



GIANTS IN THE SKY

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND WORKS
OF STEPHEN SONDHEIM



Salem Community Center
April 21, 22, and 23



Producer
Salem Community Theater

Directors
Kelsey Eastmond
James Eastmond

Pianist
Gabe Lee

Sound Engineer
Marcus Williams

Follow Spot
Rob Eastmond

Salem Community Theater is a program of the Salem Recreation Department

ACT 1

Sunday, Sunday In The Park With George

Featured Soloist: Craig Gardner

FULL CAST

Invocation & Instructions to the Audience, The Frogs

Ammon Flint, James Eastmond

Anyone Can Whistle, Anyone Can Whistle

Kimberly Robbins

A Moment With You, Saturday Night

Marshayla Suarez, Will Wood

Take Me To The World, Evening Primrose

Avery Dall-Hilton, Kai Hansen

I Know Things Now, Into the Woods

Hannah Mildenstein

Everybody Says Don't, Anyone Can Whistle

Aaron Mildenstein

Everything's Coming Up Roses, Gypsy

Emma Black

It Takes Two, Into the Woods

Carrie Alba, Aaron Mildenstein

Green Finch & Linnett Bird, Sweeney Todd

Rosemary Johnson

Losing My Mind, Follies

Reagan Fausett

Being Alive, Company

Ammon Flint

ACT 2

Night Waltz/Remember, A Little Night Music

Michaella Mecham, Kelsey Eastmond, Rosemary Johnson, Craig Gardner, James Eastmond

Giants In The Sky, Into The Woods

Gabe Mildenstein

If Momma Was Married, Gypsy

Annalyce Chandler, Michaella Mecham

The Road You Didn't Take, Follies

Craig Gardner

Send In The Clowns, A Little Night Music

Mary Hansen

We're Gonna Be Alright, Do I Hear A Waltz?

Rachelle Hansen, Kai Hansen

Old Friends, Merrily We Roll Along

Annalyce Chandler, Gabe Mildenstein, Will Wood

The Ladies Who Lunch, Company

Carrie Alba, Emma Black, Mary Hansen, Michaella Mecham, Reagan Fausett

Somewhere, West Side Story

Katelyn Vest

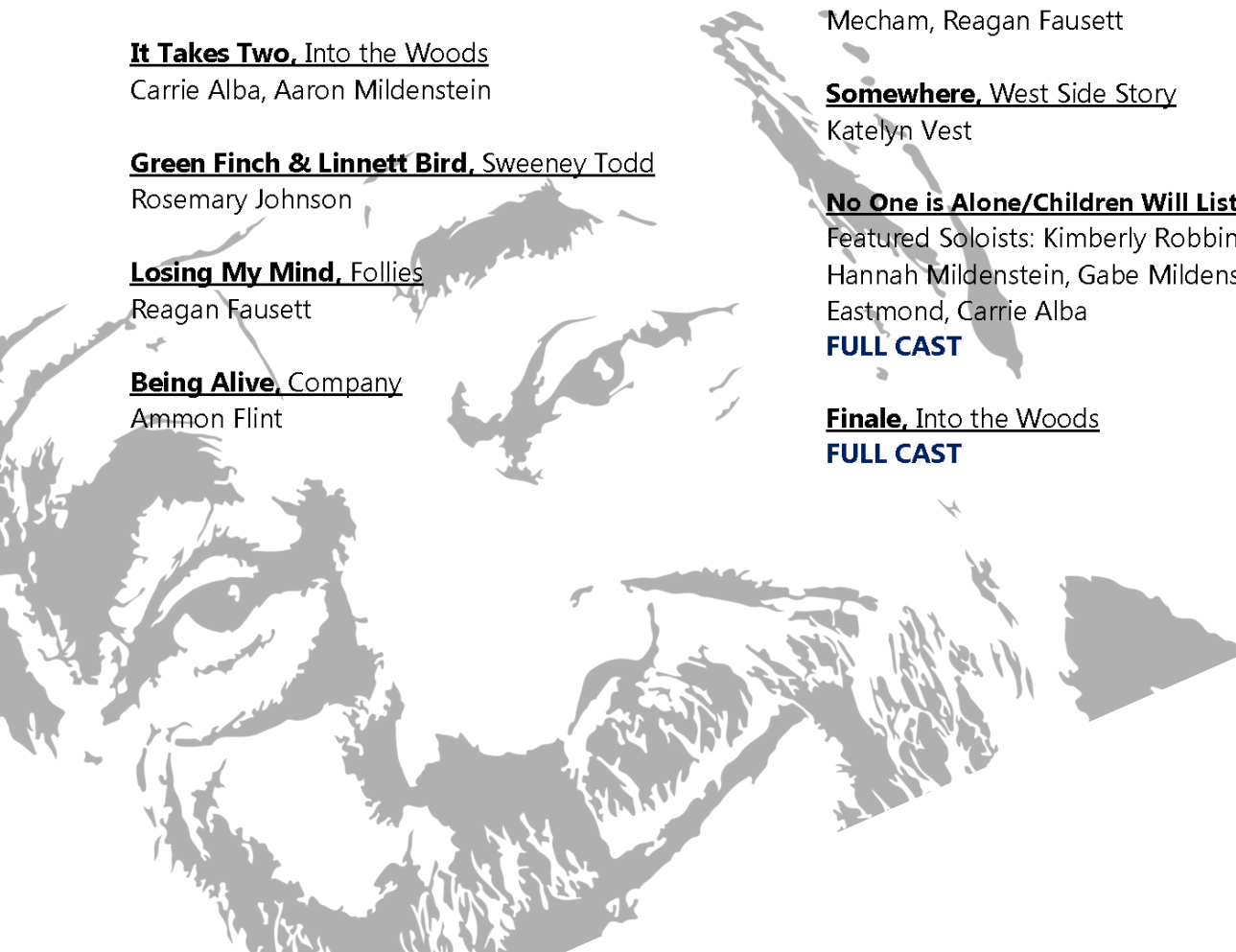
No One is Alone/Children Will Listen, Into the Woods

