

In Association with Music Theatre International The Athens Theatre Presents

# A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

Music and Lyrics by  
Stephen Sondheim

Book By  
Burt Shevelove &  
Larry Gelbart



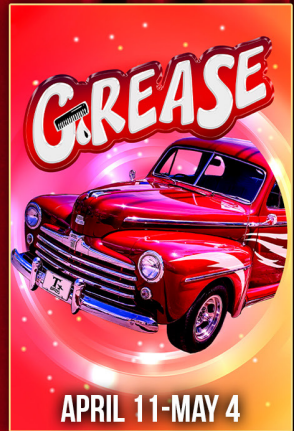
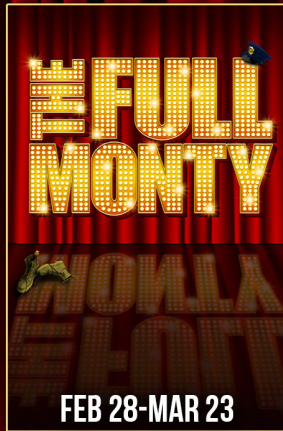
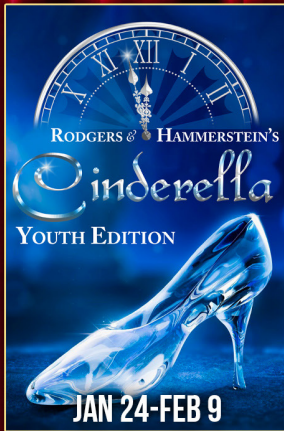
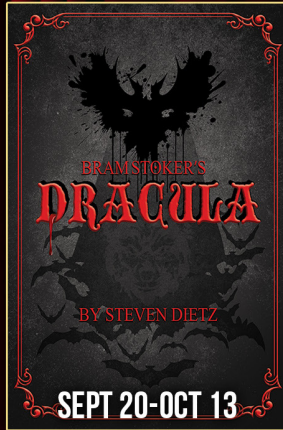
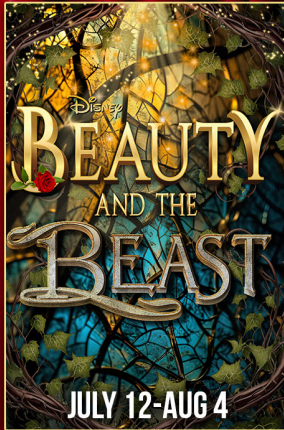
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# A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM

Music & Lyrics by  
**Stephen Sondheim**

Book by  
**Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart**

Originally Produced on Broadway by Harold S. Prince

Director  
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Scenic Designer  
**Katy Monthei**

Lighting Designer/ATD  
**Nicholas Hogan**

Production Supervisor  
**Diane McLean**

Rehearsal Assistant  
Stage Manager  
**Amanda Tyler**

Choreographer  
**Jacob Eaddy**

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**Chris Endsley**

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**Tamara  
Marke~Lares**

Scenic Charge Artist  
**Bonnie Sprung**

Assistant Stage Manager  
**Megan Quiroga**

**March 1st - 24th, 2024 | The Athens Theatre**

*A Funny Thing...Forum* is presented through special arrangement with Music International (MTI)  
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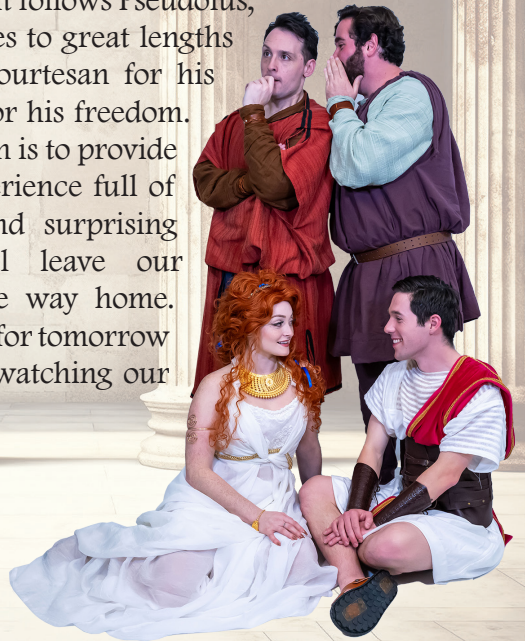
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### *Director's Notes...*

*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* is one of Stephen Sondheim's first and most endearing musicals. Based on the farces of ancient Roman playwright Plautus, *Forum* is a madcap comedic musical farce, replete with mistaken identities, wild goose chases, and hilarious antics. It follows Pseudolus, an enslaved Roman who goes to great lengths to secure a lovely young courtesan for his master, Hero, in exchange for his freedom. Our aim with this production is to provide a fun and lighthearted experience full of wit, silly anachronisms, and surprising casting choices that will leave our audiences chuckling all the way home. So, we will save the tragedies for tomorrow and hope you have a blast watching our Comedy Tonight!

