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MUSICAL

PRODUCTION NUMBER 238

2022
SEASON

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BRIGHT STAR

MUSIC, BOOK & STORY BY

Steve Martin • Edie Brickell

STARRING

Adrien Swenson • Anya Young Wilson
Zack Elzey • Carter Walker
Benjamin Henderson • Jadon Webster

SUPPORTING

Dustin Bolt • Julie Webb Burgess • Jim Dale • Kelsey Phillips Harrison • Dan Hess
Dayne Joyner • Stephen Kerr • Patrick Kintz • David Kocherhans • Brianna Meikle
Maren Miller • Amelia Rose Moore • Sanford Porter • Julie Silvestro

FEATURING

Michael Avila • Amanda Baugh • Phoebe Shepherd Beenfield • Kennedy Bradford • Sarah Dalley
Jake Hart • Olivia Hellin • Kristian Huff • Collin Larsen • Garrett Manning • Spencer Manning
Emily Runyan • Jared Saunders • Seth Sherman • Brandalee Bluth Streeter • Madison Valgardson

MUSICIANS

Jason Kelly Fullmer • Taylor Mann • Craig Miner • Braden Williams • Marcus Williams • Naomi White

DIRECTOR

Mark Fossen

CHOREOGRAPHER

Ashley Gardner Carlson

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Justin Bills

DIALECT COACH

Dianna Graham

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER

Meagan M. Downey

PRODUCTION MANAGER & LIGHTING DESIGN

Joseph Governale

COSTUME DESIGN

Katherine Chesne

SET DESIGN & SOUND DESIGN

Cole McClure

HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN

Bekah Wilbur

PROPERTIES

Linda Hale

MASTER CARPENTER

Bobby Swenson

COSTUME DIRECTOR

Anne Swenson

COSTUME SHOP MANAGER

Dvorah Governale

ASSISTANT COSTUME DESIGNER

Jayna Fry

HAIR & MAKEUP DIRECTOR

Melinda Wilks

TECHNICIANS

Cole McClure

Ryan Fallis

Richie Trimble

CUTTER / DRAPER

Jessica Barksdale

ASSISTANT PROPERTIES

Cody Hale

MUSIC, BOOK & STORY BY

Steve Martin

PRODUCED BY

Joey Parnes, Sue Wagner, John Johnson, Zebulon LLC, Jay Alix
& Una Jackman, Len Blavatnik, James L. Nederlander, Carson
& Joseph Gleberman, Balboa Park Productions, The Shubert
Organization, Jamie deRoy/Catherine Adler/Cricket Jiraneck

MUSIC, BOOK & STORY BY

Edie Brickell

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Rodger Hess, A.C. Orange International, Broadway Across
America, Sally Jacobs & Warren Baker, Diana DiMenna, Exeter
Capital, Agnes Gund, True Love Productions, and The Old Globe

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◇ CAST OF CHARACTERS ◇

ALICE MURPHY	Anya Young Wilson (<i>MWF</i>) • Adrien Swenson (<i>TTtS</i>)
BILLY CANE	Zack Elzey (<i>MWF</i>) • Carter Walker (<i>TTtS</i>)
JIMMY RAY DOBBS	Benjamin Henderson (<i>TWF</i>) • Jadon Webster (<i>MTtS</i>)
MAYOR JOSIAH DOBBS	Stephen Kerr (<i>MWF</i>) • Dan Hess (<i>TTtS</i>)
DADDY MURPHY	David Kocherhans (<i>MWF</i>) • Jim Dale (<i>TTtS</i>)
MAMA MURPHY	Julie Webb Burgess (<i>MWF</i>) • Julie Silvestro (<i>TTtS</i>)
DARYL AMES	Dayne Joyner (<i>MWF</i>) • Dustin Bolt (<i>TTtS</i>)
LUCY GRANT	Kelsey Phillips Harrison (<i>MTtF</i>) • Amelia Rose Moore (<i>TWS</i>)
MARGO CRAWFORD	Maren Miller (<i>MWF</i>) • Brianna Meikle (<i>TTtS</i>)
DADDY CANE	Sanford Porter (<i>MWF</i>) • Patrick Kintz (<i>TTtS</i>)
MAN 1 / MAX	Collin Larsen (<i>MWF</i>) • Seth Sherman (<i>TTtS</i>)
MAN 2 / STANFORD ADAMS	Jake Hart (<i>MWF</i>) • Jared Saunders (<i>TTtS</i>)
MAN 3 / DR. NORQUIST	Kristian Huff (<i>MWF</i>) • Spencer Manning (<i>TTtS</i>)
MAN 4 / STATIONMASTER	Michael Avila (<i>TWF</i>) • Garrett Manning (<i>MTtS</i>)
WOMAN 1 / FLORENCE	Madison Valgardson (<i>MTtF</i>) • Phoebe Shepherd Beenfield (<i>TWS</i>)
WOMAN 2 / EDNA	Amanda Baugh (<i>MWF</i>) • Emily Runyan (<i>TTtS</i>)
WOMAN 3 / GOVERNMENT CLERK ...	Brandalee Bluth Streeter (<i>MWF</i>) • Kennedy Bradford (<i>TTtS</i>)
WOMAN 4 / WELL-DRESSED WOMAN	Sarah Dalley (<i>MWF</i>) • Olivia Hellin (<i>TTtS</i>)
MUSICIANS	
FIDDLE	Braden Williams (<i>MWF</i>) • Naomi White (<i>TTtS</i>)
MANDOLIN	Marcus Williams (<i>MWF</i>) • Jason Kelly Fullmer (<i>TTtS</i>)
BANJO	Taylon Mann (<i>MWFS</i>) • Craig Miner (<i>TTtS</i>)

◇ SCENE SYNOPSIS ◇

ACT I

SCENE 1: Prologue

- *If You Knew My Story*—*Alice & Company*

SCENE 2: Billy's Home. Outside Hayes Creek.

- *She's Gone*—*Daddy Cane & Billy*

SCENE 3: Hayes Creek. Margo's Bookstore.

- *Bright Star*—*Billy & Ensemble*

SCENE 4: Asheville. Lobby of the Asheville Southern Journal.