Featured Soloists: Kimberly Robbins, Ammon Flint, Hannah Mildenstein, Gabe Mildenstein, Kelsey Eastmond, Carrie Alba

FULL CAST

Finale, Into the Woods

FULL CAST



STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Stephen Joshua Sondheim (/sɒndhaɪm/ SOND-hyme; March 22, 1930 – November 26, 2021) was an American composer and lyricist. One of the most important figures in twentieth-century musical theater, Sondheim was credited for having "reinvented the American musical"[1] with shows that tackled "unexpected themes that range far beyond the [genre's] traditional subjects"[2] with "music and lyrics of unprecedented complexity and sophistication".[3] His shows addressed "darker, more harrowing elements of the human experience",[4] with songs often tinged with "ambivalence" about various aspects of life.[5]

Sondheim began his career by writing the lyrics for *West Side Story* (1957) and *Gypsy* (1959), before eventually devoting himself solely to writing both music and lyrics. His best-known works include *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* (1962), *Company* (1970), *Follies* (1971), *A Little Night Music* (1973), *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (1979), *Sunday in the Park with George* (1984), and *Into the Woods* (1987).

Sondheim's numerous accolades include eight Tony Awards (including a Lifetime Achievement Tony in 2008), an Academy Award, eight Grammy Awards, a Laurence Olivier Award, a Pulitzer Prize, a Kennedy Center Honor, and a Presidential Medal of Freedom.[6] He has a theater named for him both on Broadway and in the West End of London. Film adaptations of Sondheim's work include *West Side Story* (1961), *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (2007), *Into the Woods* (2014), and *West Side Story* (2021).

*This bio and all show descriptions taken from Wikipedia

WEST SIDE STORY

West Side Story is a musical conceived by Jerome Robbins with music by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and a book by Arthur Laurents. Inspired by William Shakespeare's play Romeo and Juliet, the story is set in the mid-1950s in the Upper West Side of Manhattan in New York City, then a multiracial, blue-collar neighborhood. The musical explores the rivalry between the Jets and the Sharks, two teenage street gangs of different ethnic backgrounds. The members of the Sharks, from Puerto Rico, are taunted by the Jets, a white gang.[1] The young protagonist, Tony, a former member of the Jets and best friend of the gang's leader, Riff, falls in love with Maria, the sister of Bernardo, the leader of the Sharks. The dark theme, sophisticated music, extended dance scenes, and focus on social problems marked a turning point in musical theatre.

