# **NUSIC & LYRICS B** BOOK B YN-MA 5 20 MAY-15 JUNE, 2025 theatre: mccarthy tetrault AL OSTEN & BUDDY VICTOR GA

This production is made possible by the generous support of the Al Osten & Buddy Victor Legacy Fund and McCarthy Tetrault.





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# WELCOME



very season deserves a grand finale. And this year, we're going out with a burst of brilliance, boldness, and a touch of bubble-gum pink. *Legally Blonde* isn't just a musical—it's a celebration of the human spirit wrapped in a musical theatre bow. It shouts what we so often whisper: that joy is powerful, kindness is courageous, and being underestimated can be your greatest advantage. *Legally Blonde* is pure joy—but don't let the glitter fool you. Beneath the charm is a story about identity, self-worth, and the quiet revolution of staying true to who you are, even when the world expects you to shrink.

Elle Woods bursts onto the stage with confidence and style—but it's her unshakeable spirit, her empathy, and her refusal to be underestimated that make her a heroine for our time. In today's world—where labels still linger, and first impressions can be loud—Elle reminds us that integrity, intelligence, and kindness never go out of fashion.

*Legally Blonde* invites us to celebrate ambition without apology, beauty with brains, and joy with depth. It's a musical that asks us to laugh out loud, cheer for the underdog, and maybe—just maybe—reconsider the boxes we put ourselves and others into.

A big thank you to the production's director and choreographer, Stephanie Graham, and the sensational creative team and cast that she has assembled. It takes a village, and this village of artists (onstage and off) have brought Theatre Calgary's *Legally Blonde* to life in such a colourful and heartwarming way.

An extra big thank you to our audiences, our patrons, our subscribers, our Team, our backstage crew, and our incredible Board of Directors for your continued support and belief in theatre and Theatre Calgary. To end our season with this show is to say: dream boldly, dance freely, and never doubt that you are enough—exactly as you are.

With warmth and sparkle,

#### - STAFFORD ARIMA Artistic director

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the spirit of reconciliation, Theatre Calgary acknowledges that we live, work and create on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation of Alberta, Districts 5 & 6, and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta. They were the original occupants of this land and continue to be here to this day. Theatre Calgary is grateful to have the opportunity to present in this territory.



We are working together with Theatre Calgary. It's just one way we are helping to open doors for a more inclusive and sustainable tomorrow.

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# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Cameras and audio/visual recording devices are not permitted in the theatre.
- Video and audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
- We ask that you please refrain from using your cell phone, smart watch, or any other digital device, in any capacity, during the performance.
- Good theatre etiquette benefits everyone. Please do not talk or unwrap candies during the performance, remain in your seat until the curtain call is finished and the house lights have been turned on.
- Babies are not permitted in the theatre.
- We also offer relaxed performances. For more information, visit our website.
- Assisted listening devices for the hard of hearing are available at the coat check.
- For first aid assistance, see the house manager, or nearest usher.

## **SAFETY AND COMFORT**

 At Theatre Calgary, we recognize our responsibility to have practical guidelines in place to ensure our performances are safe and enjoyable for everyone. To learn more about our current Safety and Comfort protocols go to theatrecalgary.com/comfort-and-safety or scan here:



# **DIRECTOR'S NOTES**



"True blondes, whether natural or not, could be identified by their inner light of buoyant, charmed. confidence."

- AMANDA BROWN, from the novel Legally Blonde

t has been almost 25 years since Elle Woods appeared on movie screens for the first time and introduced us to her pink positive effervescent world. Why has this story become such a cultural phenomenon?

There is something about Elle Woods we identify with. Most of us have been underestimated at some point in our lives and we celebrate that Elle doesn't need to fundamentally change who she is to succeed. We all deserve to exist in the world unapologetically as ourselves. So many of us wish we could or strive to do that every day without fear of judgement.

And the film is often credited as having one of the biggest effects on women deciding to go to law school, known as 'The Legally Blonde Effect'. The Harvard Law School student make-up has shifted over the years and finally achieved gender parity in 2017, but Elle has also inspired women to embrace their femininity in traditionally male dominated professions. She remains an emblem for challenging stereotypes and female empowerment in the face of misogyny.

Because Elle continues to be a role model in 2025, it seemed only natural to place our production of the musical in the time we are living in now. This musical has always been one of my favourites with its big heart, catchy songs and fabulous dance arrangements. Elle reminds me to always lead with kindness and it is a dream come true to get to live in her orbit for a while.

The world is so very dark, complicated and overwhelming at the moment. This musical will hopefully allow you to escape for a couple of hours and inspire you to use your gifts to help others, defy expectations and remind you to stay true to yourself.

Thank you to our incredible cast, my fellow creatives, stage management team and everyone at Theatre Calgary and the Citadel Theatre who have worked so hard to bring the show to audiences in Alberta. Special thanks to my Assistant Director, Monice Peter, Assistant Choreographer, Alysse Ernewein, and dance captain, Greg Pember.

Thank you for supporting live theatre. Enjoy!

#### - STEPHANIE GRAHAM DIRECTOR & CHOREOGRAPHER

Theatre Calgary gratefully acknowledges the support provided by the City of Calgary through Calgary Arts Development, the Government of Alberta through the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, the Government of Canada through the Canada Council, Canadian Heritage, and all corporate and private contributors.





































