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MUSICAL
THEATRE

FRONT ROW CENTRE PLAYERS

frc



Kinky Boots

BOOK BY
HARVEY FIERSTEIN

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
CYNDI LAUPER

ORIGINAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY JERRY MITCHELL
BASED ON THE MIRAMAX MOTION PICTURE *Kinky Boots* WRITTEN BY GEOFF DEANE AND TIM FIRTH

Kinky Boots

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized

performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.com

JUNE 9 - JUNE 24, 2023

Beddington Theatre Arts Centre



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Executive Committee 2022-2023

President's Message

President Jenn Lanciault
Vice President..... Samantha Bellamy
Treasurer Robert Seymour
SecretaryJoey Sayer
Artistic Director Jeremy Walker

Members at Large
Emily De Boer, Steven Eastgaard-Ross

It is our privilege to welcome you to the final show of the 2022-2023 season, our first full season since 2019!

Committee Leads 2022-2023

Marketing & Events Hannah Unterschultz
Volunteer Engagement & IDEA..... Samantha Carson
Inventory & Facilities Mike Johnson
Technical..... Steven Eastgaard-Ross

FRC is a volunteer-driven organization, and we are always looking for new volunteers interested in learning about musical theatre and participating in creating memorable experiences both for themselves and for the audiences coming to see our shows. To help us achieve this, we humbly ask that if you can, you contribute more than the price you paid for admission. Anything you can give will go a long way to helping us create memorable experiences for all involved.

We are looking for committed, fun-loving individuals to join our committees this year. Please reach out to volunteer@frontrowcentre.ca or visit our website to join us!

Our Vision

A community that has opportunities to engage in diverse artistic expression.

Our Mission

Front Row Centre Players Society is a charitable, volunteer-driven arts organization that provides a supportive environment for anyone to participate in and learn all aspects of musical theatre and delivers memorable theatrical experiences.

Our Values

Fun • Safety • Collaboration • Passion • Creativity
Equal Opportunity • Diversity • Sustainability

Thank you for continuing to support the arts, and for coming back to live theatre! And a special thanks to all of you for supporting FRC specifically – we would not be back on stage were it not for the support of our friends, family and patrons. Enjoy the show!

FRC's offices and production facilities are at the

Beddington Theatre Arts Centre

375 Bermuda Dr NW | Calgary, AB | T3K 2J5
403-246-8505 | info@frontrowcentre.ca
Charitable Registration #892438565RR0001

Jenn Lanciault, President

Calgary's Premier Community Musical Theatre Company

In the spirit of respect, reciprocity and truth, we honour and acknowledge Moh'kinsstis, and the traditional Treaty 7 territory and oral practices of the Blackfoot confederacy: Siksika, Kainai, Piikani, as well as the Îyâxe Nakoda and Tsuu'tîna nations. We acknowledge that this territory is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region 3 within the historical Northwest Métis homeland. Finally, we acknowledge all Nations – Indigenous and non – who live, work and play on this land, and who honour and celebrate this territory.

This sacred gathering place provides us with an opportunity to engage in and demonstrate leadership on reconciliation.

Thank you for your enthusiasm and commitment to join our team on the lands of Treaty 7 territory.

**Front Row Centre Players
Presents**



Kinky Boots

**Book by
Harvey Fierstein**

**Music and Lyrics by
Cyndi Lauper**

**Original Broadway Production Directed and Choreographed by
Jerry Mitchell**

**Based on the Miramax motion picture Kinky Boots
Written by Geoff Deane and Tim Firth**

Orchestrations by Stephen Oremus

**Original Broadway Production Produced by
Daryl Roth Hal Luftig**

**James L. Nederlander, Terry Allen Kramer, Independent Presenters Network,
CJ E&M, Jayne Baron Sherman, Just For Laughs Theatricals/Judith Ann Abrams,
Yashuhiro Kawana, Jane Bergere, Allan S. Gordon & Adam S. Gordon,
Ken Davenport, Hunter Arnold, Lucy & Phil Suarez, Bryan Bantry,
Ron Fierstein & Dorsey Regal, Jim Kierstead/Gregory Rae,
BB Group/Christina Papagijika, Michael DeSantis/Patrick Baugh,
Brian Smith/Tom & Connie Walsh, Warren Trepp and Jujamcyn Theaters**

KINKY BOOTS is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.com

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Kinky Boots may contain content that may not be appropriate for everyone. Parental guidance is recommended.

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Jenna Swiatkowski

Skylar Desjardins

Morpheus Theatre

Encore Canada

Cynthia Baker

Doug Childs

Cyndi Lauper wishes to thank her collaborators:

Sammy James Jr., Steve Gaboury, Rich Morel and Tom Hammer, Stephen Oremus

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED IN ANY WAY WITH THIS PRODUCTION BUT WHOSE NAMES HAVE BEEN OMITTED.

Welcome to the Land of Lola!

Kinky Boots is a journey for everyone brave enough to step out of the world around them and into the heels of their true existence, unapologetically. In a world shaped by stereotypes, assumed conformity, and judgement, we must celebrate what makes us different rather than chasing the social construct of fitting in.

Celebrating eighteen years of performing in drag closing night, I've used the nearly two decades of experience to aid in the telling of this story. The world of drag has blown up over the last decade, starting with hiding in dark bars, being kicked out of cabs for what I was wearing, to working full time as a drag queen professionally today! Immersing myself in the world of drag, many doors have opened that were once locked for what seemed like forever.

