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CHICAGO



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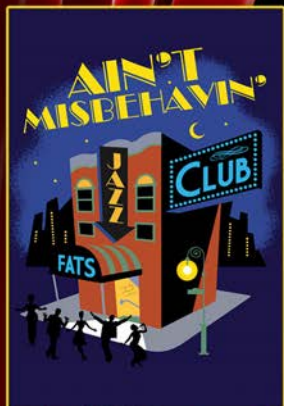
APR 16 - MAY 9

2021-2022

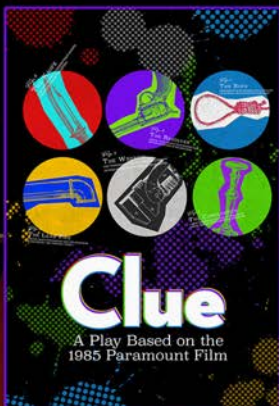


SEASON

ATHENS THEATRE



JULY 16 - AUGUST 8



SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 17



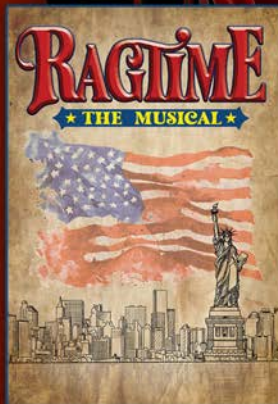
NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 19



JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 13



FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 20



APRIL 15 - MAY 8



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Director's Notes...

"Ladies and gentlemen, you are about to see a story of murder, greed, corruption, violence, exploitation, adultery and treachery—all those things we hold near and dear to our hearts."

So begins the musical *Chicago*, and creators John Kander, Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse never back off from that bold and sinister promise. A promise they fulfill with wit, dazzle, style and a great deal of humor. Since 1975 when it first opened on Broadway, it has become a classic and is now the longest running American musical in Broadway history. A film version was released in 2002 starring Renee Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Richard Gere. The Athens Theatre has been applying for the rights for many years and as Craig Uppercue says "It took a trip to NY to finally secure the contract." Well the timing couldn't be better as its themes are more relevant today than ever. Corruption of the press, fake news, gun violence, the Me Too Movement... make *Chicago*, based on a 1926 play by Maurine Dallas Watkins, look like it was ripped from today's headlines.

The motor of any musical is its score, and Kander and Ebb have written a "hummer". Each song evokes the 1920's, reveals character, makes us laugh, drives the story and entertains us. The dancing in the show has become iconic.

The musical numbers are also a tribute to the days of Vaudeville.

This makes this production even more appropriate since next season the Athens Theatre will be celebrating its 100 year anniversary and originally opened its doors with a Vaudeville show. "Whoopee... Hotcha... Jazz!"

Mayme Paul

Mayme Paul
Director/Choreographer



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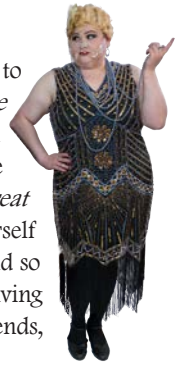
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~ MEET THE CAST ~



Anna Olivia Banks (Matron “Mama” Morton) is so excited to make her Athens Theatre Debut! She was recently seen in *The Wild Party* at The Titusville Playhouse. She is a graduate from the University of Central Florida with her Bachelors in Theatre Studies and Music. Other credits include Pickles in *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*, Miss Hannigan in *Annie*, Herself in *Beehive the 60's Musical*, Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray* and so many more! She would like to thank Mayme Paul for believing in her and giving her a shot at this incredible character. She would like to thank her family, friends, boyfriend Jonathan and her furbaby Ellie for their constant love and support!



