

Book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan Music and Lyrics by Mel Brooks

NOVEMBER 7, 8, 9 AT 8 P.M. NOVEMBER 8, 9 AT 3 P.M.

Elsie C. Brackett Theatre

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Lloyd E. Cracknell, Rothbaum Professor, Associate Professor,

. Costume Desian

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Co-Interim Performance Area Coordinator

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Harrison Best, Performance Hall Supervisor

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Christina Draper, Costume Studio Director

Taryn Feheley, House Manager

Margot Glaser, Properties Director

Sydney Hagen, Charge Scenic Artist

Akari Harada, Technical Director

Amy Kercher, Lead Stitcher

Chloe Mullin, Junior Draper E Pope, Production Carpenter

Eric Stehl, Lead Electrician, Electrics Supervisor

Ray Woods, Sound Technician



#### and SCHOOL OF MUSICAL THEATRE present



MEL BROOKS and THOMAS MEEHAN

Music and Lyrics by MEL BROOKS

Original Direction and Choreography by

#### SUSAN STROMAN

# Director HAROLD MORTIMER

Music Director
MICHAEL STAFFORD

Choreographer SARA BRIANS

Scenic Designer
GOLDIE SNOW

Costume Designer
PAIGE KASULIS

Lighting Designer
NOAH JITTAWAIT

Sound Designer

ANDREW TARR

Associate Lighting Designer RUBY RAVSTEN

Stage Manager
McKENNA BOWMAN

Associate Stage Managers
RYLEE LUELLEN
JJ TOLY

8 P.M. NOVEMBER 7, 8, 9, 20253 P.M. NOVEMBER 8, 9, 2025

ELSIE C. BRACKETT THEATRE, 563 ELM AVE., NORMAN, OK 73019 OU FINE ARTS BOX OFFICE • (405) 325-4101 • THEATRE.OU.EDU

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Dear Friends.

Welcome to the Elsie C. Brackett Theatre and our OU University Theatre fall musical, Mel Brook's *Young Frankenstein*. We're excited to share this hilarious production with you. The student cast and creative team are top notch. Warning: please prepare yourself for much silliness.

This production features a couple of "firsts". This is Dr. Harold Mortimer's directing debut of a University Theatre season musical, and he's joined by our new musical theatre dance coordinator, the amazing Sara Brians as choreographer. Along with MT faculty member, Michael Stafford as Music Director, this team done incredible work and led a joyful rehearsal experience for our students. As always, we're grateful for a wonderful collaboration with design and production students and faculty from the Helmerich School of Drama.

Next up for the Weitzenhoffer School Musical Theatre, a workshop presentation of *Oh L'Amour* - The Erasure Musical. Join us for a rare look at brand-new musical in development. With a creative team from NYC, amazing producers, licensing from SONY Music Publishing, and a student cast of OU Musical Theatre majors - we're excited to share the first draft of this original coming-of-age story and a score full of your favorite 1980s/90s hits by pop-synth band, Erasure. We have just one public performance, Dec. 13 at 7:30pm in RPAC/Holmberg Hall. Tickets available at the College of Fine Arts box office.



Thank you for your support. Enjoy Young Frankenstein!

Ashton Byrum Director, Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre University of Oklahoma

Dear Friends, Patrons, and Frankenstein Fans!

The opportunity to present Mel Brooks' Young Frankenstein is clearly in direct to contrast to our recent opera, The Turn of the Screw, and the newly focused A Midsummer Night's Dream by Oklahoma Festival Ballet!

Replace woodland fairies, a royal forest couple, a changeling child, ghosts, and a past of

abuse with a brain vending machine and a leggy lab assistant and you are veering into Mel Brooks' *Young Frankenstein*! Replete with stage tricks galore, jokes, pranks, special effects, belly laughs, fog, guffaws to giggles and a "hayride" like no other, Mel Brooks' *Young Frankenstein* invites (or demands!) that you leave your worries at the door and enter the theatre for a completely hysterical escape!



Don't believe it? Join us! Take your seat and celebrate every moment of delight with the cast, crew, staff and designers of Mel Brooks' Young Frankenstein.

You're about to have a ball!

With thanks and best wishes,

Professor Mary Margaret Holt Dean, Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts University of Oklahoma



# A special thank you to our current Dean's Circle members!

- Membership as of October 24, 2025 -

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100% of the funds raised through the OU Dean's Circle membership go toward providing students in the College of Fine Arts opportunities off-campus that promote artistic and intellectual development.

Questions? Contact Kimberley Worrell, Executive Director of Advancement, OU Foundation at kworrell@ou.edu or call (405) 325-7376.

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#### **CAST**

DR. FRANKENSTEIN David Prengler

IGOR Jackson Dunlap

INGA Evelyn Duggan

ELIZABETH Ashley Woytal

FRAU BLUCHER Amal Ramadan

MONSTER Cameron Majewski

INSPECTOR KEMP Trace Burchart

HERMIT Manny Tijerina

#### MALE ENSEMBLE

Noah Bleasdell, Briggs Blume (*Igor understudy*) Jayson Gorton (*Dr. Frankenstein understudy*) Owen Hanford, Federico Hradek (*Kemp understudy*)

> Swing: Darion Elie Monster Standby: Brendan Koepke

#### **FEMALE ENSEMBLE**

Allison Crowe (Frau Blucher understudy), Liz Lamora (Elizabeth understudy) Sofia Macaluso, Myranda Sanchez (Inga understudy), Anastasia White

Swing/Dance Captain: Marina Hall



#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

If laughter is the best medicine, tonight's your Mel Brooks booster—no appointment needed! Young Frankenstein mixes mad science, tap-dancing monsters, and punchlines that won't stay buried. This musical asks: Can genius be inherited? Can lightning fix it all? And most importantly... can a brain transplant go too well?