"Drag is Mainstream"

Currently, the 2SLGBTQ+ community is under attack by those unformed of what we do and why. In this production my focus was to tell the stories of those who may normally be hidden in the shadows, ignored, or worse. Let this show take you away from the gender conformity of modern society and allow you to "Just be, who YOU want to be". Become the person you needed growing up, show the world the true you inside!

Stephen West aka Farrah Nuff
Director / Choreographer

Kinky Boots was created by a film maker who saw a documentary about a failing shoe factory in Northampton. The Story of Charlie and Lola is timeless in that humans have always struggled to fit in, make the right choices for those around us despite what may be best for ourselves, or how changing one's perspective can change everything but most important of these to me is that Family is not always the people you are born to, sometimes it's chosen. FRC and community theatre are my chosen family – a place where many of my team members and I will agree where we can JUST BE ourselves and be surrounded by people who will "Raise You Up". I won't be writing you a "Sad Soliloquy", that would make "Everybody Say Yeah", or maybe tell you my "History of Wrong Guys" so you just gotta "Take What You Got."

Sit back and enjoy the Land of Stephen and Char you wont regret it.



Char Brydges
Director



Act One

1. Price & Son Theme
2. The Most Beautiful Thing
3. Take What You Got
4. Land of Lola
5. Land of Lola (Reprise)
6. Step One
7. Sex Is In The Heel
8. The History of Wrong Guys
9. Not My Father's Son
10. Everybody Say Yeah

Act Two

11. Entr'acte / Price & Son (Reprise)
12. What a Woman Wants
13. In This Corner
14. Charlie's Sad Soliloquy
15. Soul of a Man
16. Hold Me in Your Heart
17. Raise You Up /Just Be
18. Bows

CAST



Charlie Price	Fred Amdur
Lola/Simon	Felix Yoder
Nicola	Caitlin Karpetz
Lauren	Danielle Baker
Don / Simon Sr.	Jeremy Walker
Pat.....	Liz Lipton
Trish.....	Kasia Noworyta-Fridman
George.....	David Valentin Zapien Mercado
Essex (Angel)	Drew Russell (Tana Nuff)
Amber Sand (Angel Captain)	Erik Mikkelsen (Nada Nuff)
Portia Lynn Dahl (Angel)	Harrison Bentley
Bubbles (Angel)	Hope Squires (Ella)
Ice Lolly (Angel)	Ian Riep
Lucia Purr (Angel).....	Jack Prodaniuk-Mori (Jackal Morose)
Aida Hachdee (Angel Swing).....	Stephen West (Farrah Nuff)
Mr. Price / Ensemble	Chris Baddock
Harry / Ensemble	Johann Wentzel
Richard Bailey / Ensemble.....	Joey Moss
Ensemble	Aileen Marcotte, Alyssa Lightfoot, Danielle Renton, Julia Bleichert, Megan Kerrigan, Sandy He, Vina Suniga
Young Charlie.....	Laura Desmarais
Young Simon.....	Alana Cota-Hernandez



Orchestra Director.....	Neil West
Orchestra Technical Assistant	Courtney Burton
Reeds.....	Kimberly Linkert, Robert Seymour
Trumpet	Mark Paidra
Trombone.....	Robert McManus
Drums.....	Kathy Ma
Guitar 1.....	Daniel Sanguinetti
Guitar 2.....	Adrien Hebert
Electric Bass.....	Deanna Manson
Keyboard 1	Neil West
Keyboard 2	Lynn Kolling
Violin.....	Blake Doucet-Lewis
Cello.....	Eva Ambrose



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2023 Calgary Community Theatre Awards

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www.calgary-acts.com

PRODUCTION TEAM



Directors.....	Charlene Brydges, Stephen West
Musical Director	Anne Roggensack
Assistant Musical Director / Orchestra Director	Neil West
Choreographer	Stephen West
Producer.....	Jeremy Walker
Executive Producer	Jenn Lanciault
Stage Manager	Samantha Bellamy
Apprentice Stage Manager.....	Alyssa Gavinski
Lighting Design	Benjamin Childs
Set Design.....	Charlene Brydges, Samantha Bellamy, Stephen West
Master Carpenter	Art Slinger
Costume Design.....	Stephen West
Costume Coordinator.....	Brittany Doucet-Lewis
Prop Design / Hair & Makeup Design	Emily De Boer
Sound Design.....	Andrea Katz
Assistant Stage Manager	Diana Poaps, Rhonda Mottle
Follow Spot Operator.....	Kat McLaren, Michael Carlson, Lindsay Walker, Shayne Spence
Sound Operator	Andrea Katz, Marc Verones, Sarah Barker
Costume Assistant	Gloria Doucet
Makeup Assistant	Alyssa De Boer
Wigstress.....	Drew Russell (Tana Nuff)
Costume Support	Karen Walker, Rhonda Mottle
Set Construction.....	Cory Melenchuk, Harlan Sterner, Marc Verones, Shayne Spence
Set Painting Lead	Fred Amdur
Set Decoration	Samantha Bellamy
Props Construction.....	Jason Jubenville
Dance Captain.....	Julia Bleichert
Vocal Captain.....	Caitlin Karpetz
Load-In Support.....	Doug Childs, Hailey Wright, Jana Childs, Lindsay Walker, Maren Childs
Dialect Coaching	David LeReaney (Dial/Act Inc)
Photography.....	Brittany Doucet-Lewis
Poster Design.....	Winnie Tran
Program Design.....	Jenn Lanciault