Beej Boytek (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making his Athens Theatre debut in *Chicago* after a year of being away from the stage! He last appeared in *A Chorus Line* with Celebration Theatre Company and *Cats* at Cocoa Village Playhouse. He has performed with Universal Studios Orlando, Royal Caribbean International, and the Disney company at Walt Disney World, Disneyland Paris, and Disney Cruise Line. Additionally, he works with Orlando Repertory Theatre and Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. Favorite credits include: Don Baker in *Butterflies Are Free*, Phil Davis in *White Christmas*, Robert Martin in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and The Baker in *Into The Woods*. Beej would like to thank everyone involved in this phenomenal production for allowing him to be part of the Razzle Dazzle!



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~ MEET THE CAST ~



David Coalter (Billy Flynn) For over 34 years David has been singing, dancing and acting. His career has taken him to the Disneyland Resort, Tokyo Disneyland, Sea World Orlando and The Holy Land Experience. Along with theater stages from Los Angeles, California to Central Florida, in such roles as Sam Carmichael (*Mamma Mia!*), Robert Martin (*The Drowsy Chaperone*), Harold Hill (*The Music Man*), Freddy Eynsford-Hill (*My Fair Lady*), Jinx (*Plaid Tidings & Forever Plaid*), Cinderella's Prince (*Into the Woods*) and Frank Butler (*Annie Get Your Gun*). David would like to thank his wife Tina, and sons, Aaron and Caleb, for their love, support and putting up with his need for attention.



Nate Elliott (Ensemble/Fred Casely) is so happy and so thankful to be part of this amazing cast that gets to bring one of his dream shows to life. Some favorite past roles include Eugene (*Brighton Beach Memoirs*), Don Lockwood (*Singin' in the Rain*), and Ted Hanover (*Holiday Inn*). When there isn't a global pandemic, Nate can be found making Magic at Walt Disney World, and can be found making a different sort of magic at Universal Orlando Resort. When there IS a global pandemic, Nate can be found eating potato chips in his tree house bunker. He would like to thank his friends, his mother, his sister, and his girlfriend Julia for their continuous love and support! As well as the creative and tech teams for this spectacular opportunity, and for all their hard work and patience while putting together this crazy show. And most of all, he'd like to thank God for His continuous blessings in his life. Finally—God bless, may the Force be with you, enjoy the show, mask up, and have a magical day!
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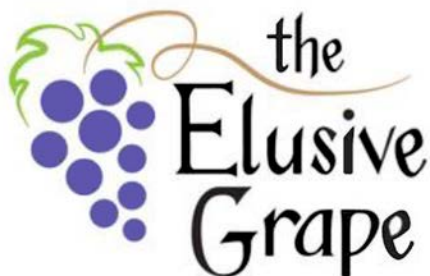


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~ MEET THE CAST ~



Julia Famiglietti (Kitty/Ensemble) is delighted to be back on the Athens stage so soon after just closing *Mamma Mia!* This will be her 5th production at the Athens Theatre. Past shows include, *The Wedding Singer*, *Singing' In The Rain*, and *The Producers*. She was also seen in the Emmy Award winning film *Virtually Yours, A Night At The Athens Theatre*. Universal Orlando Credits: Universal's Holiday Parade as a Character Performer and a Dancer. She would like to thank Mayme and the rest of the cast and crew for making this experience so special. She would also like to thank her supportive boyfriend Nate, her beautiful Mom, and YOU for supporting the arts during this difficult time. We can't do it without you! She hopes you have a killer time.



Yolanda Gonzalez (June/Ensemble) studied Theatre in the School Of Performing Arts at University of Central Florida. She has choreographed educational theater productions at Florida Repertory Theatre, taught dance classes at Tutus School of Dance, and was a performer at Universal Studios. Theatrical and Film credits include: *Oklahoma*, *West Side Story*, *Writes of Spring*, *Pompano Boy*, and several others. After recently closing a year long run of *The Amparo Experience* in Miami, FL she is very excited to be back in Central Florida and on the Athens Stage for the first time!



