



Soon to be



Seussical

2024
SEASON

MUSICAL

PRODUCTION NUMBER 254

Jun. 14 — THROUGH — Aug. 03

HALE CENTER THEATER OREM

◆ PROUDLY PRESENTS ◆

Seussical

Music by STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Lyrics by LYNN AHRENS

Book by LYNN AHRENS and STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Co-Conceived by LYNN AHRENS, STEPHEN FLAHERTY, and ERIC IDLE

Based on the Works of DR. SEUSS

.....◆.....
STARRING

Blake Barlow ◆ Dustin Bolt ◆ Cade Hixson ◆ Aria Love Jackson
Wade Robert Johnson ◆ Brigham Ker ◆ Amelia Rose Moore
Luseane 'Lucy' Pasa ◆ Chase Petersen ◆ Kelly Pulver
Maggie Scott ◆ McKelle Shaw

SUPPORTING

Sarah Knowles Baldwin ◆ Daniel Cespedes ◆ Madeline Clifford ◆ Carson Smith Davies
Cannon Hadfield ◆ Nathan Holley ◆ Cole Hixson ◆ Collin Larsen ◆ Sitiveni "Boogie" Iongi
Corinne McQuivey ◆ Ambrocio Mireles Jr ◆ Lucas Morley ◆ Isaac Moss ◆ Grace Oborn
Larissa Pearson ◆ Hailey Bennett Sundwall ◆ Tatem Trotter ◆ Abigail Viehweg

.....◆.....
DIRECTOR

Jennifer Hill Barlow

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Justin Bills

CHOREOGRAPHER

Sayoko Knode Peterson

STAGE MANAGER

Ashtyn Waters

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Meagan M. Downey

MAGIC CONSULTANT

Paul Draper

SCENIC DESIGN

Carter Thompson

LIGHTING DESIGN

Ryan Fallis

SOUND DESIGN

Cole McClure

COSTUME DESIGN

Lexi Goldsberry

HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN

Bekah Wilbur

ASST. COSTUME DESIGN

Ems Peterson-Porter

PUPPET DESIGN

Brienna Michaelis

PROPERTIES

Linda Hale, Jason Baldwin, Paul Hintz, Elisabeth Goulding & Curt R. Jensen

.....◆.....
SEUSSICAL

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www.mtishows.com

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◇ DIRECTOR'S NOTE ◇

Dear patrons of Hale Center Theater Orem, soon to be patrons of the Ruth,

Welcome to our production of *Seussical*! It is with great joy and a touch of bittersweet emotion that I share this special note with you. As a mother and as a director who has spent thirteen wonderful years in this beloved theater, this show holds a particularly meaningful place in my heart.

Seussical is a tapestry of imagination, heart, and wisdom—qualities that Dr. Seuss wove into every story he penned. This musical brings to life a world where anything is possible if you dare to think it, and where the smallest voices matter immensely. For me, directing this show is more than just a professional milestone; it is a deeply personal journey that I want to dedicate to my two teenage sons, Dash and Hudson, who have been my inspiration and joy.

Watching my boys grow, I have seen firsthand the power of imagination and individuality, themes that are central to *Seussical*. Horton's unwavering loyalty and Jojo's bold creativity remind me of the lessons I hope to impart to them: to always stand by their values and to embrace their unique perspectives, no matter how different or challenging the path may seem. In every note of the music and every line of the script, I see reflections of the love, resilience, and hope that I have tried to nurture in them.

This production also marks the culmination of an incredible thirteen-year journey with this theater. Over the years, we have created countless

memories and brought numerous stories to life on this stage. I have had the esteem honor of creating with some of the most talented artists I know and my dearest friends. Namely, the late Dr. Christopher Clark, Meagan Downey, David Morgan, Justin Bills, and last but certainly not least, my Husband, Blake Barlow. *Seussical* embodies the magic and wonder that I have always aimed to capture in my work. It feels fitting that my final bow in this theater before we move into The Ruth is with a show that celebrates the essence of storytelling and the transformative power of a good “think.”

In *Seussical*, we are reminded that life is a delicate balance of joy and challenge, much like my own experience as a director and mother. The themes of the show—believing in oneself, standing up for others, and the endless possibilities of imagination—are the cornerstones of both my personal and professional life. They serve as a beautiful tribute to my journey here and to the incredible community we have built together.

Thank you for being part of this extraordinary adventure. To my sons, and to all of you who have shared in this journey, this show is for you. Let your imaginations soar, and always remember, “A person’s a person, no matter how small.”

With heartfelt gratitude and love,

Jennifer Hill Barlow

Associate Artistic Director
Resident Director/Choreographer

HALE CENTER THEATER OREM 2024 SEASON



COMING NEXT
.....◇.....

ARSENIC & OLD LACE

.....◇.....

AUG. 12
— THROUGH —
SEPT. 21

..... CLICK HERE TO
BOOK YOUR TICKETS



My Fair Lady

.....◇.....

OCT. 4
— THROUGH —
NOV. 23

TICKETS
ON SALE NOW



A CHRISTMAS CAROL

.....◇.....

