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Ira Gershwin

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Joe DePietro

Inspired by Material by Guy Bolton & P. G. Wodehouse

Co-Directed / Orchestra
Directed by
Doug Hahn

Co-Directed / Choreographed by Gary Shull

Produced by **Dennis O'Brien** 

Vocal Directed / Accompanied by **Deb Watts**  Stage Managed by Julie Davis

Costumes Designed by **Phyllis Evans** 

Properties Designed by **Melody Sheehan** 

Set Design by **Doug Hahn** 

Make-up & Hair Design by **Diane Hoots** 

Lighting Designed by **Daniel Bonn** 

Sound Designed by **Daniel Shelton** 

The worldwide copyrights in the music of George and Ira Gershwin® for this presentation are licensed by the Gershwin Family.

Originally produced on Broadway by Scott Landis, Roger Berlind, Sonia Friedman Productions, Roy Furman, Standing CO Vation, Candy Spelling, Freddy DeMann, Ronald Frankel, Harold Newman, Jon B. Pllat, Riase the Roof 8, Takonkiet Viraan, William Berlind/Ed Burke, Carol I. Haber/Susan Carusi, Buddy and Barbara Freitag/Sanford Robertson, Jim Herbert/ Under the Wire, Emanual Azenberg and the Shubert Organization.

Musical show is produced by arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc 560 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10022

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.



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JULY 8-10 | 13-17 directed by CARLY SHANK

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AUGUST 19-21 | 24-28 directed by CRAIG WILLIAMS II









www.themuni.org 217-793-MUNI

### box office

Muni ticket reservations are handled by the box office staff at Sangamon Auditorium at the University of Illinois at Springfield. Hours: Monday-Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. except show nights until 3 p.m. To reserve tickets, call (217) 793-MUNI (6864) or visit www. TheMuni.org, or on show nights only, the theater site box office opens 90 minutes prior to curtain time. Call (217) 529-5787. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. for productions this season.

### ticket prices

Reserved Seats: \$14.00; Seniors/Students/Children/Military Patrons \$12.00 General Admission Lawn Seating: Adults \$10.00; Seniors/Students/Children/Military Patrons \$8.00; Children age 3-12, \$6.00; 2 and under, free.

### group rates

Special rates are available for groups of 25 or more and 100 or more. Please call the box office at 793-MUNI.

### family night

Wednesday performances of each production are designated as Family Night. Tickets for children 12 and under are \$3.00 for the General admission section (lawn seating) and \$6.00 for a Reserved seat when accompanied by an adult who has a paid General or Reserved Admission ticket. (See box office staff for admission limits.)

### senior night

Thursday performances are designated Senior nights. Reserved seat tickets for seniors (patrons 60 and older) are \$11.00 and senior General Admission tickets are \$7.00.

### interpreted performances

Sunday, June 26 – South Pacific, Friday, July 15 – Sweeney Todd, Saturday, July 30 – Nice Work If You Can Get It and Sunday, August 21 – Disney's The Little Mermaid.
For reservations, call (217) 793-MUNI.

### listening devices

A limited number of sound enhancement devices are available free of charge for our hearing impaired patrons. These may be checked out from the house manager at the entrance and returned after the performance.

### picnic facilities

Picnic facilities are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

### backstagers

Backstagers offer financial contributions which assist in maintaining the quality of our productions and facility. For more information on joining this special group, see the house manager, or contact us at www.TheMuni.org.

### house rules

**Photography/Recording** – The taking of any photographs and/or audio or video recording of a performance is strictly prohibited.

Cell Phones/Texting – Please turn off cell phones during performances. Please refrain from texting, as it can disturb others who are trying to enjoy the show.

Smoking and e smoking are only allowed in

Smoking and e smoking are only allowed in designated smoking areas outside the gate.

### animals/pets

For the safety and comfort of our audience with the exception of certified service animals and animals performing in the cast, no pets are allowed inside the fence of the theater on performance nights.

### rain policy

Retain your ticket stub. In the event of rain, The Muni reserves the right to hold the performance for a maximum of 1 hour, or in the event of rain during a performance, to interrupt the show for a maximum of 30 minutes. In either case, if a show has played for a total of 1 hour or to intermission, it is considered that a performance has been given, and rain checks shall not be issued. If a show is called for rain and has not played for a total of 1 hour or to intermission, your ticket stub may be exchanged for a seat at a subsequent performance. However, the same seat location is not guaranteed. A performance has not been called for rain until an announcement is made from the stage and in the concession stand. Patrons holding General admission tickets must obtain rain checks before leaving the theater.

### volunteering

The Muni is a year-round operation run entirely by volunteers. To join us as a volunteer, please see the house manager, or contact us at www.TheMuni.org.