*Tara Kromer*

*A Funny Thing Happened  
On The Way To The Forum  
Director*



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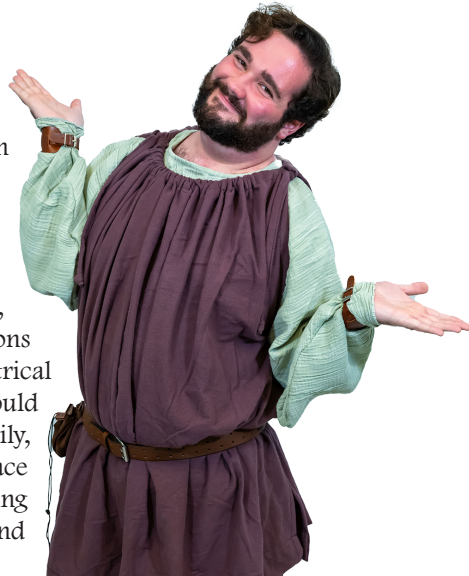
## ~ MEET THE CAST ~



**Ryan Blagg** (Miles Gloriosus) is originally from Norman, Oklahoma. He is currently a performer at many of the world-renowned theme parks including Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando Resort, and SeaWorld Orlando. He is also a performer at a variety of dinner theatres in Orlando including Pirate's Dinner Adventure. Previous theatrical credits: Orlando Repertory Theatre - *Make Way For Duckling* (The Michaels); Athens Theatre - *Young Frankenstein* (Igor), *25th... Spelling Bee* (Leaf Coneycbear), *White Christmas* (Mike/Phil Davis u/s); CFCArts - *Disney's Beauty and the Beast: In Concert* (Lefou); The Henegar Center - *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Scuttle), *Joseph... Dreamcoat* (Zebulun), *The Sound of Music* (Max Detweiler); Theater West End - *9 to 5: The Musical* (Joe/Ensemble); Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma - *Assassins* (Giuseppe Zangara), *The Wizard of Oz* (Lollipop Guild/Ensemble); Reduxion Theatre - *Sweeney Todd* (Toby Ragg); Sooner Theatre - *Hello Dolly* (Barnaby Tucker), *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Lefou). [ryanplbagg.com](http://ryanplbagg.com) | @OrangeRyanBlagg



**Noah Clark** (Pseudolus) is very excited for his fifth show with The Athens Theatre! Noah has been seen at various theaters in Nashville, TN and the Orlando area in roles such as Shrek in *Shrek TYA*, Gomez in *The Addams Family*, Pippin in *Pippin*, and Chad in *All Shook Up*, among others. When not doing musicals, Noah runs the audio company HCM Productions where he produces music for numerous theatrical productions as well as recording vocals. He would like to thank the Athens Theatre, his friends, family, his cast, and God for providing a supportive space for this opportunity. Noah is so excited to bring "comedy tonight" with such a wonderful crew and cast! Enjoy the show!



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## ~ MEET THE CAST ~



**Christopher deJong** (Hysterium) is so excited to bring this piece to life with this hilarious cast! Before transplanting from Massachusetts, Christopher performed in regional and community theaters throughout New England. He was last seen at The Athens as Paul Sheldon in *Misery*. Some favorite past roles include Charlie in *Kinky Boots*, Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables*, Peter in *Bare: A Pop Opera* and Jerry in *The Full Monty*. Chris would like to thank Tara, Chris, Jacob and the entire Crew for their artistry and collaboration! Special thanks to Erica for being his constant comic relief and his pup Luna for being a floof!



**Michael Funaro** (Senex) is proud and delighted to be back amongst his friends at the Athens Theater. Michael was last seen on the Athens stage as JD in *Escape to Margaritaville* and has performed in several other Athens productions such as *Scrooge the Musical*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Les Misérables* and *Inherit the Wind*. It is an honor to be amongst such an amazing cast and creative team, romping through the streets of ancient Rome. Thank you as always to my beloved family for allowing me to pursue my “theater habit”. With the world spinning out of control around us, we all can use some “Comedy Tonight”!



**Becca Griffin** (Vibrata) is excited to make her debut on the Athens stage! She was last seen as Susan in *The Fully Monty* at Theater West End. She was also seen as Widow Corney in *Oliver* at Osceola Arts, *Orsa Wylly* in A Halloween Carol at The Renaissance Theatre, and she was in the ensemble of *Young Frankenstein* at Osceola Arts. Becca would like to thank the production team for this opportunity, and her boyfriend Andres and two cats Lando and Sam for their love and support.

The advertisement for Artisan Downtown Hotel features a large orange background on the left with a black lotus logo and the text "ARTISAN DOWNTOWN HOTEL UPSCALE MODERN BOUTIQUE". To the right, there are four smaller images: the hotel's exterior at night, a hotel room with a bed, a bar with drinks, and a close-up of a bar counter. The address "215 S Woodland Blvd. DeLand, FL 32720" is at the bottom left, and a small logo is in the bottom right corner.

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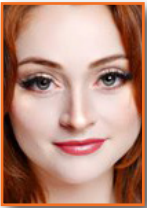
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## ~ MEET THE CAST ~



**Beth Hall** (Geminae 2, Ensemble) is overjoyed to be making her debut at the Athens Theater. She was most recently seen in the Orlando Fringe production of *The Rocky Horror Reviewsicle* as Brenda (Brad) with Mad Madame Productions. Her favorite roles include The Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Adalaide in *Guys and Dolls*, Silly Girl 3 in *Beauty and the Beast*, Ensemble in *Nine*, Wickersham #3 in *Seussical the Musical*, and Madame Defarge in *A Tale of Two Cities, the Musical*. When she is not on stage, she sings with Central Florida Vocal Arts “Belles and Bows” and performs as Lady Margaret of *The Medieval Madams*. She also enjoys painting and teaching music to preschoolers. She would like to thank the production team for taking a chance on her, and her partner Ryan for his unwavering support and love for her.



