

# PLAYBILL®

MARRIOTT THEATRE  
LINCOLNSHIRE, ILLINOIS

*Buddy*

THE  
BUDDY  
HOLLY  
STORY

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# MARRIOTT THEATRE

Peter Blair, *Executive Producer*  
Peter Marston Sullivan, *Artistic Director*

By Arrangement with Alan Janes

Present



*Written by* Alan Janes

*Starring*

Kieran McCabe  
Jed Feder      Shaun Whitley  
Jordan Arredondo      Melanie Brezill      Alex Goodrich  
Cory Goodrich      Molly Hernández  
Ellie Kahn      Michael Kurowski      David Stobbe  
Marcus Terell      Christopher Wren  
Teddy Gales      Lucia Padilla Katz      Nolan Robinson  
Aja Singletary      Kelan M. Smith

<i>Scenic Design</i> Jeff Kmiec^	<i>Costume Design</i> Theresa Ham^	<i>Lighting Design</i> Jesse Klug	<i>Sound Design</i> Michael Daly	<i>Media Design</i> Anthony Churchill
<i>Properties Design</i> Sally Zack	<i>Co-Wig Design</i> Miguel A. Armstrong	<i>Co-Wig Design</i> Katie Cordts	<i>Dramaturg</i> Peter Ruiz	<i>Production Manager</i> Meg Love
<i>Asst. Director &amp; Asst. Choreographer</i> Elizabeth Romero	<i>Music Director</i> Matt Deitchman	<i>Intimacy Choreographer</i> Katie Johannigman	<i>Dialect Coach</i> Susan Gosdick	<i>Stage Manager</i> Jessica Banaszak

*Directed & Choreographed by* **Amber Mak\***

\* Member of



The Director-Choreographer is a member of the  
STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS  
SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union.

^ Member of



*buddythemusical.com*

# CAST

Buddy Holly.....Kieran McCabe\*  
 Jerry Allison, Clear Lake Performer.....Jed Feder\*  
 Joe Maudlin, Clear Lake Performer.....Shaun Whitley\*  
 Ritchie Valens, KDAV Engineer, WWOL DJ, Ensemble.....Jordan Arredondo\*  
 Apollo Performer, Jingles Singer, Snowbird, Ensemble.....Melanie Brezill\*  
 Norman Petty, Murry Duetch, Hayrider, Clear Lake MC, Ensemble.....Alex Goodrich\*  
 Shirley, Hayrider, Jingles Singer, Snowbird, KRWP DJ, Ensemble.....Cory Goodrich\*  
 Maria Elena, Hayrider, Jingles Singer,  
 Clear Lake Performer, WCLS DJ, Ensemble.....Molly Hernández\*  
 Vi Petty, Hayrider, Jingles Singer, Snowbird.....Ellie Kahn\*  
 4th Cricket, WDAS DJ, English DJ, Hayrider, Ensemble.....Michael Kurowski\*  
 Big Bopper, Hipockets Duncan, Ensemble.....David Stobbe\*  
 Apollo Presenter, KSPT DJ, Ensemble.....Marcus Terrell\*  
 Jack Daw, Decca Producer, Lead Hayrider, WCLS DJ.....Christopher Wren\*

**Understudies:** Teddy Gales, Lucia Padilla Katz, Nolan Robinson,  
 Aja Singletary & Kelan M. Smith

**Intimacy & Dance Captain:** Cory Goodrich\*

**Music Captain:** Christopher Wren\*

## UNDERSTUDIES

*For Buddy Holly:* MICHAEL KUROWSKI & CHRISTOPHER WREN; *For Joe Maudlin, Clear Lake Performer, Ritchie Valens, KDAV Engineer, WWOL DJ:* KELAN M. SMITH; *For Jerry Allison, Clear Lake Performer:* KELAN M. SMITH & CHRISTOPHER WREN; *For Hipockets Duncan, Big Bopper, Norman Petty, Murry Duetch, Hayrider, Clear Lake MC:* TEDDY GALES; *For Vi Petty, Hayrider, Snowbird:* CORY GOODRICH & LUCIA PADILLA KATZ; *For Maria Elena, Jingles, Clear Lake Performer, WCLS DJ:* LUCIA PADILLA KATZ; *For Shirley, Hayrider, Jingles, Snowbird, KRWP DJ:* LUCIA PADILLA KATZ & AJA SINGLETARY; *For Apollo Female Performer, Jingles Singer, Snowbird:* AJA SINGLETARY; *For Apollo Male Presenter, KSPT DJ, Jack Daw:* NOLAN ROBINSON; *For 4th Cricket, WDAS DJ, English DJ, Hayrider:* CHRISTOPHER WREN

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.



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 EMPLOYING MEMBERS OF ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION,  
 THE UNION OF PROFESSIONAL ACTORS & STAGE MANAGERS.



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 A driver's license or credit card is required as deposit.

# MUSICAL NUMBERS

"HG20 Jingle" .....	Jingle Singers
"Rose Of Texas" .....	Hayriders
"Flower Of My Heart" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"Ready Teddy" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"That'll Be The Day" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"Frigo Jingle" .....	Jingle Singers
"Rock Around With Ollie Vee" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"Everyday" .....	Buddy, Vi, & The Crickets
"Shout" .....	Apollo Performers
"Not Fade Away" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"Peggy Sue" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"Words Of Love" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"Oh Boy" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"Think It Over" .....	Buddy & The Crickets
"True Love Ways" .....	Buddy
"Why Do Fools Fall In Love" .....	Jack Daw & Company
"Chantilly Lace" .....	Big Bopper & Company
"Maybe Baby" .....	Buddy & Company
"Peggy Sue Got Married" .....	Buddy & Company
"Heartbeat" .....	Buddy & Company
"La Bamba" .....	Ritchie & Company
"Raining In My Heart" .....	Buddy & Company
"It Doesn't Matter Anymore" .....	Buddy & Company
"Rave On" .....	Buddy, Ritchie, Big Bopper, & Company
"Johnny B. Goode" .....	Company

