose talented performances in musicals inspired her to audition. Special thanks to her mother for sharing her passion for music with her family. Dare to dream because dreams do come true.



**TIANA SMITH**

(Hot Box Dancer) [She/Her]

is so thrilled to be at Starlight for her very first season, where she will be seen in *Guys & Dolls* and *The Color*

*Purple*. This marks her first theatre experience ever and she would like to give a special thanks to the people who made it happen.



**ROBBIE STRADER**

(Nathan Detroit) [He/They] is extremely excited to be a part of this wonderful production! You may have seen Robbie as Carlos/Store Manager

last week, and you can see him again next week as Harpo in *The Color Purple*. Robbie wants to thank his friends and family for their support and his professors at Rockford University for everything they've done for him as well. Robbie would like to thank the directing team for trusting him with this role; their love and support has truly been great throughout this process. @Robbie.Strader

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CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**ELLEN TARR**

(Crapshooter, Runyonland)  
[She/Her] is in her third show at Starlight. After being an "adult" in *Footloose* last year, she is

looking forward to being less of a model citizen as a crapshooter in *Guys & Dolls*. Ellen is grateful to be working with such a talented and supportive cast and crew and hopes you enjoy the controlled chaos we have created for you this summer!



**KAITLYN TESDORFF**

(Crapshooter, Runyonland) [She/Her] will be graduating from Rockford University this winter with

a BFA in Theatre Tech. She works at Janesville Performing Arts Center as a stage manager and at Starlight Theatre on set construction. Her previous performance credits at Starlight include *Footloose*, *Oliver*, and *The Little Mermaid*.



**JACOB THIEDE**

(Crapshooter, Runyonland New York) [He/Him] is very excited to be back on the Starlight stage in this

awesome show. You may have seen him last year in *Footloose* as a member of the ensemble or as the Prince in *The Stinky Cheese Man*. Thiede would like to thank his family for always supporting him and his fellow cast mates for being amazing to work with.



**ARTHUR VINKE**

(Crapshooter, Runyonland) [He/Him] is in his fifth show at Starlight. He is majoring in General Studies at Northern

Illinois University because he believes that variety is the spice of life. He has a variety of hobbies, from motorcycles to blacksmithing. Arthur wants to thank his friends, family, and wonderful girlfriend, Jehona! He is proud of both her and himself for the work they put in to put on a jolly good show for y'all!



**ANGELY BAUTISTA**

(Sound Engineer) [She/Her] is thrilled to be the sound engineer for *Guys & Dolls*. She is a Media Production

Specialist and just graduated from RVC. Her next focus is achieving a bachelors degree. In addition to her studies, Angely just finished her term as President of Multicultural Club. She is very passionate about promoting diversity and inclusivity in her community.



**VICTORIA BENSON**

(Costume Shop Supervisor) [She/Her] is so excited to be designing *Guys and Dolls* since it has been her son's favorite show

since he was 5. She thanks the gifted costume shop team who is so skilled in what they do. Each member has a different skillset, but all come together as a team, to present to you costumes that we hope will help tell the story. The costume shop is also blessed with volunteers who use their unique skills to assist us to reach our goals. Without them we could not reach our goals. Thank you to each of you who have touched so brilliantly each garment. We hope you will love the costumes as much as all who have brought them to life.



**NAILAH BROOKS**

(Assistant Choreographer)

[She/Her] is thrilled to be behind the table this year in her third Starlight season! Throughout her time at Starlight, she has

been given an abundance of joy from performing, and she is beyond excited to experience this new role! She has previously choreographed for Auburn High School's CAPA Theatre Program in musicals including *The Addams Family*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and *Smokey Joe's Cafe*. Though this task was initially daunting, she is incredibly thankful to have been given the opportunity to work with such fantastic people! It wouldn't have been possible without the consistent love and support from her team and cast, her incredible parents, and the chance to work with the most terrific choreographer, Elle Laesch!

