



presents

Kate Baldwin

Aaron Lazar

THE
BRIDGES
OF
MADISON COUNTY
The Musical

March 11-27, 2022

Book by
MARSHA NORMAN

Music and Lyrics by
JASON ROBERT BROWN

Based on the novel by
ROBERT JAMES WALLER

Directed by
HUNTER FOSTER

The Axelrod Performing Arts Center

presents

KATE BALDWIN

AARON LAZAR

THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY

Book
Marsha Norman

Music and Lyrics
Jason Robert Brown

Based on the novel by Robert James Waller

Directed by HUNTER FOSTER

Conducted by KEITH LEVENSON

Produced by ANDREW DEPRISCO and JESS LEVY

Music Director
KEITH LEVENSON

Orchestrations by
JASON ROBERT
BROWN

Associate Music Director
ANNE
SHUTTLESWORTH

Scenic Designer
ANNA LOUIZOS

Assistant Director
RACHEL SABO-HEDGES

Lighting Designer
PAUL MILLER

Sound Designer
JEFF SHERWOOD

Costume Designer
LAUREN T. ROARK

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Jerry Frankel, Gutterman Chernoff, Hunter Arnold, Ken Davenport,
Carol Daikeler, Michael DeSantis, Aaron Priest, Libby Adler Mages/
Mari Glick Stuart, Scott M. Delman, Independent Presenters Network
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With Warner Bros. Theater Ventures and The Shubert Organization
in association with the Williamstown Theater Festival

The World Premiere Production of *The Bridges of Madison County*
was produced by the Williamstown Theater Festival
Jenny Gersen, Artistic Director, August 2013

With the cooperation of Warner Bros Theatre Ventures, Inc.

Presented by Special Arrangement with Music Theater International (MTI)

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

<i>To Build a Home</i>	Francesca and Company
<i>Home Before You Know It</i>	Bud, Michael, Carolyn and Francesca
<i>Temporarily Lost</i>	Robert
<i>What Do You Call a Man Like That?</i>	Francesca
<i>You're Never Alone</i>	Bud and Company
<i>Another Life</i>	Marian
<i>Wondering</i>	Robert and Francesca
<i>Look at Me</i>	Francesca, Robert, and Company
<i>The World Inside a Frame</i>	Robert
<i>Something From a Dream</i>	Bud
<i>Get Closer</i>	Marge and Company
<i>Falling Into You</i>	Robert and Francesca

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

<i>State Road 21</i>	State Fair Singer, Michael, Carolyn, and Company
<i>Who We Are and Who We Want to Be</i>	Robert, Francesca, and Company
<i>Almost Real</i>	Francesca
<i>Before and After You</i>	Robert and Francesca
<i>One Second and a Million Miles</i>	Robert and Francesca
<i>When I'm Gone</i>	Charlie, Bud, and Company
<i>It All Fades Away</i>	Robert
<i>Always Better</i>	Francesca, Robert, and Company

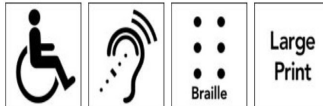
THE COMPANY

Francesca Johnson.....KATE BALDWIN*
Robert KincaidAARON LAZAR*
Richard “Bud” JohnsonBART SHATTO*
Michael Johnson..... THOMAS CROMER
Carolyn Johnson.....EMILY PELLECCIA
Marian/Chiara.....GUILIANA AUGELLO
Marge.....NIKKI YARNELL
Charlie.....MARK MEGILL
Woman 1.....LARA HAYHURST*
Man 1.....RUTLEDGE VARLEY
State Fair Singer/Woman 2.....NATALIE MYRICK
Paolo/Man 2.....SEALTH GROVER

Understudies

Bud/Charlie RUTLEDGE VARLEY
Marge LARA HAYHURST
Michael SEALTH GROVER
Carolyn/MarianNATALIE MYRICK

***Appearing Courtesy of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of
Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under a
Guest Artist Contract**



**The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this
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Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States, appearing under a Guest Artist Contract

