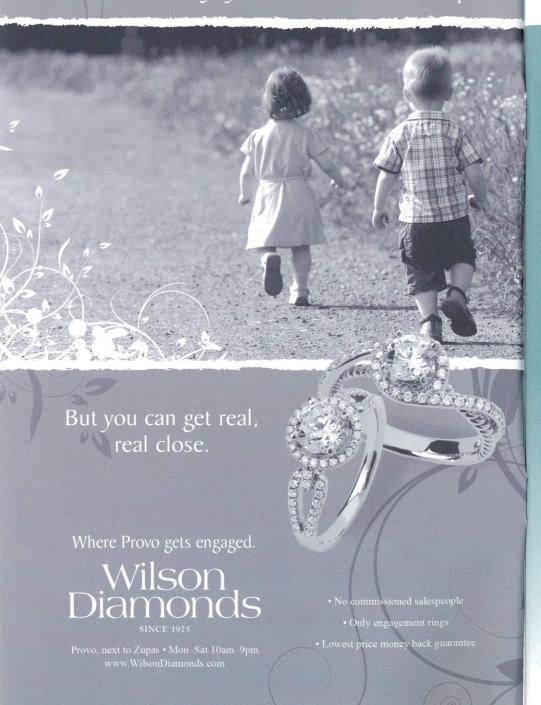


# **The Taffetas**

Production Conceived by **Rick Lewis** Vocal Arrangements by **Rick Lewis**  Directed by **George D. Nelson** 

September 9–19, 2009 Pardoe Theatre Harris Fine Arts Center

# Truth is, buddy, you never do catch up.



Cast and Production Staff, 4 Meet the Company Bios, 8 Study Guide, 11 **Production Staff** Producing Staff, 26

# **The Taffetas**

Production Conceived by **Rick Lewis** 

Vocal Arrangements by **Rick Lewis** 

Directed by George D. Nelson

Produced by special arrangement with Select Entertainment Productions, LLC. Originally produced by Arthur Whitelaw and James Shellenberger, in association with Select Entertainment. Additional material by Arthur Whitelaw.



# Cast

Peggy Michelle Boothe **Donna** Amanda Crabb **Cheryl** Michelle Gardner Kaye Kerilyn Johnson

Bass Guitar Joe Gibbs **Drums** Cori Murphy Piano Richard Williams **Setting:** A fictitious weekly 1950's television show on the real-life **Dumont Television Network** 

Act One Spotlight on Music Opening Sh-Boom Love's a Two-way Street Mr. Sandman The Three Bells Tonight You Belong to Me **Hurt Medley** I'm Sorry Ricochet I Cried Cry Smile Galaxy Commercial Achoo Cha Cha Mockin' Bird Hill Travel Medley You Belong to Me The Happy Wanderer Istanbul (Not Constantinople) My Little Grass Shack in Kealakekua, Hawaii C'est si bon Sweet Song of India Arivederci, Roma See the USA in Your Chevrolet Allegheny Moon Tennessee Waltz Old Cape Cod

Fly Me to the Moon

Around the World

Volare

## **Act Two**

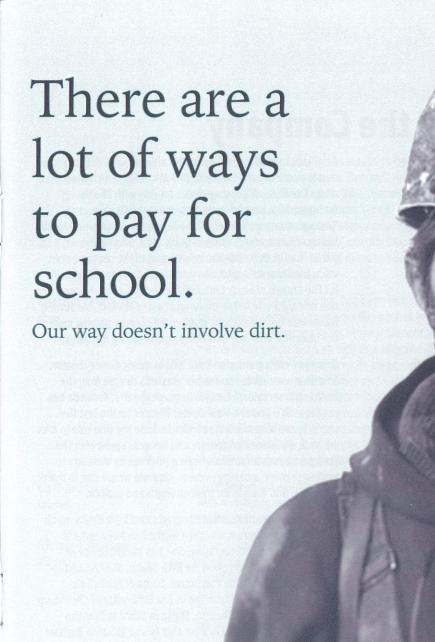
Music! Music! Music! Put Another Nickel in the Nickelodeon Love Letters L-O-V-E I-M-4-U Mickey Mouse Club Rag Mopp I'm in Love with You Puppy Love How Much Is That Doggy in the Window? Peep! Peep! Tweedle Dee Lollipop Music, Music, Music! Sincerely **Boys Medley** Johnny Angel Mister Lee Dedicated to the One I Love Where the Boys Are I'll Think of You Little Darlin' Spotlight on Music

