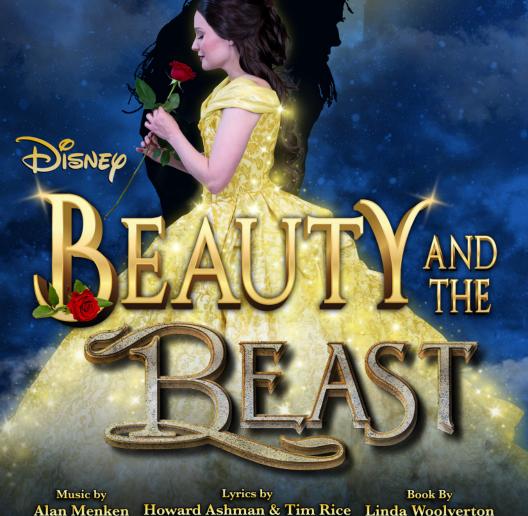
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Alan Menken

July 12 - August 4

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ATHENS 2024-2025



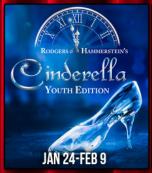
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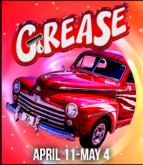
Frank Ramirez Producing Artistic Director



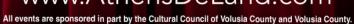








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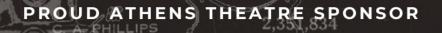












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Director's Notes...

Disney's Beauty and the Beast is truly a tale as old as time. Its endurance through the years, I believe, is due in part to its emphasis on a theme that transcends the story itself. That theme being the power of learning to see past each other's differences and find commonality in our humanity. It's a beautiful message to embrace, now more than ever.

Beauty and the Beast is said to be the second most familiar fairytale after Cinderella. Fairytales lure us in with fantasy, adventure and romance, but it seems to be the moral questions and lessons that each tale weaves that bring us back to the story again and again. They are neither historical nor contemporary, but ever present in our everyday life.

It has taken more than a "small provincial town" to put this production together. Thank you Frank for fostering a community of love and support in this theatre. It is always a pleasure to be involved here! So sit back, relax, and "Be Our Guest"!

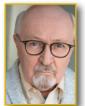
Mayme Paul
Disney's Beauty and the Beast Director

NOTE TO AUDIENCE: - The videotaping or audio and/or visual recording of this production is a violation of United States Copyright Law and an actionable federal offense.





Lauren Bowrosen (Les Filles #1, U/S Babette) is a freshman in the BFA Musical Theatre Program at The University of Central Florida. She has been seen on the Theatre UCF stage in *The Prom* (Swing), and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Swing). Her theatre credits include an Applause Award win for her portrayal of Janis Sarkisian in *Mean Girls*, Velma Kelly in *Chicago*, and Elsa in *Frozen*, *Jr*: TikTok:@m1n0nl0ver Instagram: @laurenbowrosen



Brian Allan Chambers (Maurice) is an Orlando-based actor returning to the Athens Theatre stage having last been seen here as Grandfather in *Ragtime*. Other regional credits include *Grumpy Old Men* (Grandpa), *West Side Story* (Doc), *School of Rock* (Gabe Brown), *Into the Woods* (Narrator/Mysterious Man), *Cabaret* (Herr Schultz), *NEWSIES: The Musical* (Joseph Pulitzer), *Something Rotten* (Shylock), *It's a Wonderful Life: The Musical* (Clarence), *Miracle in Bedford*

Falls (Clarence), Meet Me in St. Louis (Grandfather), Beauty and the Beast (Maurice), Tuesdays with Morrie (Morrie Schwartz), It Shoulda Been You (Walt/Uncle Morty), The Fantasticks (Bellomy), Sunday in the Park with George (Mister), A Philadelphia Story (Uncle Willie), Animal Crackers (Hives/Chandler), The Royal Family (Hubert Dean), Miracle on 34th Street (Kris Kringle), and A Tennessee Walk (Spit). Enjoy the show and no matter what you do, I'm on your side!