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Max Bell Theatre at Arts Commons May 20 - June 15, 2025



presents

## **LEGALLY BLONDE**

# MUSIC & LYRICS BY BOOK BY LAURENCE O'KEEFE and NELL BENJAMIN HEATHER HACH

#### Based on the novel by AMANDA BROWN and the METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER motion picture

Presented in partnership with The Citadel Theatre

Director & Choreographer	STEPHANIE GRAHAM
Musical Director	RACHEL CAMERON
Set Design	<b>BEYATA HACKBORN*</b>
Costume Design	REBECCA TOON
Lighting Design	RENÉE BRODE*
Sound Design	JOSHUA D. REID*
Voice & Dialect Coach	JANE MACFARLANE
Intimacy Director	ANASTASIA ST. AMAND
Dance Captain	GREG PEMBER

Stage Manager, Intimacy Captain Assistant Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager Apprentice Stage Manager SHELBY-JAI FLICK ANDREA HANDAL RIVERA KATE PALLESEN SERENA LEMIRE

#### TC MENTORS PROGRAM

Directing MONICE PETER\*\* Choreography ALYSSE ERNEWEIN\*\* Lighting CASSIE HOLMES\*\* Sound TRAVIS MCKINNON\*\*

\* Indicated designers on this production are represented by the Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

\*\* TC Mentors participants are generously supported by RBC.

Original Production by Hal Luftig. Fox Theatricals, Dori Berinstein, James L. Nederlander, Independent Presenters Network, Roy Furman, Amanda Lipitz, Broadway Asia, Barbara Whitman, FWPM Group, Henoel/Wiesenfeld, Goldberg/Binder, Stern/Meyer, Lane/Comley, Bartner-Jenkins/Nocciolino and Warren Trepp; Produced in association with MGM Onstage. Darcie Denkert and Dean Stolber.

> Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

ANY VIDEO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

# mccarthy tetrault

At McCarthy Tétrault, we're not just supporting the arts - *we're championing every Elle Woods in law, and every woman who's ever been told she can't.* 



# LEGALLY BLONDE

#### **CAST** (in alphabetical order)

Emmett Warner Huntington III Nikos Brooke Pilar UPS Guy - Kyle; u/s: Emmett Serena; u/s: Vivienne Kate; u/s: Pilar Judge; u/s: Paulette Enid Professor Callahan Elle Woods Vivienne Paulette	MAYA BAKER DANIEL FONG KADEN BRETT FORSBERG NIKKO ANGELO HINAYO SARAH HORSMAN JESSICA JONES GUNHO KWAK LAYNE LABBE JAMEELA MCNEIL ROBYN ORD DEAN STOCKDALE JOHN ULLYATT KELSEY VERZOTTI CHELSEA WOODARD PATRICIA ZENTILLI FERGUS FINNEGAN SKELLINGTON
	FERGUS FINNEGAN SKELLINGTON MOJAVE

Swinas

Elle, Margot, Serena, Enid, Kate, Judge Warner, Professor Callahan, Kyle, Nikos

APRIL COOK **GREG PEMBER** 

#### SETTING

In and around the Delta Nu house at University California, Los Angeles. In and around the Harvard Law campus, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Legally Blonde has one 20-minute intermission.

#### **CREW**

Head of Sound Head of Lighting Head Stage Carpenter Head Dresser Head of Wigs Assistant Head of Lighting Assistant Head Dresser Assistant Head of Sound MICHAEL GESY Assistant Head Stage Carpenter Follow Spot Operator Dresser Wig Runner Sound Technician Stage Hand Wardrobe Maintenance

**BRONWYN BOWLBY CATHARINE CRUMB BEN MOORE RACHEL MICHELLE SHERIDAN** CHRISTA HOEFLING MICHAEL BOOTH CHELSEA BREWER JOSHUA SEMOS JACKSON BUCHANAN **BRIANNA DIODATI ERIN HAYES** TRAVIS MCKINNON **RAJIV RATHORE KIERRA VOLK** 

Theatre Calgary is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and operates within the jurisdiction of the Canadian Theatre Agreement. Theatre Calgary employs technicians under a collective agreement with the I.A.T.S.E. Theatre Calgary is a resident company of Arts Commons, operating out of Arts Commons Max Bell Theatre.





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# SONGS

#### ACT I

Omigod You Guys Margot, Serena, Pilar, Delta Nus, Elle, Shopgirl, Manager
Serious
Daughter of Delta Nu
What You Want Elle, Margot, Serena, Pilar, Kate, Mom, Dad, Grandmaster Chad,
Winthrop, Pforzheimer, Lowell, Delta Nus, Company
The Harvard Variations Emmett, Aaron, Enid, Cezar, Harvard Students
Blood in the Water
Positive
<i>Ireland</i>
Ireland (Reprise)
Serious (Reprise)
Chip On My Shoulder
So Much Better

#### ACT II

<i>Whipped into Shape</i>
Take It Like a Man       Salespeople
Rend and Snap Elle, Paulette, Serena, Margot, Pilar, Salonfolk
There! Right There!
Enid, Judge, Nikos, Carlos, Company
egally Blonde
egally Blonde Remix
Omigod You Guys (Reprise)         Elle, Company
ind My Way/Finale

#### MUSICIANS

Conductor, Keyboard 1	RACHEL CAMERON
Reeds	DUSTYN RICHARDSON
Keyboard 2, Rehearsal Pianist	AUGUSTINE YATES
Guitars	DARREN YOUNG
Bass	JONATHAN WIELEBNOWSKI
Drums/Percussion	JEFF FAFARD
Reeds Sub	KEITH O'ROURKE
Rehearsal Pianists	ALEXANDER GONZALEZ, JOE SLABE

Band Contractor

MARK LIMACHER



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#### MAYA BAKER Margot; Understudy: Brooke

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Credits include: Steel Magnolias (Globe Theatre); A Christmas Carol, Clue (Citadel Theatre); The Little Mermaid (Persephone Theatre); Jack and the Beanstalk (Alberta Musical Theatre Company). Maya is an Edmonton based theatre artist and is so thrilled to be making her Theatre Calgary debut with this fantastic show! Sending all the love to her family and friends who always support her.