MEET THE CAST OF

THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY



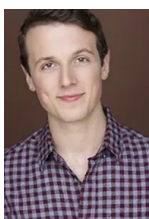
KATE BALDWIN
Francesca Johnson



AARON LAZAR
Robert Kincaid



BART SHATTO
Richard "Bud" Johnson



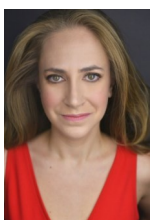
THOMAS CROMER
Michael Johnson



EMILY PELLECCIA
Carolyn Johnson



GIULIANA AUGELLO
Marian/Chiara



NIKKI YARNELL
Marge



MARK MEGILL
Charlie



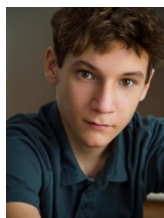
LARA
HAYHURST
Woman 1



RUTLEDGE
VARLEY
Man 1

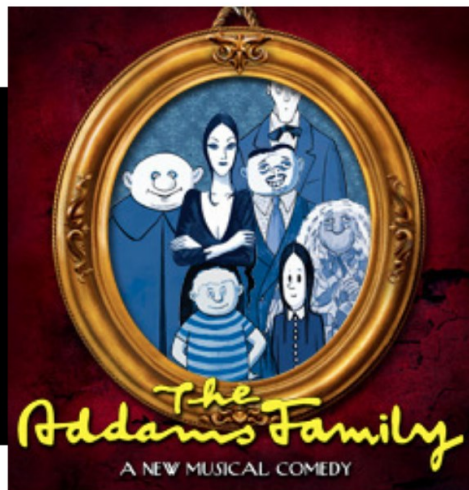


NATALIE
MYRICK
Woman 2



SEALTH
GROVER
Paolo/Man 2

**AXELROD
PERFORMING
ARTS
ACADEMY**
presents



May 7, 8, 14, 15 2022

at the Vogel Auditorium at the
Axelrod Performing Arts Center (Deal)

Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa
Book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice

The Axelrod Performing Arts Academy presents *The Addams Family*, the new musical by Andrew Lippa with a book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice. America's favorite "creepy and kooky" family, The Addams Family was a hit TV series in the 1960s and the subject of five Hollywood films. The musical is based on Charles Addams' original single-panel cartoons and the musical focuses on an 18-year-old Wednesday who has fallen in love with a "normal" teenager from Ohio and the chaos that ensues as the Addams face the possibility of changing their traditional macabre ways. The Addams Family is directed by Michael La Fleur with music direction by Michael Gilch.

**Tickets at [AxelrodArtsCenter.com](https://axelrodartscenter.com) or
call the Box Office at 732-531-9106 Ext. 14**

MEET THE CAST

Kate Baldwin (Francesca Johnson) starred opposite both Bette Midler and Bernadette Peters in the 2017 Tony-winning revival of *Hello Dolly!*, garnering accolades for her sparkling humor and soaring voice. She was nominated for the 2017 Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle Awards for her performance as Irene Molloy. Her starring role in the 2009 Broadway revival of Yip Harburg's and Burton Lane's hit classic musical *Finian's Rainbow* drew Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle Award nominations, and put her on the map as "a real musical theatre star" (New York Post). She received a Drama Desk Award nomination for her role as Jen in Keen Company's 20th Anniversary revival of Andrew Lippa and Tom Greenwald's *John & Jen*. She starred as Sandra Bloom in *Big Fish* on Broadway, and earned accolades and a Drama Desk Award nomination for her work as Leslie Lyntonn Benedict in *Giant* at The Public Theater. Off Broadway, she drew raves in *Songbird* (59E59) and a 2019 Lortel Award nomination for her work in Tom Kitt and John Logan's *Superhero* (Second Stage). Her television credits include "Law & Order: SVU" (NBC) "First You Dream: The Music of Kander and Ebb" (PBS) "Just Beyond" (Disney+) and on film she can be seen in "Brooklyn Brothers Beat the Best." Her debut solo album, *Let's See What Happens*, is available at Broadway Records. www.kate-baldwin.com

Aaron Lazar (Robert Kincaid) Aaron was recently as Reverend Paul Thomas opposite Kim Cattrall in *Filthy Rich* for FOX. Mr. Lazar has extensive Broadway credits, including Sting and John Logan's *The Last Ship*, the only revival of Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music* opposite Catherine Zeta Jones and Angela Lansbury, *Impressionism* with Jeremy Irons and Joan Allen, the first revival of *Les Misérables* (Drama Desk Nom.) and Lincoln Center's *The Light in the Piazza* (also Live on PBS). More TV: arcs on *The Strain* for FX and *Quantico* for ABC. Some films: Warner Bros.' *This is Where I Leave You*, Paramount's *The Wolf of Wall Street*, Warner Bros.' *J. Edgar* and Marvel's *Avengers: Infinity War*. Concerts include: *Company* with the New York Philharmonic, *South Pacific* at The Hollywood Bowl, *Carousel* with the Boston Pops, the NY Pops at Carnegie Hall, the NSO at the Kennedy Center, and the Jerusalem Symphony at Masada. @aaronscottlazar www.aaronlazar.com

Bart Shatto (Bud Johnson) A member of the original Broadway casts of *Hands on a Hardbody* and *The Civil War*, Bart Shatto has also appeared on Broadway in *War Paint* and *Dracula* and as Jean Valjean in *Les Misérables*. He's worked with many award-winning directors including Andy Blankenbuehler, Jerry Zaks, Michael Greif and Richard Maltby, Jr.