We're thrilled to present this London/West End version, originally produced by Max Weitzenhoffer and his company NIMAX Theatres and directed/choreographed by Susan Stroman (who, quite appropriately, holds an OU honorary doctorate – in brilliance, no doubt!). To bring this version "home" to the University of Oklahoma feels a bit like a family reunion – the kind with fewer casseroles, more lightning bolts, and a chorus line of creatures just dying to entertain.

One of the great pleasures of this process has been collaborating with Michael Stafford and Sara Brians, two extraordinary artists whose creativity, humor, and endless energy have made this monstrous undertaking a sheer delight. Our student associate and assistant directors/ choreographer were phenomenal and I'm equally in awe of our incredible designers – made up almost entirely of students! – whose imagination and resourcefulness have turned Transylvania into a living, breathing (and occasionally singing) world. And of course, our superior stage management team, who have kept this beast of a production stitched together with grace, precision, and well-timed jolts of electricity whenever needed.

Throughout rehearsals, we've taken great joy in finding the funny – sometimes where Mel Brooks placed it, and sometimes where we accidentally dropped it – and in chewing the scenery with full-throated enthusiasm. And while the laughs come fast and furious, at its heart, *Young Frankenstein* is a story about belonging, acceptance, and the strange, beautiful mess of being human – or mostly human. Our students have learned that comedy, at its best, requires bravery, precision, and the absolute freedom to look delightfully ridiculous. Fortunately, they've excelled at all three.

So tighten your lab coat, brace yourself for the occasional thunderclap or the howl of a wolf, and prepare for a monstrously good time. And remember...it's pronounced Franken-steen!

Dr. Harold R. Mortimer Director

P.S. No werewolves or mannequins were harmed in the making of this production.

#### **MUSICAL NUMBERS**

#### ACT ONE

The Brain	Frederick, Students
Please Don't Touch Me	Elizabeth, Frederick, Ensemble
Together Again for the First Time	Igor, Frederick
Together Again for the First Time (Encore)	Igor, Frederick
Roll In the Hay	Frederick, Inga, Igor
He Vas My Boyfriend	Frau Blucher
It Could Work	Frederick, Inga, Igor, Frau Blucher
It Could Work (Reprise)	Frederick, Inga, Igor, Frau Blucher
Hang Him 'Til He's Dead	Kemp, Villagers
The Experiment	Ensemble
He Vas My Boyfriend (Reprise)	Frau Blucher
Welcome to Transylvania	Kemp, Villagers
Transylvania Mania	Igor, Inga, Frederick, Ensemble

#### 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

#### **ACT TWO**

Transylvania Mania (Reprise)	Igor, Inga, Frederick, Ensemble
He's Loose	Kemp, Villagers
Listen To Your Heart	Inga
Surprise	Elizabeth, Igor, Frau, Ensemble
Please Send Me Someone	Hermit
Please Send Me Someone (Reprise)	Hermit
Puttin' On the Ritz	Frederick, Monster, Igor, Inga
He's Loose (Reprise)	Kemp
Ah, Sweet Mystery of Life	Elizabeth
Deep Love	Elizabeth
Hang the Doctor	Frederick
Deep Love (Reprise)/Finale	Company
What You Own	Pastor, Mark, Collins, Benny, and Roger
Finale: Together Again	Company



#### **ORCHESTRA**

Michael Stafford, conductor Manny Tijerina, associate music director Trenton Paris, rehearsal accompanist

> PIANO Trenton Paris

VIOLIN Amanda Fortney

REED 1

Davon Carrington

REED 2 Libby Revel

TRUMPET 1/FLUGELHORN
Christi Wans

TRUMPET 2

Josh Harney (Nov. 7, 8 @ 8pm) Drew O'Dell (Nov. 8,9 @ 3pm; Nov. 9 @ 8 pm)

> TROMBONE Art Lantagne

BASS Jasmine Mohammadi

**DRUMS**Brian Dailey

"Puttin' on the Ritz"
Words and music by Irving Berlin © 1928, 1929 by Irving Berlin (ASCAP) © Renewed

#### **MEET THE CAST**



NOAH BLEASDELL



**BRIGGS BLUME** 



TRACE BURCHART



**ALLISON CROWE** 



**EVEYLYN DUGGAN** 



JACKSON DUNLAP



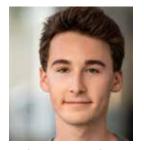
DARION ELIE



JAYSON GORTON



MARINA HALL



**OWEN HANFORD** 



**FEDERICO HRADEK** 



**BRENDAN KOEPKE** 

#### **MEET THE CAST**



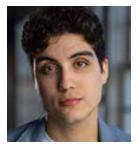
LIZ LAMORA



SOFIA MACALUSO



CAMERON MAJEWSKI



DAVID PRENGLER



AMAL RAMADAN



MYRANDA SANCHEZ



MANNY TIJERINA



ANASTASIA WHITE



ASHLEY WOYTAL

#### WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**NOAH BLEASDELL** (ENSEMBLE) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Acworth, GA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Angel, *RENT*; OUMT Downtown Series: Swing, *Bright Star*.