# **Production Staff**

Choreographer **Guest Musical Directors** 

**Vocal Arranger** Rick Lewis Production Stage Manager Lindsi Neilson Scenic Designer Heather Starr Costume Designer Rachel Haab Makeup Designer M'Lisa Hansen Hair Designer Karl Wesson **Lighting Designer** Marianne Ohran **Sound Designer Assistant Stage Manager Assistant Makeup Designer** Kim Fitt

**Director** George D. Nelson Michelle Boothe Randy Boothe Ross Boothe Gavle Lockwood **Dramaturg** Lelagi Klein Jake Peerv Camee Faulk



The Office of Prestigious Scholarships & Fellowships

# **Meet the Company**

## Michelle Boothe

Peggy

# Amanda Crabb

Donna

## Michelle Marquis Gardner Chervl

Originally from Mesa, Arizona. BYU alumna with a BFA in music dance theatre. While at BYU Michelle participated in Aida, The Music Man, three years touring with The Young Ambassadors, and as student director of MDT showcase. Since graduating in 2006, Michelle has choreographed for the Young Ambassadors; You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown; and Berlin here at BYU. She has been a part of the contemporary voice faculty at BYU, and has participated in theatrical work for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In 2008 she was offered a role in the Broadway cast of Wicked, but turned it down for her dream role: mother. She is now playing mom to her beautiful little boy and wife to her amazing husband.

Amanda Crabb graduated from BYU in music dance theatre. She then went on to receive her master's degree from the Boston Conservatory of Music in music theatre. Amanda has taught at BYU and the Hale Center Theater for the last five years. Some of her favorite credits include the title role in *Kiss me Kate*, Kathleen in *Ragtime*, and her year spent with The Young Ambassadors. It has been a privilege for Amanda to work with these amazing women. Amanda would like to thank her family and friends for their strength and support.

From Springville, Utah. Michelle graduated from BYU's music dance theatre program and then worked on her master's degree in dance/choreography. She has taught dance at BYU and has choreographed for BYU–Idaho, SCERA Outdoor Theatre, and Springville Playhouse. Some of Michelle's favorite roles include Madeline in *The Umbrellas of Cherbourg* at Sundance Summer Theatre, Maria in *Utah!* at Tuacahn Ampitheatre, Erzulie in *Once on This Island* at Santa Barbara Civic Light Opera, and title role in *Jane Eyre* at BYU.

## **Joseph Gibbs**

Bass Guitar

Has been playing the since he was ten when he thought the only thing in life was to be Bon Jovi. He has done a lot of growing since then and realizes that being from New Jersey might not be all that cool after all. He is an avid Red Sox, Kings, and Ute fan, enjoys reading, movies, and a good chocolate milkshake. Currently studying music at the University of Utah, he has plans to take over the world sometime later this year.

## Kerilyn Johnson Kaye

From Highland, Utah. Kerilyn has been teaching at BYU in the music dance theatre program for the past 14 years, as well as in her private home studio. While a student at BYU, she was in many productions as well as a member of The Young Ambassadors. Some of her favorite stage moments include playing Fantine in *Les Misérables* and starring in *Music of the Night: An Andrew Lloyd Webber Tribute.* From 2002–2007 she performed with Providence, a vocal foursome signed by Deseret Book. When she's not singing or teaching you can find her chauffeuring her five children around Highland where she lives with her gorgeous, awesome, and supportive husband.

## Cori Murphy Drums

Richard Williams
Piano

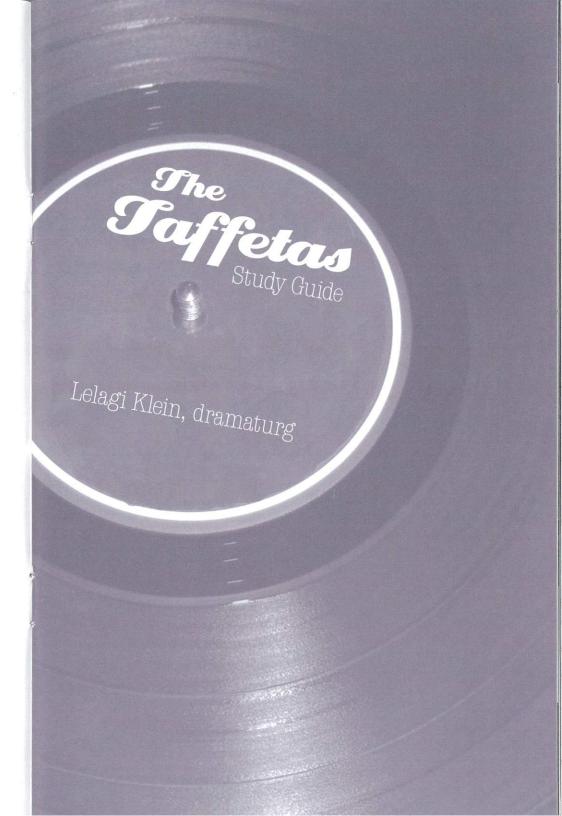
From Arroyo Grande, California. Senior majoring in sociology with a minor in music, and plans to attend law school. Cori recently returned from an LDS mission in Finland.