**Sheradin Jansen** (Philia) is from Chicago. She earned a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre from University of Utah. Between Entertainment at Universal and acting gigs, she teaches voice lessons and owns a Character Entertainment business (Glitzy Glam Celebrations). At the U, she played Jenny in *Company* and worked performing at Lagoon amusement park in Smoke and Mirrors magic show, as well as in Seance -- a live haunted interactive show. In Orlando, she pursues performing in plays, musicals, and theme park entertainment. She has been seen here at the Athens as Elizabeth in *Young Frankenstein*, as well as Evelyn Nesbit in *Ragtime*. Other roles include Lina Lamont in *Singin' in the Rain* and Ellie in *Some Enchanted Evening* at the Icehouse in Mount Dora. Other musical productions include *Nine*, and *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. Sheradin gratefully thanks the Athens for this continued opportunity, as well as her friends, family, and loving boyfriend for their ongoing support of her various endeavors.



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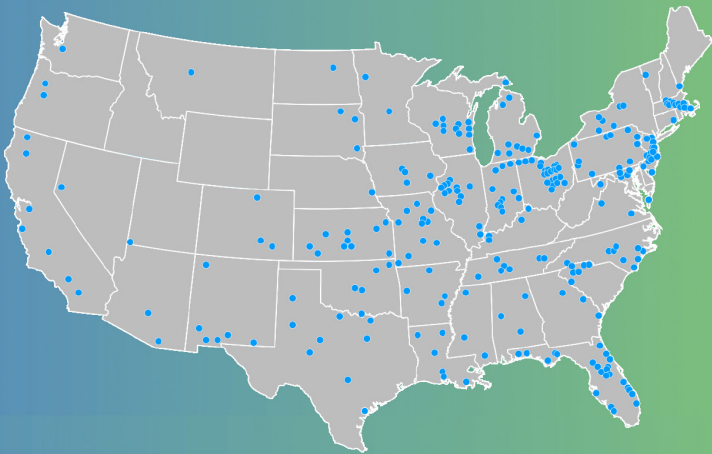
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## ~ MEET THE CAST ~



**Jonny Jones** (Gymnasia) is excited to be making their premiere at the Athens Theatre in FORUM! Education: AMDA NYC. Theatre: Theatre South Playhouse - *Matilda* (Agatha Trunchbull), *Urinetown* (Hot Blades), *The Prom* (Barry). Osceola Arts - *Xanadu* (Melpomene). STAGE - *Smile* (Big Bob). Director/Choreographer: STAGE - *Is There Life After High School?*, *Smile, I Wanna Dance with Somebody*. Windermere Prep - *Rock of Ages*, *A Night of Cameron Mackintosh*, *Aristocats*, *The Little Mermaid*. Dancer: Countless Disney/Universal shows, parades, & special events. Love to Mom!



**Rebecca Krainik** (Tintinabula) is thrilled to a part of this production! She is a versatile actor, known for her magnetic stage presence and ability to bring characters to life with depth and authenticity. With notable credits including Lucy in *Jekyll and Hyde*, Marcy in *Dogfight*, Jewel Laroux in *Capones Dinner and Show*, Estelle in *The Full Monty*, and Charlotte in *"Law and Order SVU"*. @rjanetk



**Kori Andreoli Lusignan** (Protean) is thrilled to be back on the Athens stage and to be back in the Forum. Favorite performances include Jocelyn Jollygoode in *Scrooge* (Athens Theatre), Domina in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Ritz Theatre), and Winnifred the Woebegone in *Once Upon a Mattress* (Lakeside Players.) When not on stage, Kori loves to cook up a storm, travel with her husband and daughter, and start knitting projects she may or may not finish.

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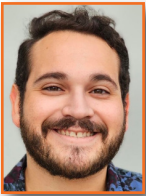
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## ~ MEET THE CAST ~



**Thomas Muniz** (Erronius) is happy to be returning to the Athens Theater. Last seen with the Ensemble Company playing Ira Drew in *It's Only a Play*, he was also Arnold in *HIR*. Thomas has also starred in *The Inheritance* as Morgan/Walter, *Misery*, *Other Desert Cities*, *Six Degrees of Separation*, and *Hysteria*, all with the Ensemble Company. With the Wildfire Players at Imagine Performing Arts Center in Oviedo, he performed in *Dali & Lorca*, *The Skin of Our Teeth*, and *Equus*. Thomas has also appeared at the Athens Theater in DeLand as Daddy Warbucks in *Annie*, Teddy in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Fester in *The Addams Family*, Tito in *Lend Me A Tenor*, Herr Schultz in *Cabaret*, Col. Mustard in *Clue*, and Walter Hobbs in *ELF*. Other performances include *Life Sucks* and *Yankee Tavern* at the Daytona Playhouse, *Scapino* and *All Our Sons* at the City Repertory Theatre in Palm Coast, and Hedda Gabler, *House of Blue Leaves*, and *Spamalot* at the Limelight in Saint Augustine.



**Gabriel Quijano** (Protean) is thrilled to be returning to the Athens stage! Gabriel is a 2021 graduate of Rollins College, receiving a Bachelor of Arts in Music, focusing on vocal performance, and conducting. He was most recently seen as Henry the Historian in *The City Beautiful, an Original Live Band Burlesque Musical* (Orlando Fringe's FESTN4), Ensemble in *The Full Monty* (Theater West End), and Brick in *Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville* (Athens Theatre). Gabriel gives infinite thanks to his friends and family for their endless love and support, and an extra special thanks to the cast and crew of *A Funny Thing Happened...* for this unforgettable and funny experience!