The original 1957 Broadway production, directed and choreographed by Robbins, marked Sondheim's Broadway debut. It ran for 732 performances before going on tour. The production was nominated for six Tony Awards, including Best Musical, in 1958, winning two.[2] The show had an even longer-running West End production, a number of revivals, and international productions. A 1961 musical film adaptation, co-directed by Robert Wise and Robbins, starred Natalie Wood and Richard Beymer. The film was nominated for eleven Academy Awards and won ten, including Best Picture. A 2021 film adaptation, directed by Steven Spielberg, starred Ansel Elgort and Rachel Zegler. That film was also nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture, along with six additional nominations, winning one Oscar.



SWEENEY TODD

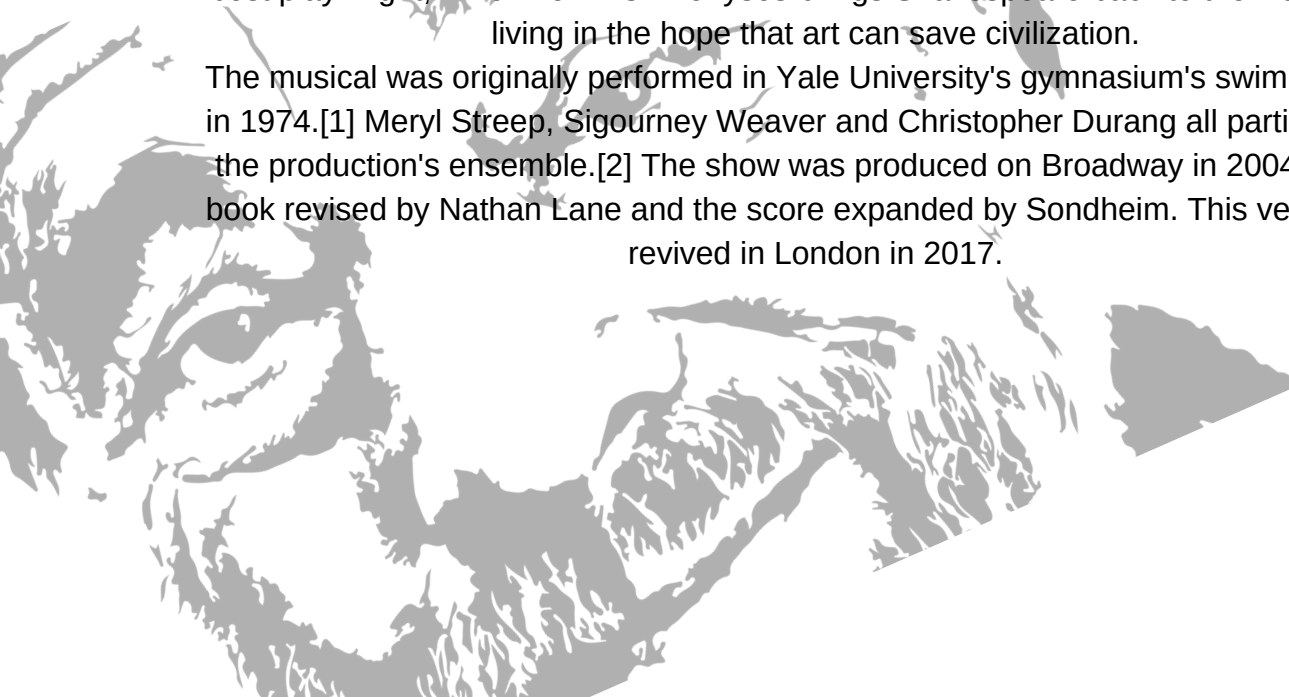
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (often referred to simply as Sweeney Todd) is a musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and a book by Hugh Wheeler. It is based on the 1973 play of the same name by Christopher Bond.

Sweeney Todd opened on Broadway in 1979 and in the West End in 1980. It won the Tony Award for Best Musical and Olivier Award for Best New Musical. It has been revived in many productions as well as inspiring a film adaptation.

THE FROGS

The Frogs is a musical "freely adapted" by Stephen Sondheim and Burt Shevelove from The Frogs, an Ancient Greek comedy by Aristophanes. In the musical, Dionysos, despairing of the quality of living dramatists, travels to Hades to bring George Bernard Shaw back from the dead. William Shakespeare competes with Shaw for the title of best playwright, which he wins. Dionysos brings Shakespeare back to the world of the living in the hope that art can save civilization.

