

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

August 3rd - 6th, 2023

Presented in the William P. and Marie Leary Theatre in the Elizabeth Ann Clune Center for Theatre

On Stage This Summer! N.U.R.T.



Niagara University
Repertory Theatre
returns!
Free, fun, fantastic
family entertainment
for children and the
young-at-heart!

NU's Leary Theatre Every Thursday from July 8th thru July 18th 10am & 1pm

FREE Admission
No Reservation
Required
First come, first
served!

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



For further information https://theatre.niagara.edu/outreach, 716-286-8483

THE FRIENDS OF NIAGARA UNIVERSITY THEATRE presents



Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Directed by **STEVE BRADDOCK**

Music Directed by LUCAS COLON

Choreographed by **BRI KELLY**

Costume Design
MAUREEN STEVENS

Set Design
PRIMO THOMAS
Class of '13

Light Design **RYLEE WATSON**

Scenic Painting
SOPHIA CHANEY

Class of '22

Class of '25

Stage Manager MARY DUGAN

Class of '25

Sondheim Tribute Revue is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) on behalf of The Estate of Stephen Sondheim.

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

Presented in the William P. and Marie Leary Theatre in the Elizabeth Ann Clune Center for Theatre

AUGUST 3 - 6





Cast

Ensemble HAYDEN CARR
Ensemble JULIA CIANFRINI
Ensemble JAMARION EVANS
Ensemble PAIGE JANES

Production

Producing Artistic Director Technical Director Asst. Stage Managers

Publicity/Playbill Coord.

STEVE BRADDOCK PRIMO THOMAS LOGAN COMSTOCK PARIS MOFFITT KIM NEISS



SONG ORDER

"Opening Doors" from Merrily We Roll Along Hayden Carr, Julia Cianfrini, Jamarion Evans, Paige Janes

"Everybody Says Don't" from Anyone Can Whistle
Paige Janes

"There Won't Be Trumpets" from Anyone Can Whistle
Julia Cianfrini

"Giants in the Sky" from Into the Woods Hayden Carr

"I Know Things Now" from Into the Woods

Julia Cianfrini

"Agony" from Into the Woods Hayden Carr, Jamarion Evans

"You're Gonna Love Tomorrow/Love Will See Us Through" from Follies

Hayden Carr, Julia Cianfrini, Jamarion Evans, Paige Janes

"Unworthy of Your Love" from Assassins Hayden Carr, Paige Janes

> "Johanna" from Sweeney Todd Jamarion Evans

"Not While I'm Around" from Sweeney Todd Hayden Carr, Julia Cianfrini

"Move On" from Sunday in the Park with George Jamarion Evans, Paige Janes

SONG ORDER

"Everybody Loves Louis" from Sunday in the Park with George

Julia Cianfrini

"Now/Later/Soon" from A Little Night Music Hayden Carr, Jamarion Evans, Paige Janes

"Getting Married Today" from Company Hayden Carr, Julia Cianfrini, Jamarion Evans

"Marry Me A Little" from Company
Jamarion Evans

"Being Alive" from Company Julia Cianfrini

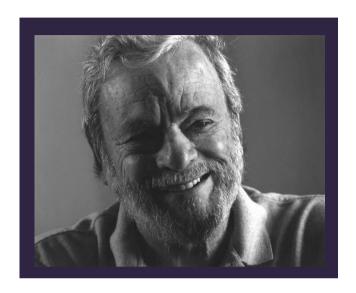
"Putting it Together" from Sunday in the Park with George Hayden Carr, Julia Cianfrini, Jamarion Evans, Paige Janes

THE VIDEO RECORDING OR OTHER VIDEO OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

A TRIBUTE TO A LEGEND...



Cast members share their thoughts on Stephen Sondheim's work.



The first experience I had with Sondheim's work was when I was in 8th grade. I watched the Sweeney Todd movie with Johnny Depp and absolutely loved it. Years later, in the first semester of my freshman year here at NU, My music theory teacher spent a whole class dedicated to Sondheim and the brilliance of his work. With one of the focus points of the class being Sweeney Todd's music. That class rekindled my love for Sweeney Todd and opened my eyes to the rest of Sondheim's incredible music.



