



# Charley's Aunt

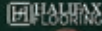
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## HALE CENTER THEATER OREM

◇ PROUDLY PRESENTS ◇

# Charley's Aunt

By: *Brandon Thomas*

### STARRING

Dallin Bradford • Adam Packard • Dylan Wright

### SUPPORTING

Claire Eyestone • Becca Ingram • Ben Parkes • Mark Pulham  
Anne Swenson • Cody Swenson • Clara Wright

#### DIRECTOR

Rodger Sorensen

#### PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Meagan M. Downey

#### DIALECT COACH

Dianna Graham

#### REHEARSAL DRAMATURG

Amelia Johnson

#### TECHNICAL DIRECTION & SOUND DESIGN

Cole McClure

#### SET DESIGN & MASTER CARPENTER

Bobby Swenson

#### COSTUME DESIGN

Tami Crandall

#### HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN

Janna Larsen

#### LIGHTING DESIGN

Ryan Fallis

#### PROPERTIES

Linda Hale

#### TECHNICIANS

Ryan Fallis

Richie Trimble

#### COSTUME DIRECTOR

Anne Swenson

#### CUTTER / DRAPER

Jess Barksdale

#### ASSISTANT HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN

Melinda Wilks

Bekah Wilbur

#### ASSISTANT PROPERTIES

Cody Hale

Nick McClure



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## ◇ CAST OF CHARACTERS ◇

JACK CHESNEY.....	Dallin Bradford
CHARLES WYKEHAM.....	Adam Packard
LORD FANCOURT BABBERLEY.....	Dylan Wright
COLONEL SIR FRANCIS CHESNEY, BART.....	Cody Swenson
STEPHEN SPETTIGUE.....	Ben Parkes
BRASSETT.....	Mark Pulham
KITTY VERDUN.....	Becca Ingram
AMY SPETTIGUE.....	Claire Eyestone
DONNA LUCIA D'ALVADOREZ.....	Anne Swenson
ELA DELAHAY.....	Clara Wright



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## ◆ SCENE SYNOPSIS ◆

TIME: 1885 • PLACE: Oxford

### ACT I

Interior of Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham's rooms,  
St. Olde's College, Oxford; Morning

### ACT II

Exterior of Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham's rooms,  
St. Olde's College, Oxford; Afternoon

### INTERMISSION

### ACT III

Drawing room, Spettigue's house, Oxford; Evening

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**Warning: Contains spoilers**



few days. Luckily, their friend Lord Fancourt Babberley has just tried on his costume for the upcoming school production in which he plays an old lady, and he wants Jack and Charley to tell him how he looks. As he is parading around for his friends, the girls arrive and the boys force the rascally “Babbs” to become “Charley’s Aunt.” Two older gentlemen compete for “her” hand. The real Donna Lucia arrives and presents herself as Mrs. Beverly-Smythe. And the farce begins.

Although I’ve known Brandon Thomas’ play all of my career, I’ve only seen it once, and I’ve never directed it. So, when I received an invitation to stage it at the Hale Center Theater in Orem, I jumped at the chance for three reasons: I love the show, I love this wonderful old intimate Hale Center Theater, and finally, I love the company working on this production. They are a delightful group of collaborators: passionate, creative, and deliciously funny.

This show is dedicated to anyone who has ever fallen in love and either proposed or received a proposal of marriage. It is also dedicated to anyone who loves a good old farcical romp through the rooms and gardens of their alma mater (in this case St. Olde’s College in Oxford England). And finally, it is dedicated to all who have seen and loved the story of *Charley’s Aunt* or who are just now experiencing it for the first time. Welcome to the wonderful wacky world of *Charley’s Aunt*!

—Rodger Sorensen

*Charley’s Aunt* was originally commissioned by the community of Bury St. Edmunds in West Suffolk England and performed on February 29, 1892 as part of its social festivities revolving around its annual fox hunt. Before the year was out, *Charley’s Aunt* had toured England and settled into what became an unprecedented four-year London run (1,466 performances). Since its premiere 127 years ago, *Charley’s Aunt* has delighted audiences worldwide with hundreds of thousands of productions. It is popular with high schools, colleges, universities, community theatres, professional theatres, and has been adapted into films, television specials, pantomimes and operas.