BRIGGS BLUME (ENSEMBLE/IGOR UNDERSTUDY) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from San Antonio, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: William Barfée U/S, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee; Swing RENT. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Ensemble Oklahoma!. Public Theater of San Antonio: Big Kid Matilda the Musical; Ensemble, Newsies.

TRACE BURCHART (INSPECTOR KEMP) is a musical theatre performance senior from Jenks, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Barfee, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; Sam, *Crazy for You*. OUMT Downtown: Balladeer/Oswald, *Assassins*. Lyric Theatre of OK: Bob Gaudio, *Jersey Boys*. Tent Theatre: Jason, *A Grand Night for Singing*. Southern Plains Productions: Swing, *RENT*.

**ALLISON CROWE** (ENSEMBLE/FRAU BLÜCHER UNDERSTUDY) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Dallas, TX. Credits: OU Univerity Theatre: Logainne U/S, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.* 

**EVELYN ROSE DUGGAN** (INGA) is a musical theatre performance senior from Concord, NH. Credits: OU University Theatre: Ensemble, *The Wild Party*. Sooner Theatre: Lucy Grant, *Bright Star*. American Gothic Performing Arts Festival: Ensemble, *Sweeney Todd*.

JACKSON DUNLAP (IGOR) is a musical theatre performance senior from Roswell, GA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Leaf Coneybear, *The 25th Annual County Spelling Bee*; Wyatt, *Crazy For You*. SSMT: Cosmo Brown, *Singin' in the Rain*. Casa Mañana: Skimbleshanks, *Cats*.

**DARION ELIE** (SWING) is a musical theatre performance junior from Shreveport, LA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Mitch Mahoney, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Paul (Collins/Angel U/S), *RENT*; Drifter; *Beautiful!* 

JAYSON GORTON (ENSEMBLE/SHADOW MONSTER/UNDERSTUDY DR. FRANKENSTEIN) is a musical theatre performance senior from Norman, OK. Credit: OU University Theatre: Ensemble/Phil and Oscar Understudy, *The Wild Party*; Ensemble / Lank Understudy, *Crazy For You*. OUMT Downtown Series: Billy Cane, *Bright Star*; John Hinckley Jr., *Assassins*. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma, Rolf, *The Sound of Music*.

MARINA HALL (SWING/DANCE CAPTAIN) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from San Diego, CA. Credits: This is her OU University Theatre debut.

**OWEN HANFORD** (ENSEMBLE) is a musical theatre performance freshman from St. Louis, MO. Credits:This is his OU University Theatre debut.

**FEDERICO HRADEK** (BERTRAM BATRAM/BOB/HORSE LEGS/MALE ENSEMBLE) is a musical theatre performance sophomore from Sarasota, FL. Credits: OU University Theatre: Filmmaker, *RENT*. OUMT Downtown: Music Director, *21 Chump Street*.

**BRENDAN KOEPKE** (STANDBY MONSTER) is a musical theatre performance freshman. Credits: This is his OU University Theatre debut.

LIZ LAMORA (ENSEMBLE/ELIZABETH UNDERSTUDY) is a musical theatre performance junior from Sacramento, CA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Swing, Crazy For You. OUMT Downtown: Edna (Lucy Us), Bright Star. The Barn Theatre: Wednesday, The Addams Family; My Fair Lady. Music Circus: Bye Bye Birdie, Seussical.

#### WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

SOFIA MACALUSO (ENSEMBLE/ASSOCIATE STUDENT DIRECTOR) is a musical theatre performance senior from Atlanta, GA. Credits: OU University Theatre: Rona Lisa Peretti, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee; Irene Roth, Crazy For You. OUMT Downtown Series: Emma Goldman, Assassins; Ensemble/Judas Understudy, Jesus Christ Superstar. Theatre Aspen: Dyanne, Million Dollar Quartet; Ensemble/Donna Understudy, Mamma Mia!

CAMERON MAJEWSKI (THE MONSTER) is a musical theatre performance senior from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Ensemble, RENT; Jimmy, Crazy For You. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Nick/Righteous Brother, Beautiful: The Carole King Musical. Queensbury Theatre: Moritz, Spring Awakening; Nikko, Wizard of Oz. OUMT Downtown Series: Daddy Murphy, Bright Star,

**DAVID PRENGLER** (DR. FREDERICK FRANKENSTEIN) is a musical theatre performance senior from Parkland, FL. Credits: OU University Theatre: Panch, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; Bela Zangler, *Crazy for You*. OUMT Downtown Series: John Wilkes Booth, *Assassins*.

AMAL RAMADAN (FRAU BLÜCHER) is a musical theatre performance junior from Seattle and Dubai. Credits: OU University Theatre: Woman with Bags/Roger's Mom, RENT, OU Drama Lab: Serge, Art. Hope Repertory Theatre: Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee; Mrs. Corry, Mary Poppins.

