

## THEATRE THREE



# STRIDER

## TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

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The Dallas Morning News salutes Theatre Three.

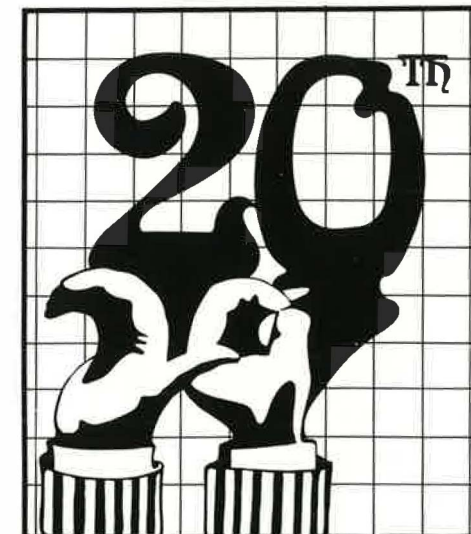
It's the 20th Anniversary Season at Theatre Three. At mid-season on March 24th is the actual birthday.

I was around when Theatre Three started. But it was Norma Young who began it: she had the instinct, the knowledge, the energy and the determination. She still has all these and most importantly she still has the highest standards. Long may they dominate this theatre's existence!





It's important to remember that thousands have marched across Theatre Three's stages. And hundreds of thousands, by now, have warmed Theatre Three's seats. All that psychic and physical energy feeds our present performances. We gain from the investment so many have made in Theatre Three.

In the early days we had a grand sense of immediacy but little sense of the future. Like all futures, ours turned out to be better-worse than we could have dreamed. The first seven productions were staged at the Sheraton Dallas hotel. Then we moved into a long-vacant building at 2211 Main Street. It had been a seal cover garage when built in the 30s. In that faintly disreputable locale Dallas playgoers met (for the first time) Albee, Kopit, Pinter, de Ghelderde, Saroyan and others. And audiences saw new plays by Tennessee Williams, William Inge, Carson McCullers, Robert Anderson and William Gibson, Shakespeare, Moliere, Goldoni, Strindberg and other masters contributed respectability. The sheer entertainment values of those (and other plays and musicals) dispelled the cloud of disuse that had pervaded. It had been something of a sweatshop building. We continued to sweat. But the building transmogrified into a center for human joy and exploration. It's that joy and exploration that characterize, we hope, Theatre Three and its contribution to this community. Actors and audiences are always celebrants. On our 20th birthday it's a good thing to remember.

## THEATRE THREE



## ANNIVERSARY

<p>PATTY <i>Campbell</i> REPRESENTING</p>  <p><b>Artists' Rep</b></p> <p>214 526-8600 ***** EST. MEMPHIS • SUITE 308 • GALLERIA TEXAS 75219</p>	<p>PATTY <i>Campbell</i> REPRESENTING</p>  <p><b>Kent Barker</b></p> <p>PHOTOGRAPHY 214 526-8600 ***** EST. MEMPHIS • SUITE 308 • GALLERIA TEXAS 75219</p>	<p>PATTY <i>Campbell</i> REPRESENTING</p>  <p><b>Robb Debenport</b></p> <p>PHOTOGRAPHY 214 526-8600 ***** EST. MEMPHIS • SUITE 308 • GALLERIA TEXAS 75219</p>	<p>PATTY <i>Campbell</i> REPRESENTING</p>  <p><b>Doug Doering</b></p> <p>PHOTOGRAPHY 214 526-8600 ***** EST. MEMPHIS • SUITE 308 • GALLERIA TEXAS 75219</p>
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*Maestro Arthur Fiedler conducted six benefit concerts for Theatre Three. To memorialize his commitment and support of the theatre, the "Fiedler Fellowship" has been established. This special fund will support the services of a professional actor or actress at Theatre Three. The following patrons have made contributions to the Fiedler Fellowship.*

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The piano used in this production has been purchased through a generous grant from the Meadows Foundation.

Theatre Three was founded in 1960 by Norma Young, who served as the Artistic Director through 1976.