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## ~ MEET THE CAST ~



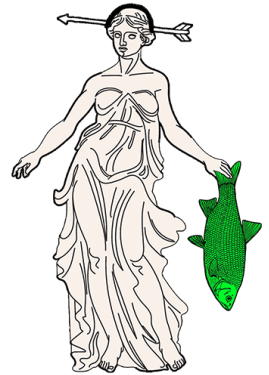
**Danny Sanchez** (Marcus Lycus) (he/him) is an Orlando based performer and Social Media Coordinator at ICON Park. He is so excited to return to the Athens with this production! His recent credits include *Male Swing* in the *25th Annual...Spelling Bee* (Theater West End), *Teddy / Ensemble* in *The Full Monty* (Theater West End), *Sheldon* in *The Prom* (Theater West End & Titusville Playhouse), *Bard #3* in *We Begin in a Tavern* (Orlando Fringe 2023) and *William Barfee* in the *25th Annual...Spelling Bee* (Athens Theatre)! Education: UCF BA Theatre Studies and Double Minor in Journalism and Creative Writing. He hopes you enjoy the show!



**Giovanni Sanchez** (Geminae 1/ Protean) (he/him) has been acting since the age of 5, but had the dream to be on stage and film since the age of 2. He just started his career at 18 and has already made multiple appearances on both stage and screen. Some of the most recent shows he's done were *Oliver!* (Osceola Arts), *Sweet Charity* (Osceola Arts), *Cruel Intentions* (Osceola Arts), *A Chorus Line* (Dr. Phillips Center), and *The Sound of Music* (The Henegar Center). He's also been behind the scenes with the technical department for *Steel Magnolias* (Osceola Arts), *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Osceola Arts), and *Kiss of the Spider Woman* (The Abbey). This is his first time performing at the Athens Theatre. He's been dreaming of performing here and cannot wait to show you some comedy!!! Instagram: @ \_gions\_



**Gabriella Smith** (Panacea) is excited to return to the Athens Theatre, where she was previously seen in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *White Christmas*. She is currently studying theater at the University of Central Florida. Previous credits include *As You Like It* (Musician, Phoebe U/S, Denis U/S), *Mary Poppins* (Dance Captain/ Ensemble), *Romeo and Juliet* (Lord Capulet) and *Beauty and the Beast* (Mrs. Potts). She would like to thank the entire creative team for this fabulous opportunity!



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## ~ MEET THE CAST ~



**Trevor Spence** (Hero)

is excited to return to the Athens Theatre! You may have seen him in previous seasons as Tom Jenkins in *Scrooge* and Buddy the Elf in *Elf*. Other recent roles

include King Henry VI in *Henry VI Part One* (Orlando Shakes), Andrew in *The Facts are as Follows* (Orlando Shakes Playfest), Toby Darling in *The Inheritance* (The Ensemble Company), and Malvolio in *Twelfth Night* (New Gen Theatrical). Trevor would like to thank the cast and crew for such a phenomenal experience and his family for their constant love and support. [www.trevorspence.com](http://www.trevorspence.com)



**Christie Young** (Domina) is happy to return to her Athens Theatre family! For the Athens, she's played Poppy in *Noises Off*, Frau Blucher in *Young Frankenstein*, Regina in *Rock of Ages*, Woman 1 in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, and a gargoyle in *Hunchback of Notre Dame*. She's performed in theatres from Alaska to New Hampshire. Other local performances include Lady Eugenia in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Osceola Arts), ensemble in *Kiss Me Kate* (Orlando Shakespeare Theatre), and Helga in *Holidays Around the World* (Epcot). She is a full-time actor and puppeteer for Universal Orlando Resort and holds an MFA in Musical Theatre Performance from the University of Central Florida. Many thanks to my family and friends for their continued support! Instagram: [@foreverchristieyoung](https://www.instagram.com/foreverchristieyoung). Facebook: [@christieyoungsings](https://www.facebook.com/christieyoungsings).

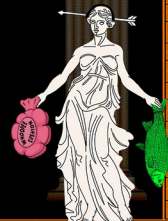
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## ~ MEET THE BAND ~



**Sean Strott** (Bass) is a 2016 graduate of Stetson's School of Music where he graduated with a Bachelor's in Music Education. Sean is currently the director of orchestras and the guitar instructor at Deltona High School. He has been a regular performer at The Athens Theater since 2014. His performances include 9 to 5, Escape to Margaritaville, and I Love you, You're Perfect, Now Change, to name a few.