- *Way Back in the Day*—*Alice & Ensemble*

SCENE 5: A House in the Very Small Town of Zebulon, North Carolina.

- *Whoa, Mama*—*Jimmy Ray, Alice, Ensemble*

SCENE 6: Zebulon. North Carolina. A Cabin in the Woods.

- *Firmer Hand / Do Right*—*Daddy Murphy, Mama Murphy, Alice, Ensemble*

SCENE 7: Zebulon. Mayor's Living Room.

- *A Man's Gotta Do*—*Mayor Dobbs & Jimmy Ray*

SCENE 8: Asheville Southern Journal Office.

SCENE 9: Hayes Creek. Margo's Bookstore.

- *Asheville*—*Margo & Ensemble*

SCENE 10: A Park in Zebulon.

- *Picnic Dance*—*Ensemble*
- *What Could Be Better?*—*Jimmy Ray, Alice, Ensemble*

SCENE 11: Zebulon. A Doctor's Office.

SCENE 12: Zebulon. Mayor's Living Room.

SCENE 13: Zebulon. Limbo.

- *I Can't Wait*—*Alice, Jimmy Ray, Ensemble*

SCENE 14: Asheville Southern Journal Office.

SCENE 15: Zebulon. A Pathetic Shack in the Woods. Night.

- *Please, Don't Take Him*—*Mayor Dobbs, Alice, Daddy Murphy, Mama Murphy, Stanford, Ensemble*

SCENE 16: Interior of a Train Car.

- *A Man's Gotta Do (Reprise)*—*Mayor Dobbs & Ensemble*



ACT II

SCENE 1: Train Depot Outside of Zebulon.

- Sun's Gonna Shine – *Mama Murphy, Alice, Company*

SCENE 2: Zebulon. Mayor's Living Room.

- Heartbreaker – *Jimmy Ray*

SCENE 3: Shiny Penny Café & Bar, Asheville.

- Another Round – *Lucy, Daryl, Billy, Ensemble*

SCENE 4: Asheville Southern Journal Office.

SCENE 5: Raleigh. A Government Office.

SCENE 6: Raleigh. A Well-Manicured Street.

- I Had a Vision – *Alice & Jimmy Ray*

SCENE 7: Hayes Creek. Margo's Bookstore.

- Always Will – *Billy & Margo*

SCENE 8: Zebulon. Alice's Childhood Cabin. Night.

- Sun's Gonna Shine (Reprise) – *Mama Murphy*

SCENE 8: Outside Hayes Creek. Daddy Cane's House. The Next Day.

- I Can't Wait (Reprise) – *Ensemble*
- So Familiar / At Long Last – *Alice & Ensemble*

SCENE 9: Asheville Southern Journal Office.

- Finale – *Company*



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◇ DIRECTOR'S NOTE ◇

"If you knew my story, you'd have a good story to tell"

—Alice Murphy, *Bright Star*

Whether in a familiar theatre or gathered on the porch on a summer's evening with fireflies filling the air, stories bring us together as a community. Particularly when it's live storytelling, when we're all here together in this special moment. We are teller and listener, and neither can exist without the other.

I've spent a lot of my life telling stories and listening to stories. When thinking about *Bright Star*, long before we set foot in the rehearsal room, I immediately was drawn to the thing I have missed most during this complicated time: being in a space with other people, both strangers and friends, and sharing stories.

Our storyteller tonight, Alice Murphy, is a remarkable woman. I have cherished the time I have had with her, and I don't mind saying I will miss her. She is prickly, impulsive, strong, honest, confident, and utterly true to herself. More than a few times I have found myself wishing that I could be more like Alice, and I think knowing her and her story has made me a better person.

This is a story of hope and a story of love and a story of family. It's also a story about the power of stories. From the first words of the first song, stories flow throughout the play: stories about who we are, stories about who we've lost, stories about what could have been and what can be.

I'm deeply grateful to the community of storytellers here at Hale Center Theatre Orem for allowing me to be part of this story—one of so many I have enjoyed sitting in these seats. I've long admired the work done here and am in awe of all those both on and off stage who make it happen. If you needed any more proof that stories are important, just look around -- we're all here to be part of a story tonight.

Stories tell us we're not alone. Stories tell us that if we stumble and fall, we can get up again. Stories tell us that the sun will shine again.

Stories are our bright star.

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The FOREIGNER

MARCH 3 - MARCH 26

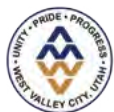
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◇ WHO'S WHO ◇

MICHAEL AVILA

Man 4 / Stationmaster (TWF)

Michael is thrilled to be in his first HCTO production! He's currently working as the drama teacher and director at Timpview High School and he's proud of the art that his students have created. Some of his favorite productions he's been a part of are *AIDA* (HCT Sandy), *Wizard of Oz* (HCT Sandy), *Wendy and Peter Pan* (BYU), *Doubt* (BYU), and *Beauty and the Beast* (BYU). Michael loves to direct, choreograph, design, and act because he knows the transformative power and good that theatre can have in peoples' lives.

AMANDA BAUGH

Woman 2 / Edna (MWF)

Amanda is thrilled to be a part of this production of *Bright Star*. She earned a BFA in Music Dance Theatre from Brigham Young University. While there, she was on Young Ambassadors for two years, touring to mainland China, Hong Kong and Southeast Asia. COVID quarantine / lockdown brought Amanda back to Utah to be with

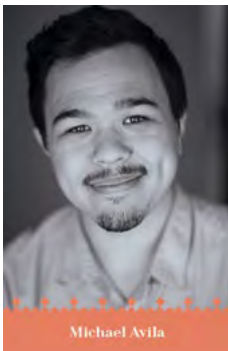
family after living in Southern California for two years, where she was a professional dancer at Disneyland and Legoland Resort. Some of her credits include Ariel in *Footloose*, Zaneeta and u/s Marian in *The Music Man*, Eileen in *Wonderful Town*, Witch in *Into the Woods*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Hairspray*, and *West Side Story*. "Lots of love to my family, friends, and wonderful cast!"