*The use of the songs in this production is by arrangement with:*

'Flower Of My Heart' Holly House Inc.	'Changing All Those Changes' Cedarvood Publishing Co.
'Ready Teddy' Unichappell Music Inc.	'Think It Over' Cedar/vood Publishing Co. Southern Music Publishing Co.
'Blue Days Black Nights' Unichappell Music Inc.	'Everyday' Southern Music Publishing Co.
'That's All Right' Unichappell Music Inc.	'Mailman Bring Me No More' Southern Music Publishing Co. lBeinstock Publishing
'A Teenager In Love' Unichappell Music Inc.	'Peggy Sue Got Married' Southern Music Publishing Co.
'That'll Be The Day' MPL Comm. Inc. MPLNVren	'Shout' Sony/ATV
'Peggy Sue' MPL Comm. Inc. MPL/Wren	'Why Do Fools' Windswept Pacific Ent.
'Maybe Baby' MPL Comm. Inc. MPL/Wren	'Chantilly Lace' Donald Daily, Glad Music Co. / Fort Knox Music Inc. /Trio Music Company Inc.
'Not Fade Away' MPL Comm. Inc. MPL/Wren	'Raining In My Heart' House Of Bryant Pubs. Inc.
'True Love Ways' MPL Comm. Inc. MPL/Wren	'It Doesn't Matter Anymore' Management Agency
'Looking For Someone To Love' MPL Comm. Inc. MPLNVren	'Johnny B Goode' Isalee Music Co.
'Listen To Me' MPL Comm. Inc. MPL/Wren	'Rock Around With Ollie Vee' Hill And Range Songs Inc.
'It's So Easy To Fall In Love' MPL Comm. Inc. MPLNVren	
'Well Alright' MPL Comm. Inc. MPL/Wren	
'When You Ask About Love' Acuff Rose Music Inc.	
'Words Of Love' MPL Comm. Inc.	
'Oh Boy' Wren Music Co. c/o MPL 'Rave On' Wren Music Co. c/o MPL	
'Heartbeat' Wren Music Co. c/o MPL	

*All other songs, arrangements and incidental music by Paul Jury*

**The photographing, videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.**

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# CAST



Kieran  
McCabe



Jed  
Feder



Shaun  
Whitley



Jordan  
Arredondo



Melanie  
Brezill



Alex  
Goodrich



Cory  
Goodrich



Molly  
Hernández



Ellie  
Kahn



Michael  
Kurowski



David  
Stobbe



Marcus  
Terrell



Christopher  
Wren



Teddy  
Gales



Lucia Padilla  
Katz



Nolan  
Robinson



Aja  
Singletary



Kelan M.  
Smith

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# SYNOPSIS

The action takes place in Lubbock (Texas), Clovis (New Mexico), New York and Clear Lake (Iowa), between January 1956 and February 1959.

With the support of local radio DJ, Hipockets Duncan, Buddy and his two friends form a Country & Western band — Buddy Holly & the Crickets — and begin to carve out a career in music. After a difficult start at Decca Records in Nashville, they sign a contract with up-and-coming, innovative record producer Norman Petty. Within hours, Buddy Holly & the Crickets start to churn out hits from the recording studio built in Norman's backyard, among them *That'll Be The Day*, which will rocket up the charts to number one in a matter of weeks. Buddy Holly & the Crickets are suddenly the hottest act in the country and out on national tour.

Whilst recording in New York, Buddy proposes to Maria Elena Santiago, the Puerto Rican receptionist of his music publisher after a courtship of all of five hours! Newly married and ambitious, he shifts focus to New York and a rift develops between him and the Crickets. After a declaration of home truths during a recording session, the band splits and Buddy unexpectedly finds himself having to pursue a solo career.

Buddy joins "The Winter Dance Party" of 1959, a bus tour through the Midwest quenching the teenage thirst for the "new music called Rock 'n' Roll." The tour is hard work, the weather conditions appalling and the performers are alternating between sleeping in the luggage racks and dropping into hospitals to be treated for frostbite.

Our story ends on February 3rd, 1959, after a rocking concert with the "Big Bopper" J.P. Richardson and Ritchie Valens at the Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, Iowa. Buddy makes the fateful decision to break his promise to his pregnant wife not to fly, as he and the other two headliners board a small plane and take off into the night destined for their next show. During a snow storm, in the dead of night, the plane crashes and spares no survivors.

The tragedy shocked the world, snatching the lives of three of the world's most dynamic musical talents — Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and the Big Bopper. Buddy Holly's brief life is immortalized in this dynamic and heart-rending stage show. It's a celebration of the man, his music and life, that catches that unique mixture of innocence, determination, humor and charm that was Buddy Holly.

...and the rest will just be Rock 'n' Roll.

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## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Whether you are a superfan of Buddy Holly or have never heard of him, there is no denying his impact and legacy on the music world. Charles Hardin Holley, more commonly known as Buddy Holly, is often referenced as the father of rock 'n' roll. He was an innovator and pioneer, being one of the first performers to write and perform his own material. He also created the prototype of the rock band lineup — guitars, base, drums and vocals — which is now the lineup for every rock band that was and ever will be. The Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, Elton John, Bruce Springsteen and many others credit Buddy as their inspiration. He blazed a path for so many musicians in style from how they played to feeling free to wear glasses on stage. His music was ahead of his time.

When directing a show that is a biography of a career and life, you can't help but jump into the rabbit hole of all the articles, documentaries, books, and movies searching for the clues to honor the authenticity of the characters and events portrayed. However, we view this particular story through the lens and memory of his friend and manager, Hipockets Duncan. This got me thinking about what exactly is a memory and what details are included or left out or forgotten? Some memories are painted with the vivid detail of a photograph and others are scattered, blurry and generalized puzzle pieces that sometimes feel cliché and incomplete as we put them together. Buddy's story has been recalled, retold, pieced together and immortalized in so many forms with varying degrees of authenticity. But there is no denying his music and his legacy. Today, I invite you to let the music transport you to a different time as you discover Buddy's music for the 1st or 10,000th time and allow the music to do what Buddy's music did best- unite and inspire.