The musical was originally performed in Yale University's gymnasium's swimming pool in 1974.[1] Meryl Streep, Sigourney Weaver and Christopher Durang all participated in the production's ensemble.[2] The show was produced on Broadway in 2004 with the book revised by Nathan Lane and the score expanded by Sondheim. This version was revived in London in 2017.



SATURDAY NIGHT

Saturday Night is a musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and a book by Julius J. Epstein and Philip G. Epstein, based on their play, Front Porch in Flatbush.

The first professional musical written by Stephen Sondheim, Saturday Night was intended to open on Broadway in 1955; however, after the sudden death of its lead producer, the show was shelved. Sondheim then went on to make his professional premiere in 1957, as the lyricist for West Side Story.

Following a student production, Saturday Night was staged at the Bridewell Theatre, London in 1997 and then in Chicago in 1999 and Off-Broadway in 2000. The musical also ran in the West End in 2009.

SUNDAY IN THE PARK WITH GEORGE

Sunday in the Park with George is a musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by James Lapine. It was inspired by the French pointillist painter Georges Seurat's painting A Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte. The plot revolves around George, a fictionalized version of Seurat, who immerses himself deeply in painting his masterpiece, and his great-grandson (also named George), a conflicted and cynical contemporary artist. The Broadway production opened in 1984. The musical won the 1985 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, two Tony Awards for design (and a nomination for Best Musical), numerous Drama Desk Awards, the 1991 Olivier Award for Best Musical and the 2007 Olivier Award for Outstanding Musical Production. It has enjoyed several major revivals, including the 2005–06 UK production first presented at the Menier Chocolate Factory, its subsequent 2008 Broadway transfer, and a 2017 Broadway revival.

MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG

Merrily We Roll Along is a 1981 American musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and a book by George Furth. It is based on the 1934 play of the same name by George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart.

Merrily premiered on Broadway on November 16, 1981, in a production directed by frequent Sondheim collaborator Hal Prince, and featuring a cast almost exclusively of teenagers and young adults. However, the show was not the success the previous Sondheim/Prince collaborations had been: after a chaotic series of preview performances, the show opened to widely negative reviews, and eventually closed after a run of 16 performances and 52 previews.

However, in the years since, the show has been extensively rewritten, and has enjoyed several notable productions, including an Off-Broadway revival in 1994, and a London premiere in 2000 that won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Musical.

GYPSY

Gypsy: A Musical Fable is a 1959 musical with music by Jule Styne, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and a book by Arthur Laurents. Gypsy is loosely based on the 1957 memoirs of striptease artist Gypsy Rose Lee, and focuses on her mother, Rose, whose name has become synonymous with "the ultimate show business mother." It follows the dreams and efforts of Rose to raise two daughters to perform onstage and casts an affectionate eye on the hardships of show business life. The character of Louise is based on Lee, and the character of June is based on Lee's sister, the actress June Havoc.

It is frequently considered one of the crowning achievements of the mid-twentieth century's conventional musical theatre art form, often called the book musical. Gypsy has been referred to as the greatest American musical by numerous critics and writers, among them Ben Brantley ("what may be the greatest of all American musicals...")[1] and Frank Rich.[2] Rich wrote that "Gypsy is nothing if not Broadway's own brassy, unlikely answer to King Lear." [3] Theater critic Clive Barnes wrote that "Gypsy is one of the best of musicals..." and described Rose as "one of the few truly complex characters in the American musical."

INTO THE WOODS

Into the Woods is a musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and a book by James Lapine.

The musical intertwines the plots of several Brothers Grimm fairy tales, exploring the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests. The main characters are taken from "Little Red Riding Hood" (spelled "Ridinghood" in the published vocal score), "Jack and the Beanstalk", "Rapunzel", and "Cinderella", as well as several others. The musical is tied together by a story involving a childless baker and his wife and their quest to begin a family (the original beginning of the Grimm Brothers' "Rapunzel"), their interaction with a witch who has placed a curse on them, and their interaction with other storybook characters during their journey.