The story of *Charley’s Aunt* is simply entertaining. Two St. Olde’s College undergraduates, Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham, cannot meet (and propose to) their girls, without a chaperone present. No problem. Charley’s aunt, Donna Lucia d’Alvadorez (from Brazil—where the nuts come from), is scheduled to arrive by train from London. When Charley returns from “picking her up,” she is not with him. Rather she is delayed for a



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# ◇ WHO'S WHO ◇

## DALLIN BRADFORD

*Jack Chesney*

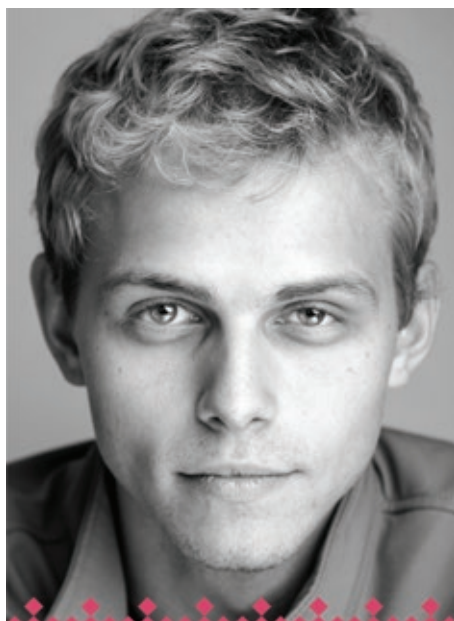
Dallin is a freelance voice actor and narrator—with credits ranging from Missionary Mall to Audible—and Chief of Operations for Avonlea Theater Company. He is a proud graduate of the David Scott Applied Art of Acting program (2018) in Dublin, Ireland. He was most recently seen in HCTO's *Tuck Everlasting*, and is thrilled to be returning this fall to *Charley's Aunt*. Dallin has been involved on and off the stage with many other companies and festivals, including HCTO, PG Players, Salty Dinner Theater, Sandra Millet Summer Shakespeare, and Timpanogos Arts Festival. He would like to

thank his family for all the support they've given him, and for the passion and ethic they've taught him.

## CLAIRE EYESTONE

*Amy Spettigue*

From Orem, Utah, Claire is studying theatre education and English teaching at BYU. Claire also loves design and works in wardrobe at LDS Motion Picture Studio. She was last seen on the HCTO stage 8 years ago in *A Christmas Carol* and could not be happier to be back! Recent BYU credits include Adriana in *The Comedy of Errors*, Jane in *Anne of Green Gables*, Christine Lynde in *Mr. Helmer's Wife*, and Britta in *Princess Academy*.



Dallin Bradford



Adam Packard



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## BECCA INGRAM

*Kitty Verdun*

Becca is so happy to be back on stage with some of her very favorite people. She was last seen here in *Dear Ruth*. Other favorite roles include Sarah in *Beau Jest* (HCT), Mary in *Mary, Mary* (Covey Center for the Arts), and Ollie and Leo's Mother in *The Morales Family Circus*. She'd like to thank her husband and family for making it possible for her to be here.

## ADAM PACKARD

*Charles Wykeham*

Adam is very excited to be back at HCTO after making his debut in *Tuck Everlasting*. Adam recently moved back to Utah after living in Florida for six months as a Character Performer at Walt Disney World. Adam loves being with his family and singing

along to his favorite musicals in his spare time. He'd like to thank his mom and dad for their continued support in all his pursuits.

## BEN PARKES

*Stephen Spettigue*

Ben has one of those faces you can't quite place. You may recognize him from playing Roy in *The Odd Couple*, Uncle George in *Cash on Delivery*, or Mr. Dussel in *The Diary of Anne Frank* here at HCTO. Perhaps you saw him at HCT (West Valley & Sandy locations), the Playmill Theatre, or The Walt Disney World Resort. Have you seen improv at Comedy Sportz, Comic Frenzy, or Laughing Stock? Maybe that was it. He has played Weisel (*Newsies*), Much (*The Heart of Robin Hood*), Smee (*Peter and the Starcatcher*), Nick (*Over the River and Through the Woods*), Joel (*Beau Jest*), and Forbright (*Cash on Delivery*) all at HCT; John Adams (*1776*),



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and *The Baker (Into the Woods)*. Do any of those ring a bell? No? Could you have seen him working for The Walt Disney Company, or ignoring work to play with Elliott, Oliver, and Atticus? Still can't place him? Don't worry, you aren't alone. This performance is dedicated to Luana, who almost always recognizes Ben on the first try.