Thomas Cromer is thankful to be returning to the stage in this beautiful musical alongside such brilliant talent. University of Oklahoma BFA. Theatre credits include the first national tour of *The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Musical*, Weathervane Playhouse's *42nd Street* as Billy Lawlor and *A Chorus Line* as Greg, and Woodstock Playhouse's *Pippin* as Lewis. Loves playing piano and alto sax, vocal arranging, taking care of his plants, solving crossword puzzles, and watching Jeopardy! Many thanks to Mom, Nate, friends, educators, Kate, and Peter. May we all find joy in love and connection. @thomcrom

MEET THE CAST

Emily Pellicchia (Carolyn) Trained at the Paper Mill Playhouse, Emily Pellicchia has performed lead roles in such musicals as Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Giuliana Augello (Marian) is thrilled to be making her Axelrod PAC debut! Originally from Coopersburg, PA, "G" currently resides in New York City. Favorite Regional credits include: *Rock of Ages* (Sherrie) at Theatre Aspen, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Millie Dillmount) at CLOC, and *Grand Hotel* (Ensemble) at The Rev. Syracuse University BFA MT 2021. Endless thanks to Hunter, her family, and friends. Humbled and grateful. @giulianaaugell

Nikki Yarnell (Marge) was last seen as Dot (*The Savannah Sipping Society*) at Prather Productions' *Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre*. Her past work as Miss Mona (*The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*), Mary Lazarus (*Sister Act*) and Maudie Atkinson (*To Kill a Mockingbird*) all earned her BroadwayWorld Award nominations. Other regional credits: Ruth (*Pirates of Penzance* at Theater at Monmouth), Mavis (*Church Basement Ladies*), Elsie Hickam (*Universal's Rocket Boys*) & Morgan Le Fey u/s (*Camelot*). National tours: MeeMaw (*Stand by Your Man*). New York: Jill Sosmiley (*Bar Code* with James Rado). Northwestern University graduate. www.nikkiyarnell.com

Mark Megill (Charlie) Mark Megill is an actor, music director and teacher, and is delighted to return to the Axelrod Performing Arts Center, where he has played Arvide in *Guys and Dolls*, Jacob/Potiphar in *Joseph*, and FDR in *Annie* (with Andrea McArdle). He played Jean Shepherd in the national tour of *A Christmas Story, The Musical*. At the Algonquin Arts Theatre in Manasquan he recently played Father Tim Farley in *Mass Appeal*. Other roles at the Algonquin include Jack Jerome in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast*, Joe Boyd in *Damn Yankees*, Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*, Patsy in *Spamalot*, Herbie in *Gypsy*, Governor/Innkeeper in *Man of La Mancha* and Marley in *Scrooge*. He has performed with such diverse talents as Duke Ellington, Andy Williams, and A\$AP Rocky. When not onstage, he serves as musical director at the Algonquin Arts Theatre, The Count Basie Center Academy of the Arts, and at The Spring Lake Community House. He retired after 35 years as a public school teacher, and was recently named to the Allentown High School Hall of Fame. He lives in Manasquan with his wife Maria and is a proud father and grandfather.

Lara Hayhurst (Woman #1) Lara is thrilled to be back with the Axelrod family, where she was previously seen as Lily St. Regis in 2018's *Annie*, starring Andrea McArdle. Lara recently played Justin in the world premiere of *An Untitled New Play* By Justin Timberlake at City Theater in Pittsburgh. She has Broadway, National Tour, and numerous regional credits. BFA- Pace University. Up next: *Legally Blonde* at Mason Street Warehouse in Saugatuck, Michigan. More at larahayhurst.com and @larahayhurst. Unending gratitude to Andrew, Hunter, and Trey.

Rutledge Varley (Man #1 U/S Bud, Charlie) is delighted to return to the stage of the Axelrod. He graduated from Marymount Manhattan College with a BFA in acting/musical theater. Recent Regional credits include *Aida* (Pharaoh), *Jekyll and Hyde*

MEET THE CAST

(Danvers), *Billy Elliot The Musical* (Father); *Les Miserables* (Javert, Valjean u/s); *Annie* (Warbucks); *Footloose* (coach/ Shaw u/s) and *42nd Street* (Julian Marsh). Rutledge has had the fortunate opportunity to partake in other notable Axelrod PAC productions of: *A Chorus Line*, *Titanic*, *Oklahoma*, *42nd Street*, *Elegies* and *Damascus Square*. Rutledge would like to thank his family for all of their love and support throughout this production.