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Miss Norma Young, Honorary Member  
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This Playbill has been provided by a generous grant from TACA, INC.

## STRIDER: THE STORY OF A HORSE

While accompanying Leo Tolstoy on a walk in the country, fellow writer Ivan Turgenev noticed him stopping to whisper to a mangy old nag. "I could have listened forever," Turgenev wrote later. "He had gotten inside the very soul of the poor beast and taken me with him. I could not refrain from remarking, 'I say, Leo Nikolayevich, beyond any doubt, you must have been a horse once yourself!'"

Tolstoy first drafted his short story "Strider: The Story of a Horse" in 1863, the same year he began "War and Peace." It wasn't until 1885, some twenty years later, that the fable was completed. It seems the life of Tolstoy's fictitious horse was based on that of an actual horse who appeared over and over in his "Fables for Children" and other short stories.

In the spring of 1977, Robert Kalfin, Producing Director of New York's Chelsea Theater Center, was one of seven American

directors selected to participate in a new U.S.-Soviet Cultural Exchange Program. While traveling in the Soviet Union, he attended a performance of "Strider" at the Gorky Theater in Leningrad. Through earphones he listened to a simultaneous translation and was enchanted with the production. The Russian version had been created by writer/director Mark Rozovsky from a series of improvisations done at the theatre's drama school.

Upon returning to the United States, Mr. Kalfin began working with lyricist Steve Brown and a Russian translator to adapt the work for the American stage. "Strider," which opened at the Chelsea Theater Center in May, 1979, was the first play to be performed under the new U.S.-Soviet Copyright Agreement. Six months after its opening at the Chelsea, the show was moved into Broadway's Helen Hayes Theatre where it enjoyed unanimous praise from critics.

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## STRIDER

A Play with Music by  
**MARK ROZOVSKY**

Adapted from a Story by  
**LEO TOLSTOY**

Directed by  
**LYNNE GANNAWAY**

Starring  
**LAURENCE O'DWYER**  
As Strider

Also starring  
**TRACY CARNES** **KEN HORNBECK** **MEGAN EILEEN READY**  
**GARY DANIEL** **BEVERLY EGAN HOUSTON** **JEFFREY RIGBY**  
**REED DANIELS** **KIM KER** **DWIGHT C. SANDELL**  
**ALAN DENNY** **LOIS LEFTWICH** **MICHAEL VAN DALSEM**  
**DONNA DOORENBOS** **JEFFREY ALLAN MARLER** **GABRIELLE WEST**  
**DAVID FENLEY** **AMY MILLS** **TIM YORK**

Producer & Associate Director  
**JAC ALDER**

Assistant to the Director  
**GERRY BRENTTE**

Musical Direction by  
**ALAN SHORTER**

Set Design by  
**CHARLES HOWARD**

Lighting Design by **SHARI MELDE** Costume Designs by **PATTY GREER McGARITY**

English Version by  
**ROBERT KALFIN & STEVE BROWN**

Based on a Translation by  
**TAMARA BERING SUNGUROFF**

Music Originally Composed by **M. ROZOVSKY, S. VETKIN** New York Musical Direction by **NORMAN L. BERMAN** Original Russian Lyrics by **URI RIASHENTSEV**

Stage Manager — Shari Melde  
Sound Engineer — David R. Allen

Assistant Stage Manager — Deborah Brooks

Set and Light Crew — Jim Haigler (Technical Director), Deborah Brooks, Gray Gorney, Charles Howard, Shari Melde, David Morales, Denée Roy, Thom Schilling, Chris Volkmer.