#### APRIL COOK

#### Swing (Elle, Margot, Serena, Enid, Kate, Judge)

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. April spent many Saturday nights watching the original cast of *Legally Blonde* on Broadway while attending AMDA in NYC. Credits: *Girls Just Wanna Have Fun, Patsy Cline, 9 to 5, Canadian Superstars & Feelin' Groovy, Legends of Country* (Stage West); *Hairspray* (Theatre Aquarius, Mayfield Dinner Theatre, Drayton Entertainment, Charlottetown Festival); *The Wizard of Oz, The Sound of Music* 

(Live @ The Centre, PEI); Anne of Green Gables, Disco-Cirque, British Invasion 2 (Charlottetown Festival). Choreography: The Music Man (Storybook Theatre). Thank you to Stephanie, Theatre Calgary and 10 Talent for making this dream come true. Love to my family, friends and Corey for always believing in me. I am SO MUCH BETTER because of all of you. "OMG YOU GUYS!!" kindheartwellness.com



#### DANIEL FONG Emmett

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: Actor - A Christmas Carol (2018, 2023-24), Forgiveness; Assistant Director - The Play That Goes Wrong (TC/Citadel/RMTC). Daniel is a mixed-race actor, singer and voiceover performer born and raised in Calgary. He is proud to be a guest of the long tradition of storytelling in the Treaty 7 region of Alberta and hopes to continue lifting up and creating art with the communities he loves. Daniel was the recipient

of the 2020 Stephen Hair Emerging Artist Award. Selected theatre credits include: The Three Musketeers (Citadel); Romeo & Juliet (Bard on the Beach); Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat, The Skin of Our Teeth (Rosebud Theatre); US (The Globe); Alberta Kitchen Party, The Lion The Witch And The Wardrobe, Fortune Falls, The Circle (ATP). Thanks to his family and his beautiful wife, Nadia.

#### **AL OSTEN & BUDDY VICTOR** LEGACY FUND

This production would not have been possible without Al & Buddy's generosity, support, and love of musical theatre.





**Tickets** 1 for \$10 10 for \$50 50 for \$100 theatre: AGLC #732330 SCAN HERE TO ENTER:

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**Draw Date: June 17** 



#### KADEN BRETT FORSBERG Warner Huntington III

(he/him) Theatre Calgary debut. Kaden is an actor, singer, and songwriter. Recent credits: *The Pillowman* (Theatre Yes); *Dion:* A Rock Opera (Coal Mine Theater); *Cabaret* (Ovation); *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, Sh-Boom, Naked Radio* (Drayton); Almost a Full Moon (Citadel); One Day (Segal Centre); Christmas at Pemberley, It's a Wonderful Life, Naked Radio, Classic Country Roads (Chemainus); Little Women, Candide, Fiddler on the

Roof (NUOVA). Selected Opera credits: Mary's Wedding, A Midsummer Night's Dream (POV); Les Contes d'Hoffmann (Aspen Music Festival); Orlando Paladino (Mozarteum); Gianni Schicchi (Amalfi Coast Music Festival). Film/TV: March Hare/ Card #2 in The Garden of Alice. Thank you to Talent House, to my family, and to Em. Follow for updates on Kaden's country music: @kk\_brett



#### NIKKO ANGELO HINAYO Nikos

(he/they) Theatre Calgary debut. Credits include: Avery/Lamb in Charlotte's Web (Alberta Theatre Projects), Flute/Moth in A Midsummer Night's Dream (Shakespeare Company), Francis Flute in Something Rotten, Twig in Bring It On: The Musical, Moritz Stiefel in Spring Awakening, Leo Martinez in The Smartest Girl In The World (StoryBook Theatre). Film credits include Emile in Davey and Jonesie's Locker (Hulu & Prime Video Canada).

Nikko trained at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy's integrated musical theatre program in New York City. Nikko is a Filipino-Canadian actor ecstatic to be making their Theatre Calgary debut! (omigod you guys!). To their loving friends and chosen family, they extend their gratitude and thanks. Maraming salamat! Enjoy the show! @nikkohinayo



#### SARAH HORSMAN Brooke

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Select Theatre: The Ballad of Johnny and June (Citadel); The Addams Family (The Capitol Theatre); A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline, Jersey Boys, Rock of Ages, The World Goes Round (Stage West); Back in '59 (Thousand Islands Playhouse); Sister Act (Drayton Entertainment); Always Patsy Cline (Theatre Northwest); Rocky Horror Picture Show (Sudbury Theatre Centre); Million Dollar Quartet, Jeeves At

*Sea* (Chemainus Theatre Festival); *Featured soloist* (Victoria Symphony). Sarah is humbled to join this company of artists! Many thanks and love to the incredible team at TC, her wonderful family and chosen family who support her through it all and to you for supporting Canadian theatre! Sarahhorsman.com



#### JESSICA JONES Pilar

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville. Other credits include: Waitress (Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre); Little Shop of Horrors (Theatre Northwest); Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown (Stage West); Tick, Tick...Boom, Austentatious (Forte Musical Theatre). Jessica is a graduate of the University of Calgary's Theatre program. She was honored to be nominated for a Betty Mitchell Award for her performance in Tick, Tick...Boom.