Rave On,  
Amber Mak

# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**KIERAN McCABE** (*Buddy Holly*) is thrilled to return to the Marriott Theatre. Previously: *Million Dollar Quartet* (Fluke). Regional: *Rock of Ages* (Drew, Paramount Theatre), *As You Like It* (Ensemble, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater), *Verböten* (Jason, The House Theatre), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Jeff Award - Best Ensemble, Jerry Allison, American Blues Theater). Kieran is also a published recording artist and has released two albums in the past year; *squid kid* (Pinnings) and *Listen to The Oh Boys* (The Oh Boys). You can listen to his work at [kieranpmccabe.com](http://kieranpmccabe.com) or @kpmcbabe. Buddy is dedicated to Kieran's grandmother, Ellen Koehne.

**JED FEDER** (*Jerry Allison, Clear Lake Performer*) is thrilled to return to the Marriott Theatre, where he has appeared as actor, drummer, and oftentimes both. Favorites include *HERO*, *October Sky*, and *Joseph...* Jed is an NYC-based actor, musician, and composer. Recent credits include Uri Savir in *TimeLine/Broadway* in Chicago's *Oslo*, Kassim in Disney's *Aladdin* 1st Nat'l, and drums for the Off-Broadway musical *Trevor*, now on Disney+. Co-creator of the radio-play musical *Yellowfin Grouper P.I.* Northwestern alum and member of AEA & AFM. Thanks to the Marriott family, The Mine, his fiancé Tiffany (whom he met at the Marriott Theatre!), friends and family. @Jed\_underscore

**SHAUN WHITLEY** (*Joe Maudlin, Clear Lake Performer*) is thrilled to return to the Marriott Lincolnshire, having last been seen in *Million Dollar Quartet* as Carl Perkins. Notable Chicago credits include: *Million Dollar Quartet* (Apollo Theater Chicago), *SS! A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), *Pump Boys and Dinettes* (Drury Lane Oakbrook), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (American Blues Theater, Jeff Award). Other credits include: The Second City, Remy Bumppo Theatre Company, Strawdog Theatre, TUTA, Redmoon Theater, Blindfaith Theatre, and Provision Theater. He studied Shakespeare at RADA in London. He is an administrator and teaches music at Montessori Gifted Prep in Chicago. He plays bass, violin, and guitar in the rock trio, The Oh Boys. They just released their first EP entitled, *Listen to the Oh Boys*. He loves his wife, daughter, and son above all things.

**JORDAN ARREDONDO** (*Ritchie Valens, KDAV Engineer, WWOL DJ, Ensemble*) is thrilled to be making his Marriott debut! Regional credits: *A Christmas Carol* (Milwaukee Repertory Theater). Chicago credits: *Grease* (Drury Lane Theater), *Fun Home*, *Sweat*, *Hand to God* (Paramount Theater), *Day of Absence* (Congo Square), *The Venetians* (OPFT), *Laura and the Sea* (Rivendell Theatre), *Much Ado About Nothing* (OPFT), *First Love is the Revolution* (Steep Theatre), *American Jornalero*, *Romeo and Juliet* (Teatro Vista), *Waiting for Godot* (Tympanic Theatre). Film/TV: "Killing Eleanor," "Chicago Fire," "Party Favors," "An Offering." All the love to his family, Aja, and the wonderful Gray Talent Group fam!

**MELANIE BREZILL** (*Apollo Performer, Jingles Singer, Snowbird, Ensemble*) is thrilled to return to Marriott Theatre! Previous credits: *High School Musical*; Broadway: *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (SF), *The Book of Mormon*; National Tours: *The Book of Mormon*, *Mama Mia!*; Regional: *The Comedy of Errors* at Shepperton, *As You Like It* (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre); *for Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide...*, *Man In the Ring and Caroline*, *Or Change* (Court Theatre). Other credits include Northlight Theatre, Drury Lane Oakbrook, The Goodman Theatre, Chicago Children's Theatre, Writers Theatre, and others. TV/Film: "Crafted for Christmas," "Empire." Melanie is the creator of "The Grandmother Project" series on YouTube.

**ALEX GOODRICH** (*Norman Petty, Murry Duetch, Hayrider, Clear Lake MC, Ensemble*) is so excited to rock and roll with this incredible group! Previous Marriott credits include: *Hero: the Musical* (Jeff Award - Best Supporting Actor in a Musical), *Hello Dolly!*, *Something Rotten!*, *Honeymoon In Vegas*, *She Loves Me*, *Elf: the Musical*. Other Chicago credits: *Fen*, *The Mousetrap*, *Photograph 51*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *One Man Two Guvnors* (Court Theater); *It Came From Outer Space*, *Hamlet*, *Love's Labor's Lost*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Taming of the Shrew* (Chicago Shakespeare); *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*, *Shining Lives*, *Civil War Christmas*, *She Stoops to Conquer* (Northlight Theatre); *Old Jews Telling Jokes* (Royal George Theatre); *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Writers Theater) *Everything Is Illuminated* (Next Theatre). TV credits include "Chicago



# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Fire" and "Shining Girls" on Apple TV+. He loves his wife and two kids very very much!