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Savanna Dacosta (Les Filles #2, U/S Mrs. Potts) is unbelievably excited & grateful to be back on the Athens Theatre stage after first appearing in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* last year. Some past favorites include playing Izzy in *Rabbit Hole*, Kayleen in *Gruesome Playground Injuries*, Nancy in *Oliver!*, Martha in *Spring Awakening*, and Louise Badger in *Holiday Inn*. Off-stage, Savanna also orchestrates the happenings of her startup theatre production company, The Dream Role Society,

alongside partner Marcus Roberts. She'd like to share her gratitude toward Mayme & Chris for this opportunity, as well as the rest of the Athens team for the incredibly hard work it takes to put on such memorable productions at this scale. She'd also like to thank Christie for being the coolest teapot in the cabinet to understudy, as well as her parents, Nessie and Marcus, for always running lines and filling seats. Enjoy the show, and have a silly, good time!

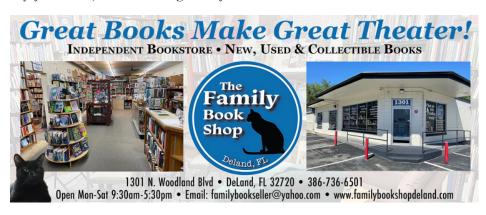


Ally Duffy (Ensemble, U/S Les Filles De La Ville) is so excited to be making her Athens debut! She is a third-year transfer student in the BFA Musical Theatre program at UCF. Past credits include 9 to 5: The Musical (New Employee), Sweeney Todd (Ensemble), The Secret Garden (Mary Lennox) and Hairspray (Penny Lou Pingleton). @ allyyduffy



Nate Elliott (Lumière, U/S Gaston) is so grateful to be back at the Athens, performing in one of his absolute favorite musicals! Some favorite past roles include Eugene (Brighton Beach Memoirs), Don Lockwood (Singin' in the Rain), Fred Casely (Chicago), Ted Hanover (Holiday Inn), Emcee (Cabaret), and Phil Davis (White Christmas). When he's not onstage, he can be found entertaining over at Walt Disney World and Universal Orlando Resort. He would like to thank the creative team, the crew, the cast, and his family and friends for their

continuous love and support! And most of all, he'd like to thank God for His neverending blessings in his life. Finally—stay safe, God bless, may the Force be with you, enjoy the show, and have a magical day!





Logan Freeman (Ensemble) (he/him) is excited to return to the Athens Theatre after his first year at UWF studying Musical Theatre. Logan has appeared in multiple shows over the years at the Athens, including Seussical (Horton), Young Frankenstein (Ensemble) and Escape to Margaritaville! (Ensemble).



Christian Gonzales (Ensemble, U/S Beast) is from Ocala, where he has played numerous roles at the Ocala Civic Theatre, such as Beast in *Beauty and the Beast*, Jack Kelly in *Newsies*, Tobias in *Sweeney Todd*, Tully in *Escape to Margaritaville*, and many more. He works as a front-of-house section leader at Chick-fil-A Ocala and plans to pursue a career in theatre and acting. Special thanks go to Mom, Dad, Justin, Poppy, Autumn, and the Carr family. Christian adds: "It's a joy

to perform in one of my favorite shows in such a rich ensemble and to once more understudy the very first lead I ever played! *Beauty and the Beast* truly is Disney magic every time you get to see it, and I'm glad to be a part of it."





Becca Griffin (Ensemble, u/s Madame de la Grande Bouche) is so excited to be returning to the Athens stage for a second time. Last seen as Vibrata in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, she was also seen as Susan in *The Full Monty* at Theatre West End, Widow Corney in *Oliver* at Osceola Arts, and she was in the ensemble of *Young Frankenstein* at Osceola Arts. Becca would like to thank the production team for giving her this opportunity, and her boyfriend Andres and cats

Lando and Sam for their love and support.



D'Montrae Harris (Ensemble, u/s Lumière) is a recent graduate of DeLand High School and an upcoming freshman at Florida Southern College, studying his BFA in Musical Theatre and Dance. Recent extracurriculars include serving as Captain of his former dance team, Vice President of his high school's choir program, as well as a choreographer of his school's theatre program, whilst pursuing choreographic endeavors around Central Florida. You may remember

D'Montrae from his recent portrayal of Angel in last season's *RENT*, but other recent credits include Choreographer/Costard in *Love's Labour's Lost* (Orlando Shakes), Harlem Ensemble in *Ragtime*, and Michael Hobbs in *Elf.* D'Montrae would like to thank his creative teachers, family, and coaches for the endless amounts of support. Insta: @dmontraeharris