The musical debuted in San Diego at the Old Globe Theatre in 1986 and premiered on Broadway on November 5, 1987, where it won three major Tony Awards (Best Score, Best Book, and Best Actress in a Musical for Joanna Gleason), in a year dominated by The Phantom of the Opera (1988). The musical has since been produced many times, with a 1988 US national tour, a 1990 West End production, a 1997 tenth anniversary concert, a 2002 Broadway revival, a 2010 London revival,[1] and in 2012 as part of New York City's outdoor Shakespeare in the Park series.

EVENING PRIMROSE

Evening Primrose is a musical film with a book by James Goldman and lyrics and music by Stephen Sondheim. It is based on a John Collier short story published in the 1951 collection Fancies and Goodnights.

Written originally for television, the musical focuses on a poet who takes refuge from the world by hiding out in a department store after closing. He meets a community of night people who live in the store and falls in love with a beautiful young girl named Ella. Bizarre complications arise when the leader of the group forbids their relationship.

FOLLIES

Follies is a musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and a book by James Goldman.

The story concerns a reunion in a crumbling Broadway theater, scheduled for demolition, of the past performers of the "Weismann's Follies", a musical revue (based on the Ziegfeld Follies), that played in that theater between the world wars. It focuses on two couples, Buddy and Sally Durant Plummer and Benjamin and Phyllis Rogers Stone, who are attending the reunion. Sally and Phyllis were showgirls in the Follies. Both couples are deeply unhappy with their marriages. Buddy, a traveling salesman, is having an affair with a girl on the road; Sally is still as much in love with Ben as she was years ago; and Ben is so self-absorbed that Phyllis feels emotionally abandoned. Several of the former showgirls perform their old numbers, sometimes accompanied by the ghosts of their former selves. The musical numbers in the show have been interpreted as pastiches of the styles of the leading Broadway composers of the 1920s and 1930s, and sometimes as parodies of specific songs.

The Broadway production opened on April 4, 1971, directed by Harold Prince and Michael Bennett, and with choreography by Bennett. The musical was nominated for 11 Tony Awards and won seven. The original production, the second-most costly performed on Broadway to that date,[1] ran for over 500 performances but ultimately lost its entire investment. The musical has had a number of major revivals, and several of its songs have become standards, including "Broadway Baby", "I'm Still Here", "Too Many Mornings", "Could I Leave You?", and "Losing My Mind".

DO I HEAR A WALTZ?

Do I Hear a Waltz? is a musical with a book by Arthur Laurents, music by Richard Rodgers, and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. It was adapted from Laurents' 1952 play The Time of the Cuckoo, which was the basis for the 1955 film Summertime starring Katharine Hepburn.

COMPANY

Company is a musical comedy with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by George Furth. The original 1970 production was nominated for a record-setting 14

Tony Awards, winning six. Company lacks a linear plot, depicting instead a story occurring in the mind of the central character,[1] a concept musical composed of short vignettes, presented in no particular chronological order, linked by a 35th birthday.

Company was among the first book musicals to deal with contemporary dating, marriage, and divorce. As Sondheim explained, "Broadway theater has been for many years supported by upper-middle-class people with upper-middle-class problems. These people really want to escape that world when they go to the theatre, and then here we are with Company talking about how we're going to bring it right back in their faces".

ANYONE CAN WHISTLE

Anyone Can Whistle is a musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, and a book by Arthur Laurents.

Described by theater historian Ken Mandelbaum as "a satire on conformity and the insanity of the so-called sane,"[1] the show tells a story of an economically depressed town whose corrupt mayor decides to create a fake miracle in order to attract tourists.

This draws the attention of Fay Apple, an emotionally inhibited nurse, a crowd of inmates from a local asylum called The Cookie Jar, and a doctor with secrets of his own.

Following a tryout period in Philadelphia, Anyone opened at the Majestic Theater on Broadway on April 4, 1964. The show received widely varied reviews (including negative notices from the New York Times and the New York Herald Tribune),[2] and closed after a run of 12 previews and 9 performances.[3]

In the decades since its closing, Anyone has not been produced on the scale of other Sondheim musicals; notable productions include a 1995 concert version at Carnegie Hall, a pair of stagings in London and Los Angeles in 2003 that incorporated revisions, and a 2010 concert staging for the Encores! program at New York City Center.[4] However, its score has become acclaimed as a part of Sondheim's canon, and songs such as the title tune, "Everybody Says Don't", and "There Won't Be Trumpets" have been widely performed.

The show marked the stage musical debut of Angela Lansbury.