DEC. 2
— THROUGH —
DEC. 28

TICKETS
ON SALE JUNE 25

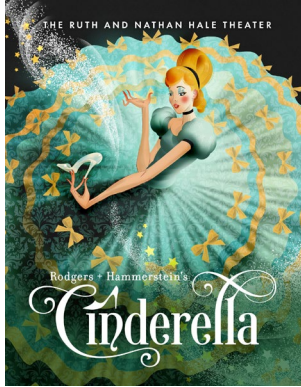
◇ CAST OF CHARACTERS ◇

Seussical

CAT IN THE HAT	Chase Petersen (<i>MWF</i>) Blake Barlow (<i>TThs</i>)
HORTON THE ELEPHANT	Dustin Bolt (<i>MWF</i>) Wade Robert Johnson (<i>TThs</i>)
JOJO THE BOY	Cade Hixson (<i>MWF</i>) Brigham Ker (<i>TThs</i>)
GERTRUDE McFUZZ	McKelle Shaw (<i>MWS</i>) Maggie Scott (<i>TThF</i>)
MAYZIE LaBIRD	Aria Love Jackson (<i>MWF</i>) Kelly Pulver (<i>TThs</i>)
SOUR KANGAROO	Amelia Rose Moore (<i>MWF</i>) Luseane 'Lucy' Pasa (<i>TThs</i>)
MR. MAYOR	Isaac Moss (<i>MWF</i>) Nathan Holley (<i>TThs</i>)
MRS. MAYOR	Sarah Knowles Baldwin (<i>MWF</i>) Tatem Trotter (<i>TThs</i>)
GENERAL GENGHIS KAHN SCHMITZ	Ambrocio Mireles Jr. (<i>MWF</i>) Carson Smith Davies (<i>TThs</i>)
BIRD GIRL #1	Corinne McQuivey (<i>MWF</i>) Madeline Clifford (<i>TThs</i>)
BIRD GIRL #2	Abigail Viehweg (<i>MWF</i>) Grace Oborn (<i>TThs</i>)
BIRD GIRL #3	Larissa Pearson (<i>MWF</i>) Hailey Bennett Sundwall (<i>TThs</i>)
WICKERSHAM BROTHER #1	Cole Hixson (<i>MWF</i>) Sitiveni "Boogie" Iongi (<i>TThs</i>)
WICKERSHAM BROTHER #2	Collin Larsen (<i>MWS</i>) Cannon Hadfield (<i>TThF</i>)
WICKERSHAM BROTHER #3	Daniel Cespedes (<i>MWF</i>) Lucas Morley (<i>TThs</i>)



TBD Through **MAR 08**



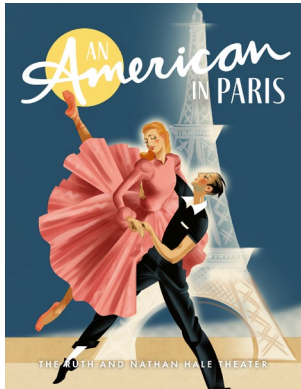
FEB 14 Through **MAY 03**



MAR 28 Through **MAY 24**



MAY 30 Through **AUG 16**



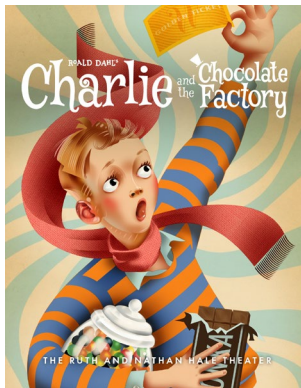
JUN 13 Through **AUG 02**



AUG 22 Through **OCT 18**



SEP 05 Through **NOV 15**



NOV 07 Through **JAN 10**



DEC 01 Through **DEC 27**

◇ SCENE SYNOPSIS ◇

ACT I

PROLOGUE

Oh, The Thinks You Can Think Cat in the Hat, JoJo & Company

SCENE 1: JUNGLE OF NOOL

Horton Hears A Who Horton, Bird Girls & Citizens of the Jungle

Biggest Blame Fool Sour Kangaroo, Horton, Wickersham Brothers, Bird Girls,
Cat in the Hat, Gertrude, Mayzie, JoJo & Citizens of the Jungle

SCENE 2: JUNGLE OF NOOL / WHOVILLE

Here On Who Mayor, Mrs. Mayor, Whos, Grinch & Horton

SCENE 3: McELLIGOT'S POOL POOL

Oh, The Thinks You Can Think (Reprise) Cat in the Hat & JoJo

It's Possible JoJo, Cat in the Hat & Company

SCENE 4: WHOVILLE

How To Raise A Child Mayor & Mrs. Mayor

SCENE 5: WHOVILLE MILITARY SCHOOL

The Military General Schmitz, Cadets, Cat in the Hat & JoJo

The Military Playoff (Green Eggs & Ham) General Schmitz, Cadets & JoJo

SCENE 6: JUNGLE OF NOOL / WHOVILLE

Alone In The Universe Horton & JoJo

SCENE 7: JUNGLE OF NOOL / DR. DAKE'S OFFICE

The One Feather Tail Of Miss Gertrude McFuzz Gertrude

Amazing Mayzie Mayzie, Gertrude & Bird Girls

Amazing Gertrude Gertrude, Bird Girls & Cat in the Hat

SCENE 8: JUNGLE OF NOOL / WHOVILLE

Monkey Around Wickersham Brothers

Chasing The Whos Sour Kangaroo, Bird Girls, Wickersham Brothers,
Cat in the Hat, Horton, Whos & Citizens of the Jungle