From Salinas, California. With a double majoring in media music and Japanese, with a minor in Chinese, Richard regularly plays for BYU's ballet and modern dance classes. He is an active musician in the local band world, playing more than seven instruments. He hopes to compose music for movies.

# **Director's Note**

I have had the opportunity in my twenty years at BYU to work with some of the most talented young women on this planet. Tonight you will get a glimpse of what has been my constant privilege. The four beautiful women who will share their talents with you represent hundreds of their sisters who, in like manner, have trained on our stages, lifted and inspired audiences, and then recalibrated their sights to follow an even higher calling. Many of these brilliant women have placed worldly acclaim and stardom on the altar of their faith to take the leading role on much smaller stage. In my home, and in homes all over this world, you'll find a woman of the greatest ability who has sacrificed more than can be measured for needs of the tender little audience that gathers at her knee. Their highly trained voices and skills are now used to teach, encourage, love, and build testimony in a rising generation. While the world may wonder and disparage, these women of vision take solace in knowing they have accepted the most important role in an act that will never end.

Tonight relax with us and remember a simpler, gentler time. As you do, let your mind take you to a familiar place where you can remember what the women who love you have set aside. Let our songs of love tonight prompt an ovation of gratitude from your heart to theirs.







Toast of the Town, hosted by Ed Sullivan, premiered on June 20, 1948. The first show included Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis, Richard Rogers, and Oscar Hammerstein II. The series was changed to The Ed Sullivan Show on September 25, 1955. The show ended in 1971. Among the rock stars that appeared on the show were Bobby Vinton, Connie Francis, Dave Clark, Gladys Knight and the Pips, Mamas and Papas, Paul Anka, Rolling Stones, and Teresa Brewer. Elvis Presley appeared on the show three times.



# Chronology of the 1950s

Apr 5 The Rosenbergs receive the death penalty for spying.



CBS

color television show.

Jun 25

Jul 10

Talks begin at

Korean Conflict.

Kaesong to end the

communism speech. Jun 17 The first organ

# transplant is performed.

Feb 9

Sen. McCarthy

delivers anti-

lun 26-Oct 21

Pres. Truman sends troops to defend South Korea. 38th Parallel crossed and North Korea's capital, Pyongyang, is captured.



Oct 2 "Peanuts" comic strip debuts.

Jul 2 Jonas E. Salk develops the first successful Polio vaccine.



Sep 23 Vice pres. candidate, Richard Nixon delivers "Checkers" speech.



Nov 4 Dwight "Ike" Eisenhower is elected pres.

Jul 26-27 Armistice ending the Korean Conflict is signed.

Feb 28 DNA is discovered by lames Watson and Francis Crick.

Sep 30 Earl Warren becomes chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

May 17

Brown v. Board

of Education of

Topeka, Kansas

case is decided.



Dec 1 AT&T announces plans for the first transatlantic cable.

Dec 2 Sen. McCarthy condemned by the Senate.



lan 19 Pres. Eisenhower holds the first televised news conference.



Apr 15 McDonald's fast food restaurant is founded.

Dec 1 Rosa Parks refuses to sit at the back of the bus and launches the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott.



Elvis Presley records his first album including "Heartbreak Hotel"

Sep 13 Supreme Court rules the Montgomery, Ala. bus segregation ordinance unconstitutional.



Apr 29 Oct 8 Congress passes N.Y. Yankee pitcher, the Civil Rights Don Larson, pitches the Act of 1957. first perfect game in

lan 5

Oct 4

The Soviet Union

launches Sputnik,

the first man-

made satellite.

The Eisenhower

Doctrine pledges

assistance to any

East threatened by

armed aggression.



