

# PLAYBILL®

Fox Performing Arts Center  
Riverside Unified School District  
Wednesday, January 14, 2026



**RUSD** ARTS·HONORS MUSICAL

# SiNGiN' iN THE RAIiN





The RUSD Honors Musical program provides extensive training to prepare students to perform in a fully produced, professional-level musical at the Riverside Fox Performing Arts Center. With world-class mentorship and job shadowing, student actors, dancers, musicians, and theater techs engage in an extraordinary learning environment to prepare for a future in the arts.

**Special thanks to:**

**The RUSD Board of Education**

**The City of Riverside**

**Live Nation**

**The Riverside Educational Enrichment Foundation**

**The Riverside Fox Foundation**

Riverside Unified School District  
Fox Performing Arts Center

Present

# SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

Screenplay by  
**Betty Comden and Adolph Green**

Songs by  
**Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Field**

Based on the classic Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer film, by special arrangement with Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures, Inc.  
Music Published by EMI, all rights administered by Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC

(Original Movie Choreography by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen)  
Produced by Arrangement with Maurice Rosenfield, Lois F. Rosenfield and Cindy Pritzker, Inc.

**Producer**  
Annemarie Guzy

**Director and Choreographer**  
Dominique Araiza-Cauldwell

**Music Director and Conductor**  
Spenser Kalnin

**Technical Director**  
Jessica McCarty

**Costumes**  
Katie Williams

**Vocal Direction**  
Stacey Fraser

Singin' in the Rain is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

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# **SONGS**

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## ACT I

Overture .....	Orchestra
Fit as a Fiddle .....	Don, Cosmo
You Stepped Out of a Dream .....	Don, Ensemble
All I Do is Dream of You .....	Kathy, Girls
You Stepped Out of a Dream Reprise .....	Don
Make 'em Laugh .....	Cosmo
Beautiful Girl .....	Production Tenors, Girls
Lucky Star .....	Kathy
You Were Meant for Me .....	Don, Kathy
Moses Supposes .....	Don, Cosmo
Moses Reprise .....	Assistant Director(s)
Good Morning .....	Don, Cosmo, Kathy
Singin' in the Rain .....	Don

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# **SONGS**

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## **ACT II**

Entr' Acte .....	Orchestra
Would You .....	Kathy
Would You Reprise .....	Don
What's Wrong with Me? .....	Lina
Broadway Melody .....	Cosmo, Don, Ensemble
Would You Finale .....	Company
Lina's Would You .....	Kathy
You Are My Lucky Star Reprise .....	Don, Kathy
Finale - Singin' in the Rain .....	Company
Bows .....	Company

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# CAST

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**Blake Atwater***as Vocal Ensemble*

Blake is a senior at Martin Luther King High School and has been part of the tech crew in the past for the Honors Musical program. He is excited to take the role of actor this year. When he graduates he wants to join a tech company to continue doing shows.

**Brenna Bachman***as Dance Ensemble*

Brenna, a sophomore at Martin Luther King High School, has been doing theater for three years. As a part of the Honors Musical, she has become more confident in her acting and dancing abilities and has also made many new friends and memories. Brenna has learned how much hard work and practice can get you where you want to go. She plans to use this experience to eventually be a singer or an actor in the future.

**Hailey Baerenklau***as Kathy Selden*

Hailey is a senior at Martin Luther King High School and has been deeply involved in the thespian program and vocal department. The Honors Musical has taught her the importance of being physically connected with your body in order to be connected with your character and how to figure out all aspects of a character. Hailey plans to pursue a degree in musical theater.

**Elizabeth Barry***as Dance and Vocal Ensemble*

Lizzy is a senior at Martin Luther King High School, where she is a member of the Thespians club and is a ComedySportz High School League player. The Honors Musical has challenged her to grow as a performer and to try more things, an experience that will stick with her as she explores new creative opportunities along her acting career.

**Clarity Bates***as Zelda Zanders*

Clarity, a freshman at Ramona High School, participates in theater and Ballet Folklórico. She has eleven years of dance training, primarily ballet, including a performance in Debbie Allen's "Hot Chocolate Nutcracker." Her diverse creative capabilities range from violin and singing to writing poetry and music. Clarity hopes to travel and perform professionally onstage across all the artistic mediums she discovers.

**Macy Bethel***as 3rd Assistant Director*

Macy is a junior at Riverside Polytechnic High School and a member of the Chamber Singers. She is thrilled to be making her debut in the Honors Musical, an experience that has provided a fun opportunity for her to grow significantly as both an actress and a dancer. Macy's long-term career goal is to attend the University of Southern California, where she plans to pursue a path in either Film or Psychology.