**CORY GOODRICH** (*Shirley, Hayrider, Jingles, Snowbird, KRWP DJ, Ensemble, Dance Captain, Intimacy Captain*) is a singer-songwriter, musician, author, painter, and Jeff Award-winning best actress for her roles as Mother in *Ragtime*, and as June Carter Cash in *Ring of Fire*. She has appeared at the Marriott Theatre in *Music Man, Les Miserables*, and *Houdini*, among others, guest starred on "Chicago Fire," "Chicago Justice," "Chicago Med," and "Shining Girls." Cory is also a recording artist with two award-winning children's albums, two original folk albums. Her latest electro-folk album, *Long Way Around*, features music from her memoir, *Folksong: A Ballad of Death, Discovery, and DNA*. Artwork, music and other info can be found at [www.corygoodrich.com](http://www.corygoodrich.com)

**MOLLY HERNÁNDEZ** (*Maria Elena, Hayrider, Jingles Singer, Clear Lake Performer, WCLS DJ, Ensemble*) (she/ella) Marriott debut. Credits: *Scorpion's Sting* (Lyric Opera); *Into the Woods* (Paramount Theatre); *Alice Through the Lookingglass* (Lookingglass Theatre - Jeff Nomination); *Rust* (Goodman Theatre); *American Mariachi* (Goodman Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, Dallas Theater Center); *A Christmas Carol* (Goodman Theatre); *Into the Woods* (Writer's Theatre); *Into the Breeches* (Northlight Theatre); *Masterclass* (TimeLine Theatre); *The Buddy Holly Story* (American Blues Theater - Jeff Award); *The Most Happy Fella* (Theo Ubique - Jeff Nomination). Television: *Power: Book IV* (STARZ); *Chicago Med* (NBC); *Chicago PD* (NBC); and *APB* (FOX). Member of AEA, and SAG. @mollyhernandez

**ELLIE KAHN** (*Vi Petty, Hayrider, Jingles Singer, Snowbird*) Marriott debut! Ellie is a music director, vocalist, keyboardist, & coach in Chicago (hometown's in Jersey!). She is a member of the music team for *SIX* (US + int'l), and the pride festival band, Too Much Molly Band. Ellie is music director of multiple music improv troupes throughout the city (living her Laura Hall dreams). Previous: "Bless the Lord" in *Godspell*, Sally Slaton in *Parade*, Maggie Jones in *42nd St.*, *Other Girls* (NYC). Regional: *Fun Home* (assoc. conductor, Paramount Theatre). Unending gratitude to Amber, Matt,

Peter, & the entire team. For the Angel! IG: @elliekahn\_ #BlackLivesMatter

**MICHAEL KUROWSKI** (*4th Cricket, WDAS DJ, English DJ, Hayrider, Ensemble*) Father, actor, singer, and musician working the Chicago scene since 2012. Previously played Will in *Big Fish* and Doody in *Grease* at Marriott Theatre. Recently seen playing Dennis/Perkins in *The Play That Goes Wrong* (Broadway Playhouse). Other credits: *Once* (National Tour, Paramount), *Million Dollar Quartet* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Paramount, Theater at the Center), *Newsies* (Paramount), *As You Like It*, *Peter Pan* (Chicago Shakespeare). Film/TV: *Gran Torino*, "Chicago Med," "Lovecraft Country." He has an EP on Spotify called "Almost Positive" and plans to release more music sometime before the sun explodes. Proudly represented by Paonessa Talent. For my girls, Mary, JoAnn, and Liliana. @mikekurowski

**DAVID STOBBE** (*Big Bopper, Hipockets Duncan, Ensemble*) is a Chicago based actor on the stage and screen. His collective *The Tramps* have produced and toured original works, and were recent recipients of the Cliff Dweller's Club Grant where he's an artist in residence. Recent credits include *Big River* with Mercury Theater, *The Aliens* with Kaliope Theater, *Venus in Fur* with The Artistic Home, *Marie Antoinette and the Magical Negroes* with the Story Theater. He's worked with the Black Ensemble Theater, A Red Orchid Theater, Steep Theater, and Lifeline Theater. You can see him in John Mossman's award winning feature "Good Guy with a Gun." Thank you DDO Chicago, his fiance Becky, and his dog Thriller.

**MARCUS TERELL** (*Apollo Presenter, KSPT DJ, Ensemble*) has been a Semi-Finalist on some of the world's most televised singing competitions "American Idol" (Top 50, Seasons 3 & 4) and "America's Got Talent" (Top 40, Season 3 & 16). In 2019, Marcus Terell became the first Guest Entertainer to headline *HYPE* a 13-month residency on the first billion dollar cruise ship ever made (Celebrity Edge) all while being an out and proud member of the LGBTQIA+ Community. In addition to touring worldwide he has headlined alongside artists like Shangela, Todrick Hall, Amber Riley, Bob The Drag Queen, and as a Guest Artist with the Indianapolis, Baltimore, and Atlanta Symphony.



# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

**CHRISTOPHER WREN** (*Jack Daw*, *Decca Producer*, *Lead Hayrider*, *WCLS DJ*) is very excited to be making his Marriott Theatre debut with a show so close to his Texas roots. A veteran of *The Buddy Holly Story*, he has been seen in 6 previous productions: including the 2013 national tour. A graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in NYC, Christopher has originated roles in several off-Broadway new works and continues to create new interactive immersive theatre as an ensemble member of both Live In Theatre and Alterra Productions. Past theatre credits include 10 regional productions and the 2015-2016 national tour of *Million Dollar Quartet* (Carl Perkins), *Hank Williams: Lost Highway* (Hank Williams), *A Christmas Carol* (Bob Cratchit) *The Full Monty* (Reg), *The Civil War* (Bill McEwen) and *Big River* (Ben Harper). Christopher would like to thank his mother, father and Aunt Shirley for their support that has been instrumental in all his past and current successes.

**TEDDY GALES** (*Understudy*) is thrilled to be making his Marriott Theatre debut. Recent

Chicago Credits: "Governor/Senator/Mayor" in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (Theo Ubique Cabaret Theater) National Touring Credits: "Patrick Star and Mr Krabs Swing" in *The Spongebob Musical* (Nickelodeon) TV Credits: "Chicago Fire" Teddy is also Creative Director at "Fresh Hell Studios" @freshhell\_ sketch on Instagram and is proud to be represented by Stewart Talent.

