# heirsprey

## FEBRUARY 23-25, 2024 HANCHER AUDITORIUM IOWA

Thank you to our 2023–24 **Broadway Series Partners TERRY & JOHANNA ABERNATHY** THE CHRIS & SUZY DEWOLF FAMILY **JEFFREY & KRISTINE NIELSEN** JOHN & DYAN SMITH **CATHERINE ZAHARIS & ROBERT MICHAEL**  Hairspray On Tour, LLC presents

HAIRSPRAY

Book by Mark O'Donnell Thomas Meehan Music and Arrangements by

Marc Shaiman

Lyrics by Scott Wittman Marc Shaiman

Based on the NewLine Cinema film written and directed by John Waters

Greg Kalafatas Caroline Eiseman Deidre Lang Josiah Rogers Skyler Shields Ralph Prentice Daniel Andrew Scoggin Caroline Portner Sarah Hayes Scarlett Jacques Kaila Symone Crowder Micah Sauvageau Emmanuelle Zeesman

Abigail Bensman Connor Buonaccorsi Ashia Collins Joshua James Crawford Scoob Decker Craig First Audrey Taylor Floyd Gavin Guthrie Alyssa Jacqueline Leiah Lewis Christy Oberndorf Kynnedi Moryaé Porter Caroline Purdy Kalab Quinn Josiah Thomas Randolph Amy Rodriguez Scott Silagy Cara Torchia Lilliannie Arie Urgent James Douglas Vinson Gabriel Yarborough

Scenic Design David Rockwell	Costume Des William Ivey I	Long F	Lighting Design Paul Miller	Sound Design Shannon Slaton
			e Broadway Design Ineth Posner	by
Video Design Patrick W. Lord	Wigs & Hair De Paul Huntley Bernie Ardi	j & Hai	chestrations rold Wheeler	Music Supervisor Keith Thompson
Music Coordinator JP Meyer	Music Direct Lizzie Web		Casting er Productions	Tour Booking Agency The Booking Group
Tour Press & Marketi Kent McIngvale & Comp		v	ompany Manager mothe Bittle	Production Stage Manager Jess Levine
Associate Producers Brian J. Enzman Lauren L. Sobon	Production Manager Russell A. Thompson	General Manager Ryan Parliment	General Manage APEX Tourin	
	Direction by Matt Lenz		Choreography by Robbie Roby	
		iginal Choreography Brry Mitche		

Original Direction by Jack O'Brien

Produced on Broadway by Margo Lion, Adam Epstein, The Baruch-Viertel-Routh-Frankel Group, James D. Stern/Douglas L. Meyer, Rick Steiner/Frederic H. Mayerson, SEL & GFO, New Line Cinema

In Association With

Clear Channel Entertainment, A. Gordon/E. McAllister, D. Harris/M. Swinsky, J. & B. Osher

The World Premiere of HAIRSPRAY was produced with the 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle, Washington David Armstrong, Producing Artistic Director; Marilynn Sheldon, Managing Director

#### HANCHER EVENT PARTNERS

Charles Richard & Barbara S. Clark Vernon Hein Fund Oaknoll Retirement Residence

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## CAST

#### (in order of appearance)

Tracy Turnblad	
Corny Collins	
Amber Von Tussle	
Brad	
Tammy	
Fender	
Brenda	
Sketch	SCOTT SILAGY
Shelley	ALYSSA JACQUELINE
I.Q	GAVIN GUTHRIE
Lou Ann	CAROLINE PURDY
Link Larkin	
Prudy Pingleton	EMMANUELLE ZEESMAN
Edna Turnblad	
Penny Pingleton	SCARLETT JACQUES
Velma Von Tussle	SARAH HAYES
Harriman F. Spritzer	
Wilbur Turnblad	
Principal	
Seaweed J. Stubbs	JOSIAH ROGERS
Duane	
Gilbert	
Lorraine	
Thad	
The DynamitesASHIA COLLINS, LEIAH LE	WIS, KYNNEDI MORYAÉ PORTER
Mr. Pinky	MICAH SAUVAGEAU
Gym Teacher	
Little Inez	
Motormouth Maybelle	DEIDRE LANG
Matron	EMMANUELLE ZEESMAN
Guard	MICAH SAUVAGEAU
Pearl	LEIAH LEWIS
Peaches	
Cindy Watkins	KYNNEDI MORYAÉ PORTER

#### SWINGS

CONNOR BUONACCORSI, JOSHUA JAMES CRAWFORD, AUDREY TAYLOR FLOYD, CARA TORCHIA, AMY RODRIGUEZ, SCOOB DECKER

#### UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies never substitute for listed performers unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.

For Tracy Turnblad—AMY RODRIGUEZ, ABIGAIL BENSMAN; for Edna Turnblad—MICAH SAUVAGEAU, CONNOR BUONACCORSI; for Wilbur Turnblad—MICAH SAUVAGEAU, SCOOB DECKER; for Penny Pingleton—ALYSSA JACQUELINE, CHRISTY OBERNDORF; for Amber Von Tussle—CAROLINE PURDY, CHRISTY OBERNDORF; for Link Larkin—SCOTT SILAGY, JAMES DOUGLAS VINSON; for Corny Collins—CRAIG FIRST, JAMES DOUGLAS VINSON; for Velma Von Tussle—EMMANUELLE ZEESMAN, CAROLINE PURDY; for Motormouth Maybelle—LEIAH LEWIS, LILLIANNIE ARIE URGENT; for Seaweed J. Stubbs—KALAB QUINN, JOSIAH THOMAS RANDOLPH; for Little Inez—ASHIA COLLINS, AUDREY TAYLOR FLOYD; for Female Authority Figure—AMY RODRIGUEZ, CARA TORCHIA; for Male Authority Figure— CONNOR BUONACCORSI, SCOOB DECKER; for Dynamites—KAILA SYMONE CROWDER, AUDREY TAYLOR FLOYD, LILLIANNIE ARIE URGENT

#### DANCE CAPTAIN CRAIG FIRST

ASSISTANT DANCE CAPTAIN

AUDREY TAYLOR FLOYD



The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phones, beepers and watches prior to the beginning of the performance.

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## CAST



GREG **KALAFATAS** 



CAROLINE EISEMAN

CAROLINE

PORTNER

ABIGAIL

BENSMAN



DEIDRE LANG

SARAH

HAYES

CONNOR

BUONACCORSI



JOSIAH ROGERS

SCARLETT

JACQUES

ASHIA

COLLINS



SKYLER SHIELDS



**KAILA SYMONE** CROWDER



JOSHUA JAMES CRAWFORD



LEIAH LEWIS



AMY RODRIGUEZ



GABRIEL YARBOROUGH



ANDREW SCOGGIN

EMMANUELLE

ZEESMAN



**RALPH PRENTICE** 

DANIEL

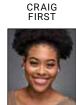
MICAH SAUVAGEAU



SCOOB DECKER



CHRISTY OBERNDORF



**KYNNEDI MORYAÉ** PORTER



SCOTT SILAGY



CARA TORCHIA



URGENT



LILLIANNIE ARIE JAMES DOUGLAS VINSON







CAROLINE





KALAB QUINN











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## **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