Gracie Holland (Ensemble) is so excited to be back on the Athens stage! She just finished up her freshman year at Florida Southern College, where she is pursuing her BFA in Musical Theatre. Some of her past credits include: *The Shape of Things* (Jenny), *Urinetown* (Niblets), *The Bakers Wife* (Genevieve), and *Matilda, Jr.* (Miss Honey). She would like to thank all her MT professors, high school teachers, family and friends for their constant love, guidance, and encouragement. She would also like to thank the wonderful BATB team for this amazing opportunity to

create another beautiful story on the Athens stage. She hopes you enjoy this wonderful show! Insta: @graciehollandd



Joshua Houvouras (The Beast) is incredibly excited to be returning to the Athens stage where he previously appeared in *Young Frankenstein* (The Monster) and *Noises Off* (Frederick Fellows). He is a graduate of the University of Central Florida's BFA Musical Theatre program where he also minored in Sociology. Select previous Theatre UCF credits include *Welcome to the Moon* (Cowboy) and *Fabulation* (Accountant). Some other favorite credits include *Black Flag* (Harry) at Mad Cow Theatre, and *Forbidden Frontier: Adventure*

Island (Wyatt "Digger" Dempsey) at Cedar Point.



SarahRae Jackson (Madame De La Grande Bouche) is thrilled be returning to the stage after a ten-year hiatus. SarahRae has a background in Opera and Theatre, and she currently sits on the board for the New York Chamber Choirs. Her previous credits include Pennywise in *Urinetown*, Rona in *The 25th County... Spelling Bee*, Joy in *Cinderella*, Ethel Toffelmeyer in *The Music Man*, the Witch in *Into the Woods*, and Mrs. Peachum in *The Three Penny Opera*. She would like to thank her beautiful wife for her unending support.



Krystal Kennedy (Ensemble, U/S Belle) is excited to be doing her first show here on the Athens stage! Favorite past credits include Annette in *Cruel Intentions: The 90s Musical*, Jenny in *The Shape of Things*, and Franca in the world premiere of *Belladonna: The Musical* (a role she originated). Most days she can be found at Universal Orlando singing with some frogs in Hogsmeade or telling tales in Diagon Alley. Enjoy the show!



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Kelsey Kline (Ensemble, Dance and Fight Captain) (she/her) is thrilled to be making her Athens Theatre debut! A graduate of Rollins College Theatre Department, Kelsey recently returned from TheaterWorksUSA's national tour of *The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System* where she played Janet Perlstein. Other recent credits include Quack in *Make Way for Ducklings* (Orlando Family Stage), Ms. Mistle in *The Grinchmas Who-liday Spectacular!* (Universal Orlando),

and Barry Cuda in *Piratefest* (LegoLand Resort). When not performing you can find Kelsey teaching the next generation of artists at Orlando Family Stage, Dr. Phillips Performing Arts Center and Mainstages. Kelsey would like to shout out her dearest friends and family, thank you for the sunshine you add to the world. @kelseyjkline



Amy Lacey (Babette) is excited to make her Athens Theatre debut! She holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Central Florida. Favorite credits include Alice Murphy in *Bright Star*, Johanna in *Sweeney Todd* (Theatre UCF), Katherine in *Newsies*, and Julia Peel in *McBride's Call* (Inspiring Arts Productions). www.amy-lacey.com



Paul A. Lance (Ensemble, U/S Maurice) is excited to join the cast of Disney's Beauty and the Beast! A graduate from Samford University with a BFA in Musical Theatre/Dance, Paul has performed in numerous productions both regionally and locally. Most recent credits include FruitWine's production of Golden Gals Live! starring Ginger Minj and Encore Performing Art's production of Hello, Dolly! starring Jodi Benson. Other credits: The Inheritance (Ensemble

Theatre Company), *Hairspray* (Theatre Winter Haven), *Urinetown* (Theatre South Playhouse), *The Prom* (Theatre South Playhouse), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Little Radical Theatrics), *Young Frankenstein* (Athens Theatre), as well as in the World Premiere of *Serve for the Gawds* at the 2023 Orlando Fringe Festival. Paul has a lot of supporters in his life that he would like to thank, including William Hobby (husband) and Bobby & Cindy Lance (parents). Instagram/TikTok: Paul.A.Lance





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Manny Lantigua (Monsieur D'Arque, Ensemble) is excited to be in his first production with the Athens Theatre! Manny's theatre credits include Audrey 2 in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Johnny in *Curtains the Musical*, Roscoe Dexter in *Singin in the Rain*, Matthew's/Ensemble in *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*, Nibbles/Ensemble in *West Side Story*, Hipster Guy/Ensemble in *Thoughts About You an Original Musical*, and he also is a performer at Universal Studios Orlando Resort.