How Lucky You Are Cat in the Hat

SCENE 9: CLOVER PATCH

Notice Me, Horton Gertrude & Horton

SCENE 10: CLOVER PATCH / MAYZIE'S NEST

How Lucky You Are (Reprise) Mayzie & Cat in the Hat

SCENE 11: HORTON'S NEST / WHOVILLE

Horton Sits On The Egg/How Lucky You Are (Finale Act 1) Bird Girls, Horton,
Gertrude, Cat in the Hat, JoJo, Whos,
Wickersham Brothers & Sour Kangaroo

• INTERMISSION •

◇ SCENE SYNOPSIS ◇

ACT II

SCENE 1: HORTON'S NEST

Egg, Nest & Tree Sour Kangaroo, Bird Girls, Wickersham Brothers & Ensemble

SCENE 2: CIRCUS MCGURKUS

The Circus McGurkus Cat in the Hat & Circus Members

SCENE 3: PALM BEACH / CIRCUS MCGURKUS

The Circus On Tour / How Lucky You Are (Reprise) Horton, Cat in the Hat & Circus Members

Mayzie In Palm Beach Mayzie & Cat in the Hat

Amazing Horton Mayzie & Horton

SCENE 4: HORTON'S CAGE / WHOVILLE MILITARY SCHOOL / WHOVILLE

Alone In The Universe (Reprise) Horton

Solla Sollew Horton, Circus Members, JoJo, Mayor & Mrs. Mayor

SCENE 5: WHOVILLE MILITARY SCHOOL

Green Eggs & Ham II General Schmitz, Cadets & JoJo

SCENE 6: WHOVILLE / BUTTER BATTLE

Into The Whos' Christmas Pageant Whos

The Grinch Carved The Roast Beast Grinch & Whos

A Message From The Front / Solla Sollew (Reprise) General Schmitz, Cadets, Mayor & Mrs. Mayor

Alone In The Universe (Reprise) JoJo

SCENE 7: JOJO'S NIGHTMARE

Havin' A Hunch Cat in the Hat, JoJo & Hunches

SCENE 8: HORTON'S CAGE

All For You (Verse) Gertrude, Cat in the Hat & Bird Girls

All For You Gertrude, Bird Girls, Cat in the Hat & Horton

SCENE 9: COURTROOM IN THE JUNGLE OF NOOL / WHOVILLE

The People Versus Horton The Elephant Cat in the Hat, Horton & Company

Alone In The Universe (reprise) Gertrude & Horton

FINALE

Oh, The Things You Can Think (Finale Act II) Company

Green Eggs & Ham (Bows) Company



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◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... CAT IN THE HAT



CHASE PETERSEN (MWF)

Chase was last seen as Bud Frump in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* on the Hale Center Theater Orem stage. Some of his favorite performing credits include: Frolo in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (HCTO), Charles Dickens in *A Christmas Carol* (HCT), and Cinderella's Prince in *Into the Woods* (West Valley Arts). Chase holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Utah Valley University.



BLAKE BARLOW (TThS)

Seussical is Blake's 12th season at Hale Center Theater Orem. Recently he played Wadsworth in *Clue* at HCTO. He has performed Off-Broadway, in California at Sierra Rep., in Utah with PTC, Grand Theatre, SLAC, and others. Roles: Doug Hastings in *Baz Lurhmann's Strictly Ballroom*, Richard Hannay in *The 39 Steps*, Sam Phillips in *Million Dollar Quartet*, and M. Thénardier in *Les Misérables*. Blake received a BFA in Acting from the U of U. "Love to Jenny, Dash, and Hudson."

..... HORTON THE ELEPHANT



DUSTIN BOLT (MWF)

Dustin's last appearance at Hale Center Theater Orem was as Marcellus in *The Music Man*. 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. For more personal information, email his mother.



WADE ROBERT JOHNSON (TThS)

Recent Acting credits: Mr. Wormwood in *Matilda* (HCTO), Freddy Benson in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (HCTO), Owen in *The Foreigner* (HCTO), and the Toymaker/Baron Bomburst in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (HCT). Past Directing credits: *Macbeth* (UVU), *This is Our Youth* (UVU), *A Doll's House* (An Other Theatre Company), and *Pure Imagination* (Tuscany Suites and Casino's Copa Room in Las Vegas).

◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... JOJO THE BOY



CADE HIXSON (MWF)

Performing since the age of 5, Cade is thrilled to be back on the Hale Center Theater Orem stage! Recent credits include: James in *School of Rock* (HCT), James in *James and the Giant Peach* (HCTO), Davey Squires in *The Music Man* (HCTO), Orphan in *Oliver!* (HCTO), Kurt in *The Sound of Music* (HCTO), and Nigel in *Matilda* (HCTO). "A huge thank you to the entire production team for this amazing opportunity! YOPP!" [@cade.hixson](#)



BRIGHAM KER (TThS)

Brigham's stage credits include *The Artful Dodger* in *Oliver!* (HCTO), Olaf in *Frozen, Jr.* (HCTO), Flounder in *The Little Mermaid* (HCT), Jeremy Potts in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (HCT), and Bruce in *Matilda* (Alpine Community Theater). You'll also be able to catch Brigham playing the role of Pugsley Addams in HCT's upcoming production of *The Addams Family*. [@briggersker](#)