#### Baltimore, 1962

ACT ONE	
Prologue: "Good Morning Baltimore"	Tracy & Company
Scene 1: TV Station WZZT & Turnblad Home	
"The Nicest Kids in Town"	Corny Collins & Council Members
Scene 2: At the Vanities	
"Mama, I'm a Big Girl Now"	Edna & Tracy, Velma & Amber,
-	Penny & Prudy, Ensemble
Scene 3: TV Station WZZT	
"I Can Hear the Bells"	Tracy
"(The Legend of) Miss Baltimore Crabs"	
Scene 4: Detention	
Scene 5: Patterson Park High School Gymnasium	
"The Madison"	Corny & Company
Scene 6: WZZT & Turnblad Home	
"The Nicest Kids in Town" (Reprise)	Corny & Council Members
"It Takes Two"	
"Velma's Revenge"	
Scene 7: Turnblad Home and Streets of Baltimore	1
"Welcome to the '60s"	Tracy, Edna, The Dynamites & Company
Scene 8: Patterson Park Playground	
"Run and Tell That"	Seaweed
Scene 9: Motormouth Maybelle's Record Shop	
"Run and Tell That"	Seaweed, Inez & Company
"Big, Blonde & Beautiful"	
5.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

#### ACT TWO

Scene 1: Baltimore Women's House of Detention	
"The Big Dollhouse"	Women
"Good Morning Baltimore" (Reprise)	Tracy
Scene 2: Turnblad Home	
"(You're) Timeless to Me"	Wilbur & Edna
Scene 3: Tracy's Jail Cell & Penny's Bedroom	
"Without Love"	Link, Tracy, Seaweed, Penny & Company
Scene 4: Motormouth Maybelle's Record Shop	
"I Know Where I've Been"	Motormouth & Company
Scene 5: The Baltimore Eventorium	
"Hairspray"	Corny & Council Members
"Cooties"	Amber & Council Members
"You Can't Stop the Beat"	Tracy, Link, Penny, Seaweed,
	Edna, Wilbur, Motormouth & Company

#### ORCHESTRA

Musical Director/Conductor/Keyboard 1: LIZZIE WEBB Assistant Musical Director/Keyboard 3: NATHANIEL ZEMBRUSKI Keyboard 2: AMY LIU Reeds: SAMUEL LUPE Trumpet: JULIA BRAVO Guitar: ALEJANDRO ESTRELLA Drums: TROY BASHOR

Electronic Music Design: STRANGE CRANIUM Music Preparation: EMILY GRISHMAN MUSIC PREPARATION





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**GREG KALAFATAS** (Edna Turnblad). Greg is beyond excited to be touring the country performing a dream role in this dream of a show! A native of Massachusetts, Greg has had the privilege of traveling around the country, and the world, performing on land and the high seas. Previous national tours include: Something Rotten (Nostradamus), Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story (The Big Bopper), and The Drowsy Chaperone. Endless thanks to family, friends and the entire Hairspray team for making this dream come true. gregkalafatas.com/ @gregkala

**CAROLINE EISEMAN** (*Tracy Turnblad*). Caroline is honored to be back on the road with *Hairspray* and in Tracy's shoes! Regional: The Muny, Stages St. Louis, Studio Tenn. Proud Belmont University Musical Theatre alum. Love and gratitude to the *Hairspray* team, Eddie and Take 3 Talent, BUMT, and her incredible family and support system. This dream wouldn't be possible without them! For Patti and Rick, always. @caroline.eiseman

**DEIDRE LANG** (Motormouth Maybelle). Originally from New Jersev, but now based in Las Vegas, Deidre has had an extensive career performing on Broadway and TV. She was originally a Dynamite in the first national tour! Her Broadway credits include Ragtime, The Lion King, and Tommy. National Tours: Hairspray, The Lion King, Tommy, School of Rock, and the Australian tour of Smokey Joe's Cafe. Regional credits: Aida, Dreamgirls, Ain't Misbehavin', and The Lion King and Rock of Ages in Las Vegas. She was also an original FlyGirl on Fox TV's In Living Color. Deidre dedicates this performance to Tyler, Jordan, Mom and Dad, and MJ and Obi! IG: @LANGELLISTM, @Flygirldee12

JOSIAH ROGERS (Seaweed J. Stubbs) originally from Cleveland, Ohio, found his love for performing at 21 when he was accepted into Up With People, and traveled the world performing. He went on to study music and traveled across the US, Japan and Europe with The Young Americans College. He's excited to bring his contagious energy everywhere he goes! He thanks everyone who helped him get to where he is now, and is forever grateful for this opportunity. "Performing is what I do! It makes me feel alive!" IG: @therealjosiahrogers/ TikTok @therealjosiahrogers

SKYLER SHIELDS (Link Larkin) is thrilled to be returning to Baltimore as the ever sparklin' Sir Link Larkin! Selected credits include Riff in West Side Story (Florida Rep), Double J/Tony Cover in Saturday Night Fever (Royal Caribbean), and Conrad Birdie in Bye, Bye, Birdie (The Palace Theater). A huge thank you to Brian K. Herrick and HKA through whom all things are possible and to my friends and family for their love and support! Special thanks EG & KF. @skylercshields

RALPH PRENTICE DANIEL (Wilbur *Turnblad*) is thrilled to return to the national tour of Hairspray. Prior to Hairspray, Ralph was living in Beijing, China where he was a part of the opening cast of Universal Studios Beijing. Regional credits: Oliver (Fagan), Mary Poppins (George Banks), Footloose (Rev. Shaw) St. Luke's Theatre; Assassins (Guiteau), It Shoulda' Been You (Albert) The Studio Theatre Tierra Del Sol; Tuck Everlasting (Man in Yellow), Elf (Walter Hobbs), Newsies (Pulitzer) Orlando Repertory Theatre. Many thanks to friends, family, and Brian at The Hell's Kitchen Agency. Follow me on Instagram @rprenticed

ANDREW SCOGGIN (Corny Collins) is thrilled to bring that Baltimore sound to Hairspray! National Tour: Annie (Bert Healy, Rooster understudy). Cruise: Grease (Vince Fontaine/Teen Angel). Regional: Ragtime, Evita, Three Musketeers (PA Shakes), Annie, I Love A Piano (Maples Rep), Rock of Ages (Theater Workshop of Nantucket), A Bronx Tale, and Mamma Mia! (Prather Productions). Andrew is from Philadelphia and a graduate of DeSales University. Andrew would like to thank Brian, and the Hell's Kitchen Agency team for all of their support. All of my love to Elizabeth. MDCBP @scoggsmagoggs Specializing in residential real estate throughout the lowa City Area.



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## 2023-2024

**CAROLINE PORTNER** (Amber Von Tussle) is so excited to be making her national tour debut with Hairspray! Off Broadway: Friends, The Musical Parody (Jerry Orbach Theater). Regional: Mamma Mia! (Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse), White Christmas (Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse), White Christmas (Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse), Amadeus (Syracuse Stage), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Syracuse Stage), Echoes in the Garden (Chain Theatre), What a Wonderful World (Timberlake Playhouse). BFA Syracuse University. For Mom, Dad, Chelsea and Olivia. IG: @carolineportner.

**SARAH HAYES** (Velma Von Tussle) is beyond thrilled to be making her national tour debut in Hairspray! Favorite regional credits: Moon Over Buffalo (Charlotte Hay), White Christmas (Martha Watson), We Will Rock You (Killer Queen), Rocky Horror Show (Riff Raff), Oliver! (Nancy) and Julius Caesar (Cassius). Many thanks to her incredible family and friends for being a constant source of strength, laughter, and dog videos!

