

theatre **FUN**
HOME

BASED ON THE GRAPHIC NOVEL BY ALISON BECHDEL
MUSIC BY JEANINE TESORI BOOK AND LYRICS BY LISA KRON

MAY 14-23, 2026



DIRECTED BY: TJ ROSA
MUSICAL DIRECTION BY: CALEB BENNER AND JOSH DEJARLAIS



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A NOTE FROM THE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to Civic Theatre's 2025–2026 Season: **Elevate**.

Each season, we aim to tell stories that move, inspire, and reflect the world around us; and this year, we are reaching even higher. With Elevate, we explore what it means to lift each other up through powerful storytelling, shared laughter, meaningful connection, and the transformative magic of live theatre.

This season is about more than just entertainment, it's about hope, growth, and imagination. Our lineup is filled with plays and musicals that challenge us to rise above, lean in, dream bigger, and believe in something greater. Some shows will take you to new heights emotionally; others will make your spirit soar with joy and laughter. In a time when it's easy to feel overwhelmed or disconnected, theatre reminds us of our shared humanity.

Behind every production is a passionate team of artists, volunteers, educators, and supporters who make this work possible. We are so proud of the many ways Civic Theatre brings people together on stage, behind the scenes, and in the audience and gives us space to feel, think, and grow. Whether you're joining us for your first performance or your hundredth, your presence helps elevate our mission and fuels everything we do.

Thank you for believing in the power of local theatre. Thank you for showing up for the artists, for the community, and for yourself. We can't wait to share this season with you and continue to elevate your theatre experience!

Raquel Lopez
Producing Artistic Director

2025-2026 General Information:

The Bob Sauers Box Office: Opens one-hour prior to every performance in our theater lobby. Tickets are always available online at www.lafayettecivic.org

MainStage Single Ticket Prices:

- Adults (19-64) \$24 plays/\$26 musicals
- Seniors (65 & over) \$21 plays/\$23 musicals
- Active Military/Veterans (with valid id) \$21 plays/\$23 musicals
- Youth (18 & under) \$15 plays/\$17 musicals
- College Student Rush \$12 plays/\$14 musicals (with valid college id; 15 mins prior to curtain; pending availability)

Civic Youth Theatre Single Ticket Prices:

- \$14 plays/\$16 musicals (2 yrs and up/under 2 yrs must be on lap)

Patrons with Physical Limitations or Disabilities: Accommodations are available for patrons with restricted mobility, wheelchairs, or with hearing limitations. Personal hearing assistance is available upon request at the box office counter.

Late Seating Policy: Civic Theatre does not allow late seating. Performances begin promptly at scheduled times. Please be in your seat prior to curtain. Latecomers will not be allowed in the theater until intermission (when applicable). Viewing will be available via tv monitor in our lobby. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Lobby Bar & Concessions: Lobby Bar opens one-hour prior to curtain for every performance. Food and drink purchased at our lobby bar are allowed in the theater. No outside food or drink allowed. Please dispose of trash in our convenient lobby receptacles.

Smoking: Smoking or vaping is strictly prohibited inside the Monon Depot Theatre and within 8 feet of outside entrances.

Right to Refuse Service: Civic Staff and House Management have the right to refuse service to audience members for any reason without issuing refunds.


Electronic & Communication Devices: Absolutely no cell phone activity during performances. Photographs and recordings are strictly prohibited. Turn off all sound making devices prior to curtain. Violators of this policy will be asked to leave and will not be refunded.

Parking: Civic Theatre offers complimentary parking behind our theater. Handicapped parking is clearly marked, and violators will be towed at the owner's expense. Additional parking is available off-street. Civic Theatre is not responsible for any lost or stolen property from vehicles while parked on our premises.