MYRANDA SÁNCHEZ (ENSEMBLE/INGA UNDERSTUDY) is a musical theatre performance junior from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Ensemble/Mimi U/S, RENT; Swing, Crazy For You. Casa Mañana Theatre: Demeter, Cats; Maria, 9 to 5. Musical Theatre Wichita: Vera, Crazy For You.

MANNY TIJERINA (THE HERMIT/ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR) is a musical theatre performance senior from Houston, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Chip Tolentino *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; Roger U/S, Gordon, *RENT*; Mingo, *Crazy for You*; OUMT Downtown Series: Zangara, *Assassins*; Peter U.S., Ensemble, *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Artists' Gallery: Composer, Lyricist, Elevator Music; Justin Laboy *21 Chump Street*; Icarus, *Myths and Hymns*. Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Frankie Valli, *Jersey Boys*. American Gothic: Rooster, *Annie*; Jonas Fogg, *Sweeney Todd*. Broadway Rose: Sailor Quartet, *Anything Goes*.

ANASTASIA WHITE (ENSEMBLE) is a musical theatre performance senior from Charlotte, NC. Credits: OU University Theatre: Olive Ostrovsky, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; Seasons of Love Soloist/ U/S Joanne, *RENT*; Young Republicanette/ U/S Veronica, *Heathers*; Margie, *Crazy For You*. OU Musical Theatre Downtown Series: Simon Zealotes, Jesus Christ Superstar. American Gothic Performing Arts Festival: Mrs. Greer, *Annie*; Female Ensemble, *Sweeney Todd*; Appalachian Spring Dancer, *To Be Heard*. Cornwell's Dinner Theatre: Lucy, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*; Wolf Moon Dance/ Escanaba, *da Moonlight*.

ASHLEY WOYTAL (ELIZABETH BENNING) is a musical theatre performance senior from Kalamazoo, MI. Credits: OU University Theatre: Marks Mom, Maureen U/S, *RENT;* Swing, Martha U/S, *Heathers*. Downtown Series: Margo, *Bright Star;* Maid By The Fire, *Jesus Christ Superstar.* 



#### PRODUCTION STAFF

Jon Young

Producer Mary Margaret Holt Associate Producer Kasey Allee-Foreman Associate Student Director Sofia Macaluso

Associate Choreographer Ellen Pierce Assistant Costume Designers Taren Diaz, Ian Lee

Faculty Advisor to the Scenic Designer Faculty Advisor to the Costume Designer Lloyd Cracknell Faculty Advisor to the Lighting Designer Renée Brode

Faculty Advisor to Stage Management Christopher Sadler

Design and Production Area Coordinator Renée Brode Technical Director Akari Harada

Production Carpenter E. Pope

Scenic Charge Artist Sydney Hagen

Scenic Undergraduate Assistants Sydney Brooks, Jake Cook, Elizabeth Elliott

Braxton Ellsworth, Cadence Gates Gillian Kelley, Michael Miller, Oscar Miller

Abigail Pirtle, Ruby Ravsten, Jalisa Reed Goldie Snow, JJ Toly

Properties Director Margot Glaser Properties Lead Elizabeth Elliott

Run Crew Head Gillian Kelley

Run Crew Alexa Lasanta, Sophia Leune, Alyssa Mullen

Max Pearson, Abbie Stearns Corinne Thomas, Katelyn Wichern

Eric Stehl

Electrics Supervisor

Lighting Undergraduate Assistants

Kai Allen, Ava Booker, Ericka Dodson Micah Dooley, Lauren Foster, Mathieu Gay

Madison Heckelsberg, Noah Jittawait, Felix Joshi Lucas Knapp, Madeline Lewis, Conner Lin

Lucas Mann, Emily Morris, Carleigh Nickel Malerie Pollock, Ruby Raysten, Sophia Smith

Matthieu Gay, Sophia Smith

Production Electricians Light Board Programmer Ruby Ravsten Light Board Operator Ava Collyar

Follow Spot Operators Carleigh Nickel, Malerie Pollock, Paige Smith Deck Electrician Andie Gioino

Audio Supervisor Kenneth Ray Woods

Audio Undergraduate Assistant Ava Booker, Madison Heckelsberg

Felix Joshi, Conner Lin Audio Mixer Madison Heckelsberg

Sound A2 Felix Joshi
Mic Wranglers Carlos Garza, Ciana Ruocco
Costume Studio Supervisor Christina Draper

Cutter/Draper Ananda Keator Junior Draper Chloe Mullin Lead Stitcher Amy Kercher

Stitcher Stephanie Cirar

Costume Crafts Lead Emily Post

Costume Undergraduate Assistants Bree Burchett, Westbrook Hallum, Paige Kasulis,

Natalie Lane, Ian Lee, Emily Matthews Ben Nemmers, Joy Omeish, Emily Post Sydney Tuffnell, Samantha Verbsky

Wardrobe Supervisor Amy Kercher Wardrobe Crew Head Natalie Lane

Wardrobe Crew Kelsey Barnes, Sydney Coffman, Gwen Dieter

Hagin James, Morgan Lingerfelt Lily Polemis, Jalisa Reed

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Lauren Konkol, Madi McVey, Ruby Peterson, Goldie Snow, Blake Vest, Olivia Williams