Eli Hamilton (Ensemble) is so happy to be back on the Athens stage in this delicious production! Originally from Winter Springs, Florida, he has lived in New York City as a B.F.A musical theatre major at Marymount Manhattan College. Selected credits include Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*; Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde* (Theater West End); Adolfo Pirelli in *Sweeney Todd*; Hugo/Dance Ensemble in *Tuck Everlasting* (Orlando Repertory Theatre) and various ensemble roles throughout Central Florida and NYC. Love you Mom and Dad! Psalms 31:24



Iris M. Johnson (Liz/Ensemble) is excited to be doing her first show at the Athens Theater. Iris is currently working on staff with Theater West End as the Studio Director/Facilities Manager. Aside from being a choreographer in the greater Orlando area for high schools and theaters, performance has always been close to her heart. She has most recently appeared on stage at Theater West End as Whatsername in *American Idiot* as well as at the Wayne Densch Theater as Deloris Van Cartier in *Sister Act*. Iris would like to thank her equal half, Zach Smith, for his continued love and support to push her to be her best self in life.

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~ MEET THE CAST ~



Zeshan Khan (Mary Sunshine) is excited to be on the Athens stage for the first time. He has appeared on stages across the Orlando area like Garden theatre and St.Lukes, but is currently a performer at Universal Studios Orlando. He would like to thank his friends and family for all the support, guidance, and love that they have sent him through this process. He is so grateful to join the Athens theatre family for the first time! And he wants you to always remember “there’s a little bit of good in Everyone.”



Sarah Ruth Joyner (Velma Kelly) is an Orlando performer who can be seen dancing at *Capone’s Dinner and Show*, *Teatro Martini* and swinging on ropes and singing at *Pirate’s Dinner Adventure*. Sarah has also played roles such as Sheila in *A Chorus Line*, Missy in *Winter Wonderettes*, and Helene in *Sweet Charity*. To Kel, with love.



Shayna Gilberg (Ensemble) is excited to be back performing at the Athens Theatre! Shayna is a junior in the BFA Musical Theatre program at UCF with a minor in Dance. Recent performance credits include *Cinderella* (Ella), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Celeste), *A Gentleman’s Guide to Love & Murder* (U/S Ms. Evangeline Barley), and *Singin’ in the Rain* (Ensemble). Shaynagilberg.com



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~ MEET THE CAST ~



Ciera Livermore (Annie/Ensemble) is thrilled to be making her Athens Theatre Company debut! Some of her performance credits include *Guys and Dolls* (Hotbox/ Havana dancer) Virginia Stage Company, *Sunny Day Celebration* (Dance Captain) Busch Gardens Williamsburg, *Wizard of Oz* (Ensemble) Lewis Family Playhouse, *The Nutcracker* (Sugar Plum Fairy) High Desert Youth Ballet Company, *Crazy For You* (Follies Girl) Standing Room Only Pro. Inc., and *Young Frankenstein* (Swing) Victor Valley Performing Arts. Ciera is not only a performer but a choreographer too! She has choreographed productions for dance studios and has developed choreography on projects for Grammy Award Winning Producer Greg Lawson. She would like to thank her Mom and Husband for being so supportive, and encouraging her love for the stage. Philippians 4:13 IG: @cieralivermore



Zachary Mitchell (Sergeant Fogarty, Ensemble) is thrilled to be doing another production at the beautiful Athens Theatre! He is a senior at UCF studying theatre with a minor in music, and will be graduating with his Bachelor's degree during the run of this show! Some theatrical credits include: *Mamma Mia!* (Pepper), *The Fantasticks* (Matt), *9to5* (Dick/Ensemble), *White Christmas* (Scooter/ Ensemble), *Titanic* (George Widener/Henry Etches u/s), etc. He would like to thank his family and friends for all of their continuous love and support, he feels so lucky to have such amazing people in his life! www.zacharydavidmitchell.com