Props — Shari Melde, Deborah Brooks

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## THE CAST

(in order of speaking)

Vaska .....	DAVID FENLEY
Strider .....	LAURENCE O'DWYER
Count Bobrinsky/Darling/The Lieutenant .....	MICHAEL VAN DALSEM
Viazapurikha/Mathieu/Marie .....	MEGAN EILEEN READY
Groom .....	KIM KER
General/Announcer .....	ALAN DENNY
Actor/Gypsy .....	DONNA DOORENBOS
Actor/Gypsy .....	TIM YORK
Actor/Gypsy .....	GABRIELLE SUZETTE WEST
Actor/Gypsy .....	AMY MILLS
Actor/Gypsy .....	LOIS LEFTWICH
Prince Serpuhovskiy .....	GARY DANIEL
Feofan/Fritz .....	KEN D. HORNBECK
Vendor/Actor .....	REED DANIELS
Mr. Willingstone/Actor .....	JEFFREY ALLAN MARLER
Actor .....	TRACY CARNES
Actor .....	BEVERLY EGAN HOUSTON
Actor .....	JEFFREY RIGBY
Bet Taker/Actor .....	DWIGHT C. SANDELL

## MUSICIANS

Piano .....	ALAN SHORTER
Violin .....	KATHY LINCOLN
Percussion .....	JAY ELLIS

## UNDERSTUDIES

Strider — David Fenley, Viazapurikha/Mathieu/Marie — Tracy Carnes, Darling — Reed Daniels, Groom — Dwight C. Sandell, Swing Persons — Deborah Brooks, Kelly Laughlin.

Dance Captain . . . . . Tracy Carnes

There will be one ten-minute intermission

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



TRACY CARNES



GARY DANIEL



REED DANIELS



ALAN DENNY

\*TRACY CARNES (Actor) was most recently seen as Rizzo in Casa Manana's production of "Grease." A graduate of the University of Texas with a B.F.A. in acting, Miss Carnes has been featured in numerous television commercials, as well as in "Footsteps," a 30-part series for P.B.S. During the past season she was seen as Eve in "The Apple Tree" at Theatre Onstage and was the Associate Producer of an original presentation entitled "The Women's Works."

\*GARY DANIEL (Prince Serpuhovskiy) has just returned to Dallas following a two-year stay in New York. Most recently he was seen in Broadway's "Peter Pan," starring Sandy Duncan. Other stage credits include Conrad in "Bye Bye Birdie," Michael in "I Do, I Do," and Donald in "Irene." Mr. Daniel, a graduate of The University of Southern Colorado, is making his third appearance on the Theatre Three stage in "Strider." His two previous roles include Big Jim in "Little Mary Sunshine" and Maximilian in "Candide."

REED DANIELS (Vendor/Actor) accumulated numerous stage credits at Stephen F. Austin State University where he received his B.F.A. in theatre. Included among these are "Oliver," "Hedda Gabler," "Mame," "Misalliance," "My Fair Lady," and "Tartuffe." Mr. Daniels, who has trained in dance and choreography, choreographed several S.F.A. productions including "The Bacchae," "Experiment in Silence," and "Tartuffe" and directed "The Children's Hour."

ALAN DENNY (General/Announcer) made his Theatre Three debut as the M.C. in the 1979-80 season opener "Chicago." Since that time he has been seen in three Theatre Three children's productions — "The Golden Goose," "The Bremen Town Musicians," and "The Firebird." Other Dallas credits include "The Rocky Horror Show," "Shenandoah," "Godspell," and "Once Upon A Mattress." A native of Oklahoma, Mr. Denny made his stage debut as a tin soldier at the age of 5.

DONNA DOORENBOS (Actor/Gypsy) has studied voice at Millsaps College in Mississippi, where she received her bachelor's degree in vocal performance, at S.M.U., where she received her M.M. degree, and at the Banff Centre of Fine Arts in Alberta, Canada. Performing credits include Anne Page in "The Merry Wives of Windsor," Laretta in "Gianni Schicchi" and Liat in "South Pacific." She toured as a soloist with the

S.M.U. choir during 1978, '79 and '80 and was the 1980 first place winner of the Vocal Concerts Competition of the Dallas Civic Symphony.

DAVID FENLEY (Vaska) graduated cum laude from S.M.U. where he received a B.A. in Russian. A native of Dallas, Mr. Fenley was awarded a scholarship to study in the Soviet Union during 1976. He made his Theatre Three debut as Medvedenko in last season's production of "The Seagull." Other stage credits include "Uncle Vanya" at UTD, "The Changing Room" at the New Arts Theatre and a 1979 tour of "A Christmas Carol" for Bill Fegan Attractions.