#### **GUNHO KWAK**

#### UPS Guy - Kyle; Understudy: Emmett

(he/him) Theatre Calgary debut. Credits include: *High School Musical* (Uniform Theatre); *Aqsarniit* (Confederation Centre Young Company); *Heathers: The Musical, Hedwig and the Angry Inch, American Idiot* (Scona Alumni Theatre Company). Gunho would like to thank his family for their continued patience as he continues to work towards his dreams. He would not be here without their love and support.



#### LAYNE LABBE

#### Serena; Understudy: Vivienne

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *Ragtime: A Concert Performance, Theatre Calgary Sings for Pride.* Other credits include: *The Great Comet of 1812* (MacEwan University); *Heathers: The Musical* (MacEwan University). Layne is a performer based in Calgary, and is currently finishing her BFA in musical theatre performance at MacEwan University in Edmonton. She wants to thank her family and friends for their unwavering support in her artistic pursuits. She hopes you enjoy the show!



#### JAMEELA MCNEIL Kate; Understudy: Pilar

Theatre Calgary debut. Credits include: A Midsummer Night's Dream: The 70's Musical, A Streetcar Named Desire, The Royale (Citadel); The Color Purple, As You Like It (Citadel/Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre co-production); Much Ado About Nothing, Wedding Band, Les Belles Soeurs (Stratford); The Fiancée (Persephone); Heaven (Lunchbox); Sister Act, All Shook Up, Soul Sistas (Mayfield); John Ware Reimagined (Workshop West). Jameela is a MacEwan Theatre Arts Alumnus, and a Sterling &

Mary Savidge Guthrie Award recipient. Along with acting, she is a writer and emerging producer. Thank you to my loved ones for your endless support. @jameela\_jade



#### ROBYN ORD Judge; Understudy: Paulette

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *Ragtime: A Concert Performance*, Shakespeare by the Bow - *A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Romeo and Juliet*. Select credits: *Susan's Dream Date* – workshop (Grant Tilly); *Fresh Prints* – workshop (ATP); *Girls Like That* (Tightrope). Film/TV: *Unspeakable: The Murder of JonBenét Ramsey* (Paramount); *Fargo: Season 5* (FX); *Heirlooms of the West* (Numera Films). Robyn is a graduate of both Mount Royal University's Theatre Program and Sheridan College's Musical

Theatre Performance Program. She is also a proud member of the team at Six Degrees Music and Sound, an audio house here in Calgary, working as their casting coordinator and office manager. Robyn would like to thank her dear friends, her wonderful family and her love, Connor – this one is for all of you, without whom, none of this is possible.



#### GREG PEMBER

Swing (Warner, Professor Callahan, Kyle, Nikos); Dance Captain (he/him) For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2023-24), Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville, Crazy For You; Assistant Director - Beaches the Musical. Elsewhere: Too Many Cooks, Spamalot, Young Frankenstein, Screwball Comedy, Priscilla: Queen of the Desert (Stage West). Choreographer - Something Rotten! (Betty Mitchell and Critic's Choice Awards Nominee for Best Choreography), Elf: The Musical, Beauty and the Beast, Honk! (Storybook Theatre); Brigadoon (Shaw Festival);

Newsies, The Rainmaker, The Drowsy Chaperone, Rock of Ages, Thoroughly Modern Millie, White Christmas, The Little Mermaid, Legally Blonde, Mary Poppins, The Sound of Music (Drayton Entertainment); Ghostlight (Off Broadway/Signature Theatre), Spring Awakening, Hamlet (The Roxy). Training: B.F.A. in Musical Theatre from The Boston Conservatory. Love and gratitude to Mom, Dad, Bob, and Scott for their unconditional support. yogawithgreg.com, @yoga.with.greg



#### DEAN STOCKDALE Enid

(they/them) For Theatre Calgary: Jo March in *Little Women*. Other credits include: Mustardseed and u/s for Puck, Helena, Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*: *The 70s Musical* (Citadel Theatre); Peter Pan in *Peter Pan* (Globe Theatre); Andrina, U/S for Scuttle in *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Persephone Theatre); Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet*, Feste in *Twelfth Night*, Peaseblossom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Froth, Nun in *Measure for Measure* (Freewill Shakespeare). Dean

is grateful to be a writer of music, a french-speaker, a pacifist, and an environmental activist in Treaty 6 (and sometimes Treaties 4 and 7).

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#### JOHN ULLYATT Professor Callahan

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: The Play That Goes Wrong (TC/ Citadel/RMTC), Crazy For You, Next to Normal, Disney's Beauty and the Beast, West Side Story, A Fitting Confusion. Recently, John appeared in The Three Musketeers and as Scrooge in A Christmas Carol (Citadel); Little Shop of Horrors (Arts Club/Citadel); Sexual Misconduct of the Middle Classes (Theatre Network); and performed in the Spiegeltent at K-Days with Firefly Theatre.