MEET THE CAST



AILEEN MARCOTTE (ENSEMBLE)

In their 2nd on stage production with FRC, Aileen is delighted to be a part of the ensemble. Aileen has been in many productions including *Rent*; *Grease*; *Into The Woods*; *The Who's Tommy*; *Beauty & the Beast*; *Sound of Music*; and *Wind in the Willows*. When not in musicals, Aileen spends her time as a drag performer, known as Peaches. You can follow her journey on Instagram @peaches.oh



ALANA COTA-HERNANDEZ (YOUNG SIMON)

Alana is 7 years old and is in grade 1. She speaks Spanish, French and English, and loves music. She loves to sing and dance, and has taken musical theatre and joined Calgary's Girl Choir this year. Alana also enjoys biking, reading, and painting. She is very excited to be part of FRC's production of *Kinky Boots* and repeatedly stole her mother's heels to practice her part.



ALYSSA LIGHTFOOT (ENSEMBLE)

Alyssa is a schoolteacher with a passion for musical theatre. She has performed in a variety of shows including *Urinetown*, *Babes in Arms*, *Guys and Dolls*, and most recently, *Beauty and the Beast* with Swamp Donkey Theatre. Alyssa is especially honored to be a part of sharing the *Kinky Boots* story when Calgary needs it most. She is thankful to her LGBTQ+ castmates for their bravery in continuing to bring the joy of Drag and theatre to the community despite the hate they endure for it. "You change the world when you change your mind."



CAITLIN KARPETZ (NICOLA / VOCAL CAPTAIN)

Caitlin is grateful to be playing Nicola in this fabulous production. One year after donning the shoes of both Victor & Victoria, she is amazed by her fellow cast and can't wait for the audience to experience the joy and earnest performances on stage. Be proud to be you and enjoy the show!



CHRIS BADDOCK (MR. PRICE / ENSEMBLE)

Calgary's theatrical newcomer, Chris, joins Front Row Centre! You may recognize him from his most previous role at Swamp Donkey Musical Theatre as Lumière in *Beauty and the Beast*. He's now illuminating *Kinky Boots* as Mr. Price, and stomping the runway in the ensemble!



DANIELLE BAKER (LAUREN)

Slay! Danielle Baker is an emerging artist in Calgary's theatre scene and is excited to be making her FRC debut in this fabulous show. Select Credits Include: *Twas the Night Before Christmas* (DIY), *Home Grown* (BCC), *The SpongeBob Musical* (SBT), *A Dinner Party* (UofL), *The Murder* (Theatre Xtra), *The Milestone Part* (Imagine), *Scattered* (Sidenote), *Bring it on* (SBT), and many more! Danielle is also currently pursuing her BFA and BEd at the University of Lethbridge and you can catch her around the city spreading magic as a princess entertainer with YYC Princess! Danielle's inspiration in life is the icon Jennifer Coolidge.



DANIELLE RENTON (ENSEMBLE)

Danielle is elated to be doing another show with FRC, especially one with a great message of acceptance and some fabulous shoes! Previous credits with FRC include *Judy Garland* (*Boy from Oz*), *Mrs. Walker* (*The Who's Tommy*), *Vi Moore* (*Footloose*), ensemble (*How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Anything Goes*).

MEET THE CAST



DAVID VALENTIN ZAPIEN MERCADO (GEORGE)

Valentin debuted as Carmen in *The Producers*, and since then he joined productions full of strange and odd characters, like the urban *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *Legally Blonde*, the steampunk *My Fair Lady*, the hectic office in *9 to 5*, the tropical *South Pacific*, the office drama in *How to Succeed, City of Angels*, *The Addams Family*, *Mamma Mia!*, now he is feeling 6 inches higher and funking it up in this amazing production of *Kinky Boots*.



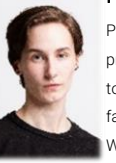
DREW RUSSELL (TANA NUFF) (ESSEX (ANGEL) / WIGSTRESS)

In their 7th FRC production Drew is so excited to debut their drag persona Tana Nuff as Essex the Angel. Pre-pandemic you might have seen Drew in *Grease*, *The Wedding Singer*, *The Addams Family* or *The Boy From Oz*. When the pandemic started Drew dove headfirst into the Calgary Drag scene and quickly established themselves as a queen to watch. When they aren't on stage you can catch Tana on Instagram @tana_nuff_



ERIK MIKKELSEN (NADA NUFF) (AMBER SAND (ANGEL CAPTAIN))

Erik, as known as Nada Nuff, is Calgary's Broadway diva! She has been doing drag across southern Alberta and lower BC for over 9 years. "Thank you to all family, chosen and blood, for all the support on this journey."



FELIX YODER (LOLA/SIMON)

Previously appearing in *The Who's: Tommy* and *Priscilla, Queen of The Desert*, Felix is thrilled to return for his third FRC production. As a gay and nonbinary dancer, singer, and fledgling drag queen (mentored by his darling Angels), Felix has worked to represent queer performers across Calgary theatres for the past eleven years. He hopes he can bring fire, ferocity, and fabulosity to your viewing as Lola. Outside of dancing and drag, Felix is a published comic artist and animator working with WEBTOON and other platforms.