**MARK PULHAM**

*Brassett*

It's always been a pleasure serving the patrons at HCTO and tonight, as your butler, I couldn't be happier. If you come here often, perhaps you've seen me in a play or two. If not, I'm glad we're having this chance to meet. It's great to perform again, surrounded by my theater family and friends. Sit back, relax, and enjoy...and feel free to laugh, it's good for the soul.

**RODGER SORENSEN**

*Director*

Rodger recently retired from the Department of Theatre and Media Arts at Brigham Young University after a 44-year career in academic theatre. During that time he directed over a hundred theatre productions in academic and professional venues, including premieres of original scripts, his own and other's original adaptations, devised pieces, a range of interdisciplinary projects, many operas, musicals, dramas, and comedies. He worked on *The Hill Cumorah Pageant* near Palmyra, New York from 1978 to 2004, serving as Artistic Director from 1997. Rodger specializes in the development of new works and in teaching directing theory and practice for the stage. He earned an MA in Directing from BYU and a PhD in Aesthetics and Performance Theory from the University of Texas at Dallas. Among his many directing projects, Rodger's



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favorites include *Freaky Friday*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Newsies*, *Long Walk Home* (an original opera about the 1849 handcart companies), *The Secret Garden*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *The Magic Flute*, *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey*, *Taking Steps*, *Unsinkable Molly Brown*, *The Winter's Tale*, and of course, *Charley's Aunt*. Rodger and Claudia have been married for over fifty years and they have three children and eight grand-children.

**ANNE SWENSON**

*Donna Lucia d'Alvadorez*

In January of 1990 Anne married Cody. In May of that same year they, along with the Hales, they opened the theater you're sitting in tonight. Thirty years, four kids and 220 productions later she's realized that Grandma Hale was right when she said that you are

never as happy as when you are using your talents. It's nice to be on this side of the stage after 14 years.

**CODY SWENSON**

*Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart*

Twenty-nine years ago, Cody was in pretty much every play here at HCTO, as he was pretty much the only guy available to be in them. Nowadays, there are many more talented men, and Cody is much too busy with behind-the-scenes things (serving as Executive Director and other stuff), so he hasn't had the fun of being on stage for quite some time. He is grateful for the opportunity. It's exciting to jump back in and play opposite his beautiful wife. Grandma and Grandpa would approve!

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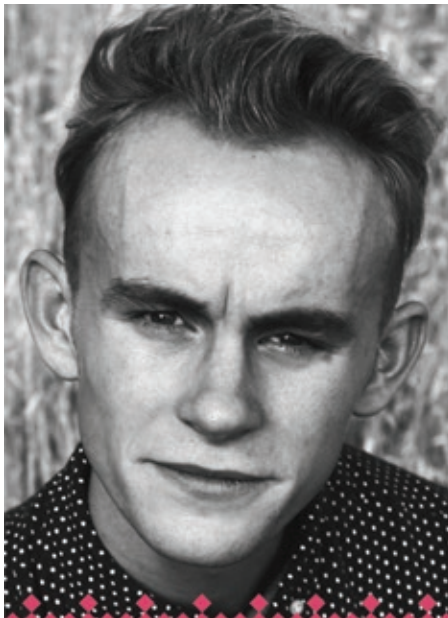
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**Dylan Wright**

### CLARA WRIGHT

*Ela Delabay*

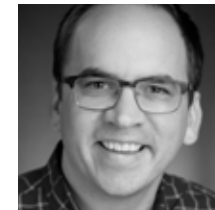
Clara is thrilled to be back on the HCTO stage. She is currently studying at BYU as an acting major. Recent credits include Mrs. Roeder in *Radium Girls* (BYU), Tansy in *The Nerd* (Covey Center for the Arts), Eileen in *Pillow Talk* (HCTO), and Davison in *Mary Stuart* (BYU). She has received the Kennedy Center College Theater Festival's national award for distinguished performance in a supporting role. Much love to her amazing husband, Dylan, whom she has the opportunity to play across from in this show.