Other favourite credits include: *Matilda* (Royal MTC/Citadel/Arts Club); *Cabaret, The Pillowman, Rocky Horror Show,* and *Death of a Salesman* (Citadel). He has worked across the country in many theatres from The Segal Centre in Montreal to The Belfry Theatre in Victoria.



#### KELSEY VERZOTTI Elle Woods

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2024), Mary and Max A New Musical. Since graduating in 2017 from Sheridan College's Music Theatre Performance Program, Kelsey has worked in many notable theatres across the country. Select theatre credits include: Anne of Green Gables (Charlottetown Festival); Dion: A Rock Opera, The Antipodes (Coal Mine Theatre); Pollyanna (Theatre Aquarius); Bittergirl, Anne of Green Gables

(Thousand Islands Playhouse); *Kelly v. Kelly, Life After* (CanStage/ Musical Stage Co.); *Gaslight* (Vertigo Theatre); *A Christmas Carol* (Shaw Festival); *Into the Woods* (Talk is Free Theatre); *The Adventures of Pinocchio* (YPT); *Ai Yah – Sweet and Sour Secrets* (Lunchbox Theatre). Lots of love to her parents, Rainer & Kola. @kelseeyverzotti



#### CHELSEA WOODARD Vivienne

(she/they) For Theatre Calgary: Shakespeare by the Bow - Romeo & Juliet (2020). Favourite credits include: A Little Night Music, Titanic: The Musical (NUOVA Vocal Arts); The Book of Joan (Alchemy Festival); Lights Out, Venus & Adonis...and the rest of us (UCalgary); Beauty and the Beast (YES Theatre). A current Bachelor of Music student at the University of Calgary, and graduate of George Brown Theatre School, Chelsea was born

and raised in Weyburn, Saskatchewan, and now calls Calgary home. She is the current soprano section principal of the Calgary Philharmonic chorus, and when she is not performing on stage her love of nature calls her to the mountains, rivers, and badlands of Alberta. Many thanks to her family, friends, and mentors, whose guidance and support have driven her to new heights.



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#### PATRICIA ZENTILLI Paulette

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: Mamma Mia, 9 to 5, A Christmas Carol, Almost A Full Moon, Alice Through The Looking Glass, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (Citadel); Little Shop of Horrors, Urinetown (Canadian Stage); The Last 5 Years (RMTC and Theatre Network); The Gravitational Pull of Berenice Trimble (TN); Little Shop of Horrors, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, First

Date, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change (Mayfield); Closer Than Ever (Thousand Islands Playhouse/WCT); Billy Elliot, Hamlet, Rabbit Hole, Nunsense, Of Mice and Men, What The Butler Saw, Grease, The Member of the Wedding, Sincerely, A Friend (Neptune Theatre). Film/TV: see IMDB. Upcoming: Vinyl Cafe at the Citadel and The Pink Unicorn with NLT. Love to my daughter, Melody.



#### FERGUS FINNEGAN SKELLINGTON Rufus

Theatre Calgary debut. With his growing TikTok audience, he can also be seen in many of the Arts Commons Social Media reels where he always offers a laugh. Film/TV: None yet, but he says to give him time. Of Interest: Too cool for school unless you have treats (or belly rubs), then he will be your best friend. Two years old, Theatre Morale Officer, lover of tug-o-war and balls, Fergus Finnegan Skellington (born on Halloween) can be found soaking up sun or running around stages. @fergusfinnbully on both IG and TikTok.



#### MOJAVE Bruiser

For Theatre Calgary: Pepi in *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*. At 14 years old, Mojave is a seasoned pro at all things Chihuahua—burrowing under blankets, sunbathing, and being the boss. He enjoys barking at the neighborhood, performing tricks for deli ham, and wrestling with his nemesis, "Mr. Bear." Mojave dislikes the wind, oversized food, and chickens (though he enjoys chasing them). Since his 2022 stage debut, he's been

dreaming of a return to the spotlight—where he made many human friends, signed "pawtographs," and even scored radio and TV attention. Mojave is a loveable little creature who aims to brighten everyone's day—if you're lucky, he might even give you a "Super Paw" high-five after the show.



#### STEPHANIE GRAHAM Director & Choreographer

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. With over 25 years in the industry, Stephanie has become one of Canada's most sought-after Director-Choreographers. Selected credits include: Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Twelfth Night (Stratford); Matilda (TUTS); Miss Caledonia (Tweed & Co.); Chicago, Beauty and the Beast, Mamma Mia, Shrek, The Little Mermaid, All Shook Up, Mary Poppins, The Drowsy Chaperone (Globe); Mamma Mia, The Music Man, Back in '59, Anne

of Green Gables (Thousand Islands Playhouse); The Last Five Years (YRG Productions); Fun Home, Grey Gardens, The Wild Party-Dora Award (Musical Stage Company); Chariots of Fire (Grand); Cinderella - Merritt Award, Peter Pan, Addams Family (Neptune); Crazy for You (Capitol); Next to Normal (RMTC). She is a founding member of the Canadian Guild of Stage Directors and Choreographers and is the Co-Artistic Director of Theatre Making Movement. It is a dream come true to direct Legally Blonde at Theatre Calgary. Thank you for supporting live theatre. www.stephaniegraham.ca