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SEASON

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JAN 27
Through
FEB 08

THE
PHANTOM
OF THE OPERA

JUL 07
Through
JUL 26

elf jr.
THE MUSICAL

DEC 08
Through
DEC 20



◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... GERTRUDE McFUZZ



McKELLE SHAW (MWS)

McKelle was last seen on our stage as Smitty in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Other favorite credits include: Kitty in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Alice Beane in *Titanic: The Musical*, The Witch in *Into the Woods*, and Jo in *Little Women*. She earned her BFA in Musical Theatre from UVU. McKelle works as an actor, makeup artist and serves as the director of the youth program at The Grand Theater in Salt Lake City. "Thank you to the entire team for making this happen!" [@mckellelindsay](#)



MAGGIE SCOTT (TThF)

Maggie is thrilled to return to Hale Center Theater Orem! She grew up on this stage as Mary Lennox in *The Secret Garden*, Annie in *Annie*, and Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*. She has performed at Pioneer Theatre, HCT, Kensington Theatre and others. Favorite roles include Cinderella in *Into the Woods*, Beth March in *Little Women*, and Molly Aster in *Peter and the Starcatcher*. "Love & thanks to the team and my amazing husband!" [@maggie.scott1](#)

..... MAYZIE LA BIRD



ARIA LOVE JACKSON (MWF)

Aria is thrilled to be back for one last time on the Hale Center Theater Orem stage! She was last seen as Deloris Van Cartier in *Sister Act!* and was also Asst. Choreographer on *Once*. Favorite credits: Trix in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Ms. Phelps in *Matilda*, Nehebka in *AIDA*, and Featured Dancer in Gladys Knight's Las Vegas show. "Thanks to my family, friends & cast who love, inspire & challenge me everyday. See you at The Ruth!" [@arialovejackson](#)



KELLY PULVER (TThs)

Kelly holds a BFA in Acting from BYU, and has performed for Disney, Norwegian Cruise Lines, and more. Some of her favorite roles include Amneris in *AIDA* (HCT), Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* (HCTO), Lady Macbeth in *Macbeth* (The Utah Shakespearean Festival), and Dinah in *Starlight Express* (The California Theater). Her favorite role, however, is being mom to her three little loves (Lily, Linden, and Tommy), and wife to her best friend and greatest support, Clint.

◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... SOUR KANGAROO



AMELIA ROSE MOORE (MWF)

Amelia is thrilled to be in *Seussical*! Favorite roles: Morticia in *The Addams Family*, Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, and The Chaperone in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Amelia works full-time for The Hale Academy as the Musical Theater Education Director. Many thanks to Jenny, Sayoko, Justin and The Founders for one last wonderful summer at HCTO. For my two Harolds. [@amelia.rose.moore](https://www.instagram.com/amelia.rose.moore)



LUSEANE "LUCY" PASA (TThS)

Lucy is happy to be back on the Hale Center Theater Orem stage after performing in 2018's production of *The Little Mermaid* and 2019's production of Disney's *Newsies*. Other favorite credits also include: *Seussical*, *Newsies*, and *The Little Mermaid* (HCT). *In the Heights* (West Valley Arts), *Hairspray* (SCERA). "Faafetai tele lava to my family for your never ending support. Alofa atu!"

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◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... MR. MAYOR



ISAAC MOSS (MWF)

Isaac is delighted to return to the Hale Center Theater Orem stage after being seen in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* earlier this season. Isaac's first production of *Seussical* was in 2014, where he and his brother portrayed Thing 1 and 2, and their father was Mr. Mayor. Isaac hopes to continue the Moss/Mayor legacy with honor. He is very grateful for the support of family and friends! "Much love to D, M, A, W, and I!"

NATHAN HOLLEY (TThS)

Nathan is a playwright and performer recognized for his works *Archipelago* and *Lifeboat*. He gained worldwide listenership for his radio play *True Bugs* (Kaboom), and additional scripts will be featured in BYU's upcoming season. Acting credits: *Once* (HCTO), *Pump Boys and Dinettes* (Buffalo Theatre), *One for the Pot* (HCT), *As You Like It* (Grassroots Shakespeare), and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (SUU). [@noofin_](#)
[hoopley](#) • [holleynathan.com](#)

..... MRS. MAYOR



SARAH KNOWLES BALDWIN (MWF)

Sarah was last seen on the Hale Center Theater Orem stage as Yvette in *Clue*. Other favorite roles include Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls*, Marian Paroo in *The Music Man*, and Gloria Thorpe in *Damn Yankees*. She'd like to thank Jason, Phoebe, and Penny for all of their love and support.

TATEM TROTTER (TThS)

Tatem is so excited to be returning to the Hale Center Theater Orem stage. She was last seen as the Strawberry Seller in *Oliver!* and Sister Mary Patrick in *Sister Act!*. When not on stage, Tatem can be found at Salem Hills High School where she works as the assistant coach and choreographer for the theatre program. [tatemtrotter.com](#).

◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... GENERAL GENGHIS KAHN SCHMITZ



AMBROCIO MIRELES JR (*MWF*)

Ambrocio is thrilled for his debut at Hale Center Theater Orem! His recent roles include Audrey II in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Timpanogos Community Theater), Piragua Guy in *In the Heights* (The Grand Theatre), and Mr. Greenway in *Elf: The Musical* (HCT). He dedicates this show to his nephew, Isaiah, who encourages him to never stop using his 'thinks'. @[amirelesjr](#)



CARSON SMITH DAVIES (*TThS*)

Carson is excited to be back at Hale Center Theater Orem, and was last seen in as Lead/2nd Tenor in *The Music Man*, Bank Manager/Mandolin in *Once*, and Sweaty Eddie in *Sister Act!*. Other recent credits: Dan Goodman in *Next to Normal*. While not on stage, he works as a software engineer, loves to golf, watch sports, & play games. "Thanks to Jenny, Justin, Sayoko & everyone at HCTO for this experience!" @[carson.davies](#)



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◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... BIRD GIRL #1



CORINNE McQUIVEY (*MWF*)

Corinne is elated to be making her Hale Center Theater Orem debut in this beautiful show! Favorite theatre credits include: Jojo in *Newsies* (Draper Historic Theatre), Wednesday in *The Addams Family* (Lehi Arts Council), Ensemble in *Matilda* (SCERA Shell). Corinne thanks Jaedon, her family, and friends for supporting her dreams! [@corinnemcquivey](#)



MADELINE CLIFFORD (*TThS*)

Madeline's love for dancing and performing started at the young age of 3! She grew up dancing in studios around Utah and has now gone on to teaching her own students as well. She is a Sophomore at BYU and has loved being apart of their Music Dance Theater program. She is so excited to be apart of her first show at Hale Center Theater Orem, and to share with you the colorful world of Seuss!! [@madeline_clifford1](#)

..... BIRD GIRL #2



ABIGAIL VIEHWEG (*MWF*)

Abigail is thrilled to return to the Hale Center Theater Orem stage! Abi was last seen in *The Music Man*. Her other stage credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *An American in Paris* at HCT, and various ballets with BYU Theater Ballet and Barlow Arts Conservatory. Abi has a Masters in Accountancy, enjoys traveling, and loves spending time with her family and friends.



GRACE OBORN (*TThS*)

Grace was last seen as Margel Gluck in *The Music Man* and Charlotte Sowerberry in *Oliver!*. Favorite roles include: Kitty in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (AFHS), Liesl in *The Sound of Music* (Alpine Community Theater), and Alice Perkins in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (SCERA). She performed in Manhattan Concert Productions' *Children of Eden* at Lincoln Center last year with Utah COPA. Grace is the Speech and Drama Sterling Scholar and a recent graduate of American Fork High School and will attend BYU this fall.

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◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... BIRD GIRL #3



LARISSA PEARSON (*MWF*)

Larissa is so excited to get to perform on the stage that she grew up going to. Previous credits: Mimi in *Guys & Dolls*, *Mary Poppins*, and *The Wizard of Oz* at HCT; Ilona in *She Loves Me* at the HopeBox Theatre; Hope Harcourt in *Anything Goes*. This one is for Grandma: Thank you for always taking us to shows and encouraging the crazy Pearson performing family. [@larissaloupearson](#)



HAILEY BENNETT SUNDWALL (*TThS*)

Hailey has performed at Hale Center Theater Orem, HCT, SCERA, Covey Center Theater, Utah Valley Youth Players, Tuacahn, West Valley Arts and more. Favorite roles: Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Jane in *Tarzan*, and Laurey in *Oklahoma!* She is married to the most amazing human, Jeff, who is her greatest support. "Thank you to Jenny, Sayoko, Justin and Ashtyn!" [@haileybellebennett](#)

..... WICKERSHAM BROTHER #1



COLE HIXSON (*MWF*)

Cole is so excited to be a part of *Seussical* at Hale Center Theater Orem! Favorite roles include Gideon in *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, Laurie in *Little Women*, and most recently Jack in *Into the Woods*. He would like to thank Jenny, Justin, and Sayoko for this incredible opportunity and his loved ones for always supporting him. #livelikelily [@coleghixson](#)



SITIVENI "BOOGIE" IONGI (*TThS*)

Boogie is excited to back on the Hale Center Theater Orem stage in *Seussical*. He was last seen here in *The Music Man* and *Oliver!*. Favorite stage credits include *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (HCT), *Big Fish* (CenterPoint Theater), and youth productions of *Les Miserables* and *Into the Woods* (CPT Academy). "Much love and gratitude to my family and friends, instructors, and the *Seussical* production team for this awesome opportunity. Ofa atu!" [@Boogieandchubs](#)

◇ MEET THE CAST ◇

..... WICKERSHAM BROTHER #2



COLLIN LARSEN (MWS)

Collin is so grateful to get to perform on this stage one last time and with some of his closest friends! This story holds a special place in Collin's heart, and he is honored to be a part of this production with such an incredible team. Recent credits include *The Little Mermaid*, *Elf: The Musical*, *Newsies* (HCT), and *Cinderella* (Sundance Summer Theatre). He loves this family and can't wait to see you at The Ruth!