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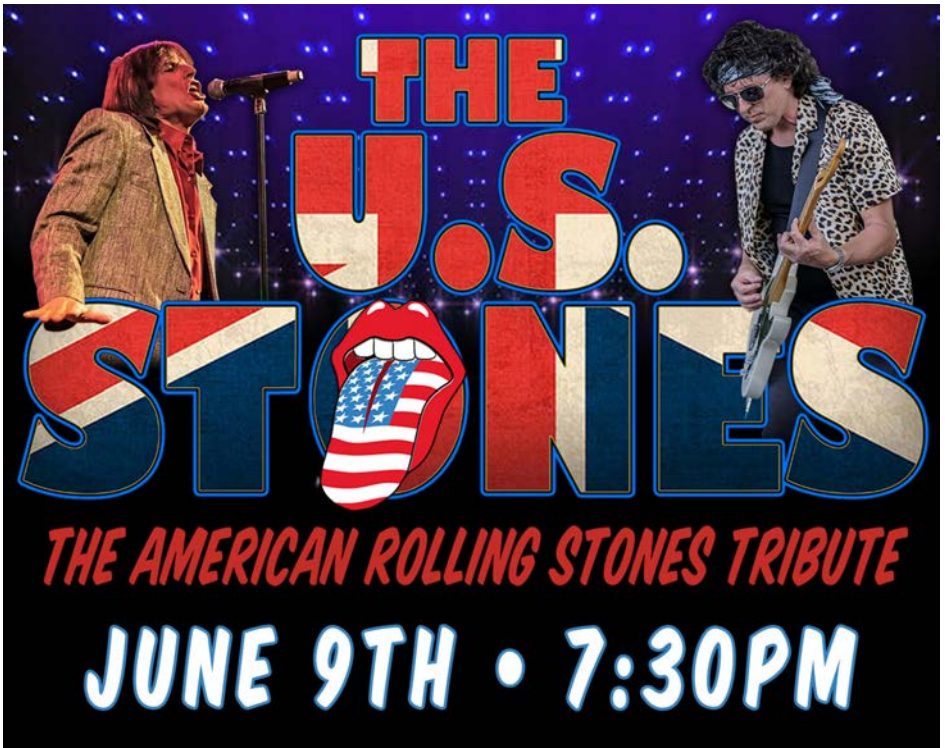
~ MEET THE CAST ~



Madeline Regier (Roxie Hart) is a UCF Musical Theatre alum who is excited for her third show with the Athens Theatre family. Her previous Athens credits include Kathy Seldon in *Singin' in the Rain*, Ulla in *The Producers*, and *Mary Poppins* before it was sadly cancelled due to Covid. She would like to thank her biggest fans (her parents) for never missing the chance to fly in from Kansas to see her perform. They are the best supporters a daughter could ask for.



Caitlin Van Driessche (Hunyak/Dance Captain) is thrilled to be returning to the Athens stage. Caitlin has been in many Athens productions including *Mamma Mia!* (Lisa/Dance Captain), *9 to 5* (Kathy), *Holiday Inn* (Suzie/Dance Captain), *Jekyll and Hyde*, and *Wedding Singer*. Prior to this, Caitlin was training as a ballet dancer with the Orlando Ballet School, then as a trainee with Nashville Ballet's Professional Company at the age of 15. Now, she is a professional dancer at Universal Orlando and Seaworld Orlando. Caitlin is also proud to be teaching dance classes with many studios around Florida as well as the Athens Theatre. Caitlin would like to thank the entire Athens team for giving her the opportunity to perform in this show, especially during this unprecedented time. She would also like to thank her parents for continuing to support her through her journey of performing.





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~ MEET THE CAST ~



Sabrina Landa (Mona/Ensemble) was born in Puerto Rico, but has lived most of her life in Orlando. She is excited to be performing at the Athens Theatre for the first time. Sabrina is a professional ballet dancer and trained for many years with Orlando Ballet and Pennsylvania Ballet. She was most recently seen on stage performing with United Ballet Theatre in Orlando. She is currently studying for a BA in Social Work. Sabrina thanks God for this new opportunity to perform and her family for supporting her always.