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# CAST

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**Leilani Brandon***as Olga Mara*

Leilani is a senior attending John W. North High School. The Honors Musical has given her a new set of skills and experiences. She is planning on continuing musical theater in college.

**Brooke Briones** *as R.F. Simpson, Vocal Ensemble, Kathy Selden Understudy*

Brooke, a junior at Martin Luther King High School, is a member of the Show Choir and the theater program. She plans to use her Honors Musical experience to help further her knowledge of theater and apply all she has learned in her college applications to New York University, Julliard, and the University of Michigan.

**Danello Bryant***as Vocal Ensemble*

Danello is a senior at John W. North High School and is a member of the band, choir, theater, and dance programs. While part of the Honors Musical, he has learned how to be a more confident performer on the stage, and for himself. His plan for the future is to study music with the dream of becoming a band director.

**Izabella Carreno***as Dance Ensemble*

Izabella is a junior at Martin Luther King High School and is very excited to be part of the Honors Musical this year. Although she is still unsure of her future career path, she is grateful for the opportunity to gain more professional experience working in a theater and for all the people she has been able to meet through this program.

**Camdyn Chubb***as Dora Bailey, Lina Lamont Understudy*

Camdyn is a senior at Martin Luther King High School. They have been in multiple shows as both cast and crew and are thrilled to be in the Honors Musical for the first time. This process has improved their dance and vocal technique. They would like to continue to pursue theater in the future.

**Caleb Cummings***as Butler, Vocal Ensemble*

Caleb is a junior at John W. North High School and is excited to be part of this year's Honors Musical. He has previously been part of numerous musicals with Riverside Children's Theatre, Act Out Enrichment, RL Productions, and Riverside Community Players. Away from the theater, Caleb is a varsity water polo player and swimmer.

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# CAST

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**Isaac De Leon***as Rod, Dance Ensemble*

Isaac, a senior at Arlington High School, has been taking theater classes for four years and this is his second Honors Musical. At Arlington, Isaac is also part of marching band and choir. He is very grateful to be a part of this production where he can strive to be better at something he loves. He can't wait to see where this passion takes him after high school.

**Maya Diallo***as Lina Lamont*

Maya, a junior at Ramona High School, is President of the Ramona Theater Program as well as being involved in Madrigals and the Dance Team. This is her third year being part of the Honors Musical, and she can confidently say that this program has been a guiding light in her performing arts journey. After high school, she wishes to earn a degree in musical theater and become a working actress.

**Kirsten Dilag***as Dance Ensemble*

Kirsten, a freshman at Martin Luther King High School, is an active member of Show Choir and Thespians. She has performed in several local productions and participated in the 2025 Summer Youth Musical Theatre Intensive at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. The Honors Musical has helped her become a more refined and confident performer. She plans to carry these skills with her into a nursing career.

**Robert Garcia***as Sid Phillips, Dance Ensemble*

Robert is a senior at Ramona High School. He is part of the theater program, student government, Dance Team, and serves as the Vice President of the Ramona Theater Program. As part of the Honors Musical, he has become a more confident performer and discovered a deep love for musical theater. He plans to use this experience to be a musical theater teacher in the fall, and hopes to continue performing.

**Rowan Gilstrap***as Don Lockwood*

Rowan is a senior at Martin Luther King High School and is very excited to be performing in the Honors Musical again. He has been in previous Honors Musicals over his high school career playing characters such as Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast* and Graffiti Pete in *In the Heights*. He can't wait to make his last Honors Musical the best yet. Rowan plans on studying musical theater in college and pursuing it as a career.

**Mason Gonzales***as Villain*

Mason, a sophomore at John W. North High School, is thrilled to join the cast of the Honors Musical for a second year. At North, he is involved in the United Student League, Model United Nations, Varsity Water Polo, Varsity Swim, Dance Team, and the Harlequins Drama Club. The Honors Musical has helped him develop an artistic skill set that he can use in any professional environment after high school.

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# CAST

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## **Jaz Haider**

Jaz is a senior at Martin Luther King High School, serving as the bass section leader of Chamber Singers, a baritone in Vocal Jazz, and President of Thespian Troupe 6209. The Honors Musical has provided valuable experience in a professional theater setting, helping build confidence in his acting. He plans to leverage this experience to pursue his goal of becoming a performing arts major and theater teacher.

*as Roscoe Dexter*



## **Sai Kaiwaidau**

*as 1st Assistant Director, Cosmo Brown Understudy*

Sai, a senior at Martin Luther King High School, is known for his grit and strong sense of purpose. He is committed to continuing his path of service after graduation and plans to join the United States Marine Corps. The Honors Musical taught him to push past limits: keep pushing yourself, and you can achieve the seemingly impossible.