**LUCIA PADILLA KATZ** (*Understudy*) is absolutely thrilled to be making her Marriott Theatre debut! Lucia is a rising senior at Northwestern University where she studies Theatre, English, and Music Theatre. NU Mainstage credits include Chana in *Indecent*, Jacques in *As You Like It*, and OG in *Men On Boats*. Love to her teachers, friends, and family. IG: @luciapatz

**NOLAN ROBINSON** (*Understudy*) is a multi-hyphenate artist and graduate of Northwestern University. Last season he performed at the Marriott Theatre in *The Wizard of Oz* (U/S Scarecrow, Lion, Tin-Man). He received a 2022 Non-Equity Jeff Award Nomination for

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NETWORK

# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

his role as Reuben in Refracted Theatre Co.'s *St. Sebastian*. Other professional acting credits include *Spring Awakening* (Georg), *Passing Strange* (Youth), *The Blues in the Night* (The Dancing Man standby), and *1776* (The Courier) at Porchlight Music Theatre. As a writer, Nolan penned the short film "Grief Night Club," nominated for a student production award at the 2021 Chicago Emmys.

**AJA SINGLETARY** (*Understudy*) is excited to make her Marriott Theatre debut. She just finished a short film with February Face Productions called *Edendale*. Recent credits include: *Is God Is* (Red Orchid) *Factotum* (Lyric), *Athena* (Writers Theatre), *Relentless* (Timeline), *Dance Nation* (Steppenwolf), *Eclipsed* (Pegasus), *American Revolution* (Theatre Unspeakeable) and *As You Like It* (Eclectic Full Contact Theatre). Aja graduated from Fordham University and completed the School of Steppenwolf in 2019. She is also represented by Gray Talent Group. Offstage, you'll catch Aja quoting Spongebob, liking food videos and teaching dance. Aja thanks her family, friends and the *Buddy* team for their support! [www.ajasingletary.com](http://www.ajasingletary.com)

**KELAN M. SMITH** (*Understudy*) hails from western Wisconsin and is an alumnus of Columbia College Chicago. His work as an actor, musician, singer, music director, and composer has been seen all across the country. He is thrilled to be making his debut with Marriott Theatre! Past credits include: *Spring Awakening*, and *Pump Boys and Dinettes* (Porchlight Music Theatre), *The Porch On Windy Hill* (Northlight Theatre), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*, *Plaid Tidings*, and *Lost Highway* (Timber Lake Playhouse), *Once* (Bristol Valley Theatre), *Verboten* (The House Theatre), *Bright Star* (Boho Theatre), *Haymarket* (Underscore Theatre), *The Beatrix Potter Holiday Tea Party* (Chicago Children's Theatre). [www.kelanmsmith.com](http://www.kelanmsmith.com)

**ALAN JANES** (*Writer/Producer*) has written extensively for television, films and theatre over a 50 year career since training at London's world famous Theatre Workshop Stratford East, under the theatrical legend, Joan Littlewood. Alan wrote and produced West End musicals *125th Street*, *the Harlem Soul Musical*, and *Jailhouse Rock*, based on the Elvis Presley film. In 1989 his musical *Buddy* was presented in the West End and ran

for 15 years. The UK tour of *Buddy* has run, with the occasional break, for over 30 years and the show has enjoyed worldwide success, playing: Broadway and six U.S. National Tours, Canada, Sweden, South Africa, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Germany, Holland, Singapore, Finland, Austria and Denmark. Alan was nominated for an Olivier Award for Best Musical, and internationally *Buddy* has received many nominations and awards including a Tony.

**AMBER MAK** (*Director/Choreographer*) Recently directed/choreographed the critically acclaimed production of *The Sound of Music* at the Paramount Theatre. Other regional credits include *Rock of Ages*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Jeff nominated Best Production), *The Wizard of Oz* (Jeff nominated for Best Production/Direction), *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Jeff nominated for Best Production), *Hairspray*, *Elf*, *Peter Pan, a musical Adventure*, and many other shows. She also performed for 15 years, including many shows at the Marriott Theatre. She is a proud Northwestern University graduate. She thanks Peter and Peter for this opportunity and her husband for being the best partner. Her favorite productions to date are her two kids.

**MATT DEITCHMAN** (*Music Director*) returns to the Marriott, where his previous credits include: *Shrek*, *Murder For Two*, *Ragtime*, *She Loves Me*, *Spring Awakening*, *October Sky*, *Seussical*, *The King And I*, *HERO*, *The Wizard Of Oz*, *Sleeping Beauty*. Matt is a music director, actor, composer, orchestrator/arranger, and multi-instrumentalist whose Chicago credits include: Writers Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Paramount Theater, and many others. Most recently in the Chicagoland area he music directed and appeared in Writers Theatre's production of *ONCE*. NYC music credits include — Broadway: *Parade*, *A Strange Loop*, *Almost Famous*; Off-Broadway: *Trevor* (Disney+ and Original Cast Recording). Add'l select regional: South Coast Repertory (CA), Asolo Repertory Theatre (FL), Shakespeare Theatre Company (DC), Ogunquit Playhouse (ME). Proud Northwestern University Grad. For more: [@mattydeitch](http://mattdeitchman.com/IG)

**PETER BLAIR** (*Executive Producer*) has worked with Marriott Theatre since 2005. He has been the Production Assistant, Production

# WHO'S WHO

Administrator, Producing Associate, Associate Producer and currently Executive Producer. In addition to his work at Marriott Theatre, Peter is the former Executive Director of BoHo Theatre in Chicago, where he produced acclaimed revivals of *Floyd Collins*, *Big River* and *Pippin*. Other work includes Drury Lane, Porchlight Music Theatre, Bailiwick Repertory, La Jolla Playhouse and 18 months with the original Chicago company of *...Spelling Bee*. Originally from San Diego, Peter studied music at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. He lives in Highland Park with his wife, Claire, and kids, Ada and Lorenzo.

**PETER MARSTON SULLIVAN** (*Artistic Director*) earned a B.A. in Theatre and an M.A. in Teaching at Trinity University in San Antonio, and an MFA in Directing at Illinois State University. Peter was Artistic Director of BoHo Theatre from 2010 to 2018. Recent directing projects include *The Pajama Game* at Northwestern University; *110 in the Shade*, *Dogfight*, *Amadeus*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Floyd Collins*, *Pippin*, *Icarus*, *Big River*, *Ghosts*, *I Am My Own Wife* (co-Director), *Playing with Fire* (After *Frankenstein*), and *M. Butterfly* at BoHo Theatre. Love to his wife, Elizabeth, and his children, Marston and Marianne.