KEN D. HORNBECK (Feofan/Fritz) has recently returned to Dallas after completing a season of summer stock in Minnesota. While there he appeared as Happy in "Death of a Salesman," Jack in "The Importance of Being Earnest," Flint in "Something's Afoot," and Chrysalde in "The Amorous Flea." Mr. Hornbeck has also been seen as Adam in Theatre Onstage's recent production of "The Apple Tree." Other Dallas productions include "Shenandoah" and "God's Favorite" at Dallas Repertory Theatre, as well as "Company" and "Frankenstein" at Theatre Onstage.

BEVERLY EGAN HOUSTON (Actor) has appeared in Theatre Three's productions of "Ruddigore," "Candide" and "The New York Idea." Other Dallas credits include Edith in "Pirates of Penzance" at the Dallas Repertory Theatre, Agnes in "Who Killed Aunt Caroline" and Sister Cecilia in "The Secret Affairs of Mildred Wild" at the Addison Community Theatre. Most recently, she appeared in the cabaret comedy revue "You Gotta Be Kidding" at Faces Nightclub. Miss Houston and her husband own and operate The Stewart Gallery in Dallas.

KIM KER (Groom) is making his Theatre Three debut in "Strider." Mr. Ker's stage credits include "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "Waiting For Godot," "Sweet Charity," "Tartuffe," "The Seagull," and "Boys in the Band." He worked for a season at the Playhouse in the Park in Cincinnati and toured for another season with the Dallas Children's Theatre Company.

LOIS LEFTWICH (Actor/Gypsy), who is making her first appearance at Theatre Three, is no newcomer to the Dallas area stage. She has been seen at Dallas Repertory Theatre in "Pirates of Penzance," "Once Upon A Mattress," "Pippin," and "The Mikado," at Theatre Onstage in "Godspell," and at the Irving Community Theatre in "Superman," "Brigadoon," and "Fiddler On The Roof." Most recently she performed in Stage West's production of "Jacques Brel."

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## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



DONNA DOORENBOS



DAVID FENLEY



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BEVERLY EGAN HOUSTON

**JEFFREY ALLAN MARLER** (Mr. Willingstone/Actor) recently portrayed Pluto in the Northwood Institute production of "The Greeks Had A Cure For It" under the direction of Jack Eddleman and lyricist E. Y. Harburg. A native of Houston, Mr. Marler has performed with the Dallas Civic Opera in "Manon Lescaut," "Les Pecheurs de Perles," and "Aida," and with the Fort Worth Opera in "Fidelio" and "Il Trovatore." He studied at North Texas State University where he appeared in numerous theatrical, as well as operatic, productions.

**AMY MILLS** (Actor/Gypsy) was born and raised in Ohio, but schooling and theatrical pursuits have pulled her progressively west and southward. She has come to Dallas as a member of Theatre Three's Apprentice Program during the 1980-81 season. Miss Mills received her B.A. in theatre at Hope College in Holland, Michigan and her M.F.A. in performance at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. Her stage credits include Giacinta in "Scapino," Bonnie in "Anything Goes," and Dolly Tate in "Annie Get Your Gun." After less than two months in Texas, Miss Mills has already picked up a "Texas accent."

\* **LAURENCE O'DWYER** (Strider) most recently portrayed the charming matinee idol Garry Essendine in Noel Coward's delightful comedy "Present Laughter" produced last summer at Theatre Three. A graduate of Chicago's Goodman Theatre, Mr. O'Dwyer has performed in and directed Theatre Three productions since 1962. Other credits during the '79-80 season

include the direction of "Chicago," "The Seagull," and "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When The Rainbow is Enuf," and a starring role in E. L. Doctorow's "Drinks Before Dinner." Mr. O'Dwyer, who served for several years as the Chairman of the Drama Department at Bennington College in Vermont, is currently Theatre Three's Director of Conservatory and directs the theater's children's productions.