SCARLETT JACQUES (Penny Pingleton) is a proud New Zealander, thrilled to be making her U.S. professional debut! Professional theatre (NZ) credits include: Billy Elliot (Margaret Gormley) and Annie (Kate). Other significant credits include Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Belle), Frozen JR– NZ premiere (Anna), The Sound of Music (Maria). A huge thank you to Broadway Dreams, The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts, Cherie Moore, and everyone who has supported and believed in me. Much love to Mum and Devan. @scarlettjacques

KAILA SYMONE CROWDER (Little Inez/ Dynamite Understudy) originates from Monroe, North Carolina. She's a proud alum of North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University; "Aggie Pride"! Performing is my "woosah" moment from life. I strive to be great within each aspect of my craft, but not perfect. I just love sharing the gift that God gave me! Recent credits include: Legoland New York Resort as a dancer/ tumbler. MICAH SAUVAGEAU (Harriman F. Spritzer, Mr. Pinky, Principal, Guard/Edna and Wilbur Understudy). An Alaska native originally from Chugiak. Thrilled to be returning for another season of Hairspray! Credits: The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Chairman), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Cogsworth), Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens (Booby), Guys and Dolls (Nicely Nicely). Thank you to the cast, crew, creatives, production team, and the audience for bringing joy back to the theater! IG: @taletreading

**EMMANUELLE ZEESMAN** (*Prudy Pingleton, Gym Teacher, Matron/Velma Von Tussle Understudy*) is a proud Canadian and is tickled pink to bring this magical show home! National Tours/Off-Broadway: DuMaurier in *Finding Neverland*, Aunt Em/ Wicked Witch understudy in *The Wizard* of *Oz*, Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, Fosca in *Passion*, five seasons with Symphony Orchestras across four continents and Mrs. Johnstone in *Blood Brothers* (CCC Best Actress Award). Thanks to the creative and casting teams! Love to my Canadian, American, and Mexican families! @emmanuellezeesman

ABIGAIL BENSMAN (Brenda, Tracy Understudy) (she/her) is elated to be making her national tour debut! Select credits include: Newsies (Katherine Plumber), Bring It On (Eva), Sweeney Todd (Johanna), Ride the Cyclone (Ocean), and Grease (Jan). Forever grateful to the entire Hairspray team. So much love to Brian and her family for their endless supportespecially her theatre-loving momma! Follow Abigail's theatre shenanigans on TikTok and IG @abigail\_bens

**CONNOR BUONACCORSI** (Swing/Edna, Male Authority Figure Understudy) (he/him) is thrilled to be making his national tour debut in Hairspray. Favorite credits include: A Chorus Line (Mark), Shrek the Musical (Pinocchio), Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Dan), Kinky Boots (Angel), Speech & Debate (Howie), and Heathers, the Musical (Kurt). Proud recent graduate of the Boston Conservatory at Berklee! Much love and gratitude to family,



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friends, mentors, Boco, and Avalon Artists Group! IG: @connorbuonaccorsi

ASHIA COLLINS (Dynamite/Little Inez Understudy) is so grateful to be a part of the cast of Hairspray! Born in Poughkeepsie NY, Ashia began pursuing her passion at Western Connecticut State University with amazing professors and continued her training with the LINK program. She began her career at the Broadway Palm Theatre and has also worked with RWS and Disney Cruise Line. She would like to thank her family and God for everything. IG: @collinsashia

JOSHUA JAMES CRAWFORD (Swing) holds a degree in Theatre Performance from Virginia Commonwealth University and has been blessed to work professionally since 2016. Some of his credits include TJ in Sister Act, The Musical, Jamal in Escape to Margaritaville, Schroeder in You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, and being a swing in Signature Theatre DC's production of The Scottsboro Boys. He wishes you many blessings and hopes you enjoy the show! @joshuajamescrawford

SCOOB DECKER (Male Authority Figure/ Wilbur Understudy/Assistant Company Manager) is thrilled for his eighth tour (The Wizard of Oz-National & International/ Anastasia/Moulin Rouge!) and couldn't be more excited to help bring Hairspray to life. With a master's degree in Integrated Arts and Education (University of Montana), Scoob hosts Pique My Interest, a podcast about creativity, and is currently writing an original musical. Recent credits include Truchbull in Matilda, Disney's The Little Mermaid, and Murder on the Orient Express. All the love and thanks to Lizzie, Murph, and his folks!

**CRAIG FIRST** (*Brad/Corny Collins Understudy/Dance Captain*) is proud to be returning to *Hairspray* for the second year. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama. Craig is a singer/songwriter with music available on all platforms. He would like to thank his family, friends and the Movement Talent Agency for all their love and support. Follow Craig @CraigFirst.

AUDREY TAYLOR FLOYD (Swing/Asst. Dance Captain/Little Inez and Dynamite Understudy) (she/her/hers) is a New Jersey/Philly based singer, dancer, and actor. She is so excited to make her national tour debut with the cast of Hairspray, which happens to be her very first show when she was 11! Some of her previous credits include Disney's The Little Mermaid (Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre), Footloose (Prather Productions), Elf The Musical (Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre), Spring Awakening (The Grand Theatre). She gives endless love to her loved ones for always supporting her and her dreams! @audrey\_floyd

GAVIN GUTHRIE (IQ) (he/him). National tour debut! Regional: The Prom, Head Over Heels, Titanic, and Newsies (Lyric Theatre of OK); Matilda and Frank-N-Friend (Casa Mañana); La Cage aux Folles, Newsies, and Showboat (Interlakes Summer Theatre); Little Shop of Horrors (Tulsa Project Theatre). Oklahoma City University alum. Thanks to Mom and Dad, family, friends, teachers, and the cast/crew of Hairspray for their love and support! All socials: @gav\_guthrie

ALYSSA JACQUELINE (Shelley/Penny Pingleton Understudy). National tour debut! A New York native, Alyssa attended the University of Arizona, earning her a BFA in Dance and BA in Communications. Some favorite credits include A Chorus Line (Diana), Legally Blonde (Pilar) and Mamma Mia! (Sophie). Special thanks to HR Artists Management and the entire Hairspray team for all their support! Mom, Dad, Richie, Erica, Caitlin, Dan, Isaac, Minnie, Daisy, Jetti and Charlie—I love you endlessly. 1 Corinthians 16:14. IG: alyssajacqueline\_

**LEIAH LEWIS** (*Pearl/Dynamite/ Motormouth Maybelle Understudy*) is thrilled to be making her national tour debut in the hit musical, *Hairspray!* Some of her favorite theatre credits include Escape to *Margaritaville, Dreamgirls, Cabaret, Rock* 



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of Ages, Little Shop of Horrors, and Jesus Christ Superstar. Leiah wants to give many thanks to the creative team, cast, and all of her family and friends who are constantly supporting her on this journey. IG: @leiahlewis

**CHRISTY OBERNDORF** (*Tammy/ Amber Von Tussle and Penny Pingleton Understudy*) is thrilled to be making her national tour debut! Recent credits include Babette in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Arvada Center), Kate Monster in *Avenue Q* and Sophie in *Mamma Mia*! (BDT Stage). She'd like to thank her amazing friends and family for all the love. Incredibly special thanks to her Mom, Dad, Michelle and David for their neverending support. @christy\_oberndorf

KYNNEDI MORYAÉ PORTER (Dynamite/ Cindy) is a graduate of The University of Alabama and is thrilled to be making her national tour debut with Hairspray! Regional: Once On This Island (Papa Ge Understudy), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Babette), and In the Heights (Yolanda). She would like to thank God, her family, and friends for never giving up on her. ROLL TIDE ROLL! IG: @kynnfolk

**CAROLINE PURDY** (Lou Ann/Amber and Velma Von Tussle Understudy). National tour debut! Raised in Jersey, Caroline graduated with a BM from Oklahoma City University and is now based in New York. Credits: Beehive (Pattie), Disenchanted! (The Little Mermaid track), Chicago (Roxie), Company (Susan), Ghost (Molly Jensen), and Crazy For You. Endless thanks to her family, friends, and "The Candle Guy" for their support, and the cast, crew, and production team for this wonderful experience! @carolinebpurdy

**KALAB QUINN** (Duane/Seaweed J. Stubbs Understudy) (he/him) is so excited to be making his national tour debut with a show and role that he can now cross off his bucket list. He is currently a senior at Valdosta State University. Some of his previous credits include TJ in Sister Act and ensemble in *Spamalot* at Peach State Summer Theatre. He would like to thank the company and crew for making his dreams a reality, as well as his friends and family for their love and support.