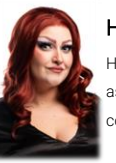
FRED AMDUR (CHARLIE PRICE / SET PAINTING LEAD)

Fred is thrilled to be making his stage and FRC debut in *Kinky Boots*! He could not wish for a better family with whom to bring this magical story to life. A proud French Canadian from Ottawa, Fred is a costumer and theatre craftsman with an advanced diploma in Theatre Production from Sheridan College. Before moving to Calgary, he had the privilege of working for Mirvish Productions and the Shaw Festival Theatre. Thankful for all his loved ones' support, Fred is honoured to emerge from behind the scenes to play Charlie! Be sure to catch Fred's drag alter ego locally and on Instagram @thejulienecarrots



HARRISON BENTLEY (PORTIA LYNN DAHL (ANGEL))

Harrison is gagged and gooped to have had the opportunity to be one of the Angels, this is a role that he has wanted to play for years now. The Angels bring so much joy and colour to the show, and this whole experience has been so much fun and truly has felt like playing. He would like to give a special shout out to his fellow Angels, specifically Nada, Ella, Tana, and Jackal. They have all made him and Ian feel so at home and supported, he thanks them for their guidance and knowledge which has helped bring Portia to life, he would not be where he is without them.



HOPE SQUIRES (ELLA) (BUBBLES (ANGEL))

Hope is so excited for her debut with Front Row Centre as one of the Angels, Bubbles! However, Hope is not new to the stage as her drag persona Ella has been slaying stages across Alberta for the past year and a half. Hope has a background in competitive cheerleading, so you can always expect a stunt when Ella hits the stage! Follow her on Instagram, @its_just_ella

MEET THE CAST



IAN RIEP (ICE LOLLY (ANGEL))

Ian is thrilled to be working on such a beautiful show that celebrates love and acceptance. Select credits include: *Mamma Mia!* (FRC), *A Monster Calls* (UofC), *WROL* (UofC), and *Bring it On* (Storybook Theatre). Currently, Ian is studying drama and psychology at the University of Calgary. In his free time, Ian enjoys singing, writing, and watching movies. @ian.riep



JACK PRODANIUK-MORI (JACKAL MOROSE) (LUCIA PURR (ANGEL))

Jack is thrilled to be strutting onto the stage with *Kinky Boots* as their debut into the local Moh'kins'tsis theatre scene! A long-time lover of Musicals and Theatre alike, Jackal is no stranger to performing as they are a regular within the city's Drag community under the name of Jackal Morose (@thekaosofjackal). Their background includes 23 years of experience as a singer along with studying theatre in high school; they hope to continue their education in entertainment at The Toronto Film School. Jack would like to give a huge thanks to their Drag family, friends and community; "I wish I could name everyone but alas that would take up the entire program haha, please know I love you all and your support means the world to me".



JEREMY WALKER (PRODUCER / DON / SIMON SR.)

Jeremy is excited to be returning to the stage after six years of behind-the-scenes work! With over fifty credits, Jeremy's first show was FRC's first show way back in 1989 where he worked backstage on *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Previous on-stage credits include *Hairspray*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *The Paper Bag Princess* and *Shrek the Musical* (StoryBook Theatre), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Sweeney Todd* (FRC). Away from the theatre Jeremy watches movies and plays with his Transformers! Much love as always to HIKL for all their love and support and allowing me to go out and play.



JOEY MOSS (RICHARD BAILEY / ENSEMBLE)

Joey is excited for their second ever FRC production in *Kinky Boots!* You may recognize them from their first and most recent FRC show; *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!* They would like to thank their mom, brother and their friends for their constant support for Joey's love for theatre arts and performance. They would also like to thank the cast and crew for putting together such an amazing show.



JOHANN WENTZEL (HARRY / ENSEMBLE)

After a long hiatus, Johann returns to the stage! Last seen (heard!) as a guitarist for *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, Johann returns as Harry, fully showing that despite not being in the orchestra, he just can't quit playing guitar for FRC shows. Outside of theatre, Johann is a computer science PhD student working on making virtual reality more accessible.



JULIA BLEICHERT (ENSEMBLE / DANCE CAPTAIN)

Julia is twenty-one years old from Airdrie, Alberta. Her love for the arts first started when she took her first ballet class at the age of three. She has received training at the School of Alberta Ballet as a Professional Division student, the Young Canadians of the Calgary Stampede, and multiple dance studios growing up. Musical theatre is also one of her many passions. Julia has been a part of three Storybook Theatre productions, her favourite being *Bring it On the Musical* where she took on the role of Eva. Most recently, she was in the Nose Creek Players rendition of *Alice In Wonderland*. She is beyond grateful to be a part of this production and cannot wait to showcase it!



KASIA NOWORYTA-FRIDMAN (TRISH)

Although Kasia is new to the musical scene, she is not new to the stage. She regularly performs with her vocal quartet *Here Comes Treble* and has sung with other groups through the years, including 10 years with *Blend Vocal* where she was a member of the Board of Directors. For more than 20 years, she has been a speech coach at Webber Academy, where she teaches Spanish as well as coaches various sports. Kasia is delighted to be part of *Kinky Boots* and very much appreciates the kind, positive and supportive cast and the professional, encouraging and thoughtful directing and production teams.