- 1965 The Music Man; South Pacific
- 1966 My Fair Lady; Pajama Game
- 1967 Brigadoon; Guys and Dolls; Camelot
- 1968 The Unsinkable Molly Brown; Oliver!; Kiss Me, Kate
- 1969 Bells Are Ringing; Gypsy; Annie Get Your Gun
- 1970 Li'l Abner; A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum; Man of LaMancha
- 1971 Funny Girl; The King and I; Fiddler on the Roof
- 1972 You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown; 1776; Most Happy Fella; The Sound of Music
- 1973 Once Upon a Mattress; Carnival; Promises, Promises; Oklahoma!
- 1974 On a Clear Day You Can See Forever; Hello, Dolly!; Applause; The Music Man
- 1975 Guys and Dolls; How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; Fiddler on the Roof; Mame
- 1976 1776; Irene; Bye, Bye, Birdie!; Calamity Jane
- 1977 Cinderella; The Desert Song; West Side Story; My Fair Lady
- 1978 Sweet Charity; Brigadoon; Paint Your Wagon; I Do! I Do!
- 1979 Shenandoah; No, No, Nanette; Pajama Game; Carousel
- 1980 South Pacific; Good News; Gypsy; Show Boat
- 1981 Camelot; Grease; Oklahoma!; A Little Night Music
- 1982 Kismet; George M!; Oliver!; Follies
- 1983 The King and I; Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; The Student Prince; Hello, Dolly!
- 1984 Peter Pan; Funny Girl; Two Gentlemen of Verona; The Music Man
- 1985 Annie; Damn Yankees; You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown; Evita
- 1986 The Sound of Music; Jesus Christ Superstar; Cabaret; Seven Brides for Seven Brothers
- 1987 Annie Get Your Gun; The Wiz; Promises, Promises; Gigi
- 1988 Peter Pan; South Pacific; 42nd Street; Mame
- 1989 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; Fiddler on the Roof; Singing in the Rain; My Fair Lady
- 1990 Oklahoma!; Teddy & Alice; Anything

- Goes; Camelot
- 1991 Oliver!; My One and Only; Into the Woods; Show Boat
- 1992 Man of LaMancha; Dreamgirls; Me and My Girl; The Unsinkable Molly Brown
- 1993 Hans Christian Andersen; Sugar; Pirates of Penzance; Brigadoon
- 1994 Peter Pan; Hello, Dolly!; Big River; Carousel
- 1995 The King and I; Meet Me in St. Louis; City of Angels; Gypsy
- 1996 Phantom; The Will Rogers Follies; Little Me; The Wizard of Oz
- 1997 Guys and Dolls; Crazy for You; The Secret Garden; Kiss Me, Kate
- 1998 Fiddler on the Roof; Bye, Bye, Birdie!; Godspell; Annie
- 1999 State Fair; 42nd Street; The Goodbye Girl; The Sound of Music
- 2000 Cinderella; Grease; Children of Eden; The Music Man
- 2001 How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; A Little Night Music; West Side Story; Peter Pan
- 2002 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; Anything Goes; Mame; South Pacific
- 2003 Titanic; Big; My Fair Lady; The Wizard of Oz
- 2004 Honk!; Seven Brides for Seven Brothers; A Chorus Line; Big River
- 2005 The Sound of Music; Ragtime; Annie Get Your Gun; Disney's Beauty And The Beast
- 2006 Annie Warbucks; Chicago; Elton John & Tim Rice's Aida; The King and I
- 2007 Miss Saigon; Peter Pan; Grease; Oklahoma!
- 2008 Hello, Dolly!; All Shook Up; The Secret Garden; The Music Man
- 2009 Oliver!; The Producers; Fiddler on the Roof; Disney High School Musical
- 2010 Seussical; Into The Woods; Jesus Christ Superstar; Annie
- 2011 Big River; Guys and Dolls; Hairspray; The Wizard of Oz
- 2012 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; Crazy for You; Once On This Island; Disney's Beauty and the Beast
- 2013 Les Misérables; Dreamgirls; Peter Pan; RENT
- 2014 The Sound of Music; All Shook Up; Shrek the Musical; Jekyll & Hyde
- 2015 Spamalot; Seussical; West Side Story; Cabaret

the muni

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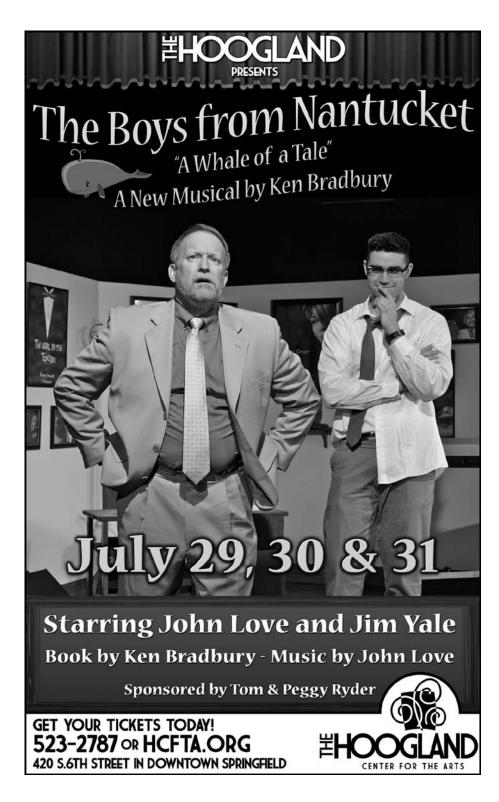
Sound: Daniel Shelton

Volunteers: Genevieve Kaplan

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s the sun sets, the curtain rises on warm summer nights at The Muni, a summer tradition for 65 years. Welcome to our 2016 season of "Broadway under the Stars!"

Originally conceived on April 21, 1950, as a not-for-profit theatrical organization, the Springfield Municipal Opera Association transformed a 55-acre wheat field into an outdoor amphitheater.

