history theatre

Nov 21 – Dec 20, 2026

BEYOND THE RAINBOW



A HISTORY THEATRE CLASSIC *REIMAGINED*

By William Randall Beard

With Musical Arrangements by David Lohman

Directed by Laura Leffler

history theatre

Artistic Director
LAURA LEFFLER

Executive Director
ROB THOMAS

PRESENTS

BEYOND THE RAINBOW

Written by WILLIAM RANDALL BEARD

Musical Arrangements by David Lohman
Created in collaboration with Ron Peluso
Song Licensing by Raymond Berg's Music Works
Commissioned, developed and originally produced
by History Theatre, Ron Peluso, Artistic Director

Directed by Laura Leffler^
Music Directed by Wesley Frye•
Choreographed by Jaclyn McDonald

SET DESIGNER
Eli Sherlock#

COSTUME DESIGNER
Bryce Turgeon

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Grant E. Merges

SOUND DESIGNER
C Andrew Mayer#

PROPS DESIGNER
Kirby Moore

WIG DESIGNER
Emma Gustafson

INTIMACY & FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER
Annie Enneking

STAGE MANAGEMENT

STAGE MANAGER
Lyndsey R. Harter*

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
Emerson Stenbeck

Minnesota State Arts Board
Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Actors' Equity Association 1913
National New Play Network
SDC The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.

* Appearing through an agreement between History Theatre and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States
^ Member, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, Inc.
# Member, United Scenic Artists Local #829
• Member, Twin Cities Musicians Union Local 30-73, American Federation of Musicians
U Understudy

THE CAST



Erin Capello
Garland



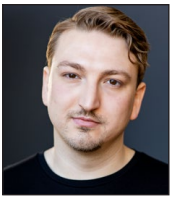
Chance Carroll
Louis B. Mayer, Sid Luft, ensemble



Elena Glass*
Judy

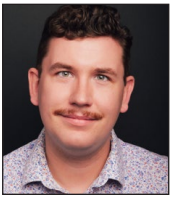


Norah Long*
Ethel Gumm, Kay Thompson, ensemble



Kyle Weiler*
Frank Gumm, Vincente Minelli, ensemble

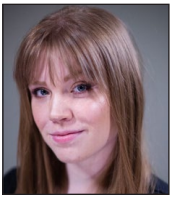
THE MUSICIANS



Wesley Frye•
Music Director/ Piano



Steve Grisdale•
Percussion



Jenessa Iverson•
Upright Bass



Jenny Slivinski•
Reeds

THE UNDERSTUDIES



Anna Beth Baker*
Judy



Jen Burleigh-Bentz*
Garland, Ethel Gumm, Kay Thompson, ensemble



Danny McHugh*
Frank Gumm, Vincente Minelli, ensemble



Carl Swanson*
Louis B. Mayer, Sid Luft, ensemble

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION
Austin Stiers

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Gunther Gullickson

SCENIC SUPERVISOR
John Lutz

CARPENTERS
Phong Mai, Tyler Nordberg, Luke Ostercamp, Evan Sima

SCENIC CHARGE
Erika Soukup

COSTUME SUPERVISOR AND WARDROBE CREW
Meghan Kent

STITCHER
Vicki French

WIG TECHNICIAN
Bo Rainford

ELECTRICS SUPERVISOR AND BOARD OPERATOR
Nick Walberg

STAGE ELECTRICIANS
Chase Foster Adams, Ariel Bodnar-Klein, Patricia Brown, Joseph Chambers, Alan Donahue, Nick Fetting, Lee Johnson, B Kelly, Edward Lucas, Griffin Moore, Sadie Schuft, Patrick Wilson, Kai Yamanishi

RUN CREW
Alan Donahue, Charlene Holm, Elijah Virgil Hughes

OPEN CAPTIONER
Shelia Bland

AUDIO DESCRIBER
Elana Centor

ASL INTERPRETERS
Renee Torstenson, Krystal Riordan

AUDIENCE EXPERIENCE STAFF
Nina Aguilera, Sarah Berman-Young, Lu Chen, Tess Detwiler, Monique Franson, Rafa Moraga, Kayla Park, Emily Turnquist, Taylor Schulz, John Schwab, Melissa Wing

SONG LIST

ACT ONE

Overture

When You're Smiling ..... Garland
(The Whole World Smiles With You)
written by Mark Fisher, Joe Goodwin & Larry Shay
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Judy ..... Judy
written by Hoagy Carmichael & Samuel Lerner
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Born in a Trunk ..... Garland & Judy
written by Leonard Gershe
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I Can't Give You Anything But Love ..... Garland, Judy & Frank
written by Dorothy Fields & James McHugh
Used by permission of Shapiro, Bernstein & Co., Inc. o/b/o Aldi Music and EMI Music Publishers. All rights reserved. International copyright secured.

Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart ..... Judy & Garland
written by James Hanley
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You Made Me Love You ..... Garland & Judy
written by Joseph McCarthy & Jimmy Monaco
Public Domain

We're Off to See the Wizard ..... Judy, Roy, Jack
written by Harold Arlen & E.Y. Harburg
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If Love Were All ..... Garland
written by Noel Coward
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Be a Clown ..... Garland & Judy
written by Cole Porter
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The Trolley Song ..... Garland & Judy, Ensemble
written by Ralph Blane & Hugh Martin
EMI Music Publishing. All Rights reserved. Used by Permission

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas ..... Judy & Garland
written by Ralph Blane & Hugh Martin
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Do It Again ..... Garland
written by George Gershwin & B.G. Desylva
Public Domain

How Long Has This Been Going On? ..... Garland
written by George & Ira Gershwin
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Who Cares (As Long As You Care for Me) ..... Garland
written by George & Ira Gershwin
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That's Entertainment ..... Garland & Judy
written by Howard Deitz & Arthur Schwartz.
Warner Chappell & Co. (ASCAP). All rights reserved. Used by permission

SONG LIST

ACT TWO

Come Rain or Come Shine ..... Judy & Garland
written by Harold Arlen & Johnny Mercer
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Alone Together ..... Garland
written by Howard Deitz & Arthur Schwartz
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Get Happy ..... Judy & Garland
written by Harold Arlen & Ted Koehler
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After You've Gone ..... Garland
written by Henry Creamer & Turner Layton
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You Go to My Head ..... Garland
written by J. Fred Coots & Haven Gillespie
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For Me and My Gal ..... Garland
written by George Meyer, Edgar Leslie & E. Ray Goetz.
Public Domain.

Chicago (That Toddlin' Town) ..... Garland & Judy
written by Fred Fisher
Used by permission of Sony/ATV Tunes LLC. All rights reserved.

Stormy Weather ..... Garland & Judy
written by Harold Arlen & Ted Koehler
Used by permission of S.A. Music, LLC, and Bughouse Music. All rights reserved.

The Man That Got Away ..... Garland & Judy
written by Harold Arlen & Ira Gershwin
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Over the Rainbow ..... Garland
written by Harold Arlen & E.Y. Harburg
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***Encore:* San Francisco** ..... Garland & Judy, Ensemble
written by Walter Jurmann, Gus Kahn & Bronislaw Kaper
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Judy Garland Museum
judygarlandmuseum.com



Holiday Drive for Neighborhood House

Since 1897, our friends at Neighborhood House have been a welcoming presence for thousands of refugees, immigrants and others in transition or crisis. We're accepting your donations of food pantry, personal care, and holiday store items during the run of BEYOND THE RAINBOW. Thank you for helping us make the season brighter for our most vulnerable neighbors.

GET SUPPORT

Peer Support Connection Warmline.

You Don't have to Navigate Life's Challenge Alone

Call or text the Peer Support Connection Warmline, join a virtual or in-person group, or connect one-on-one with trained peers who care. This is a peer-run support program designed to be a positive supplement to your day; through communication, through connection, and through community. If you are dealing with mental and emotional health issues, we are here to say that it gets better, and you are not alone. The Peer Connection Warmline offers free peer support services designed to help you feel heard, supported, and connected—no matter where you are on your journey.

Navigate your mental health journey with support

If you are struggling with your mental health, there are a variety of ways to connect with NAMI. Get immediate support by calling, texting or emailing.

The NAMI HelpLine is a free, confidential nationwide service that provides one-on-one emotional support, mental health information and resources needed to tackle tough challenges that you, your family or friends are facing.

Call 1-800-950-NAMI.

Text NAMI to 62640.

Send an email to helpline@nami.org

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A WELCOME FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

Every time the lights dim at History Theatre, something remarkable happens. Minnesota's history comes to life, familiar stories take on new meaning, and voices that might otherwise go unheard find their place in the spotlight.

For nearly 50 years, History Theatre has been doing something extraordinary: bringing our shared history to the stage in ways that entertain, challenge, inspire, and connect us. And none of it would be possible without people like you.

As we approach the end of another year, I want to thank you for being part of the History Theatre family. Whether this is your first visit or you've been attending for decades, your presence matters. You help make this theatre a vibrant gathering place where stories bring our community together.

But the price of a ticket covers only a portion of what it takes to bring these stories to life.

Behind every production are playwrights, performers, designers, technicians, and countless others who dedicate their talents to creating something meaningful. Your charitable contributions help make their work possible. They also help us develop new plays, introduce young people to live theatre, and ensure that cost is never an insurmountable barrier to experiencing the arts.

As we look ahead to our 50th anniversary, we're not just celebrating the stories we've told. We're investing in the stories still waiting to be discovered, the artists who will tell them, and the audiences who will experience them.

This holiday season, I invite you to make a year-end gift to History Theatre.

Whether it's $25, $100, $500, or an amount that's meaningful to you, your generosity will help us continue bringing Minnesota's stories to life.

If you've already made a gift this year, thank you. Your support means more than you know. And if you've never given before, there's no better time to become part of the community of donors who make our work possible.

The stories we tell belong to all of us. And together, we can ensure they continue to be told for generations to come.

Thank you for being here, for believing in the power of live theatre, and for helping us write History Theatre's next chapter.

With gratitude,

Rob Thomas
Executive Director

Scan QR Code and make a donation to History Theatre.

Make your year-end gift today at historytheatre.com/donate or scan the QR code.

A WELCOME FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Welcome to our final show of the year 2026.

We end the year with a celebration of an artist who needs almost no introduction. Judy Garland is surely the most famous Minnesotan of the 20th century – apologies to Prince and Bob Dylan – though she lived in the state only four short years with her parents and two older sisters. She got her start at a staggering 2 years old (two!), about three hours north of here in Grand Rapids, at the theatre her parents owned - just a small town girl with stars in her eyes.