Natalie Myrick (Woman #2, U/S Marian, Carolyn) is a Brooklyn-based actor/musician who is thrilled to be making her Axelrod debut! After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, she wrote musicals and toured in shows around South Korea. Regionally and Off-Broadway, her projects often revolve around new works and folk-rock scores. Most recently, she worked at Alliance Theatre on the world premiere of *Darlin' Cory* by Sugarland's Kristian Bush. Select credits: *Reverb Arts Festival* (Roundabout), *Queering The Canon* (Joe's Pub), *Playdate* (Dixon Place), *Phantom Toll-booth* (Hangar Theatre), *Tarzan* (English Musicals Korea), *Last Five Years* (Company Carolina). www.nataliemyrick.com // [@noots.mcgoats](https://twitter.com/noots.mcgoats)

Sealth Grover (Paolo/Man #2/ U/S Michael) A junior in the Middletown Arts Academy, Sealth trains at the Axelrod Performing Arts Academy. He was last seen as Spongebob in their production of *The Spongebob Musical*, directed by Broadway's Abby C. Smith. Sealth is over the moon to be cast in *The Bridges of Madison County*, his first professional show. Sealth has most recently been cast in *Into the Woods* (Jack), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander), *Annie* (Rooster), *Godspell* (Judas) and *Seussical* (Horton). He is grateful to have learned in classes taught by the likes of Kerri Butler, Susan Egan, Faith Prince, Rob McClure and Siobhan Fallon. A highlight of his young career was singing on the Axelrod stage with Laura Benanti. Sealth is honored for this opportunity to perform with and learn from this amazingly talented Bridges cast and crew. Sealth would like to thank his family for their unending support. Instagram @_sealth_

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MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Hunter Foster (Director) Most recently directed *Rock of Ages* and *Give Em Hell Harry* for Theatre Aspen, and will return to Colorado this August to directing the world premier one-person play, *Esmeranda's Gift*. In 2019, he directed *The Other Josh Cohen* off-Broadway and *The Drowsy Chaperone* at the Goodspeed Opera House and was named "director of the year" by the Wall Street Journal. At the Bucks County Playhouse he has directed *42nd Street*, *Clue*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Company*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *The Buddy Holly Story*, *National Pastime*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Summer of '42*, *Million Dollar Quartet* and *It's a Wonderful Life*. Other directing credits include: *Rent*, *God of Carnage*, *A Syracuse Christmas Carol*, *Waiting For the Host* (Redhouse); *One Hit Wonder*, (U. Of Michigan) *A Connecticut Christmas Carol* (Goodspeed), *Into The Woods*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Western Carolina University), *The Other Josh Cohen* (Geva Theatre), *Cabaret*, *My Fair Lady*, *The Foreigner*, *Clue*, *Once* (Cape Playhouse) *Grease* (North Carolina Theatre), *Spamalot* (Casa Manana) and he has directed over 17 productions of the *Million Dollar Quartet* across the country (Paper Mill, St. Louis Rep, Cincinnati Playhouse, Geva, Great Lakes, Center Rep). He has also written the librettos for the musicals: *Summer of '42*, *Jasper in Deadland*, *The Circus In Winter*, *Clyde and Bonnie: A Folktale*, *Sleepy Hollow* and *The Big Boom*. As an actor on Broadway he was nominated for a Tony Award for *Little Shop of Horrors* in 2004. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan's musical theatre program. In *The Bridges of Madison County*, he created the role of Bud Johnson.

Keith Levenson (Music Director/Conductor) In any capacity – conductor, arranger or music director, Keith Levenson stands at the tip of the multi-tasking elite. He has a wealth of experience in every aspect of the art and the business of music. Fluent in scoring, instrumentation, sound design, and everything in between. Keith's career has run the gamut from Broadway's *Annie* to *Meatloaf*, from the London Symphony Orchestra to The Who. He is equally at home in a regional shed, Broadway theatre or a large arena. In 2018 Keith helmed a very successful tour of the rock opera "Tommy", with band and symphony orchestras across the country. It resulted in the 2019 release of "Tommy Orchestral" album produced by Keith and Roger Daltrey. The album went straight to the top of Billboard magazine's classical crossover chart. He is the music director and takes the podium conducting a 50-piece orchestra and an 8- piece band for icons The Who on their current 2020 tour.

Anna Louizos (Scenic Designer) is a 3-time Tony Award nominee. Set designs for Broadway include *In the Heights*, *School of Rock* (sets and costumes), *Avenue Q*, *Holiday Inn*, *Honeymoon in Vegas*, *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*, *Holiday Inn*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Dames at Sea*, *It Shoulda Been You*, *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*, *High Fidelity*, *Curtains*, *The Performers*, among others. Selected Off Bway designs include *Scotland, PA*, *The Foreigner* (Roundabout), *Kings* (Public), world premieres of *tick tick Boom*, and *Altar Boyz*. Selected regional theatres include The Guthrie, Old Globe, Asolo, Alliance, Papermill Playhouse, Goodspeed, TUTS, Alley among others. Recently she has designed one of the largest international productions of *West Side Story* for Tokyo's unique 360 Stage Around, a space in which the audience is com-

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

pletely surrounded by scenery. She is the founder of Broadway Design Exchange, an online marketplace for theatrical treasures. www.broadwaydesignexchange.com