Gavin Waid (Amos), originally from Lake Wales, obtained his bachelors degree from the University of Central Florida in 2013, and his masters of music from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2016. He has had the pleasure of performing as a soloist with organizations such as the Orlando Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, Opera Orlando, UCF Opera, Madison Opera, University Opera at UW-Madison, Middleton Players Theatre, Madison Savoyards, Fresco Opera, Steel City Opera, Central Florida Vocal Arts, and Titusville Playhouse. Gavin is thrilled to be returning to the Athens to play this “bucket list” role with such a talented cast. Gavin would like to thank – as always – his family and friends, both near and far, for their constant love and unwavering support. www.gavinwaid.com



Bobby Wojciechowski (MC/Ensemble) is a graduate from the University of Central Florida where he received his BFA in Musical Theatre. Russian Ballet Orlando: *The Nutcracker* (Herr Drosselmeyer). Cruise Ship: Disney Dream (Character Dancer). Regional: *The Lion in Winter* (Philip II), *Joseph and the...Dreamcoat* (Pharaoh/Asher/Apache Dancer), *The Stephen Foster Story* (Ft. Dancer/E.P. Cristy u/s). Much love to my friends and family. Social: @bobbywoj, Website: www.bobbywoj.com

We Thank our Athens Theatre Staff

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CHICAGO



~ CAST OF CHARACTERS ~

Sarah Ruth Joyner.....	Velma Kelly
Madeline Regier.....	Roxie Hart
Nate Elliott.....	Fred Casely/Ensemble
Zachary Mitchell.....	Sergeant Fogarty/Ensemble
Gavin Waid.....	Amos Hart
Iris M. Johnson.....	Liz/Ensemble
Ciera Livermore.....	Annie/Ensemble
Yolanda Gonzalez	June/Ensemble
Caitlin Van Driessche.....	Hunyak
Sabrina Landa	Mona/Ensemble
Bobby Wojciechowski	MC/Ensemble
Anna Olivia Banks	Matron "Mama" Morton
David Coalter	Billy Flynn
Zeshan Khan	Mary Sunshine
Julia Famiglietti.....	Go-To-Hell-Kitty/Ensemble

~ ENSEMBLE ~

Beej Boytek, Shayna Gilberg, Eli Hamilton

~ PRODUCTION TEAM & TECHNICAL CREW ~

Artistic Director.....	Craig Uppercue
Director/Choreographer.....	Mayme Paul
Music Director.....	Terry Thomas
Assistant Choreographer.....	Kathryn Dudeck
Scenic Designer/Technical Director	Tori Oakes
Costume Designer.....	Tamara Marke-Lares
Production Stage Manager/Props.	Frank Ramirez
Assistant Stage Manager/Deck Chief	Grace Locklin
Director of Lighting & Sound/Lighting Designer.....	Tyler Odmunson
Costume & Prop Shop Manager	Amy Uppercue
Sound Operator	Tara Kromer
Stage Crew.....	Annalee Weydert, Erin Michaud
Fly Operator.....	Caleb Coalter
Spot Light Operators	Alicia Baith, Madison Belna
Light Board Operator	Kirra Williams



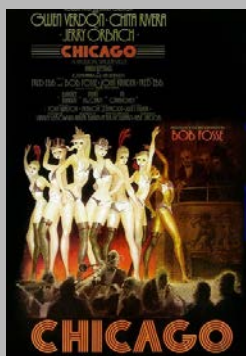
~ ACT ONE ~

1. Overture
2. All That Jazz
3. Funny Honey
4. Cell Block Tango
5. When You're Good To Mama
6. Tap Dance
7. All I Care About
8. \$5,000 Cue
9. A Little Bit of Good
10. Roxie's Story
11. We Both Reach For The Gun
12. 1st Newspaper Headlines
13. Roxie
14. 2nd Newspaper Headlines
15. I Can't Do It Alone
16. I Can't Do It Alone - Tag
17. Chicago After Midnight
18. 3rd Newspaper Headline
19. My Own Best Friend

~ ACT TWO ~

20. Entr'acte
21. I Know A Girl
22. Me and My Baby
23. Mister Cellophane
24. When Velma Takes the Stand
25. Velma Takes the Stand Exit
26. Hungarian Hanging
27. Razzle Dazzle
28. Courtroom Scene
29. NBC Chimes
30. Class
31. Billy's Speech
32. The Verdict
33. Nowadays
34. Hot Honey Rag
35. Finale