On opening night, June 17, 1950, thousands of people turned out to see our first production, the operetta *The Merry Widow*.

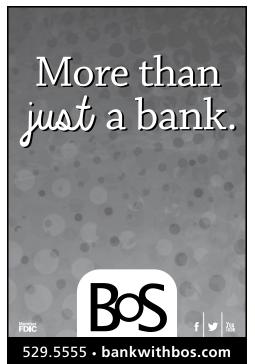
The Muni, as we became affectionately known, flourished until a series of setbacks in the mid-1950s. A major fire in 1963 destroyed part of the facilities, and another the following year what was left.

With hopes for a rebirth, a test production of *Bye*, *Bye*, *Birdie!* was staged in Douglas Park in 1964. The response was so enthusiastic that The Muni was able to rebuild its facility and return to the lake site theater in 1965.

With continued support from our enthusiastic audiences and our dedicated corps of volunteers, The Muni has continued to flourish, becoming one of the largest community theatres in the Midwest. Lavish settings, dazzling costumes and a full orchestra, all are presented under a canopy of twinkling stars.

Each summer our audience continues to grow, as we entertain the very best in musical theatre. From families with young children, to teens on dates, or their grandparents, everyone is at home at The Muni.

We hope you enjoy the show.





10 backstagers

hen The Muni was founded more than 60 years ago, it was through imagination, determination and commitment. The overwhelming support of the Springfield community has played a valuable role in The Muni's beginning and in its future. Helping to ensure that future generations will enjoy The Muni are the Backstagers — a group of individuals and businesses whose financial contributions are a vital component to our success and growth.

Their names are proudly listed on these pages. If you would like to contribute to future improvements at The Muni as a Backstager, please see the House Manager, or contact us at www.TheMuni.org.

Listing reflects Backstagers contributions received prior to June 25, 2016.

### Benefactor Roundtable (\$1,500 +)

Mark & Julie Staley Mr. P

### Producer's Circle (\$1,000 +)

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backstagers

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For more information, visit our website at www.themuni.org/Backstager.aspx



**Fun-loving** bachelor Jimmy Winter meets rough female bootlegger Billie Bendix the weekend of his wedding. Jimmy, who has been married three (or is it four?) times before, is preparing to marry Eileen Evergreen, a self-obsessed modern dancer. Thinking Jimmy and Eileen will be out of town, Billie and her gang hide cases of alcohol in the basement of Jimmy's Long Island mansion. But when Jimmy, his wife-to-be and her prohibitionist family show up at the mansion for the wedding, Billie and her cohorts pose as servants, causing hijinks galore. Packed with beloved Gershwin tunes, you are in for a lively and entertaining evening under the stars.

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**Book** by Joe DePietro

**Inspired by Material** by Guy Bolton and P. G. Wodehouse

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We know this story contains no pithy message. No boundless suspense on how it will end. Call us crazy. Call us old-fashioned. We don't care. There is just simply something *Delishious*, pure, good and all-American in sitting back on a summer evening under the stars and smiling at the unforgettable songs left to us by the amazing George and Ira Gershwin. For schmaltz, it just doesn't get any better than this!!

'S Wonderful! Creating this production for you has been NICE WORK... and we will team up to bring it to you any time that WE CAN GET IT.

Enjoy, Doug and Gary

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Keyboard	Deb Watts
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Reed 2	Donna Lerch
Reed 3	Sande Hackel
Reed 4	Melissa Blankestyn
Trumpet 1	Dick Garretson
Trumpet 2	Aaron Duncan
Trumpet 3	Rick Gosch
Trombone 1	Brian Kern
Trombone 2	Hannah Duncan
Bass	Gary Davis
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Nancy Diefenback and Mary Matheny for program assistance

Joe Michael Jackson for wig and hair design

Taryn Grant and Andrew Maynerich for props

### for Sweeney Todd

Make-up crew: Kyra Pippin

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Sarah Hyon

**Emily Scheufele** 

Cassandra Reiterman

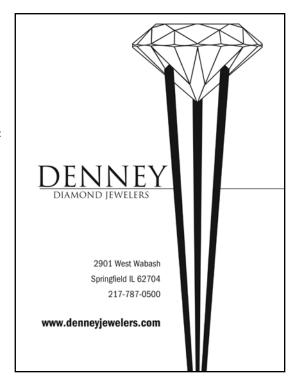
Amalia Schneider

Jen Gronewald, Brett Rutherford, Craig Williams, Annette Settles, Levi Ehrmantraut, Annette Settles and Justin Brandon for help painting

McKinzy for being makeup crew chief

Kevin Ford, Jen Gronewald and Harvey Edwards for assistance building

Gary Germann and Deryk Whalen for prop creation and design



22 the cast

Jimmy WinterAndre	w Maynerich
Billie Bendix	Anna Bussing
Duchess Estonia Dulworth	Karen Gerdes
Cookie McGee	ny Goeckner
Duke Mahoney	hnny Molson
Eileen Evergreen	Grace Rudell
Jeanne MuldoonBail	ee Brinkman
Millicent Winter	Deb Rudis
Senator Max Evergreen	huck McCue
Police Chief Berry	Allan Lee
Showgirls Kendal Heuman, Jocelyn Holmes, Marissa Byers, 7  Maddie Booth, Au	•
Featured EnsemblePatrick Regan, Kevin Hart, Bobby Herpel, Jac Zeke Kerr	k Londrigan, n, Mark Beck
Pit ChorusMarisa Patten, Peggy Ross-Jones, Maria Moore, Ashl	ey Stutzman,
Ashlee Daniels, Megan Costic, Jorie Clark, Sh	•
Emily Ducaji, Katharine Gricevich, Emil	•
Kylie Rogers, Kim	berly Wilson