-- Hayden Carr

A TRIBUTE TO A LEGEND...

Cast members share their thoughts on Stephen Sondheim's work.



I did not know much about Sondheim before this musical. I had seen the musical West Side Story as a kid, and watched the movie versions of Sweeney Todd and Into The Woods my freshman year, after hearing a professor rave about him, but I only watched his musicals on the surface level. I didn't know how much artistry and work and genius there was in each piece until we broke down the songs for this production. There was so much thought put into every aspect of these songs. He wrote out the feelings and emotions in every area of his pieces. It not only makes it that much more enjoyable to perform, but to listen to as well. Sondheim was a genius.

-- Paige Janes

Sondheim is the true master of creating organized chaos. He not only taught us how to sing and play it, but how interesting, understandable, breathtaking(literally), and ultimately how beautiful it truly can be. Thank you, Mr. Sondheim. What I would give to understand how your brain worked. Rest in Peace.

-- Jamarion Evans



A TRIBUTE TO A LEGEND...



Cast members share their thoughts on Stephen Sondheim's work.

Sondheim's ability to enhance the stories he tells through his accompaniments is what turns his music into art. He hides visuals and emotions in every deliberate note he writes. If you open yourself up to hearing it, the world he creates explodes to life in front of you.

--Julia Cianfrini





Steven Sondehiem is a legendary American composer and lyricist. With his amazing career spanning over six decades, Sondheim has left an indelible mark on the stage, earning him numerous awards and accolades. His works include my favorite "Sweeney Todd" along with "Company", his first show that I saw live in NYC. Like all of his shows, these two shows show his ability to create an intricate, thought-provoking story set to some amazing music. Sondheim's uncanny gift for lyrical precision and clever wordplay challenges traditional notions of storytelling, inviting audiences to delve deep into the human psyche. His music and lyrics draw you into his story and inspire every member of the set and crew to bring his words, and thoughts alive. It's an honor to be a part of any show that honors his legacy.

-- Logan Comstock





The Friends of Niagara University Theatre, incorporated in 1986, help raise awareness and develop support for the theatre department and its students.

You, too, can join us in our efforts to help ensure the future of one of the oldest professional theatre training programs in the region, and provide invaluable opportunities for future generations of theatre artists.





Biographies of Theatre Students, Faculty, Staff & Guest Artists 2023-2024



STEVEN BRADDOCK (Artistic Director, Acting) has directed over 20 productions for NU Theatre, including Measure for Measure, Peter & The Starcatcher, Cabaret, Janes Austen's Emma, An Ideal Husband, Legally Blonde, Little Shop of Horrors, Chicago, Julius Caesar, Lady Windermere's Fan, Sweeney Todd, Urinetown, and Damn Yankees. He served for eleven years as the Artistic Director of the Gifford Family Theatre, a professional Theatre for Young Audiences in Syracuse. He has worked as Director of Education for Syracuse Stage and Asst. Director of Education at the Huntington Theatre Company in Boston. Mr. Braddock has taught acting at Le Moyne College, Syracuse University, Anna Maria College and Worcester State College. A member of Actor's Equity, Steve has been seen locally at Shakespeare in Delaware Park, and regionally at theatres throughout the northeast. He has also appeared in numerous commercials as well as voiced characters in multiple audiobooks. Steve received his M.F.A. in Acting from the University of Southern California.



HAYDEN CARR (Ensemble) is a rising junior from Grand Island NY pursuing a BFA in Theater Performance. Theater Experience: Niagara University Theatre: A Gentleman's Guide To Love And Murder (Featured Ensemble), Cabaret (Hans/Max/ Heir Schultz Understudy) St. Stephen's Parish Players: Frozen (Hans), Mary Poppins (Bert), Hello Dolly (Ensemble), The Wizard of Oz (Ensemble), Beauty and the Beast (Ensemble). Offstage Experience: Miss Cathy's Dance Academy: Tap, Jazz, Musical Theater, Hip Hop; Shea's Camp Broadway The Next Step. @Haydencarr813

SOPHIA CHANEY is a rising junior Design and Production major from Erie, PA.