JOSIAH THOMAS RANDOLPH (Thad/ Seaweed J. Stubbs Understudy) is thrilled to be making his national tour debut. He has played various roles such as Seaweed in Hairspray, Hero in A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Richie in A Chorus Line, C. C. in Dreamgirls, and Flick in Violet. Thanks to Mom, Dad, and Sarah. IG: @josiah\_randolph

AMY RODRIGUEZ (Tracy Turnblad Standby/ Female Authority Figure Understudy). National tour debut! Recent credits: Tracy Turnblad in Hairspray (Royal Caribbean), Goldilocks in Goldilocks (Chicago Kids Company), Granddaughter in And Come Apart (The Tank). BA: University of Iowa '21 (Go Hawks!). All her love to her family and friends. Thanks Mom and Dad for always believing in me! @amy.rodriguez

**SCOTT SILAGY** (*Sketch/Link Larkin Understudy*) is originally from Ewing, New Jersey but is now based in NYC. Select theatre credits include *Rock of Ages* (Drew, Mountain Theatre Company), *Catch Me If You Can* (Frank Abagnale Jr., Kelsey Theatre), *Head Over Heels* (Dametas, Theresa Lang Theatre), and *Musical of Musicals!* (Bill/Billy, Theatre at St. Jean). He is thrilled to be a part of this company and is so thankful for this opportunity. Follow along, @scott\_silagy on Instagram!

**CARA TORCHIA** (Swing/Female Authority Figure Understudy) is thrilled to be making her national tour debut in Hairspray! Regional: 42nd Street, Disney's Beauty and the Beast, The Drowsy Chaperone, Kinky Boots, The Wizard of Oz (Music Theatre Wichita); West Side Story (South Bend Symphony). Chicago College of Performing Arts BFA '23. LINK Class 5. Big love and gratitude to her ever-supportive Mom + Sis, family, Hudson Artists Agency, and the Hairspray team. @caratorchia





The Hancher Season Cup allows patrons to take drinks purchased in the Stanley Café into the auditorium to enjoy during performances.

Purchase yours at the Box Office, the Hancher Showcase, or the Stanley Café.

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Only beverages purchased from the Stanley Café can be taken into the auditorium. The 2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024 Season Cups can be used. Patrons should not bring beverages from home. Also, alcoholic beverages cannot be taken out of Hancher Auditorium in a Hancher Season Cup as this would violate "open container" restrictions.

LILLIANNIE ARIE URGENT (Lorraine/ Dynamite and Motormouth Maybelle Understudy) (she/her) is overjoyed to be taking on the role of Lorraine in this sensational production of Hairspray. Previous credits include Rusty in The Argyle Theater's production of Footloose. She extends her deepest gratitude to her unwavering support system: her incredible friends and loving family. Catch a glimpse of her behind-the-scenes adventures, her passion for the performing arts, and her infectious zest for life on her Tik Tok: @lilliurgentsings & IG: @lillianniearie. See you in detention!

JAMES DOUGLAS VINSON (Fender/Link Larkin and Corny Collins Understudy) is a NYC based actor and is thrilled to be making his national tour debut in Hairspray! Recent credits include Gunther in Summer: The Donna Summer Musical (NCL inaugural cast); Righteous Brother/ Nick in Beautiful: The Carole King Musical; Doug in Descendants (Casa Mañana); Larry in A Chorus Line (Laguna Playhouse). A huge thank you to his friends and family for their endless love and support! @jaames\_vinsonn

GABRIEL YARBOROUGH (Gilbert) is so excited to make his national tour debut with Hairspray! He's a junior BFA acting major at University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Previous credits include TV/Film: Filthy Rich (Young Franklin/FOX and HULU), The 24th (Boy/Amazon Prime). Regional: Cabaret (Victor/GLOW Lyric Theatre). Glory to God! Rep: KUTALENT Agency. IG:@gabriel.yarborough

MARK O'DONNELL (Book). Plays: That's It, Folks!; Fables for Friends; The Nice and the Nasty (all produced at Playwrights Horizons), and Strangers on Earth and Vertigo Park (both produced by Zena Group Theatre). He wrote the book and lyrics for the musical Tots in Tinseltown. Mr. O'Donnell collaborated with Bill Irwin on an adaptation of Moliere's Scapin, and he co-authored a translation of Feydeau's A Flea in Her Ear, both for the Roundabout. For Manhattan Theatre Club, he translated Jean Claude Carriere's La Terrasse. He has published two collections of comic stories *Elementary Education* and *Vertigo Park and Other Tall Tales* (both Knopf), as well as two recent novels, *Getting Over Homer* and *Let Nothing You Dismay* (both now in Vintage paperback). His humor, cartoons, and poetry have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Spy, The New Republic*, and *Esquire*, among many others. He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Lecomte du Nuoy Prize, and the George S. Kaufman Award.

THOMAS MEEHAN (Book) won the 2003 Tony Award for co-writing the book for Hairspray, after having won the 2001 Tony Award for co-writing the book of The Producers. In 1977, he received his first Tony Award for writing the book of Annie, which was his first Broadway show, and he has since written the books for the musicals I Remember Mama, Ain't Broadway Grand, Annie Warbucks, Bombay Dreams, and Cry-Baby. In addition, he is a long-time contributor of humor pieces, including "Yma Dream" to The New Yorker, an Emmy Award-winning writer of television comedy, and a collaborator on a number of screenplays, including Mel Brooks' Spaceballs, To Be or Not to Be, and the film version of The Producers. He is also the co-author for the libretto of 1984, an opera composed by Lorin Maazel and based on George Orwell's classic novel of the same name, which had its world premiere in the spring of 2003 at London's Roval Opera House and was performed at La Scala in Milan. Mr. Meehan is a member of the Council of the Dramatists Guild.

MARC SHAIMAN (Music & Arrangements, Lyrics) is a composer/lyricist/arranger/ performer working in films, television, musical theater, and recordings. He has won several honors, including a Tony, an Emmy, a Grammy, plus seven Oscar nominations. Film: Mary Poppins Returns (two Oscar, BAFTA, Golden Globe, Grammy noms.), Sleepless in Seattle, Patch Adams, The First Wives Club, The American President, South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut (all Oscar noms.), Beaches, When

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Harry Met Sally, City Slickers, The Addams Family, Sister Act, A Few Good Men, Hocus Pocus, The Bucket List, Hairspray, and The Star (Golden Globe nom. with Mariah Carey). Broadway (with co-lyricist Scott Wittman): Hairspray (Tony and Grammy), Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me, Catch Me If You Can (Tony nom.), Charlie and The Chocolate Factory, Some Like It Hot, and next year, Smash (based on the TV show). TV: Saturday Night Live (Emmy and Golden Globe noms.), Smash (Emmy and Golden Globe noms.), The Oscars with Billy Crystal (Emmy), The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson (with final quest Bette Midler), and countless appearances with Neil Patrick Harris, Nathan Lane, Jennifer Hudson, Jack Black, and Will Ferrell, among others. He has produced/arranged recordings and performances for Bette Midler, Harry Connick Jr., Peter Allen, Eric Clapton, Diane Keaton, Patti LuPone, Steve Martin, Barbra Streisand, Robin Williams, and many more. Recent projects include Rogers: The Musical for Marvel/Disney+'s Hawkeye, incidental music for Plaza Suite, and the score for Universal's Billy Eichner romcom Bros. His online opus Prop 8 - The Musical was a Webbie Award winner.