Paul Miller (Lighting Designer) Previously at Axelrod: *Mamma Mia*. Broadway: *Amazing Grace*, *The Illusionists*, *Legally Blonde*, *Freshly Squeezed*, *Laughing Room Only*, *Elf* (The Theatre at MSG); Off-Broadway: *Desperate Measures*, *Clinton!*, *Pageant*, *Vanities - the Musical*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Addicted*, *Nunsense*, *Balancing Act*, *City Center Encores!* (9 shows). National Tours: *Hairspray* (currently), *Elf*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Producers*, *Rent*, *Shrek – The Musical!* Regional: The Old Globe, Dallas Theatre Center, Denver Center, Chicago Shakespeare, Idaho Shakespeare, Asolo Repertory, American Conservatory Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, Pasadena Playhouse, Goodspeed Opera House, Westport Playhouse, Pioneer Theatre and others. Television: Live from Lincoln Center, Netflix specials (18 of them!), New Year's Eve telecast from Times Square (22 years and over 100 musical acts) International: Stratford Shakespeare Festival, London's West End, Vienna, Milan (Teatro alla Scala), Brazil, The Philippines, South Africa, Iceland and China.

Jeff Sherwood (Sound Designer) is an award-winning Korean American sound designer, composer, & audio engineer. Most recently he was the Resident Sound Designer for the National Playwrights Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center in 2021, and has also worked Off-Broadway including with The Public Theater, The New Group, Signature Theatre, Manhattan Theatre Club, Roundabout Theatre Company, and others. Recent sound design credits include: *The Amish Project* (PlayMakers Repertory Company); *Emily Dickinson* (PowerOut NYC); *Mother Russia*, *Jump* (Chautauqua Theater Company); *Cabaret*, *The Music Man* (Cape Playhouse); *Take the Car* (Williamstown Theatre Festival PTP). Jeff teaches sound design at Wake Forest University where he enjoys mentoring and fueling the passion of emerging sound artists and audio engineers. He is an active member of the Audio Engineering Society (AES), Theatrical Sound Designers and Composers Association (TSDCA), and the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT). MFA: Purdue University, BFA: Oklahoma City University. www.SherwoodSound.com

Lauren T. Roark (Costume Designer) is the head of graduate costume design in the Department of Theatre at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and the co-founder of Design with Procreate. Select regional credits include the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, Great Lakes Theatre, Clarence Brown Theatre, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, and the Tony Award winning Utah Shakespeare Festival and Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. Her work has been featured in the United States Institute for Theatre Technology's Young Designers' Forum Exhibition and she was awarded the Barbizon Award for Theatrical Design Excellence. Lauren has worked in costume shops spanning three continents, including Brazil and Hong Kong. She holds an MFA in Costume Design and Technology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and is a proud member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829. To learn more, visit www.laurentroark.com.

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Susan Bloir (Properties Designer) is the Axelrod's house designer of props and scenic decorations whose work has been featured on the stage of the Vogel Auditorium for the past ten years or more. Past productions, too numerous to list, but some favorites include *Ragtime*, *Titanic*, *42nd Street*, *Damascus Square*, *Matilda* and *Annie*. In addition to the Axelrod, Sue's props can be seen on the stages of many theaters throughout Monmouth County.

Rachel Sabo-Hedges (Assistant Director) Rachel is an actor/creator/director with a passion for musicals and new works. She has performed in *Into the Woods*, directed by Hunter Foster and *Spring Awakening*, directed by Terrence Mann, and recently sang at the fundraiser for the inaugural Ann Reinking scholarship with Off the Lane in New York City, sharing the stage with Marilu Henner and Brenda Braxton. After moving to New York last year she assistant directed *SHIPS: The Musical Trilogy* (The Tank NYC) and *Forget I Said Anything* (Teatro Latea). She trained with the Atlantic Acting School and has a BFA in Musical Theatre from Western Carolina University. She is beyond grateful to have the opportunity to work with this amazing cast and crew and thanks Hunter for giving her this opportunity. www.rachelsabohedges.com

Jackie Mariani (Production Stage Manager) is excited to work at Axelrod for the first time! Some Credits Include: *The Nutcracker* with American Repertory Ballet, *FOOD-IES* with Speranza Theatre Company, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (abridged) [revised], *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Tartuffe*, *Buried Child*, *The Three Musketeers* and *As You Like It* at the Shakespeare Theatre of NJ, The George Street Playhouse's Educational Tour 2015 Season, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, a collaboration between the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and The Shakespeare Theatre of NJ, *The One Minute Play Festival* at Luna Stage, and *Legally Blonde* and *Mamma Mia!* at Fair Moon Productions.

Kellian Frank (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be back at Axelrod, having previously been the ASM for their production of *Mamma Mia!* Kellian was most recently the Production Stage Manager at Laguna Playhouse for their production of *The Spitfire Grill* as well as the PSM for the 2021 season at The Surflight Theatre. From 2017-2020 she also served as Surflight Theatre's Props Master, Assistant Stage Manager, Children's Theater Stage Manager and House Manager. Other credits include assistant stage manager, props master, and Covid Compliance Officer on the 2021 *Buddy...The Buddy Holly Story* national tour.

