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— PROUDLY PRESENTS —

# LEGALLY BLONDE

THE MUSICAL

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LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL!

# LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL

Music & Lyrics  
by

LAURENCE O'KEEFE  
& NELL BENJAMIN

Book by

HEATHER HACH

In the Bengt Sjostrom Theatre  
June 5 - 8 & July 10 - 14, 2024

Producing Artistic Director.....	Christopher D. Brady
Director .....	Clarissa Dahlhauser
Choreographer .....	Jenny Vause
Music Director .....	Cassie Johnson McGirk
Stage Manager.....	Christine Garner
Scenic Designer .....	Andrea Bechert
Technical Director .....	Brandon Mechler
Costume Designer .....	Bethany Nelson
Lighting Designer.....	Bryan Rivera
Sound Engineer.....	Annabelle Gawaran
Intimacy Designer.....	Spencer Clark
Shadow Director .....	Imogen Brady
Assistant Choreographer .....	Bethany Nelson
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Sabine Shen
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Dalia Gonzalez
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Jazlyn Oberg



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## FROM THE DIRECTOR

Pink swept the nation in a whole new way with the release of the film *Legally Blonde* in the early 2000's, and funny enough that pink wave similarly resurfaced with the introduction to Greta Gerwig's "Barbie" recently in 2023. We might assume that some concerning female stereotypes would be obliterated by now, like women not being funny, women not belonging in the male dominated fields, or of course, a woman with blonde hair being naturally dumb. However, if these stereotypes were indeed obsolete, I imagine there wouldn't have been so many people (especially women) affected by the message in both of these films during and after their release. Which means it's still something we should talk about. While *Legally Blonde* is a vivacious piece focusing more often than not on the stereotypical bullying Elle personally tramples through, our production doesn't just focus on HER experience with society's judgemental perceptions. Paulette doesn't believe in herself due to the worldly idea that she isn't conventionally "desirable", and due to the abuse of others she endures that perpetuates this idea. Vivienne is immediately perceived as a "mean girl", but her true colors show as soon as we are allowed to see the story from her perspective. Even some of the men in our show, like Emmett and Warner, are perceived from stereotypical lenses from their very first moments onstage. This musical asks us to check our initial (often judgemental) perceptions of others, and in the same breath, find our own self-confidence in who we know that we can be despite other's clouded perceptions of us and our capabilities. This show isn't just for the ladies. It's for everyone that's ever felt judged, felt self-conscious in their chosen field or identity, felt pressure to be something they were not, and to anyone that's ever been told "you will never make it." That means this show is for every single one of you sitting in these seats.

*Legally Blonde* is a beast, as you're about to see, and this beast was tamed magnificently by every team member hidden in the wings. This dominantly female creative team has done an astounding job uplifting each other's ideas and translating them onto the stage together. Jenny has put her entire soul into this amazing upbeat choreography, and Bethany balancing the roles of both costume designer and assistant choreographer without missing a beat is mind blowing. Cassie has taught this cast some of the most deceptively difficult music I've ever heard and made it sound effortless. Imogen, my shadow assistant director, was always ready with insightful vision from day one. Christine and her astounding team of ASMs, Sabine, Dahlia and Jazlyn, have literally made this show stand to its' feet with unfaltering grace and strength. Our ridiculously talented visionary of a set designer, Andrea, captured our world in a way I never thought possible. Also, Annabelle on sound was a complete joy, and we wouldn't be heard without her. Then of course, we can't forget about the gentleman that gave this show life from beginning to end. Brandon and his entire team of dedicated builders all seamlessly constructed this beautiful world for us, and our lighting designer, Bryan, brought together moments onstage we thought may not be feasible. Our intimacy designer, Spencer, created a safe environment for the actors to create art in. And of course, there's Chris Brady, the man who changed my life for the better the day he trusted me to direct this show, and who offered wisdom that I wish an eternity more of. Thank you to every single one of you, all of those behind the scenes, and all of the volunteers working every night to make this show and theatre run smoothly. You are Godsend, and I am blessed to be in the same vicinity as you.

This show means a lot to a LOT of people. It gives so much hope to those who need a guiding hand in their search for self-confidence, and particularly gives women the strength to embrace the fact that they can indeed do anything they set their mind to, from dominating in a male centered field, to fighting past the assault and abuse they often have to encounter to get there. As I have found myself to be just another one of the many women who was constantly told to "smile more", or that I would not be successful in my field due to being a woman, I am beyond honored to get the opportunity to tell you through this story, dear audience, that your possibilities are endless, no matter who you are. As you view this show, I hope you feel the love and empowerment that decorates the stage in front of you. I hope you look to Elle for confirmation that you, too, can stand up against the odds thrown against you, against the stereotypes others put upon you, and that you leave knowing that you can be confident in yourself just the way you are. I hope you feel seen tonight under the stars.

**Clarissa Dahlhauser**  
Director, *Legally Blonde*



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## A LETTER FROM THE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome...to Legally Blonde!!! What a fantastic show!