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Sept 4, 2025
THE OUTPOST



The Hobbit
Jan 16, 2026
HOLIDAY INN LAFAYETTE-CITY CENTRE CATERING



FUN HOME
May 14, 2026
HOLIDAY INN-LAFAYETTE-CITY CENTRE CATERING



Beetlejuice Jr.
Oct 10, 2025
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The Revolutionists
Feb 12, 2026
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SWEET REVOLUTION



Young Frankenstein
The Musical
Nov 13, 2025
ROGER STEWART
HOLIDAY INN LAFAYETTE-CITY CENTRE CATERING



Disney Jungle Book KIDS
March 13, 2026
HOLIDAY INN-LAFAYETTE -CITY CENTRE CATERING



A Christmas Carol
The Live Radio Play
Dec 11, 2025
THE OUTPOST
THE VEGAN CHEESE LADY



Birthday Candles
April 9, 2026
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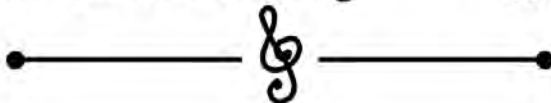
October 6, 1964 - July 12, 2025

It is with heavy hearts that we remember the life and legacy of Lisa Tally - a radiant soul, a gifted musician, and a tireless champion of creativity and compassion.

In the Spirit of all she gave, Civic Theatre is honored to announce The Lisa Tally Musicians Fund - a lasting tribute to her generosity and many talents.

For the first time, Civic Theatre will be able to support its musicians financially.

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All concerts are at the Columbian Park Amphitheater unless noted. **FREE!**

May 25-Memorial Day-7:30 pm

May 28-High School-7:30 pm

June 4-7:30 pm

June 11-7:30 pm

June 18-7:30 pm

June 25-7:30 pm



July 4-Stars & Stripes-8:00 pm

*At Riehle Plaza

July 9-7:30 pm

July 16-7:30 pm

July 23-7:30 pm

July 30-7:30 pm

Sept 7-Labor Day-7:00 pm

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To the cast and crew of
FUN HOME
from your Sponsor



Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette

Proudly presents

FUN HOME

Music by:
Jeanine Tesori

Book and Lyrics by:
Lisa Kron

Based on the Graphic Novel by:
Alison Bechdel

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Director – TJ Rosa

Musical Directors – Caleb Benner & Josh DeJarlais

Assistant Director – Liam Kelley

Stage Manager – Em Miller

Asst. Stage Manager & Lightboard Operator – Rachel Young

Costume Designer – Alexandria Shinkan

Lighting Designer – Rivers R. Blue

Sound Designer & Soundboard Operator – John O’Malley

Intimacy Director – Raquel Lopez

Props Master – Laurie Russell

Costume and Props Assistant – Alli Chaney

Backstage Crew – Aidan Freeman & Daniel Condreay

Set Designer – Sadie Alge

Lead Builder – Craig Campbell

Set Construction – Jacob Danek, Christy Carr, Dan Rayman, Rick Hensley, Caleb Immel & Tom Gall

Set Painters – Craig Campbell, Christy Carr, James Immel, John D. Collier, Lisa Heinold, Janet Dietz & Theo Burke

Scenic Artist – Caleb Immel

Fun Home featured artwork by Sarah Ruh, Artist-in-Residence

Originally Produced on Broadway by

Fox Theatricals Barbara Whitman

Carole Shorenstein Hays

*Tom Casserly Paula Marie Black Latitude Link Terry Schnuck/Jane Lane The Forstalls
Nathan Vernon Mint Theatricals Elizabeth Armstrong Jam Theatricals Delman Whitney
and Kristin Caskey and Mike Isaacson*

*The world premiere production of FUN HOME was produced by The Public Theater
Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director Patrick Willingham, Executive Director*

CAST

ALISON	Correna Vellner
MEDIUM ALISON.....	Carly Smith
SMALL ALISON.....	Reese Smith
BRUCE BECHDEL.....	Martin Fernandez
HELEN BECHDEL	Kate Martin
CHRISTIAN BECHDEL	Grady Gorski
JOHN BECHDEL.....	Liam Hensley
ROY/MARK/PETE/BOBBY JEREMY	Anthony Williams
JOAN.....	Parker Smith