Mark Leavitt (Ensemble, U/S Lefou) is so excited to be back on the Athens stage! Mark was last seen at the Athens last summer in the ensemble of *Escape to Margaritaville*. Other credits include Mingo in *Crazy for You*, Mr. Martin in *The Bald Soprano*, John Hinckley in *Assassins*, and Male Swing in *Rock of Ages*. Mark has just finished his second year at Nazareth University in Rochester, New York for his BFA in Musical Theatre. Mark would like to thank all his friends and family for their constant love and support and hopes you all enjoy the show!



Scott Leavitt (Ensemble) is excited to be returning to the Athens stage after last appearing in *Escape to Margaritaville!* Past credits include Billy Flynn (*Chicago*), Julian Marsh (*42nd Street*), Demetrius (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), Gilmer (*To Kill a Mockingbird*) and Jim O'Connor (*The Glass Menagerie*). He has also performed at Universal Studios in Halloween Horror Nights and in Mardi Gras. He holds a BFA in Acting from Lynn University. He'd like to thank the cast and crew for their tremendous hard work and talent, and his family and friends for

their constant support. Please "be our guest" and enjoy the show!



Samantha Lewis (Les Filles #3) is a sophomore in the BFA Musical Theatre Program at The University of Central Florida. She has been seen on the Theatre UCF stage in Brightstar (U/S Margo, Ensemble) and Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (Ensemble). Other credits include 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Olive Ostrovsky).



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Collette C. Martin (Ensemble) is thrilled to return to the Athens stage! She was last seen as Megan Jones in *Puffs the Play* (The Shoestring Theatre), Ensemble in *How to Succeed in Business...* (The Shoestring Theatre), and as Sergei/Ensemble in *Matilda, Jr.* (Athens Theatre). You might have also spotted her around the Athens Theatre Youth Academy (ATYA) this past year as their teaching assistant. In 2022, she was awarded a full scholarship as a Jack and Martha Apgar Young Music

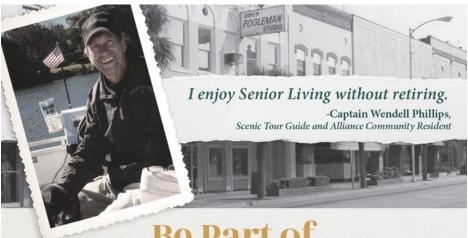
Scholar in Voice with Stetson University's Community School of Music for the 22-23 school year. Collette has been involved in theatre and the performing arts for over 10 years and is happy to be working with such a wonderful cast, crew, and creative team on one of her favorites. She thanks her family, friends, and mentors for their support. Enjoy the show!



Zoey Natal (Chip) is delighted to perform her second show on the Athens stage. Most recently you may have seen her in *Trial of the Wicked Witch* (Red Riding Hood), *The Rockin' Science Show* (James Watson/Emma Darwin/Student), *Frozen, Jr.* (Young Anna/Ensemble), *A Christmas Chaos* (Mary Cratchit), and *Mary Poppins* (Annie/Toy/Ensemble). Zoey has also been involved with the Athens Theater Youth Academy (ATYA) for the past three years. Lastly, she would like to thank

her family and friends for always supporting her. Enjoy the show!





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Ainsley Newton (Lefou) is delighted to perform at the Athens Theatre. Ainsley currently studies at Florida International University as a B.M. Musical Theatre Major and Dance Minor, and has also performed at numerous venues like Disney, Universal, and Steinmetz Hall. Some of Ainsley's onstage credits include Rizzo in *Grease*, Vivienne Kensington in *Legally Blonde*, Nostradamus in *Something Rotten*, and was recently seen as Grover Underwood/Mr. D in *The Lightning Thief at FIU*. Ainsley would like to thank fellow friends, family, and mentors for their

support, and making her professional debut a memorable experience. Instagram: @ ainsleynewton27



Mason Sadlier (Ensemble) is a BFA acting major at Point Park University. This is his first time performing at the Athens Theatre, and he is thrilled to be a part of this production. Mason has recently worked on Silent Sky as Peter, Romeo and Juliet as Paris, and A New Brain as Mr. Bungee. He would like to thank his friends and family for always challenging and pushing him artistically and as a person. Instagram @ sadlier_mason



Danny Sanchez (Cogsworth) (he/him) is an Orlando based actor and works in Social Media Marketing. He is so excited to return to the Athens with this production! His previous credits include Marcus Lycus in *The Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Athens Theatre) 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(s) in Journalism and Creative Writing. He hopes you enjoy the show!