Judy undoubtedly had a difficult, demanding childhood that led to her struggles with alcohol, pills, depression and more, throughout her too-short-life (she passed away at only 47 years of age). And while there are many sad stories to tell, what keeps bringing me back to this play, to her story, to this woman, is her indefatigable pursuit of her art. She famously said, "the story of my life is my music." How wonderful, then, that playwright William Randall Beard structured this piece to follow Judy on what is widely regarded to be the most successful night of her career. **We get to celebrate her triumph with her and see her remember moments from her past as they connect with her music.** She was complex, she was difficult, and she was in pain. But through it all – her voice, her talent, her open heart - what a gift.

If you are here because you love Judy, I hope you'll love your experience at today's performance. We welcome you to return for the rest of our bold, essential 26-27 season for TONI STONE, CAFÉ AU LAIT: NELLIE FRANCIS BATTLES THE BIG, BAD BOOK OF HISTORY, and our production with local comedy darlings Four Humors, AMERICA'S VERY FIRST PLAY AND THE IMMEDIATE TRIAL THEREAFTER.

Thank you for attending live theatre – an art form that very literally does not exist without an audience. Thank you for being here to share physical space and time and breath with us.

A very happy winter season to you and yours. We're glad you're here!

Laura Leffler
Artistic Director



ABOUT HISTORY THEATRE

Our Mission

History Theatre entertains, educates, and engages audiences by creating, developing, and producing new and existing works that explore Minnesota's past and the diverse American experience.

Land Acknowledgement

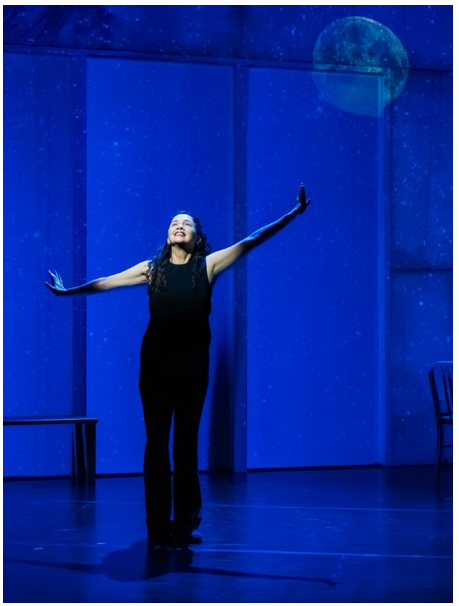
History Theatre sits on the ancestral, traditional and contemporary land of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, and political significance. We recognize and honor the Dakota people, ancestors, and descendants, as well as the land itself, and all the sovereign Native nations in Minnesota and beyond. We recognize that this acknowledgement itself is not enough and only serves as a first step towards decolonization.



Don't miss Doris Hines - Comfort Dolo, Ashawnti Sakina Ford



Whoosh! - Andrew Erskine Wheeler



Fancy Dancer - Larissa FastHorse



Courting Harry - Pearce Bunting and John Middleton

JUDY

A Chronology of Her Life's Events

1922 — A Star is Born

Frances "Baby" Gumm is born in Grand Rapids, MN, to Frank and Ethel Gumm. She's the youngest sister to Mary Jane (Suzie) and Dorothy Virginia (Jimmie). Her parents own and perform in the theatre in town.

1926 — MN → California

After a scandal, Frank sells the theatre. Ethel managers her daughters - Gumm Sisters - as they perform on the Vaudeville circuit, touring regionally. The sisters appear in one film together in 1929, The Big Revue. The family settles in Los Angeles.

1935 — Frances → Judy

Frances professionally adopts the name Judy Garland. She auditions for Louis B. Mayer, and signs a contract for MGM. Her first solo film appearance with MGM is Pigskin Parade.

1939 — To Oz

Though Mayer wanted Shirley Temple for the role of Dorothy, Judy stars in The Wizard of Oz. At just 16 years of age she becomes famous. Oz is her sixth film at MGM.

1941 — Elopement

At just 19 years old, Judy elopes with bandleader and composer David Rose, while in the midst of filming Babes on Broadway. Mayer and Ethel disapprove of the marriage.

1944 — Clang Clang Clang

Judy divorces David. She is introduced to director Vincente Minnelli, and they fall in love while working on Meet Me in St. Louis. At the time of the wedding, Judy was 23 and Minnelli was 42. Daughter, Liza, is born in 1946. Judy attempts to give up her pill habit.

1951 — Tony Award

Judy divorces Vincente. She begins seeing and soon marries - producer and businessman Sid Luft. At Luft's urging, she mounts a Vaudeville-style show at The Palace in New York City. Judy wins a special Tony Award for the show. Her pill and alcohol addiction continues.

1955 — Almost an Oscar

Daughter, Lorna, is 3 and son, Joey, is born. Despite being "poison" on film sets for many years, Judy stars in A Star is Born. She is nominated for an Oscar but loses to Grace Kelly. She is in large amounts of debt due to a lavish lifestyle and Sid's gambling habit.

1961 — Judy Judy Judy

At age 38, Judy performs at Carnegie Hall in "the greatest performance of the 20th Century." She brings her children (Liza, 15; Lorna, 9; Joey, 5) on stage with her at the end of the concert, as she often did with her children. She is separated from Sid.

1963 — Film→ Television

Judy's final film, I Could Go On Singing, is released. Despite being against the idea of television, The Judy Garland Show airs on CBS. The show aired opposite Bonanza, and was cancelled after only one season. Judy has worsening money troubles.