THE BAND

BASS.....	Caleb Benner
PIANO.....	Vivienne Yang
VIOLIN	Akirin Au
CELLO.....	Abby Eddy
PERCUSSION.....	Gage Gregory
CLARINET.....	Kate Wright
GUITAR	Colin Campbell

THERE WILL BE NO INTERMISSION

SPECIAL THANKS to Brooke Sauter, Julie Baumann, Patrick Day of Day and Genda Funeral Home in Frankfort, Purdue Musical Organization, Purdue Bands & Orchestras, Trey Gorden, Renee Cason, Trinity United Methodist Church, Devin DeBoth & Jordan Gooch

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

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

What can be said about a show so honest and so beautiful as Alison Bechdel's *Fun Home*? There is a unique honor in portraying real people and their real stories. Alison guides us through the difficulty of loving and developing empathy for and seeking connection with people who are messy and awkward and flawed even when they have hurt us or disappointed us or left us feeling alone. These characters, and this show, are full of hope and joy and desire and regret and all of that which makes us human. What we have on stage is due to the masterful craft of Lisa Kron, Jeanine Tesori, and Alison Bechdel. If you are moved by this story, please do yourself a favor and pick up the graphic memoir of the same name along with other works by Alison Bechdel—she is a genius.

The true joy of bringing this story to life, for me, has been the team that made it happen. I've had the honor of working with absolute legends (and dear friends) Martin Fernandez and Kate Martin for many years, and while they always delight and amaze me, they have each brought something incredibly special and powerful to their roles in this show. The curiosity, the depth, the nuance that Kate brings to the role of Helen is indescribable. Martin's portrayal of Bruce has been unlike anything I've had the pleasure of seeing from him, and witnessing his dive into this character has been inspiring to say the least. You may have seen newer players such as Carly, Parker, and Reese Smith (no, not related) and Grady Gorsky and Liam Hensley in a few recent productions at the theater. Their star power and work ethic is unmatched. The chemistry and energy they bring to the stage keep our production alive. Brand new to our stage are Ant Williams and Correna Vellner. Ant is dazzling and magnetic—you'll see for yourself what a privilege it is to have him on our stage. Correna embodies the role of Alison Bechdel with such respect, dedication, and connection that you can't help follow wherever she leads you. Her presence and her craft knit our story together beautifully. I couldn't have asked for a better production team at my side throughout this process. I am forever grateful for Liam Kelley's vision, Em Miller's organization, Rachel Young's attention to detail, Caleb Benner's perfectionistic ear, and Josh DeJarlais's teaching skills. I could gush for hours about the power of this theater in this town to bring people together, newcomers and veterans alike, and build community.

I have had the privilege of sitting in a room with these people and watching them work their magic for the past two months. There are very few things I love more than witnessing the immense talent of my friends, and I am overjoyed that you get that opportunity now, too. Thank you for being here and supporting local theatre.

TJ Rosa
Director

Who's Who in the CAST!



CORRENA VELLNER (Alison) is thrilled to make her Civic Theatre debut. No stranger to the stage, her recent credits include **The Wedding Singer** (Grandma Rosie), **Big Fish** (The Witch), and **Puffs** (Harry). She also directs youth productions at The Vanity Theater, including **The Little Mermaid** and **Matilda**, where she loves helping young performers grow. Outside of theater, Correna works as a school counselor and enjoys life with her wife, Laurie, and their two children. She thanks Laurie for her constant love and support, the director, cast and the crew. Correna dedicates all theatrical work to the late Richard L. Trueblood.



CARLY SMITH (Medium Alison) is 'changing her major' to incredibly grateful to return to the Civic stage. She previously appeared in **Urinetown: The Musical** and has assisted backstage for many other productions. Carly is a recent graduate of Purdue University with degrees in Educational Studies and Anthropology and an alumnus of Purdue Musical Organization's University Choir. Outside of Civic, you can find Carly working in Purdue's College of Liberal Arts, singing with the Lafayette Master Chorale, and spending time with her cats, Sebastian and Viola. She'd like to thank TJ for entrusting her with this role, Em and Micah for encouraging her to audition, and her family for always supporting her passion for the stage.