**RYAN T. NELSON** (*Music Supervisor*) is an Associate Professor of Instruction in Music Theatre at Northwestern University where he teaches courses in Musicianship and Music Direction and supervises musical productions in the Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts. He is also the Music Supervisor/Resident Music Director at the Marriott Theatre and is the founder and co-executive director of Broadway Across Borders, a non-profit that cultivates cross-cultural music theatre performance with emerging artists from around the globe. His Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in conducting are from the University of North Texas, where he was a student of Eugene Migliaro Corporon.

**MEG LOVE** (*Production Manager*) is pleased to be bringing another production to life on the Marriott stage, proudly serving as Production Manager since 2018. Meg holds a BFA with an emphasis in stage management from Webster University and has stage managed and production managed in Chicago for the past 13 years. Past credits include productions with Okoboji Summer Theater, The Old Globe



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# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

in San Diego, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Noble Fool Theatricals, the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus and BoHo Theatre. Love to Dan and sweet Jackson who are her support and inspiration.

**KATIE JOHANNIGMAN** (*Associate Artistic Director, Intimacy Director*) is excited to join the Marriott family! She recently served five years on faculty in the Musical Theatre Department at Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM), where she graduated with a BFA in Musical Theatre. Choreography/Directing credits include: *Oklahoma!* (MacHaydn Theater), *Bernstein's Mass* (Cincinnati Ballet), *Shrek* (Connecticut Repertory Theater), *Lizzie* and *Mame* (The Human Race Theater), *Into the Woods* (The Carnegie Theater), *Bright Star*, *42nd Street*, *Hunchback Of Notre Dame*, *Pippin*, *Sondheim On Sondheim*, *Candide*, *The Theory Of Relativity*, and *Godspell* at CCM. Katie served as the Resident Choreographer of the St. Louis MUNY for their 2020 season and is currently working on a new project for Disney. Love to her husband, Nathan and her wonderful family.

**JEFFREY D. KMIEC** (*Scenic Designer*) is an award-winning Chicago-based Theatrical Production Designer. His designs have been seen regionally throughout the country. Jeffrey received his MFA from the University of Virginia, BA from Illinois State University, and is a member of USA 829. For more information about his work please visit [jeffre ydkmiec.com](http://jeffre ydkmiec.com)

**THERESA HAM** (*Costume Designer*) is a theatrical costume designer who has designed for over 100 theatrical productions including plays, musicals and opera. Most recently at the Marriott she designed *Hello Dolly!* and *Kiss Me Kate*. Other selections include *Ride the Cyclone* (Off-Broadway), *Something Wicked This Way Comes* (Delaware Theatre Company), *The Sound of Music* (Paramount Theatre), *The Great Leap* (Asolo), and *Spongebob The Musical* (First Stage). In Chicago, her work has been seen at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Paramount Theatre, Marriott Theatre, Victory Gardens, Porchlight Theatre, Drury Lane Theatre, Raven Theatre, Timeline Theatre, and Northlight Theatre. Regional highlights include: Alliance Theatre, Asolo Theatre, ACT Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Ogunquit Playhouse, Milwaukee Repertory, Fingerlakes Opera, and Florentine Opera.

Film credits: "Paper Girls" (Amazon Prime) and "Hot Mess Holiday" (Comedy Central). Theresa is the recipient of 3 Joseph Jefferson Awards for Outstanding Costume Design, and 12 additional nominations. She also received the 2018 Barrymore Award for Outstanding Costume Design. Ms. Ham serves as the costume shop supervisor at Loyola University. She received an MFA from Illinois State University and a BA from Eastern Illinois University. She currently lives in Chicago with her husband and son.

**JESSE KLUG** (*Lighting Designer*) Marriott credits: *Man of La Mancha* (Jeff Nomination), *Cats* (Jeff Nomination), *Singin' in the Rain*, *October Sky*, *Evita*, *Hero*, *The King and I*, *Dreamgirls*, as well as 16 others. Off-Broadway: *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity*, *The Screwtape Letters* (Off-Broadway and National Tour). Regional: Goodman, Chicago Shakespeare, Paramount, Steppenwolf, Milwaukee Repertory, Shakespeare Theatre Company, American Players theatre, Indiana Repertory, Arizona Theatre Company, Lookingglass, Victory Gardens, Geffen Playhouse, The Old Globe, Asolo, Court Theatre, Writers Theatre. He is a Jeff Award winner and nineteen-time nominee. [JesseKlugLightingDesign.com](http://JesseKlugLightingDesign.com).

**MICHAEL DALY** (*Sound Designer*) is honored to be back at the Marriott as a part of *The Buddy Holly Story*. A graduate of the DePaul School of Music, he has been working in Chicago theatre since the dawn of time, spending time in the pit, at the mixing console, and in the designer's chair. Recent credits at the Marriott include *West Side Story*, *Hello Dolly*, *A Christmas Story*, and *Big Fish*. And also *Damn Yankees*, it's actually sort of about baseball, who knew? When he's not busy twiddling knobs and frightening the help, you can find him deep-sea fishing off the coast of Patagonia and recording and performing as Michelles.

**ANTHONY CHURCHILL** (*Media Designer*) collaborates on media for theatre, events, and installations. Selected collaborations include work with Marriott Theatre, FeverUp Productions, Drury Lane Theatre, Chicago Timeline Theatre, Chicago Opera Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre, Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, the U.S. State Department, Rivendell Theatre, The Cher Show, Q Brothers, and the Museum of Broadcast



# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Communications. Tony has been nominated for seven Jeff Awards for Projections, and awarded one. When not working on media, he enjoys sculpting tiny astronauts in peril, and exploring with his beautiful wife Sara, and rescue pitbulls Cheetoh and Douglass. [www.artlabchicago.com](http://www.artlabchicago.com)

**SALLY ZACK** (*Properties Designer*) has designed over 50 shows with Marriott Theatre with some favorite productions being *Something Rotten*, *She Loves Me*, *Mamma Mia* and this show. Previous designs include scenic design for *Wizard of Oz* and *Alice in Wonderland* at the Marriott, *Striking 12* at Bohemian Theatre Ensemble and props design at Notre Dame Shakespeare. She has been the Props Manager at The Weston Playhouse in Vermont and The Studio Theatre in Washington, D.C. She received her BA in Theatre from the University of Maryland and attended the MFA Stage Design Program at Northwestern. Love and thanks to Jason, Emmitt, and their dog Mable. To see examples of her work visit [sallyzackdesigns.com](http://sallyzackdesigns.com).

