# MAINSTAGE SEASON

## 2026-2027

**OCTOBER 22ND TO OCTOBER 25TH, 2026**
SHRYOCK AUDITORIUM, SIU




SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE
SCHOOL OF THEATER
AND DANCE

Southern Illinois University
CARBONDALE

# Shryock Auditorium

1050 S NORMAL AVE, CARBONDALE, IL

Junkyard Dog Productions
Jerry Frankel Latitude Link Smith & Brant Theatricals
Steve & Paula Reynolds David Mirvish Michael Rubinoff Alhadeff Productions
Michael Alden & Nancy Nagel Gibbs Sam Levy Rodney Rigby Spencer Ross Richard Winkler
Yonge Street Theatricals Sheridan College Michael & Elise Coit Ronald Frankel
Sheri & Les Biller Richard & Sherry Belkin Gary & Marlene Cohen Allan Detsky & Rena Mendelson
Lauren Doll Barbara H. Freitag Wendy Gillespie Laura Little Theatricals Carl & Jennifer Pasbjerg
Radio Mouse Entertainment The Shubert Organization Cynthia Stroum Tulchin Bartner Productions
Gwen Arment/Molly Morris & Terry McNicholas Maureen & Joel Benoliel/Marjorie & Ron Danz
Pamela Cooper/Corey Brunish Demos Bizar/Square 1 Theatrics Joshua Goodman/Lauren Stevens
Just for Laughs Theatricals/Judith Ann Abrams Productions
Bill & Linda Potter/Rosemary & Kenneth Willman
and La Jolla Playhouse and Seattle Repertory Theatre

# COME FROM AWAY

Book, Music and Lyrics by

**IRENE SANKOFF** and **DAVID HEIN**

Original Broadway Production Produced by
Junkyard Dog Productions

Orchestrations by August Eriksmoen
Arrangements by Ian Eisendrath

Come From Away was originally co-produced in 2015 by La Jolla Playhouse and Seattle Repertory Theater and presented in 2016 by Ford's Theatre.
Come From Away (NAMT Festival 2013) was originally developed at the Canadian Music Theatre Project, Michael Rubinoff Producer, Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario, Canada, and was further developed at Goodspeed Musicals' Festival of New Artists, in East Haddam, Connecticut. The Canada Council for the Arts, The Ontario Arts Council, and The Fifth Avenue Theatre, Seattle, Washington, also provided development support.

Dialect Consultancy by Joel Goldes



Parker Bradshaw



Derek M.Hamblin



Kyla Hunt



Marcelina Johnson



Jamaal "JJ" Jones



Eden Kaszubski



Rheannon Lenis



Lilie Lim



Yasmin Martinez-Powell



Brandyn McGhee



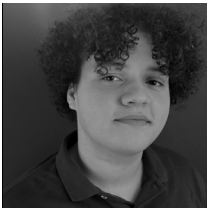
Rayden Meyer



Katie Polk



Ayden Price



Eli Rafe



Abby Zirkelbach

## Director's Note

"Good and evil both increase at compound interest. That is why the little decisions you and I make every day are of such infinite importance. The smallest, good act today is the capture of a strategic point from which, a few months later, you may be able to go on to victories you never dreamed of."

C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

# Cast

**Diane** / Crystal / Brenda ..... RHEANNON LENIS
**Hannah** / Margie / Mickey ..... YASMIN MARTINEZ-POWELL
**Janice** / Britney / Flight Attendant ..... KATIE POLK
**Beulah** / Delores ..... LILIE LIM
**Bonnie** / Martha ..... EDEN KASZUBSKI
**Beverly** / Annette / Reporter ..... ABBY ZIRKELBACH
**Oz** / Joey / Customs Officer / Mr Michaels / Terry / Matty / Rabbi / Head Cardiologist ..... RAYDEN MEYER
**Kevin T.** / Garth / President Bush ..... PARKER BRADSHAW
**Kevin J.** / Dwight / Ali ..... ELI RAFE
**Bob** / Muhumuza / Captain Bristol ..... JAMAAL "JJ" JONES
**Claude** / Derm / Brenda's Brother / Eddie ..... DEREK M. HAMBLIN
**Nick** / Doug / Male Townsperson ..... BRANDYN MCGHEE
Swings ..... KYLA HUNT, AYDEN PRICE, MARCELINA JOHNSON