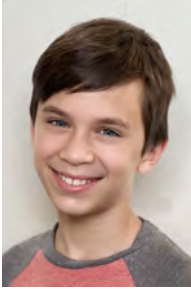
REESE SMITH (Small Alison) is ecstatic to be back on stage in her 6th production here at Civic Theatre, surrounded by her favorite people! Some of her past shows include **Disney's Descendants** (Evie) at Summer Stock Stage, **School of Rock** (Tomika) and **Godspell Jr** (soloist) here at Civic Theatre. She wants to thank her parents, for always supporting her theatre dreams and Katie Martin, Rachel Wallace, and Julie Baumann for helping her prepare for this role. Lastly, a huge thank you to TJ and all the incredible cast and crew she's been working side by side with in this production. She credits looking forward to rehearsals to get her through the school day!



MARTIN FERNANDEZ (Bruce Bechdel) is grateful for the opportunity to bring Bruce to life in **Fun Home**. A high school English teacher for the last 33 years, 26 at Jefferson High School (you're right - he doesn't look that old), Martin has been in previous Civic productions of **Young Frankenstein**, **Urinetown: The Musical**, and **The Prom**. He is also a member of the One Size Fits All comedy improv troupe (which performs here at Civic - check the website for dates). He thanks all of his friends who have supported his dreams of performing. Thank YOU for being here and supporting local theater!



KATE MARTIN (Helen Bechdel) is honored to return to the Monon Depot stage in the role of Helen Bechdel in *Fun Home*. Past Civic Theatre acting credits include *Urinetown: The Musical* (Penelope Pennywise), *Clue* (Mrs. Peacock), *9 to 5: The Musical* (Violet), *Lucky Stiff* (Rita), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Magenta), and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Rona). Directing credits include *The Holiday Cabaret*, *Time Stands Still*, *The Children's Hour*, *In the Next Room*, and *John Lennon and Me*. She cannot thank everyone involved in the making of this production enough. Stepping into Helen's shoes has been a true gift. As always, she thanks her parents for their love and support. Enjoy the show - hope you brought tissues!



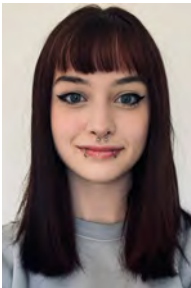
GRADY GORSKI (Christian Bechdel) is a 6th grader and is honored to be given the opportunity to be part of this talented cast! You may have seen Grady earlier this season in Disney's *The Jungle Book Kids* (Mowgli), or in *A Christmas Carol Radio Play* (Peter Cratchit/Boy in Street). What he loves most about Civic Theatre is all the awesome people he has met and new friends he has made! Outside of theater, Grady enjoys spending time with friends and family, building with Lego, and climbing trees. He would like to thank TJ and the whole cast and crew for making this such a great experience. He would also like to thank his family for their encouragement and support.



LIAM HENSLEY (John Bechdel) is thrilled to once again be back on the Civic stage. He has previously been in Disney's *The Jungle Book Kids* (Jungle Thistle), *Seussical the Musical Jr.* (Horton the Elephant) and *School of Rock* (Billy Sanford.) Liam would like to thank the cast and the crew for making such a kind and supportive environment, as well as his family and friends for everything they do to make his dreams a reality. Liam would like to encourage everyone to love themselves for exactly who they are, no matter what. He hopes you enjoy the show!



ANTHONY WILLIAMS (Roy/Mark/Pete/Bobby Jeremy) is thrilled to be part of his first Civic Theatre production with *Fun Home*. He currently directs at Harrison High School, where he is passionate about mentoring young artists and fostering meaningful storytelling. Being part of *Fun Home* is especially significant to him, as it uplifts voices often underrepresented in theatre, and he feels honored to contribute to such an honest piece. Anthony thanks the incredible people involved in this production, and gives a special thank you to his mom for always encouraging him to hold space for what he is passionate about. His favorite song in the show is "Days."