**Claire Eyestone**



**Becca Ingram**



**Ben Parkes**



**Mark Pulham**

### DYLAN WRIGHT

*Lord Fancourt Babberley*

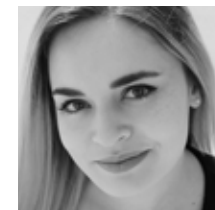
From Orangevale, California, Dylan is a junior in the BFA Acting Program at Brigham Young University. This is his first HCTO show and he is extremely thrilled! Recent credits include Arthur Roeder in BYU's production of *Radium Girls*, Willum Cubbert in the Covey Center for the Arts' production of *The Nerd*, and Mortimer in BYU's production of *Mary Stuart*. He is the recipient of the Irene Ryan Excellence in Classical Acting Award at the KCACTF Region 8 festival (2019), the Irene Ryan National Finalist Award at the KCACTF Region 8 Festival (2019), the NAPAT National Classical Acting Award (2019), and a KCACTF national award for Distinguished Performance of an Actor in a Leading Role (*Radium Girls*, 2019). He is so excited to share the stage once again with his radiant wife, Clara!



**Anne Swenson**



**Cody Swenson**



**Clara Wright**



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## A CHRISTMAS CAROL

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## ◆ INTERESTING FACTS ◆

Written by HCTO dramaturg Dr. Christopher Clark

Just last year, a romantic comedy called *Hello, Mrs. Money* was released to Big Box Office all over China. *Hello, Mrs. Money* has a clever plot: Li Cha, who has money troubles, concocts a scheme to win over his love, a beautiful woman who “likes money.” Li Cha convinces his best friend, Canghai Huang, to impersonate his billionaire aunt. The ruse succeeds until, you guessed it, Li Cha’s real aunt shows up. How does it end? Stay tuned. You’re watching it.

*Hello, Mrs. Money* is just one of dozens of remakes and adaptations of Brandon Thomas’ *Charley’s Aunt*, one of the most beloved farces of all time. Written in 1892, *Charley’s Aunt*

was an instant hit in Great Britain, eventually transferring to Broadway and a successful American tour. But the popularity of the farce wasn’t confined to the English-speaking world. It wasn’t long before Fanny Babbs was traipsing throughout the globe in his petticoats, with each nation and culture putting their own stamp on *Charley*. A few highlights:

**1** In the Danish film version of the play, Charley, Jack, and Fanny are called Grev, Charles, and Peter. Grev sings a song called “It is Hard to be a Woman Nowadays.” Grev, Charles, and Peter are in their mid-thirties.

▼ *Below: The Chinese film adaptation of Charley’s Aunt, called Hello, Mrs. Money, was released in October 2018.*

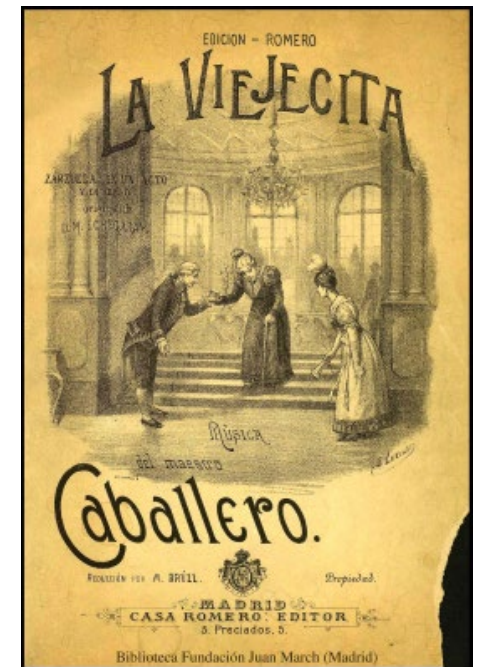


▲ *Above: A still from the Egyptian film remake from 1960, in which Nabil and Farid ask their friend Sukkar “Sugar” to dress up as Farid’s aunt. Pictured on the right is belly dancer and actress Samia Gamal.*

► *Right: Poster advertising the Spanish zarzuela version of the play, called La Viejecita or The Old Woman. It premiered on stage in Madrid on April 30, 1897.*

**2** In the Egyptian film version, *Lady Sugar*, Nabil and Farid woo their neighbors Laylá and Salwá, who are culturally forbidden to speak to men. This movie introduced the world to Samia Gamal, the Egyptian belly dance sensation.