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED**MYCHALL MILLER-CORNEJO**

(Director) [He/Him] is honored to have the opportunity to direct *Guys & Dolls* at his home away from

home and dedicates this season to Mark, who he's able to call his husband by the time you all read this bio! Starting out as a competitive dancer for Xtreme Dance Center at a young age, to finding passion in musical theatre at North Central College, he has performed and choreographed at several theaters in the Chicagoland area. No matter how far he goes, he will always hold Starlight close to his heart. From being a choreographer to a director, Mychall wants to hopefully portray truthful and impactful stories that touch the hearts of anyone and everyone who comes to the show. Previous credits at Starlight include *In The Heights* (Director/Choreographer), *Dreamgirls* (Director), and *Newsies* (Choreographer) this summer. He would not be the artist he is today if it were not for the opportunities and life lessons presented to him by a great friend, Christopher Brady. Mychall would like to thank every single person who has been able to make this Starlight season happen. This season would not have come to fruition without the countless hours of work spent by the staff and volunteers to create the magic you see on the stage - thank you from the bottom of his heart. Mychall sends all his love to his beloved family, friends, Cassie, his Wendy, his Soulmate, Mary, and to the love of his life, his ever loving and supporting husband, Mark. Last, but certainly not least, he would like to thank YOU for supporting his endeavors and the performing arts! "We were given this life because we are strong enough to live it!"

**MARK MILLER-CORNEJO**

(Accompanist) [He/Him] is so excited to be back at Starlight for his fourth season! Previous music

directing credits at Starlight include *In The Heights*, *Disaster*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *The Rocky Horror Show*. He has also played in the Starlight pit orchestras for *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* and *Footloose*. Mark has been the choral director at Belvidere High School since 2017. Mark is grateful for the opportunity to play for another show where he gets to watch his creative genius husband, Mychall work his director magic as he has worked with so much passion to bring this classic show to life. Enjoy!

**SPENCER DOUGLAS CLARK**

(Intimacy Designer) [He/Him] is a Chicago based Theatre Artist born and raised

in Rockford! He is thrilled to be back at Starlight to assist with the intimacy this season. Spencer has performed, directed, and choreographed for many theatres in the Chicagoland area. Currently, he directs for the Footlight Youth Theatre program through the community park district of La Grange Park. He is so thankful for Chris, and all of this seasons actors and directors, for their willingness to bring ethical-based trauma informed theatrical intimacy practices to the community.

**SOPHIA FANARA**

(Assistant Director) [She/Her] is dipping her hand into assistant directing at Starlight for the first time, but

this is not her first season. You might have seen her in previous sessions on the crew, in the ensembles for *Memphis* and *Young Frankenstein*, as *Anybody's* in *West Side Story*, or as a *Phantom* in *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. She even debuted her choreography skills as a co-choreographer for *In the Heights*. She would like to thank Mychall for giving her this amazing opportunity to learn and grow. She would also like to thank her family for always supporting her through everything she does. Now, sit down (you're rockin the boat) and enjoy the show!

**ELLE LAESCH**

(Choreographer) [She/Her] is absolutely thrilled to be choreographing her first main-stage Starlight show

this year! Elle previously choreographed the Starlitttle show *The Stinky Cheese Man*, and assistant choreographed other Starlight shows such as *The Little Mermaid* and *Footloose*. Elle would like to thank Mychall for this incredible opportunity and for his mentorship and friendship over the years. She would also like to thank her AC Nailah for all of their hard work this season and for their help teaching and creating.

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**ZACHARY MARQUARDT**

(Stage Manager) [He/Him] is very happy to be back for his second season at Starlight! He is

very honored to be stage managing this production and working with an amazing cast, crew, and artistic team! He would especially like to thank Chris and Mychall for giving him this opportunity to stage manage, his wonderful assistant stage managers for keeping him sane, and his mother for sparking his love of musical theatre. As he calls the show from the booth, he hopes you enjoy this fantastic production. Don't worry, he's gotchu!



**BRYAN RIVERA**

(Lighting Designer) [He/Him] is excited to design the first show of the Starlight season. Bryan is truly honored

that he was asked to do such a project. This will be his second season with Starlight, previously working run crew for; *In the Heights*, *Cinderella*, and *Oliver!* last season. He would like to thank the Starlight Crew, Mikayla Miracle, and his best friend, Evelyn; they have helped him grow to where he is today.



**JESS SPENCER**

(Assistant Stage Manager (ASM)) [They/She] is so excited to be at Starlight for her fifth season! Being an ASM at

Starlight is something Jess always looks forward to during the off-season. In the meantime, she loves to read, take her dog for a walk, and talk to their friends. Jess also helped stage manage *Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder* and *The Little Mermaid*. They can't wait to help with all the other shows this season. Enjoy the show and don't forget to stay seated so the boat doesn't rock!