SCOTT WITTMAN (Lyrics). Tony, Grammy, and Olivier Award winning lyricist, director, writer, and conceiver Scott Wittman co-wrote the lyrics for the hit musical Hairspray (Tony, Grammy, Olivier Award) with creative partner Marc Shaiman. Wittman served as an Executive Producer on the hit film starring John Travolta. Nominated for a Golden Globe, Grammy, and two Emmy Awards for the original songs on NBC's musical drama Smash. Shaiman and Wittman's original score for the Marilyn Monroe musical Bombshell was released by Sony Records. Scott and Marc's Broadway writing credits include Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me, which Scott also directed, Catch Me If You Can (Tony nom. for Best Musical), and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory on Broadway and the West End, and the new Broadway musical of Some Like It Hot. Scott has created and directed concerts for Patti LuPone. He has created solo shows for Christine Ebersole and Nathan Lane, as well as writing for Bette Midler's 2015 *Divine Intervention World Tour.* Off-Broadway, he conceived and directed *Jukebox Jackie* starring Justin Vivian Bond at La Mama, and Bridget Everett's *Rockbottom* at the Public Theatre. His notorious and legendary Downtown shows are in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York. Marc and Scott also wrote the score to Disney's *Mary Poppins Returns* starring Emily Blunt, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and Meryl Streep. The song "The Place Where Lost Things Go" was nominated for an Oscar.

**JACK O'BRIEN** (Original Director), recently Tony nominated for his direction of the new hit musical. Shucked. has also won three Tony Awards for his direction of Hairspray, Henry IV, and The Coast of Utopia. His other recent Broadway credits include Arthur Miller's All My Sons, Carousel, The Front Page. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, It's Only a Play, Macbeth, The Nance, Dead Accounts, Catch Me If You Can, Impressionism, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (Tony nom.), Imaginary Friends, The Invention of Love (Tony nomination and Drama Desk winner), The Full Monty (Tony nom.), More to Love, Getting Away with Murder, The Little Foxes, Damn Yankees, Two Shakespearean Actors (Tony nom.), and Porgy and Bess (Tony nom.). Off- Broadway credits include Tom Stoppard's The Hard Problem, Pride's Crossing, and Hapgood (Lucille Lortel Award). Other productions include II Trittico at the Metropolitan Opera, Guys and Dolls at Carnegie Hall, Much Ado About Nothing for The Public's Shakespeare in the Park, Love Never Dies and Hairspray (Olivier nom.) in London, which also saw another revival at the Coliseum in London. Mr. O'Brien was the Artistic Director of the Old Globe Theatre from 1981 until 2007. He has directed six programs for PBS's American Playhouse. He is the author of two memoirs, Jack Be Nimble, and Jack in the Box, or How to Goddam Direct, both published by FSG. He lives in Connecticut with an exceptional Norwich terrier named Coda.

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MATT LENZ (Director). Broadway: Hairspray, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Catch Me If You Can, The Velocity of Autumn (Associate Director on original productions), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Resident Director). Off-Broadway: Pageant: The Musical (Drama Desk nom.), The Irish Curse, Idaho! The Comedy Musical, The Great Daisy Theory, Fingers and Toes, and Alan Ball's Tense Guy. National Tours: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The Sound of Music, A Christmas Story: The Musical, Cheers: Live on Stage, Catch Me If You Can, The Who's Tommy, and Hairspray. International: Productions of Hairspray in Australia, South Africa, the UK, Toronto, and Germany. Charlie and the Chocolate Factory Australian tour. Regional: Numerous plays and musicals at Paper Mill Playhouse, George Street Playhouse, the MUNY, Ogunguit Playhouse, Cape Playhouse, North Carolina Theatre, Maltz Jupiter Theater, Forestburgh Playhouse, Zach Theatre, Gulfshore Playhouse, and Casa Manana. Matt is the founding Artistic Director of In The Works~In The Woods, a festival of new plays and musicals. Member SDC. www.mattlenzdirector.com

JERRY MITCHELL (Original Choreographer) received the Tony Award for Best Choreography twice-for the Tony Awardwinning Best Musical Kinky Boots (also Tony nom. for Best Director) and the revival of La Cage aux Folles. His most recent Broadway production, currently touring, is Pretty Woman (Director/Choreographer). He directed the Gloria Estefan musical On Your Feet! (also the international tour and at London's Coliseum Theatre) and was nominated for an Olivier Award for his choreography in Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, which he also directed and co-produced in London. In the 35 preceding years, Jerry has been involved with more than 50 Broadway, West End and touring productions. His Broadway debut as Choreographer, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, was followed by The Full Monty (Tony nom.), The Rocky Horror Show, Hairspray (Tony nom., NBC Live), Gypsy, Never Gonna Dance (Tony nom.), Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (Tony nom.), La Cage aux Folles, Imaginary Friends, Legally Blonde (Tony nom., which he also directed on Broadway and in London), Catch Me If You Can, and Kinky Boots. He recently directed and choreographed his next musical entitled Boop. Thirty or so years ago, Jerry conceived and created Broadway Bares, a comedy burlesque show performed annually for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, for which he was recognized in the form of a third Tony Award in 2023.

**ROBBIE ROBY** (Choreographer) has been part of the Hairspray family for 18 years: originally as the dance captain for the Broadway and Las Vegas productions. Select choreography credits include: Joseph... Dreamcoat (staring David Archuleta), Sister Act (Kansas City Starlight, Pittsburgh CLO), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Tuacahn, Ordway Theatre, and Pittsburgh CLO), Little Shop of Horrors (Sacramento Music Circus), Disney's The Little Mermaid (The 5th Avenue Theatre), Shrek (Walnut Street Theatre, Sacramento Music Circus), and Broadway Backwards (New Amsterdam Theatre; NYC). As a performer, Robbie was the dance captain for Broadway/Touring productions of Billy Elliot, Disney's The Little Mermaid, and Monty Python's Spamalot.

DAVID ROCKWELL (Scenic Design). Broadway: A Beautiful Noise, Into the Woods, She Loves Me (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards), On the Twentieth Century (Tony nom.), You Can't Take It with You (Tony nom.), Kinky Boots (Tony nom.), Lucky Guy (Tony nom.), Hairspray (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle noms.). Off-Broadway: The Seven Deadly Sins, Soundtrack of America, and the Public Theater's Shakespeare in the Park. Film/TV: Team America and the 81st. 82nd, and 93rd Oscars (2010 and 2021 Emmy Awards). Founder and President of Rockwell Group, an architecture and design firm based in New York with satellite offices in Los Angeles and Madrid. He is the author of four books on architecture and design, including Drama (Phaidon 2021). Honors: AIANY President's Award, Cooper Hewitt

National Design Award, Presidential Design Award.

WILLIAM IVEY LONG (Costume Design). Credits: The Producers, Seussical, The Man Who Came to Dinner, The Music Man, Contact, Swing!, Epic Proportions, The Civil War, Annie Get Your Gun, The Mystery of Irma Vep, Cabaret, Chicago (New York, London, Melbourne, Vienna, Stockholm, Amsterdam), Steel Pier, 1776, Smokey Joe's Cafe (New York, London, Las Vegas, tours), Crazy For You (Tony, Outer Critics Circle, Dora awards), London, Toronto (Dora Award), Tokyo; Guys and Dolls (Drama Desk Award); Madison Square Garden's annual A Christmas Carol; Six Degrees of Separation; Assassins (1991 Obie Award for outstanding achievement): Lend Me a Tenor (Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle awards); Nine (Tony, Drama Desk, Maharam awards); Robert Wilson's Hamletmachine; Leonard Bernstein's A Quiet Place and Trouble in Tahiti (Vienna State Opera, La Scala, Houston Grand Opera, Kennedy Center); The Lost Colony; Mick Jagger for the Rolling Stones' Steel Wheels tour; Siegfried and Roy at the Mirage Hotel; Paul Taylor; Twyla Tharp; Peter Martins; David Parsons; Susan Stroman.