**Choreography for All That Jazz and Hot Honey Rag inspired by Bob Fosse.*



Many may already be familiar with the plot of Chicago, but most do not realize that the musical is based on a true story. Maurine Dallas Watkins, the playwright to first bring Chicago to life as a play, was a reporter in the 20s. Among the cases she followed were two female murderesses—Belva Gaertner, a twice-divorced cabaret singer, and Beulah Annan, a young book-

keeper at a local Laundromat. As you may have guessed Belva, described as the “most stylish of Murderess Row,” became the inspiration for the character of “Velma Kelly” and Beulah, the “beauty of the cell block” inspired “Roxie Hart.” Both women were acquitted by an all-male jury and were said to have been corrupted by jazz, liquor and men.



SPECIAL THANKS

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~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



Craig Uppercue (Artistic Director) A Stetson University alumnus, Mr. Uppercue has taught for 16 years in the public school systems of Florida from the Elementary to Collegiate levels. Craig is the Music Director of the Off-Broadway National Tour - *The Rock & The Rabbi* and performs with the show when available. Other performing opportunities include Broadway and Off~ Broadway credits such as *The Witnesses Musical* (Original Cast member), *The Lion King*, *Songs for a New World*, and numerous national tours throughout the U.S. He is actively involved with many professional symphonies and maintains an active performing schedule with professional artists throughout the nation. Mr. Uppercue has been with the Athens Theatre since 2011, and he has directed many musicals and plays at the Athens as well, most recently *Seussical, Jr.* Craig and his wonderful wife Amy live locally, enjoying every moment watching their three daughters grow up!



Mayme Paul (Director/Choreographer) has been fortunate to have a long career performing, teaching, directing and choreographing. As an actor, Mayme performed on Broadway in *A Chorus Line*, *Little Johnny Jones*, *The Tap Dance Kid* and the TONY Awards. Teaching experience includes being an Adjunct in the dance department at UCF for the past ten years. As a Director and Choreographer, Mayme has over one hundred credits on her resume' with productions in LA, Seattle, Vegas and Central Florida. This marks Mayme's 6th show with the Athens family and she would like to thank Craig, Frank, Tyler, Tamara, Tori, Terry, Kathryn and this tremendous cast for making this production an exceptional experience. I hope you, as an audience, enjoy watching it as much as we enjoyed creating it!



Kathryn Dudeck (Assistant Choreographer) is originally from England where she attended the Bird College Conservator of Dance and Musical Theatre. After graduating, Kathryn spent many years as a production show dancer and Company Manager for Princess Cruises. After leaving cruise ships, Kathryn and her husband settled down in Florida where she has had the pleasure of working as a Maintenance Choreographer at Walt Disney World and an Entertainment Manager at SeaWorld. Kathryn also enjoyed being Dance Captain for St Luke's production of *Mary Poppins* in 2019. Kathryn's most exciting role however, is being a mom to her twin 6-year-old girls! Kathryn is thrilled to be a part of *Chicago* at the beautiful Athens Theatre.



Terry E. Thomas (Musical Director) is very happy to be at the Athens for the first time! With a Master's Degree in Music Education from Indiana State University, Terry has performed and served as an educator throughout the United States, Germany, and the Middle East. Theaters where he's been a musical director include the Ice House Theatre, the Garden Theatre, Theatre Winter Haven, Riverside Theater in Vero Beach, the Orlando Civic Theater, Orlando REP, the Department of Defense, the British and American Community Theater in Kuwait, Clock Tower Dinner Theater in Rockford, IL, the Orlando Gay Chorus, the University of Central Florida and high schools in Indiana, Florida, and Kuwait. Terry has also appeared onstage as..... well, a lot of different people. The cast and staff of *CHICAGO* has been incredible! Thanks to Mayme for giving me the opportunity!