MEET THE CAST

LAURA DESMARAIS (YOUNG CHARLIE)



Laura is thrilled to be performing in her first stage production ever! She had a blast with this wonderful cast and crew who welcomed her into the theatre family with open arms. She hopes you all enjoy this very special show, celebrating every kind of person, and she is excited to help create a more inclusive world. When she's not singing and dancing, Laura loves playing soccer and piano, and using her imagination to create magical things. She'd like to thank her older sister, parents, aunts, and all her family and friends for their support.

LIZ LIPTON (PAT)



Liz is thrilled to return to the stage again with FRC! Liz has previously worked with FRC in numerous shows including *Legally Blonde The Musical*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Priscilla Queen of The Desert*, *The Wedding Singer* & *Cabaret* to name a few. She wants to thank her friends & family for loving her exactly as she is & her beautiful wife for her endless love, support & encouragement. She can't wait to share this story with all of you & hopes this show is a reminder to love every part of people & spread kindness wherever you go. Enjoy the show!

MEGAN KERRIGAN (ENSEMBLE)



Megan is from Southern California and recently graduated with her BFA in Drama from U of C. She founded Musical Theatre UCalgary, an SU club dedicated to creating musical opportunities on campus. She has recently been seen as Sophie in *Mamma Mia* and Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde*. Megan is pursuing a career in musical theatre and film in Canada, and you can see her in various variety acts around the city including *Viral Ventures* events and *Occasional Notes*. For more, check out www.megankerrigan.com

SANDY HE (ENSEMBLE)



Sandy is thrilled to be a part of this fantastic cast! When she is not working in the Price and Son Factory, she is completing her practicum for her Master of Arts Counselling Psychology Program. Sandy is still new to the musical theatre community and has been in *Untold Stories' Wind in the Willows*, and FRC's *All Together Now!*. Thank you to her friends, family and badminton team for always supporting her!

VINA SUNIGA (ENSEMBLE)



Vina is ecstatic to perform in her first show with FRC In her spare time, Vina indulges in many hobbies including painting, journaling, gaming, & terrible puns. Vina grew up singing in multiple school, show, & church choirs & is thrilled to return to the stage!



encore

MEET THE BAND



ADRIEN HÉBERT (GUITAR 2)

Adrien is a 20-year-old musician and athlete born and raised in Calgary. He grew up spending lots of time in Jazz clubs and auditoriums because of his father who is a professional saxophone player. and this led to him starting to play guitar & trumpet when he was 9 years old. His first musical was *The Addams Family* when he was 13. This is his 10th musical, and he knows that it will for sure be the most fun. Aside from his guitar playing, he was a part of the Calgary Stampede Showband in 2019 as a trumpet player and is also a Junior hockey player continuously chasing athletic performance.



BLAKE DOUCET-LEWIS (VIOLIN)

Blake joined the FRC family in 2023, tickling the ivories in *Follies (Concert Version)*. A seasoned performer and musical educator, he was excited to take up his violin to join the band of *Kinky Boots* and is looking forward to helping bring this amazing show to life.



COURTNEY BURTON (ORCHESTRA TECHNICAL ASSISTANT)

This is Courtney's fifth production with Front Row Centre Players (*Young Frankenstein, Urinetown, Jesus Christ Superstar, City of Angels, Kinky Boots*). After taking a hiatus to travel and pursue other hobbies, the theatre calls and she could not be more excited.



DANIEL SANGUINETTI (GUITAR 1)

Daniel has been in & around the Calgary Music Scene for several years now. He has been involved with the National Music Centre, JazzYYC, the Mount Royal Conservatory, and Calgary Youth Jazz Orchestra. He has been active in Musical Theatre for one year now, having been in MTUCalgary's *Legally Blonde* and *Grease*, and FRC's *Mamma Mia!*. Daniel has fallen in love with musical theatre and hopes to develop his performance abilities through musical theatre! Daniel is set to begin his 3rd year at the University of Calgary as a Bachelor of Music Performance Major, with a Drama Minor!



DEANNA MANSON (ELECTRIC BASS)

This is Deanna's sixth show with FRC since 2018 and she is super pumped to be part of *Kinky Boots*!! Federal public servant by day, Broadway musical fanatic by night, Deanna has been an enthusiastic member of numerous pit orchestras since high school. Yay band!!



EVA AMBROSE (CELLO)

Eva is a pre-medicine student studying philosophy at U of C. She plays many instruments and teaches several of them here in Calgary. She has been in theatre for many years and is excited to return to FRC for her 6th production!



KATHY MA (DRUMS)

Kathy is so excited to be playing *Kinky Boots*! She has done over 30 shows with FRC with the previous being *Mamma Mia!* last year. She has just returned from a band tour of the Maritimes and after remarking that she has done more band tours as an adult than as a kid, was told that she is still a kid! Who has a new drum pad to make kinky sounds with! Thanks to Neil for the amazing band and happy opening to this awesome cast and crew!