**CARMEN TURNER**

(Master Carpenter/ Scenic Designer) [She/Her] is thrilled to return as a Scenic Designer for her fourth Starlight

season. She loves the opportunity for creative expression and uses her experience as a visual artist to shape settings and transform common materials. She would like to thank her husband and children for their unwavering support and all of the hard working individuals who put their time and energy into making this season the success that it is.



**GRACE HAHN-VARONA**

(Assistant Stage Manager) [They/Them] is ecstatic to be back at Starlight Theatre for their 4th show as an assistant stage

manager! In 2018, Grace was the sound engineer for Harlem High School's production of *Guys and Dolls*, the first musical they were ever involved with, which made them fall in love with the world of live theater. They started at Starlight as an ASM for *Once Upon a Mattress*, and most recently *In the Heights*. Grace has also been in a plethora of run crews including *The Little Mermaid*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, and *Cinderella*. Later this season you can catch Grace at the sound board as the sound engineer for *Newsies*. Grace would also like to applaud Mychall for his fearless leadership throughout this whole process, and thank the rest of the team for the many memories created, laughter and tears had, and friendships strengthened. They hope you enjoy this show, and the rest of the season!



**STEVE WOLFGRAM**

(Music Director) [He/Him] is excited to be back serving as music director after taking a few years off. When not at Starlight, Steve is

the instrumental music director at Belvidere North High School. He would like to thank his wife for putting up with his schedule and his kids for joining him in the pit.

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## PIT BAND BIOS

**NEVAGAY ABEL** (Clarinet/Tenor Sax) [She/Her] is excited to play in her eighth show with Starlight, last year performing with Oliver. She also plays with the Beloit College concert and jazz bands. Her day job is as an electrical engineer and coach of the Auburn Scholastic Bowl team.

**MARK BOND** (Sax, Clarinet, flute) [He/Him] thinks it's always a treat and a privilege to play at Starlight, to be a part of this community! Mark first played for Guys and Dolls (1978) at Rockford West High School. He has played for a wide variety of pit orchestras and community ensembles since then. His "day job" is in Special Education, currently at Belvidere North High School.

**SARAH C BYRNES** (Alto Saxophone, Flute, Piccolo) [She/Her] has been a member of various music ensembles since age 10. She has been a music teacher for 17 years and currently teaches Band/Choir in RPS 205 at the Rockford Environmental Science Academy. Sarah performs with other local ensembles, such as the Rock Valley College Concert Band and the Rockford Wind Ensemble Summer Band. Sarah would like to thank her husband for his continued support in all of the different music things she participates in.

**MARQUELLE CNOTA** (Violin) [She/Her] is thrilled to perform with the Starlight pit orchestra for her 9th consecutive season! Guys & Dolls is one of her favorite shows, and this is the 3rd theater group she has had the opportunity to perform with on this show. She'd like to thank her family for always helping out at home while she gallivants in her happy place under the stage.

**ZOE HART** (Flute) [She/Her] is so excited to be back in the Starlight pit this summer! Zoe graduated from BNHS last spring and has played in numerous local ensembles, including the ILMEA Regional and All-State honors ensembles, and the Rockford Symphony Youth Orchestra. She has been involved in Starlight Theater on and off stage and loves getting to be a part of these productions. Zoe just finished her freshman year at New York University studying flute performance, where she has played in orchestras, masterclasses, recording sessions, and chamber music groups. She thanks her family and friends for being so supportive!

**LEELA HEREÑA** (Percussion) [She/Her] started playing percussion when she was 5 years old. She's played pit in Mary Poppins, In the Heights, Into the Woods, and A Christmas Story - The Musical. After taking a break from playing in college, she's back! Now she plays with the RVC community band, and this is her first time playing in the RVC pit orchestra. She thanks her parents, little (taller than her now) brothers, and significant other for all their support.

**ANDREW HUNTER** (Trumpet) [He/Him] is a musician and educator who resides in DeKalb, IL. He earned a Bachelor of Music Education at the University of Illinois and studied trumpet under Ronald Romm. Andrew has performed with the Illinois Wind Symphony and the Wheaton Municipal Band. He also played with the Marching Illini at well-known venues like Chicago's Soldier Field and Navy Pier, San Francisco's Levi's Stadium, and the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, Ireland. Andrew currently teaches band at Belvidere Central Middle School and assists with the marching band at Belvidere North High School. In his free time, he enjoys playing musical instruments, exercising, and spending time with his cat.