[@collin.slarsen](#)



CANNON HADFIELD (TThF)

Cannon is thrilled to return to Hale Center Theater Orem. After playing Noah Claypole in *Oliver!* and Reverend Shaw in Hale Academy's *Footloose*, he is excited to be a part of this great *Seussical* cast. Cannon was also featured in Timpview's productions of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Our Town*, *Little Women*, *Big Fish*, and *Les Miserables*. He is grateful for friends, family, and mentors who have supported him along the way. [@thenotfakecannon](#)

..... WICKERSHAM BROTHER #3



DANIEL CESPEDES (MWF)

Daniel excited to be back this summer at Hale Center Theater Orem. He was last seen as in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and is currently studying towards his BFA in Musical Theatre at UVU. Other credits include: Phoebus in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and Marius in *Les Miserables*. He'd like to extend his gratitude towards Jenny Barlow, Sayoko Knode, and Justin Bills for bringing to life this amazing production! He'd also like to thank his family for the love and support they give him.

[@d_cespy](#)



LUCAS MORLEY (TThS)

Making his Hale Center Theater Orem debut! Lucas is honored to be performing with such a dedicated cast. Previous roles include Ren in *Footloose* (Kensington Theatre), Laurie in *Little Women* (Mountain Ridge High School), Bill Snibson in *Me and My Girl* (MRHS) and Robert Martin in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (MRHS). He recently graduated from Mountain Ridge High School and will be a freshman in the musical theatre program at the University of Utah in the fall.

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◇ MEET THE TEAM ◇

DIRECTOR



JENNIFER HILL BARLOW

Jenny is Hale Center Theater Orem's Associate Artistic Director, Resident Director/Choreographer. For the past 14 years she has directed/choreographed for many Utah theaters and ballet companies. Favorite works include: The US Premiere of *Baz Luhrmann's Strictly Ballroom the Musical* (HCT), *An American in Paris* (HCT), *Daddy Long Legs* (HCTO/HCT), *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder* (HCTO), and *Xanadu!* (HCTO). She earned an MFA in Choreography/Pedagogy from the U of U, and performed professionally with the Radio City Christmas Spectacular, Cincinnati Ballet, Ballet West, Utah Ballet Company, the Guangzhou Ballet Company in China, and Tuacahn. For 16 years she was the Owner/Artistic Director of the Barlow Arts Conservatory. "Much love to Blake, Dash, and Hudson." [@strawberry_blonde_ambition](#)

MUSIC DIRECTOR



JUSTIN BILLS

Justin has performed and music directed at Hale Center Theater Orem, HCT West Valley, and HCT since 2004. *Seussical* marks Justin's 21st production at HCTO and 13th collaboration with Ms. Hill Barlow. 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 *Titanic: The Musical*, *Daddy Long Legs*, *In the Heights*, *Les Miserables*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Little Women*, *Phantom*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, and *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Justin and his amazingly talented wife, Cecily Bills (no stranger to HCTO audiences) live with their two sons Clark and Wyatt, and their dogs Scooter and Wesley Crusher, in Salem. [@jbizzinsta](#)

CHOREOGRAPHER



SAYOKO KNODE PETERSON

Sayoko experienced her formative years in Tokyo and Seattle. She studied at the Pacific Northwest Ballet School in Seattle and received her BFA and MFA in Ballet from the University of Utah. She danced professionally for LED Boise and Idaho Dance Theatre. She is the winner of the Youth America Grand Prix choreographer award in San Francisco (2010), Denver (2012), and Salt Lake City (2019, 2022, 2023). She currently serves as an Assistant Adjunct Professor at the University of Utah's School of Dance and freelance choreographs for schools and companies across the western states. *Seussical* is Sayoko's choreographic debut with Hale Center Theater Orem. Sayoko would like to thank her husband and parents for the encouragement and support to create something to inspire a love of life and imagination for others... especially her two young sons.

Leona Winger

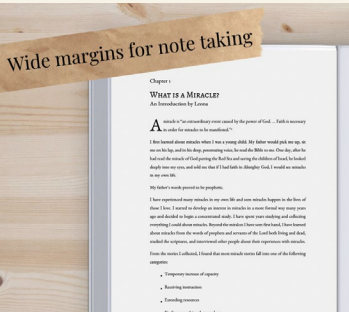
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◇ MEET THE TEAM ◇

COSTUME DESIGN



LEXI GOLDSBERRY

Lexi has been with Hale Center Theater Orem for four years as their Costume Shop Manager for Hale Academy. She most recently designed the costumes and wigs for *James and the Giant Peach*. She is working towards her BFA in Costume Design from Utah Valley University and recently designed *Machinal* for them. She loves working with youth and is thrilled to bring the costumes of *Seussical* to life. She wants everyone to feel the joy of connecting with your inner child!

[@designsbylexi](#)

SCENIC DESIGN



CARTER THOMPSON

Carter Thompson is a scenic designer and prop stylist living in New York City, originally from Stansbury Park, Utah. Previously he designed *The Foreigner* at Hale Center Theater Orem. As a prop stylist, his work has been seen in national and international campaigns for companies including L'Oréal, Target, McCafé, and HomeGoods, and published in *Architectural Digest*, *Elle Decor*, *People*, and on *The Today Show*.