**VIDEO RECORDING WARNING**

Any video and / or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

# Musical Numbers

"Welcome to the Rock" ..... COMPANY
"38 Planes" ..... COMPANY
"Blankets and Bedding" ..... COMPANY
"28 Hours / Wherever We Are"* ..... COMPANY
"Darkness and Trees" ..... COMPANY
"Costume Party" ..... DIANE, HANNAH, KEVIN T., KEVIN J., COMPANY
"I Am Here" ..... HANNAH
"Prayer"** ..... KEVIN T., COMPANY
"On the Edge" ..... COMPANY
"Screech In"* ..... CLAUDE, COMPANY
"Me and the Sky" ..... BEVERLEY, FEMALE COMPANY
"Stop the World" ..... NICK, DIANE, COMPANY
"Somewhere in the Middle of Nowhere" ..... COMPANY
"Something's Missing" ..... COMPANY
"Finale" ..... COMPANY

# Orchestra

Conductor ..... ABBIE EADS
Keyboards / Rehearsal Pianist ..... ANITA HUTTON
Bass ..... TY SECHRIST
Guitar ..... HARRISON BRADDY
Mandolin ..... MYLES DANIELS
Percussion ..... MACKENZIE RIEDY
Drum Set ..... LUCAS BARGER
Reeds / Whistle ..... KENZIE JONES
Fiddle ..... GABRIEL PEREIRA VIEIRA

* My Heart Will Go On - Words and Music by Will Jennings and James Horner. IRVING MUSIC, INC. on behalf of BLUE SKY RIDER SONGS (BMI). Used by permission of Sony / ATV Music Publishing. All rights reserved.

** Prayer of St. Francis - dedicated to Mrs. Frances Tracy. ©1967, OCP, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.





# Who's Who In The Cast

RHEANNON LENIS (DIANE/CRYSTAL/BRENDA) Rheannon is a Double Major in Musical Theater and Psychology. She is so thrilled and beyond grateful to be in her first Mainstage Musical Production here at SIUC! Some her previous credits include: the Third Woman in (Metamorphoses) produced here at SIUC, Titania in (A Midsummer Night's Dream) produced by StageCo, Magenta in the (Rocky Horror Picture Show) Shadow Cast at The Varsity Center, or as Rose Red & Others in (Ghost Quartet) also produced here at SIUC. Rheannon wants to express so much gratitude to the Come From Away Cast & Crew & Team, and endless gratitude & love to her beautiful family and loved ones for all their support, encouragement, and love.

YASMIN MARTINEZ-POWELL (HANNAH/MARGIE/MICKEY) A Junior pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre, Yasmin Martinez-Powell hails from Springfield, IL. You may have seen her in other SIUC productions, such as 2026 Anything Goes as Spit, 2024's A Christmas Carol as Belinda, and Fierce's production of Trail to Oregon, among others. She is honored to tell this beautiful, heartfelt story with this fantastic crew of Come From Away, and she hopes you enjoy the hard work this lovely group has put into the show!

KATIE POLK (JANICE/FLIGHT ATTENDANT/BRITTANY)
Katie Polk is a sophomore musical theater major here at SIU and she is absolutely thrilled to bring you all to Gander in SIU's production of Come From Away. This is her second SIU mainstage production after she was in Metamorphoses (Woman 5.) She's from Michigan, where she's played in Beauty and the Beast (Madame), Fiddler on the Roof (Yente) and many more! She would like to thank the amazing cast and crew she's spent this journey with and the rest of her loved ones for all their support, especially her mom, grandma, and twin sister Audrey, as well as YOU for being here! Welcome to the rock!

LILIE LIM (BEULAH/DOLORES)
Lilie Lim is a Junior BFA in Musical Theater here at Southern Illinois University. This will be Lim's fifth production at Southern Illinois University, and she is beyond thrilled and honored to be a trusted part of this production. You may have seen per previously as Reno's Angel in Anything Goes, Athena in Ajax in Iraq, Urinetown The Musical, and Phoenix A Dance Concert. This story we are telling you today comes from the lives of real people 25 years ago. We are here to tell you how a community came together to support and take care of 7,000 people in the following days after one of our nation's worst tragedies. Tell your loved ones you love them every day, as you never know what tomorrow holds. Thank you for coming to watch our production of Come From Away.