**AMAYA LIVINGSTON** (Cello) [She/Her] is excited to be a part of the Starlight pit orchestra for the 4th time in a row! Playing in the pit for different Starlight shows is her favorite summer activity. She graduated from Rock Valley College in 2023 and received her Associate of Arts. She plans to transfer to a liberal arts school to get her music degree in music performance and conducting. She loves being a member of different orchestras, like the Rock Valley Summer Festival Orchestra and Rock Valley Community Orchestra. She enjoys playing songs for everyone to hear and can't wait to do it again!

**PIT BAND BIOS** CONTINUED

**GRACIE MCMAHON**

(Oboe/English Horn) [She/Her] is so excited to be participating in her first Starlight pit! She has played oboe for 7 years, studying with Dr. Matthew Guschl for 5. She has also played alto saxophone for 6 years and English horn for 3. Gracie was Principal Oboe and English Horn of the Rockford Symphony Youth Orchestra and NIU Sinfonia for 3 years and was seated Assistant Principal Oboe in the ILMEA All-State Honors Band this year. She will attend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign this fall to study oboe performance.

**CARLOS PEREZ**

(Tenor/Soprano Saxophone) [He/Him] is ecstatic to be a part of this great show. This is Carlos' first show with Starlight as a member of the pit orchestra. Sharing music with his community has always been one of his greatest joys and he's incredibly thankful to have this opportunity.

**TAMMY SCHULZ** (Cello) [She/Her] is playing in her 16th Starlight show. Her favorites include Phantom of the Opera, Children of Eden, and Hairspray. She plays with the RVC Community Orchestra and enjoys the air-conditioned comfort of "the Pit" for the summer. She is excited to be working with Steve and the other great musicians

to support the actors on stage this year. Her free time is spent doing quilting and needlework, riding her bike, traveling, and learning to play bridge. She thanks her husband for his support during these crazy performance weeks - and all year long!

**BENJAMIN WOLFGRAM**

(Trombone) [He/Him] is excited to be playing in his first Starlight pit alongside his siblings, Ryan and Kathryn. He also enjoys playing baseball, loves keeping fish, and loves chickens. In his words, "I LOVE CHICKENS."

**KATHRYN WOLFGRAM**

(French Horn) [She/Her] is excited to be playing in the pit with her father and best friends, Ben, Ryan, and Zoe. She is a horn performance major at DePaul. While not at school, she enjoys every restaurant in Chicagoland. You can visit her at Tropical Smoothie all summer. She dedicates this performance to her BFF, Libby.

**RYAN WOLFGRAM**

(Bari Sax/Tenor Sax/Clarinet) [He/Him] is ecstatic to be participating in his very first show at Starlight. While he has grown up watching shows from the audience, he is so grateful that he's able to share his love for musical theatre with all of you. He would like to thank his family, especially his sister, who has always been kind and supportive of every aspect of his life.



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## ABOUT LEOLA ARNOLD

Leola Arnold, long-time music teacher and cultural sponsor in our community, died in 1968 leaving her estate to Rock Valley College under the supervision of the Trust Officers of the Illinois National Bank. In her will she stipulated that the college shall continue to offer to the community musical activities involving as large a segment of the community as possible.

The Leola Arnold Memorial School of Music was established to offer classes and private instruction to students of all ages in the arts. Dance, music, and art classes are offered for students from the age of four years through adulthood. In addition, activities are presented that involved the community. The "Starlight Musicals" are an example of this type of activity.



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Elle Laesch

*Guys and Dolls*

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*The Color Purple*

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*Guys and Dolls*

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*The Color Purple*

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*Newsies*

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*The Color Purple*

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**Dylan Freund & Riley Freeman**

- Assistant Lighting Design

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**Cameron Strandin**

*The Color Purple & Newsies*

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**Marisa Bonzi**

*Newsies*

**Brooke Harp**

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Assistant Stage Managers**

**Dalia Gonzalez; Jazlyn Oberg; Sabine Shen**

*Legally Blonde*

**Grace Hahn-Varona; Jess Sorg-Spencer**

*Guys & Dolls*

**Madie Barnas; Chloe Konieczki; Kaitlyn Tesdorff**

*The Color Purple*

**Jenna Christ; Dalia Gonzalez; Sabrina Olson**

*Newsies*

**Katie Garner; Ethan Loax; Becca Jensen**

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Set & Prop Construction**

**Timothy Martin**

**Bernie Sehr**

**Lenijah Smith**

**Matt White**

**Mattsen Heller**

**Lamarion Taylor**

**Ryan Pickerill**

**Arthur Vinke**

**Costume Shop Construction**

**Barb Coffman**

**Connie Kramer**

**Stacey Nelson**

**Annika Wyant**

**Becky Wyant**

**Box Office**

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OR

call the box office at (815) 921-2160 and  
have them add you to the list.