@theamandabaugh

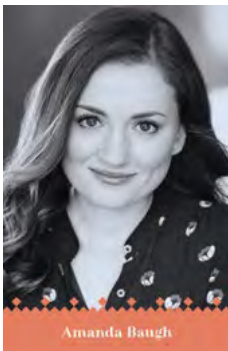
PHOEBE SHEPHERD BEENFIELD

Woman 1 / Florence (TWS)

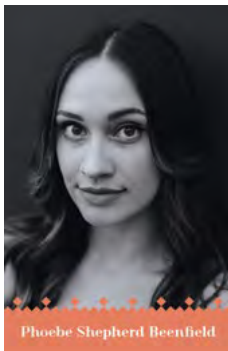
After having the opportunity to play one of her dream roles, Esmerelda, in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* last fall, Phoebe is overjoyed to be back at HCTO. She spent 6 years away from the stage earning her Bachelor Degree in Elementary Education. She is currently a preschool teacher, a vocal coach, married to her best friend, and a full time mom to the cutest baby boy. Some of her favorite roles include Nina in *In the Heights*, and Meg in *Little Women*. She would like to thank her husband and son for their constant support, love, and encouragement.



Michael Avila



Amanda Baugh



Phoebe Shepherd Beenfield



Dustin Bolt

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JUSTIN BILLS

Music Director

Justin has performed and music directed at HCTO, HCTWV, and HCT Sandy for 15 years. Justin is also the Director of Choirs at Salem Hills High School—a position he's held since 2008. He holds Bachelor of Music and Master of Music Degrees from Brigham Young University. His favorite theater credits include *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Daddy Long Legs*, *In the Heights*, *Les Miserables*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Little Women: The Musical*, *Phantom*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, and *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Justin and his amazingly talented wife, Cecily Ellis-Bills (no stranger to HCTO audiences) live with their two sons Clark and Wyatt, and their dog Scooter, in Salem. “Thank you Mark, Ashley, Meagan, and the Hales, and the Swensons for this opportunity and thank you Cecily for supporting me and never giving up on me!

DUSTIN BOLT

Daryl Ames (TThS)

Dustin's last appearance at HCTO was as Winnie the Pooh in *Winnie the Pooh*. Some of his favorite roles include Nicely Nicely Johnson (*Guys and Dolls*), Horton the Elephant (*Seussical*), The Cowardly Lion (*The Wizard of Oz*), Henry Allerdycce (*Betty Blue Eyes*), and Amos Hart (*Chicago*). He graduated from Weber State University with a Bachelor's degree in Musical Theatre and is father to 5 cats Sister, Brother, Peanut, Kevin, and Toby.

KENNEDY BRADFORD

Woman 3 / Government Clerk (TThS)

Kennedy is grateful to be doing her third show here at the HCTO. She loves performing on this stage. She was previously in *Tuck Everlasting*, where she met her husband, Dallin. She then performed in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, where she got to dance alongside him again. Kennedy is a licensed massage therapist, and has her own

practice here in Orem. She also narrates audiobooks and is an audiobook engineer, and loves having a variety of jobs. Kennedy would like to express her love to her mom for all her support, and Dallin who has been the best friend/husband a person could ever ask for.

JULIE WEBB BURGESS

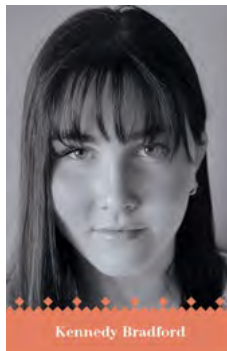
Mama Murphy (MWF)

Julie is thrilled to once again be on the HCTO stage, where she was last seen in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. She has performed in multiple productions all over Utah Valley. Favorite roles include: Baker's Wife (*Into the Woods*), Vi Moore (*Footloose*), Gaia/Eve (*Eric Samuelsen's The Plan*), Florence Foster Jenkins (*Souvenir*), and Shelby Thorpe (*The Spitfire Grill*). Julie received a Bachelor of Music Education from BYU, and has had the opportunity to music direct several productions over the years at various theaters, including both the HCTO and the SCERA Theater. She is so grateful for the love and support of her husband, five children, and two grandchildren!

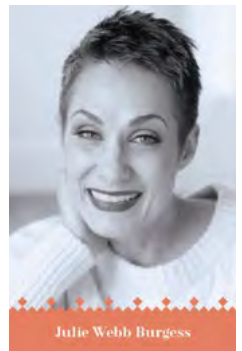
ASHLEY GARDNER CARLSON

Choreographer

Ashley is always happy to be back at HCTO, this time to choreograph her 7th production for us. Her work was last seen in last seasons, *The Sound of Music*. When not



Kennedy Bradford



Julie Webb Burgess



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Jim Dale



Sarah Dalley

choreographing, Ashley is usually seen on stage. She just finished appearing in HCT Sandy's *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* as Boris the spy and HCTO's *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* as Murial Eubanks. "Thank you to HCTO, Mark, Justin and a wonderful cast for their hard work in telling this story. I hope you enjoy the show!"

JIM DALE

Daddy Murphy (TTNS)

After playing Nunzio in *Over the River & Through the Woods* and Mr. Weston in last year's production of *Emma: the Musical*, Jim is thrilled to be back in *Bright Star!* Jim has performed at many theaters along the Wasatch front from Provo to Logan and many in between! Some of his favorite roles include Henry Higgins, Don Quixote, Sweeney Todd, Captain Von Trapp, King Arthur, Emile de Beque, Captain Hook, and El Gallo! Also, Charles in *Blithe Spirit*, Cromwell in *A Man For All Seasons*, Jack in *Dancing at Lughnasa*, and Baptitsta in *A Taming Of The Shrew!*

SARAH DALLEY

Woman 4 / Well-Dressed Woman (MWF)

Sarah is thrilled to be a part of *Bright Star!* She is a dance major at BYU and has danced with several of their companies including Ballet Showcase, Dance Ensemble, and a Folk Dance team! She has also sung



Zack Elzey

with BYU Women's Chorus. Her favorite pastimes include dancing, choreographing, and listening to musical soundtracks while creating artwork out of cardboard! Sarah is so grateful to be telling this beautiful story, and she sends love and gratitude to her family.