**MEGAN EILEEN READY** (Viazapuriha/Mathieu/ Marie), a newcomer to Theatre Three, has appeared in productions at the Gran' Crystal Palace Theatre, Six Flags Over Texas and S.M.U. Miss Ready, who has trained extensively in dance and choreography, received a scholarship to study at the Harkness House for Ballet Arts in New York. She was also a member of the Dallas Metropolitan Ballet Company. She has recently performed as a lead singer for "Opus One," a versatile show and dance band with partner Richard Poole and the Bill Keck Trio.

\* **JEFFREY RIGBY** (Actor), as a member of the 1980 ensemble at Fort Worth's Casa Manana, performed the roles of Doody in "Grease," Michael Tobin and Charlie in "The Unsinkable Molly Brown," Aeron in "Chicago," and Juan in "Man of La Mancha." "Strider" marks his first performance at Theatre Three. He brings with him the experience of eighteen roles in sixteen musical and operatic productions. Mr. Rigby has also done industrial and television filmwork, studio recording and has worked professionally as a commercial artist.

\*Member, Actors' Equity Association



LAURENCE O'DWYER



MEGAN EILEEN READY



JEFFREY RIGBY



DWIGHT C. SANDELL

## WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



KIM KER



LOIS LEFTWICH



JEFFREY ALAN MARLER



AMY MILLS

**DWIGHT C. SANDELL** (Bet Taker/Actor), a native Minnesotan, began his theatre studies as a sophomore at Gustavus Adolphus College. He continued studying in Vienna, at the Max Reinhardt Drama Seminar, in Iran, and at the University of Minnesota. Since then, he has sung in night clubs from Maine to Colorado, learned piano, and acted. Among his favorite roles are Lancelot, Barnaby Tucker and Annas. After "Strider," he hopes to work in the metroplex as a lounge singer-pianist soloist.

\* **MICHAEL VAN DALSEM** (Darling/Count Bobrinsky/ Lieutenant) last appeared at Theatre Three in 1978 as Jamie Lockhart, the berty-stained "Robber Bridegroom." Since that time he has been touring in "Fiddler on the Roof" as Fyedka, in "The Sound of Music" as Rolf and in "Annie Get Your Gun" as Mac for Dinner Theatres, Inc. Dallas audiences have also seen him in Theatre Three's "The Learned Ladies" as Clitandre and at the Country Dinner Playhouse as the diabolical M.C. in "Cabaret."

**GABRIELLE SUZETTE WEST** (Actor/Gypsy) was last seen at Theatre Three in the smash hit of the 1979-80 season, "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When The Rainbows Enuf." Other stage credits include "Hamstring Revue" at the Haymarket Theatre and "Twelfth Night" and "Mystery at Borage" at the Dallas Theater Center. Miss West, who is currently working as an associate producer at WFAA-TV, lists film-making as one of her primary interests. Her hobbies include the study of Indian music and African and island dance.

\*Member, Actors' Equity Association

**TIM YORK** (Actor/Gypsy) began his performing career as the neighborhood magician. The magic of music, however, soon lured him into learning the guitar. As a professional musician/songwriter, he has toured the country for five years, playing at over a hundred colleges and universities. Theater is now at the center of his interests and his goal is to write professionally for the dramatic stage. Mr. York is a Dallas native and a graduate of East Texas State University.

**LYNNE GANNAWAY** (Director) co-directed the original production of "Strider" at the Chelsea Theater Center and also its Broadway production at the Helen Hayes Theatre. For their exceptional direction of the Broadway version, Miss Gannaway and co-director Robert Kalin were nominated for the coveted Drama Desk Award for Best Director. A Dallas native and graduate of S.M.U., Miss Gannaway spent three summers with the Dallas Summer Musicals before making her way to New York. Her impressive list of credits as a choreographer includes the Broadway production of "Candide," which she assisted Pat Birch in choreographing, and numerous off-Broadway, dinner theatre and summer stock productions. Miss Gannaway has also choreographed for "Saturday Night Live," the NYC Cable Television production, "A Tribute to Gertrude," and Robert Kline's TV special on N.B.C. She most recently choreographed the American premiere of "Tarantara, Tarantara" at The Actors' Theatre of Louisville.