Adella Sita (Chip) is ecstatic to be making her debut appearance on the Athens stage! Adella will be entering 4th grade this fall, and just completed her first role ever as Squirt in *Finding Nemo, Jr.* Adella is so excited to have the opportunity to share the stage with her dad, and they cannot wait to share this experience together! She wants to thank her whole family for coming out to support her, especially her beautiful mommy and best little sister, Winnie, for supporting her through this whole experience.





Joey Sita (Ensemble, Cogsworth U/S) is happy to be back on stage at the Athens Theatre, where he belongs. It has been 5 years since his last performance in Singin in the Rain as Rod. Joey has also recently played Joey in Sister Act: the Musical. Joey has also appeared in Les Miserables, Legally Blonde, White Christmas, and Oklahoma at the Athens and he is extremely happy to be back at home on the Athens Theatre stage. He is excited to share the stage once again with his beautiful daughter, Adella. Joey wants to thank his amazingly beautiful

wife for always supporting and loving him, and his wonderful parents for always coming to the shows and being his biggest fans. Joey has two beautiful daughters, Adella and Winnie. Joey is also the music teacher at Sweetwater Elementary, and thanks his faculty family for coming out to support him. Joey especially thanks God, always, for his talents and His blessings. He also wants to give a shout out to his students and thank them for inspiring him to keep pursuing his dreams daily.



Gabriella Smith (Ensemble) is excited to return to the Athens Theatre, she was recently seen as Panacea in A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Mrs. Snoringman in White Christmas, and Ensemble in RENT. She is 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), and Romeo and Juliet (Lord Capulet). She would like to thank the entire creative team for this fabulous opportunity!





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Emilyann Tobias (Belle) is both honored and humbled to be invited back to the Athens Theatre stage; this time to bring to life a role beloved by so many. Emilyann most recently appeared in *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* (Tessie/Betty U/S) here at the Athens. Other credits include *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (Philia), *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (Cindy Lou), and *Mary Poppins* (Mary Poppins), all at The Little Theatre in New Smyrna Beach. Emilyann received her BFA

in Theatre Performance: Acting, from the University of Florida in Gainesville. She would like to express her thanks to the Athens Theatre Creative Team for this dream opportunity, as well as extend her gratitude and love to her family for their unwavering support and encouragement of her creative endeavors.



Nikolas Alexander Wendorf (Gaston) is excited to make his debut at Athens Theater! Having recently moved from Jacksonville, Nik has kept himself busy by performing throughout the Orlando theme parks, including Walt Disney World and Universal. Previous regional credits include Frank-N-Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show* at The Paul Bunyan Playhouse and Ethan Girard in *The Full Monty* at Theater West End. During his time at Jacksonville University, Nik could be seen as John

Jasper/Clive Paget in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and Eros in *Metamorphoses*. He wants to thank you for reading his bio (There's no pictures!) and for coming to the show!







Natalie Werba (Ensemble) is a rising senior in the BFA Musical Theatre Program at the University of Central Florida. Natalie has performed in a variety of musicals and plays including *Jimmy Buffet's Escape to Margaritaville* (Alex Jaffe, Ginger, Angela) at the Athens Theatre as well as *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Ensemble), *Working* (Woman #2 and U/S Rose Hoffman) and *Welcome To The Moon* (Betsy) at the University of Central Florida. She has also performed at the Applause Awards as a medley lead, outstanding performer, and alumni performer.