**KENNETH POSNER** (Lighting Design) designs extensively Off-Broadway, for resident theatres and touring productions throughout the United States, as well as internationally. He began his design career in the early 1990's as the lighting designer for the Berkshire Theatre Festival in Stockbridge, MA. Selected Broadway credits include One More Time, Mr. Saturday Night, Beetlejuice, Pretty Woman, Mean Girls, War Paint, Tuck Everlasting, Disgraced, On Your Feet!, If/Then, Kinky Boots, Pippin, Cinderella, Hairspray, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Legally Blonde, Catch Me If You Can, The Coast of Utopia, Shipwreck, Other Desert Cities, The Merchant Of Venice, The Little Foxes, The Adventures Of Tom Sawyer, Finding Neverland, and Wicked.

**PAUL MILLER** (Tour Lighting Design). Broadway: Ruben & Clay's Christmas Show, Amazing Grace, The Illusionists, Legally Blonde, Freshly Squeezed, Laughing Room Only. National Tours: The Illusionists, Elf, the Musical, The Producers, Hairspray, Nunsense. Many commercial Off-Broadway productions and City Center Encores! Regional: The Old Globe, Stratford Shakespeare Festival (Ontario), DC Shakespeare, Chicago Shakespeare, Idaho Shakespeare, Great Lakes Theatre Co, Asolo Rep, American Conservatory Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, Pasadena Playhouse, The Goodspeed Opera House, Pittsburgh CLO, and Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre. among others. Ballet: The New Jersey Ballet, Eglevsky Ballet, Grand Rapids Ballet. Television: Live from Lincoln Center, Netflix. Showtime, Comedy Central, International: productions in São Paulo, Toronto, London, Vienna, Milan (Teatro alla Scala), Manila, Johannesburg, Beijing, Slovenia, Canada, and Mexico. Paul has been the lighting director for the internationally televised New Year's Eve Celebration from New York's Times Square for the last 20 years. He is originally from Chicago and trained at The Theatre School at DePaul University.

SHANNON SLATON (Sound Design) has designed many national tours including Shrek, Once on this Island, The Producers, Kiss Me, Kate, Noise/Funk, The Full Monty, Contact, A Chorus Line, Tap Dogs, Sweeney Todd, The Wizard of Oz, The Drowsy Chaperone, and The Wedding Singer. He was production sound for The Phantom of the Opera on Broadway and national tour, and advance sound for Wicked. Shows he has mixed on Broadway include Springsteen on Broadway, Man of La Mancha, Bombay Dreams, A Christmas Carol, Sweet Charity, Jersey Boys, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Drowsy Chaperone, Spring Awakening, Fela!, Anything Goes, Annie, Legally Blonde, and Cabaret.

**PATRICK W. LORD** (Video Design) is a projection and video designer, whose work has been seen across the country. He has designed the national tours of *Hairspray* and the new tour of *On Your Feet!*, and was on the video team for the first tour of *Mean Girls* as the animator. In addition, he has had the privilege to design critically

acclaimed world premieres at theaters like Lincoln Center and The Kennedy Center for Performing Arts with playwrights like Lauren Gunderson, Finegan Kruckemeyer, Robert Schenkkan, and others. His career also includes extensive work at regional theaters across the country like Shakespeare Theatre Company, Olney Theatre Center, Flatrock Playhouse, Croswell Opera House, Skylight Music Theatre, and many more, especially in the Washington DC area, which he calls home. Outside of his theatre work. Patrick has designed for Grammy award-winning musicians and creative directed projects for numerous NBA and NHL teams' special events. patrickwlord.com

**PAUL HUNTLEY** (Wigs & Hair Design). London born Paul Huntley is a special Tony Award Winner as well as a Drama Desk recipient. Paul has worked on hundreds of Broadway projects since arriving in this country in 1972. His projects have included Cats. Amadeus. Kiss Me. Kate. The Producers, and Hairspray. He has also worked with some of the most talented leading ladies of the American Cinema including Bette Davis, Vivien Leigh, Mae West, Glenn Close, Angela Lansbury, and Jessica Lange. Movies are Christopher Plummer in The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus and Willem Dafoe in Cirgue Du Freak.

**BERNIE ARDIA** (Wigs & Hair Design) is a California native with a 40-year career starting in print and television. He has designed for over 75 productions including: Cameron Mackintosh's Les Misérables and Oliver, Kiss of the Spider Woman with Chita Rivera, Andrew Lloyd Webber's Starlight Express (Las Vegas), Cinderella with Eartha Kitt, and Hairspray (recreating Paul Huntley's designs). He is also the author of Barbra Streisand in New York City, and presenting the upcoming At Sea with Patrick Dennis, My Madcap Mexican Adventure with the Author of Auntie Mame (pub. Ratteling Good Yarns).

**HAROLD WHEELER** (Orchestrations). From the time he conducted the Broadway musical Promises, Promises to the year Dreamgirls won six Tony Awards, Harold Wheeler has been in the front ranks of entertainment as a conductor, composer, arranger and performer. Additional theatre credits as orchestrator and music supervisor include CoCo, Two Gentlemen of Verona, The Wiz, Little Me (Tony nom.), A Chorus Line, The Tap Dance Kid, Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music, Fame, The Life (Tony nom.), Side Show, Swing! (Tony nom.), The Full Monty. He acted as musical director for the Summer Olympics in Atlanta, and composed the score for the film Love! Valour! Compassion!. He is married to actress/singer Hattie Winston.

**KEITH THOMPSON** (Music Supervisor) is an award-winning musical director. arranger, and composer. He created, directed and produced The Cocktail Cabaret which enjoyed a successful yearlong run at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Keith is the founder and host of The Composers Showcase, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides a platform for composers to share their original musical creations at The Smith Center in Las Vegas. Professional credits include musical director for Jersey Boys, The Producers, Hairspray, and We Will Rock You, the OUEEN musical, as well as first national tours of Mamma Mia! and Cabaret.

JP MEYER (Music Coordinator) is the music coordinator and contractor for APEX Touring (Summer: The Donna Summer Musical, Pippin, Finding Neverland, Chicago, Cabaret, Wizard of Oz) and has been the Resident Music Director at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre in Lancaster, Pennsylvania since 2014. He also serves as the Organist and Music Director at Old Zion Lutheran Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

LIZZIE WEBB (Music Director/Conductor/ Keyboard) is delighted to join her third national tour. Other tours include The Wizard of Oz (USA, Canada, international) and Anastasia (2nd national North American). When not on tour, you can find Lizzie working in regional theatres, most recently Arizona Broadway Theatre and

the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre. She wouldn't be able to do any of this without her husband, Scoob (Asst. Company Manager) and their adventure pup, Murphy. Thanks to APEX for keeping our family unit together while we bring this story to audiences around North America!

JESS LEVINE (Production Stage Manager) is thrilled to be joining Hairspray! Originally from Pittsburgh and a proud graduate of Penn State, previous tours include *Elf, the Musical* and regional credits include *Plano* and *The Cherry Orchard* (Quantum Theatre) and *Shantytown* (Pittsburgh Playwrights). Many thanks to all the family and friends that continue to support her!

SAM KRONHAUS (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be back with the Hairspray company this season! National Tours: Hairspray and Les Misérables. Regional: Into the Woods (Slow Burn Theatre Company) and Disney's Beauty and The Beast (Maltz Jupiter Theatre). Other credits: Miami City Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, The Kravis Center, Pittsburgh Playhouse, and Pittsburgh CLO. Proud graduate of Point Park University. Sam wishes to thank his family for their continued love and support!