[@carterrthompson](#)

LIGHTING DESIGN



RYAN FALLIS

Ryan is always excited to return to his second home, Hale Center Theater Orem. He has worked with HCTO in various positions since late-2017. He is currently pursuing a degree in theatrical lighting at Utah Valley University. He is also one of co-founders of PINK NEON Productions. Some favorite lighting credits with HCTO include: *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *A Christmas Carol* (2023), *Once, Pride & Prejudice*, *Enchanted April*, *The 39 Steps*, *Little Women*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Velveteen Rabbit*, and numerous Hale Academy productions. Other credits include: *Spring Awakening* (PINK NEON Productions), *Into the Woods* (Utah Valley University), *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Sleepy Hollow: The Musical*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (West Valley Arts), *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *We Will Rock You*, *American Idiot*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Mamma Mia* (Midvale Main Street Theatre), and *La Cage aux Folles* (The Ziegfeld Theater). [@ryanfallis.designs](#)

◇ MEET THE TEAM ◇

HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN



BEKAH WILBUR

Bekah has been designing wigs and makeup for theatrical productions in Utah Valley for over 20 years. Previous Hale Center Theater Orem shows include *Little Women*, *The 39 Steps*, *Bright Star*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Oliver!*, and *The Foreigner*. Other favorite shows she's designed are *The Bride of Frankenstein*, *She Stoops to Conquer*, and *Nosferatu*. Having the opportunity to pursue her passion and collaborate with other artists has made working for HCTO a dream come true!



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– J.J. Abrams, Director –

“ Paul Draper is an engaging performer with well-executed solid magic! ”

– David Copperfield –

Las Vegas headliner Paul Draper was the Magic Consultant on this production of 'Seussical'

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Oh, the Places He Went!

Written by Mark Fossen

In nineteen oh four,
a bright mind did appear,

Theodore Seuss Geisel,
to his parents so dear.

To Dartmouth and Oxford
with pen firm in hand,

A future so bright,
'til one day he was banned.

Theodore Seuss Geisel was born in 1904 in Springfield, Massachusetts. He attended Dartmouth College as an undergraduate and became editor-in-chief of *The Dartmouth Jack-O-Lantern*, a college humor magazine. He then attended Lincoln College, Oxford, in pursuit of a doctorate in English literature. (Although he adopted "Dr." as part of his pen name, Geisel never completed that degree.)

Prohibition said "No",
but he was caught with some gin.

"So, time for a pen name,"
he said with a grin.

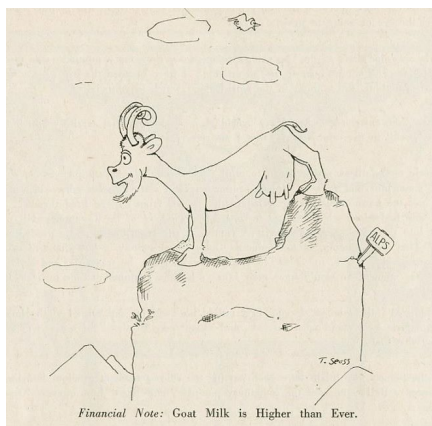
"Dr. Seuss" took the stage,
with a gleam in his eyes,

And that name would be his,
as his fame would rise.

His time at Dartmouth came during Prohibition, and he was caught drinking illegal gin in his room. As punishment, he was removed from all his extracurricular activities, including those at *The Dartmouth Jack-O-Lantern*. To get around this ban, he adopted the pen name "Seuss" so he could continue to contribute without the administration knowing. Of course, it's by that name we know him best: "Dr. Seuss." (Although

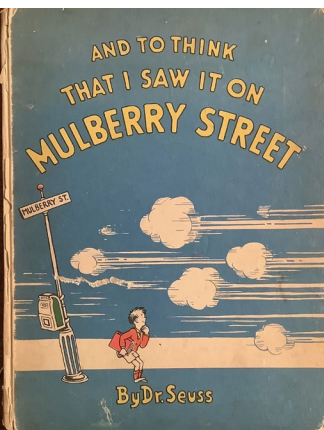


Dr. Theodore Seuss Geisel with models of characters he created, 1959

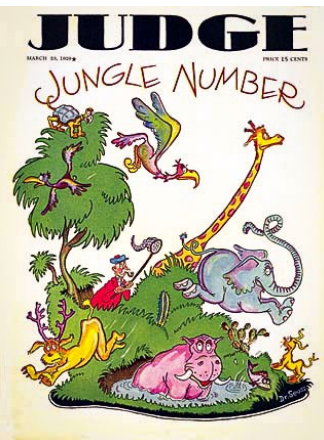


Financial Note: Goat Milk is Higher than Ever.

The first known appearance of the pen name "Seuss", in *The Dartmouth Jack-o-Lantern*, 1925



The first edition of Dr. Seuss's first book, *And to Think I Saw It on Mulberry Street*, 1937



A cover from the March 23, 1929 issue of *Judge*, showing Dr. Seuss' distinctive style.

“Seuss” is correctly pronounced more like “Soice” in German, he eventually embraced the Americanized pronunciation because it rhymed with “Mother Goose.”)

In *Judge* mag, his cartoons
they first came to light,

To many they brought a great deal of delight.

Came '36, with a tale to be told,

Mulberry Street he penned,
but it couldn't be sold.

His earliest steady work was at *Judge* magazine beginning in 1927. In 1936, he wrote his first children's book: *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*. The book was inspired by the rhythms of ship engines he had heard on a European voyage with his wife, as well as Mulberry Street, which was a few blocks away from his childhood home in Springfield. The book faced numerous rejections, reportedly between 20 and 43 times, before his old Dartmouth College friend, Vanguard Press publisher James Lloyd, helped get it published.