**ALAN SHORTER** (Musical Director) received his B.A. in theatre and drama from Indiana University. A native of Minnesota,



MICHAEL VAN DALSEM



GABRIELLE SUZETTE WEST



TIM YORK



LYNNE GANNAWAY



ALAN SHORTER



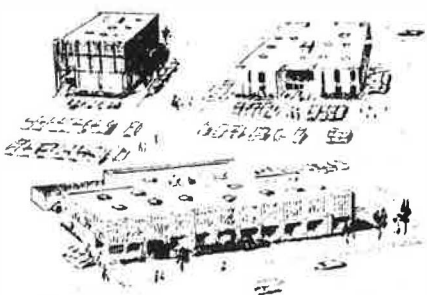
GERRY BRENTTE

Mr. Shorter served on the faculty of the Minneapolis Children's Theatre Company and School. He has provided the musical direction for productions at the Brown County Playhouse in Indiana, the Timberlake Playhouse in Illinois, the Radisson Playhouse in Minnesota and for a national tour of "A Christmas Carol." This was Mr. Shorter's first long, hot Texas summer.

GERRY BRENTTE (Assistant to the Director) assisted Gower Champion in choreographing, as well as appeared in, "Hello Dolly," "Sugar" and "Mack and Mabel." He received recognition for choreographing the first original Mexican musical "Phantom of the Opera." During the last three years, he has directed commercials for such products as Hi-C Drink, Dr. Pepper, Fayva Shoes and White Cloud Toilet Tissue. He has worked with Jim Nabors, Glen Campbell, the Jackson Five, as well as Grand Funk Railroad. Mr. Brentte was once seen in a series of Colt-45 commercials as a gorilla.

\*Member, Actors' Equity Association

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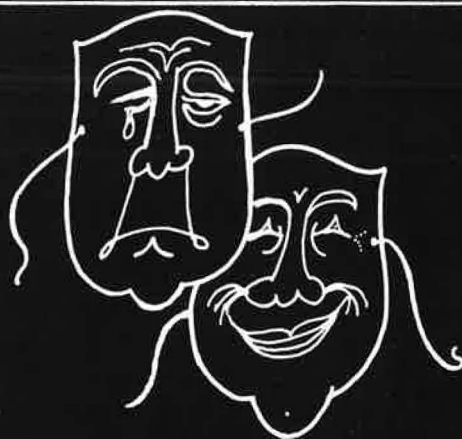
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**BLUE'S LAKEFRONT BAR AND GRILLE** — 3407 W. Northwest Hwy. (351-6536). Fancy burgers, catfish and drinks, overlooking Bachman Lake. Open seven days till 11pm, midnight on weekends. Major credit cards.

**THE GREENVILLE AVENUE COUNTRY CLUB** — 3619 Greenville Ave. (826-5650). Serving a scrumptious assortment of burgers, sandwiches, and snacks. Enjoy the cozy atmosphere indoors or take your refreshments poolside and relax. Open Mon.-Sat., 11am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am.

## CONTINENTAL

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**THE GRAPE RESTAURANT** — 2808 Greenville Ave. Intimate, candlelit bistro serving cheeses, pates, pasta, blackboard entrees, and over 150 wines. Full bar. Dinner every night, until 1am on weekends. Lunch M-F. MC, VISA, Am. Express.

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Director of  
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## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Producer's Assistant ..... Nancy Akers  
Publicity Director ..... Terri Taylor  
Comptroller ..... Mary Cabello  
Conservatory Coordinator ..... Shari Melde

## OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT

Directors ..... Howard Gold  
Richard McKenzie

## BOX OFFICE

Box Office Manager ..... William DeGnath  
Box Office Staff ..... Richard Clark  
Rick Tankersley  
Johanna Thompson  
Chris Volkmer  
House Manager ..... Carmen Gonzalez

## PRODUCTION

Stage Manager ..... Shari Melde  
Costumer ..... Patty Greer McGarity  
Technical Director ..... Jim Haigler  
Facilities Manager ..... Thom Schilling  
Stage Crew ..... Gray Gorney  
Chris Volkmer  
David Morales

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