1965 — The Concert Years

Judy's divorce from Sid is finalized. She loses her house to the IRS. She performs a series of concerts across the globe - some wonderful, some troubled. Lorna and Joey travel with her as she tours. She marries her fourth husband, actor Mark Herron.

1969 — Over the Rainbow

Judy divorces Mark and performs her final concert in Copenhagen, Denmark. She marries entrepreneur and club manager, Mickey Deans. They are living in London when she dies from an overdose. An autopsy confirms it was an accidental overdose of barbiturate. She was 47.

THE CAST

ERIN CAPELLO (she/her)
Garland
History Theatre: *The Christmas Schooner, A Servants' Christmas* (2003, 2022), *I Am Betty* (2023/24). **Theater:** Theater Latte Da: *Evita, The Light in the Piazza, Steerage Song, Puttin on the Ritz, Next To Normal, Johnny Skeeky, Journey On*; Artistry: *Waitress, Kiss Me, Kate*; Stages Theater: *Jack and Rochelle*; MN Opera: *The Elephant Man* Chanhassen Dinner Theater: *Swing!;* Gilbert and Sullivan Very Light Opera Company: *The Sorcerer*; Cardinal Theatricals: *Rocky Horror Live!* **Upcoming:** Artistry: *Billy Elliot*; Theater Latté Da: *She's Come Undone.*

CHANCE CARROLL (he/him)
Louis B. Mayer, Sid Luft, ensemble
History Theatre: Debut. **Theater:** Gremlin Theatre: *The Cottage*; Yellow Tree Theatre: *Misery*; Minnetonka Theatre: *On Golden Pond*; Gray Mallard Theatre Co.: *Romeo & Juliet*; The Old Log Theatre: *The Reluctant Dragon*; Theatre L'Homme Dieu: *Clue*; Children's Theatre Company: *Spamtown, USA*; Oregon Shakespeare Festival: *As You Like It, Titus Andronicus*; RhinoLeap Productions: *The 39 Steps, To Kill A Mockingbird, It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play, The Three Musketeers*; Sonnet Rep. Theatre: *A Midsummer Nights Dream*; Theatre Alliance: *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*; Manteo Theatre Festival: *Twelfth Night*; 5th Floor Theatre Co.: *Dogfight*; 9Thirty Theatre: *Mr. Sasquatch Goes to Washington.* **Training:** University of North Carolina School of the Arts, 2025 Guthrie Actors Lab. **Upcoming**: *Can't Help Myself* (World Premiere) by Maggie D'Ambrose. IG: @sensitivesasquatch

ELENA GLASS* (she/her)
Judy
History Theatre: *Beyond the Rainbow* (2019), *Christmas of Swing, Rollicking! A Winter Carnival Musical, Whoa, Nellie! The Outlaw King of the Wild Middle West, Glensheen, Runestone, Orphan Train, To Kill a Mockingbird, The Christmas Schooner*. **Theater:** Artistry: *Godspell*; Ordway: *Annie, Mamma Mia, The Sound of Music*; Old Log Theatre: *Lend Me a Tenor*; Nautilus Music Theatre: *Stations of the Heart*; Yellow Tree Theatre: *One Man, Two Guvnors*; Theatre Elision: *Ruthless, Pins & Needles*. **Other:** Elena has performed her critically-acclaimed one-woman show "Loudly, Clearly, Beautifully" at four theatrical venues in Minnesota and Wisconsin; Intimacy coordinator: History Theatre, Artistry, Lyric Arts, University of Minnesota and Texas Tech University. **Training:** New York University. **Upcoming:** *Can't Help Myself* (World Premiere) by Maggie D'Ambrose; Modern Chanteuse at Crooners January 22 with Leslie Vincent and Emily Dussault; Intimacy Coordinator: *Present Laughter* at Lyric Arts. elenaglass.com, IG: @eglass789. For my sister Meridith and my father Gene.

NORAH LONG* (she/her)
Ethel Gumm, Kay Thompson, ensemble
History Theatre: *A Servant's Christmas, Orphan Train, Sweetland, Lombardi, Beyond the Rainbow, This Side of Paradise, Sisters of Swing, Christmas of Swing, Avenue X, Raw Stages.* **Theater:** 150+ productions including Paper Mill Playhouse, Florida Stage, Riverside Vero Beach, Arvada Center, Guthrie, Latte Da, Jeune Lune, Ordway, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Penumbra, Park Square Theatre, Ten Thousand Things, Nautilus, Jungle, Children's Theatre, Tiger Lion Arts, Yellow Tree, Prime Productions, Illusion, Old Log, Skylark Opera, An Opera Theatre, Opera for the Young. **Concert:** MN Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, National Symphony of Cuba, Opera Roanoke, Lorie Line National Tour, Pro Arte Germany, Plymouth Music Series, Dakota Jazz Club, Ordway, Dale Warland Singers. **Teaching/Directing**: North Central University, Upstream Arts. www.norahlong.com

KYLE WEILER* (he/him)
Frank Gumm, Vincente Minelli, ensemble
History Theatre: Debut. **Theater:** Broadway: *Hamilton.* International Tour *West Side Story;* Chanhassen: *Guys and Dolls*; Theater Latté Da: *Next to Normal, Hello Dolly;* Artistry: *Crazy for You*; Duluth Playhouse: *Young Frankenstein*. **Director/Choreographer**: Phipps: *A Christmas Carol*; Lakeshore: *Anything Goes, She Loves Me*; Great Theater: *Mary Poppins*; MN Opera: *Trouble in Tahiti/Service Provider*; Seagle Festival, NY: *Anything Goes.* Kyle is a performer, director, and choreographer based in the Twin Cities. **Training**: B.F.A. The Juilliard School. IG: @kyle__weil. **Upcoming**: Artistry: Director/Choreographer *Billy Elliot*.