Oct 29 Israel invades the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula, driving within 10 miles of the Suez Canal.

The U.S. and Soviet Union force a cease-fire in the Middle East.



Jan 31 The U.S. launches Explorer I country in the Middle

Mar 27 Nikita Khrushchev becomes the Premier of the Soviet Union.





Jul 29 Congress establishes NASA.



Nov 10 The Hope Diamond is donated to the Smithsonian.



# Some of Your Favorite Songs from the 1950s

1950	Bing Crosby	White Christmas
1950	Patti Page	The Tennessee Waltz
1951	Hank Williams	Hey Good Lookin'
1951	Patti Page	Mockingbird Hill
1952	Johnny Ray	Cry
1952	Nat 'King' Cole	Unforgetable
1953	Drifters	Money Honey
1953	Dean Martin	That's Amore
1954	Bill Haley & The Comets	Shake Rattle and Roll
1955	Bill Haley & His Comets	Rock around the Clock
1955	Little Richard	Tutti-Frutti
1956	Elvis Presley	Hound Dog
		Don't Be Cruel
		Heartbreak Hotel
		Love Me Tender
1956	Buddy Holly & the Crickets	That'll be the Day
1957	Elvis Presley	Jailhouse Rock
1957	Jerry Lee Lewis	Whole Lot of Shakin' Going On
1958	Chuck Berry	Jonny B. Goode
1958	Danny & The Juniors	At the Hop
1959	Ray Charles	What'd I Say



# Inventions in the 1950s Matching Game

Can you match the invention to its year?

robot
car seat belts
atomic clock
transistor radio
RCA's color television
Barbie
TV remote control
hula hoop

# Prices During the 1950s

average income

\$3,210

a new house

\$8,450

**Chevrolet Corvette** 

\$3,631

gallon of gas

18¢



Cadillac Convertible \$5,400



1956: TV remote control, 1958: hula hoop, 1959: Barbie 1950: RCA's color television, 1952: car seat belts, 1953: transistor radio, 1954: robot, 1956: atomic clock

# Dramaturg's Note

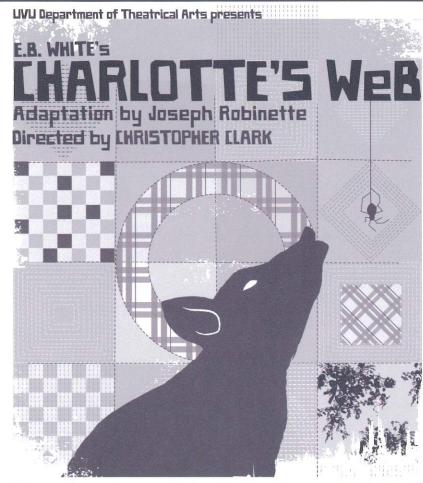
The 1950s were a time of renewed hope. The end of WWII meant that Americans could return to their homes as their lives began to regain some stability. A new genre of music was invented and Elvis Presley became the King of Rock 'n' Roll. Astounding advances were made in technology and space travel. This unprecedented growth set the tone for the years to come. Our understanding of technology, the human body, and our basic desire for new inventions has increased exponentially since then and will continue to do so.

Music and dance have always had the ability to draw people together. Music is one thing that can be understood by all who hear it, and dance has the ability to reach across social and cultural barriers in order to unite and inspire people of any age. Tonight I hope you will allow the music of the fifties to renew your hope in humanity. Return to the excitement and optimism that was felt when these songs first reached the public. Smile, hum along, and take the time to relax while you enjoy life's simple pleasures.