#### RACHEL CAMERON Musical Director

Theatre Calgary debut. Quadruple threat performer and music director, Rachel hails from Winnipeg. A graduate of the University of Winnipeg, Rachel has extensive training in piano, theatre, voice and specializes in collaborative musicianship and musical theatre. Recent credits include *Groundhog Day* (YES Theatre, Canadian Premiere); *Bittergirl: The Musical* (Thousand Islands Playhouse); *Rent* (Rainbow Stage). Rachel is thrilled to be making her TC and

Citadel debut and for the chance to collaborate again with Stephanie. Special thanks always to D, T, and A. Follow Rachel on TikTok and Instagram @the\_singing\_pianist



#### BEYATA HACKBORN Set Design

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *The Play That Goes Wrong* (TC/ Citadel/RMTC). Beyata is an Edmonton-based set & costume designer currently living with a beloved household of friends and dogs. When not designing theatre back home, she splits her time between out-of-province contracts and building maquettes for other designers. She's worked extensively as an assistant & associate at the Banff Centre, Citadel, Winter Garden, Freewill Shakespeare, Canadian Stage and the Shaw Festival. Credits

include: *Heist* (Grand/Citadel); *Chris, Mrs.* (Boldly Productions); *Little Shop of Horrors* (Arts Club/Citadel); *Jersey Boys* (Citadel); *Horseplay, Metronome, Mob* (Workshop West); *Sleight of Mind* (Western Canada Theatre); *The Secret Garden, Village Wooing, Playboy of the Western World, Overruled, Bright Lights* (Shaw Festival). Beyata has an especial love for shows that embrace non-reality and the absurd, musically-driven pieces, and also has an incredibly soft spot for Sondheim. On a good day, she can juggle a bit.



#### REBECCA TOON Costume Design

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: Shakespeare by the Bow - A Midsummer Night's Dream (2019). A graduate of the University of Lethbridge, Rebecca is an award winning costume designer for film and theatre. Credits include: Heist, Misery, I'll Be Back Before Midnight (Vertigo Theatre); The Dark Lady, Brave Girl (Lunchbox); Avenue Q, Fiddler on the Roof, Chicago (Stage West). Recent film work includes: Witches X, Brother, The

Order, Gaby Time, The Last of Us, and the children television series What's the Word Season 1, 2 & 3 (Kidoodle TV) for which Rebecca was honoured with a CAFTCAD award for Excellence in Costume Design. Recently Emmy-nominated for her work as an assistant designer on *The Last of Us*, Rebecca splits her time between film and theatre. Her interest in costume history keeps her busy exploring period costuming and drafting historical costumes for her work on stage and in film.



#### RENÉE BRODE Lighting Design

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Renée has designed for companies across Canada and the US. Recent designs include: *Alcina* (Rice University); *Anne of Green Gables, Jersey Boys, Becoming Dolly* (Charlottetown Festival); *Cinderella* (TUTS, Houston); *Spamalot* (Stratford Festival); *The Music Man* (Thousand Islands Playhouse); *Swan Lake* (Alberta Ballet); *Black Super Hero Magic Mama, The Fantasticks* (Stages Repertory); *Monster* (Monster Collective);

Prince of Players (Houston Grand Opera); Farinelli and the King (Belasco Theatre, NYC) -Associate Lighting Designer. She was awarded the Houston Press Best Lighting Design for her design of The Whipping Man at Stages Repertory. She is currently the Design and Production Area Coordinator and Lighting Design Professor at the School of Drama at the University of Oklahoma. She is proud to be a founding member of IATSE ADC659.



#### JOSHUA D. REID Sound Design

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: Forgiveness, Ragtime: A Concert Performance, Million Dollar Quartet, The Louder We Get, Billy Elliot The Musical, The Secret Garden. Josh is a Canadian/American sound and systems designer, based in New York City; and has worked extensively on Broadway, Off-Broadway, Regional and International Productions, National Tours and Sound System Installations. Recent design selections include: The Preacher's Wife (Alliance

Theatre); *RENT* (Stratford Festival); *A Christmas Carol* (Broadway: w/Jefferson Mays, Tony Nomination, Outer Critics Circle Award); *A Little Night Music* (Arizona Opera); *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (National Tours); *The Color Purple* (National Tour); *Girlfriend* (TheatreWorks Hartford, CT Critics Circle Award); *Jerry Springer: The Opera* (Signature Theatre); *A Time Like This* (Carnegie Hall). Full credentials at ReidSoundDesign.com



#### JANE MACFARLANE Voice & Dialect Coach

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: Associate Director - A Christmas Carol (2023-24), Resident Voice Coach - More than 80 productions since 2000 including: Awoowaakii, Blithe Spirit, A Streetcar Named Desire, The Lehman Trilogy, Beaches the Musical, Selma Burke, Meteor Shower, The Mousetrap, 12 seasons of Shakespeare by the Bow and 18 years of A Christmas Carol (incl. playing Mrs. Cratchit - 2001-02). Additionally, Jane adapted

and directed the 2022 ShakesGo production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. She has also worked for ATP, Vertigo, and The Shakespeare Company, and coaches Voice and Presence through her business Voice Activated. She has taught Voice for the Actor and Acting at such institutions as York University, Harvard University, Southern Methodist University, MRU, UAIberta, and is currently on faculty in the Drama Division in the School of Creative & Performing Arts at UCalgary.