**3** In Spain, the play was re-titled *The Old Woman* and was turned into a light comic opera known as a zarzuela. Charley was renamed Carlos, and was played by the famous Soprano, Lucrecia Arana, in men’s clothes.





▲ *Top:* Hello, I'm Your Aunt! is a Soviet comedy from 1975. It is loosely based on Charley's Aunt.

► *Right:* Charleys Tante or Charley's Aunt is a 1963 Austrian comedy film starring Peter Alexander, Maria Sebaldt and Peter Vogel. It is another adaptation of the British play Charley's Aunt by Brandon Thomas.



◇.....◇

**4** A popular Soviet version, *Hello, I'm Your Aunt*, tells the story of Babbs Baberly, a homeless vagrant constantly on the run from police. He happens to meet two love-sick students and the rest of the plot parallels *Charley's Aunt* until the final scene, when Babbs is excluded from an upscale club. As he pounds on the door to be let in, he wakes up on a park bench, pummeled by police clubs, suggesting the entire story was just a dream.

**5** In the Indian version, written in Marathi, Moru's aunt is the Queen of Kanda Sansthan. The play is best loved for the song "Tang ting ting," in which

Moru's friend Bandy, dressed as the Queen, jumps and dances in a sari. The play was advertised as a "fun-filled drama."

**6** Closer to home, and on a personal note, *Charley's Aunt* was the first college play I was in, at the BYU Pardo Theatre in 1991. I played Charley Wickham, and was directed by the wonderful Marion Bentley. Dr. Bentley passed away in June. He was a big-hearted mentor to me, and countless other students. What an honor to be directed in a British comedy by someone who had honed their craft on the London stage. He will forever be an influential and lasting part of our theater community.



▲ *Above:* Dr. Clark as Charley (standing on the right) in BYU's 1991 production of *Charley's Aunt*.



▲ *Above* The Indian version of *Charley's Aunt*.

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### FALL MINI MUSICAL (JR. OPTION)

*Taught by Kelly Coombs*

**WHAT:** So you want to be in a musical?! Well, now's your chance! In this camp, you will be given lines to memorize, dances and music to practice and perfect, and a chance to perform in a mini-musical at the end of the month!

**WHO:** Ages 7-11

**WHEN:** Sep. 5-26 (on Mondays and Thursdays) from 4:00pm-5:30pm

**WHERE:** Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West, Orem)

**COST:** \$160

### FALL MINI MUSICAL (SR. OPTION)

*Taught by Kelly Coombs*

**WHAT:** So you want to be in a musical?! Well, now's your chance! In this camp, you will be given lines to memorize, dances and music to practice and perfect, and a chance to perform in a mini-musical at the end of the month!

**WHO:** Ages 12-16

**WHEN:** Sep. 6-27 (on Tuesdays and Fridays) from 4:00pm-5:30pm

**WHERE:** Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West, Orem)

**COST:** \$160

### THEATER ARTS HOME SCHOOL PROGRAM (JR. OPTION)

*Taught by Nancy Candrian*

**WHAT:** Let's learn more about theatre arts! In this weekly class, home school students will learn auditioning skills, characterization, improvisation, and scene work while working toward a final performance at the end of the semester!

**WHO:** Ages 8-11 (cap. at 20 students)

**WHEN:** Sep. 9-Nov 25 (on Mondays) from 10:00am-11:30am

**WHERE:** Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West, Orem)

**COST:** \$240

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**WHO:** Ages 12-16 (cap. at 20 students)

**WHEN:** Sep. 9-Nov 25 (on Mondays) from 12:00pm-1:30pm

**WHERE:** Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West, Orem)

**COST:** \$240

### MUSICAL THEATER AUDITIONING WORKSHOP (JR. OPTION)

*Taught by Delayne Dayton*

**WHAT:** Auditions are a huge part of the performing business, so let's get you audition ready! Students will hone musical theater auditioning skills in this month-long workshop.

**WHO:** Ages 8-12 (cap. at 20 students)

**WHEN:** Oct. 7-28 (on Mondays) from 4:00pm-6:00pm

**WHERE:** Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West, Orem)

**COST:** \$160

### MUSICAL THEATER AUDITIONING WORKSHOP (SR. OPTION)

*Taught by Bonnie Whitlock*

**WHAT:** Auditions are a huge part of the performing business, so let's get you audition ready! Students will hone musical theater auditioning skills in this month-long workshop.