PARKER SMITH (Joan) is thrilled to be a part of her second Civic Main Stage production, *Fun Home*. She has played roles such as *Into the Woods* (Witch), *The SpongeBob Musical* (Karen the Computer), *Arsenic & Old Lace* (Elaine Harper), and others. She's loved seeing everyone bring these characters to life throughout the rehearsal process. She would like to thank the cast and crew for making each and every performance something to be proud of!

Who's Who in the BAND!

VIVIENNE YANG (Piano) comes from a classical background and is excited to make her community theater debut in the pit orchestra. Originally from Longmeadow, Massachusetts, she began competitive piano at a young age, performing solo at Carnegie Hall from ages 11–13 and winning the Springfield Symphony Youth Orchestra Concerto Competition in 2018. She currently plays in a piano quartet through Purdue University's Chamber Music program. She thanks her partner, John, and their cat, Ducky, for their constant love and support, and Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette for the opportunity to be part of this meaningful production.

AKIRIN AU (Violin) is excited to return to playing in a pit orchestra. Throughout their 14-year music career, Akirin has played violin for several musicals and operas, including **Sweeney Todd**, **Fiddler on the Roof**, **Die Fledermaus**, and **Noye's Fludde**. Currently, they are a part of the Sandra Yover Haas String Quartet which embodies the spirit of outreach for all of Purdue Bands and Orchestras, playing for events such as the President's Council Annual Meeting and the Boilermaker Ball. Akirin thanks everyone who made this production of *Fun Home* possible and for uplifting LGBTQ stories and voices.

ABBY EDDY (Cello) is pleased to make her debut with Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette in *Fun Home!* Originally from Springfield, Illinois, Abby has played in the pit orchestra for more than 15 musicals, including **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee** and **Spring Awakening** with Purdue Theatre. Abby thanks her husband, Nick, for his continued support of "cello fun," and a shoutout to Dani and Oscar for being the best little labradoodle audience when she practices the cello.

GAGE GREGORY (Percussion) is a long-time drummer and Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette band member. He has been the heartbeat of the band for many of its beloved musicals including **School of Rock**, **Urinetown: The Musical**, **9 to 5: The Musical**, and **Lucky Stiff**. He is always excited to work with such talented artists and looks forward to many more Civic performances to come!

KATE WRIGHT (Clarinet) is excited to be a part of this production of *Fun Home*, her first professional pit experience. She has taught clarinet and piano independently in the Lafayette area for the past 13 years and has been an active member of the Lafayette Citizens Band, the Star City Wind Quintet and has played clarinet for numerous musicals over the years. Kate thanks her husband for his support in her musical career and all who are involved in this production for their talent and dedication.

COLIN CAMPBELL (Guitar) has been playing in bands since high school and is involved in the jazz program with Purdue Bands and Orchestras. Colin also enjoys mixing and recording various bands and performances both live and in the studio. Colin would like to thank his roommate on campus for letting him practice in the dorm so much while going as late as possible on weeknights.

Who's Who in the CREW!

TJ ROSA (Director) is honored to be bringing this musical to life with such talented, dedicated, lovely people. Some of TJ's past directing credits include *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Matilda Jr.*, and *Almost, Maine*. You may have also seen her on stage in *The Prom* (Emma) or *Into the Woods* (Little Red), or stage managing any Laurie Russell show. TJ would like to thank her family and friends, her stellar production team, her girlfriend, Devin, and her cat, Jinx.

CALEB BENNER (Music Director/Bass) is proud to be making his first foray into directing alongside a talented band for this production of *Fun Home*. Previously, he played bass for Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette's productions of *Urinetown: The Musical*, *School of Rock*, *The Prom*, and *9 to 5: The Musical*. He has also played upright bass for Lafayette's Big Swing Band for the past 14 years. Caleb thanks his lovely partner Caitlin for her immeasurable and unwavering strength, support, and encouragement throughout this production. He is also deeply grateful to the band, cast and crew for their time and dedication to excellence.