THE BOOKING GROUP (Tour Booking Agency) has represented 28 Tony Awardwinning Best Musicals and Plays. Current tours include The Book of Mormon, Chicago, Come From Away, Dear Evan Hansen, Funny Girl, Hadestown, Hairspray, Hamilton, Mamma Mia!, Mean Girls, MJ The Musical, Mrs. Doubtfire, My Fair Lady, Pretty Woman, Six, Tina: The Tina Turner Musical, To Kill A Mockingbird, Waitress, and The Wiz. Future tours include: A Wonderful World, How to Dance in Ohio, The Karate Kid, Parade, Peter Pan Goes Wrong, Some Like It Hot, and Sweeney Todd.

**KENT MCINGVALE & COMPANY** (Tour Press & Marketing) currently leads the marketing and press campaigns for the national tours of Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird and Hairspray, and consults with Transcendence Theatre Company in Sonoma. Recent projects for Kent McIngvale, Deb Fiscella and N. Meredyth Davis include marketing and press campaigns for the national tours of Jersey Boys (14 seasons on tour), Beautiful-the Carole King Musical (six seasons on tour), Rodgers & Hammerstein's The Sound of Music, and Summer: The Donna Summer Musical.

MARC CIEMIEWICZ (Resident Company Manager). For over 30 years, Marc has worked as an actor, director, stage manager, company manager, and production manager from coast to coast. Tours: Yeston and Kopit's Phantom, It's Swingtime!, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (directed and choreographed by Andy Blankenbuehler), Footloose 10th Anniversary Tour, The Wedding Singer, Finding Neverland, Chicago, and the national and international tours of The Wizard of Oz. Marc holds a BFA and a MFA in Musical Theatre from Shenandoah Conservatory and San Diego State University respectively. Let Art Live!

TIMOTHE BITTLE (Tour Company Manager) is honored to help bring the amazing story of Hairspray to audiences across the world. Previously Company Manager for the 25th Anniversary National/International tour of *Chicago* and *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical.* National tours include *Finding Neverland* and *The Wedding Singer.* He attended Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, North Carolina, and Greensboro College in Greensboro, North Carolina. An avid TV and movie watcher, but has also been known to enjoy a football game or two. Go Pack Go!!

**BRIAN J. ENZMAN** (Associate Producer/ Casting). Brian has 35 years of experience in the entertainment industry. He has been involved in over 400 productions from A Chorus Line in 1987 to the recent national tours of Cabaret, Once, The Musical, and Summer: The Donna Summer Musical. As resident director, credits include: Evita, Yeston and Kopit's Phantom, Les Miserables, The Civil War, Jekyll and Hyde, The Drowsy Chaperone, South Pacific, Hello

Dolly, Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, Cabaret, Gypsy, Mame, The King and I, Damn Yankees, Music Man, and Annie, to name a few. Brian is a graduate of Millersville University in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

LAUREN L. SOBON (Associate Producer/ Casting). Recent credits include director for the 2021 tour of Summer: The Donna Summer Musical, associate producer for the 2020 and 2022 national tour of Chicago, artistic producer/casting director for the 2020 national tour of Finding Neverland, 2019 international and 2018/2019 national tours of The Wizard of Oz as well as the 2017 national tour of Pippin. She was the director and artistic producer for the 2016 national tour of Million Dollar Quartet. Choreographer and Associate Producer for the 2014 national tour of Fiddler on the Roof.

**RUSSELL A. THOMPSON** (Production Manager) has been the production manager for multiple national touring productions and the international tours of Chicago and Cabaret. Mr. Thompson was the lighting designer and production manager for the international and national tour of The Wizard of Oz. and national tours of Summer: The Donna Summer Musical. Finding Neverland, Once, Pippin, Million Dollar Quartet, Memphis, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, Hair, Fiddler on the Roof, All Shook Up. Footloose. The Wedding Singer. and Beehive: The 60's Musical. Thompson's other designs include Jesus Christ Superstar, On Your Feet!, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Mamma Mia!, Jersey Boys, Rock of Ages, A Bronx Tale, and Cats. He also designed the world premiere of Around the World in 80 Days and the regional premiere of The Civil War.

**APEX TOURING, LLC** (General Management) is the producer of the show Chicago, being presented by Chicago Razzle Dazzle, LLC and Hairspray, being presented by Hairspray On Tour, LLC. Now in its seventh tour season, APEX has produced recent national tours which include Summer: The Donna Summer Musical, Once, and Finding Neverland. APEX was honored to produce the first company to bring a live production to the Kingdom of Bahrain and the Middle East with the international tour of *The Wizard* of Oz, which also performed across China. APEX produced the 2018 tour of *Cabaret* and 2017 tour of *Pippin*. APEX has been created to serve the ever-expanding need for high quality, Broadway-caliber touring productions around the world. APEX looks forward to many years of producing Broadway's brightest new shows.

WILLIAM T. PRATHER (Executive Producer) is the executive producer and founder of APEX Touring. He is a second-generation theatre producer following in the footsteps of his parents, Tom and Debbie Prather, who produced live theatre for over 58 years. A graduate of the School of Hotel Administration at Cornell University, he returned to the family business in 1993 after spending a couple of years in the corporate world. As an executive producer. Prather has worked on successful tours including Chicago, Footloose, The Wedding Singer, BLAST, Fiddler on the Roof, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, Memphis, and Million Dollar Ouartet.

#### **STAFF FOR HAIRSPRAY**

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER William T. Prather

GENERAL MANAGEMENT APEX Touring

GENERAL MANAGER Ryan Parliment

PRODUCTION MANAGER Russell A. Thompson

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER Rachelle Winesett

TOUR PRESS AND MARKETING KENT MCINGVALE & COMPANY Kent McIngvale, Deb Fiscella, N. Meredyth Davis www.kentmco.com

> TOUR DIRECTION THE BOOKING GROUP Meredith Blair Rich Rundle and Brian Brooks thebookinggroup.com

#### CASTING

PRATHER PRODUCTIONS, INC. Brian J. Enzman Lauren L. Sobon

RESIDENT COMPANY MANAGER Marc Ciemiewicz

#### TOUR COMPANY MANAGER Timothe Bittle

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#### **PRODUCTION STAFF**

Production Stage Manager Jess Levine Assistant Stage Manager Sam Kronhaus	S
Assistant Company Manager Scoob Decke	r
Associate Director Leonard Sullivar	۱
Assistant Choreographer Faith Northcut	t
Associate Lighting Designer Wheeler Moor	۱
Moving Light Programmer Liam Corley	V
Head Carpenter Ben Porte	
Assistant Carpenter Anderson Terry	V
FlymanJonny Handy	
Head Electrician Chris Lubil	<
Assistant ElectricianJay Warrer	۱
Head AudioNick Dunk	<
Assistant AudioTerry Biving	s
Head PropsAbbie Garrisor	ı

Wardrobe Supervisor	Char Wilson
Assistant Wardrobe	Robyn Gill
Hair/Makaup Supervisor	Paisley Finlayson
Hall/Makeup Supervisor.	
	Kaitlin White
	Julia Janssen
Dance Captain	Craig First
Assistant Dance Captain	Audrey Taylor Floyd
Poster Photography	Norma Jean Roy
Production Photography.	Jeremy Daniel
Video Services	. HMS Media/Image Studios
	Allied Global Marketing,
	mmy Ann Design, EJZ Design
	AKA
	ingDenise S. Trupe
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Scenery built by Show Motion. Scenic Services by Proof Productions. Soft goods provided by iWeiss. Prop Services by Proof Productions. Sound Equipment from Masque Sound. Lighting Equipment from Christie Lites. Costumes by Euro Co Costumes, Arel Studio, Colin Davis Jones Studios, Timberlake Studio, Bethany Joy Costumes, Larry Vrba, Worldtone Shoes, LaDuca Shoes, Dersh Feather, Brock Viering, Matthew Carlson, Kathryn McGaughey, Raul Luna, Kriss Bicking. Special thanks to Bra\*Tenders for hosiery and undergarments. Video Equipment by PixelFLEX.

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The Director and Choreographer are members of the STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union.