ZACK ELZEY

Billy Cane (MWF)

Zack is very excited to be with performing at HCTO again. He was previously seen as Man 1 in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. His favorite roles have included Huck Finn in *Big River*, Adam in *Freaky Friday*, Ensemble in *Sweeney Todd*, and Tim in *Noises Off*. Zack loves movies, directing, and writing as well. He would like to thank the production team, the cast, family and friends for their support! Enjoy the show!

MARK FOSSEN

Director

Mark is excited to be directing his first show at HCTO, and is thankful for the opportunity to contribute to a theatre he's admired for a long time. Local directing credits include American Classics such as *The Glass Menagerie*, *Death of a Salesman* and *A Streetcar Named Desire* at The Grand Theatre; modern classics like *Bellwether*, *Men on Boats* and *The Birthday Party* at Westminster College; *Silent Sky* and *Sweetheart Come for PYGmalion Productions*; *Stage Kiss* and *The Fables Project* at Wasatch Theatre Company; *The Children's Hour* at The University of Utah; *August: Osage County* for Utah Repertory & Silver Summit; *The Real Thing* and *An Ideal Husband* at Pinnacle Acting Company; and three years of Shakespeare productions for Davis Arts Council. You can also find his work as HCTO's Guest Dramaturg in the "Interesting Facts" of every program beginning with last year's *Emma*. Regional work includes Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre, the California Shakespeare Festival, and Berkeley Repertory Theatre. He serves on the board of The Grand Theatre, and is an adjunct instructor at Westminster College and the University of Utah. He is a graduate of the University of Utah and received his MFA from the University of Idaho. <http://markfossen.info>

KELSEY PHILLIPS HARRISON

Lucy Grant (MThF)

Kelsey is a graduate of the BYU MDT program where she spent three years as the Dance Captain for the BYU Young Ambassadors, touring Brazil and China. She is currently the Studio Director for Uplift Performing Arts while also choreographing for high school and youth productions around the valley. Kelsey has recently been seen as a performer in *Cinderella* (SCERA), *Matilda* (HCTO and SCERA), *Thoroughly Modern*



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Millie (HCTO), *Mamma Mia* (Sundance Summer Theatre), *Company* (BYU), *Into the Woods* (BYU), *The Music Man* (Sundance Summer Theatre), and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (Jackson Hole Playhouse). She is excited to be back on the HCTO stage as part of one of her favorite shows. Big thanks to her husband for supporting all her crazy endeavors!

JAKE HART

Man 2 / Stanford Adams (MWF)

Thrilled to be back at HCTO in such a beautiful show! Jake was last seen as Sir Robin in *Monty Python's Spamalot* at SCERA. Other favorite roles include a Sailor in HCTO's *Anything Goes*, an Ancestor in HCT Sandy's *The Addams Family*, and Race in CenterPoint Legacy Theatre's *Newsies*. Thanks to all who came to the show!

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OLIVIA HELLIN

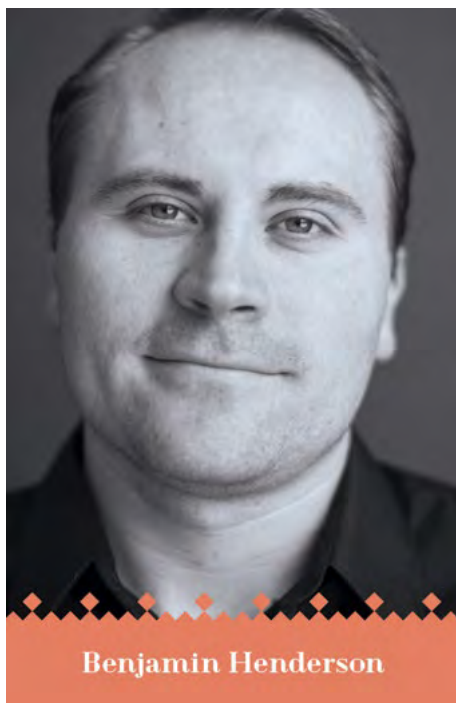
Woman 4 / Well-Dressed Woman (TTHS)

Olivia is thrilled to be making her HCTO debut! Originally from O'Fallon, Illinois, Olivia is a freshman in the BFA Musical Theatre program at the University of Utah. Favorite credits include Katherine in *Freaky Friday*, Ilse in *Spring Awakening*, Polly in *Crazy for You*, and Fritzie in *Cabaret*. She would like to thank the directors for this amazing opportunity and her family for the endless love and support.

BENJAMIN HENDERSON

Jimmy Ray Dobbs (TWF)

Benjamin is excited to be the new Director of the Hale Academy here at HCTO. He is directing Camp Rock for HCTO's youth theatre on this very set for *Bright Star*, and was last seen on this stage in *Annie* as Warbucks. Benjamin earned his MFA in Classical Acting from George Washington



University and his undergraduate degree in Acting from Utah Valley University. He is grateful for his two kids and their mother who sacrifice much so he can perform.

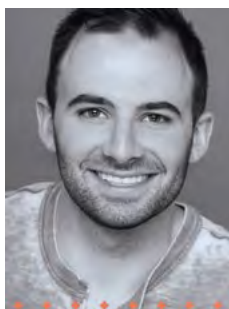
DAN HESS

Mayor Josiah Dobbs (TTHS)

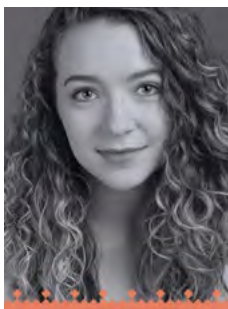
Dan is humbled and honored to be reunited with his HCTO family in a production that could not be more poignant and timely than *Bright Star*. A testament to the breadth and depth of the human spirit and a celebration of life and living! He expresses profound gratitude to the gifted and generous production staff and a special thank you to the brilliant Mark Fossen for this first of hopefully many theatrical experiences together. Dan was recently seen as Thenardier in *Les Miserables* and Grandpa Potts in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. He dedicates his performance to his muse and eternal scene partner, Janalee!