**Chris Endsley** (Piano) – see bio in admin staff section

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## ~ CAST ~

Pseudolus.....	Noah Clark
Hysterium.....	Christopher deJongh
Hero.....	Trevor Spence
Philia.....	Sheradin Jansen
Senex.....	Michael Funaro
Domina.....	Christie Young
Errorius.....	Thomas Muniz
Marcus Lycus.....	Danny Sanchez
Miles Gloriosus.....	Ryan Blagg
Protean.....	Kori Andreoli Lusignan
Protean.....	Gabriel Quijano
Geminae 1 / Protean.....	Giovanni Sanchez
Geminae 2 / Ensemble.....	Beth Hall
Panacea.....	Gabriella Smith
Tintinabula.....	Rebecca Krainik
Vibrata.....	Becca Griffin
Gymnasia.....	Jonny Jones
Ensemble.....	Jacob Eaddy

## ~ PRODUCTION TEAM



Director.....	Tara Kromer
Choreographer.....	Jacob Eaddy
Music Director.....	Chris Endsley**
Producing Artistic Director.....	Frank Ramirez
Scenic Designer.....	Katy Monthei
Prop Designer/Scenic Builder/TD.....	Tori Oakes
Costume Designer.....	Tamara Marke-Lares
Lighting Designer/ATD.....	Nicholas Hogan
Sound Designer.....	Lamar Hickley
Scenic Charge Artist.....	Bonnie Sprung
Scenic Build Crew.....	Jonathan Jackson, Ethan Roth, Henry Roth, Diego Caso



## ~ ACT I ~

OVERTURE - Band  
COMEDY TONIGHT™ -  
Pseudolus and Company

LOVE, I HEAR - Hero

FREE - Pseudolus and Hero

THE HOUSE OF MARCUS LYCUS  
- Lycus and Pseudolus

LOVELY - Philia and Hero

PRETTY LITTLE PICTURE  
- Pseudolus, Hero, and Philia

EVERYBODY OUGHT TO HAVE A MAID  
- Senex, Pseudolus, Hysterium and Lycus

I'M CALM - Hysterium

IMPOSSIBLE - Senex and Hero

BRING ME MY BRIDE -  
Miles Gloriosus and Company

FINALE - Act 1

## ~ ACT II ~

ENTR'ACTE - Band

OPENING ACT 2 - Company

THAT DIRTY OLD MAN - Domina

THAT'LL SHOW HIM - Philia

LOVELY (REPRISE)  
- Pseudolus and Hysterium

FUNERAL SEQUENCE  
- Pseudolus, Miles Gloriosus and  
Company

FINALE - Company



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Special ASL/English  
Interpreted Performance  
on Friday, March 15

## & TECHNICAL CREW ~

Production Supervisor.....	Diane McLean
Stage Manager.....	Avery Tyler
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Megan Quiroga
Rehearsal Assistant Stage Manager.....	Amanda Tyler
Costume Shop Manager.....	Amy Uppercue
Run Crew.....	Cadence Mimms, Reese Lieberman
Lightboard Operator.....	Madison Thompson
Spotlight Operators.....	Braeden Hunt, Brayden Volkman
Percussion.....	Craig Uppercue**
Bass Guitar.....	Sean Strott
Piano.....	Chris Endsley

\*\* denotes member of the Central Florida Musicians Association, AMF Local #389





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## ~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



**Tara Kromer** (Director) is thrilled to be back in the Director's chair at the Athens Theatre for her 7th production. At the Athens, Tara has directed productions of *Wait Until Dark*, *Greater Tuna*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Into the Woods*, and *Ragtime*. Other recent credits include: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Theater West End), *Hir* (Ensemble Company), *The Prom* (Theatre West End and Theatre South Playhouse), *Honky Tonk Laundry* (Hippodrome Theatre), *Tick Tick Boom* (Celebration Theatre Company), *Fun Home* (Theatre West End), *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Osceola Arts), *Perfect Arrangement* (Ensemble Company), *Driving Miss Daisy* (Theatre West End; Orlando Sentinel Critic's Choice for Best Director of a Comedy and Best Show of the 2021 Season), *Violet* (Garden Theatre), *The Super Variety Match Bonus Round* and *My Pal Bette* (2018 Patron's Pick at the Orlando Fringe Festival), and *It Shoulda Been You* (Studio Theatre Tierra Del Sol). Tara is also an educator, often serving as an adjunct professor in directing, adjudicating thespian festivals, and leading professional development workshops around the state. She serves as the resident Props and Puppetry Designer for Orlando Family Stage (formerly Orlando Rep) where she often directs productions aimed at families and young audiences. Keep an eye out for Tara's upcoming production of *The Lightning Thief* at Orlando Family Stage this Spring.

The logo for Three Smart Cookies features three anthropomorphic cookies. The largest cookie on the left is a round chocolate chip cookie wearing glasses and a blue necktie. The smallest cookie in the middle is a round chocolate chip cookie with a red bow on its head. The largest cookie on the right is a round chocolate chip cookie wearing a blue shirt with a pink heart. They are all holding hands. Below them, the text "three smart cookies" is written in a playful, rounded font. Underneath that, in red capital letters, is the slogan "WE CREATE 'WOW, LOOK AT THESE!' ROYAL ICING CUSTOM COOKIES". The background of the graphic shows a close-up of a hand mixing ingredients in a bowl.

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## ~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



**Jacob Eaddy** (Choreographer, Ensemble) is a 20-year veteran in the world of entertainment. He has fully produced, directed, and choreographed two original musicals and is the Creative Director of IconX Dance Theatre at Seminole High School 9th Grade Center. He is also a professional singer and actor.



**Chris Endsley** (Music Director) – is a veteran professional Music Director having served as Music Director/Accompanist for Garden Theatre, UCF Conservatory Theatre, Rollins College, Athens Theatre, Theatre Winter Haven, Osceola Arts, Orlando Family Stage, Daytona State College, Granbury Opera House (Texas), and Seaside Music Theatre. Chris is currently Music Director for Virgin Voyages cruise line and Organist/Director of Traditional Worship at North Lake Presbyterian Church, Lady Lake. He has toured the country as a concert organist and conducted workshops in church music development. Chris taught Choral Music, Musical Theatre and AP Music Theory for Volusia County Schools for 25 years. He holds a Bachelor of Music in Church Music/Organ from Baylor University, a Master of Music in Organ Performance from Florida State University and two additional years of graduate study in performance from Texas Christian University. Chris is a proud member of AFM Local 389. Much love to A.M.E.N.!