MEET THE BAND



KIMBERLY LINKERT (REEDS)

This is Kimberly's 11th show with Front Row Centre! When she's not here you can hear Kimberly performing with the Calgary Wind Symphony, Alberta Winds and the Southern Stardust Big Band. As always, Kimberly is so impressed by this talented group of people and is honoured to work with them. Enjoy the show and remember "you [can] change the world when you change your mind"



LYNN KOLLING (KEYBOARD 2)

This is Lynn's 9th show with FRC. Her sister, Kathy, on drum set, got her into doing these shows. When not playing sound effects, you can find Lynn playing in the percussion section for community concert bands and also on the pickleball court where she tries to hit the ball as much as possible.



MARK PAIDRA (TRUMPET)

Originally from Kingston, Ontario, Mark plays trumpet with the Calgary Wind Symphony, the Fox Big Band and the Southern Stardust Big Band. His first FRC show was last year's *Victor Victoria*, and he just had to come back for Stephen Sondheim's *Follies (Concert Version)* earlier this year. Then, instead of doing the sensible thing and taking a break, he couldn't resist returning for the wonderful music of *Kinky Boots*. Or maybe he just has a secret thing for thigh high leather. Either way, he is enjoying Cyndi Lauper's music greatly, and is sure you will too.



NEIL WEST (ASSISTANT MUSICAL DIRECTOR / ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR / KEYBOARD 1)

Neil is excited to continue his journey with FRC that began with *Monty Python's Spamalot* in 2018. *Kinky Boots* and its lessons on acceptance, friendship, and love resonate deeply with him. Many thanks to the musicians who have dedicated countless hours and their artistry to this production. Love to Stephen, Mom, Dad, and Erin.



ROBERT MCMANUS (TROMBONE)

Since moving to Calgary at age 10, Robert has consistently looked for ways to be involved in the music and performing arts scene; playing in FRC's *Kinky Boots* is one way he keeps up with his music life now that his career has taken him down a different path. *Kinky Boots* is his second musical theatre show, having previously performed with FRC in *City of Angels* (2018). Robert was a member of the Calgary Stampede Showband (2014-17), and has joined their alumni group, the Calgary Stampede Band of Outriders for this upcoming Stampede season.



ROBERT SEYMOUR (REEDS)

Inclusion, Diversity, Acceptance and Reconciliation are themes that abound in this production and inspire Robert in his participation with this show. Over the years Robert has performed a wide variety of music: folk, orchestral, classical chamber music, opera, big band etc. Now after 5 decades and more than 100 musical theatre productions, Robert is proud to be part of this inspiring and hysterical FRC production.

MEET THE WRITERS



HARVEY FIERSTEIN (BOOK)

Harvey Fierstein is a four-time Tony Award-winning writer and actor. His Broadway writing credits include *Kinky Boots*, *Torch Song Trilogy* (Tony, Drama Desk, Dramatists Guild Awards), *Casa Valentina*, *Safe Sex*, *Legs Diamond* and *A Catered Affair* (12 Drama Desk nominations and the Drama League Award for Best Musical). His *La Cage Aux Folles* is the only show to ever win Best Musical and 2 Best Revival Tony Awards. Other plays include *Spookhouse*, *Forget Him* and *Flatbush Tosca*. His teleplays include *Tidy Endings* for HBO (ACE Award), and *On Common Ground* for Showtime. His children's HBO special, *The Sissy Duckling*, won the Humanitas Prize and the book version is in its eighth printing. Other honors include the Drama League Award for Outstanding Performer of the Year, a special OBIE award, NY Magazine Award, and nominations for The Olivier Award and an Emmy. His political writings have been seen on PBS' series "In The Life" and published in *The NY Times*, *Huffington Post* and *Hartford Courant*. He was inducted into The Theater Hall of Fame in 2008.



CYNDI LAUPER (MUSIC & LYRICS)

Cyndi Lauper is a Grammy, Emmy and Tony Award-winning artist with over 30 sterling years and global record sales in excess of 50 million albums. With her first album, "She's So Unusual", Lauper won a Grammy Award for Best New Artist and became the first female in history to have four top-five singles from a debut album. Since then, Lauper has released ten additional studio albums, been inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and celebrated as a New York Times best-selling author. Overall, during her storied music career, Lauper has been nominated for 15 Grammy Awards, two American Music Awards, seven American Video Awards and 18 MTV Awards. In 2013, Cyndi Lauper became the first solo woman to win Best original score for her music and lyrics for *Kinky Boots*. Never one to slow down, next she is currently writing the score for the Broadway adaptation of the 1988 feature film *Working Girl*, contributed a song to the score of the Broadway musical *Spongebob Squarepants* and launched her own fashion line A Touch of Cyn with Home Shopping Network.