Marketing Assistant Lane Houk

Production Undergraduate Assistant McKenna Bowman

KASEY ALLEE-FOREMAN (Associate Producer) has served as Associate Producer/ Production Manager for over 100 productions in the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts at the University of Oklahoma. She is currently the President of USITT. A short listing of her professional theatre credits include: SphinxCON, a conference promoting Diversity in the Arts; Canterbury Choral: Bernstein's Mass; Houston Grand Opera: Renée Fleming's premiere *La Traviata* (world premiere); Stages Repertory Theatre (Houston); Houston Shakespeare Festival; Shakespeare Festival at Tulane (New Orleans); Theatre West (Los Angeles). Professional film credits include: *Mystery, Alaska, Lost and Found; Austin Powers: The Spy who Shagged Me.* She is proud to have served on the USITT Board of Directors as the VP for Conferences, the VP for Education and Training and as a Director. She has served USITT on the Conference Committee chair and member, IDEAS Committee chair and member, is the co-founder of the Gateway Program, and has been the Co-chair of the Women in Theatre Network. Kasey received her MFA in Costume Design and Technology and Lighting Design and Technology from the University of New Orleans and her BA in Theatre Arts from Furman University.

McKENNA BOWMAN (Stage Manager) is a stage management senior from Prosper, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Stage Manager, Waiting for Lefty; Co-Stage Manager, OFB '24, Stage Manager, Rita & L'heure Espagnole; Associate Stage Manager, CDO '24; Associate Stage Manager, The Merry Widow; Associate Stage Manager, The Nutcracker (OFB '23); Associate Stage Manager, Susannah. Colorado Springs Philharmonic & OU School of Dance: Associate Stage Manager, The Nutcracker. Windsong Chamber Choir OKC: Stage Manager, The Sacred Veil.

SARA BRIANS (Choreographer) is an award-winning and sought after director, choreographer, movement director, movement coach and educator, and has worked extensively across Broadway, regional and international theatre, live events and industrials, with experience directing and conceiving choreography for large-scale productions as well as for intimate venues. She equally loves developing new work and reimagining classics, with the objective to create and deliver original and innovative theatre through the magic and rigor of artistic collaboration.

Sara began her dance career as a Radio City Rockette and made her Broadway debut in the 2001 revival of 42nd Street. Her other Broadway credits include After the Night and the Music, Irving Berlin's White Christmas, Billy Elliot: The Musical, Matilda the Musical, The Terms of My Surrender, and The Hills of California. She has had a marked career as a performer and associate choreographer, working with some of the theatre and dance industry's leading choreographers and directors across the world. Having worked on numerous Broadway and Off-Broadway productions, at the nation's top regional theatres, and international venues, Sara now enjoys creating work of her own that calls on her past experience while expressing her unique voice. Her work has been featured in countless productions, musicals, concerts, festivals, and live entertainment events, and can be seen on BroadwayHD.

As an educator, Sara has taught and been on faculty at prestigious institutions such as The Juilliard School, New York University, Pace University, Duke University, Manhattan School of Music and The Banff Centre. She is on faculty at Steps on Broadway in NYC and enjoys bringing a balance of rigor, play and discovery to her teaching.

MEL BROOKS (Writer, Composer & Lyricist, Producer.) Director, producer, writer and actor, Mel Brooks is the recipient of three 2001 Tony Awards (Best Score, Best Book of a Musical, Best Musical) and two Grammy Awards (Best Musical Show Album and Best Long Form Music Video) for The Producers. Mr. Brooks began his distinguished career during television's "Golden Age" as a writer for Sid Caesar on Your Show of Shows in 1951. In 1955 and in 1957, Brooks received Emmy Award nominations (with others) for the best comedy writing for Caesar's Show, and in 1956 he was nominated (with others) for best writing for a variety or situation comedy. In 1952, Brooks wrote sketches for Leonard Sillman's Broadway smash-hit revue, New Faces of 1952, and in 1957, together with Joe Darion, he wrote the book for the Broadway musical Shinbone Alley, which starred Eartha Kitt. In 1962, he wrote the book for the Broadway musical All-American, starring Ray Bolger. In the '60s, Brooks teamed up with Carl Reiner to write and perform The 2000 Year Old Man albums, which became immediate bestsellers. In 1960 and 1961, Brooks and Reiner received Grammy Award nominations for the best spoken word comedy for 2000 Years and for best comedy performance for 2000 and One Years, respectively. In 1997, Brooks and Reiner teamed up again for The 2000 Year Old Man In the Year 2000. Both a book and a CD were released, the CD winning a Grammy Award in 1998 for the best spoken word album: comedy. Brooks wrote and narrated The Critic, a short satire on avant-garde art films, which received the Academy Award for best animated short subject in 1964. In 1965, he teamed up with buck Henry and created Get Smart, the longrunning televisions show starring Don Adams as Agent 86. Brooks, along with others, received an Emmy Award for outstanding writing achievement in a comedy-variety in 1967 for The Sid Caesar, Imogene Coca, Carl Reiner, Howard Morris Special. In 1968, he wrote and directed his first feature film, The Producers, starring Zero Mostel and Gene Wilder, which earned him an Academy Award for the best original screenplay written directly for the screen. He then went on to create a remarkable string of hit comedies: 1970, he wrote, directed and acted in The Twelve Chairs; 1974, co-wrote, directed and acted in Blazing Saddles, and was nominated, along with John Morris, for the best title song, "Blazing Saddles"; 1974, co-wrote and directed Young Frankenstein: 1976. co-wrote, directed and starred in Silent Movie; 1977, co-wrote, directed and starred in Silent Movie; 1977, co-wrote, directed, produced and starred in History of the World, Part 1; 1983, produced and starred in To Be or Not To Be; co-wrote, directed, produced and starred in the hit sci-fi spoof, Spaceballs; 1991, co-wrote, directed, produced and starred in Life Stinks; 1993, co-wrote, directed, produced and starred in Robin Hood: Men In Tights; 1995, co-wrote, directed, produced an starred in Dracula: Dead and Loving It. For three successive seasons, Brooks won the Emmy Award for his role as *Uncle Phil* on the hit comedy show, Mad About You. His visionary film company, Brooksfilms Limited, founded in 1980, has produced some of America's most distinguished films, among them: David Lynch's The Elephant Man, David Cronenberg's The Fly, Frances, Richard Benjamin's My Favorite Year and 84 Charring Cross Road, starring Anthony Hopkins and Mr. Brooks' wife Anne Bancroft.