Christie Young (Mrs. Potts) is thrilled to spend another summer at the Athens Theatre! 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 Domina in *Forum*. She's performed in theatres from Alaska to New Hampshire, and most recently opened DreamWorks Imagination Celebration as a puppeteer for Universal Orlando. 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 the Germany Storyteller in Holidays Around the World (Epcot). She is a full-time actor and puppeteer for Universal Orlando Resort (Grinchmas, Wizarding World of Harry Potter) and holds an MFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Central Florida. Many thanks to my family and friends for their continued support! Instagram/Facebook/TikTok: @foreverchristieyoung







~ CAST ~

Emilyann Tobias	Belle
Joshua Houvouras	
Nikolas Alexander Wendorf	
Nate Elliott	Lumière, U/S Gaston
Danny Sanchez	
Christie Young	
Adella Sita	Chip
Zoey Natal	
Brian Allan Chambers	
	Babette Babette
SarahRae Jackson	
Ainsley Newton	Lefou
Ally Duffy	Ensemble, U/S Les Filles De La Ville
Collette C. Martin	Ensemble
Gabriella Smith	Ensemble
Gracie Holland	Ensemble
Kelsey Kline	Ensemble, Dance and Fight Captain
Krystal Kennedy	Ensemble, U/S Belle
Lauren Bowrosen	Les Filles #1, U/S Babette
Natalie Werba	Ensemble
Becca Griffin	Ensemble, U/S Madame de la Grande Bouche
Savanna Dacosta	Les Filles #2, U/S Mrs. Potts
Samantha Lewis	Les Filles #3
Christian Gonzales	Ensemble, U/S Beast
D'Montrae Harris	Ensemble, U/S Lumière
Manny Lantigua	
Joey Sita	Ensemble, U/S Cogsworth
Logan Freeman	Ensemble
	Ensemble, U/S Lefou
	Ensemble
Paul A. Lanc	Ensemble, U/S Maurice
Scott Leavit	Ensemble

~ ACT I ~

Overture/Prologue
Belle
No Matter What
Maurice Travels/Wolf Chase
Me
Belle (Reprise)
Home
Gaston
Gaston (Reprise)
How Long Must This Go On
Be Our Guest

If I Can't Love Her

~ ACT II ~

Entr'acte/Wolf Chase
Something There
Human Again
Beauty And The Beast
If I Can't Love Her (Reprise)
A Change In Me
Show Me the Beast
The Mob Song
Home (Reprise)
Transformation/Finale
Bows

~ PRODUCTION TEAM & TECHNICAL CREW ~

Director and Choreographer
Producing Artistic Director
Producing Artistic DirectorFrank Ramirez
Scenic Designer
Prop Designer/Scenic Builder/TD
Costume Designer
with additional costumes by Tamara Marke-Lares
Lighting Designer/ATDNicholas Hogan
Sound DesignerLamar Hickley
Scenic Charge Artist
Scenic Build CrewJonathan Jackson, Ethan Roth
Production Supervisor/PSMDiane McLean
Assistant Stage Manager/Deck Manager Avery Tyler
Apprentice Assistant Stage Manager
Sound Manager
Rehearsal ASM & Costume AssistantAmanda Tyler
Fly Manager Braeden Hunt
Costume & Prop Shop Manager
Run Crew Megan Quiroga, Garin Collier, Molly Asmussen
Lightboard Operator
Spotlight Operators Brayden Volkman, Hannah Uppercue
ASL/English Interpreting
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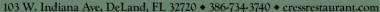
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Meet The Creative Team



Mayme Paul (Director/Choreographer) is thrilled to be back with the Athens family. Previous shows here include White Christmas, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Young Frankenstein, I Love You-You're Perfect-Now Change, Chicago, Singin' in the Rain, Into the Woods, The Fantasticks, and Gypsy. Other recent shows include 9 to 5, A Chorus Line, and Cabaret at Theatre West End, and Shrek at Dr. Phillips. As an actor, Mayme performed on Broadway in A Chorus Line, Little Johnny

Jones, The Tap Dance Kid, and the TONY Awards. When not directing in town, she is off sailing as an Install Director for Virgin Voyages cruise lines. She would like to thank her husband for his endless support!



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.!

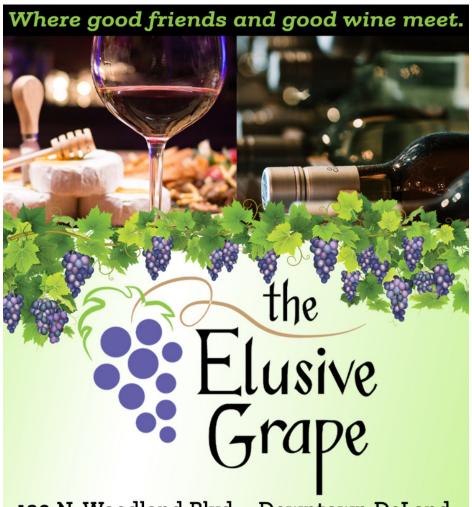


Lauren Stromak (Assistant Choreographer) is a choreographer, educator, and performer originally from South Florida with a degree in Musical Theatre from the University of Central Florida. Her artistic journey has taken her to various stages in Florida, from Stuart to Tampa and throughout Central Florida. Lauren is thrilled to serve as Assistant Choreographer under Mayme Paul for *Beauty and The Beast*. Her association with Athens Theatre began in 2021 when she joined the