Fred Sorrentino (Master Carpenter/Technical Director) has been creating innovative and award-winning sets and costumes for more than 30 years. Based in NJ, Fred designs sets and costumes for shows in NYC and throughout NJ; in addition, his work has been enjoyed nationwide. For ten years, Fred provided sets and costumes for Shore Regional High School. His elaborate sets for *Shore's Beauty and the Beast* won the Best Set Design from Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards Program and the Basie Award. He earned numerous Perry Award nominations for best set design for APAC

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

productions including *Gypsy*, *42nd Street* and *Hairspray*. His most recent work here at the APAC includes *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Billy Elliot*, *A Chorus Line*, *Dreamgirls*, *The Producers*, *Ragtime*, *Mamma Mia*, *Hair*, AXCBT's *The Jungle Book*, *Alice in Wonderland* and the Axelrod's Rising Stars productions most recently *The Music Man*, *The Wizard of Oz* and Perry nominations for the Rising Stars' *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Peter Pan*.

Gerry Gironda (House Engineer) has been doing sound for over 30 years, the last 15 specializing in Sound Design and wireless microphones. He has been a semi-pro musician working the Jersey Shore club circuit since 1970, performing with Holiday Express for the last 10 years; and has shared the stage with Richie Havens, John Eddie, Jon Herington, Bobby Bandiera and Hot Tuna, to name a few. As always, Gerry is delighted to be working with inspiring artists and the wonderful APAC team.

Andrew De Prisco (Producer) has been producing the musicals at the Axelrod for the past ten years. In 2015, he became the Artistic Director and within two years transitioned the venue to a professional theater that has employed hundreds of actors, musicians, designers and directors. In 2018 Andrew was inducted as a "Theater Activist" into the NJACT's Hall of Fame. He received the NJACT Perry Award for Producing *West Side Story* at the Axelrod. He has been twice nominated for Perry Awards for Best Director (*Gypsy* and *Into the Woods*) and for Producer for *42nd Street*, all here at the Axelrod. In 2012 Andrew took a stab at directing high school theater for Red Bank Catholic and received 16 Basie Award nominations for *Into the Woods*, taking home the award for Best Director and Best Production. In 1995 he founded Cabaret for Life, a local non-profit that has raised He around a half million dollars for AIDS, cancer and other charities in New Jersey and beyond. He has been its President for 26 years—and is celebrating their 25th anniversary (a year late!) this fall. Andrew lives in Wayside with his husband Robert and their two dogs. Andrew would like to thank Hunter for his vision in bringing *Bridges* to life.

Jess Levy (Producer) has been producing concerts, theater, film festivals, music festivals, and major national programs throughout the region over the past thirty years. He has produced events that have included many top Broadway stars including Sutton Foster, Kelli O'Hara, Brian Stokes Mitchell, and Marin Mazzie; jazz concerts featuring stars John Pizzarelli, Jane Monheit, and Max Weinberg; pop concerts, Israeli stars, and classical concerts featuring Joshua Bell, Pamela Frank and NJ State Opera Company. Jess has produced in venues including the Paramount Theater in Asbury Park, the Stone Pony in Asbury Park, the Garden State Arts Center in Holmdel, and more. As Executive Producer, he's been involved with the production of every musical for the past decade, including *In the Heights*, *Ragtime the Musical*, *Newsies the Musical*, *Hair in Concert*, *Annie*, *Dreamgirls*, *Les Miserables*, *South Pacific*, *Cabaret*, *Evita*, *Gypsy*, *RENT* many of which have received state-wide recognition from NJACT.

Jason Robert Brown (Composer) is the ultimate multi-hyphenate - an equally skilled composer, lyricist, conductor, arranger, orchestrator, director and performer - best known for his dazzling scores to several of the most renowned musicals of our time,

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

including the generation-defining *The Last Five Years*, his debut song cycle *Songs for a New World*, and the seminal *Parade*, for which he won the 1999 Tony Award for Best Score.