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# ~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



**Lamar Hickley** (Sound Designer/Director of Sound) has always been involved with the Arts. Since the age of 8, he has acquired the skill to play multiple instruments and gained knowledge in the area of sound reinforcement. He has over 20 years of experience as a recording engineer, in live mixing, and music production. In 2012, he received his AS degree in Music Production Technology and in 2014 he received his BAS in business supervision and management. Lamar's passions in the industry of audio granted him the "Most Outstanding Student" award in 2012. As a result, he was selected as the face of the Music Production Technology at Daytona State College. In 2016, Lamar was introduced to the Athens family and is honored to have his company "Kevin Majestic Productions," responsible for ensuring all the audio needs are met with nothing but the best sound and quality!



**Nicholas Hogan** (Lighting Designer) is excited to be working with the Athens as Director of Lighting/Assistant Technical Director. Nick found his passion for lighting in early high school, practicing design at the historical Barn Theatre in Stuart, Florida. After high school, Nick went on to find employment in various lighting positions in places such as the Maltz Jupiter Theatre, the Lyric Theatre, and the Orlando Repertory Theatre. Nick is responsible for the lighting design and execution of the Athens mainstage shows as well as their limited engagement performances.

## We Thank our Athens Theatre Staff

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**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**  
FRANK RAMIREZ

**PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR**  
DIANE MCLEAN

**MARKETING &  
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SANTI GABINO

**MARKETING ASSISTANT**  
BRIANA HOLLOMAN

**DIRECTOR OF SOUND**  
LAMAR HICKLEY

**DIRECTOR OF LIGHTING**  
NICHOLAS HOGAN

**FACILITY MANAGER**  
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**HOUSE MANAGERS**  
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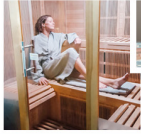
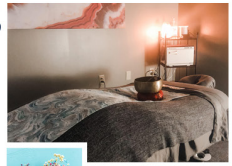




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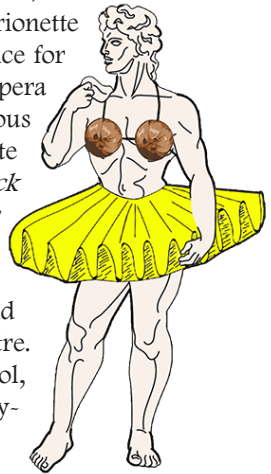
## ~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



**Bonnie Sprung** (Scenic Charge Artist) is happy to be back as Scenic Charge and recently designed and painted *Frozen, Jr.* Bonnie has a BA from Hofstra University in Set Design and Graphics, along with her AA from Valencia Community College in Fine Art. She has done set design, scenic painting, make-up, and stage management for over 300 shows in Orlando and New York. She has designed for GenY Productions, Florida Theatrical Association, Boone High, Lake Brantley High, Central Florida Community Arts, The Masters Academy, The Ensemble Company, SparkYl Entertainment, and many more. Some of her nominated designs include *Cabaret*, *The Flick*, *Bat Boy the Musical*, *Jane Eyre the Musical*, *Torch Song*, *Clybourne Park*, *Perfect Arrangement*, *Three Days of Rain*, *Hysteria* and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf*. Bonnie has over 30 years experience in curating, judging various art exhibits and thespian competitions. She is a member of the Women's Caucus for Art and is a past president of the FL chapter. Currently she is on the Seminole Cultural Arts Council Board. [www.BonnieSprung.com](http://www.BonnieSprung.com)



**Tamara Marke-Lares** (Resident 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 *Margaritaville*, *Rock of Ages*; *Ragtime*, *Shrek*, *Elf*; *Clue*; *Ain't Misbehavin'*; *Jerry's Girls*; *Chicago*; *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 sixth season with the Athens Theatre. Tamara spends her days teaching at Ivy Hawn Charter School, creating art and costumes and being amazed by her two crazy-talented children.



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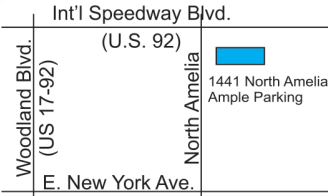
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## ~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



**Diane McLean** (Production Supervisor) is a professional stage manager with over 30 years experience in regional, touring, and Off Broadway theater, as well as film and higher education. She received her MFA in Stage Management from Boston University. She has stage managed for The Kennedy Center, Manhattan Theatre Club, Berkshire Theatre Festival, Huntington Theatre Company, Lyric Stage Company, Boston University College of Fine Arts, and Boston University Tanglewood Institute, to name a few. Film credits include *War of the Worlds*, directed by Steven Spielberg and Stephanie Daley starring Tilda Swinton. In addition to her work at the Athens Theatre, she is a professor and mentor to students at the Mike Curb College of Music, Entertainment, & Art at Daytona State. She is also the former Professor of Theatre at Endicott College in Beverly, MA. She'd like to thank Frank and the staff and board of the Athens Theatre for the opportunity to engage in theatre once again in her new hometown of DeLand. Love to H, C, and G.