cast of *ELF, the Musical*, and has been a teaching artist of the Youth Academy since the fall of 2021. Her past choreography credits include *Legally Blonde* and *Footloose: Youth Edition*, and she served as Assistant Choreographer for *Frozen, Jr.* and *White Christmas* last season. Lauren thanks her family and boyfriend for their unwavering support. Enjoy the show and remember true beauty comes from within!



Bill Warriner (Fight Choreographer) Professional Fight Director since 1991. He's done some stuff.



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Meet The Production Team



Michael S. Brewer (Scenic Design) is a 1987 graduate of Wright State University in theatre design and technology. He started working as a scenic artist in regional theaters, the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, La Jolla Playhouse, Cincinnati Playhouse, and Cleveland Playhouse. He is currently based in Ohio and has been designing for local theaters there. At the Athens, he has designed *Guys and Dolls, A Christmas Story, Clue, Elf, I love you, You're Perfect, Now Change*, and *Ragtime*. He is looking

forward to starting out this season with Disney's Beauty and the Beast.



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 Director/ATD) 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.





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Meet The Production Team



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, Shrekt, 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 seventh 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.



Diane McLean (Production Supervisor, Stage Manager) 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.





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Meet The Production Team



Cadence Mimms (Production Assistant) is a student at Deltona High School, while also studying for an A.A. at Daytona State College. Cadence first started doing theatre in 2018, and since then has fallen in love with it. Before moving from New Hampshire, Cadence performed in her school's production of *Stories Under the Big Top* (Ensemble) and *The Trial of Goldilocks* (Judge Farmer). She was most recently seen on the Athens Theatre stage in *Legally Blonde, Jr.* (Chutney, Ensemble), *Frozen Jr.* (Ensemble), *Footloose Youth Addition* (Ensemble) and

Singin' in the Rain, Jr. (Ensemble). Cadence has also worked behind the scenes on the most recent main stage productions at the Athens Theatre including *The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Escape to Margaritaville, Misery, Irving Berlin's White Christmas, A Funny Thing Happened on the way to the Forum* and *Rent.* Cadence is excited about this new opportunity with the Athens Theatre and hopes you enjoy the show!



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 Mial, 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.



Dylaney Sabino (Manager of Sound) is absolutely thrilled to be working on *Beauty and the Beast* as the start of her new season at The Athens! This will be Dylaney's third season with The Athens, where she's sound operated shows such as *RENT*, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, White Christmas, Misery, Noises Off, and more! She is grateful to be representing Kevin Majestic Productions in her full-time role, and hopes you enjoy the show!

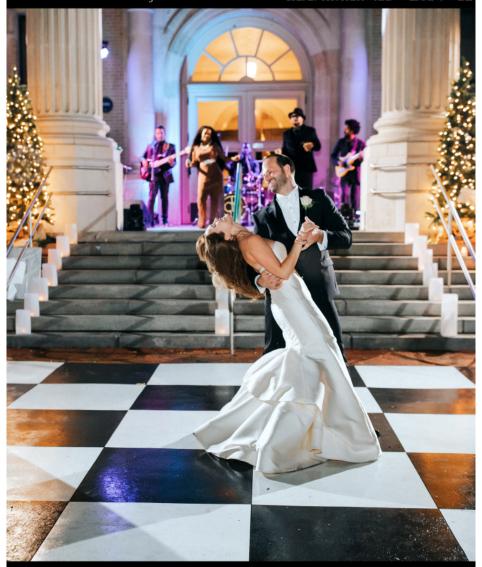


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Meet The Production Team



Avery Tyler (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be part of the Beauty & the Beast team! Athens stage management credits include: A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Misery and The Hunchback of Notre Dame. Some favorite shows she has been the ASM for include White Christmas, Noises Off, Young Frankenstein, and Rock of Ages. She also stage manages and teaches technical theater with the Athens Theater Youth Academy. Outside of the Athens, Avery teaches

English and assists with theater and dance 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.