Kelsey Phillips Harrison



Jake Hart



Olivia Hellin



Dan Hess

KRISTIAN HUFF

Man 3 / Dr. Norquist (MWF)

Kristian is thrilled to be on the HCTO stage again for the first time since 2014, where he played Slightly in *Peter Pan*. A graduate of the Music Dance Theatre BFA program at Brigham Young University, and he has performed in several venues and in several capacities across the valley. Some of his favorite recent credits include Harold Hill in *The Music Man* (The Playmill Theatre), Jack in *Into the Woods* (BYU), Corny Collins in *Hairspray* (SCERA Shell), and Feste in *Twelfth Night* (Creekside Theatre Fest). He is deeply grateful to his spectacular wife and daughter for their support.

DAYNE JOYNER

Daryl Ames (MWF)

Thrilled to be back on the stage at HCTO! Previous credits for Dayne include: *The Music Man* and *A Christmas Carol* with HCT Sandy; *Emma: The Musical* and *A Christmas Carol* at HCTO; and *Wonderland* at BYU. He is a graduate of the Music Dance Theatre Program from BYU where he works in the Theatre Department and with BRAVO! Professional Performing Arts Series. "Grateful to be telling this beautiful story! Much love to Tillie!"

STEPHEN KERR

Mayor Josiah Dobbs (MWF)

Stephen is thrilled to be returning to HCTO after playing Man in the Yellow Suit (*Tuck Everlasting*) in 2019. He's a familiar face to theatre goers in Utah having played Ebenezer Scrooge (*A Christmas Carol*) at HCT Sandy for nine years. Recent stage credits include: John Barsad (*A Tale of Two Cities*) Admiral Boom/Park Keeper/Bank Chairman (*Mary Poppins*), Pap Finn (*Big River*), Thernardier (*Les Misérables*), and Professor Clarence Black (*Séance*) for Lagoon's Frightmares for the last 5 years.

PATRICK KINTZ

Daddy Cane (TTuS)

Patrick is excited to be on the stage again at HCTO. A graduate of BYU in theatre studies, he has also studied with the amazing faculty at UVU and Steppenwolf Classes West. Some Recent credits include: Daddy Cane in *Bright Star* and Cholet in *Phantom* (HCT Sandy), Michael in *Sweetheart Come* (Pygmalion), Trond in *Oslo* (Pioneer Theatre Company), Capt. Von Trapp in *The Sound of Music*, Sam in *Blink*, Kerchak in *Tarzan*, Don Price (u/s Edward Bloom) in *Big Fish*, Mr. Applegate in *Damn Yankees*, and Duke/Dr.Carrasco in *Man of La Mancha* (HCTO), Charlie Cowell (Sundance Summer Theatre), and Thomas in *Venus in Fur* (Salt



Kristian Huff



Dayne Joyner



Stephen Kerr



Patrick Kintz

Lake Acting Company). He would like to especially thank his loving family, Lara, Kate, Jack and Lizzie for all their support and love!

DAVID KOCHERHANS

Daddy Murphy (MWF)

David is thrilled for the opportunity to perform in *Bright Star* with this talented cast. He first appeared on the HCTO stage in *The Civil War* where he discovered a love for musical theater, and he has since performed in *Jane Eyre*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Little Women*, and most recently *Emma: the Musical*. David comes from a large musical family and has performed with a variety of local bands as keyboardist, guitarist, and vocalist. A web developer and designer by day, David is also an accomplished fingerstyle acoustic guitar player, avid hiker and published nature photographer.

COLLIN LARSEN

Man 1 / Max (MWF)

Collin is so grateful to be back on the HCTO stage and in such a wonderful story. Collin is currently a Senior at Orem High School where he has enjoyed training in the schools drama program. He has been seen in productions across the valley such as *A Christmas Carol* (HCTO), *Crazy For You* (Orem High), and *Matilda* (SCERA). He cannot wait to tell this story and is so grateful you came!

GARRETT MANNING

Man 4 / Stationmaster (MTuS)

Garrett is excited for the opportunity to perform in *Bright Star*! He previously played Friedrich in *The Sound of Music* here at HCTO and is grateful to be back. Some of his other past roles include Ben (*Descendants*), Aladdin (*Aladdin*), and Lefou (*Beauty and the Beast*). Garrett also enjoys singing, dancing, and playing the guitar. He'd like to thank the amazing production team and cast for making this such a great show.

SPENCER MANNING

Man 3 / Dr. Norquist (TTuS)

Spencer is excited to be back at HCTO once again! He was previously seen in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Some of his other shows include *The Sound of Music* (Rolf), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Matilda*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *Newsies*. Spencer enjoys playing guitar, dancing, and hiking. He would like to thank his friends and family for their support! "Enjoy the show!"

BRIANNA MEIKLE

Margo Crawford (TTuS)

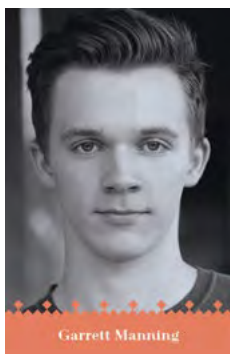
Brianna is thrilled to be making her HCTO debut- and for the chance to visit this role and show again! She holds a BFA in Musical Theater from UVU and works as a vocal instructor for One Voice Children



David Kocherhans



Collin Larsen



Garrett Manning



Spencer Manning



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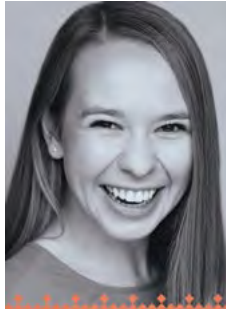
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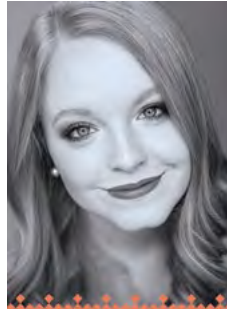




Brianna Meikle



Maren Miller



Amelia Rose Moore



Sanford Porter

and SCERA. Favorite roles include: Margo Crawford (*Bright Star*), Cathy Hiatt (*The Last Five Years*), Desdemona (*Tragedy Averted*), Jo (*Little Women*). “I am so grateful to be a part of this incredible cast and team and to share this transformative story. Thank you to my family, teachers, and my wonderful husband for supporting me always!”