Fun fact: we tried to produce it last season, but, due to contractual issues, we lost the rights. Still, this show is constantly on the top of both audience and actor preference lists, so we're proud to bring it to you this season! It's a large show with a large heart at its pink center, and we knew it needed talent to make happen, both onstage and behind the table. OMG, did we ever find it! This female-led team, this cast, this crew - all of them are just what this show needs, you'll see! Honestly, I find it simply amazing that this community is home to more talent than we could possibly deserve. That is not hyperbole, I truly believe that per capita, the rock river valley must have one of the highest rates of talent in the country! And for you all to trust us enough to be here - to pay for a ticket and show up to an outdoor community theatre - well, that's even more of a testament to the quality of our community. Thank you, sincerely.

Even more joyously, though, welcome to 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 rigid 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 that one show; 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 blossoms in the spring, for tonight we share in a journey of laughter, love, and boundless creativity. Together, let us breathe life into the dreams that dwell within these sacred halls. Welcome, one and all, to the experience that is Starlight Theatre. Thank you for being a part of it.

Sincerely,



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

**CAST OF CHARACTERS**

*(in order of appearance)*

Margot .....	Marisa Bonzi
Serene .....	Emma Garner
Pilar .....	Courtney San Pedro
Gaelen, Bookish Client .....	Allison Wilson
Kate .....	Julia Tassoni
Leilani, Dana .....	Molly Heller
Gina .....	Logan Tillmon
Bruiser .....	Mia Kottman
Elle .....	Chanel Black
Saleswoman, Judge .....	Kelley Beard
Saleswoman, H&H Perfume Girl .....	Kelley Beard
Store Manager, Carlos .....	Robbie Strader
Warner .....	Mattsen Heller
Elle's Dad .....	Jack Hill
Elle's Mom, Cashier/Laker Girl .....	Ni'a Roby
Grandmaster Chad, Nikos .....	Antonio Rivera
Winthrop .....	Greg Saunders
Lowell, Dewey, Bailiff .....	Eduardo Galaviz
Pforzheimer .....	Ryan Hoffman
Emmett .....	Ian Garthwaite
Aaron Schultz, T.V. Cameraman .....	Aaron Henning
Sunny Guillermo Salvadore, Jail Guard, T.V. Reporter .....	Guillermo Hernandez
Enid .....	Maggie Polsean
Vivienne .....	Jessica Falco
Whitney .....	Natalie Wooden
Professor Callahan .....	Eric Wilson
Paulette .....	Kayleigh Ferguson
Rufus .....	Rocky B. Rhodes
Brooke Wyndham .....	Erin Garner
H&H Salesgirl .....	Lexi Hill
H&H Perfume Girl, Stenographer .....	Katie Garner
H&H Perfume Girl .....	Kelley Beard
Kyle .....	Zachary Marquardt
Kiki the Colorist .....	Nailah Brooks
D.A. Joyce Reilly .....	Audrey Ballard
Assistant D.A. ....	Ezra Korn
Chutney Wyndham .....	Chelsea Meyer

**ENSEMBLE**

Audrey Ballard, Abigail Barker, Kelley Beard, Nailah Brooks, Elyssa Cornejo, Eduardo Galaviz, Katie Garner, \*Zachary Garner, Julien Gomez, Brooke Harp, Molly Heller, Aaron Henning, Guillermo Hernandez, Lexi Hill, Ryan Hoffman, Ezra Korn, Kaiden Korn, \*Tez Lockhart, Chelsea Meyer, Joshua Neal, Teddy Noel, Antonio Rivera, Ni'a Roby, Greg Saunders, Robbie Strader, Julia Tassoni, Logan Tillmon, and Allison Wilson

**LEGACY ENSEMBLE**

Jordan Lindvall, Catherine I. Martin, Tessa Casteneda, and Valerie Hoglund

*\*Denotes a 'sucker' of Starlight\**



## MUSICAL SYNOPSIS

### ACT ONE

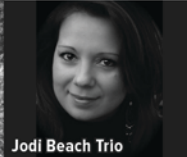
Overture .....	Orchestra
Omigod You Guys! .....	Elle, Margot, Serena, Pilar, Gaelen, Kate, Leilani, Gina, Ensemble
Serious .....	Warner, Elle
Daughter of Delta Nu .....	Margot, Serena, Pilar, Gaelen, Kate, Leilani, Gina, Ensemble
What You Want (Part I) ...	Elle, Margot, Serena, Pilar, Gaelen, Kate, Leilani, Gina, Ensemble
What You Want (Part II) ...	Elle, Margot, Serena, Pilar, Gaelen, Kate, Leilani, Gina, Ensemble
Harvard Variations .....	Emmett, Enid, Aaron Schultz, Sunny Guillermo Salvadore, Ensemble
Blood in the Water .....	Callahan, Ensemble
Positive.....	Margot, Serena, Pilar, Ensemble
Ireland .....	Paulette
Ireland (reprise) .....	Paulette
Serious (reprise).....	Warner
Chip on Your Shoulder (Part I) .....	Emmette, Elle, Ensemble
Chip on Your Shoulder (Part II) .....	Emmette, Elle, Ensemble
Run Rufus Run! / Elle Reflects .....	Elle
So Much Better .....	Elle, Delta Nu Girls