# **SPECIAL THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

Ian Evans; Kellie Knight; Arlyss Southin

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#### ANASTASIA ST. AMAND Intimacy Director

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: A Streetcar Named Desire (original designs by Morgan Yamada), Beaches the Musical, Selma Burke, Meteor Shower, Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville. Anastasia is a queer, certified intimacy director and coordinator, a founding member of Principal Intimacy Professionals (PIPs), and an instructor for PIP's SAG-AFTRA accredited training program. Select credits include: Mary Stuart (SAGE Theatre); Austentatious

(Forte Musical Theatre); *Silent Sky* (Fire Exit); *Girl On the Train* (Vertigo Theatre); *The Immaculate Perfection* (Body Cube Arts/High Performance Rodeo); *Hurry Hard* (Western Canada Theatre); *Brontë* (Studio Theatre UofA); *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Measure For Measure* (FreeWill Shakespeare); *Genesis: The Mary Shelley Play* (Edinburgh Fringe). Special thanks to her PIPs Pals and loved ones for their ongoing support.



#### SHELBY-JAI FLICK Stage Manager, Intimacy Captain

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2024), As You Like It. Other credits include: Bluebeard's Castle, Gianni Schicchi, Don Pasquale, Don Giovanni, The Elixir of Love, Le Nozze di Figaro, Macbeth, The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs, Carmen, La Traviata, The Merry Widow, The Yuletide Sessions, La Bohème (Calgary Opera); Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, The Nutcracker, Cinderella, La Fille mal gardée, The Sleeping Beauty, The Seagull

(National Ballet of Canada); The Two Gentlemen of Verona, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Julius Caesar, The Importance of Being Earnest, West Side Story (Stratford Festival); Mimi, Courageous, If We Were Birds (Tarragon). Select Film/TV: Unspeakable: The Murder of JonBenét Ramsay (Paramount+), My Life With The Walter Boys, The Abandons (Netflix), Heartland (CBC), Prey (Disney). Shelby-Jai also worked on both the Tokyo 2020 and Rio 2016 Olympic Games.



#### ANDREA HANDAL RIVERA Assistant Stage Manager

(she/they) Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: A Christmas Carol, Peter Pan Goes Wrong, The Garneau Block (Citadel Theatre); Stars on Her Shoulders (Workshop West); The Hooves Belonged to the Deer (In Arms Theatre Collective); The Spinsters (Small Matters Productions); I Don't Even Miss You (Tiny Bear Jaws); Boy Trouble (Amoris Projects); El Funeral (Diaspora Diaries Collective); Grand Ghosts (Grand Theatre). Andrea is a Salvadoran stage

manager based in Treaty 6 Territory and is thrilled to be making their TC debut on *Legally Blonde*! Much love to their family and friends for all their love and support.



#### KATE PALLESEN Assistant Stage Manager

For Theatre Calgary: The Secret Garden (Young Company Supervisor). Elsewhere: Bluebeard's Castle & Gianni Schicchi, Don Pasquale, Don Giovanni, Das Rheingold, L'elisir d'amore, Béatrice et Bénédict, Macbeth, La Traviata, La Bohème, The Witty Squirrel, Amahl and the Night Visitors (Calgary Opera); The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon, The Jungle Book (Alberta Theatre

Projects); Pochsy IV (Keep Frozen); STRUCK (Ghost River Theatre); bliss: the birthday party play (Verb Theatre); Ghost Opera (Old Trout Puppet Workshop/Calgary Opera); The Thin Man, The Drowning Girls (Vertigo Theatre). Since graduating from the University of Lethbridge in 2017, Kate has stage managed for operas, plays, and live events throughout Alberta, as well as touring across Canada as the stage manager for bliss to Victoria's Uno Fest and Ottawa's National Arts Centre.



#### SERENA LEMIRE Apprentice Stage Manager

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: A Christmas Carol (2024). Serena is an apprentice stage manager based out of Calgary, and is thrilled to be back for Legally Blonde! She graduated from the University of Lethbridge in 2022 to pursue a career in stage management, and is a lifelong learner and loves to expand her knowledge of theatre in every project she engages in. Recent credits include: Heathers: The Musical, Elf: The Musical (Storybook Theatre); Yabber: A Junk Musical

(Mudfoot Theatre); *Tick, Tick... BOOM* (Forte Musical Theatre); *MiddleMarch* (One Yellow Rabbit); *Honour Beat* (New West). When not working in the Theatre, she's halfway across the world or playing Mario Party! Thank you, Todd and Alison, my wonderful parents, for your endless love and support. Without you, it wouldn't be possible!



#### MONICE PETER

#### TC Mentors Program\* - Directing

Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: *The Extractionist* (Vertigo); *The Legend of Georgia McBride* (Arts Club); *Prince Hamlet* - USA Tour (Why Not Theatre); *Sex, Getting Married* (Shaw Festival); *To Kill A Mockingbird, Julius Caesar, The School For Scandal, Twelfth Night, The Aeneid, Six Characters In Search Of An Author* (Stratford Festival); *The Dandelion Project* (Sage Theatre). Film/TV: *Yoga Teacher Killer* (Lifetime), *Wild Cards* (CW/CBC), *The Good Doctor* (ABC),

Bates Motel (A&E), Supernatural (CW). Monice is a writer-in-residence with Urban Ink Theatre, developing, Burnt Cork, and studying sustainability, arts, and business at UBC. In 2025, Monice, alongside HAUI<sup>™</sup>, will be in residence at Robert Wilson's Watermill Center. They are deeply grateful to be collaborating on this piece, and extend heartfelt thanks to Stephanie Graham for her continued mentorship and support.