MADISON HECKELSBERG (Sound Mixer) is a criminology senior from Bartlesville, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Sound Designer/Engineer, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*; Sound Designer, *Waiting for Lefty*; Sound Operator, *RENT*. Spotlight Acting Academy: Sound Designer/Engineer, *Sweeney Todd; The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*; Sound Designer/Engineer, *Something Rotten!*; Sound Designer/Engineer, *Shrek the Musical*. Bartlesville Fine Arts: Sound Designer/Engineer, *Les Miserables*; Sound Designer/Engineer, *Anything Goes*.

MARY MARGARET HOLT (Producer) began her early ballet training in Austin, Texas at Austin Civic Ballet, receiving a Ford Foundation scholarship for study with the San Francisco Ballet at the age of 15. Subsequently, she received a Ford Foundation scholarship for study at the School of American Ballet, also appearing with the New York City Ballet. Holt accepted a soloist contract with Houston Ballet upon completing her BFA in Ballet Performance. While a member of Houston Ballet, she danced a wide variety of solo and principal roles in the classical and contemporary repertoire by choreographers including Stevenson, Van Manen, Van Danzig, Petipa, Balanchine, Taras, Dolin, Boris, Clouser, Franklin, Ivanov, de Mille, and O'Donnell. She also performed principal roles in Terekhov's *The Firebird, The Snow Maiden*, and *Don Quixote*. She has performed as a guest artist, teacher, and choreographer with ballet and opera companies across the United States.

Holt joined the dance faculty of the University of Oklahoma School of Dance as an assistant professor, following Miguel Terekhov as chair in 1991, and an appointment as director in 1998. As director of Oklahoma Festival Ballet, Holt has choreographed over forty ballets and operas and led Oklahoma Festival Ballet on tours to France (six), the Internationale Haydntage in Austria (2), Mexico (3), Taiwan, China, and Ecuador. Holt choreography includes the music of Franck, Haydn, The Beatles, Porter, Weill, Mozart, Ginastera, Ikard, Holley, Satie, Bartok, Orff, and Debussy and her ballets have been seen across the U.S. as well as in South America, the United Kingdom, and Europe. Under Holt's leadership, Oklahoma Festival Ballet performed works from the national repertoire by Joffrey and Balanchine as well as de Mille's, Rodeo. Her students have performed with Miami City Ballet, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Ballet Arizona, Ballet Austin, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Orlando Ballet, Oklahoma City Ballet, and Tulsa Ballet, and as finalists and semifinalists in the International Ballet Competition. At the University of Oklahoma, Holt taught every course in the ballet curriculum and her continuing studies in ballet pedagogy include studying Bournonville Technique with Tage Wendt; and Vaganove Technique at the Bolshoi Academy at Vail; and in St. Petersburg and Minsk, Russia.

Holt was an honoree at the second national RDA Festival in Pittsburgh in 2007, and she received the CORPS de Ballet International Lifetime Achievement Award in 2020. She has served on the Dance Panel of the National Endowment for the Arts and been a panelist on Women in the Academy at Oxford. She is the recipient of the Governor's Arts Award, the Presidential Professorship, and the Regents' Professorship at OU where she also holds the John and Mary Nichols' Chair in Dance.

NOAH JITTAWAIT (Lighting Designer) is a lighting design senior from Wichita, KS. Credits: OU University Theatre: Lighting Designer, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee;* Lighting Designer, *Another Doodle* (OFB); Lighting Designer, *Wherabouts Unknown* (OFB); Lighting Designer, *Rita and L'Heure Espagnole;* Lighting Designer, *Life is a Dream;* Lighting Designer; *Therefore I am* (YCS); Lighting Designer, *Rift* (YCS); Lighting Designer, *Solstice* (YCS). Music Theatre Wichita: Lighting Designer, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat;* Associate Lighting Designer, *Beautiful;* Assistant Lighting Designer, *Anastasia.* WPPAC: Assistant Lighting Designer, *Gypsy;* Assistant Lighting Designer, *Ragtime;* Assistant Lighting Designer, *Rock of Ages.* 

PAIGE KASULIS (Costume Designer) is a costume design junior from Edmond, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Costume designer, *Waiting for Lefty*; Assistant Costume Designer, *Rita*; Costume Designer. Stagedoor Manor: Costume Designer, *Six! the Musical*; Costume Designer, Animal farm; Costume Designer, Calamity Jane.