FRONT OF HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

Front of House Managers

Steven Eastgaard-Ross
Jenn Lanciault
Joey Sayer

Ushers

Lisa Antichow
Kathy Bauer
Joan Blumer
Janet Brown
Marlene Cain
Rhonda Clarke
Brenda Cosens
Dennis Daly
Suzanne Desjardins
Linda Ehman
Kathie Esplin
Carine Fossez
Naoto Fujimoto
Monica Goulet

Snizhana Gukasian
Ross Hodgson
Clinton Hughes
Aizenosa Idahosa
Alex Kowalski
Myrna Malanik
Laura May
Madison McBride
Shandra McQueen
Lorraine O'Neill
Sharon Olsen
Joanne Sampson
Mai Tanaka
Corinne Webb

Ticket Takers

Monique Achtman
Lisa Antichow
George Bibeau
Jessie Bigler
Rhonda Clarke

Shannon Conner
Amber Dujay
Deb Finkleman
Louise Hamilton
Joy Mamer
Sydney Norgaard
Dave Ottenbreit
Christine Reynolds
Brad Simon

Will Calls

Donna Barnfield
Suzanne Desjardins
Kathie Esplin
Alan Hamaliuk
Pete Jemus
Heather MacDonald
Cathy Martin
Daisy Pond
Joanne Sampson

Tracy Smith

Bartenders

Donna Bibeau
Kamila Djanabulova
Violet Dorais
Kaaren Finlay
John Gray
Jocelyn Laing
Kelly Misko
Emma Newton-Rolfe
Jessica Norgaard
Rowena Romero
Susan Rubin
Tracy Smith
Jeri Wallis
Rick Yoder
Michelle Yoder
Rick Yoder
Michelle Yoder

MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



ALYSSA DE BOER (MAKEUP ASSISTANT)

Alyssa is new to theatre and FRC but she's loved it and looks forward to many more shows in the future.



ALYSSA GAVINSKI (APPRENTICE STAGE MANAGER)

Alyssa is thrilled to work with FRC once again, this time as Apprentice Stage Manager, after working on *Mamma Mia!* as Producer in the fall (September 2022). It's been a busy year for Alyssa, as she also stage managed Morpheus Theatre's *Calendar Girls* in the winter (February 2023). Her previous roles have included SM for DIY Theatre's *Trauma* (November 2020) and ASM for Morpheus' *Miracle on 34th Street* (December 2019). Alyssa is mom to four kiddos, and runs her own web development company. Alyssa would like to thank her husband, Adam, for handling the chaos while she's at



ANDREA KATZ (SOUND DESIGN)

Andrea excited to be back in the theater for her 16th show with FRC, having just done *Follies (Concert Version)*. Andrea won the CAT Award for sound design for *Avenue Q*. Andrea would like to thank her wife for putting up with her when she is in 'show mode' and she would like to thank Stevee for all of his help.



ANNE ROGGENSACK (MUSICAL DIRECTOR)

Anne is thrilled to have had the privilege of making music with this incredible cast and to be part of bringing this beautiful story of acceptance to the stage. For FRC: *Chess*, *Evita*, *The Boy From Oz* (Asst MD), *All Together Now!*, *Mamma Mia!* (Asst MD). Elsewhere: *Samson et Dalila* (CCOC), Calgary Opera's *SYTYC Sing Opera?*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *The Last Wife* (Music West). By day, Anne is a maternal-fetal medicine physician and educator with the U of C. She'd like to thank her very understanding husband Doug and her twins M&J for their love and support.



BENJAMIN CHILDS (LIGHTING DESIGN)

Ben is excited to be back to light up another story with FRC. You might have seen Ben's previous work all around Calgary with companies such as FRC, Storybook Theatre, Stage West, CYPT, and Morpheus. If you want to see more of Ben's design work, come check out *Ride the Cyclone* with the Brown Cow Collective later this summer! Thank you for supporting local theatre!



BRITTANY DOUCET-LEWIS (COSTUME COORDINATOR)

Brittany is the sparkling sensation who joined FRC in the 2022/2023 season as a photographer, capturing the magic of *Mamma Mia!*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, and *Follies (Concert Version)*. But wait, there's more! Driven by a passion for wardrobe mayhem, Brittany couldn't resist the allure of sparkles and spandex. Armed with a measuring tape and her trusty sewing machine, she bravely stepped into the role of Costume Coordinator for *Kinky Boots*. Buckle up, darlings, because the fashion revolution starts here!



CHARLENE BRYDGES (DIRECTOR / SET DESIGN)

"It's just Char." She just popped into this theatre to help with FRC's *Little Shop of Horrors* a "couple" of seasons back (try SIX!) and hasn't been able to leave since. Much Love to her chosen family for all the support in making this happen.

MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



EMILY DE BOER (HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN / PROP DESIGN)

Emily is a trained makeup artist who watches Ru Paul's Drag Race in her free time, so *Kinky Boots* is one of her dream shows. This is Emily's first crack at props but definitely not her last. She hopes you enjoy watching the show as much as she's enjoyed working on it.



RHONDA MOTTLE (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

Rhonda's so happy to be back in live theatre. She loves the collaboration of talents that is the world of theatre. Rhonda's been an ASM, costume designer, SM, actor, singer, dresser, wardrobe mistress... in *Peter Pan*, *Little Women*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *Miss Saigon*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Titanic*, *Victor/Victoria*, *Ella Goes to Comic Expo*. When not ensconced in theatre, Rhonda's spends time with family, including 3 grandchildren: James, Cecilia, and Charlotte, her apprentice guide-dog, Chewbacca, and friends. Let's boldly go!



SAMANTHA BELLAMY (STAGE MANAGER / SET DESIGN / SET DECORATION)

Five years ago, Sam joined the crew of *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* to take on stage managing her first drag musical. It was through that experience she knew to answer the call to come back and join *Kinky Boots*. Thank you to the cast and crew for being part of her chosen family! The biggest hug and kiss go out to her kiddo Bastien. Watching him enjoy the process of creating *Kinky Boots* has been such a pleasure. Sam hopes you enjoy the show and the magic of theatre.