**MIGUEL A. ARMSTRONG** (*Co-Wig Designer*) is thrilled to be back at Marriott Theatre. Miguel is currently the Wig, Hair & Makeup Assistant Manager at Paramount Theater Aurora and Faculty at The Theater School at DePaul University. His recent Marriott Theatre credits include: *A Christmas Story*; *World Goes 'Round*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *West Side Story*, *Sound of Music*. Other Chicago credits include: *Rock of Ages*, *Matilda The Musical* (Drury Lane); *Amadeus*, *Dogfight* (Bohemian Theater Ensemble) *The Cunning Little Vixen*, *Iphigenie en Tauride* (DePaul Opera Theatre); *Mame* (Music Theater Works); *The Assembled Parties* (Raven Theater). Miguel is a proud 'Design Storm' award recipient for his designs of *Spring Awakening* at The Kennedy Center Theater Festival."

**KATIE CORDTS** (*Co-Wig Designer*) is excited to return to the Marriott Theatre! Past Marriott credits include *Oklahoma*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *How to Succeed...*, *Evita*, and *City of Angels*. Katie is the Wig, Hair & Makeup Shop Manager at Paramount Theatre. She has a BFA from The Theatre School at DePaul University.

**ELIZABETH ROMERO** (*Assistant Director/Assistant Choreographer*) is thrilled to

make her Marriott Theatre and professional Associate Directorial debut! Favorite regional credits include *American Mariachi* (The Goodman Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Cleveland Playhouse); *Beauty and the Beast* (Paramount Theatre); *Ragtime* (Park Playhouse); and *Into the Woods* and *How to Succeed in Business...* (Rose Center Theatre). She is a graduate of Northwestern University where she pursued Musical Theatre Performance and Arts Administration. She formerly interned with Baseline Theatrical where she worked on the Broadway productions of *Hamilton* and *The Great Comet of 1812*. Elizabeth received the 2012 Jimmy Award for Best Actress in a Musical.

**SUSAN GOSDICK** (*Dialect Coach*) It's a great pleasure to work with Marriott Theatre for the first time, joining this amazing team! Dialect coaching: Paramount Theatre (*Sound of Music*, *Rock of Ages*, *Kinky Boots*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Newsies*, *Once*, *Cabaret*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Sweeney Todd*, *The Little Mermaid*), Invictus (*The Mountaintop*), Chicago Shakespeare Theatre (*Peter Pan*), Chicago Opera Theatre (*Alan Turing*, *Albert Herring*), Music Theater Works (*Brigadoon*, *Secret Garden*, *Cabaret*), Shattered Globe (*The Whaleship Essex*), Artistic Home (*Requiem for a Heavyweight*), About Face Theatre (*The Gulf*), and others. Acting credits: Paramount Theatre, Theatre at the Center, Drury Lane Theatre, Artists' Ensemble, The Old Globe.

**PETER RUIZ** (*Dramaturg*) (They/Them), is a Dramaturg and Playwright originally from Orlando but based in Chicago. They are excited to Dramaturg at Marriott Theatre for the first time. Peter is the Literary Coordinator at A Red Orchid Theatre. Dramaturgy Credits include: As Dramaturg *Reawakening Desire* (A Red Orchid Theatre) *The Sound of Music* (Paramount Theatre), *Water by the Spoonful* (Rollins College) and as Assistant Dramaturg *Is God Is*, *The Malignant Ampersands* (A Red Orchid Theatre). Peter is also a core collaborator with The Blueprint, an education initiative for and by BIPOC artists. [www.Peter-Ruiz.com](http://www.Peter-Ruiz.com)

**JESSICA BANASZAK** (*Stage Manager*) is happy to be returning to the Marriott Theatre, where she previously worked on *Damn Yankees*; *Big Fish*; *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *The Wizard of Oz*; *The Sound of Music* and *Kiss Me, Kate*. A few

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# WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

of her other regional credits include, *Almost Heaven*, *White Christmas*, *The Pajama Game*, *Over the Tavern*, *Dames at Sea*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Ghost the Musical*, *Lady with all the Answers*, *Forever Plaid*, *Steel Magnolias* and *Big River* (Theatre at the Center), *Tuesdays with Morrie* and *Heidi* (Provision Theater Company), *Don Chipotle* (Terra Nova Collective), *Eroica* (Azusa Productions).

**RICHARD STRIMER** (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is cranked to be the Assistant Stage Manager for *Buddy-The Buddy Holly Story*. A proud member of AEA since 1996, Richard has performed, crewed, ASM'd and, most recently, was Stage Manager for the remount of *The Wizard of Oz* here at the Marriott. Richard also Stage Managed *Spring Awakening* at Porchlight Music Theatre. Notable performing credits include: *Singin in the Rain* (Cosmo Brown – Jeff Award, Drury Lane Evergreen Park), *Crazy for You* (Bobby Child – Jeff Nomination, TATC), *What a Glorious Feeling* (Gene Kelly – Jeff Nomination, TATC). Thank you all for supporting live theatre and love to his incredible wife, Ariane Dolan – she's dope!

**LIZ LACH** (*Producing Associate*) is honored to be a part of the Marriott Theatre administrative team. She was first introduced to theatre on this very stage at a TYA performance. Previously, Elizabeth served as the Marketing Director of Metropolis Performing Arts Centre for several years. In addition to her time at Metropolis, she was an usher at the Marriott Theatre for over a decade. Liz has a degree in Arts Administration with a concentration in Theatre from Butler University.