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC

A Little Night Music is a musical with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by Hugh Wheeler. Inspired by the 1955 Ingmar Bergman film *Smiles of a Summer Night*, it involves the romantic lives of several couples. Its title is a literal English translation of the German name for Mozart's *Serenade No. 13, K. 525, Eine kleine Nachtmusik*. The musical includes the popular song "Send In the Clowns".

Since its original 1973 Broadway production, the musical has enjoyed professional productions in the West End, by opera companies, in a 2009 Broadway revival, and elsewhere, and it is a popular choice for regional groups. It was adapted for film in 1977, with Harold Prince directing and Elizabeth Taylor, Len Cariou, Lesley-Anne Down, and Diana Rigg starring.



CAST BIOS



KELSEY EASTMOND

Kelsey is excited to direct alongside her husband for Salem Community Theater. Kelsey has a passion for music and loves to perform. She loves to be on the stage and has been involved in several shows and musical revues for the past few years. She has a degree in Music Education and currently teaches Music at Freedom Prep Academy in Vineyard. She was recently accepted into BYU's Masters of Music Education program and will begin this summer! Kelsey enjoys quilting and spending time with family and friends. She has loved working with this cast and hopes you will enjoy the show!



JAMES EASTMOND



James Eastmond is thrilled to be involved in this tribute to the amazing composer, Stephen Sondheim. James is newer to musical theater, but has taken to it quickly. He's been involved in a few different shows, both as an actor and as a co-director. He believes in the power of theater to enrich the community in valuable ways, and plans to be involved in community arts for as long as possible.



CARRIE ALBA



CARRIE ALBA received a degree in Theatrical Arts from UVU. Some favorite roles include Samantha in *A Flickering* (Provo Theatre Company), Babe in *Crimes of the Heart* (SUU), and Minnie Fay in *Hello, Dolly!* (Hale Centre Theatre, WV). In addition to performing, Carrie has directed, choreographed, and is on the board for SCT. She has loved performing Sondheim's work and greatly admires his genius ability to move and change people through his art. "Children and art' - that's what it's all about."--



CAST BIOS



KATELYN VEST

Katelyn Vest is delighted to be performing in her first production as an adult. She sang in high school as part of the Maple Mountain Chamber Singers and Concert Choir. Her senior year she participated in Thoroughly Modern Millie. After graduating, she spent two seasons singing with the Mapleton Chorale. She currently spends her days raising her three young children along side her husband Dakota Vest. She hopes to share her love of music with her children as she continues to perform in the future.



WILLIAM WOOD



William Wood has been acting since he was 11 years old. Some of his favorite past roles include Mark Antony in Antony and Cleopatra, Sir Danvers Carew in Jekyll & Hyde, Wallace Kirkman in Women & Wallace, Rooster in Annie, and Joseph Pulitzer in Newsies. His best accomplishments include being chosen to perform the play Women & Wallace at the 2019 Thespian Nationals while also winning superior scores for his monologues at competition at the 2019 Thespian Nationals. Tonight, William will be singing "A Moment With You" from Saturday Night and "Old Friends" from Merrily We Roll Along. William loves working with James and Kelsey and his new friends, thanks his old friends and family for their support, and hopes you enjoy the show!



ANNALYCE CHANDLER



Annalyce Chandler is a 16-year-old singer, actress, dancer, and theater technician from Salem, Utah. She has been performing for 9 years. She has absolutely loved working with Salem Community Theater for the last two years. She would like to thank everyone who has supported her through this journey. She hopes everyone leaves tonight feeling loved, energetic, and better than when they came!



CAST BIOS



CRAIG GARDNER

Craig Gardner has performed in theater and choirs since 8 years old, in such memorable roles as Mercutio (*Romeo and Juliet*), Harold Hill (*Music Man*), Riff (*West Side Story*), Danvers Carew (*Jekyll & Hyde*), and Reuben (*Joseph*). Springville Playhouse will enjoy his performance as The Narrator in *Into the Woods* in June this Summer. He loves the theater, and is grateful to be performing these sublime Sondheim numbers in this beautiful Salem Community Theater production. Above all, Craig is grateful for the love and support of his family.



EMMA BLACK



Emma loves singing and dancing, and is glad she's been able to be part of this tribute to such an incredible man! She's been performing since the age of 9, and loves every part of it. She loves crafting and watching *The Office*. She's thankful to her super supportive family for letting her be part of yet another show.