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**DAY CREW & STAFF BIOS**
**BLAKE ATTERBURY**

(Costume Shop Construction)

[She/Her] is in her first year at Starlight Theater working in the costume shop. She has an Associate in Science from Rock Valley College and a B.A. in Psychology from Northern Illinois University. She is currently taking film classes at Rock Valley College in order to learn more about filmmaking. She aspires to direct and write for both film and theater.

**VICTORIA BENSON**

(Costume Shop Supervisor)

[She/Her] has been costuming for Starlight for 10 years. This year, she has been honored to take on the role of designer for Color Purple and Guys and Dolls. This new role helps her create through different eyes since she must see through the designer lens, as well as, the construction stage. Over the years, we could not have accomplished what we have without our loyal and talented student workers, staff, and countless hours of community volunteers. She would like to salute all of them for their dedication and talent to make sure each show is costumed at the highest level.

**JEHONA BEXHETI** (Paint Crew)

[She/Her] is so happy to be back painting with her favorite team after graduating last season, and leaving for a few months. She missed everyone so much and couldn't stay away from the chaos, stinky paint, and shenanigans that make being a part of Starlight's daycrew the best job ever. She wants to give a special shoutout to her painter in crime, Maddi, who couldn't join her this season, but will always be her favorite bestie to work with. She hopes you all enjoy the shows as well as the sets!

**CHRISTOPHER D. BRADY**

(Producing Artistic Director)

[He/Him] emphatically embraces his roles as both family man and Producing Artistic Director. With fond memories of his early performances in "Cinderella" and "Western Star," he's grateful to this special place for the special memories it brings to this community. His theatrical heart belongs here. Chris aims to bring life and excitement to the stage for every show, and he aims to do that with like-minded people from

the community that reflect the community. He extends heartfelt thanks to the staff, volunteers, and artists who make Starlight possible, and to the audience communing with us this season! Christopher's deepest gratitude goes to his beloved family—Erin, Ophelia, and Imogen—for sharing in the magic of Starlight with him.

**BELLA BROSNAN** (Day Crew)

[She/Her] is very excited to be part of day crew for her second season at Starlight! She is very happy to be painting and learning more about theatre! She hopes you have a great season!

**BARB COFFMAN**

(Costume Shop Construction)

[She/Her] is happy to be back for her seventh season, bringing needle and thread to costumes in all their glory. She loves working in her garden and other volunteer activities. She'd like to thank her daughter for her support.

**KIM DICKINSON**

(Box-Office Volunteer) [She/Her] enjoys volunteering in the Box Office, as well as doing any additional jobs that come up. Her husband, Dale, thanks Chris and Cathy for keeping her busy.

**TAYLOR-JADE LAIG-DURAN**

(Student Worker-Costume Shop)

[She/Her] is in her second year at RVC and her first year in the Costume Shop. She enjoys working with everyone here and likes helping to make all the costumes for the Theatre Department. The environment is nice and welcoming, and she has used many of the skills she has learned at Starlight in her personal life. She highly suggests for people to get involved here and thanks everyone!

**EMMA GARNER**

(Box Office Assistant/ Graphic Designer)

[She/Her] is extremely grateful she is able to hone her skills as a graphic designer while being able to work for the theatre she loves. She hopes you enjoy the season and like her social media posts as much as she liked making them!

**GUILLERMO HERNANDEZ**

(Day Crew) [He/They] is excited to be back in the shop after a break last summer.

DAY CREW & STAFF BIOS CONTINUED**YOUNES EL HILALI**

(Day Crew) [He/Him] is an international student from Morocco. He is so happy to join the Starlight Theatre crew. He loves working with all the crew members. He is currently working to receive his Associate of Science at Rock Valley College, and planning to transfer to Northern Illinois University to get a Bachelor degree in Computer Science. He is ecstatic to contribute to the season and hopes you enjoy the show!