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THE UNDERSTUDIES

ANNA BETH BAKER* (she/her)
u/s Judy
History Theatre: *Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story.* **Theater:** Park Square Theatre: *On The Razzle, The Butler Did It, Holmes/Poirot*; Theater Latté Da: *How to Play the Cello (Until You Don't)*- Next Fest; Asolo Repertory Theatre: *Midsummer Night's Dream*; Theatre L'Homme Dieu: *Once*; Trademark Theater: *The Boy & Robinhood*; Theatre Elision: *Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812, Ghost Quartet*; Texas Shakespeare Festival: *110 In The Shade, Love's Labour's Lost, Tartuffe.* **Opera**: Journey North Opera Company: *Dark Sisters*; Out of the Box Opera: *Suor Angelica*; Raison D'Etre Opera: *The Village Singer.* **Training**: MFA, Acting, FSU/Asolo Conservatory. **Union**: AEA. annabethbaker.com IG: @annabeth_baker

JEN BURLEIGH-BENTZ* (she/her)
u/s Garland
History Theatre: *Hungry Like The Wolf, The Defeat of Jesse James, A Servants' Christmas, Christmas of Swing, Beyond the Rainbow, Hormel Girls, Sisters of Swing, Working Boys' Band.* **Theater:** Broadway: *Mamma Mia.* National Tours: *Cheers: Live on Stage, Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story, Miracle on 34th St.* Regional: Guthrie, Chanhassen, Artistry, Duluth Playhouse, Broadway on the St Croix, Minnetonka Civic, Mixed Blood, Casting Spell Prod., Cardinal Theatricals, Jon Hassler, etc. **Other:** National Concert tour: *Yesterday Once More - Songs by the Carpenters; Jim Brickman Christmas.* **Recordings:** *Coming Home for Christmas - John Trones, You Are Home and I Do: Anderson-Petty.* **Training:** BS, Comprehensive Theatre Arts-UWEC. **Upcoming:** Monthly JBB 'n Friends Cabaret at MetroNome Brewery, Vocalist for Star of the North Jazz Orchestra, NorShor Theatre: *Dear Evan Hansen*; History Theatre: *Love on a Stick* .JenBurleigh-Bentz.com

DANNY MCHUGH* (he/him)
u/s Frank Gumm, Vincente Minelli, ensemble
History Theatre: Debut. **Theater:** National Tour: *Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ Superstar, White Christmas.* Off-Broadway: Blue Man Group. Twin Cities: CDT: *Cats, Jesus Christ Superstar, Mary Poppins, White Christmas, Guys and Dolls*; Artistry: *Singin' In the Rain.* **Other:** Singer, cruise ship; choreographer, local Minnesota high schools; special costume/prop fabricator. **Training**: BFA, Musical Theater, UW-Stevens Point. IG: @danny_mchugh_ TikTok: @dannymcq

CARL SWANSON* (he/him)
u/s Louis B. Mayer, Sid Luft, ensemble
History Theatre: *The Boy Wonder, Blended Harmony* (w/ Theater Mu), Raw Stages. **Theater:** Guthrie: *Little Shop of Horrors. National Tour: NOEL the Musical*; Children's Theatre: *Cinderella*; The Ordway: *Beauty and the Beast;* Park Square Theater: *It's Only a Play, The Butler Did It*; The Old Log Theater: *The Play That Goes Wrong*; Artistry: *Crazy for You, The Pajama Game, Memphis, Wit, The Drowsy Chaperone*; Lyric Arts: *Something Rotten!, Bright Star, If/Then;* Theatre Pro Rata: *Silent Sky.* **Film:** Amazon: *Sanctified, Road to Damascus.* **Other:** Producing: *Dirty Twenty: An Interactive D&D Improv Show @dirty20show.* **Training:** B.A. Drama, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. **Upcoming**: Theater Latté Da: *She's Come Undone.* carldswanson.com, IG: @carldswan



THE MUSICIANS

WESLEY FRYE• (he/him)
Music Director/Piano
History Theatre: *Raw Stages: Dayton's*. **Theater:** Park Square Theatre: *A Chorus Line, Goosebumps*; Theater Latté Da: *My Fair Lady, Passion, Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*; Lyric Arts: *The Prom, Big Fish*. **Other:** Vocal coach, collaborative pianist (UMN, Anoka-Ramsey Community College). **Training:** B.A. Vocal Performance, Luther College; M.M. Voice Performance, Opera, UMN. **Upcoming:** Macalester College: *Cabaret*; Lyric Arts: *An American in Paris*; Trademark Theater: *Pansy*; Park Square: *The Ostentatious Outlaws of Neehai Valley.* IG: @wesgeorgetenor

STEVE GRISDALE• (he/him)
Percussion
History Theatre: Debut. **Theater:** Chanhassen, Children's Theatre, Guthrie, Theater Latté Da, Park Square, Artistry, Mixed Blood. **Training:** Manchester, England: BA with Honors, Music Performance.