**WHO:** Ages 13+ (cap. at 20 students)

**WHEN:** Nov. 1-22 (on Fridays) from 4:00pm-6:00pm

**WHERE:** Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West, Orem)

**COST:** \$160

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*All classes are subject to cancellation if enrollment does not reach 10 students. No refunds.*

*Continues on next page →*



## SEMESTER-LONG CLASSES

### MINI MUSIC MAKERS

*Taught by Bailee Morris*

**WHAT:** This semester-long musical theater class is focused around musicianship, choreography, teamwork, and building confidence! Students will learn musical theater and American folk songs. Our goal is to help your little ones become the stars they were born to be!

**WHO:** Ages 4-5 (cap. at 20 students)

**WHEN:** Sep. 3-Dec. 3 (on Tuesdays) from 9:00am-9:45am

**WHERE:** Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West, Orem)

**COST:** \$160

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**WHO:** All ages

**COST:** \$130/month

**REGISTRATION:** Continuous year-round. For more information on how to register, email Linda Hale at [linda@haletheater.org](mailto:linda@haletheater.org).

*Registration will begin August 12*

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## TICKETING & THEATER POLICIES

## ADVERTISING & INFORMATION

- ◆ Doors open 30 minutes prior to each performance, all seats are reserved, and you must be in your seat prior to the performance
- ◆ Late-comers will be seated at the house management's discretion (*Hale Center Theater Orem accepts no responsibility for inconvenience to late-comers*)
- ◆ No children under the age of 4 or babes-in-arms
- ◆ No cell phones, pagers with alarms or other electronic devices
- ◆ Video and audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited
- ◆ No outside food or drink
- ◆ Free parking in our lot or on the street (*Exxon will tow your car*)
- ◆ Restrooms are located at the rear of the theater and downstairs
- ◆ Exits are located in the front and rear of the theater
- ◆ Season Ticket holders must make reservations early for each show. *HCTO is not responsible for missed plays.*

- ◆ For advertising and promotional opportunities, contact Joseph Branca at 801.835.1380
- ◆ For audition schedules, acting and music class schedules and additional theater information visit our website at [hcto.org](http://hcto.org)
- ◆ For fundraising information for your organization contact LaRene Tinney at 801.226.8600
- ◆ For general information and ticket reservations please call the Box Office at 801.226.8600

## HCTO Staff

MANAGING DIRECTORS—Cody Hale, Linda Hale, Anne Swenson, Cody Swenson  
 FINANCIAL ASSISTANT TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR—David Smith  
 BOOKKEEPER—Fiona Swenson  
 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT—Meagan M. Downey  
 HUMAN RESOURCES—David Smith

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MANAGING DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION—Linda Hale  
 ARTISTIC DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION—David Smith  
 ACTING SCHOOL DIRECTOR—Kelly Coombs  
 VOCAL SCHOOL DIRECTOR—Amanda Crabb

VOCAL INSTRUCTORS—Jamie Bunker, Amanda Crabb, Marcie Jacobson, Lori Meldrum, Rob Moffat, Sonja Poulter, David Smith, Brandalee Streeter, Haley Wawro, Marcie Yactman  
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 YOUTH THEATER DIRECTOR—David Smith  
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 YOUTH THEATER HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN—Laura Bikman  
 YOUTH PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER—Kelly Coombs  
 EDUCATION OUTREACH—Kelly Coombs  
 EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ACCOMPANIST—Andrew Walsh

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PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER—Meagan M. Downey  
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 COSTUME DESIGN—Peter Terry  
 CUTTER DRAPER—Jessica Barksdale  
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 HAIR AND MAKEUP DESIGN—Janna Larsen  
 ASSISTANT HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN—Laura Bikman, Bekah Wilbur, Melinda Wilks

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TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/SOUND DESIGNER—Cole McClure  
 TECHNICIANS—Ryan Fallis, Richard Trimble  
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 SET CONSTRUCTION—Max Fitt, Robert Starks, Nathan Strickland  
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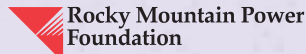
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