**CHARLIE HORNER**

(Box-Office Assistant) [They/Them] is excited to be working at the box office this season! Aside from this being their first season on stage, this is also their first season behind the scenes. Currently, Charlie is a student at Rock Valley College, pursuing forensic science. They hope you enjoy the show!!

**JONATHAN LANE**

(Costume Shop Assistant) [They/Them] is in their seventh season at Starlight. They love and appreciate being able to work in such a creative environment and are excited to showcase all of the costume pieces they've been working on. They send big thanks to Vicki Benson, for being such a positive role model and amazing friend!

**MILES LANG** (Day Crew) [He/Him] is in his second year at Starlight Theatre. Since starting to now, he has learned a lot of new things building the sets; anything from how the lights system, sound system, to rigging on walls that fly in or out of the shows. Miles is super excited for this season and hopes you enjoy it to the fullest!

**KENNETH KAUNG HTUT LINN**

(Set Construction) [He/Him] is in his second season at starlight working as a Day Crew member. He finds it very exciting to see the sceneries comes alive and more so, to be able to participate in set preparation for new shows. He's glad to be part of the team for another season.

**ETHAN LOAX**

(Prop Master/Day Crew) [They/He] is a theatre loving technician that's been working with the arts ever since sixth grade. His love for theatre hasn't dwindled in all these years, and it shows as they're now assisting as running crew in every show this season! His experience has been wonderful thus far and he hopes that you have a wonderful time living through this insane season!

**BAHLE MADE** (Day Crew) [He/Him] is a second-year, international RVC student, and also a member of the RVC men's soccer team. He is ecstatic to be putting on a show again and hopes you enjoy the show!

**DORI MARSH** (Seamstress) [She/Her] has been working with Starlight for seven years, in both theatrical makeup and costumes. She is incredibly grateful for all the memories she has made, and can't wait to start her new chapter. Dori is moving this summer to attend UWRF to get her degree in Ceramics. She will miss the Starlight family and wishes everyone the best! <3

**CATHERENE I. MARTIN**

(Co-Box Office Manager, Volunteer Coordinator) has been working in the box office since 2017. First appearing on stage in 1993, she has spent most summers "playing" at Starlight. She sends mad hugs and kisses to #Myfavoritehusband, Tim, who has been wielding a hammer and nails in the set department for many years.

**TIM MARTIN**

(Set and Prop Construction) has been measuring, cutting, sawing, and nailing at Starlight for the past eight years. As a retired electrical engineer, he enjoys traveling with his beautiful wife (Who, by the way, wrote his bio!), and reading all of the US presidential biographies in order.

DAY CREW & STAFF BIOS CONTINUED**QUINN MCCOY** (Day Crew)

[He/Him] is excited to be in his first show at Starlight. Quinn joined the crew in September of 2023, and has helped construct the sets you see before your eyes. He is currently taking Video and Audio Production classes and is pursuing the Media Production Specialist Certificate through the Mass Communication Department at RVC. He hopes you enjoy the show!!

**BRANDON MECHLER**

(Technical Director) [He/Him] is happy to be a part of another season! He has been a part of Starlight Theatre since 2007 as a volunteer for stage crew. He is very excited to have had the opportunity to work with so many talented people this season. He would like to give a shout-out to his beautiful wife for being so supportive of him in this position! Enjoy the show!

**BETHANY NELSON**

(Costume Shop Patterner) [She/Her] is excited to be here for her 7th summer in the costume shop! Bethany's work was most recently seen in *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Cinderella* at Starlight Theatre. She loves working in the costume shop among so many wonderful workers, volunteers and hard working people. She wouldn't have been able to work and design this summer without the support of Chris, Vicki, family, friends and her boyfriend, Parker. She hopes you love all the costumes on stage this summer and all of her hard work behind the scenes.

**HELAINA NIMMO**

(Costume Shop Construction) [She/Her] is in her third summer working at starlight. Currently, she's working towards a Costume Design Degree at Rockford University. She had so much fun working on all the shows this summer and hopes you enjoy them!

**BERNIE SEHR**

(Set Construction Volunteer) [He/Him] is upset that he hasn't been able to help as much this year, from circumstances beyond his control. However, he has enjoyed working with Brandon, Carmen, and the crew. Next year, he hopes he will have a little more time available; so to all the shows, "Break a Leg".