JENESSA IVERSON• (she/her)
Upright Bass
History Theatre: *Rollicking! A Winter Carnival Musical, I Am Betty, The Boy Wonder.* **Theater:** Pit Orchestra: Theater Latté Da*: Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella;* Park Square Theatre*: A Chorus Line;* Theatre L'Homme Dieu*: Beautiful;* Lyric Arts: *The Prom.* Actor: Old Log Theatre: *Once Upon a Mattress, Escape to Margaritaville;* Theatre Elision: *Terce;* Theatre L'Homme Dieu: *Once;* Duluth Playhouse: *Waitress, Spamalot.* Choreographer: Bristol Valley Theater (NY): *A Year with Frog and Toad;* Theatre Elision: *Great Comet;* Theatre L'Homme Dieu: *Once.* **Other:** MN Opera: *Nymphs, Spinners and Witches, Cruzar la Cara de la Luna.* **Training:** BFA, Musical Theatre, UMN-Duluth. **Upcoming:** Theater Latté Da: *Lizard Boy, She's Come Undone*; Theatre Elision: *Great Comet*; Park Square Theatre: *Outlaws*. Jenessaiverson.com

JENNY SLIVINSKI• (she/her)
Reeds
History Theatre: *Blended 和 (Harmony).* **Theater:** Park Square Theatre: *A Chorus Line*; Theater Latté Da: *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*; Artistry: *Sweet Charity, Newsies*; Lyric Arts: *Merrily We Roll Along, The Prom, Big Fish, The Music Man, Sister Act, 9 to 5, A Chorus Line*; Mixfit Theatre: *The Rocky Horror Show*. **Teaching:** Sarah Jane's Music School, K&S Conservatory. **Training:** BA, Music and Business Administration, UMN-Duluth. **Union:** American Federation of Musicians, Theatre Musicians Association. **Upcoming**: Artistry: *Billy Elliot*. jswoodwinds.com

THE CREATIVE TEAM

WILLIAM RANDALL "RANDY" BEARD
Playwright
Randy was a playwright and arts critic. He also wrote *The Visitor*, a part of *Under The Stars And Stripes: Stories of World War II* for History Theatre. Other credits include *The Odyssey* and *Mary Stuart* (with Matt Sciple) at Park Square Theatre, as well as commissions with Stages Theatre Company, Red Eye Theatre, and more. As an arts journalist he wrote theatre and classical music reviews for the *Star Tribune, Pioneer Press*, and *Mpls/St. Paul Magazine*. He also served as the literary manager of Park Square from 2000-2003. Randy passed in 2021 during the global pandemic from complications due to COVID-19.

LAURA LEFFLER^ (she/her)
Director
History Theatre: *Hungry Like the Wolf, Rollicking! A Winter Carnival Musical, Whoa, Nellie! The Outlaw King of the Wild Middle West, Superman Becomes Lois Lane, The Boy Wonder,* multiple workshops. **Theater:** Artistry: *Sweet Charity*; Park Square Theatre: *Jefferson Township Sparkling Junior Talent Pageant*; Twin Cities Horror Festival: *Schaulust*; Umbrella Collective: *Ex-Gays, Penelope, The Awakening*; Guthrie Theater, Theatre de la Jeune Lune, The Moving Company, Twenty Percent Theatre Company, The Playwrights' Center; and more. **Awards**: Best Director, *CityPages* 2018. **Training:** MA, U of Kansas; BA, Baker University, study abroad at Harlaxton College. lauraleffler.me

LYNDSEY R. HARTER* (she/her)
Stage Manager
History Theatre: *The Root Beer Lady*, *neighbors*. **Theater:** Guthrie Theater, Minnesota Opera, Theater Latté Da, Pillsbury House + Theatre, Theater Mu, Trademark Theater, Penumbra Theatre, Playwrights' Center, Park Square Theatre, and Collide Theatrical Dance Company. **Other:** Lyndsey proudly serves on Actors' Equity Association's Central Committee for Independent Theatres. **Training:** BA, Hamline University. **Upcoming:** *John Proctor is the Villain*, co-production with the Guthrie Theater and the Goodman Theatre.

EMERSON STENBECK (they/them)
Assistant Stage Manager
History Theatre: *Fancy Dancer.* **Theater:** Theater Mu, Park Square Theatre, Lyric Arts, Mixed Blood Theatre, Phipps Center for the Arts.

JACLYN MCDONALD (she/her)
Choreographer
History Theatre: Choreographer Debut. **Theater:** Lyric Arts: *Kinky Boots*; Cumberland County Playhouse: *The Addams Family*; Cedar Summer Stock Theatre: *Big Fish*. Performer credits include Chanhassen Dinner Theatre: *Guys and Dolls*; Artistry: *Crazy for You, Sweet Charity*; Lyric Arts: *A Chorus Line, Anything Goes, The Wedding Singer. For my Grandpa, Paul.*