**RYLEE LUELLEN** (Associate Stage Manager) is a stage management sophomore from Tulsa, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Associate Stage Manager, *Waiting For Lefty*.

THOMAS MEEHAN (Author) received the Tony Award for co-writing the book for *The Producers* in 2001 and in 2003 for co-writing the book for *Hairspray*. He received his first Tony Award in 1977 for writing the book of *Annie*, which was his first Broadway show, and has written the books for the musicals *Rocky, Elf the Musical, Cry-Baby, Young Frankenstein, Chaplin, Bombay Dreams, I Remember Mama, Ain't Broadway Grand* and *Annie Warbucks*. In addition, he was a long-time contributor of humor to *The New Yorker*, an Emmy-Award winning writer of television comedy, and a collaborator on a number of screenplays, including Mel Brooks' *Spaceballs* and *To Be Or Not To Be*. Mr. Meehan was also a member of the Council of the Dramatists Guild. He and his wife, Carolyn, divided their time between a home in Nantucket and an apartment in Greenwich Village, near which, on Hudson Street, she owned and presided over the long-running and near-legendary children's store Peanut Butter & Jane.

HAROLD MORTIMER (Director) is an actor, adjudicator, director, music director, teacher. Fulbright Scholar and Fulbright Senior Specialist. He directed the South African premieres of Violet (2018), Spring Awakening (Johannesburg/Pretoria, 2011), and Songs for a New World (2016) featured at the South Africa National Arts Festival. Harold's director/music director and/or principal performance role credits include Anything Goes (Billy); Avenue; Batboy; Carousel (Billy); Company (Larry); Dogfight; The Fantasticks!; The Full Monty; A Grand Night for Singing (Man 2); I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change (2008, 2010); La Cage Aux Folles; The Music Man (Harold); My Fair Lady (Higgins); Oklahoma! (Curly); OKC Philharmonic's Christmas Show (Chorale); Pump Boys and Dinettes (Jackson); Smokey Joe's Café; The Sound of Music (Capt. Von Trapp); Sunday in the Park with George; Sweeney Todd (Anthony); Thoroughly Modern Millie; The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Panch); The Wild Party (Lippa version); and The World Goes Round. Harold has served on the faculty at the University of Washington, University of Connecticut, Connecticut College, AMDA, and Ball State University (Head of the musical theatre program for seven years). He has given presentations at the Fulbright International Convention, KCACTF Regions IV and VI, and thespian conferences. He has also served as guest artist/director/ faculty at Tshwane University, Oakfields College, the University of Pretoria in South Africa and BIMM University in England. Harold serves as Associate Dean with the Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts and is a Weitzenhoffer Endowed Professor in Musical Theatre Performance with the Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre. He has been part of the OUMT faculty since 2011 and was Interim Director for the School from 2016-2018. He earned his doctoral and master's degrees in Vocal Performance from the University of Washington, performed principal and comprimario roles in dozens of operas, and was a Metropolitan Opera Guild Northwest Regional Finalist. He is listed as distinguished faculty in "Who's Who in Fine Arts" and has been recognized as a Distinguished Alumni by the School of Music faculty from his alma mater, Mansfield University in Mansfield, Pennsylvania. Dr. Mortimer has directed Assassins and I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change for the OUMT Downtown Series, the one-act operas Coffee Cantata & La Serva Padrona for the OU School of Music opera program, and has served as music director for multiple productions for OU University Theatre.

ELLEN PIERCE (Associate Choreographer) is a musical theatre performance senior from Raleigh, NC. Credits: OU University Theatre: Schwartzy, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee; Alexi Darling, Dance Captain, Rent; Louise, Polly u/s, Crazy for You. Casa Mañana: Sillabub, Cats. MT Wichita: Margie, Crazy for You; Smalls, Newsies; Featured Soloist, A Night Among the Stars (w/ Kelli O'Hara). North Carolina Theatre: Minnie, West Side Story. OUMT Frehmen Showcase: Choreographer.

GOLDIE SNOW (Scenic Designer) is a scenic design senior from Miami, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Scenic Designer, Tesla (OFB '25); Scenic Designer, Waiting for Lefty; Co-Props Lead, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee; Assistant Scenic Designer, As You Like It; Properties Co-Lead, Rita and L'Heure Espanole; Properties Lead, The Merry Widow; Properties Co-Lead, The Nutcracker. The Shepherd School of Music: Assistant Scenic Designer, Ghost of Versailles; NEO Theatre Experience: Scenic Charge Artist, Puffs; Scenic Charge Artist, Into the Woods.