### ACT TWO

Whipped Into Shape .....	Brooke, Callahan, Ensemble
Delta Nu Nu Nu .....	Elle, Brooke
Take it Like a Man .....	Elle, Emmett, Ensemble
Bend and Snap .....	Elle, Serena, Margot, Pilar, Paulette, Ensemble
There! Right There! .....	Elle, Emmett, Callahan, Brooke, Enid, Warner, Vivienne, Ensemble
Legally Blonde .....	Elle, Emmett
Legally Blonde (Remix) .....	Elle, Paulette, Brooke, Vivienne, Enid, Ensemble
Scene of the Crime .....	.....
.....	Elle, Serena, Margot, Pilar, Emmett, Warner, Vivienne, Brooke, Ensemble
Find My Way / Finale.....	Elle, Emmett, Paulette, Vivienne, Enid, Ensemble

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CAST & TEAM BIOS



**AUDREY BALLARD**  
(DA Joyce Riley, Hair Affair)  
[She/Her] is so happy to be back for her seventh season! When not at the theater, Audrey works with

children with special health care needs and their families and takes as many trips to Disney as she can. Audrey was last seen at Starlight as Charlotte in *Cinderella*, and she is seriously so excited to be a part of this cast! She would like to thank her husband, kiddos, and momma for always supporting her, and making it possible for her to follow her dreams.



**ABIGAIL BARKER**  
(Sorority Girl, Hair Affair)  
[She/Her] is making her Starlight stage debut. In 2016, she performed as a violinist in the pit orchestra

for *Phantom of the Opera* at Starlight. Previously, she performed in various shows at Byron Civic Theater, including *Fiddler on the Roof* (Chava) and *A Christmas Carol* (Belle), and she played in multiple pit orchestras with BCT. Her love for theater started back 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.



**KELLEY BEARD**  
(Judge, Saleswoman, Specialty Ensemble, Ensemble, Hair Affair)  
[She/Her] hasn't been onstage in

five years and would like to thank Claire and the team for putting her back there. She has been teaching at Hononegah High School for thirteen years and started managing costumes and props for the shows this year. Love to all the mom friends, but especially Audrey for getting her back onstage and planning all her Disney trips. Kelley gives her whole heart and the biggest squeeze hugs to Joe and Alice.



**CHANEL BLACK** (Elle)  
[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.



**MARISA BONZI**  
(Margot) [She/Her] is thrilled to return to the stage for her third season at Starlight Theater! She was last seen as Vanessa in *In the*

*Heights* and dance ensemble in *Footloose*. Marisa is excited to be in her favorite musical, *Legally Blonde*, for a second time! This show holds a special place in her heart, as she played the role of Serena back in 2015 for Bonzi Productions. She would like to thank the directing team for giving her the opportunity to play Margot and make new memories in this amazing show!



**NAILAH BROOKS**  
(Inmate, Sorority, Kiki the Colorist) [She/Her] is overjoyed to return to the stage in her third Starlight season! Last

season, she earned the title, "Starlight Sucker," for appearing in all five musicals, in roles including Graffiti Pete in *In the Heights*, and Bet in *Oliver!*. Nailah is currently a junior at Auburn High School in the Gifted and CAPA program. She could not have made it through this season without her talented cast members for making this experience so memorable, her friends and family, and her incredible parents for constantly showcasing their unbounded encouragement for her and her passion.



**TESSA CASTANEDA**  
(Legacy Ensemble)  
[She/Her] has been doing local community theater productions on and off since 2003. Most

recently, she was in the 2023 RVC Starlight Theater production of *In the Heights* (Abuela Claudia). Tessa is grateful her partner, Andrew, has been so supportive while she participates in this show and plans their wedding (June 22, 2024). She would like to thank her family for their support as well. This show, and every show she does, is dedicated to her son, Harrison.

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**ELYSSA CORNEJO**

(Sorority Girl) [She/Her] is so excited to be back for her 15th Starlight season as a Newsie/Bowery Beauty in *Newsies* and

a Sorority Girl in *Legally Blonde!* She was most recently seen in *In the Heights* (Carla), *Rocky Horror* (Phantom), and *Dreamgirls* (Ensemble). She is so thankful to the amazing production teams for the opportunity to be a part of this season. Elyssa would love to shoutout her boyfriend, Jaylen, for always supporting her busy schedule, the constant encouragement, and helping any way he can, her brothers, Mychall and Mark, for spending the summer with her and always believing in her, and the rest of her family and friends for the endless support.



**JESSICA FALCO**

(Vivienne) [She/Her] is excited to be making her RVC Starlight debut as Vivienne! She last played Pamela in *Head*

*Over Heels* at Steel Beam Theatre, Susan in *Tick Tick Boom!*, Theatre 121's production of *Cinderella* as Joy, and Stagecoach as Ulla in *The Producers*. 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*. Some of her favorite roles she has ever played were Heather Chandler in *Heathers*, Johnna in *August: Osage County*, and Lois Lane in *Kiss Me, Kate!* Jessica wants to thank her friends and family for their love and support! She couldn't have done this without them!



**KAYLEIGH FERGUSON**

(Paulette) [She/Her] is thrilled to debut on the Starlight stage as Paulette in *Legally*

*Blonde!* Kay is getting her BFA in Acting at Rockford University, where you may have seen her as Penelope Pennywise in *Urinetown*, Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and most recently as Inspector Goring in *The Games Afoot*. As always, she would like to extend her heartfelt thanks to her friends and family for their endless support of Kayleigh's passion. Kay also expresses profound gratitude to her director, Clarissa, for this fantastic experience!