EDEN KASZUBSKI (BONNIE/TRACK 5)
Eden Kaszubski is a Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre student from Cobden, IL. She has been performing since childhood and was a proud member of Kre8ive Fine Arts Academy and Artstarts while in high school. In college, Eden has been in

# Who's Who In The Cast

SIUC's Falsettos (Female U/S, Patient) and Big Muddy Play Festival's Bear Trap Garden (Angelina Shaw). She is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to tell this impactful story and she hopes you enjoy the show!

ABBY ZIRKELBACH (BEVERLEY/ ANNETTE/REPORTER)
Abby is thrilled to be in her first SIU School of Theatre and Dance show! Abby is a junior BFA Musical Theater major. Before joining SIU, Abby graduated with honors from Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, Illinois in May 2025 with her Associates of Fine Arts in Musical Theater and an Associates of Arts. At SIC, she performed in many shows such as Steel Magnolias (Clairee), A Christmas Story: The Musical (Miss Shields), and Something Rotten (Bea Bottom). Along with theatre, Abby competed with the Forensic Falcons speech team where she won state and national awards. Abby also graduated from Marion High School in May 2023. Other shows include: Grease (Jan), Elf: The Musical (Deb), The Miracle Worker (Kate Keller), and You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown (Lucy Van Pelt). Abby would like to thank her family and friends for their endless support and hopes everyone enjoys the show! She dedicates her performances to her Mama Maggie, Papa Bernard, and Grandma Wriston.

RAYDEN MEYER (OZ/JOEY/CUSTOMS OFFICER/MR. MICHAELS/OTHERS)
Rayden Meyer is. Junior BFA and this will be his 5th production here at SIU. He been in Urinetown, Taming of the Shrew, Solve it Squad, and Anything goes. He would like to thank his girlfriend and his family for their countless support during this process and he would also like to thank the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication to this beautiful show.

PARKER BRADSHAW (KEVIN T./ GARTH/PRESIDENT BUSH)
Parker Bradshaw, Sophomore BFA MT, is thrilled to make his return to the SIU main-stage in Come From Away! This a bucket list show for Parker, fitting right into his wheelhouse of ensemble shows and graciously playing far too many roles in them. His most recent show credits include: Peter and The Starcatcher (Prentiss), Frozen (Ensemble), Anything Goes (Sailor/Photographer). Other show credits include: Anything Goes (Lord Evelyn Oakleigh), West Side Story (Diesel/Dance Captain), The Outsiders (Two-Bit), Shrek: The Musical (Big Bad Wolf/Pied Piper) Newsies (Henry), Seussical (Grinch/Wickersham Brother/ Featured Dancer/others), Grease (Teen Angel/Ensemble/Dance Captain) Solve It Squad! (Everyone Else), Most importantly, Parker would like to thank his friends and family for their continued support and hopes everyone enjoys this powerful story.
"love ya, mean it!" - @thepjshaw

ELI RAFE (KEVIN J/DWIGHT/ALI)
Eli Rafe is very excited to be in this production of Come From Away, this show tells a very important story and he is honored to be apart of it. Some of his past roles include Jack Kelly in Newsies, Papa Bear in Shrek, Pepe in West Side Story, Eugene in Grease, and ensemble roles in Guys and Dolls and Anything

# Who's Who In The Cast

Goes! Eli loves performing and is excited to continue growing as a performer.

JAMAAL "JJ" JONES (BOB/MUHUMUZA/CAPTAIN BRISTOL)
JJ is a sophomore majoring in Musical Theater. He made his debut as Sailor #1 in the Production "Anything Goes" and is excited to be a part of Come From Away as Bob/Muhumuza/Captain Bristol. JJ plays several instruments including Guitar, Bass, Drums, and of course sings. He also performed in the choir for last year's "Halloween Pops" concert. He is the treasurer of Musicians united and has played in several events. JJ hopes that you enjoy the show and is very grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing show. JJ would like to thank his Family, Friends, and Mentors who have helped him along the way.