## FROM BACKSTAGE TO CENTER STAGE: 2021 THEATRE ARTS GRAD AMY RODRIGUEZ MAKES HER HANCHER DEBUT IN HAIRSPRAY

#### By Bronwyn Stewart

"I would walk out on that stage," Amy Rodriguez reminisces about her three years working as a student stagehand at Hancher, "and I remember looking out at the empty seats, imagining what it would be like to perform in a venue like Hancher."

Rodriguez, who will be playing the role of Tracy Turnblad for the 7:30 p.m. show on Saturday, Feb. 24, and the 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Feb. 25., earned a BA in theatre at the University of Iowa in 2021. She came to the UI with a dream of becoming an actor but found so much more.

"My time at the University of Iowa made me an extremely well-rounded theatre professional," Rodriguez says, "I had to take classes outside my comfort zone and as part of the curriculum we had to join the crew for student run productions."

11.

I remember looking out at the empty seats, imagining what it would be like to perform in a venue like Hancher. "

– Amy Rodriguez, BA 2021

In addition to her student job at Hancher and many acting credits at the university, Rodriguez served as a scenic designer in multiple student productions. "My experience working backstage has made me a better actor," Rodriguez explains. "It really allowed me a glimpse at the inner workings of performance. I got to see the technical and specific aspects of running a show."

After graduating from the University of lowa, Rodriguez planned to move to New York City, but put those plans on pause when she successfully auditioned for the role of Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray*—on a Royal



Caribbean cruise. Rodriguez performed in the Royal Caribbean production for a year before moving to New York and landing the standby role in the national Broadway tour.

"This is the dream," Rodriguez says about booking the tour. "When I was working at Hancher, I always made sure I was working when the national tours came through. And when I saw that *Hairspray* was going to Hancher–I don't think I even had an audition yet, but I knew I was going to get the job."

"On Saturday night, when the overture starts and the curtain lifts," Rodriguez says, "I'll look out at that audience and know that dream—the one I had working backstage at Hancher—it's come true."

Read more of Amy's story at **performingarts.uiowa.** edu/news/AmyRodriguez.



Bronwyn Stewart is a PhD candidate in the Department of English at the University of Iowa and is currently working as a graduate assistant of marketing and communication for Performing Arts at Iowa.

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PERFORMING



## MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY GRAHAM100

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#### Friday, March 29 7:30 p.m. Hancher Auditorium

An indispensable dance company celebrates 100 years, bringing its founder's classic works to the stage alongside new work by contemporary choreographers. Martha Graham an icon among 20th century artistic icons—radically expanded the dance vocabulary, and her work has captivated audiences worldwide while influencing generations of artists.

#### TICKETS

Adults \$65 / \$45 Students & Youth \$10

#### SCHOOL OF MUSIC / DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS / Department of dance / hancher auditorium / Performing arts production unit





## IN THE RED AND BROWN WATER

By Tarell Alvin McCraney Directed by Caroline Clay

PRESENTED BY UI DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

#### Friday–Sunday, April 12–14 & Wednesday–Saturday, April 17–20 Theatre Building

San Pere, Louisiana: Oya runs fast, but her collegiate future is placed on hold to care for her mother. Inspired by Federico García Lorca's Yerma and Yoruban cosmology, Tarell Alvin McCraney's *In the Red and Brown Water* is a lyrical offering at the intersection of ancestral myth and ritual about a young woman's coming-ofage navigating lovers, community, and her chosen path.

#### TICKETS

Adults **\$20** Senior Citizens **\$15** Youth & Non-UI Students **\$10** UI Students **\$5** 

## FIERCE

PRESENTED BY HANCHER AUDITORIUM, PERFORMING ARTS PRODUCTION UNIT, AND UI SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Friday & Saturday April 26 & 27 7:30 p.m. Hancher Auditorium

An opera for the 21st Century, *Fierce* follows four teenage girls finding identity and purpose in the world as they write their college essays in a high school writers' workshop. The young women face striking internal challenges—the difficulties of high school popularity and social media, the weight of parental expectations, personal loss, and unstable lives at home—but come together to find community, self-empowerment, and the confidence to embrace new chapters.

#### TICKETS

Adults **<sup>\$</sup>20** Youth & Non-UI Students **<sup>\$</sup>10** UI Students **<sup>\$</sup>5** 

#### → MORE INFO AND TICKETS AT PERFORMINGARTS.UIOWA.EDU





#### By Bronwyn Stewart

Art has often been a catalyst for change in our society. Often, artists and performers are working at the front lines of movements that increase inclusion, give voice to new and differing perspectives, and create space for conversation and compassion.

The need for such work has only intensified in recent years as we are becoming increasingly aware of injustices across the community, the nation, and the globe.

The University of Iowa's Certificate in Social Justice and the Performing Arts offers undergraduate students a framework to address these demands, combining study of the performing arts with courses in race and ethnicity; gender, women's, and sexuality studies; global and transnational studies; and the environment and ecological justice. Students have the opportunity to learn methods and practices for creating socially engaged and community-based creative projects.

"Students in the Theatre Arts were advocating for more productions centering the voices of BIPOC and LGBTQIA people," says Loyce Arthur, an associate professor in the Department of Theatre Arts who coordinates the certificate. She collaborated with fellow faculty in theatre arts, the Department of Dance, School of Music, and Department of Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies to design the certificate, which encourages crossdisciplinary studies and fosters the



development of performing arts projects focused on advancing social justice.

"We wanted to create a formal process to help students align their studies more closely with their own interests," Arthur explains. "We wanted a way to meet their desire to create impactful work for their communities and peers."

The certificate asks students to also examine who their creative work will impact, who can benefit, and how they can make ethical choices as they develop, collaborate, and create their capstone projects.

"The certificate has really given me a wider scope," says Jason Vernon, a second-year student in theatre arts who is currently pursuing the certificate. "A performance is so much more than the performance itself; it's everything happening around the actual art piece. Pursuing the certificate has made me more aware of my own responsibility as an artist to take action towards inclusion."

Vernon came to the University of Iowa with a love for theatre and dance that had flourished through middle and high school. "I began to feel that just being a performer wasn't doing enough to make a change," Vernon explains, reflecting on how his pursuit of social justice and activism has grown in tandem with his love of the arts.

In his first semester at the University of lowa, Jason took a class in the Department of Dance called "Performing Power, Performing Protest," one of many classes that fit into the certificate's malleable structure that explores how performance can challenge power structures, address social equity, and influence social change.

"I hadn't even heard of the certificate when I signed up," Jason admits. He was simply

Jason Vernon, a second-year student in Theatre Arts who is currently pursuing a Certificate in Social Justice and the Performing Arts.

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– Jason Vernon

following his interests—and that's exactly how the certificate is designed to work.

With a multitude of classes offered across disciplines, students can mold the certificate to fit their individual interests and schedules and develop their own project. Jason, for example, is currently doing research in disability studies and relating that to theatre practices.

"My goal is to create a radically accessible piece of theatre," he explains about the direction of his capstone project, "so I'm in the process of reaching out to the disability community in town and on campus."

Through close mentorship with faculty and collaboration with students from other disciplines, the Certificate in Social Justice and the Performing Arts is meant to help students access and hone humancentered skills in empathy, compassion, and social responsibility, and gain a sense of belonging, equity, and inclusion as they approach their work and partner with others.

"For me," Vernon says, "the certificate is about finding the people who are already doing this social justice work and learning from them. It's about being part of the conversation. That way, when I leave lowa City, I have the resources to create social justice performances in new places."

Bronwyn Stewart is a PhD candidate in the Department of English at the University of Iowa and is currently working as a graduate assistant of marketing and communication for Performing Arts at Iowa. Her research brings together literary studies, feminist philosophy, and public performance art.

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