**FAERIE TALE** 

April 1 & 2, 2017 - Sangamon Auditorium



Sally Hamilton Adminstrative Director

Gina DeCroix Russell Ballet Mistress

Photo: Patrick Russell

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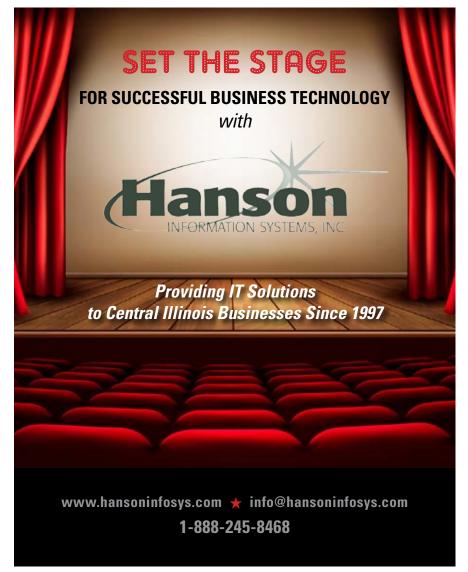
### **ACT ONE**

OvertureOrchestra
Scene 1: A Speakeasy
Sweet and Lowdown
Scene 2: Outside the Speakeasy
Nice Work If You Can Get It
Nice Work If You Can Get It (Reprise)
Demon Rum
Scene 3: The Ritzy Front Lawn of Jimmy's Beach House
Someone to Watch Over Me
Scene 4: The Ritzy Bathroom
Delishious Eileen, Showgirls & Featured Ensemble
Scene 5: The Ritzy Living Room
I've Got to Be ThereJimmy, Jeanne, Showgirls
I've Got to Be There (Reprise)
Scene 6: Jimmy's Ritzy Bedroom
Treat Me RoughBillie
Let's Call the Whole Thing Off
Scene 7: The Ritzy Living Room
Do It AgainJeanne, Duke
'S Wonderful!
Fascinating RhythmJimmy, Cookie, Company

### **ACT TWO**

Entracte	Orchestra
Scene 1: The Ritzy Front of Beach House	
Lady Be GoodShowgirls, Fea	atured Ensemble
But Not for Me	Billie
By Strauss	Duchess
Sweet and Lowdown (Reprise)	Cookie, Duchess
Scene 2: The Ritzy Dining Room	
Do, Do, Do	atured Ensemble
Hangin' Around With You	Billie
Looking for a Boy	Duchess, Cookie
Blah, Blah, Blah	Duke, Jeanne
Scene 3: Jimmy's Ritzy Bedroom	
Let's Call the Whole Thing Off (Reprise)	Billie, Jimmy
Will You Remember Me?	Billie, Jimmy
Scene 4: The Ritzy Living Room	
Weve Got to Be There (Reprise)Showgirls, Fea	atured Ensemble
I've Got a Crush on You	Eileen, Company
Blah, Blah (Reprise)	Jeanne, Duke
Looking for a Boy (Reprise)	Cookie, Duchess
Delishious (Reprise)Ch	ief Berry, Eileen
Someone to Watch Over Me (Reprise)	Jimmy, Billie
Bows	Company





meet the cast

\* indicates first Muni appearance

Shelby Bayliss (Pit Chorus), a music education major at Illinois College, is the choreographer for Greenfield High School. She has played a Heathers Girl/Wedding Singer (STC), Laker Girl/Spamalot (The Muni), and Paulette/Legally Blonde, Olive/25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, and Marcy/I Love You Because (all at GHS). Thanks go out to parents, friends, and Mr. Bollman – their support means everything.

Mark Beck (Featured Ensemble) spent eight amazing years in the Ice Capades before moving to town where he taught skating. He honestly admits to having a ton of show credits in the 80's when he, Doug, and Gary were all just children. After a 27 year absence, he returns thoroughly perplexed, but delighted with this opportunity. Thanks to everyone in this generous cast.

\* Maddie Booth (Showgirl) was a 2015 apprentice at Broadway Theater Project in Tampa, FL, and previously played the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods* (Glenwood HS). She joins The Muni for the first time this summer before heading off to the University of Illinois in the fall to study musical theater. Maddie thanks Lesley, Steve, and Kelsey for support – and the staff for this great opportunity. #Never Stop Smiling

Bailee Brinkman (Jeanne Muldoon) is a busy Glenwood grad enrolled at Lincoln Land in the fall. She is an instructor at her mom's dance studio (Springfield Dance), a member of SBC (Sugar Plum Fairy in 2015 *Nutcracker*), and has graced The Muni's stage 11 times in the past (including Maria in *West Side Story*). Bailee thanks Doug for this 12<sup>th</sup> Muni experience and her family for all their love and support.

**Anna Bussing (Billie)** has been "heard" of either because she is an audiologist at SIU School of Medicine, or for her substantial contributions as a director, choreographer, and

star of local productions. She directed *West Side Story* and *All Shook Up* (The Muni), and was stellar in leading roles of Peter (*Peter Pan*), Polly (*Crazy for You*), Lucy (*Jekyll & Hyde*) (all at The Muni), and Roxie (*Chicago*) and Olive (25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee) at Hoogland. Wow – got any free time, Ms. Anna?