JULIA CIANFRINI (Ensemble), a rising sophomore from Lancaster NY, is currently studying Theatre Performance with a minor in American Sign Language. NU credits: Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley (Jane), A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Evangeline/Ensemble), Lines (John), The Open Door (Lady Torminster)

LUCAS COLON (Music Director)



LOGAN COMSTOCK (Asst. Stage Manager/Ensemble), a Junior at Niagara University, from Bellows Falls, VT, is pursuing a BFA in Theater performance. NU Credits: Peter and the Starcatcher (Ted), Decision Height, and Machinal (Prop Runner), Miss Bennet Christmas at Pemberley (Props Acquistion), Head Usher: The Short Play Festival, and Measure for Measure, and Art. Offstage credits: Mary Poppins (George Banks), Mamma Mia! (Harry Bright), The Curse of the Hopeless Diamond (Basil Benchley), Sweet Charity (Charlie/Ensemble)- OFC Creations Theater Center. Peers Award for Best Serious Actor for the role of George Banks in Mary Poppins.



MARY CLAIRE DUGAN (Stage Manager), a rising junior from Rochester, NY is currently studying B.F.A. Theatre Design & Production. Recent Credits: Everybody (Stage Manager), Peter and the Starcatcher (Stage Manager), Cabaret (Assistant Stage Manager), Jane Austen's Emma (Assistant Stage Manager/maid), Something Rotten (Wardrobe Crew).



JAMARION EVANS (Ensemble), from Hammond IN, about 20 minutes from Chicago. Attends Niagara University pursuing a B.F.A in Theatre Performance. This is their first production here at OFCreations and they are very happy and grateful for this amazing opportunity. Previous Shows, At NU- Emma The Musical(Robert Martin); Machinal(ASM); Us & Them:Aerial Investigation(Ensemble); Measure for Measure(SM); A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder(Investigator and Ensemble);Outside of NU- The Little Mermaid(Ursula); We Will Rock You(Galileo); The Tempest(Ceres); Sister Act(Tj); The 25 annual Putnam County Spelling Bee(Male Understudy); Sweet Charity(Featured Ensemble)



PAIGE JANES (Ensemble), Theatre Performance Major and Theatre Education, a junior from Ashland, VA, is pursuing a Theatre Performance Major, along with the Theatre Education 4+1 Program. NU Credits: A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Ensemble).



BRIANA BLAIR KELLY (Choreographer) is a multidisciplinary artist and dance educator in Buffalo, NY. She holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from SUNY Fredonia and an MFA in Choreography and Performance from SUNY Brockport. Kelly is adjunct faculty at Niagara University, where she teaches Jazz and Irish, and SUNY Fredonia, where she teaches Tap. She is also a teaching artist/choreographer at the Academy of Theatre Arts and Unique Theatre. Kelly is the Founder/Artistic Director of ROCeltic, a Rochester based dance company. www.brianablairkelly.com



PARIS MOFFITT (Asst. Stage Manager/Ensemble), is a sophomore from Gasport, NY, pursuing a degree in Theatre Arts & Performance with minors in Theatre Design & Production and English. NU Credits: Peter and the Starcatcher (Smee), A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Ensemble), N.U.R.T (Ensemble), A Sondheim Tribute Revue (Ensemble/Assistant Stage Manager). Outside Credits: At the Lockport Palace Theatre, Scrooge The Musical (Ensemble & Cratchit Child), Suessical The Musical (Ensemble), The Wizard of Oz (Munchkin & Ensemble), Joseph And The Technicolor Dreamcoat (Ensemble), The Little Mermaid, Jr. (Ursula), and at Barker, Jr/Sr High School, Mary Poppins (Ensemble), Mamma Mia! (Ali), Addams Family (Grandma Addams), Little Women (Marmee). Paris was nominated for a Kenny Award for 'Outstanding Dramatic Performance' for her portrayal of Marmee. She wants to thank everyone for their support and pushing her to keep following her dreams! @paris.moffitt