MICHAEL STAFFORD (Musical Director) Michael is a pianist, musical director, and multi-instrumentalist from Norman, OK celebrating his tenth year of working with the Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre and his fourth year as a lecturer. Recent engagements include Music Director: Assassins; I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change; Songs for a New World; OUMT Freshman Showcase 2019 (University of Oklahoma); You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown (Pollard Theatre Company); The Great American Trailer Park Musical; The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical; Christmas With The Crawfords; Scrooge in Rouge (The Boom, Oklahoma City). Associate Music Director: Beautiful: the Carole King Musical; West Side Story; Disney's When You Wish; Dreamgirls (Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma). Michael has also worked with the University of Oklahoma School of Music as accompanist for University Chorale, and Repetiteur for opera productions of Songs of Hope; Così fan tutte and The Golden Cockerel. He was the piano soloist in the Oklahoma Baroque Orchestra's performance of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20, and has performed as a recorder soloist, orchestral pianist, and chorister with the Norman Philharmonic. He also serves as principal pianist and music director for OK City Opera (formerly Opera On Tap OKC). Michael has been a keyboardist and vocalist in local bands such as the Damn Quails, Kierston White, ADDverse Effects, Bungalouski, and holds a weekly residency with "The Wednesday Band" at the Deli in Norman. He pursued studies in clarinet performance at the Boston Conservatory, and completed a Bachelor of Musical Arts degree in piano performance from the University of Oklahoma in 2018.

RUBY RAVSTEN (Associate Lighting Designer) is a lighting and scenic design junior from Keller, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Scenic Designer, *The Turn of the Screw*; Mytosis (YCS '25); Lighting Designer, As You Like It; Lighting Designer, Life is a Dream; Assistant Lighting Designer, Weaponized Fragility (YCS '24). OU Helmerich School of Drama: Lighting Designer, The Maids; Lighting & Scenic Designer, Proof. Houston Shakespeare Festival: Lighting Designer, Romeo and Juliet; Assistant Scenic Designer, A Midsummer Night's Dream. Shepherd School of Music: Associate Scenic Designer, The Ghosts of Versailles. Off-Broadway: Assistant to the Lighting Designer, Saturday Church.

**ANDREW TARR** (Sound Designer) is from Lafayette, Indiana where he earned his BA in Sound for the Performing Arts from Purdue University. His MFA came from the University of California, Irvine and he is currently based in Woodland Hills, Los Angeles.

Recent select designs include: Mr Ballen's Strange Dark and Mysterious Tour (16 shows, United States), Thankmas (Orpheum Theatre).

Recent select associate designs include: Wicked Soul on Cherry Hill, The Inheritance (Geffen Playhouse), Little Shop of Horrors, Cyrano de Bergerac (Pasadena Playhouse), Prelude to a Kiss (South Coast Repertory), Public Works: Winter's Tale, Public Works: As You Like It, Twelfth Night (Dallas Theater Center), Quack (Center Theatre Group).

Andrew maintains an on-going role as a composer and performer collaborating with choreographers to create original music for modern dance. His recent release (night garden) can be found streaming widely and on Apple Music, Spotify, YouTube.

JJ TOLY (Associate Stage Manager) is a stage management sophomore from Tyler, TX. Credits: OU University Theatre: Associate Stage Manager, *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*. Magill Musical Theater Studio: Run Crew Head, *That Was Then;* Scenic Designer, *Good Luck With Your Ending;* Run Crew, *Madness*.







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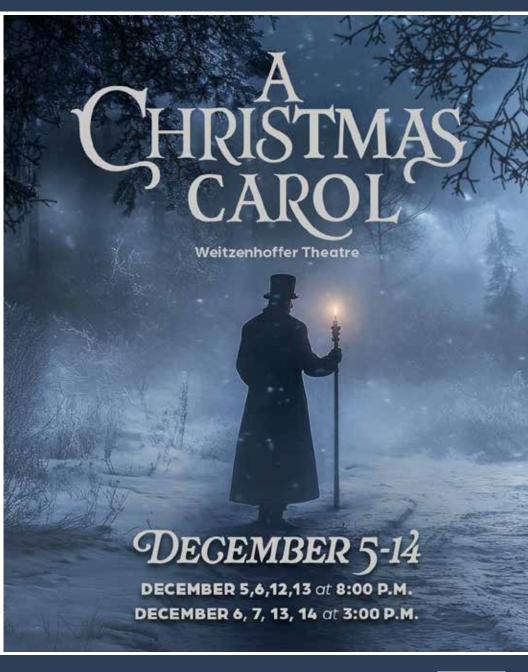
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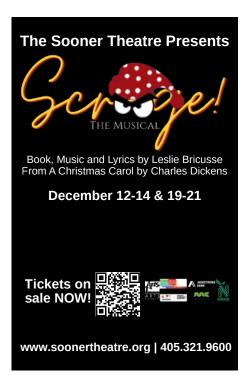


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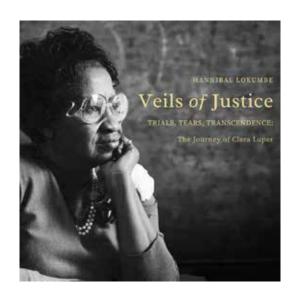
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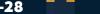
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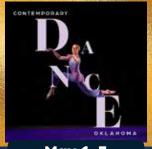
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