**EDUARDO GALAVIZ**

(Dewey, Bailiff) [He/Him]

is an actor and writer based in Rockford, IL. You may have seen him around Starlight theatre last summer in both *In the Heights*, as Kevin Rosario, and in *The Stinky Cheese Man*. He has also been associated with *The West Side Showroom*, with his most recent and notable roles being Gordon and Dwight in *Dead Man's Cellphone* and La Condesa in *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*. Ed would like to thank all of y'all for coming out to see the show and to his fellow cast members and extended Starlight family for always being a light in his life.



**EMMA GARNER**

(Serena) [She/Her] is so

excited to be in this amazing production of *Legally Blonde*. This is one of her favorite shows and it is an honor for her to be in this cast. She would like to thank her mother for supporting her throughout the process! It is truly an honor to be a part of this show, and she hopes you love it as much as she does



**ERIN GARNER**

(Brooke Wyndham)

[She/Her] is thrilled to return to the stage at Starlight. Grateful for the unwavering support of her family and the dedicated production crew, Erin is excited to bring her passion for performance back. Her journey back to the stage was fueled by true crime documentaries, which accompanied her through grueling hours on the stair master to prepare her for this role. She would also like to thank her friends and family, who encouraged her to audition again after being away from the stage since 2019. Special shoutout to Stage Momager, Christine, and sister Theresa for the jump ropes. Erin hopes the audience feels the amount of energy, love, sweat, and hours of jump roping that went into the creation of this show.

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**KATIE GARNER**

(Waitress, Perfume Saleswoman, Stenographer)

[She/Her] is excited to be back on the main stage at Starlight for the first time since 2021! Her first show was *Evita* in 2009, and since then, she has loved her time performing onstage and assisting backstage. During her time away from Starlight, she received her Bachelor of Psychology degree from Brigham Young University, Idaho. She would like to thank her wonderful family for their support, especially her husband, who has had to entertain the cats at home alone during the rehearsal process.



**BROOKE HARP**

(Dance Captain, Stylist, Sorority Girl, Brooke's Girl) [She/Her] is thrilled to be on the Starlight stage for the second year

in a row! Brooke teaches middle school Literature at Holy Family School and dance at Evolve Dance Company. Brooke would like to thank her family for their love, her friends for their support, her fellow cast members for the fun, her students for always pushing her to be better, and God for giving her the courage to be here. She hopes that you have as much fun watching the show as she has performing in it!



**ZACHARY GARNER**

(Frat Boy, Harvard Student)

[He/Him] is excited to return for his seventh season at Starlight and hopes you enjoy the show! Catch him as Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast* later this season.



**MATTSSEN HELLER**

(Warner) [He/Him] recently played Topher 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 Rick O'Connell.



**IAN GARTHWAITE**

(Emmett) [He/Him] is ecstatic to be back home on the Starlight stage! He was last seen playing the role of Dr. Frank-N-Furter in *Rocky Horror*, and before that, as Monty Navarro in *A*

*Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. Most recently, you may have seen him in the role of Jim Fingle in *The Lifespan of a Fact* at Artists Ensemble Theatre, as well as, Harry Rayburn in *The Man in the Brown Suit*. "We are so excited to bring this wonderful show to you! Enjoy, and welcome to Harvard!"



**MOLLY HELLER**

(Leilani, Dana) [She/Her] is excited to be back for her second season at Starlight, performing in *Legally Blonde* and *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, as well as master's degrees in other fields. Special thanks to my family and friends for the support along the way.



**JULIEN GOMEZ**

(Ensemble, Jet Blue Pilot) [He/Him] is proud to be back for a third season. He warmly invites you to join him and his fellow cast

members to partake in this exciting adventure of legal drama meets rom-com that is *Legally Blonde*. This show has been a new experience for Julien, and he hopes that those who haven't seen *Legally Blonde* will share in this experience of a night full of laughter and joy.



**AARON HENNING**

(Aaron Schultz, Frat Boy) [He/Him] is ecstatic to spend his summer in his fourth Starlight season with the *Legally Blonde* cast!

He is graduating with an AA at Rock Valley College, plays French horn in the RVC wind ensemble, and works for his family business. His previous Starlight roles include Jester in *Once Upon a Mattress*, Barnaby in *Hello Dolly!*, and Lord Pinkleton in *Cinderella*. He's thankful for the directing team and everyone who supports him for this opportunity to perform for you!



LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL!

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CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**GUILLERMO HERNANDEZ**

(Sunny, Frat Boy, Jail Guard #1, TV Reporter) [He/They] is ecstatic to start another season

at Starlight Theater! He is currently on stage and working for the theater's day crew. Their first debut at Starlight was five years ago as Nibbles in *West Side Story*. Their previous credits include Piragua Guy in *In the Heights*. You can also catch them in *Guys & Dolls* this season!



**EDITH PATTERSON HILL**

(Legacy Ensemble) [She/Her] has loved theater since she was 12, and had her

first role as The Red Queen in *Alice in Wonderland*. She received her MA in Theater and Communication from U of I at Chicago with an emphasis in Playwriting. She toured professionally, where she met her husband, Jack, and is a published author and composer. She has most recently enjoyed contributing to several 48-Hour Film Projects. Shout out to all her wildly creative kids and their partners, Everett, Aurora, and Neddy, her amazing husband Jack, and Jesus, a Savior who thankfully makes all things new.