DEREK M. HAMBLIN (CLAUDE/DERM/BRENDA'S BROTHER/EDDIE)
Derek M. Hamblin received his B.A in Vocal Performance (Berea College, KY) and completed his studies for M.M in Music Theatre & Opera Performance at Southern Illinois University. Aside from directing and music directing throughout Southern Illinois, Derek teaches voice, piano, and music theatre in his private studio. Professionally, Derek studied and performed internationally, residing in Salzburg, Austria, where he performed as a soloist, in choral and operatic works, and instrumental arrangement for small orchestral ensembles. While in Europe, he performed throughout Switzerland, Germany, Austria, and Italy. In the United States, he has worked for regional professional theaters such as McLeod Summer Playhouse, Jenny Wiley Theatre, and Lincoln Amphitheatre as an Actor, Musician, Director, Conductor, and Casting Associate at the annual Southeastern Theatre Conferences (SETC). Past Credits: McLeod Summer Playhouse (Hairspray, Big River), Jenny Wiley Theatre (Guys & Dolls, Fiddler on the Roof, Charlie Brown, Joseph…Dream Coat, Annie), Lincoln Amphitheatre (South Pacific, Fiddler on the Roof). SIUC Credits: PARADE (Britt Craig), BatBoy (Mrs.Taylor/Rev. Hightower), Don Pasquale (Ernesto). ~Welcome to the ROCK!~

BRANDYN MCGHEE (NICK/DOUG/MALE TOWNSPERSON)
Brandyn McGhee is thrilled to be performing in this production of "Come From Away"! Brandyn has acted with many theatrical companies and on many stages throughout southern Illinois, but "Come From Away" is Brandyn's first performance on an SIUC stage! Some of Brandyn's past theatrical credits include Harold Hill in "The Music Man", Mark in "RENT", Clyde in "Bonnie and Clyde", Tarzan in "Tarzan: The Musical", and Biff in "Death of a Salesman". Brandyn would like to thank his family and friends for their continued support!

AYDEN PRICE (SWING)
Ayden Price is excited to be performing Come From Away with this wonderful cast! Some of Price's past roles include Nigel Bottom (Something Rotten), Earthworm (James and the Giant Peach), and Jean Shepherd (A Christmas Story). Price is a Transfer Sophomore BFA. Outside of theater Price loves to hang

# Who's Who In The Cast

out with friends, journal, and play video games. Price would like to send thanks to his friends and family.

MARCELINA JOHNSON (SWING)
Marcelina Johnson is a freshman BFA Musical Theatre student and is elated to be swinging in her first college production! She'd like to thank all of her wonderful teaching artists back home at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago for getting her to this point, and is excited to continue performing at this level.

KYLA HUNT (SWING)
Kyla is a junior Musical Theatre B.F.A. In her free time, she enjoys cooking, learning another language, and watching TV. Since Fall 24', she's been working in the scenic shop assisting with props and loves being involved in both sides of theater. Her most recent performance was her role in "Anything Goes" as Fred/ensemble. Kyla is extremely grateful and excited to swing for the first time as her 3rd mainstage experience at SIUC!


WAYNE



# Who's Who In The Staff

ALASTAIR BLEVINS (CO-PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER)
Alastair Blevins is a second year B.A student here at SIUC. This is his third MainStage Production here, being an Assistant Stage Manager for Ajax in Iraq and being The Understudy in Metamorphoses. Back home, he made his Chicago Theater Debut in JK Entertainment's The Outsiders. He is beyond excited and honored to be the Production Stage Manager for his favorite musical and hopes you enjoy the show!

MITCHELL BRANDON (LIGHTING DESIGNER)
Mitchell Brandon is a first year Lighting Design MFA student returning from a year spent working as a lighting and pyro technician for the Walt Disney World Resort working on shows and events such as, Luminous: The Symphony of Us, Disney on Broadway Museum (as part of the EPCOT International Festival of the Arts), RunDisney marathon stages, and other parkwide events. He also previously worked on the USITT 2025 Mainstage as an Assistant Head Electrician under some of the industry's finest. This involved working with state of the art technology in a fast-paced environment to create a space for thousands of entertainment professionals to gather. Alongside his experience with theatrical technology, he has a rich history in theater performance and music making. This background aids as an influence to Mitchell's design work by allowing him to have a deeper understanding of the music/ story and the mood it set out to create. He is then able to enhance the music/ story via his Lighting Design. He thanks you for supporting the arts and hopes you enjoy the show!