Yet success he did find in the books that
came next,

With Hortons and Grinches,
his work was the best.

Sixty books he created,
with artwork so bright,

Wild worlds and wild creatures, to chil-
dren's delight.

After this initial struggle for publication, later books followed quickly, including *Horton Hatches the Egg* in 1940. In total, he wrote and illustrated 60 children's books under the pen name “Dr. Seuss.”

But in May fifty-four,
a challenge was made,

To write using words
that would suit the first grade.

The Cat in the Hat
used just two thirty-six,

It took nine months to write,
full of Seussian tricks.



A 1954 *Life* magazine article concerning illiteracy concluded that many school children were not reading because the books were simply not engaging enough. In order to combat this, William Ellsworth Spaulding, an editor at Houghton Mifflin, compiled a list of 348 words that he felt first-graders should recognize. He asked Geisel to write a book containing no more than 250 of those words and to "bring back a book children can't put down". After nine months of writing, Geisel created *The Cat in the Hat* which used 238 of the words and launched his *Beginner Books* line and led to books like *Green Eggs and Ham* and *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*.

Don't start with morals,
Seuss would say with a grin,
"Kids can spot them a mile off."
Story's where to begin!

Among top one hundred,
for children's delight,
Sixteen were by Seuss!
What an incredible sight!

Geisel always insisted that while every story inherently carries a moral, he never began with the moral in mind, stating that "kids can see a moral coming a mile off." That intuition proved correct as his books ended up

Dr. Seuss at his drafting table in his home office with a copy of his book, *The Cat in the Hat*, in La Jolla, California, April 25, 1957



An early sketch from *The Cat in the Hat*

selling over 600 million copies in 20 languages. In 2000, *Publisher's Weekly* created a listing of the top 100 best-selling children's books of all time, and 16 of them were Dr. Seuss books.

In November two thousand,
a show took the stage,

Seussical had its debut ...
but was not quite the rage.

On Broadway it flopped,
but it quickly did tour,

It's now loved and adored,
a favorite for sure.

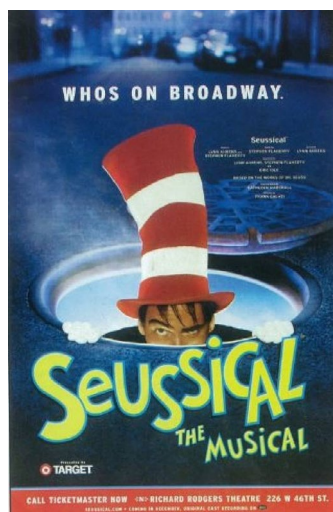
Seussical: The Musical by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty premiered on Broadway on November 30, 2000. It was not a critical hit and didn't have a very long run. In fact, its \$11 million loss marks it as one of the biggest "flops" in Broadway history. However, the production underwent significant changes during its National Tours. The revised version gained popularity and is now beloved by many, frequently produced in theaters ranging from professional to grade-school.

Enjoy this creation,
its cats and its hats,

Its Hortons and Grinches,
and no room for bats.

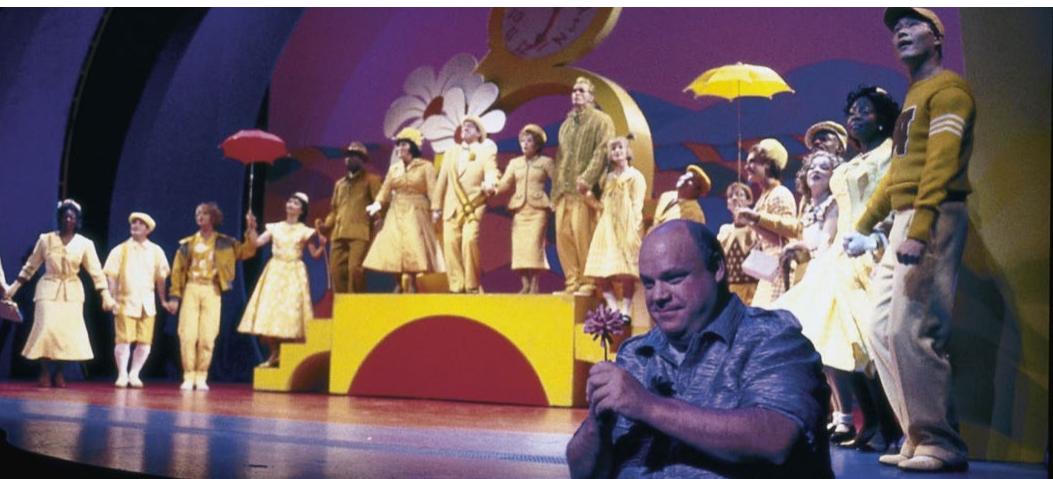
Its foxes in soxes,
and hops on the pops,

With the talent on stage,
we sure think it's the tops!



Original *Seussical: The Musical*
Broadway poster, 2000

Kevin Chamberlain as Horton
the Elephant, and the cast
of the original Broadway
production of *Seussical: The
Musical*, 2000





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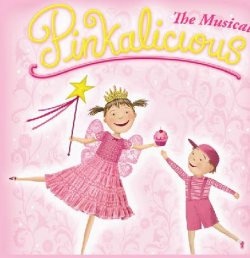
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