MAREN MILLER

Margo Crawford (MWF)

Maren is so excited to return to the HCTO stage! Her HCTO credits include the ensemble of *Tuck Everlasting*, Buttons in *Newsies*, and Belle in *A Christmas Carol*. She recently graduated from BYU with a BFA in Music Dance Theatre and enjoyed performing with the BYU Young Ambassadors for two years. She is currently directing the Music Dance Theatre program and the junior high showchoir (InPulse) at American Leadership Academy in Spanish Fork. She would like to thank her parents for encouraging her to get back to the stage and her husband, Darrikk, for believing in her every step of the way.

AMELIA ROSE MOORE

Lucy Grant (TWS)

Amelia is excited to be back at HCTO in one of her favorite shows! Amelia has performed all over Utah. Some of her favorite

roles include Morticia Addams (*The Addams Family*), Belle (*Beauty and the Beast*), Dorcus (*Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*), Madame Thenardier (*Les Miserables*) at HCT Sandy, Narrator (*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*) at HCTO, Rusty (*Footloose*) at WVA, as well as other roles at SLAC, Utah Opera and Capitol Theater. Amelia holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Musical Theater from WSU, is a nail tech, and teaches voice for HCTO. “Thank you to Linda, Cody, Anne, Cody, Mark, Justin and Ashley for this opportunity! This story is so beautiful, it’s a joy to be part of it. Enjoy!”

SANFORD PORTER

Daddy Cane (MWF)

Sandy is beyond thrilled to be returning to HCTO after a much too long absence. He last performed here 20 years ago with his beautiful wife who he fell in love with on this very stage. Sandy was last seen in Sundance Summer Theatre’s *Mamma Mia* as Harry Bright and has also performed at HCT Sandy, HCTWV, The Grand Theater, Parky City Egyptian Theater and the LDS Conference Center Theater. His favorite Roles include Francis in *Forever Plaid*, Harry Witherspoon in *Lucky Stiff* and Richard Henry Lee in *1776*. Love to Jenn, Izzy, Gwen and Jack. This one’s for Dot.

EMILY RUNYAN

Woman 2 / Edna (TTHS)

Emily is so excited to be back at HCTO! She currently works as a special education aid at an elementary school, and a Dance teacher at SCERA Center for the Arts as well as at Uplift Performing Arts. She is studying elementary education at BYU with a minor in dance. Recent credits include *The Drowsy Chaperone* at the SCERA, *Tarzan* at SCERA Shell, *Jekyll and Hyde* at AFCT, *Matilda* at HCTO, and *Beauty and the Beast* at SCERA Shell. Emily is so grateful to Mark, Justin and Ashley for allowing her to be a part of this show and pushing her to grow so much as a performer.

JARED SAUNDERS

Man 2 / Stanford Adams (TTHS)

Jared is excited to return to HCTO and take part in telling this compelling story. Jared has been performing for many years with prior credits including Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz*, Don Lockwood in *Singin' in the Rain*, and Cat in the Hat in *Seussical*. He's the proud father of six wonderful children and lucky enough to be married to the most amazing and supportive woman in the world!

SETH SHERMAN

Man 1 / Max (TTHS)

Seth Sherman is thrilled to be a part of the cast of *Bright Star*! Recent shows at

HCTO include *Newsies* (Henry/tumbler), *Tuck Everlasting* (Hugo), *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Matilda*, and *A Christmas Carol* (Peter Cratchit). Other favorite roles include Man 6 in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* at HCT Sandy, Matt in *The Fantasticks*, Pippin in *Pippin*, and Jesse Tuck in *Tuck Everlasting*, done with Timpview Theatre. Seth has also won awards for performances on piano. Special thanks to everyone who has helped Seth grow as a person and actor!

JULIE SILVESTRO

Mama Murphy (TTHS)

Julie is so excited to be making her debut on the HCTO stage! A native of Maryland, she has been performing and music directing in Utah since getting her BA in Musical Theatre from Weber State University. Some favorite roles include Dolly Levi (*Hello, Dolly!*), The Witch (*Into the Woods*), Reno Sweeney (*Anything Goes*), Georgie (*The Full Monty*), Julia Gibbs (*Our Town*), and Trix (*The Drowsy Chaperone*). Julie works as a collaborative pianist for the Theater Department at the University of Utah. Love to Spencer, Drea, and Jared!

BRANDALEE BLUTH STREETER

Woman 3 / Government Clerk (MWF)

Brandalee feels so thankful to be part of this beautiful production. Favorite credits include *Matilda* (Honey), *Ragtime* (Mother), *Oliver*



Emily Runyan



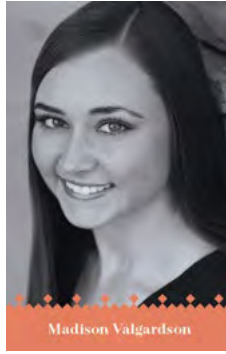
Jared Saunders



Seth Sherman



Julie Silvestro



(Nancy), *Jekyll & Hyde* (Lucy), *Annie* (Grace), *Les Miserables*, *The Addams Family*, *Guys and Dolls*, *She Loves Me*. She has performed at the Lamb Theater NYC, HCTO, HCTWV, HCTS Summerlin Theater Las Vegas, and BYU Young Ambassadors. Music directing credits: *Tarzan*, *Nunsense*, *Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *Peter Pan*, *Shrek*, and many youth productions. She teaches private voice at the Hale Academy and is a company director at Utah COPA. Brandalee's most favorite role is that of wife to Brad and mother to Jacob, Emma, Tobey, Madalee and Mabel! I love you MORE!