ABBIE EADS (CONDUCTOR)
Abbie Eads is a conductor and cellist whose work spans orchestral, choral, and musical theatre performance. Her musical theatre conducting credits include Come From Away, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, and Oliver!. She has served on the faculty of the SIU School of Music since 2015 and has held leadership positions as Conductor-in-Residence with the NW Edvard Grieg Society, Director of Orchestras at Pierce College, and Director of Music at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Seattle. Her work beyond the concert hall includes a recording with Sony Music Publishing artists Raynes, produced by Grammy-winning engineer Chris Sclafani, whose credits include work with Ed Sheeran, Justin Bieber, Selena Gomez, and Ariana Grande. She holds a Master's in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Washington and a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Minot State University.

JOEL GOLDES (DIALECT CONSULTANT)
Joel Goldes coaches the Tony-Award winning Broadway musical, Come From Away, running not only on Broadway in New York City but also across North America. It's also running in London's West End and in Australia. Come From Away features 12 actors playing 84 characters in at least 13 different accents. can coach any dialect of spoken English. In addition to the most-requested dialects (Goldes has an expertise in British, American, Irish, French, German, New

# Who's Who In The Staff

York, Southern and countless other accents), he also specializes in the less well-known; and has recently taught Uzbek, Mozambique and Azeri accents. Goldes created an accent of the future for the sci-fi feature After Earth, starring Will and Jaden Smith. Theaters he has coached for include Junkyard Dogs/Alchemy (Come From Away on Broadway, Toronto, North American Tour, Dublin, London's West End, and Australia), Center Theatre Group (Ahmanson Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, Kirk Douglas Theater), Disney Theatrical (Mary Poppins National Tour at The Ahmanson), Pasadena Playhouse, Furious Theatre, NPR/LA Theaterworks, The Theatre @ Boston Court, Rubicon, Geffen Playhouse, La Jolla Playhouse, Globe Theaters, South Coast Repertory, Evidence Room, The Colony and Taper, Too. He received his MFA at the University of California at Irvine.

MADILYNN HERZOG (CO-PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER)
Madilynn Herzog is a third-year theatrical design student making her first foray into the wonderful world of stage management as the Co-PSM of SIU's Come From Away. She would like the thank her fellow stage managers, Alastair and Charlie, for their guidance, and her cast, directors, and designers for being perfectly stage manage-able. She would also like to thank her family, friends, and partner for being her biggest supporters when the work feels daunting. And lastly, shout out to Jeff ("iykyk"), from whom she observed exemplary stage management long before she ever knew she'd need to emulate it.
"Thank you all for coming, and enjoy the show!"- Madilynn

M.K. HUGHES (SET DESIGNER)
M.K. Hughes is a two-time graduate of SIU with an MFA in Scenic Design for the Theater. She is currently the Tenure-Track Assistant Professor of Scenic design at the SIU School of Theater and Dance. Her design work has been featured around the U.S. including Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA, University of Pittsburgh (PA), Prime Stage Theater (PA), The Pittsburgh CLO (PA), K-State Theater (KS), and the Dobbins Conservatory at SEMO (MO). Her theater craft work in Scenic Art and Props Design has been featured at several regional theaters including The Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OR), The Alabama Shakespeare Festival (AL), and The Rep at Point Park University (PA).

CHARLIE KERPASH (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)
Charlie Kerpash is a Junior BA in Technical Theater. She has had a deep love for theater since high school acting in many shows. She began her journey on the stage management path here her freshman year, last season a PSM on the big muddy thesis play festival. In her free time she is an RA, loves dorky movies, helping out with shoes, and hanging out with friends. She is so grateful to be apart of helping the cast bring this profound story to life and would like to thank her friends, family, and cast and crew for all of their support and hard work. She hopes you all enjoy the show!

BRIAN MARTINEZ (SOUND DESIGNER)
Brian Martinez is a narrative-driven

# Who's Who In The Staff

music producer and founder of Velocity Recording Studios. With experience spanning studio production, live sound, sound design, and theatrical scoring, Brian approaches every project with a cinematic mindset. Whether producing a full-length record or composing for stage, he focuses on shaping sonic arrangements that support the lyric, elevate performance, and create momentum from the first note to the final fade.