**JACK HILL**

(Elle's Father, Ensemble) [He/Him] has been performing on the Starlight stage since 2007. He teaches theater and music at Christian Life Schools. He and

his wife have been married for over 40 years and have seven children, four DILs, a SIL, and three grandchildren. Soli deo gloria.



**LEXI HILL**

(Harvard Student, Band Member, H&H Perfume Girl) [She/Her] is so grateful to spend another summer at

Starlight. She wants to thank the stellar directing team for the privilege to work with such an amazing team and cast. Lexi would also like to thank her husband, adorable babies, and extended family for their love and support. She hopes you love this show as much as we do!



**RYAN HOFFMAN**

(Pforzheimer, Ensemble) [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, Assistant Director for *Clue: On Stage*, and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Black Stache). He 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.



**VALERIE HOGLUND**

(Legacy Ensemble) [She/Her] "B- be true to yourself, always. L- love yourself and all people. O- open your mind to acceptance. N- never judge a person by their cover. D- default to respect and kindness. E- equity is the real American dream."



**EZRA ROBYN KORN**

(Harvard Student, Jail Guard, DA Assistant) [They/Them] is in their third season at Starlight, and they're

very excited to be back! This stage is where they met their lovely boyfriend Kai, with whom they've been fortunate to do every production together. "Guess what? I have flaws. What are they? Oh, I don't know. I sing in the shower. Sometimes, I spend too much time volunteering. Occasionally, I'll hit somebody with my car. So sue me...no, don't sue me. That is the opposite of the point that I'm trying to make." - Michael Scott



**KAIDEN KORN**

(Frat Boy, Harvard Student, Jail Guard) [He/Him] is super excited to be back at Starlight this summer! He would like to

take this time to thank not only his cast mates but the production team for everyone's hard work! He would also like to thank his wonderful partner, Ezra, for taking this journey together in stride!

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**MIA KOTTMAN**

(Bruiser) [She/Her] is making her Starlight debut at 11 years young. Her nicknames include Mia Doodles, Doodle Face, Little Muffin-face Dog, Goodest Girl, and

Snuggle-fritz. Her favorite thing is to find a nice, warm sunbeam to take naps in. She also loves her blankies, the yummy food her mom makes for her, and ALL of the treats; especially duck sticks and Honey Nut Cheerios. Mia has a human sister, Cailyn, who she loves, and a little Chihuahua sister, that she does not love. She is very excited to be a part of this production amongst the amazing Starlight talent who feeds her lots and lots of treats.



**JORDAN LINDVALL**

(Legacy Ensemble) [She/Her] received the royal treatment in *Cinderella*, enjoying a banquet below the stage every

night. So, Jordan is tickled pink to spend her summer at Harvard Law (What!? Like it's hard?!) singing in this season's Legacy Ensemble! She has been performing at Starlight since 2016 and appreciates each audience member for keeping the arts alive in Rockford!



**TEZ LOCKHART**

(Frat Boy, Harvard Student) [He/Him] has returned for his third season at Starlight. Tez, the living legend T Nasty, would like to thank his friends and family for

their support. He also hopes you take something great from this show.



**ZACHARY MARQUARDT**

(Kyle) [He/Him] is ecstatic to be back for a second year at Starlight! Previously, he was an Assistant Stage Manager for the

2023 season for *Oliver!* and is happy to be back performing on stage as everyone's favorite UPS guy, Kyle, in *Legally Blonde*. He will also be the Stage Manager for this year's production of *Guys & Dolls*.

Zach is beyond grateful to have found this community here at Starlight after moving to Rockford a year ago. He would like to thank the cast, crew, and artistic team for putting together this amazing show and hopes you have an amazing time!



**CATHERENE I. MARTIN**

(Legacy Ensemble) is thrilled to be back for another summer under the Starlight Stars! Catherine has been performing at Starlight since 1993,

and her favorite roles include Mrs. Potts (*Beauty and the Beast*, 2005), Aunt March (*Little Women*, 2012), and Mrs. Fairchild (*Jane Eyre*, 2018). You can also find Catherine in a box office window or wrangling some Starlight volunteers. Much love to her major supporters, Tim and The Brady Bunch! "What is it you plan to do with your one wild & precious life?" - Mary Oliver



**CHELSEA MEYER**

(Hair Affair, Chutney) [She/Her] is a B103 Radio host by day and a 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 socks always disappear in the laundry and if a hot dog is a sandwich.



**JOSH NEAL**

(Frat Boy, Harvard Student) [He/Him] is excited to be in his first Starlight show. He's thankful for the opportunity to perform with everyone and hopes everyone enjoys it.



**TEDDY NOEL**

(Harvard Student) [They/Them] is so excited to be a part of this Starlight season, and 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 their missing sessions due to rehearsals, and grateful as always to Edie Hill, who somehow is always the person who convinces them to

CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED

audition. Previously seen as Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, Marian in *The Music Man*, and Sally in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.



**MAGGIE POLSEAN**

(Enid Hoops) [She/Her] is thrilled to be up on the Starlight stage once again for her seventh season. With each witty line, she's

ready to serve up a legal feast of entertainment that'll have you bend and snapping for more. She would like to thank the entire artistic team for their dedication and vision, her husband for his love and support, and all of the talented individuals on and off stage who truly make the Starlight magic happen.