Jason Robert Brown has been hailed as "one of Broadway's smartest and most sophisticated songwriters since Stephen Sondheim" (Philadelphia Inquirer), and his "extraordinary, jubilant theater music" (Chicago Tribune) has been heard all over the world, whether in one of the hundreds of productions of his musicals every year or in his own incendiary live performances. The New York Times refers to Jason as "a leading member of a new generation of composers who embody high hopes for the American musical." Jason's score for *The Bridges of Madison County*, a musical adapted with Marsha Norman from the bestselling novel, received two Tony Awards (for Best Score and Orchestrations). *Honeymoon In Vegas*, based on Andrew Bergman's film, opened on Broadway in 2015 following a triumphant production at Paper Mill Playhouse. A film version of his epochal Off-Broadway musical *The Last Five Years* was released in 2015, starring Anna Kendrick and Jeremy Jordan and directed by Richard LaGravenese. His major musicals as composer and lyricist include: *13*, written with Robert Horn and Dan Elish, which opened on Broadway in 2008 and was subsequently directed by the composer for its West End premiere in 2012; *The Last Five Years*, which was cited as one of Time Magazine's 10 Best of 2001 and won Drama Desk Awards for Best Music and Best Lyrics (and was later directed by the composer in its record-breaking Off-Broadway run at Second Stage Theatre in 2013); *Parade*, written with Alfred Uhry and directed by Harold Prince, which won both the Drama Desk and New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards for Best New Musical, as well as garnering Jason the Tony Award for Original Score; and *Songs for a New World*, a theatrical song cycle directed by Daisy Prince, which has since been seen in hundreds of productions around the world since its 1995 Off-Broadway debut, including a celebrated revival at New York's City Center in the summer of 2018. *Parade* was also the subject of a major revival directed by Rob Ashford, first at London's Donmar Warehouse and then at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles. Jason conducted his orchestral adaptation of E.B. White's novel *The Trumpet of the Swan* with the National Symphony Orchestra, and recorded the score for PS Classics. Future projects include a new chamber musical created with Daisy Prince and Jonathan Marc Sherman called *The Connector*; an adaptation of Lilian Lee's *Farewell My Concubine*, created with Kenneth Lin and Moisés Kaufman; and a collaboration with Billy Crystal, Amanda Green, Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandel on a musical of *Mr. Saturday Night*, scheduled to begin previews on Broadway on March 29. Jason is the winner of the 2018 Louis Auchincloss Prize, the 2002 Kleban Award for Outstanding Lyrics and the 1996 Gilman & Gonzalez-Falla Foundation Award for Musical Theatre. Jason's songs, including the cabaret standard "Stars and the Moon," have been performed and recorded by Ariana Grande, Audra McDonald, Kristin Chenoweth, Billy Porter, Betty Buckley, Renée Fleming, Jon Hendricks and many others, and his song "Someone To Fall Back On" was featured in the Walden Media film, *Bandslam*.

As a soloist or with his band The Caucasian Rhythm Kings, Jason has performed concerts around the world. For the past four years (and ongoing), his monthly sold-out

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

performances at New York's SubCulture have featured many of the music and theater world's most extraordinary performers. His newest collection, "How We React and How We Recover", was released in June 2018 on Ghostlight Records. His previous solo album, "Wearing Someone Else's Clothes", was named one of Amazon.com's best of 2005, and is available from Sh-K-Boom Records. Jason's 2012 concert with Anika Noni Rose was broadcast on PBS, and he was the featured soloist for a live episode of *Friday Night Is Music Night*, broadcast live from the London Palladium and featuring the BBC Concert Orchestra. His collaboration with singer Lauren Kennedy, "Songs of Jason Robert Brown", is available on PS Classics. Jason is also the composer of the incidental music for the Broadway revival of *You Can't Take It With You*, David Lindsay-Abaire's *Kimberly Akimbo* and Fuddy Meers, and Kenneth Lonergan's *The Waverly Gallery*, and he was a Tony Award nominee for his contributions to the score of *Urban Cowboy the Musical*. He has also contributed music to the hit Nickelodeon television series, *The Wonder Pets* as well as *Sesame Street*. Jason spent ten years teaching at the USC School of Dramatic Arts, and has also taught at Harvard University, Princeton University and Emerson College.

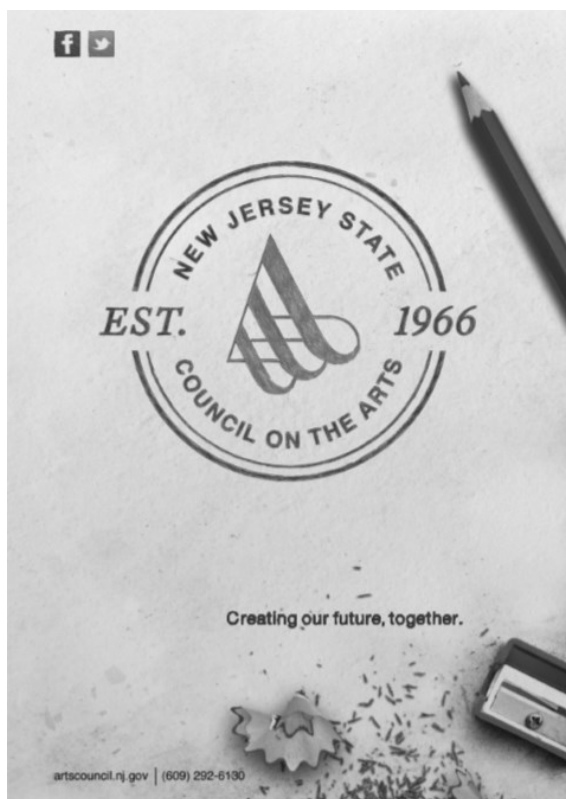
For the musical *Prince of Broadway*, a celebration of the career of his mentor Harold Prince, Jason was the musical supervisor and arranger. Other New York credits as conductor and arranger include *Urban Cowboy the Musical* on Broadway; *Dinah Was*, off-Broadway and on national tour; *When Pigs Fly* off-Broadway; William Finn's *A New Brain* at Lincoln Center Theater; the 1992 tribute to Stephen Sondheim at Carnegie Hall (recorded by RCA Victor); Yoko Ono's *New York Rock*, at the WPA Theatre; and Michael John LaChiusa's *The Petrified Prince* at the Public Theatre. Jason orchestrated Andrew Lippa's *John and Jen*, Off-Broadway at Lamb's Theatre. Additionally, Jason served as the orchestrator and arranger of Charles Strouse and Lee Adams's score for a proposed musical of *Star Wars*. Jason has conducted and created arrangements and orchestrations for Liza Minnelli, John Pizzarelli, and Michael Feinstein, among many others. Jason studied composition at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., with Samuel Adler, Christopher Rouse, and Joseph Schwanter. He lives with his wife, composer Georgia Stitt, and their daughters in New York City. Jason is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild and the American Federation of Musicians Local 802. Visit him on the web at www.jasonrobertbrown.com.