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~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



Tamara Marke-Lares (Costume Designer) is a Sculptor, Painter, Printmaker, and Creature Marionette maker. She has been designing costumes freelance for 19 years. She has designed for Dance, Ballet, Opera and Cirque productions, as well as numerous collaborative and solo productions. Some favorite costume credits include: *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged, James and the Giant Peach, Guys and Dolls, Into the Woods, The Wedding Singer, Jekyll & Hyde, The Lion King, Jr., and The Producers*. This is her fifth season with the Athens Theatre. Tamara lives with her husband and their two crazy talented children.



Tori Oakes (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) is Central Florida based technical director and scenic designer. She is, as always, happy to be working at the Athens Theatre again. Previous designs at the Athens include: *The Fantasticks, 9 to 5, Into the Woods, The Producers, Jekyll & Hyde, The Wedding Singer, Oklahoma!, Arsenic & Old Lace, Aladdin, Jr., Sister Act, Driving Miss Daisy, James and the Giant Peach, A Christmas Carol, The Addams Family, Cabaret, and White Christmas*. Tori is the owner of Misfit

Toys Theatrical LLC, an Orlando based production company that, in addition to building scenery for Athens Theatre productions, provides various scenic and properties services for a number of theatrical organizations from Central Florida to New England. Tori holds an MFA in theatre from the University of Central Florida.



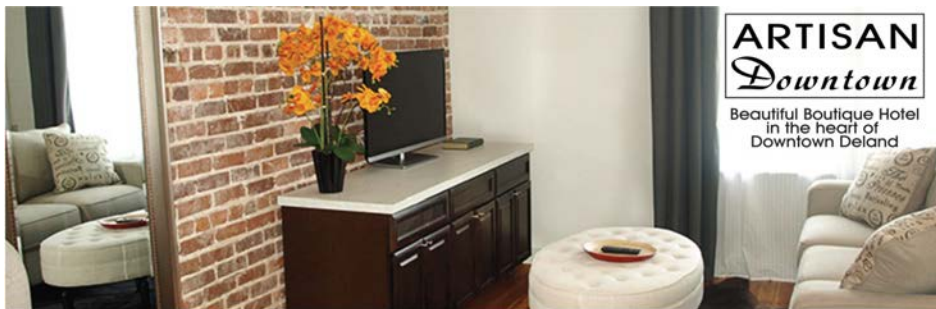
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~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



Tyler Omundsen (Director of Lighting & Sound/Lighting Designer) is thrilled to be not only the Lighting & Sound manager for the Athens Theatre, but the lighting designer for *Chicago*. Before joining the Athens family, Tyler earned his MFA in Lighting Design from the University of South Carolina and obtained several design credits throughout the country. Recent design credits include: *Mamma Mia!*, *Plaid Tidings*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, *Carmen*, *Men on Boats*, *Smokey Joes Café*, *Godspell*, *Platonov*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Top Girls*, *Sense and Sensibility*, and *Moon Over Buffalo*. You're invited to view Tyler's portfolio at: www.tyleromundsen.com



Frank Ramirez (Resident Production Stage Manager) is excited to be celebrating his fourth season with the Athens Theatre. Frank has served as Company Manager for IBEX Puppetry, Assistant Company Manager/Resident Stage Manager for the Tony Award-Winning Broadway Producing/General Management company Martian Entertainment and Resident Production Stage Manager for Seaside Music Theatre, Community Performance Series, Crane Opera Ensemble, and Potsdam Music Theatre. Broadway and Off-Broadway credits include *Puppet Palooza*, *Flight: on Earth, in Sky*, *Altar Boyz*, *The Musical of Musicals*, *Naked Boys Singing!* *Christine Jorgensen Reveals*. Touring credits include Jim Henson's *Singalong with The Muppet Movie*, *Labyrinth Singalong*, *Les Miserable* (National Tour), *Les Miscellaneous* (Ahmanson Theatre) and *Million Dollar Quartet*.