**Katy Monthei** (Scenic Designer) is a designer based in Brooklyn. She has worked on Broadway and off Broadway in New York, several regional theaters in New England, and as a draftsman for 3C Studio Inc. Katy graduated with an MFA from Brandeis University. Contact info and portfolio of work can be found at [KatyMonthei.com](http://KatyMonthei.com).

A central advertisement for The Parched Oak Restaurant + Bar. The background is a dark brown color. At the top center is a white silhouette of a tree with many branches and roots. Below the tree, the text "The Parched Oak" is written in a white, serif font. Underneath that, "RESTAURANT + BAR" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, flanked by two horizontal lines. Below the text, the address "145 N. Woodland Blvd. DeLand, FL 32720" and phone number "386-873-4976" are listed in a white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the website "theparchedoak.com" is written in a white, sans-serif font. The advertisement is surrounded by four images: top-left shows bread rolls; top-right shows a burger and fries; bottom-left shows the restaurant's exterior at night; bottom-right shows a cocktail and a bottle of Buffalo Trace whiskey.


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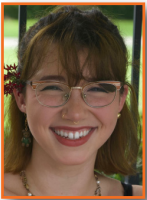
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## ~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



**Tori Oakes** (Prop Designer/TD/Scenic Build) is a Central Florida based technical director and scenic designer. She is, as always, happy to be working at the Athens Theatre. Previous designs at the Athens include *Erving Berlin's White Christmas*, *Misery*, *Margaritaville*, *Rock of Ages*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Ragtime*, *Shrek TYA Version*, *Elf*, *Chicago*, *Mamma Mia!*, *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.



**Megan Quiroga** (Assistant Stage Manager) is super excited to be a part of the *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* company! This is her second show here at the Athens Theatre. Her stage management credits include *The Little Mermaid*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Steel Magnolias* at Rising Phoenix Productions. She also was the Assistant Stage Manager for *By the Skin of Our Teeth* and *Rebel without a Cause* at Penguin Point Productions. Megan is currently in pursuit of a B.A. in T.V. Management and Production and plans on attending UCF in the Summer of 2024 for her undergrad. Megan is so honored to be the ASM of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and hopes you all enjoy the show!

The Athens Theatre is always seeking

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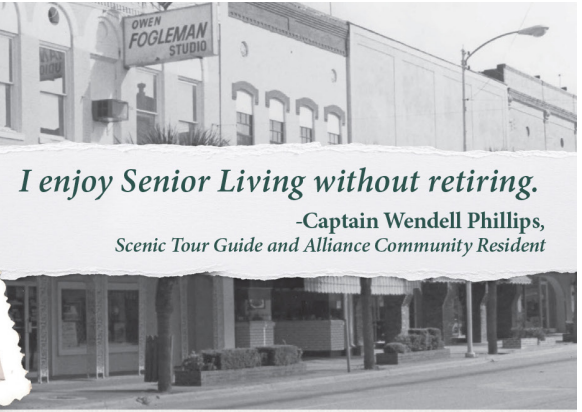
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## ~ MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM ~



**Avery Tyler** (Stage Manager) is excited to be part of the Forum team! At the Athens, she can be found behind the scenes, most recently as Stage Manager of *Misery* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. She has also been the ASM for *White Christmas*, *Noises Off*, *Scrooge!*, *Young Frankenstein*, and *Rock of Ages*. When not at the Athens, Avery teaches English and works on choreography & stage management for the theater department at Deltona High School. She would like to thank the cast, crew, and production team for all their hard work as well as thank the audience for supporting the arts in their community. Enjoy the show!



**Amy Uppercue** (Costume 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. Favorite costume design credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *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 also a teaching artist for the Athens Theatre Youth Academy, and serves on the board of the National League of Junior Cotillion West Volusia Chapter and the DeLand Choir Parents Association. So much love to C, HK, AB and B. Enjoy the show!

A promotional poster for a tribute band. The top half features the text "FLEETWOOD GOLD" in a large, ornate, gold-colored font, with "THE FLEETWOOD MAC EXPERIENCE (TRIBUTE)" in a smaller, similar font below it. The middle section shows a band performing on stage with various instruments like keyboards, guitars, and drums. The bottom section features a group photo of five people (three men and two women) smiling, dressed in 1970s-style clothing. At the very bottom, the text "March 30th • 4pm &amp; 7:30pm" is displayed in a large, bold, gold font.





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## ~ MEET THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM ~



**Alexa Baldwin** (Executive Director) is a graduate of Kent State University with her BFA in Musical Theatre. After twelve years of working in the theatre industry and managing the offices of several companies, Alexa became the Director of Marketing and Operations for the Sands Theatre Center (DBA - Athens Theatre) in July of 2011. In 2021, she was made the theatre's Executive Director. She has dedicated her life to working with an incredible family of co-workers and volunteers to make the Athens Theatre a representation of what community theatres can strive to be—both onstage and off. In addition to her theatre family, she is fortunate to have an incredible husband and daughter who are endlessly patient and supportive with all things Athens Theatre. Mrs. Baldwin thanks everyone in the cast, crew, production team, and ALL the staff for the tireless hours they spent making tonight's magic happen. She hopes that you enjoy the show and come back to visit us again soon.