Marissa Byers (Showgirl) was in Doug and Gary's *Crazy for You* (The Muni) and is glad to be back on this stage for the third time. She is headed back to Butler University in September, and thanks the staff, crew, and cast for making her last summer at The Muni so much fun and such a huge success. Remember...#Never Stop Smiling

Jorie Clark (Pit Chorus) has played Reno (Anything Goes) and was in ILMEA 2016 All-State Honors Choir at Athens High School where she will be a senior this fall. No stranger to The Muni stage, she appeared in our Shrek and Spamalot. She thanks the entire staff for her grand time in this terrific show!!

Megan Costic (Pit Chorus) is proud to share her exuberance in this production. She is a freshman at Glenwood HS and is building quite a theatrical resume with roles in *Jospeh* (The Muni); *Snow White, Peter Pan,* and *Peter and the Wolf* (SYPG); and *Pirates of Penzance* (Glenwood). Thanks to her Mom and Dad for their love and support!!

Ashlee Daniels (Pit Chorus) has earned her theater stripes participating in numerous school productions. She has also provided back stage support at The Muni serving on stage crews for *Beauty and the Beast* and *Peter Pan*. Ashley thanks this lively cast and crew for this opportunity and is grateful for the support of family and friends through this process.

28 meet the cast

Emily Ducaji (Pit Chorus) is a junior at SHG and has an impressive list of credits: Nutcracker (SBC); Alice in Wonderland and Peter and the Wolfe (SYPG); Beauty and the Beast and Sound of Music (The Muni); and Footloose and The Addams Family (SHG). She gives a huge shout-out of thanks to Mr. Shull and Mr. Hahn for this wonderful opportunity. And also thanks her family for all their support.

\*Karen Gerdes (Duchess Estonia) is a District #186 special education teacher, yet she still finds time to perform. At TIP, she has been in Footloose and Grease, and was Miss Shields in STC's A Christmas Story, The Musical. She thanks Gary and Doug for this opportunity, and sends special hugs to her biggest fan, hubby Mark. Oh, and special mention to Diane Dietz for helping her find her inner soprano!!

Jeremy Goeckner (Cookie) is a stage allstar playing a huge variety of leading men: Mark/Rent and Lumiere/Beauty and the Beast (The Muni), Grand PooBah/The Mikado (HCFTA), and Joe/Sunset Boulevard (Roxy). He co-directed Tick, Tick....BOOM (STC) and performs in Ghosts of the Library at

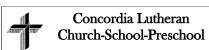
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the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. Most importantly, he thanks his awesome and beautiful wife Sara who is partner in crime, fellow Jedi Knight, and love of his life. She puts up with all his weirdness, despite all logic. Light up the darkness!

\*Katharine Gricevich (Pit Chorus) is thrilled to have her first Muni experience. In retrospect, she is REALLY glad she did not chicken out and skip auditions!!! She thanks staff, cast, and crew for sharing this special time with her. Her family and partner, John, have given a wealth of support, and she appreciates all her gutsy friends and loved ones who have, by example, inspired her all along! It takes a community!!!

Kevin Hart (Featured Ensemble) stays busy studying radio/TV production and theater at SIUC where he is a senior. The Muni welcomes him back after appearances in *Crazy for You, Peter Pan,* and *West Side Story.* He was also in TIP's *Music Man.* He greatly appreciates this show's vice squad, his family, friends, and dogs for ALWAYS accepting and supporting him.

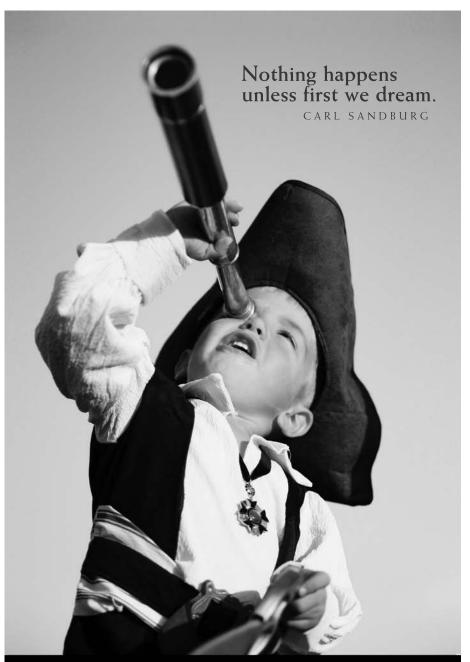


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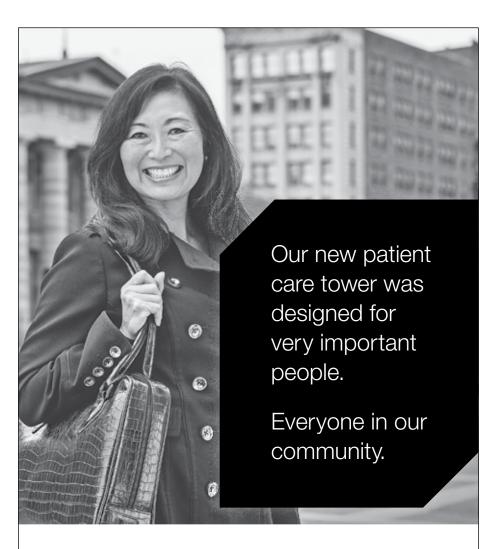
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meet the cast

Bobby Herpel (Featured Ensemble) returns to The Muni with his sense of humor this summer after appearing in *Beauty and the Beast, Joseph*, and *Big River*. He was also in the recent production of *Rocky Horror Show* at The Hoogland. Mommy, Bobby loves you and the USA ... he also likes trucks, guns, and pretty women. This Marine Corps LCPL keeps everyone smiling.