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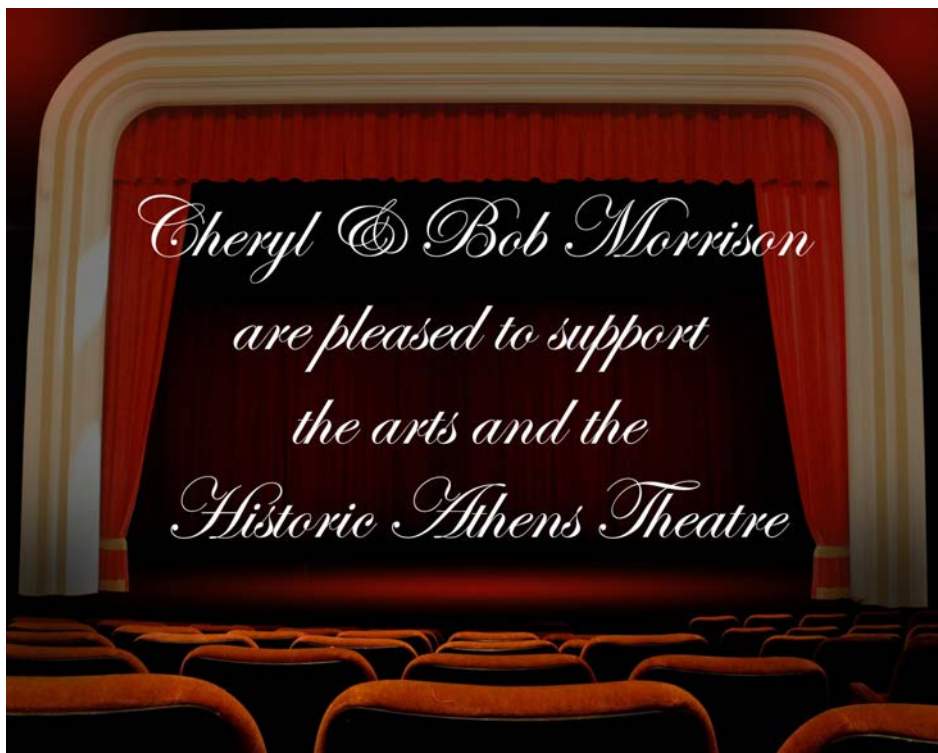
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~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



Grace Locklin (ASM) is ecstatic to be backstage for another Athens Theatre production. She most recently was Stage Manager for *Mamma Mia* and some of her various credits include Stage Manager, *Seussical Jr.* and Assistant Stage Manager, *Holiday Inn*, *Singing in The Rain* and *9 to 5*. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Kirra Williams (Assistant Lighting Designer) was a previous techie at The Henegar Center in Melbourne, and she is excited to be working with Athens for her second show here in DeLand. She has been involved behind the scenes for about 2 years and is looking forward to many more. Go Hatters!



Amy Uppercue (Costume and Prop Shop Manager) has been working behind the scenes at the Athens Theatre since 2011, and has loved being a part of all the magic that has been created on our stage. Previous costume design credits include *The Little Mermaid, Jr.*, *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *Legally Blonde: the Musical*, and *Footloose*. In addition to running the Athens Costume Shop, Amy is a teaching artist for the Athens Theatre Youth Academy. Enjoy the show!



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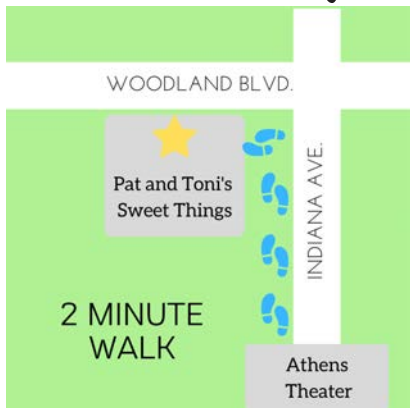
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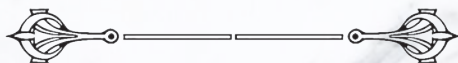
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