JOSHUA DEJARLAIS (Vocal Director) is pumped to be vocal directing his first show at Civic Theatre! He has acted in other Civic productions such as *Urinetown: The Musical* and *Young Frankenstein*. Josh is the Choir and Drama director at Benton Central Jr. Sr. High School, where he has directed productions of *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Almost, Maine*, *Into the Woods*, *Little Women*, and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. He would like to thank TJ for asking him to be part of this amazing project, Caleb for his collaboration, and Daniel for being his raincoat of love.

LIAM KELLEY (Assistant Director) is proud to be on the team for Civic Theatre's production of *Fun Home*!! He's helped out around Civic Theatre before, having Backstage Managed both *Clue* and *School of Rock* as well as Assistant Directed *Almost, Maine*. He enjoys teaching classes and performing onstage here at Civic as well. He would like to thank his friends and family for their love and support as well as the cast, crew, and TJ for a wonderful time bringing this show to life!

EM MILLER (Stage Manager) is truly honored to be part of the Dream Team. Before *Fun Home*, you might've seen Em on stage as Little Becky Two Shoes in *Urinetown: The Musical*, but most of the time you can find them in the booth, backstage, or behind the bar. Other recent credits include stage manager for *A Christmas Carol: The Live Radio Play*, director for *The Amazing Maurice* and *His Educated Rodents*, and stage manager for *Clue*. They would like to thank the cast, crew, and production team for their hard work and incredible talent. Also, big ups to Ed for making time to hang during mutual business and exhaustion.

RACHEL YOUNG (Assistant Stage Manager & Lightboard Operator) is thrilled to take on a new role with this amazing show! This season she has been seen on the Lafayette Civic stage in *The Revolutionists* (Marie Antoinette) and *Young Frankenstein* (Frau Blucher), but this is her first time working behind the scenes. She wants to say thanks to her wonderful family for allowing her to spend her evenings away doing what she loves, to Em for showing her the stage-managing ropes and to the rest of the cast and crew for working so hard to tell this story and share it with all of you!

JOHN O'MALLEY (Senior Sound Designer/Engineer) is a videographer, musician, recording engineer, writer, and former radio disc jockey. John also hosts "**The Civic Theatre Show**," Civic's official podcast. He loves working with our Civic family, staging simple shows with a few sound effects to complex musicals with dozens of actors and a live band. John's recent credits include **Birthdays Candles**, **The Revolutionists**, **A Christmas Carol: the Live Radio Play**, **Beetlejuice Jr.**, and **Steel Magnolias**.

RIVERS R BLUE (Lighting Designer) is very excited to get to light design at Civic once again! Having previously worked as the LD for **Almost, Maine** last season, they are ecstatic to be back! A sophomore at Purdue, Rivers has been involved in their theatre department over the past year, performing in shows like **The Snow** and **Our Town**, but also getting the opportunity to work backstage, including her most recent lighting credit, as the Assistant Lighting Designer for **Galinthias!** They would like to thank the Civic community for always being a welcoming environment, and to her mom for always giving her support.

ALLI CHANEY (Costume & Props Assistant) is excited to be working on her second main stage show. She recently costumed for Civic's youth production of **Disney's The Jungle Book Kids!** After a decade of making costumes for her own personal cosplay pursuits, she is excited for the opportunity to make costumes and props for others here at Civic. Alli enjoys utilizing various skills to make her creations such as foamsmithing, sewing, 3D modeling & printing, laser cutting, leatherworking, and more. Enjoy the show!

AIDAN FREEMAN (Backstage Crew) is delighted to be supporting the production of **Fun Home** at Civic Theatre. Aidan was bitten by the theater bug after participating in Lafayette Civic Theatre's 2025 Short Play Festival and is thrilled to continue supporting productions in the future. When not on stage, he works as a writer for Purdue University. He enjoys TTRPGs, engaging in freelance voiceover work, and playing piano. He would like to extend his thanks to the director, cast, and crew for an incredible experience, as well as friends and family for their continued support. He hopes you enjoy the show!