GRACE RUETER (SCENIC DESIGNER AND PROP SUPERVISOR)
Grace Rueter is a third-year scenic design MFA student at SIU, who previously designed the set for SIU's spring 2026 production of Anything Goes and has contributed to the set and prop design of numerous other productions.

IRENE SANKOFF & DAVID HEIN (BOOK AND MUSIC)
Irene Sankoff & David Hein are the Olivier-award winning, Tony and Grammy nominated, Canadian writing team behind the worldwide award-winning hit Musical Come From Away, currently playing to over 100 countries on Apple TV+, and around the world. Their first show, My Mother's Lesbian Jewish Wiccan Wedding, based on David's mother's true story, has won Best Musical awards across North America, with Sankoff and Hein performing in many productions. Together, they have written for Disney, Netflix, Warner Bros., HBO and the CW as well as Marvel Comics and the Canadian government. They are the recipients of the Four Freedoms Good Neighbor Award and the Meritorious Service Cross of Canada which recognizes Canadians' exceptional accomplishments.

ANGELA SHULTZ (VOCAL DIRECTOR)
Angela Shultz is a MAC (Manhattan Association of Cabarets and Clubs) Award winning singer, actor and teaching artist who has appeared in cabaret clubs across NYC and was part of the 100thAnniversary US/Canada tour of Titanic as Alice Beane. She appeared in NYC productions including Assassins (Sara Jane Moore This Very Moment (songs of Brett Kristofferson), Making God and Cabinet of Dr. Caligari (Midtown Int'l Festival), and A Casual Gathering (Theatre for the New City). She has many regional performing credits including Closer Than Ever (Miss Byrd), Titanic (Alice Beane) and has been in several incarnations of Nunsense! Angela also wrote book and lyrics for the musical In Her Place, partially based on the life of Annie Smith Peck. Angela has served on voice faculty at NYC's Professional Performing Arts School and Wingspan Arts as well as Fontbonne University. She was adjunct faculty in theatre at University of Memphis, Fontbonne University, Missouri Baptist University and Jefferson College. As a teaching artist, she directed and taught a variety of theatre and music courses for Stages St. Louis, Playhouse on the Square, Theatre Memphis and others. She is the co-founder of Stomping Ground Theatre Company, a professional theatre which began in NYC.

MATTHEW C. WILLIAMS (DIRECTOR)
Matthew C. Williams choreographed Will Ferrell's Broadway debut, You're Welcome America at the Cort Theater.

# Who's Who In The Staff

His Off-Broadway credits include Rooms, A Rock Romance, and the 2012 revival of Carrie, the musical. Matt was the assistant director to Casey Nicholaw on the Broadway production All About Me and was also the Movement Director for Stephen Schwartz's opera, Seance on a Wet Afternoon at Lincoln Center. For fourteen seasons, he was the resident choreographer and act-builder for the internationally acclaimed Circus Smirkus as well as the "Big" Piano Dance choreographer for eight years at FAO Schwarz in NYC. Matt's SIU directing and choreographing credits include Lucky Stiff, Mousetrap, She Loves Me, Urinetown, and Anything Goes. Matt is thankful to God for the blessing of serving on the SIU faculty since 2021.

WENDI ZEA (COSTUME DESIGNER)
Wendi Zea is Professor of Costume Design in SIU's School of Theater & Dance, where beloved designs over the years have included The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, White Christmas, and Sunday in the Park with George. Outside of SIU, she has designed for a number of theaters, with Cortland Repertory Theater being a particular favorite. She also designed costumes for Noël., a national tour of a new musical in 2018. Her passion for design is matched by her passion for teaching, particularly costume history, design, and costume crafts.

MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI)
MTI is one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting theatres from around the world the rights to perform the greatest selection of musicals from Broadway and beyond. Founded in 1952 by composer Frank Loesser and orchestrator Don Walker, MTI is a driving force in advancing musical theatre as a vibrant and engaging art form. MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these musicals to provide official scripts, musical materials and dynamic theatrical resources to over 100,000 professional, community and school theatres in the US and in over 150 countries worldwide. MTI is particularly dedicated to educational theatre, and has created special collections to meet the needs of various types of performers and audiences. MTI's Broadway Junior® shows are 30- and 60-minute musicals for performance by elementary and middle school-aged performers, while MTI's School Editions are musicals annotated for performance by high school students. Launched in May 2025, MTI's Broadway Senior™ musicals are geared and adapted for adult performers 55 and over. MTI maintains its global headquarters in New York City with additional offices in London (MTI Europe) and Melbourne (MTI Australasia).