STEPHEN WEST (FARRAH NUFF) (DIRECTOR / CHOREOGRAPHER / COSTUME DESIGN / SET DESIGN / AIDA HACHDEE (ANGEL SWING))

Stephen joined FRC five years ago, winning their first CAT award for their debut choreographic adventure *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*. They continued to excel with *Monty Python's Spamalot*, followed by winning their second CAT award in choreography for *The Addams Family*. Recently graduating from U of C with a BEd, they cannot wait to share their love of theatre with all their future students! Stephen dedicates this show to the Nuff family and their husband Neil. Other credits: *Wedding Singer* (Hair/Makeup), *Home for the Holidays* (Director/Host), *Hope Springs* (Digital Editor, Performer)



34 YEARS OF FRC

1988-1989

Jesus Christ Superstar

1989-1990

Tunes and Tickers
Damn Yankees

1990-1991

Tunes and Tickers Too
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying

1991-1992

Tunes and Tickers Three
Weather Report
The Fantasticks

1992-1993

Broadway on the Move
You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown
Chicago

1993-1994

Tunes and Tickers IV
Oliver!

1994-1995

Tunes and Tickers V: A Look Back
Annie Get Your Gun

1995-1996

The Butler Did it Singing
Annie

1996-1997

Godspell
Guys and Dolls

1997-1998

The Sound of Music
Fiddler on the Roof

1998-1999

Sugar
Music Man

1999-2000

Bye Bye Birdie
Bells are Ringing

2000-2001

The Rocky Horror Show (twice)
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

2001-2002

Cabaret
Gypsy
South Pacific

2002-2003

Eating Raoul
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying
My Fair Lady

2003-2004

Company
Jesus Christ Superstar
Kiss Me Kate

2004-2005

A New Brain
Man of La Mancha
Pippin

2005-2006

Leader of the Pack
Evita
Hair

2006-2007

Oklahoma
Chicago
Little Shop of Horrors

2007-2008

Nine
Camelot
Wizard of Oz

2008-2009

Godspell
Fiddler on the Roof
Grease

2009-2010

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street
Hello Dolly!
Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits
Nunsense the Mega Musical

2010-2011

Chess
The Producers
Putting it Together
Brigadoon

2011-2012

The Rocky Horror Show
Assassins
Front Row Centre at the Movies
Gypsy

2012-2013

Singin' in the Rain
Monty Python's Spamalot
YESTERDAY • TODAY • TOMORROW
Legally Blonde

2013-2014

My Fair Lady
Footloose
Coming Attractions
Young Frankenstein
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

2014-2015

9 to 5: The Musical
Urinetown
Jesus Christ Superstar
Flights of Fancy
Anything Goes

2015-2016

The Mystery of Edwin Drood
The Who's Tommy
It's Good to be Bad
Catch Me If You Can
South Pacific
Opera in the Village Iconic Broadway

2016-2017

Jekyll & Hyde
Reefer Madness
Through the Decades
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying
Little Shop of Horrors

2017-2018

The Pajama Game
City of Angels
Pearls of Wisdom
Dogfight
Priscilla Queen of the Desert

2018-2019

Monty Python's Spamalot
Evita
Grease
Avenue Q
The Wedding Singer

2019-2020

The Addams Family
The Boy From Oz

2020-2021

Front Row at Home for the Holidays
Hope Springs

2021-2022

All Together Now!
Victor Victoria

2022-2023

Mamma Mia!
I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Follies (Concert Version)

For more information on our past shows please visit www.frontrowcentre.ca

Save My Seat Pass Renewals July 26th
New SMS Passes July 14th
Individual Tickets on Sale August 4th

front row Centre
PLAYERS

CARRIE

the musical

Music by Michael Gore
 Lyrics by Dean Pitchford
 Book by Lawrence D. Cohen
 Based on the novel by Stephen King

CARRIE: THE MUSICAL is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.
www.concordtheatricals.com

SEPTEMBER 15 - 30, 2023

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front row Centre
PLAYERS

A CHORUS LINE

Conceived and Originally Directed and Choreographed by
Michael Bennett

Book by James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante
 Music by Marvin Hamlisch
 Lyrics by Edward Kleban
 Co-Choreographed by Bob Avian

A CHORUS LINE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams - Witmark LLC.
www.concordtheatricals.com

JANUARY 12 - 27, 2024

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front row Centre
PLAYERS

Front Row Centre Players Society's Community Theatre
 Production of

SONDHEIM

SONDHEIM TRIBUTE REVUE

Music and Lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim

SONDHEIM TRIBUTE REVUE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams - Witmark LLC. SONDHEIM TRIBUTE REVUE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams - Witmark LLC. SONDHEIM TRIBUTE REVUE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams - Witmark LLC. SONDHEIM TRIBUTE REVUE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Tams - Witmark LLC.

MARCH 22 - 30, 2024

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front row Centre
PLAYERS

SOMETHING ROTTEN!

Book by KAREY KIRKPATRICK and JOHN O'FARRELL
 Music and Lyrics by WAYNE KIRKPATRICK and KAREY KIRKPATRICK

Conceived by Karey Kirkpatrick and Wayne Kirkpatrick

SOMETHING ROTTEN! is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mti.com

JUNE 7 - 22, 2024

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