**JENNIFER SIMMS**

(Co-Box Office Manager) [She/Her] is delighted to be a part of Starlight from a different side of the theatre this year. Last year, she was in *Oliver!*, and this year, she is helping sell tickets! She is so grateful to Cathy, her co-partner in crime, and to her family (Andrew, Hazel, Eliza, Christopher, Avery, and GARNERS et al.) for all of their love and support through this next chapter. Please enjoy the show!

**CALVIN KAUNG MYAT SINT**

(Day Crew) [He/Him] is so excited to be seeing new shows during the summer again, and can't wait to see the performance of all the hardworking cast members.

**LEE SCHARR**

(Student Worker-Day Crew) [Any] (real name Levi) loves to sweep the stage and clean the workshop, which is why he always comes in the afternoons before they shut down. He loves to sweep even more than building and painting. Sweeping is actually so awesome. He appreciates working here for other reasons, as well, including the friendly atmosphere and creative and communal workspace.

**HANNAH SLEGER**

(Charge Scenic Artist) [She/Her] is in her eighth (full) season as Starlight's Charge Scenic Artist. Outside of Starlight, she has painted sets for a large variety of places, including Artists' Ensemble and the former Usual Suspects. Some of her other visual, artistic endeavors include doing the chalkboard art at Baker Street Burgers, recently showing her personal works for the Wages of Sin art exhibition at 317 Art Collaborative, for 2023 Fall Art Scene at Future Memory Media, and for the art show with Moon Dog's Theatre, RED last summer. Hannah wants to thank Brandon and Carmen for their wonderful hardwork and vision, as well as Jehona, Bella, Lee, and everyone else whose amazing hands have helped her paint sets this season. Most importantly, she sends love to her dad, Jonathon Sleger, for putting a paint brush in her hand as a child, starting her on her path as a scenic artist.

DAY CREW & STAFF BIOS CONTINUED

**CARMEN TURNER**

(Master Carpenter/Scenic Designer) [She/Her] is thrilled to return as a Scenic Designer for her fourth Starlight season. She loves the opportunity for creative expression and uses her experience as a visual artist to shape settings and transform common materials. She would like to thank her husband and children for their unwavering support and all of the hard working individuals who put their time and energy into making this season the success that it is.

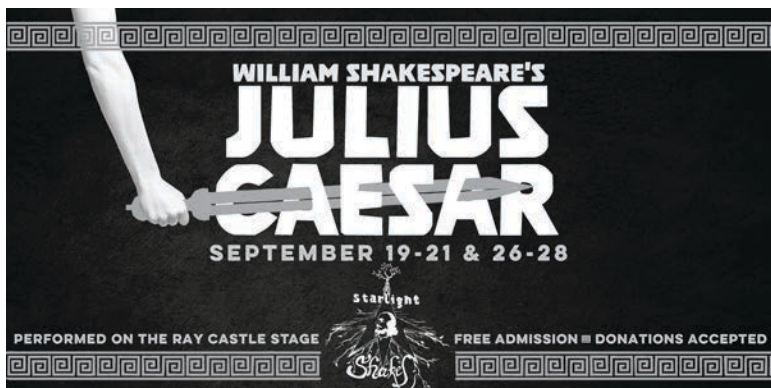
**BECKY WYANT**

(Costume Shop) [She/Her] is in her third season of sewing in Vickie Benson's magic kingdom. She likes using skills that her mother taught her in the 1950s. She is thoroughly dazzled by how patiently the young designers and student workers teach her new things. They are the BEST!!

**ANNIKA WYANT**

(Costume Shop Volunteer) [She/Her] is glad to be part of the costume shop family for her third year. She thanks Vickie and everyone involved; there is never a dull moment in this beehive of creativity. She attends Bradley University in the fall!

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Call (815) 921-2160 to arrange a donation.

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### ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES

Can be checked out from the box office for use during performances. These are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and are available one hour prior to the show.

### REFRESHMENTS

Are available in the concession stands on both sides of the upper seating section and on the west side of the theatre on the lower level. Concessions can be purchased before the performance and during intermission.

### RESTROOMS

Can be found on both sides of the upper seating section - women's on the west side, men's on the east side - and on the west side of the lower level (both).

### WHEELCHAIR SEATING

Exists in several seating areas of the theatre. Please notify the Box Office in advance of the performance so we may better serve you.