ADRIEN SWENSON

Alice Murphy (TTHS)

Adrien is delighted to play another dream role at HCTO after playing Fantine years ago. She recently moved back from NYC after completing the National Tour of *Finding Neverland*. Adrien received a degree in Acting/Directing from SUU and recently completed her 6th year in *The Forgotten Carols*, including the recent film. Other favorites include Judy in *9 to 5*, Nancy in *Oliver!*, Lucille in *Parade*, Katherine in *Freaky Friday*, Kala in *Tarzan*, Madame Defarge in *A Tale of Two Cities*, Louise in *Always Patsy Cline*, and others. "Thanks to Matt, for your love and support. I found my superfan!"



MADISON VALGARDSON

Woman 1 / Florence (MTHF)

Madison is excited to make her HCTO debut with this incredible cast! Growing up a dancer, she has worked alongside many world known choreographers, taught dance at multiple studios, and choreographed several solo and team dances winning numerous dance awards. Some dance highlights include; Peaks Olympic Festival - *Rekindle the Fire*, *Odyssey Dance Theatre*, *Gentri* (Backup Dancer), & Training with the *Radio City Rockettes*. She has had opportunities to perform and choreograph many productions around the state of Utah. Performing & Choreography credits include; *Newsies*, *Mamma Mia*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Anastasia*, *Matilda*, *The Music Man*, & *Urinetown*. She couldn't do it without the love and support of her family and friends. "Enjoy the show!"



Carter Walker

CARTER WALKER

Billy Cane (TTnS)

Carter’s previous roles include: Billy Cane in *Bright Star* and Crutchie in *Newsies* at HCT Sandy, Jesse Tuck in *Tuck Everlasting* at HCTO, Torvald in *A Doll’s House* & Edward II in *Edward II* at AOTC. He earned his BFA in Acting from UVU and is a current board member of Grassroots Shakespeare. He wants to extend a thanks to his family, friends, and lovely girlfriend Sage.



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JADON WEBSTER

Jimmy Ray Dobbs (MTnS)

Jadon is both elated & humbled to be making his HCTO debut. Regional Credits include: Albert Mondego in *The Count of Monte Cristo* (Tuacahn), Swing in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Tuacahn), Anthony in *Sweeney Todd* (Utah Rep), *A Tale of Two Cities* & *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (HCT Sandy). Other favorites include: Marius in *Les Miserables* (Hurricane Valley), Tony in *West Side Story* (SGMT), Black Stache in *Peter & the Starcatcher* (Dixie State), Joseph in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (SGMT). Much love!

ANYA YOUNG WILSON

Alice Murphy (MWF)

Anya Sulimoni is exceptionally thrilled and honored to be a part of this brilliant show! An absolute dream come true! Other favorite roles include: Marguerite (*The Scarlet Pimpernel*), Fantine (*Les Miserables*), Mary Magdalene (*Savior of the World*), Jo (*Little Women*). She is forever grateful to her Mother and Father, Brothers, and Sisters for their awesome love and support. She dedicates this to Payton, David, and Ethan with all her love. "You three are my Bright Stars."



"... it has a high lonesome sound."

—Bill Monroe

B*right Star* is a unique musical: instead of classic Broadway tunes, or rock and pop music, it's full of what musical trailblazer Bill Monroe called the "high lonesome sound" of Appalachian Bluegrass.

Bluegrass is a distinctly American musical form, with a style and a history all its own. Variouslly described as a part of folk music, country music, or "hillbilly" music, it grew out of sounds that Scottish and Irish immigrants brought with them to the Appalachians in the 18th century, including Scottish, Irish and English ballads dating from the 16th Century and "reels" which accompanied traditional dances. Just as the music evolved into a unique American form, so did those traditional dances. Clogging was often found wherever bluegrass was being played and was itself an American blend of Irish step dance, square dancing and African rhythms that would later develop into tap dance.

While this music developed through America's history, it was the success of Bill Monroe and the Blue Grass Boys in the 1940s that gave the music a name, put it on the radio, and defined it as a musical genre to listen to nationwide. Monroe was known

as "The Father of Bluegrass" and established what would become the iconic instrumental lineup: acoustic instruments of all sorts, including the fiddle, five-string banjo, guitar, mandolin, string bass, resonator guitar (called a Dobro) and sometimes harmonica. The instrumentation itself shows the blending of cultures that produced this music: the Italian fiddle was one of the first instruments to be brought across the ocean by European settlers, the banjo was brought over by enslaved Africans as traditional instruments like the kora, akonting, and ubaw-akwala, and the Dobro was invented in America by a Slovakian immigrant to the United States.

Bluegrass is also influenced by blues and jazz in its structure, especially the way individual instruments will take the melody one at a time and improvise around that basic theme. The vocals prominently feature two, three, four, or even five-part harmonies, often with a dissonance in the highest part -- it's that high, clear vocal line which gives bluegrass its distinctive "high lonesome sound"

Alison Krauss, The Punch Brothers, Gillian Welch, Vince Gill, and Old Crow Medicine Show are among the popular modern acts making music in the bluegrass tradition.



"Father of Bluegrass" Bill Monroe and the Blue Grass Boys in 1940

Bluegrass experienced a huge revival with the 2000 release of the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* by Joel and Ethan Cohen transplanting *The Odyssey* to Depression-era America with a soundtrack mixing bluegrass, folk, Americana and other traditional music. The album was a runaway hit, topping the *Billboard* 200 chart (as well as the country and soundtrack charts) and sold millions of copies. The album even spawned its own concert tour featuring many of the artists involved, which produced a film of its own: *Down from the Mountain*, a combination of concert footage and behind-the-scenes looks at the events leading up to the tour.

So how does bluegrass end up in musical written by Hollywood actor Steve Martin?

While many know Martin from his standup career, *Saturday Night Live* appearances, or films ranging from *The Jerk* to *Roxanne* to *The Three Amigos*, his love of the banjo began when he was 17 years old and played bluegrass records at 16 rpm on his record player to teach himself the songs. Banjo was a big part of his early standup act, and he often played on his comedy albums - including filling the B-Side on *The Steve Martin Brothers* entirely with live bluegrass performances.