Kendal Heuman (Showgirl) is a Sangamon Valley HS grad and will be studying dance at Webster University in the fall. She's comfy on stage with appearances in *West Side Story* and *All Shook Up* (The Muni) and numerous Springfield Ballet Company productions. The love and support from parents, family, and friends makes everything possible for her! HUGS to all.

Jocelyn Holmes (Showgirl) keeps stacking up credits: she is a member of Springfield Ballet Company and has additional stage time as a featured dancer/*All Shook Up* and a Shark Girl/ *West Side Story* (The Muni). Jocelyn is blessed by the everlasting love and support from family, dance instructors, and friends.

Zeke Kern (Featured Ensemble) made his Muni debut in *South Pacific* and has already rushed back. Previously, you might have caught one of his performances at Williamsville High School in *Guys and Dolls; You're a Good Man Charlie Brown;* or *Bye, Bye Birdie.* Or, you can catch him in action this fall as a junior on the WHS football field. Go, Zeke!

**Taylor Krech (Showgirl)** has graced The Springfield Ballet Company for 6 years, dancing numerous roles with the troupe before leaving for the University of Kansas to major in dance. We are glad she is back after her Muni performance in *West Side Story*. Thanks to her Mom and Dad for their love. And, thanks Bailee Brinkman for just being amazing.

Allan Lee (Police Chief Berry) has designed sets (My Fair Lady, Honk!, and Annie Get Your Gun) at The Muni as well as appearing in Annie, The Producers, and The Mikado at HCFTA. He thanks his wife, Michelle, for her support and sends hugs to CarolAnn, Olivia, and Michael for their patience while Dad is slaving away at rehearsals. Al says, "Being in a Doug and Gary extravaganza is always nice work, if you can get it!!!"

\*Jack Londrigan (Featured Ensemble) still considers himself the anti-Troy Bolton and a newbie with only two shows to his SHG credits: *Guys and Dolls* and *The Addams Family.* He claims to have successfully made the transition from mediocre athlete to passable performerand looks forward to giving your eyes and ears the thrill of a lifetime!!! Oh, Jack...

Andrew Maynerich (Jimmy) is the owner of Maynerich Financial. He releases his creativity teaching tap at Springfield Dance Company and starring in local productions. His spectacular credits include Emcee/Cabaret, Moose/Crazy for You, Eugene/Grease and additional roles in Hairspray, High School Musical (all at The Muni) and Rocky Horror and Thoroughly Modern Millie (STC). He choreographed The Muni's 2016 South Pacific and will be directing STC's Chorus Line this winter. His talents and energy are inexhaustible.

Chuck McCue (Senator Evergreen) is employed at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. With a wealth of experience at The Muni, STC, Jacksonville's Playhouse on the Square, and TIP, Chuck is beyond delighted to be offered a role in this production. He first worked with Doug Hahn in 1980 in The Muni's *Showboat* and most recently appeared as Max in *Sound of Music*. A lot of years and lot of shows fill his resume! He thanks his wife Valery for sharing his time with all of us

32 meet the cast

Autumn Meyer (Showgirl) will attend Millikin University this fall, majoring in Nursing and minoring in Dance. She was Tiger Lily in *Peter Pan* (HCFTA) and Thing 1 in *Seussical* (The Muni). She has also performed in many other shows at The Muni, HCFTA, STC, JTG, and SBC. Autumn also choreographed HCFTA's *Peter Pan, James and the Giant Peach, Tarzan*, and *Shrek*. She is also a dancer and teacher assistant at Dance Arts Inc. She thanks the staff for this opportunity, and her family and friends for all their love and support!

Johnny Molson (Duke)...yep! Local DJ and co-host of WMAY Mike & Molson, Johnny last appeared at The Muni in Wizard of Oz, and he has stayed busy with appearances in 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (HCFTA), Felix in The Odd Couple, Matt in Talley's Folly, Chico Marx in A Day in Hollywood/A Night in the Ukraine. Master of comedy, he graduated from Chicago's Second City Training Center. Johnny is also a partner at Wizard of Ads (Austin, TX) and creative services director at Midwest Family Broadcasting. He is one busy and talented guy!

\*Maria Moore (Pit Chorus) will be welcomed at Springfield High as a junior this year where she will continue performing in Seven & Senators and choir. Her stage credits include Silly Girl/Beauty and the Beast (SHS) and in the ensemble/Grease at TIP.

Maria sends special thanks to her parents for their love and support – and also to Diane Dietz for being such an amazing voice teacher!

\*Marisa Patten (Pit Chorus), while new to our stage, has been proud of past appearances in *Big Bad Musical* (Blessed Sacrament); *Bye, Bye Birdie*; *The Addams Family*; and *Footloose* (SHG). This SHG junior thanks her family, her mom for introducing her to musicals, and her friend Allegra for keeping her motivated! Welcome to The Muni, Marisa!