Marsha Norman (Librettist) is a Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and co-chair of Playwriting at Juilliard. She won a Tony for *The Secret Garden*, and another nomination for *The Color Purple*. Her first play, *Getting Out*, received the John Gassner Playwriting Medallion, the Newsday Oppenheimer Award, and a citation from the American Critics Association. She received the Pulitzer for her play *'night, Mother* in 1983. Other plays include *The Laundromat*, *The Pool Hall*, *Loving Daniel Boone*, *Trudy Blue*, and her newest play, *Last Dance*. Published collections of her works include *Four Plays, Collected Works of Marsha Norman*, Vol. 1, and a novel, *The Fortune Teller*. She has also worked extensively in television and film. She is a member of the Fellowship of Southern Writers, a former advisory member of the Sewanee Writers Conference, and current vice president of The Dramatists Guild of America. She serves on the boards of the New

MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM

York Foundation for the Arts and the Independent Committee for Arts Policy. Ms. Norman was elected to the Agnes Scott College Board of Trustees in 2003. She lives with her two children in Monterey, MA and New York City.

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Cello.....PATTY GONSKY(ALT. KATIE CHAMBERS)
PercussionJASON KOENIG
Guitars.....PAUL HEANEY, DAVID CINQUEGRANA
Bass.....RANDY LANDAU (ALT. JUSTIN LEE)

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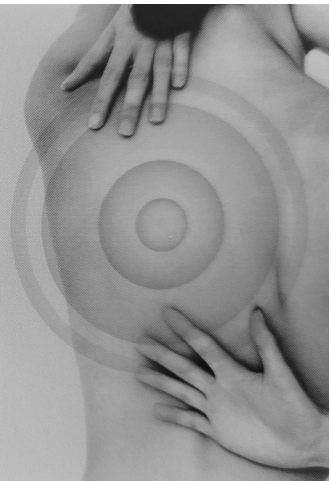
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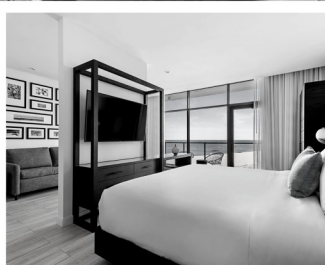
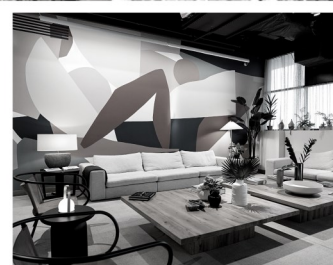
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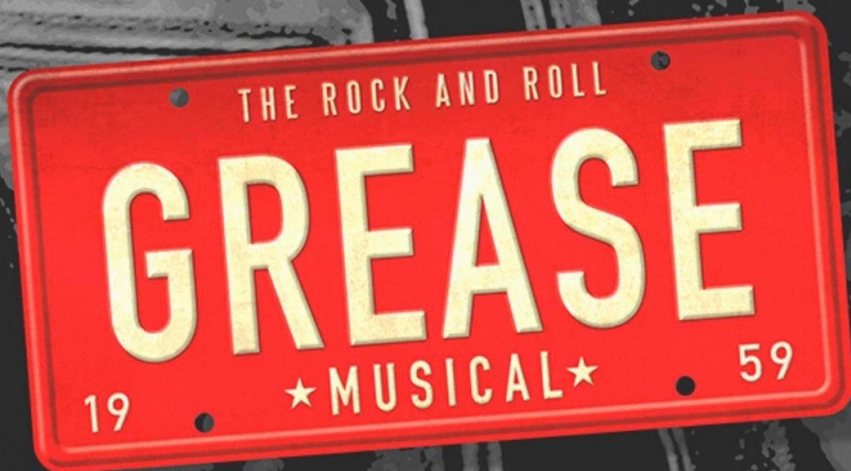
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