MAUREEN T. STEVENS (Associate Professor of Design and Production, Costume, Hair & Make-Up Designer) received her B.S. from Buffalo State College in Apparel and Textile Technology and her M.F.A. in Theatre with an emphasis in Costume Design from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Previous to joining the faculty at Niagara University, her career has spanned many facets of costuming and areas of the country including: Assistant to the Operational Costume Coordinator for the Walt Disney World Company in Orlando, Florida. At Niagara, Ms. Stevens has designed or coordinated more than 100 productions. Professional design credits include: The Strudel Lady and The Whipping Man at the Jewish Repertory Theatre, the premiere of Over the Tavern at Studio Arena Theatre, The Taming of the Shrew and Two Gentlemen of Verona at The Colorado Shakespeare Festival in Boulder, CO, and It's a Wonderful Life – the Radio Play at Buffalo's Kavinoky Theatre.



PRIMO THOMAS (Technical Director) is a proud alumnus of Niagara University's theatre department, graduating in 2013 with a BFA in theatre studies design technology with a concentration in scenic design. Primo is an active designer and technical director in the Buffalo Theatre community. His past scenic design credits include: A Child's Christmas in Wales (Irish Classical Theatre Company), Go, Dog. Go! (NURT), Angels in America (Second Generation Theatre), Annapurna (New Phoenix Theatre), My Three Angels (New Phoenix Theatre), Into the Woods (NCCC), Godspell (NCCC), and A Midsummer Night's Dream (NCCC). He is a Co-Founder and the Technical Director of 13 Players, a professional theatre company in the Niagara Region. He is incredibly dedicated to sharing the love of his craft with the next generation of NU theatre students.

RYLEE WATSON (Lighting Design) is a graduate of Niagara University's BFA Theatre Studies: Design and Production program. Rylee's recent works include Twelfth Night at MusicalFare Theatre (Asst. Stage Manager), Sondheim on Sondheim at MusicalFare Theatre (Asst. Stage Manager/Board Op), As well as the rest of MusicalFare's 2022-2023 season as their Asst. Stage Manager. Dirty Rotten Scoundrels at North Tonawanda High School (Lighting Designer), Almost, Maine at North Tonawanda High School (Lighting Designer), EMMA at NU (Lighting Designer) and Decision Height at NU (Lighting Designer). Rylee thanks her family and friends, and especially Kevin, for all their love and support.



Elizabeth Ann Clune Center for Theatre

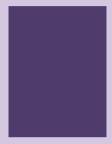
2023-2024 Season



Oct 12-15 NIAGARA UNIVERSITY DANCE THEATRE



Feb 22-25 THE TAMING by Lauren Gunderson



Nov. 2-5 **FUN HOME** by Jeanine Tesori & Lisa Kron

Mar 1-3

ENGAGEMENTS

by Lucy Teitler

All Student Produced



Nov. 30-Dec. 10 MUCH ADO ABOUT **NOTHING** by William Shakespeare



Apr. 4-7 THE DIARY OF ANNE **FRANK** by Frances Goodwich & Albert Hackett Adapted by Wendy Kesselman



Ian 19-21 SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL by Various Playwrights All Student-Directed



Apr. 25-May 5 RENT by Jonathan Larsen

For information on our full season lineup, and to reserve tickets, please visit our website:

https://theatre.niagara.edu/

or contact our box office: Ph: (716) 286-8685 Email: boxoffice@niagara.edu

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As one of the oldest professional theatre training programs in the region, Niagara University Theatre is well-known for preparing students for careers that take them to Broadway, Hollywood and beyond. Our program is a conservatory style curriculum with one-on-one mentorship led by a diverse faculty and staff of working industry professionals.

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- BFA Design/Production
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Entrance Auditions/Interviews Dates to be announced Required for all prospective BFA students.