REAGAN FAUSETT



Reagan Fausett is excited to be back performing with her hometown theater. She has always loved performing and has enjoyed being involved in it for most of her life. Some of Reagan's most memorable roles include Marian Paroo in *The Music Man*, Dolly Tate in *Annie Get Your Gun*, and Dolly Levi in *Hello Dolly* (here with Salem Community Theater). Reagan will continue to perform in her free time as she pursues a bachelor's degree in editing and publishing and a minor in linguistics at Brigham Young University. As always, she is ever grateful to her friends and family—especially her parents, Steve and Louise Fausett—who are her most avid supporters. Reagan is thrilled to share with you some of the works of Steven Sondheim and hopes you enjoy the show as much as she does!



CAST BIOS



REBECCA HORNBERGER

Rebecca's first performance was *The Music Man* at age 8 with her family in Canada. She has performed, *Stage Managed* and been involved in shows in Canada, Idaho and Utah ever since. Some of her favourites include *Ensemble for SCERA Shell's Brigadoon* and *Big River*. Rebecca's excited to be back for another Spring show with Salem Community Theatre where she last performed and *Stage Managed Singin' In The Rain*, and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*.



ROSEMARY JOHNSON

Rosemary's excited to be back with SCT to celebrate Sondheim! She was in various instrumental and vocal performing groups. She taught middle school science and is now a stay-at-home mom to a busy toddler and a four-month-old.



RACHELLE HANSEN

Rachelle is happy to be performing at Salem Community Theater again with this amazing cast. She's been in some amazing productions over the years, some her favorites being *A Family Night on Broadway* (with SCT), *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, and *Shrek the Musical*.

When she's not on stage, Rachelle loves being with her two kids, riding horses, or spending time with her husband Kai! She hopes you enjoy the show!



CAST BIOS



AMMON FLINT

Ammon is honored to be a part of this show. He would like to thank his family and friends for all of their love and support and for Kelsey and James for giving him the opportunity to perform these numbers. He would like to dedicate his performance to the late, great Stephen Sondheim. "If I cannot fly, let me sing."



KAI HANSEN

Kai is grateful that at this break in dragon season, he is able to come down from the mountains to share this musical experience with his lovely wife Rachelle, his two bairns, and the Salem community, which he so selflessly protects. As soon as the show closes, it is back to the hills, where treasure and adventure await.



AARON MILDENSTEIN

AARON MILDENSTEIN has been in music most of his life as a trumpet player and a vocalist. He is fairly new to the stage, having his first showing as Captain Braid Beard in SCERA's 2020 production of "How I Became A Pirate" alongside his youngest son, who played opposite him as Jeremy Jacob. He is delighted to be in this show together with three of his seven children, and hopes to be in more productions with SCT in the future.



CAST BIOS



AVERY DALL-HILTON

A long-time lover of Sondheim, Avery is thrilled to participate in this fabulous tribute. Avery is an avid theatre practitioner, vocal coach, and Disney enthusiast. She is particularly fond of comedy and her life ambitions include voicing a Disney princess, owning a golf kart, and becoming a certified hypnotist.



GABE MILDENSTEIN

I started musical theater in high school and I absolutely loved it and I have continued to perform and sing whenever possible. I started taking professional voice lessons when I was 12 and I learned how to sing properly and sound really good when singing. I love to share my talents and bring smiles to everyone when I perform!



HANNAH MILDENSTEIN

Hannah has been singing since she was 10 years old. Previous roles include: 'Alice' in Alice in Wonderland; 'Thing 1' in Suessical; as well as 'Ensemble' in Guys and Dolls and Freaky Friday. Hannah is currently a member of the award winning group, Acting Up at the Scera. She also recently won 1st place in Senior Division Duets at MTCA. When she is not singing and performing, Hannah enjoys photography and putting together flower arrangements. She is so excited to be a part of this production and can't wait to bring these songs to life.