**ROCKY B RHODES**

(Rufus) [He/Him] is in his first Starlight production! He wants to thank his owner for failing at being a foster, but he's grateful that he

has a loving family alongside him and all the love and support. His favorite pastime activities include chasing an empty milk jug, getting onto the table, and eating whipped crème. He wants to thank you all for coming to the show and hopes you all have a Paws-ative experience!



**ANTONIO RIVERA**

(Grandmaster Chad, Harvard Student, Nikos) [He/Him] is in his first year at

Starlight. Antonio always dreamed of becoming an entertainer. Previously, Antonio has been featured on a billboard awarded by musician, Megan Thee Stallion, in NYC Times Square. Later, he performed in front of over 16,000 guests at Jack Harlow's concert after healing from a torn ACL. He's worked hard physically and vocally, and he cannot wait to put up an amazing show with amazing people!



**NI'A ROBY**

(Laker girl, Cashier, Hair Affair, Elle's mom) [She/Her] is in her first season at

Starlight. Nia has been acting and dancing for over five years. She can also be seen in Starlight's productions of *The Color Purple* and *Beauty and the Beast*. Nia is transferring to Columbia College Chicago for a BFA in acting.



**COURTNEY SAN PEDRO**

(Pilar) [She/Her] is so excited to be making her Starlight debut with this incredible cast! Recently,

you may have seen her as Wednesday in *The Addams Family* at Metropolis, Katherine in *Newsies*, or Mimi in *Rent!* In her free time, you'll catch Courtney hanging out with her wonderful friends (probably playing Mario Party). She would like to thank her friends and family for their unconditional support as she continues to follow her dreams and she hopes you enjoy the show!



**GREG SAUNDERS**

(Winthrop, Ensemble)

[He/Him] is quite surprised and delighted to be cast in his eighth RVC Starlight Theatre show! One

of his favorite parts of doing live theater is doing mic checks prior to each show - the randomness of the cast's choices makes for so many smiles. As he says to end each of his INCROWD815 podcasts, "Remember, you change the WORLD when you help ONE person. Be a BLESSING to someONE today!" Previous roles: Papa Bear in *Shrek*, Pursur in *Anything Goes*, Reuben in *Joseph*, Father Alexadrios in *Mamma Mia*, Reverend Hopkins in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, Rudy in *Hello Dolly!*, and Uncle Wes in *Footloose*. Special thanks to his wife, Christy, for her unconditional love and awesomeness!



**ROBBIE STRADER**

(Carlos, Store Manager, Harvard Student)

[He/They] is very excited to be back at Starlight this summer! You

may have seen Robbie back in 2022 in *Dreamgirls*. Robbie would like to thank the creative team for believing in his talent! Much love to everyone who supports him! Come see Robbie in his other Starlight roles this summer: Nathan Detroit in *Guys & Dolls* and Harpo in *The Color Purple*.



**JULIA TASSONI**

(Kate) [She/Her] is excited to be back on stage, as she had a brief hiatus since 2018. She is currently enrolled here at RVC to become a dental hygienist. She hopes you enjoy the show!



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CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**LOGAN TILLMON** (Gina) [She/Her] is excited to be back on stage for a third season at Starlight. She was in *In the Heights* last summer and recently at *The West Side Show*

*Room in Barbecue*. Logan will also be performing in *The Color Purple* at Starlight this summer. She would like to thank the wonderful cast, crew, and creative team. Much love to her besties and T-Unit!



**ALLISON WILSON** (Gaelen, Bookish Client, Ensemble) [She/Her] is very excited to be participating in her seventh Starlight season. Some of her previous credits include *Cinderella* and

*Disaster!*. She is also a Newsie in *Newsies* this summer. She's super excited to be sharing the stage with her dad again. Allison is a Music Education major at NIU and hopes to teach elementary music. She would like to thank her parents and friends for always supporting her in whatever she does.



**ERIC WILSON** (Professor Callahan) [He/Him] is privileged to have another summer, appearing on the Starlight stage. He's celebrating

his 10th season. This is a special place to Eric and his family, made even more special because he gets to perform, once again, with his incredibly talented daughter, Allison. They've also appeared together in *Disaster!* and *Shrek the Musical*. Some of Eric's favorite roles include: Lancelot in *Spamalot*, Snoopy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, Ted in *Disaster!*, and Igor in *Young Frankenstein*. He wants to thank Claire for trusting him with this part. Eric sends much love to his biggest supporters: his mom, Barb, and his wife, Marla. After nearly 3 decades in TV news, Eric recently started a new career path serving our friends and neighbors. He's the director of the Crusader Community Health Foundation.



**NATALIE WOODEN** (Whitney/Harvard Student) [She/Her] is thrilled to be back for a second season at Starlight. Being way too busy as she is,

she somehow managed to sneak into two shows this year. When not in shows, she stays plenty busy directing, choreographing, teaching music, teaching privately, and doing all the crazy things. She is exceptionally grateful for Starlight, the directing team, her theatre besties, her family/friends, her two lovely golden retrievers, and, of course, her Husband.