Patrick Regan (Featured Ensemble) headed for his junior year at ISU, has an acting major and music minor. He's loaded with stage time: Guys & Dolls, Grease, Anything Goes, and Bye, Bye Birdie (SHG), and All Shook Up and Seussical (The Muni). His family accommodates his crazy schedule and his friends help by providing tons of support – thank you all!

\*Kylie Rogers (Pit Chorus) is only a sophomore at Riverton High, though she has quite the musical background! Kylie is a member of Sweet Adeline's Sound Celebration Chorus, jazz choir, madrigals, choir, and stage appearances in Riverton's Honk!, The Little Mermaid Jr., Seussical Jr., Annie Jr., and Shrek. She sends out heart-felt thanks to her family for their support and to her special fellow, Zac.



Peggy Ross-Jones (Pit Chorus) is employed by Memorial Behavioral Health and enjoys filling her free time with music, music, and music! She is a member of Laurel United Methodist Church choir and occasionally hits the theater circuit, having shared her voice in the chorus of *Pirates of Penzance* in Concert; *Kismet* in Concert; *Crazy for You*; and *Bye, Bye Birdie*.

Grace Ruddell (Eileen Evergreen) is a BFA musical theater student at Millikin University, and she shines on stage. She was recently Lucy the Slut in *Avenue Q*, Fiona in *Shrek*, and Penny in *Hairspray*. We congratulate her on her Jay-Jay Award for Best Performance by an actress in a minor role. She is grateful to Deb for her amazing vocal direction, Gary for his creative choreography, and Doug for his hardwork in directing this terrific show. Enjoy!

**Deb Rudis (Millicent Winter)** last appeared on The Muni's stage as Velma Von Tussle in *Hairspray*, and most recently as Parthy in HCFTA's *Showboat*. In 27 years of performance, her favorite roles include Mame/ *Mame*, Adelaide/*Guys 'n Dolls*, and Golde/ *Fiddler on the Roof*. By day, she's a speech pathologist for District #186, but she now claims her best work is with her two glorious grandsons, Caleb and Sam. We think they would agree with us that Grandma rocks!!

- \*Ashley Stutzman (Pit Chorus) packed her bags and degrees in Theater Arts and Forensic Psychology and left Orlando, FL for the Midwestern pleasures of Springfield. Her "numbers" indicate a strong theater background as she has performed in 19 productions, including 8 musicals. This is her first Muni show – and we are glad to have her. Ashley thanks her mom for always being there with love and support.
- \*Emily Wilkerson (Pit Chorus) has graced the HCFTA stage in eight productions since 2013 including *The Little Mermaid*, *Shrek*, First Night Springfield, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Tarzan*, *The Addams Family*, Mrs. Joe/*Great Expectations*, and Wendy/*Peter Pan*. Emily will be heading to Missouri State University to begin a degree in musical theater. She sends special thanks to family and friends who have always provided unconditional support and love.
- \*Kimberly Wilson (Pit Chorus) studied theater and dance at SIUE, then relocated from the St. Louis area where she appeared in several dramas including For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide / When the Rainbow is Enuf, Hamlet, and Italian American Reconciliation. She is happy to be sharing her theater hobby after a time-out for marriage and her three beautiful children. Thanks to family for supporting her dreams.



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Doug Hahn (Co-Director/Orchestra Director/Set Designer)...crediting Doug with all the shows in which he has appeared, conducted, or directed would keep you reading for the duration of the show! He has delighted audiences playing everything from animals (the howling Wolf/Into the Woods and Old Deuteronomy/Cats) to a stern director (Zach/Chorus Line), the swaggering, handsome Lancelot/Camelot and Gavlord/Showboat, and even God himself/Children of Eden. Not satisfied with just performing, Doug has been in the director's chair for more years than he will let us put in print. The Muni, Theater Center, HCFTA, and TIP have all been lucky enough to stage Hahn productions. His creativity, energy, and insights have inspired casts who were just glad to be Hangin' Around With You in some of his favorites: multiple productions of Into the Woods and Chicago, Pirates of Penzance, My Fair Lady, and 42nd Street

### Gary Shull (Co-Director/Choreographer)

After serving in the armed forces, Gary turned to the arts, dance, and theater for most of his adult life. He has worked as a performer/director/choreographer on both coasts and throughout the Midwest. Directors cry, "Mr. Gary... Do It Again!" And, he has delivered some of Springfield's finest dancing moments, choreographing 42nd Street, Anything Goes, Crazy for You, The Producers, Chorus Line, and Singing in the Rain to name only a few from his extensive list of successes. Retired from teaching dance at Millikin University, he continues to teach at Dance Arts Studio. distinguishing himself as an outstanding educator, guiding so many students on to professional success on Broadway and other theatrical careers.

Deb Watts (Vocal Director/Accompanist), by profession, is a legal assistant at Sorling Northrup, but the local theater community considers her "the" artist to turn to for keyboard and vocal needs. Deb has graced the wings serving as pianist/vocal director/ pit musician for an extensive list of shows at TIP, The Muni, STC, and HCFTA. She is also the organist/pianist and music coordinator at Laurel United Methodist Church, and the Saturday pianist/music coordinator at Westminster Presbyterian Church where she also leads their acclaimed Jazz Trio. When not making music. Deb can be found reading and traveling. She is a gal with a Fascinating Rhythm.