#### ALYSSE ERNEWEIN TC Mentors Program\* - Choreography

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Alysse is a musical theatre actress as well as an emerging director and choreographer, originally from Canmore. Credits include: Oz (Meat Loaf) in We Will Rock You (North American Tour & Royal Caribbean Productions); Girls Just Wanna Have Fun (Stage West); Canada the Musical, A Christmas Carol (Carter-Ryan Productions); Hope Cladwell in Urinetown (Stephenville Theatre Festival); Carmen

Diaz in *Fame* (Madinat Theatre, Dubai); Cinderella in *Cinderella* (STF). Choreography and Directing credits include: *Twelfth Night* (CSTF/Choreographer), *Minotaur* (CSTF/ Assistant Director), *TDC Events* (Choreographer/MD). Alysse is a graduate of Randolph College and is elated to be making her Theatre Calgary debut, assisting in this iconic show. She is immensely grateful for the entire team at TC, as well as her loved ones and supporters!



#### CASSIE HOLMES TC Mentors Program\* - Lighting

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Cassie is a lighting, costume, projection and set designer based in Mohkinstsis. Select lighting credits include: *Go For Gold Audrey Pham* (Lunchbox Theatre); *Charlotte's Web* (ATP); *Buy Me a Drink, Joe* (Forte Musical Theatre); *Argonautika* (U of C SCPA). Cassie also works with the National accessArts Center as a design consultant and technical translator, working to help curb barriers in design. Recently

Cassie traveled with the NaAC dance ensemble to South Korea for the Seoul Performing Arts Festival. Cassie is also a graduate from the University of Calgary's Master of Fine Arts in Design and Technical Theatre, where her thesis primarily focused on lighting diverse skin tones. Photo Credit: Tim Nguyen. cassieholmes.ca



#### TRAVIS MCKINNON TC Mentors Program\* - Sound

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: Sound Technician - Beaches the Musical, Jimmy Buffett's Escape from Margaritaville, Million Dollar Quartet, The Louder We Get. Elsewhere: Sound Design Assistant - Benefit (Downstage); Sound Design - Legislating Love (Sage).

\* TC Mentors participants are generously supported by RBC Foundation.

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#### LAURENCE O'KEEFE

#### **Music & Lyrics**

Laurence received 2007 Tony and Drama Desk nominations for his work on *Legally Blonde*. Larry thanks all *Blonde* producers and creative team. He won the Ed Kleban Award, the ASCAP Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award and a Jonathan Larson award for his music and lyrics. Off-Broadway credits: *Bat Boy: The Musical* (Lucille Lortel, Richard Rodgers, Outer Critics' Circle awards), which has received 100+ productions worldwide; music for *Sarah, Plain and Tall*, lyrics by Nell Benjamin (touring with TheatreWorksUSA). Co-author with Nell Benjamin of *Cam Jansen* (Drama Desk nomination) and *The Mice*. Larry is a product of his education with the Harvard Krokodiloes, the Hasty Pudding Theatricals, the Harvard Lampoon and the Actors' Gang, but especially the incomparable Nell Benjamin.

#### NELL BENJAMIN

#### **Music & Lyrics**

Nell co-wrote the score to *Legally Blonde, the Musical* with composer Laurence O'Keefe, which received Tony Award nominations, Drama Desk nominations, and the Olivier and Helpmann Awards for Best Musical. Nell wrote the lyrics to *Mean Girls*, which received multiple Tony Award nominations, including for Best Original Score and Best Musical. Nell's play, *The Explorers Club*, won the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Off-Broadway Play, the Edgerton Foundation New American Plays Award, and an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant. Nell has written book and/ or lyrics for *Pirates!* (or *Gilbert and Sullivan plunder'd*), *Sarah*, *Plain and Tall*, *Cam Jansen* (Drama Desk-nominated), *I Want My Hat Back, How I Became A Pirate, The Mice, Life of the Party* and *Because of Winn Dixie*. Upcoming musicals are: *Huzzahl, Life of the Party, Dave.* Television writing includes *Unhappily Ever After*, Animal Planet's *Whaa! Sunday with Mo Rocca, Electric Company, Best Time Ever with Neil Patrick Harris, Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway, Julie's Greenroom.* Benjamin is the recipient of the Kleban Foundation Award and a Jonathan Larson Grant.

#### HEATHER HACH

#### Book

Heather received 2007 Tony and Drama Desk nominations for her work on *Legally Blonde*. Graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder, School of Journalism. Worked at The New York Times Denver Bureau as a research assistant and Sports and Fitness Publishing in Boulder, Colorado, as a magazine editor. Member of Denver's Comedy Sports improv comedy troupe. Worked on the TV shows *Caroline in the City* and *Dilbert*. Won Walt Disney Screenwriting Fellowship in 1999. Film credits include Disney's *Freaky Friday* and *What to Expect When You're Expecting*. Also wrote the young adult novel *Freaky Monday* with Mary Rodgers. Much love to friends and family, especially Jason, Harper and Drake.

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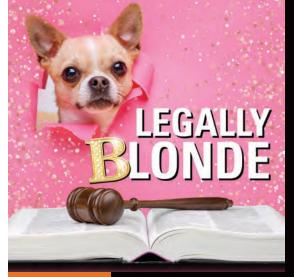
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Louise Duff, Tyrell Crews, Emily Howard, Corrine Koslo in *Blithe Spirit.* Photo by Trudie Lee