**ANDREA BECKERT** (Scenic Designer) [She/Her] has designed scenery for over 60 productions at Starlight Theatre & Rock Valley College including

*Phantom of the Opera*, *Spamalot*, *Chicago*, *Evita*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Young Frankenstein*, and many more. Ms. Beckert designs for theatres across the country including Theatreworks, Berkeley Rep, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, the Cleveland Playhouse, Jewel Theatre Company, Chautauqua Theatre Company, American Musical Theatre of San Jose, Magic Theatre, Marin Theatre Company, Opera San José, Center REPerity Theatre, and many others. Awards she received include several Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle awards, the Silicon Valley Laureate Award, and a Denver Ovation Award. Her designs were included in the World Design Expo and Prague Quadrennial. She is Head of Production Design & Technology at San José State University, and is a member of United Scenic Artists Local-829, where she serves as Exam Committee Chair and on the Western Region Board.



**IMOGEN BRADY** (Shadow Director) [She/Her] is very excited about this season at Starlight Theatre! She is going into her freshman year at Harlem

High School, and this is her sixth season at Starlight Theatre! Imogen is a member of Kantorei of Rockford and very much enjoys singing.



CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED



**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.



**CLARISSA DAHLHAUSER**

(Director) [She/Her] is honored to be directing for the first time on the Starlight stage after being inspired by the theatre since she

was seven years old. Claire is a Rockford native with her Bachelor of Arts in Directing from Columbia College Chicago. Recent directing credits include, *RENT!* at Theatre 121 (Lou Award for Best Direction and Best Musical in 2023 and eight Broadway World Nominations), *Macbeth* (Starlight Shakes), and numerous new works at Eclectic Full Contact Theatre in Chicago. She was on the board of directors for Babes With Blades Theatre in Chicago for two years, worked in talent management as an acting/modeling coach for 5+ years, and recently studied abroad where she devised, directed, and performed works in Spoleto, Italy. Claire is a mother to two lovely girls, Cordelia and Salem, who she is inspired by every day. She wants to thank her family for all the ways they helped make this possible, the other directors this season for their significant insight and wisdom, her husband for believing in her so intensely, and God, who lead her to be exactly where she is today.



**CHRISTINE GARNER**

(Production Stage Manager)  
[She/Her] has been participating with her kids at Starlight and RVC's Studio Theatre since 2003. This

season, she is excited to be Stage Manager for *Legally Blonde* and *Beauty and the Beast*. Her five youngest

kids and two oldest grandchildren can be seen in *Legally Blonde*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Newsies*, or *Beauty and the Beast*, while the rest support them behind the scenes. She is very grateful for all of her kids and grandkids and sends her love!



**ANNABELLE GAWARAN**

(Sound Engineer) [She/Her] is thrilled to be a part of *Legally Blonde* for her second season behind the soundboard! She has had a wonderful

time working with such an amazing and talented cast, crew, and production team. Other shows she's mixed at Starlight are *Cinderella* and *The Rocky Horror Show*. When she's not behind the soundboard, she's on stage! You can catch her dancing her butt off in *Guys and Dolls* this season! She'd like to thank her friends and family for all of their love and support!



**DALIA GONZALEZ**

(Assistant Stage Manager)

[She/They] is excited to return for her fourth Starlight season and is thankful to not only be Assistant Stage Managing

one show but two! She is grateful for this amazing opportunity to work on one of her top dream shows and cannot wait for everyone to watch it come to life.



**CASSIE JOHNSON MCGIRK**

(Music Director) [She/Her]

is thrilled, as always, to be returning to Starlight for this amazing season! Her

past music directing credits at Starlight include *Cinderella*, *Dreamgirls*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Cassie would like to thank this amazing cast, crew, and team for making her summer so unforgettable. Special thanks to Chris, Claire, Mychall, Dale, and her beautiful daughter, Leia. Enjoy the show!



**BETHANY NELSON**

(Costume Designer, Assistant Choreographer) [She/Her] is

excited to be here for her seventh summer at Starlight! Bethany's work

was most recently seen in *The Rocky Horror Show* and *Cinderella* at Starlight Theatre where she received Lou Award nominations for Best Costume Design. She is also thankful that she gets to help Jenny with choreography



CAST & TEAM BIOS CONTINUED

and dance her heart out this summer. Bethany wouldn't have been able to do everything you see onstage without the support of the costume shop, Chris, Vicki, Jenny, Claire, her friends, family and her boyfriend Parker. She hopes you enjoy all the amazing dancing, fun Y2K throwback looks and of course all the pink!



**JAZLYN OBERG**

(Assistant Stage Manager)

[She/They] is so thrilled to be back at Starlight for their second season! You might have seen them running around backstage for *Rodger's + Hammerstein's Cinderella* or up in the spots for *Oliver!* last year. They fell in love with theatre during their sophomore year of high school and spent three years doing props, costumes, and crew for productions at Hononegah. Though this may be their first time as an ASM, they are ecstatic to face the new challenge and work within such an astonishing production. Having just graduated, they hope to minor in technical theatre this fall. They would like to thank their friends and family for their continuous support!



**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.



**SABINE SHEN**

(Assistant Stage Manager)

[She/They] has been incredibly grateful and honored to work on this production, and to work on a Starlight musical for the first time. She had previously worked as the Stage Manager for *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* at Rock Valley College, and an Assistant Stage Manager for Theatre 121's production of *RENT!* She has also acted in Starlight Shakespeare's recent productions of *Macbeth* (Maid/servant to Lady Macbeth/Servant/Messenger to Lady Macduff), *The Comedy of Errors* (Luciana), and *Love's Labour's Lost* (Rosaline). She would like to dedicate her work on this production to her wonderful cat, Baba Yaga.