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# **Production Staff**

## **Camee Faulk**

Assistant Stage Manager

### Rachel Haab

Costume Designer

### M'Lisa Hansen

Makeup and Hair Designer

## Lelagi Klein

Dramaturg

### **Rick Lewis**

Creator

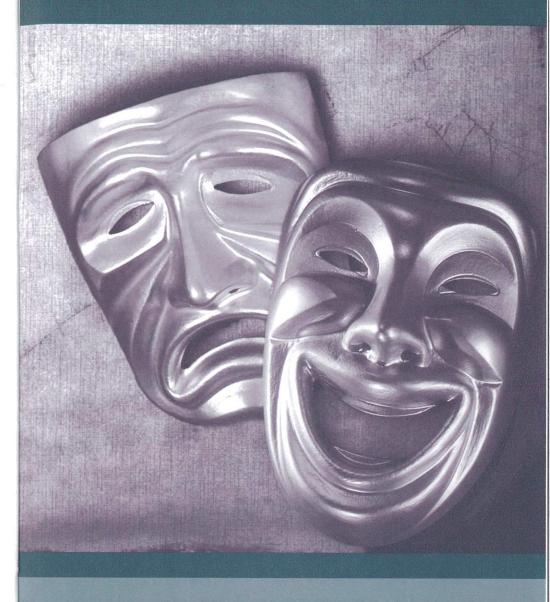
From Novi, Michigan. Senior in theatre education. Recent acting credits include Toinette in *The Imaginary Invalid at the Castle*, Audrey II in BYU's mask club production of *The Little Shop of Horrors*, and as Megan in the new web series *The Book of Jer3miah* (www.jer3miah.com).

From Springville, Utah. Senior in theatre studies with an emphasis in costume design. Recent projects include costume design for *Without Fear* and assistant designing BYU's *Don Giovanni*. She also recently designed the student films *Teller's Tale, The Secret Life of Walter Mitty,* and *Inspector 42*.

From Denton, Texas. Junior in theatre arts studies with an emphasis in makeup design. Other credits include assistant makeup and hair designer for BYU's *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and makeup designer for several BYU student films.

From Mt. Vernon, Missouri. Majoring in theatre arts studies with an emphasis in critical studies and a minor in chemistry. Lelagi can be seen writing, directing, and working backstage for New Play Project. In her free time she enjoys choreographing and teaching dance.

Rick Lewis is the creator/author/musical arranger of the hit Off-Broadway musical *The Taffetas*, which premiered at the Cherry Lane Theatre and subsequently moved to the Village Gate, with productions currently around he world. Television appearances include 48 Hours, CBS This Morning, Entertainment Tonight, PM Magazine, and Live! with Regis and Kathy Lee. With The Taffetas he was featured in People Magazine; Time Magazine selected The Taffetas as Critics Choice for four consecutive weeks. He was nominated for a Jefferson Award for Outstanding Musical Direction for his work on the Chicago production of *The Taffetas*. Mr. Lewis also created the male version, *The Cardigans-Those Swingin*' Singin' Guys from Alpha Mu Phi Pi, which premiered at Westbeth Theatre Centre, and for which he received a New York Bistro Award for Outstanding Musical Revue. The Tokyo production, A Cardigan Christmas premiered in December 1990. Rick wrote the theme song for the Democratic National Committee's bid for the 1988 Presidential Convention. He has written and produced music and productions for Honeywell.



Reporting Arts and Culture

# THE DAILY UNIVERSE

The Voice of the Brigham Young University Community

MGM/UA ("Great Musicals on VHS"), and Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. He produced and directed LifeVoices, the first Annual "Cable Positive" benefit for the AIDS reasearch at New York's Village Gate, starring Terrence McNalley and Barbara Feldon. He served as assistant conductor/vocal director on the workshop prodution of Tony winner Cy Coleman's Tony Awardwinning Broadway musical The Life, as well as casting pianist for Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine for the original Broadway production of Sunday in the Park with George. Rick has served as musical director and/or coach for the late Allan Jones ("Donkey Serenade" and Showboat), Christopher Hewitt (Mr. Belvedere), Alyssa Milano (Charmend) and the McGuire Sisters. Other musical revues include: Have a Nice Day! - A 70's Musical Flashback, a spoof of Up with People, utilizing pop hits from the 1970s, played New York City's Theatre East, and theatres across the country. A Taffeta Christmas, the sequel to the Off-Broadway hit, is becoming a holiday staple in regional theatres. Rick has been commissioned to write music an lyrics for the world premiere of, yet another, musical Christmas Carol for Portland Center Stage. In 2009 Rick will premier A Taffeta Wedding, which united The Taffetas and The Cardigans in the first live telecast of a quadruple musical wedding.

### Lindsi Neilson

**Production Stage Manager** 

From St. George, Utah. Senior in theatre studies with a minor in theatre education. Recent credits include the Castle Theatre's Imaginary Invalid, and BYU's touring children's production of Go, Dog. Go! She was also stage manager for Divine Comedy, BYU's premiere sketch comedy troupe, for three years.

## George D. Nelson

Director

George D. Nelson is an associate professor in the Department of Theatre and Media Arts. He has taught and directed at BYU since 1990. You may have seen his most recent BYU productions of Thoroughly Modern Millie; The White Star; You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown; Box Car Children; The Music Man; Tartuffe.