THE CREATIVE TEAM

ELI SHERLOCK# (he/him)
Set Designer
History Theatre: *Rollicking! A Winter Carnival Musical, Lord Gordon Gordon.* **Theater:** Theater Latté Da: *My Fair Lady, Fun Home, Cinderella, The Color Purple, Hello, Dolly!, Jelly's Last Jam, Chicago, Assassins*; Minnesota Opera: *My Name is Florence*; Jungle Theater: *Dinner for One*; Mixed Blood Theater: *Into the Burrow, The Ally*; 5th Avenue Theatre: *The Wiz*; Kansas City Rep: *The Color Purple*; Geva Theatre: *The Color Purple*; Flint Repertory Theater: *American Idiot, Spring Awakening, Little Shop of Horrors, Ragtime*; The Hangar Theatre: *Ragtime.* Additionally in the Twin Cities, Eli has designed with Artistry, Park Square Theater, 7th House Theater, Yellow Tree Theater, Walking Shadow, Lyric Arts, Theater in the Round, Concordia University, University of Minnesota. **Training:** MFA, UCLA; BFA, University of Michigan. **Upcoming:** Theater Latté Da: *Lizard Boy*; Children's Theatre Company: *Princess Kay of the Milky Way.* www.elisherlock.com

BRYCE TURGEON (he/him)
Costume Designer
History Theatre: *Rollicking! A Winter Carnival Musical, Whoa, Nellie! The Outlaw King of the Wild Middle West.* **Theater:** Off Broadway: Virginia Stage Company: *Five the Musical.* Regional: Virginia State Company: *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Dreamgirls, The Legend of Georgia McBride*; Timberlake: *We Will Rock You*; Rivertown Theatre: *The Rocky Horror Show, Cabaret Who's Holiday;* Arrowrock Lyceum: *The Will Rodgers Follies, Stand By Your Man.* **Other:** Rupaul's Drag Race [Seasons 9-14] and All-Stars [Seasons 4-9], Featured in American and German Vogue, The Met Gala. **Training:** BFA, Theatre Design-Viterbo University; currently Costume Design Masters Program, University of Florida. Awards:Best Costume Design-Broadway World **Awards**:*Little Shop of Horrors*-Ogunquit Playhouse, NYC Nightlife Glam Awards-Best Fashion Designer 2019, 2020. **Upcoming:** Theater Latté Da: *Lizard Boy.* IG: @Florencedlee

GRANT E. MERGES (he/him)
Lighting Designer
History Theatre: *Courting Harry, Whoa, Nellie! The Outlaw King of the Wild Middle West.* **Theater** (selected): Theater Latté Da: *Gutenberg! The Musical, La Bohème, Once*; Jungle Theater: *Hand to God*; Penumbra Theatre: *Black Nativity*; Chenango River Theatre: *Picasso at the Lapin Agile, Lend Me a Tenor, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*; Stages Theatre Company: *The North Star, James and the Giant Peach, The Hobbit*; Artistry: *The Music Man, Noises Off, The Drowsy Chaperone*; Minneapolis Musical Theatre: *Night of the Living Dead, The Story of My Life, Big River*; Paul Bunyan Playhouse: *Young Frankenstein, Footloose, Little Shop of Horrors*; GREAT Theatre: *School of Rock, Waitress, Mary Poppins*; River Valley Dance Academy: *The Snow Queen, The Nutcracker*; University of Northwestern: *The Lightning Thief, Peter Pan, Into the Woods*; Century College: *Rent, The Rocky Horror Picture Show, Macbeth*; Concordia University: *Die Fledermaus.* **Education**: MFA,Minnesota State University, Mankato.

KIRBY MOORE (he/him)
Prop Designer
History Theatre: *Glensheen, Teen Idol, Buddy Holly Story, Lombardi, A Servant's Christmas, Handprints.* **Theater:** Children's Theatre, Cricket Theatre, Minnesota Opera. **Training:** B.A. Metropolitan State University. **Awards:** Twice awarded American College Theatre Festival Award for scenic design. **Other:** Short story writing: *CityPages* Fiction Writing contests, and works published in *The James White Review* and *Evergreen Chronicles.*



THE CREATIVE TEAM

C ANDREW MAYER# (he/him)
Sound Designer
History Theatre: *Courting Harry, Rollicking! A Winter Carnival Musical, Whoa Nellie! The Outlaw King of the Wild Middle West*, 80+ others. **Theater:** Jungle, Park Square, Mixed Blood, Artistry, Illusion, Six Points, New Native, Minnesota Opera, numerous others. **Awards:** McKnight Theatre Artist Fellowship; Audelco Award for Carlyle Brown's Pure Confidence, NYC.

ANNIE ENNEKING (she/her)
Intimacy & Fight Choreographer
History Theatre: *Rollicking! A Winter Carnival Musical, Whoa, Nellie! The Outlaw King of the Wild Middle West, Hungry Like the Wolf.* **Theater:** Guthrie Theater: *Waiting for Godot, Cabaret, The History Plays, A Doll's House, Little Women*; Walking Shadow: *Red Speedo, The Witch*; Dark and Stormy: *The Maids, Extremities, Fool for Love*; Jungle Theater: *Noises Off, Hand to God*; University of Minnesota: *Boudica, Gloria, Romeo and Juliet, The James Plays*; Shakespearian Youth Theater: *Romeo and Juliet, MacBeth, Caesar, Hamlet, As You Like It.* **Other:** Teaches stage violence, University of Minnesota. Fronts and founded rock band Annie and the Bang Bang. **Awards:** 2010 Playwright's Center McKnight Theater Artist Fellow; Jerome Foundation Grant.