### RECORDING AND TAKING PHOTOS

Are NOT permitted during the production. Use of such devices is a violation of copyright law. Patrons found to be recording will be asked to delete their captures or be escorted from the theatre.

### SMOKING

Is not permitted on the Rock Valley College campus, except in your own vehicle.

## BOX OFFICE INFO

**HOURS** 10am-4pm – Tuesday-Friday and one hour before each performance.

### CONTACT

For reservations, call (815) 921-2160  
Write: Box Office, Rock Valley College,  
3301 N. Mulford Road,  
Rockford, IL 61114  
Fax to: (815) 921-2169  
Online: RVCStarlight.com

### EXCHANGES

Tickets may be exchanged for a different time of the same performance. Tickets must be physically returned to the Box Office a minimum of 24 hours before the original performance time.

### TICKETS

All seats are reserved.  
Individual ticket prices are:  
Adults – \$28  
Seniors/Teachers/Military/  
RVC Employees – \$26  
Students – \$17  
Children – \$12

### GROUP RATES

Groups of 20 or more can receive a discount.  
Contact the Box Office for more information.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Our success at Starlight Theatre depends heavily on the time our volunteers are willing to commit to the support of our program. We understand how the power of a performance goes beyond the storytelling on stage, and is made greater by the experience you have while you are here. Are you greeted like part of the family? Is the theatre clean and beautiful? Are concessions available with at reasonable prices? We rely on our volunteers, our family, to perform many of these tasks, and they do a tremendous job! Their only reward is a chance to see part of the play, an occasional cup of coffee, an infrequent pat on the back, and the intrinsic reward of being part of a family that has enriched the lives of others. If an opportunity to be a part of our family of volunteers interest you, here are some of the positions and what is involved therein.

**HOUSE MANAGERS** are responsible for directing the crew of ushers (during Starlight season, they recruit the crew of 12 ushers for the show). They count the ticket stubs and report the count for each performance. They oversee and participate in the post-show cleanup They report any problems to our staff. House Managers arrive an hour before the show, and are usually free to go about twenty minutes after the show ends..

**USHERS** are responsible for taking tickets from the patrons, distributing programs, helping patrons find their seats, and helping pick up after the performance. Ushers arrive about an hour before the show, and are free to go about twenty minutes after the show.

**CONCESSIONAIRES** are responsible for preparing the concession stands and food items before the show, selling the food before the show and during intermission, and cleaning the stands after intermission. Concessionaires arrive one or two hours before the show, and are free to leave about twenty minutes after intermission.

**BACKSTAGE CREW** are responsible for moving set pieces on and off the stage, operating spotlights, and/or flying set pieces in and out

**CARPENTERS** assist the set construction process during daytime hours and work closely with the Scenic Designer and Technical Director.

**BOX OFFICE PERSONNEL** are responsible for selling tickets during daytime hours or hours of show. Box office personnel will be trained throughout the year

If you are interested in volunteering,  
please visit our Facebook page and sign up via the link  
OR  
call the box office at (815) 921-2160 and  
have them add you to the list.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

RVC President Dr. Howard Spearman

Rick Jenks

RVC Board of Trustees

Every Starlight Theatre family member supporting us throughout the summer

The Amazingly Hard-Working staff here at Starlight Theatre

The Amazingly Hard-Working volunteers out here at Starlight Theatre

The diligently hard-working staff here at RVC

RVC Foundation

Jennifer, Chelsea, George and everyone in the RVC Marketing Department for making this program & our season happen

Karen Kerr & RVC Purchasing

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All of our volunteers here at the show around us all!

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BRIGHT!





We pride ourselves on offering an affordable theatre experience in a clean environment. In addition, Starlight Theatre is home to many different woodland creatures and garbage can be very harmful to their health. In order to ensure that the theatre is a clean environment, please make sure to dispose of your trash in the proper receptacles throughout the theatre.

*Thank you for your continued  
patronage and support!*



# TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!

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We are honored to be associated with Starlight Theatre, which has been a cultural cornerstone of our community for over six decades. From classic musicals to contemporary plays, the theatre has provided countless hours of entertainment and enlightenment to generations of audiences.

As you enjoy tonight's performance, we hope that you will be transported to another world, inspired by the talent and creativity of the actors, musicians, and production crew. We also invite you to learn more about Savant and our commitment to helping individuals, families, non-profits, and companies preserve their hard-earned wealth and pursue steady, wise growth. That's wise counsel, by your side.

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