## Marianne Ohran

Lighting Designer

Marianne is the assistant lighting designer for the Division of Design and Production. Other lighting credits for BYU include The Giver, Trojan Women, and She Loves Me.

## **lacob Peerv**

Sound Designer

From Kaysville, Utah. Senior in theatre with a minor in physics. Previous credits include The Little Shop of Horrors at Eccles Theatre, This Is Your Band, Fiddler on the Roof at SCERA, and many concerts.

## **Heather Starr**

Set Designer

From Simsbury, Connecticut, Senior in theatre arts studies with emphases in set and light design. Recent credits include Go, Dog, Go!, H. M. S. Pinafore, and The Marriage of Figaro at BYU.

# The Kennedy Center

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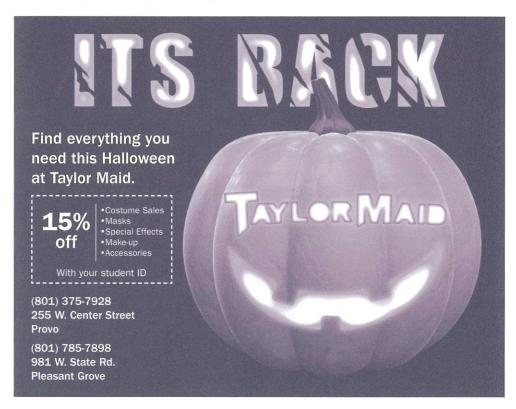
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Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for inclusion at the KCACTF regional festival and can also be considered for invitation to the KCACTF national festival at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC, in the spring of 2010.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, BYU Theatre and Media Arts is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theatres across the nation.



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Barta Lee Heiner Wade Hollingshaus

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Kelly Loosli Kym Mellen

David Morgan George Nelson

Tom Russell

Eric Samuelsen Rory Scanlon\* Janet L. Swenson

Sharon L. Swenson

Tim Threlfall Ben Unguren **Adjunct Faculty &** Part-time Faculty

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Mat Goebel

Tony Gunn

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For information on how you can play a greater role in Theatre and Media Arts at BYU contact Rodger D. Sorensen, department chair, at (801) 422-8132 or rodger sorensen@byu.edu

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**Production Manager** Russell D. Richins

**Stage Events** Coordinator Jennifer Reed

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Expediter Chris Witham

Draftsman

Matt Walser

**Scenic Artists** 

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Set Dresser Rebecca Pendleton

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Advisor Marianne Ohran

Master Electrician McKell Crandall

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Donnette Perkins Asst. Costume

**Shop Manager** Deanne DeWitt

Cutter/Draper Deanne DeWitt Mary Jane Wadley

Stitchers Martha Ostergar

Adeline Pichot Hair & Makeup

Supervisor Haleh Risdana

Hair & Makeup Asst.

Allison Dredge Melanie Kowallis Erika Landeen

Hair & Makeup Crew

TMA 367 Students

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Troy Streeter Audio Crew

Mat Goebel KT Harrel lake Peerv Christina Tibbetts Sarah Nasson

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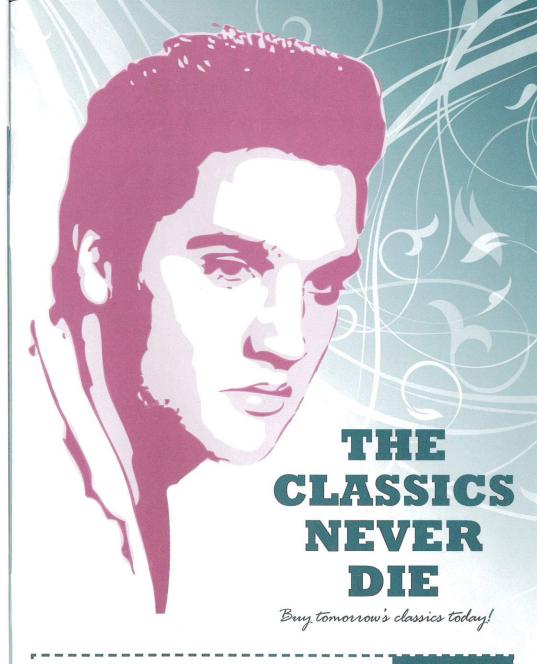
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Marketing **Assistants** 

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Scheduling Coordinator **Bethany Talley** Scheduling Secretaries Camee Faulk Zoe Steedman





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