Having moved to Asheville, he began to play with the North Carolina bluegrass band Steep Canyon Rangers in 2009 and collaborating with Edie Brickell (of the band The New Bohemians) in 2013, creating the Grammy-winning Love Has Come for You and beginning a relationship that would eventually lead to 2016's *Bright Star*. While *Bright Star* looks backward in time, Martin invests in the future of bluegrass to this day by sponsoring The Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Banjo and Bluegrass with a \$50,000 cash prize and an opportunity to play with Martin on national television as recognition for extraordinary contributions to the form.

"... the music I believe rivals any class of a specialized genre of music," says Martin. "It can be very sophisticated and emotional. It has a very rich history and can feature great storytelling. But it's a genre that's underrepresented in the wider culture."

—HCTO Guest Dramaturg Mark Fossen, MFA

Looking for even more interesting facts?

We don't want to spoil the story, but after you've experienced *Bright Star*, [check out our article about the true story that inspired the musical.](#)



Actor, comedian, playwright, and banjo enthusiast Steve Martin early in his career

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2022 SEASON



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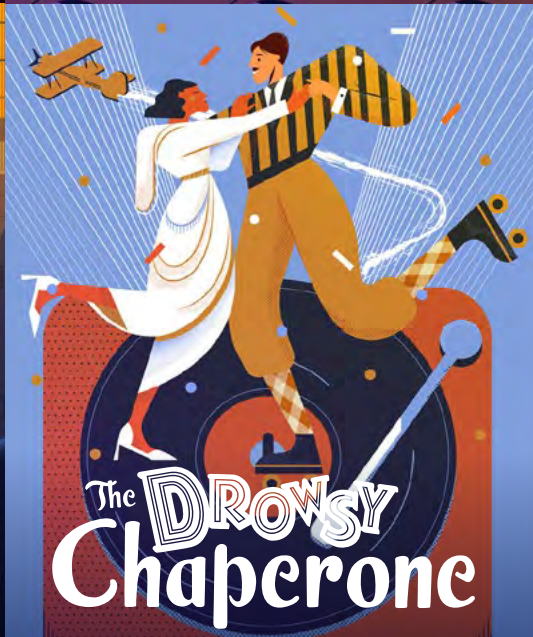
BRIGHT STAR

MUSICAL | Feb. 25 -THROUGH- Apr. 09



Camelot

MUSICAL | Apr. 22 -THROUGH- Jun. 04



The Drowsy Chaperone

MUSICAL | Jun. 17 -THROUGH- Aug. 06

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SPRING CLASSES

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WHO: Ages 7 – 14

WHEN: SESSION II: February 28th – March 25th; Mondays & Fridays from 4:00pm–5:30pm

WHERE: Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West in Orem);

FINAL PERFORMANCE ON THE HCTO STAGE

COST: \$160

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WHAT: So, you want to be in a play? Well, now is your chance! In this class, students will be given a role in a short, non-musical play to perfect and perform on the HCTO stage! You will learn acting techniques, partner work in scenes, and teamwork as an ensemble.

WHO: Ages 7 – 14

WHEN: April 26th – May 12th; Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays from 4:00pm – 5:30pm

WHERE: Hale Center Theater Orem (225 West 400 North in Orem)

COST: \$160

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WHO: Ages 18+

WHEN: Every Saturday; 2:00pm–4:00pm

WHERE: Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West in Orem)

COST: \$150/month

INSTRUCTOR: Benjamin J. Henderson

REGISTRATION: Continuous year-round.

Email ben.henderson@haletheater.org for more details

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WHAT: This includes three 30-minute private voice, acting, or guitar lessons and one master class each month.

WHO: All ages

WHEN: Determined by instructor

WHERE: Hale Studios (537 North 1200 West in Orem)

COST: \$135–\$165/month

REGISTRATION: Continuous year-round. Email linda@haletheater.org for more details

INSTRUCTORS

VOICE INSTRUCTORS: *Amanda Crabb, Marcie Jacobsen, Rex Kocherhans, Chelsea Lindsay, Amelia Rose Moore, Rachel Ryan Nicholes, Brandalee Bluth Streeter, Kelsey Mariner Thompson, & Marcie Yackman*

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Private lessons are offered continually year-round. Sign up by calling the Box Office at 801-226-8600 or by emailing Linda Hale at linda@haletheater.org

For more information and to register for classes, go to:

<https://tickets.haletheater.org/events>

Sessions are limited to 20 students, and masks are recommended. More details for time, place, and safety procedures are available at the link.

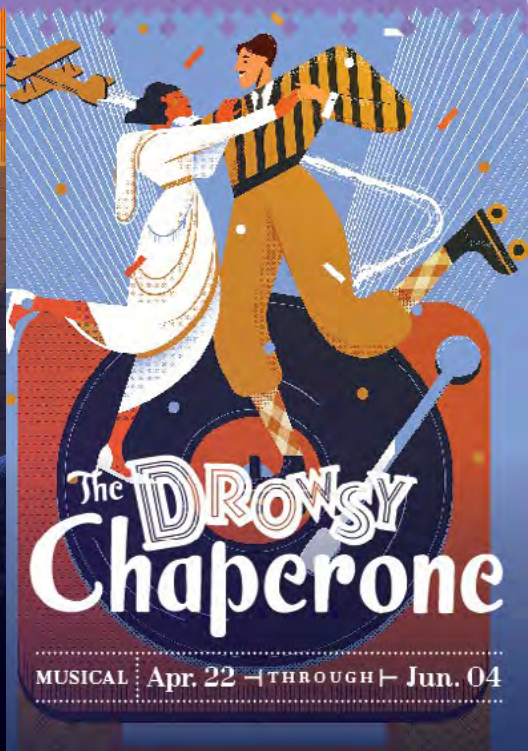
◇ COMING NEXT ◇

◇ COMING SOON ◇



Camelot

MUSICAL | Apr. 22 |—THROUGH—| Jun. 04



The Drowsy Chaperone

MUSICAL | Apr. 22 |—THROUGH—| Jun. 04

TICKETING & THEATER POLICIES

- ◆ 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.*

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- ◆ 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
- ◆ For fundraising information for your organization contact Brooke Wilkins at 801.226.8600
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- State of Utah: Division of Arts & Museums
- State of Utah: Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED)
- State of Utah: Legislature
- State of Utah: Office of Tourism
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