# Artistic Staff

Director ..... MATTHEW C. WILLIAMS
Assistant Director ..... T. BROWN
Vocal Director ..... ANGELA SHULTZ
Choreographer ..... MATTHEW C. WILLIAMS
Scenic Designer ..... GRACE RUETER
Costume Designer ..... WENDI ZEA
Lighting Designer ..... MITCHELL BRANDON
Sound Designer ..... BRIAN MARTINEZ
Conductor ..... ABBIE EADS
Co-Production Stage Manager ..... ALASTAIR BLEVINS
Co-Production Stage Manager ..... MADILYNN HERZOG
Assistant Stage Manager ..... CHARLIE KERPASH
Dramaturg ..... ALEXANDER LOUTRIS

# Production Staff

Head Electrician ..... MITCHELL BRANDON
Electricians ..... MARA COLE LEBRECHT, ELLIOT KEEFER-MCGEE
Charge Artist ..... MK HUGHES
Prop Supervisor ..... GRACE RUETER
Costume Shop Supervisor ..... MATT CAMPBELL
Technical Director ..... VALERIYA NEDVIGA
Assistant Technical Director ..... RACHEL SCHMITZ
Lead Carpenter ..... MARIANA INCHAURIGA
Carpenter ..... ELLIOT JACKSON
Sound Board Operator / A1 ..... SETH WORTHINGTON
Sound Operator / A2 ..... MYA BULLARD
Light Board Operator ..... LUCAS THIESSE
Spotlight Coordinator ..... ELLIOT KEEFER-MCGEE
Spotlight Operator ..... CALEB RACINE
Stitchers ..... ELIVER RUSSO
Dressers ..... GRAY THIBODEAUX, GRACE ANDERSON
THEA 300 Students: Scenic .. TERRISHA ADAMS, ELI COCHRAN, SUMMER SANDERS, JACOB HUTTER, PARKER BRADSHAW
THEA 300 Students: Costumes ..... KATIE POLK, GABRIEL PRYOR
THEA 300 Students: Lights ..... MARA COLE LEBRECHT, CHARLIE KERPASH, JOSHUA RAMIREZ
218B Students: Lights ..... CHARLIE KERPASH, KAYLIN WILLIAMS
Other Students ..... FAITH BARNETT, KYLA HUNT, MARA COLE LEBRECHT, TRISTAN DONALDSON

# School of Theater & Dance Administration

Director ..... DR. JAMES REIFINGER
Office Manager ..... RACHEL RITTIS
Marketing ..... DR. JAMES REIFINGER, NICHOLAS STEINBERGER, CHINA MOORE
Business Manager ..... DR. JAMES REIFINGER
Faculty Scenic Supervisor ..... M.K. HUGHES
Faculty Costume Supervisor ..... WENDI ZEA
Faculty Lighting Supervisor ..... JAEMIN PARK
Faculty Technical Director ..... VALERIYA NEDVIGA
Faculty Stage Management Supervisor ..... MATTHEW C. WILLIAMS
Box Office ..... CYNTHIA GARCIA

# Other

Dialect Consultant ..... JOEL GOLDES
Digital and Print Program Manager ..... ZO E. SCHMIDT
Digital and Print Program Designer ..... FERN P.L. LYON, TASHA N. KREILEIN

## Special Thanks

to

Jack Nawrot, Eva Fisher, John "Tex" Mick, April Horstmann,
Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, Southern Illinois Airport Authority,
Marion Chamber of Commerce, and First Responders everywhere.

## Special Recognition

to

Claude Elliott

•

A very special thank you to our friend, Claude Elliott, the real Mayor of Gander, for his generosity and kindness and for continuing to pay it forward far beyond the boundaries of expectation.





**DONATIONS**

We greatly appreciate your support in fostering future generations of theater artists at SIU.





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Carbondale Community High School Auditorium




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Shryock Auditorium




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Shryock Auditorium




**SILENT SKY**
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The Varsity Center - East Theater

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