**JENNY VAUSE**

(Choreographer) [She/Her]

is thrilled to be back for her second season with Starlight! "It has been unbelievable working with the talent in this all female directing team, led by the fearless Claire Dahlhauser." Last Summer, Jenny choreographed Starlight's *Cinderella* and past work includes Gateway's *West Side Story*, *Hairspray*, and *Newsies*. She co-owns and co-directs Evolve Dance Company and would not be here without all of her students and their constant inspiration. A big thank you goes out to Bethany Nelson for Assistant Choreographing this show, and being one of the most organized people she has ever met. Jenny also wants to thank her wife for her support and love during the Starlight season, and always.

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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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Rick Jenks

**Producing Artistic Director**

Christopher D. Brady

**Technical Director**

Brandon Mechler

**Scenic Designers**

Andrea Bechert

*Legally Blonde*

Carmen Turner

*Guys and Dolls*

*The Color Purple*

Cameron Strandin

*Newsies*

Brandon Mechler

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Master Carpenter**

Carmen Turner

**Costume Shop Manager**

Vicki Benson

**Box Office Managers**

Catherine I. Martin

Jennifer Simms

**Season Directors**

Clarissa Dahlhauser

*Legally Blonde*

Mychall Miller-Cornejo

*Guys and Dolls*

Marcus Tobias

*The Color Purple*

Christopher D. Brady

*Newsies*

Jennifer Thompson

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Choreographers**

Jenny Vause

*Legally Blonde*

Elle Laesch

*Guys and Dolls*

Brooke Johnson

*The Color Purple*

Mychall Miller-Cornejo

*Newsies*

Ashley Hogan

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Music Directors**

Cassandra Johnson-McGirk

*Legally Blonde*

Steve Wolfram

*Guys and Dolls*

Christopher Joyner

*The Color Purple*

Mark Miller-Cornejo

*Newsies*

Jodi Beach & Jim McDowell

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Stage Managers**

Christine Garner

*Legally Blonde & StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

Zachary Marquardt

*Guys and Dolls*

Jenna Christ

*The Color Purple*

Mary Peterson

*Newsies*

**Costume Designers**

Bethany Nelson

*Legally Blonde & Newsies*

Vicki Benson

*Guys & Dolls & The Color Purple*

Daniel'e Taylor Apperson

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Costume Shop Patterner**

Bethany Nelson

**Costume Shop Technicians**

Dori Marsh

Jonathan Lane

Helaina Nimmo

Taylor-Jade Laig-Duran

Blake Atterbury

**Season Charge Artist**

Hannah Slegler

**Set & Prop Construction**

**Student Workers**

Jehona Bexheti

Isabella Brosnan

Younes El Hilali

Guillermo Hernandez

Kenneth Kaung Htut Linn

Miles Lang

Ethan Loax

Bahle Made

Calvin Kaung Myat Sint

Quinn McCoy

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Lamarion Taylor

Sinclair Casarotto

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**& Social Media Manager**

Emma Garner

**Box Office Assistants**

Rachel Campbell

Emma Garner

Charlie Horner

Eleanor Waldorf

Kaitlyn Tesdorff

**Prop Master**

Ethan Loax

**PRODUCTION STAFF** CONTINUED

**Sound Engineers**

**Annabelle Gawaran**

*Legally Blonde*

**Angely Bautista**

*Guys and Dolls*

**Aaron Hill**

*The Color Purple*

**Grace Hahn-Varona**

*Newsies*

**Gabriel Inniss**

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Lighting Designers**

**Bryan Rivera**

**Dylan Freund & Riley Freeman**

- Assistant Lighting Design

*Legally Blonde & Guys & Dolls*

**Cameron Strandin**

*The Color Purple & Newsies*

**Gabrielle Tiff**

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**VOLUNTEERS**

**Assistant to the  
Producing Artistic Director  
& Co-Box Office Manager**

Catherine I. Martin

**Assistant Directors**

**Imogen Brady - Shadow Assistant**

*Legally Blonde*

**Sophia Fanara**

*Guys & Dolls*

**Marilyn Ramirez-Mendoza**

*Newsies*

**Erin Brady**

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Assistant Choreographers**

**Bethany Nelson**

*Legally Blonde*

**Nailah Brooks**

*Guys & Dolls*

**Marisa Bonzi**

*Newsies*

**Brooke Harp**

*StarBright's Beauty and the Beast*

**Assistant Stage Managers**

**Dalia Gonzalez; Jazlyn Ober; 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**

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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!



## DAY CREW & STAFF BIOS CONTINUED

### 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.

### 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 come 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.

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## 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.

## DAY CREW & STAFF BIOS CONTINUED

### 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.

### 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.

### 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!

### 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!!

## BACKSTAGE/ RUNNING CREW

Imogen Brady  
Gigi DeGennaro  
Chloe Doner  
Riley Freeman  
Addi Hansen  
Kali Hicks  
Gabe Inniss  
Ethan Loax

Annelise Mesa  
Silas Morales  
Jessica Moreno  
Mary Peterson  
Jess Sorg-Spencer  
Maddie Schnurr  
Colton VanFleet  
Sarah Seaberg-Wilkerson

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Donations received between June 1, 2023 – April 30, 2024

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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  
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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,  
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have them add you to the list.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

RVC President Dr. Howard Spearman

Rick Jenks

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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

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

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