Amy Uppercue (Costume Shop Manager, Production Associate) 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 Footloose: Youth Edition, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, 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.



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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 thing 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) Frank Ramirez 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 director, and creative guidance on multiple levels in the arts industry. He joined the Athens Theatre in 2018, has directed numerous 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/The Crane School of Music.





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Grace Boynton (Development Director) Grace has a background in both the performing arts and nonprofit development. After graduating from the University of Central Florida in 2020, Grace discovered her passion for nonprofit work and has since made significant contributions to organizations like Planned Parenthood and United Against Poverty, managing yearly budgets of over two million dollars and producing annual fundraising efforts. As the Development Director for the Historic Athens Theatre, she gets to blend her artistic insights with strategic

fundraising expertise to support the theater's mission and ensure its continued success in the community. You may recognize Grace as a performer at the Athens Theatre in shows like *RENT*, 9 to 5 and *The Wedding Singer*.



Amanda Tyler (House Manager) A native Floridian, Ms. Tyler studied film and theatre production at Valencia College. She began working in theatre in 1993 at Seaside Music Theater in Daytona Beach as Wardrobe supervisor, Assistant to the Resident Costume Designer, and Costume Rentals Manager. She finds herself out from behind the curtain for the first time as the Athens House Manager. Amanda joined the Athens family in 2023 and is excited to help this incredible organization continue to grow and move forward. She takes great pride in the work

she does alongside the many dedicated Athens Theatre volunteer ushers while helping to bring amazing art to this historic DeLand stage. She hopes that you enjoy the show!



We Thank our Athens Theatre Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ALEXA A. BALDWIN

PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR FRANK RAMIREZ

PRODUCTION SUPERVISOR
DIANE MCLEAN

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER SANTI GABINO

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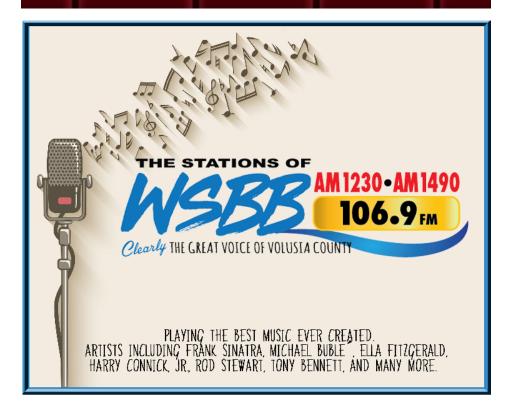
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Craig Uppercue (Director of Community Relations) A Stetson University (BM/BME) & Grand Canyon University (M.Ed) alumnus, Mr. Uppercue has taught for 20 years in the public school systems of Florida, currently serving as a Fine Arts specialist in Volusia 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. He 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 (Director of Marketing and Communications), a native of South Florida, relocated with his husband and two crazy dogs to DeLand in the summer of 2022. With a rich background in venue and 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, 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, develops content for social media, writes press releases, radio scripts, and billboard copy, manages public communications, nurtures business-to-business relationships, and more. Additionally, he contributes a monthly food and lifestyle column to *The West Volusia Beacon*, titled "Central Flavors." Outside of work, Santi finds joy in cooking, painting, and succumbing to the irresistible temptation of buying things he absolutely doesn't need at any yard, garage, or estate sale that crosses his path.



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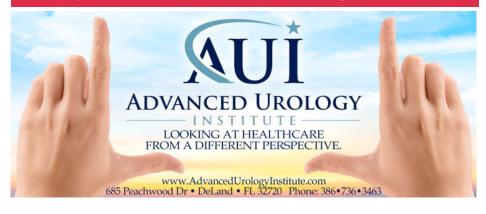






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Shonda L. Thurman (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advocate) Born and raised in Flint, MI, Ms. Thurman holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Roosevelt University, in Chicago, IL, and Stephens College in Columbia, MO. She also holds a theatre management 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.



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.

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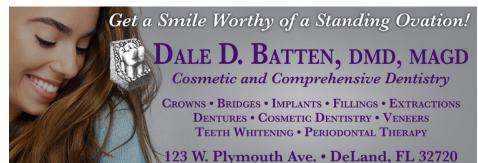
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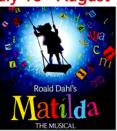


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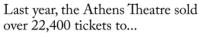


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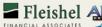




















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