CAST BIOS

KIMBERLY ROBBINS



Kimberly Robbins, Mezzo-Soprano, is a performer, private voice instructor, acting coach/director, music director, photographer and mother. Kimberly's passion for music and theater drives her life. She works to instill that love in all those she meets through her teaching, directing and performing. She has performed with several professional and community theater companies including Utah Festival Opera and Draper Philharmonic and Choral Society. Recent roles include 'Mary Mother' in Rob Gardners Lamb of God with Draper Philharmonic and Witness Music; 'Elisabeth' in King of Kings; 'Polly Baker' in Crazy for You; 'Woman 2' in Songs For A New World; and 'Millie' in Thoroughly Modern Millie. Kimberly studied Classical and CCM Voice at Utah State University under the direction of Cindy Dewey. She has performed all over the USA, Italy, England, and the Philippines. Kimberly teaches in voice all over northern Utah, from Murray to Payson. She also enjoys choreographing, directing, and music directing for high school and community theater productions.

MARSHAYLA SUAREZ



Marshayla is a newcomer to the Salem Community Theater stage! Some of her favorite roles have included a Maid in The Drowsy Chaperone and Mrs. Potts in Beauty and the Beast. She'd like to thank her husband and daughter for being the best support system a girl could ask for! Enjoy the show!

MARY HANSEN



Mary Hansen has enjoyed being part of the theater world for the past 14 years. . Whether she is helping backstage or performing on stage, she loves getting to know so many wonderful and talented people. She is grateful to her family and friends for all of their support. You are all amazing! Thank you to those who have given her opportunities to perform, you have helped her find courage to do what she loves.

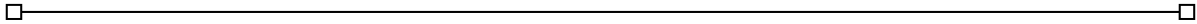


CAST BIOS



MICHAELLA MECHAM

Michaela Mecham is happy to join the Salem Community theater for the first time. Michaela grew up with a love for music and musical theater and performed in many community shows in Centerville Utah while growing up. Thought it has been a few years she is happy to start performing again some time away from the stage. Michaela was recently seen in the Payson Community Theaters Summer Nights of 2021 and happily works as an elementary school teacher and loves to sing, draw, read, and write in her spare time. She is very grateful for the chance to be on the stage and to do what she loves to do once again and for the new community she has found with the Salem theater.



DIRECTORS' NOTE

Musical theater has a unique way of expressing the spectrum of human thoughts, emotions, values, and beliefs. There's a reason that musical theater has been around as long as it has, and is as successful as it is. I only recently came to it, and since my first performance, I've found a special something in musical theater that has helped boost my confidence and has helped to not only broaden, but deepen my understanding of human thought and emotion. I'm thrilled to be codirecting this show with my wife.

Stephen Sondheim was a particular genius who brought all the not-so-pretty aspects of humankind into enthralling and entertaining stories. His music spins and weaves through his very real and sometimes heavy stories in a beautiful way. If there's one thing my wife and I hope this show can convey, it is that we are human, and that it is okay that we are. It may even be worth celebrating.

As we sing in our opening number, we humans are made of flecks of light, and dark, and parasols. We have both light and dark within us, as well as a few goofy or maybe old-fashioned things. These all work together to paint a beautiful picture of humanity.

I'm grateful for Stephen Sondheim's amazing contributions to the world of musical theater and the arts. We're excited to present this tribute to him, and all he did.



SPECIAL THANKS

Executive Team: Sierra Wisnom, Carmen Williams, Marcus Williams, Jed Patrick, Carrie Alba, Diane Jensen, Margie Jex, Scott Thompson

The Salem Recreation Department

Mt Loafer Elementary School

Salem Elementary School

Gas N' Go

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DONATIONS

Salem Community Theater is self-funded beyond the use of city resources and facilities. All ticket and concession sales are used to fund future productions. Actors, directors, and production staff are all volunteers.

Please talk to a member of the executive team if you are interested in donating to the theater or would like to be involved or volunteer. We always need help with our summer production in tech, concessions, costumes, etc.

Contact us at salemcommunitytheater@gmail.com or see a member of the executive team after the show.

We appreciate your support!



**Salem
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Theater
presents**

The Wizard of Oz

AUDITIONS!
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www.salemcommunitytheater.org

Show Dates July 22-30th
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By L. Frank Baum With Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and E. Y. Harburg Background Music by Herbert Stothart
Dance and Vocal Arrangements by Peter Howard Orchestration by Larry Wilcox Adapted by John Kane for the Royal Shakespeare Company
Based upon the Classic Motion Picture owned by Turner Entertainment Co. and distributed in all media by Warner Bros.

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