Julie Davis (Stage Manager) is pitching in on her *seventh* Doug and Gary production. If you want organization and someone who can *Do, Do, Do –* you call on Julie! As past Muni president, she shares her love of theater with husband, Tom Frost, and her daughter, Kelsi. At the Real Estate Group, she is the leader of the Julie Davis Team where she applies the same organization skills and passion to serve her customer base. In taking on any assignment, Julie stays focused, takes charge, attends to every detail, and gives 150%. It is little wonder how her theatricals credits just continue to grow.

**Dennis O'Brien (Producer)** literally grewup at The Muni. Dennis has spent most of his life in the chorus, creating memorable character roles, and always helping out wherever unskilled labor might be needed. His credits are long --- *Blah, Blah, Blah* --including serving as a three-time Muni president, and now on its Board of Trustees. In his "real" life, Dennis entertains himself practicing law and refereeing soccer.

38 meet the staff

Melody Sheehan (Properties Master) is currently serving as Properties Coordinator for both The Muni and STC, and if a show needs an odd or hard-to-find item on stage (like a dozen cases of *Demon Rum*), we all call on Melody! Most recently, she used her super sleuthing abilities to design, find, and deliver wide ranging props for Wedding Singer, Rock of Ages, and On Golden Pond (STC); 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (HCFTA); and Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up? (TIP). While all the areas' theaters take advantage of her services, Melody still has the time, dedication, and open heart needed as a licensed home day care provider for over 30 vears. Remarkable!!

Diane Hoots (Make-up and Hair Design),

our illustrious past Muni president, is busy year round working on staff and making actors/actresses look good and feel great every time they step onstage. She is that Someone to Watch over Me. Di has an extensive resume of over 100 make-up and hair credits and is recognized for her specialties: Beast/Beauty and the Beast, the Witch (before and after)/Into the Woods, and Shrek. TIP, The Muni, HCFTA, and STC all sing her praises for her tireless work behind the scenes. As busy as she is with theater duties, she serves the taxpayers as a Senior Public Service Administrator doing emergency management with Department of Central Management Services. Her limited free time is spent cooking, doing needlework, beading, and spending time with daughter Beth

#### Daniel Bonn (Lighting Designer)

If we are *Looking for a Boy* to create a rich vista of color on the stage, we give a shout out to Daniel and know he will create a visual feast for the eyes each time. He has illuminated many productions since his start in theatre in 1997 including shows at The Muni

(Spamalot and Seussical in 2015, South Pacific in 2016), HCFTA, STC, and many local high schools. Daniel is on The Muni's Board of Managers and the Chairman of the Lighting Committees at The Muni, HCFTA, and SHG.

Daniel Shelton (Sound Designer) has been part of numerous location productions. This is Dan's tenth summer at The Muni where he is a welcome addition both on stage and behind the scenes. Recent shows include Les Misérables, Jekyll & Hyde (The Muni), and also Showboat and Man of LaMancha (HCFTA). We always count on Dan to focus on the Sweet and Lowdown on sound boards to get the most of the orchestra and every cast member ringing through the speaker system.



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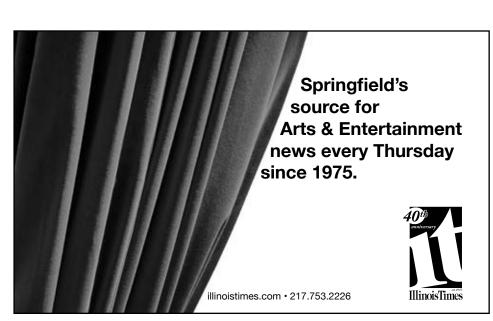
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Photos: Donna Lounsberry

Audition Confirmation: Paula Kaplan and Shelly Flickinger

HyVee & Godfather's Pizza for providing food for audition volunteers and show staffs during auditions.

#### **Additional Thanks**

The staff at Sangamon Auditorium Box Office for skillfully handling our ticket reservations and Phyllis Eubanks, John Cark, Gary Moore, Judy Carlisle and Kyle Hicks for working night after night in the ticket booth giving quick and cheerful service;

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The State Journal-Register, Illinois Times, WICS News Channel 20, and our local radio stations for helping to spread Muni Magic;

Springfield Theatre Centre for prop assistance;

Inez Berg who works tirelessly with the Muni landscaping and flowers that provides such an ideal setting for Muni Magic;

Springfield Civic Garden Club for the beautiful flowerbed at our entrance:

John Shafer, Abe Stutsman, Morton Buildings, Mark Grigski, Goodman Fence, G & G Concrete, Ridings Plumbing, B & B Electric, Brent Stage Lighting, and VonBehren Builders for all of their wonderful work in the development and construction of our new Lundgren-Rubley Building.

B&B Electric for assistance with various electrical needs at The Muni.

Mary Bonn, Jeremy Goeckner and Anna McFarland for their graphic design assistance;

Patrick Souva and Jeremy Goeckner for updates to the website:

Wayne, Jeri & Madeline Becker from the Morrisonville Clothing Store for costume assistance;

Ben Shafer for assistance with Muni announcements;

And a very special thanks to our many volunteers who work tirelessly in every capacity to ensure that your summer is filled with music, memories and Muni Magic!





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