DANIEL CONDREAY (Backstage Crew) is excited to return to Civic Theatre! Daniel graduated from Purdue in 2025 with a Bachelor's in psychological sciences and enjoys playing with his cats in his spare time. Previous shows he has been in include **Young Frankenstein** (Ziggy), **The Play That Goes Wrong** (Max), **Urinetown: The Musical** (Billy Boy Bill), **The Prom** (Dance Captain/Teen Ensemble), **Clue** (Mr. Green), and **Holiday Cabaret**. Daniel would like to thank TJ, Em, Liam, Rachel, Caleb, the cast for making this show a fantastic experience, and his amazing and loving fiancé Josh for always being there for him.

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Benji Braswell- Director of Education & Outreach

Christy Carr- Director of Operations

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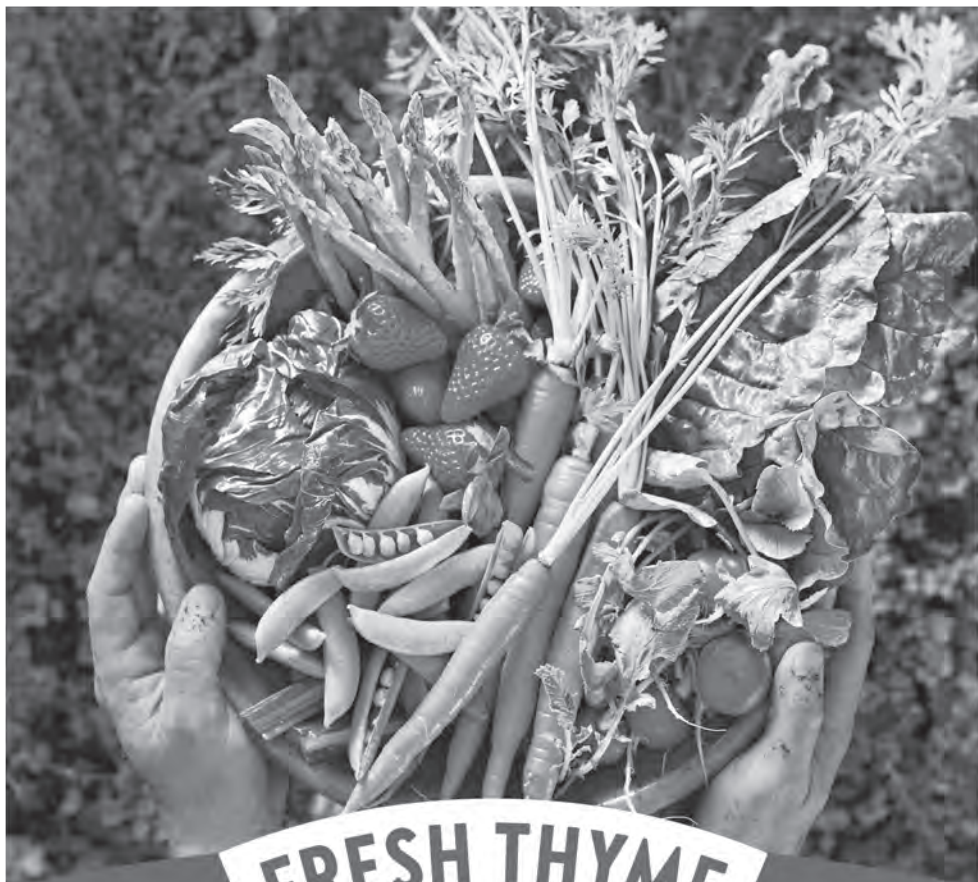


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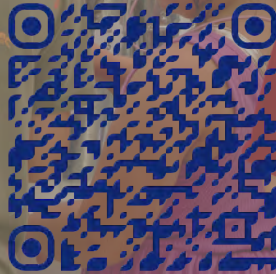
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OSCAR WILDE

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