**Frank Ramirez** (Producing Artistic Director) is a dedicated entertainment professional with over twenty-plus years of experience. His journey in the arts has taken him behind the scenes, on stage, in union management, production management, stage management, general arts management, production direction, and creative guidance on multiple levels in the arts industry. He joined the Athens Theatre in 2018, has directed numerous mainstage productions on the Athens stage, and is thrilled to be the Producing Artistic Director for this beautiful jewel of a theatre in the heart of Downtown DeLand. In the past, Frank has been part of multiple productions and organizations on Broadway, Off-Broadway, professional regional theatres, event management, and theme park entertainment management. He has also been associated with The Jim Henson Company via Heather Henson's IBEX Puppetry, where he served as Company Manager and facilitator of their worldwide full-scale theatrical productions in Canada, China, Kazakhstan, Indonesia, and nationally across the USA. Frank also worked as a guest artist instructor of Stage Management at SUNY Potsdam/Crane School of Music. Mr. Ramirez works with the Executive Director and Board of Directors to help steer the creative vision for the Athens Theatre. This includes working with a committee to develop play selections, production schedules, and budgets. He is responsible for hiring and overseeing all staff necessary to prepare for and present each Athens Theatre Company production. In addition, he oversees the production management aspect for all live events on the Athens stage.

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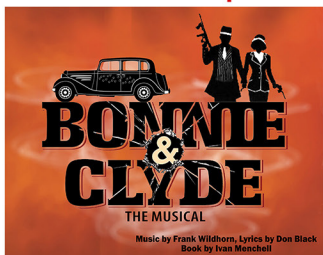
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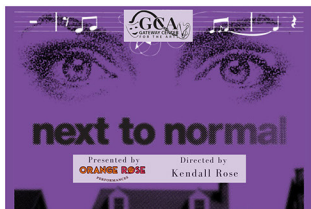
### Flagler Playhouse

Bunnell  
FlaglerPlayhouse.com  
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at Matanzas High School



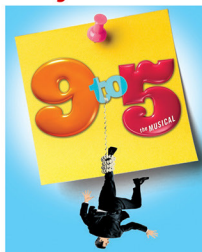
### Gateway Center for the Arts

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gatewaycenterforthearts.org  
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### The Little Theatre

New Smyrna Beach  
NSBPlayers.org  
February 22 - March 10



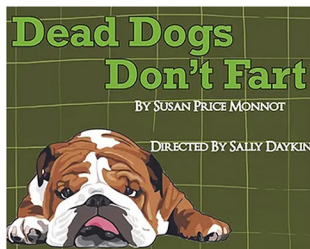
### The Ritz Theater

Sanford  
ritztheatersanford.com  
March 8 - 17



### Shoestring Theatre

Lake Helen  
ShoestringTheatre.net  
March 5 - 21st



## ~ MEET THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM ~



**Craig Uppercue** (Development & Community Partnerships) A Stetson University (BM/BME) & Grand Canyon University (M.Ed) alumnus, Mr. Uppercue has taught for 20 years in the public school systems of Florida, currently serving as Fine Arts specialist in Volusia County Schools. Mr. Uppercue has been with the Athens Theatre since 2011 and had the wonderful privilege of serving as Artistic Director for 10 years and is now honored to be playing a continued part in the life of the theatre. 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. Craig and his wonderful wife, Amy, live locally, enjoying every moment as they watch their three daughters grow up!



**Santi Gabino Jr.**, (Marketing and Communications Manager), a native of South Florida, made the exciting decision to relocate to DeLand in the Summer of 2022. With a rich background in event management, Santi served as the Executive & Marketing Director of a highly successful venue in Homestead, FL for over 11 years. During his tenure on his family's estate, he orchestrated nearly 100 weddings, attracting attention from renowned publications like *Allure Bridal* and *Modern Bride* for magazine shoots. The venue also became a prime location for television filming and hosting esteemed networks such as Nickelodeon and Telemundo.

He also spearheaded the creation of a wildly popular Farm to Table dinner series. Having cultivated a substantial social media following in his previous role and drawing upon his expertise, he now oversees the creation of all marketing materials, social media strategies, business to business promotions, and the crafting of all press releases and public communications.



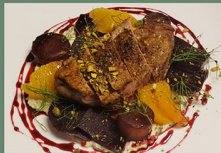
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## ~ MEET THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM ~



**Roberta (Bobe) Kenemer** (Resident Graphic Artist) is a graduate of Ringling College of Art & Design (formerly Ringling School of Art), majoring in Graphic Arts & Illustration. After relocating to Volusia County in 1982, Bobe worked for a small publishing company and as a Cartographer before accepting a position at Tennant Printing Company in DeLand. She gained extensive experience in the Graphics Department of various printing companies, along with numerous freelance projects, before assuming her role with the Athens Theatre in the fall of 2019. As the sole image designer for the theatre and the Athens Theatre Youth Academy, her graphic design skills play an integral role in the theatre's visual identity. She takes immense pride in being part of the Athens Theatre family and eagerly anticipates the opportunity to contribute to the creative journey of each upcoming production and event.



**Shonda L. Thurman** (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advocate) Born and raised in Flint, MI, Ms. Thurman holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Roosevelt University, in Chicago, IL, and Stephens College in Columbia, MO. She also holds a theatre management certification from Tiffany Vega Management. Shonda is currently the curriculum manager for the Orlando Family Stage and current co-chair for the Juneteenth lunch and Learn Facts of Freedom. Her performance credits range from local to all over the country in national tours. In her roles as a DEIA, performer, director, and educator she believes that everyone deserves a voice, their stories told and heard, and themselves represented in whatever arena they choose. "I am not a teacher I am an awakener." ~Robert Frost.

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