EMMA GUSTAFSON (she/her)
Wig Designer
History Theatre: *Don't miss Doris Hines, Blended 和 (Harmony): The Kim Loo Sisters.* **Theater:** MN Opera: *My Name Is Florence, Cosi fan tutte, Barber of Seville, Elixir of Love, Cruzar la Cara de la Luna, Song Poet, Daughter of the Regiment, Rinaldo, Anonymous Lover*; Geva Theatre: *The Color Purple, A Christmas Carol, Little Women;* Theater Latté Da: *Passion, Fun Home, Scotland PA, Johnny Skeeky, The Color Purple, Next to Normal, Hello, Dolly!, Merrily We Roll Along*; Lakes Area Music Festival: *Carmen, The Rake's Progress, Hänsel and Gretel;* Park Square Theatre: *Holmes/Poirot*; Jungle Theater: *Cambodian Rock Band*; Open Eye Figure Theatre: *Chinese Lady*; Ten Thousand Things: *Emilia, Thunder Knocking On The Door;* Children's Theatre Company: *Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Bina's Six Apples, Annie*; Mixed Blood: *Roe.* **Education:** Aveda Institute, Mpls: Cosmetology, 2015; Santa Fe Opera: Wigs Apprentice 2018, 2019; B.A. Theatrical Design, Augsburg University, 2020.

DAVID LOHMAN
Music Arranger
David is so happy to return to the world of Judy Garland, continuing his long relationship with History Theatre. He served as music director for *Glensheen*, played Tom in *Coco's Diary*, and created the musical arrangements for *Christmas of Swing*. He spent 3½ years as associate conductor of the national tour of *The Phantom of the Opera.* Shows at the Ordway include *West Side Story, White Christmas*, and *Anything Goes.* DavidLohmanMusic.com



IN MEMORIAM



William Randall Beard
Playwright



Kate Sutton Johnson
Scenic Designer

As we celebrate History Theatre's fourth production and new staging of BEYOND THE RAINBOW, we'd like to take a moment and honor two artists who were foundational in creating the original production which was beloved for many years.

Randy was a playwright and arts critic. In addition to writing *Beyond The Rainbow*, he wrote *The Visitor*, a part of *Under The Stars And Stripes: Stories Of World War II* for History Theatre. Other theatre credits include *The Odyssey* and *Mary Stuart* (with Matt Sciple) at Park Square Theatre, as well as commissions with Stages Theatre Company, Red Eye Theatre, and more. As an arts journalist he wrote theatre and classical music reviews for the *Star Tribune, Pioneer Press*, and *Mpls/St. Paul Magazine*. He also served as the literary manager of Park Square from 2000-2003. Randy passed in 2021 during the global pandemic from complications due to COVID-19.

The visual world of BEYOND THE RAINBOW was originally crafted by scenic designer Kate Sutton Johnson.

Kate Sutton-Johnson was a 3D designer specializing in environmental, exhibit, and stage design for both live events and permanent installations. Kate held a BFA in set design from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and she was recognized with numerous design awards from the Twin City's Iveys to USA Today's top 10 lists. She designed dozens of shows locally and nationally, and her credits include contemporary dramas, classical theater, largescale musicals, devised work and everything in between. Additionally, Kate worked extensively in the museum world, designing exhibits that focus on natural history, anthropology, science, ethnography, archaeology and conservation.

Current scenic designer Eli Sherlock was mentored by Kate, and there are elements of her set that Eli preserved as a tribute to her and her work.

We are honored to walk in the footprints of those who built the foundation of this beautiful story.

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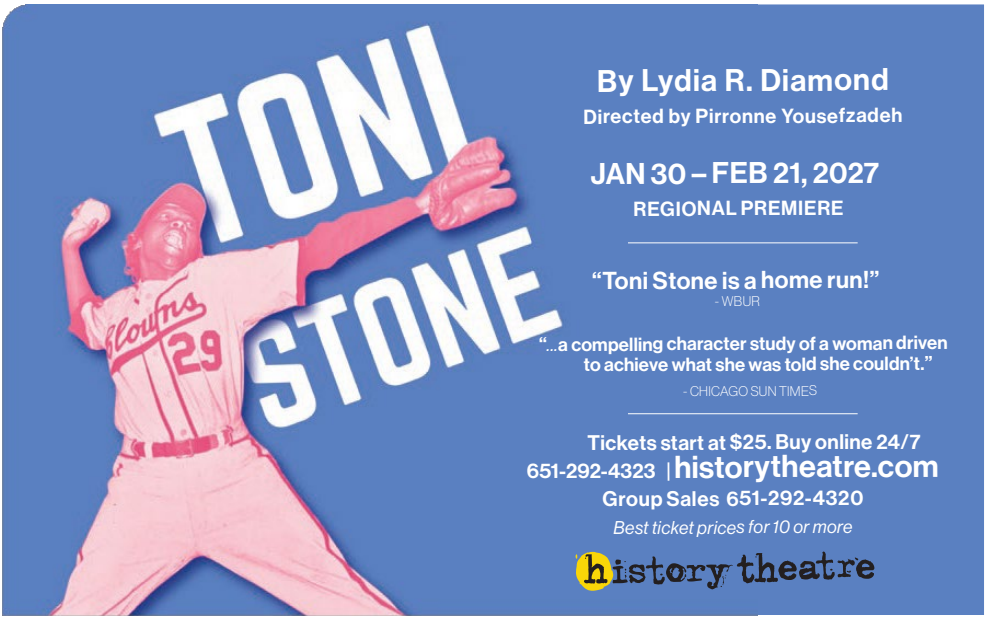
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