**DAVID A LORANCA** (*Company Manager*) has been with Marriott Theatre since 2017. As a Stage Manager prior to the pandemic, and now as Company Manager, David is thrilled to bring live theatre to all ages. David has stage managed across Chicagoland, regionally, and on tour. David is a graduate of Western Illinois University and member of Actors' Equity Association since 2009. Thanks for being here!

**SANA SELEMON** (*Artistic Assistant*) (she/her) is an actor, teacher, and dialect coach hailing from Columbus, Ohio. She's worked with BoHo Theatre, Pegasus Theatre, American Blues Theatre, Definition Theatre, Lifeline Theatre, and First Floor Theater and is a proud

member of SAG-AFTRA. Along with working at Marriott Theatre, she is also the Executive Director of BoHo Theatre, a storefront theatre in Chicago that tells stories centering on the Bohemian Pillars of Truth, Beauty, Freedom, and Love.

**KAVIN MOORE** (*Artistic Coordinator*)  
Kavin is delighted to be joining the Marriott Theatre Team! Previously, they served as the Line Producer at Actors Theatre of Louisville where they cast the 21/22 and 22/23 seasons and produced the organization's Learning and Creative Engagement offerings. Kavin's work has been seen across many Kentuckiana organizations as a casting director, producer, choreographer, educator, and performer. They strive to break the "traditional" mold and usher in new era of stories featuring historically marginalized voices.

**SARA VAZQUEZ** (*Assistant Production Manager*) has helped this tenacious team tell spectacular stories on the Marriott stage in various capacities over the past five years. As a native of the Midwest, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from Grand Valley State University. She's had a beautifully diverse career with opportunities to direct, stage manage, act, teach, tour, and create with various regional theatres across the country including Emerald City Theatre, American Shakespeare Center, and Lexington Children's Theatre. She is responsible for Production Managing the Marriott's TYA series and revels in the chance to help young people unlock their limitless imaginations!

**THE HERON AGENCY** (*Press Representative*) is a full-service PR, Marketing, & Social Media agency. National Tours: *The Singalong Wizard of Oz*, C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters* and *The Great Divorce*, *Celtic Thunder*. Numerous concert engagements at arena theaters representing such artists as Jerry Seinfeld, Prince, Fleetwood Mac, Wynonna Judd, Louis CK, The Beach Boys, Linda Eder, Michael Feinstein, Jewel, and Andre Rieu. Clients have also included *Sesame Street Live*, the Olympic Superstars, the Champions Challenge (McEnroe, Bjorg, Agassi), *Barney Live!*, the Highland Games, and the Harlem Globetrotters. Lifestyle clients include the Chicago Children's Museum, Whim at Stage 773, City Cruises and Puttshack.



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## PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Director ..... Peter Marston Sullivan  
Production Manager ..... Meg Love  
Music Supervisor ..... Ryan T. Nelson  
Associate Artistic Director ..... Katie Johannigman  
Technical Director ..... Kenny Foster  
Assistant Production Manager ..... Sara Vazquez  
Artistic Assistant ..... Sana Selemom  
Artistic Coordinator ..... Kavin Moore  
Assistant Stage Manager ..... Richard Strimer\*  
Scenic Design Assistant ..... Milo Bue  
Lighting Design Assistant ..... Megan Wines  
Associate Media Designer ..... Grant Palmer  
Drum Designer & Consultant ..... Jed Feder  
Sound Supervisor ..... John Johnson  
Wardrobe & Wig Supervisor ..... Laura Damato  
Deck Crew ..... Jared Munro  
Set Construction ..... Ravenswood Studios  
Rentals Manager ..... Sally Zack  
Physical Therapist ..... Vanessa Yee,  
Illinois Bone & Joint Institute  
Press Representative ..... The Heron Agency  
Noreen Heron, Kathy Bryja, Jill Williams,  
Kailey Kilrairie, Madeline Bartusch

## COSTUME SHOP

Costume Design Assistant ..... Ashley Benson  
Costume Shop Manager ..... Amanda Vander Byl  
First Hand/Milliner/Stitcher ..... Alexis Kee  
Stitcher ..... Amy Frangquist, Emily Sanner  
Floor Manager/Cutter/Draper ..... Beck Leppert

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Executive Producer ..... Peter Blair  
Producing Associate ..... Liz Lach  
Company Manager ..... David A Loranca  
Box Office Manager ..... Catherine Saghafi  
Group and Subscription Supervisor ..... Janis Boyke  
Box Office Supervisor ..... Phillip Zahnle  
Box Office Systems Manager ..... Michael Rosendahl  
Box Office Systems Associate ..... Sara Schoenberger  
Graphic Design Partner ..... Stephen Boyer  
Box Office Customer Service  
Representatives ..... Eleanore Cashen,  
Joey Gilchrist, Pamela King,  
Lauren Miller, Patti Quintanilla,  
Nicolle Soto  
House Manager ..... Leah Soderstrom  
Ushers ..... James Andrulis, Linda Atwood,  
Mary Blietz, Carol Delanoy,  
Jennifer Drazner, Mike Fagan,  
Susan Friedman, Phoenix Gould,  
Linda Griffin, Janet Jesse, Kim Kelly,  
Claudia Kowal, Jane Lincoln,  
Carey Lyman-Cordes, Jeff Mason,  
Svetlana Mironchuk, Anne Nimke,  
Betsy Pesa, Lou Rosetti, Sue Schroeder,  
Romeo Sobrepena, Robin Ward,  
Wendy White

## THE BERNIE YVON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Bernie Yvon considered Marriott Theatre home. Subscribers and patrons considered him family. For 25 years and 40 productions, Bernie endeared himself to his audiences. The Bernie Yvon Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by Bernie's parents to encourage and assist students who wish to pursue a career in the Performing Arts. Your tax-deductible donation will help fund the education of selected students who embody the passion and spirit that Bernie shared with us all on stage and off. Help us honor the legacy of this gifted performer and loving man by ensuring that students are given the same opportunity to learn and light up the stage as Bernie did. For more information, please visit:

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