## **Genevieve Kasinski**

*as Vocal Ensemble*

Genevieve, a senior at Riverside Polytechnic High School, is excited to join the ensemble for her first Honors Musical. Having acted in her school's productions for four years, she currently leads Poly's makeup crew and manages the theater program social media. She is also part of Bella Voce and Chamber Singers, and hopes to study music theory in college to pursue her love of singing and become a choir director.



## **Seoyool Kim**

*as Lady-in-Waiting, Dance Ensemble*

Seoyool Kim is a sophomore at Riverside STEM High School. She has been performing since 5th grade, and has learned so much about collaboration, creativity, dancing, singing techniques, and self analysis throughout this journey. She is glad to have been part of this experience and can't wait to take these newly-learned skills and attention-to-detail into her future.



## **Jaylyn Lopez**

*as Vocal Ensemble*

Jaylyn is a junior at Ramona High School. She is involved in the theater program, Dance Team, student government, and is the Treasurer of the Ramona Theater Program. Being in the Honors Musical has given her more confidence to perform in front of other students and has taught her more about performing. She plans to use this experience to continue in the performing arts.



## **Porter McCandless**

*as Vocal Ensemble*

Porter is a senior at Riverside Polytechnic High School, a part of Jesters Club, and is the President of Video Crew. This is his first musical and he has gained a lot of experience in acting and how show business works in a more professional setting. He plans on studying filmmaking in the fall and hopes to be more involved with performing and theater arts.

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# CAST

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**Keon McKnight***as Production Singer*

Keon, a junior at John W. North High School, is Vice President of the Choral Society program, tenor section leader in Chamber Singers, and a member of the Dance Team. The Honors Musical challenged him to learn tap and different music genres. Though not planning to pursue musical theater professionally, he plans to use this experience to minor in theater or dance in college and continue in community theater.

**Bereket Moncrief***as Hairdresser, Dance Ensemble*

Bereket, a senior at John W. North High School, is involved in Chamber Singers, Harlequins, Dance Team, and Color Guard. Being a part of the Honors Musical has helped him to refine his performance skills and to become a more confident dancer. After high school, he hopes to earn a degree in musical theater, then teach and direct professionally.

**America Monroe***as Mary Margaret*

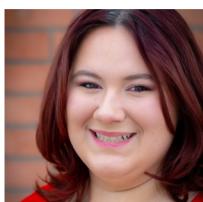
America is a senior at Martin Luther King High School. She has been in theater since her freshman year and has been a leader of King's Thespian Club for three years. She's so excited for her second year of participating in the Honors Musical and would like to continue to pursue theater and acting in the future.

**Lola Monroe***as Dance Ensemble*

Lola is a sophomore at John W. North High School. They are excited to join the world of theater as a part of the dance ensemble. Since a young age, they've loved dancing and have been a part of their school's Color Guard team since freshman year.

**Sophia Montez***as Diction Teacher*

Sophie, a junior at Riverside Polytechnic High School, performs with Bella Voce and serves as Vice President of her school's M.E.Ch.A (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán) club. The Honors Musical has made her a more confident performer and helped her find a loving peer community. She plans to use this experience to major in costume design and become a costume technician and designer.

**Zoe Moreno***as Vocal Ensemble*

Zoe is a junior at Martin Luther King High School where she studies ceramics, costume and makeup, and advanced theater arts. She has aspirations to pursue a career in special effects makeup as well as keep theater and acting in her life.

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# CAST

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**Oliver Ohlheiser***as Production Singer*

Oliver is a freshman at Riverside Polytechnic High School. He is part of the Jesters Club and Show Choir. Oliver is so exited for his first year with the Honors Musical program and can't wait to see what comes next.

**Jasmine Ortiz***as Miss Dinsmore*

Jasmine is a senior at Arlington High School, where she serves as Theater President and performs as a section leader and Co-Media Chair in Arlington's Chamber Choir. After graduation, she plans to use her experience from the Honors Musical to pursue a career as a high school theater and history teacher.

**Caden Schive***as Cosmo Brown,**Don Lockwood Understudy*

Caden is a junior at John W. North High School, where he participates in music, dance, and theater. The Honors Musical has taught him how to cooperate with artists from a variety of different backgrounds and schools. After high school, he plans to attend a four-year university to study musical theater, in hopes of pursuing a career on stage.

**Emma Silva***as Dance Ensemble*

Emma, a senior at John W. North High School, is a member of the National Honors Society, the President of Harlequins, the Vice President of the HERd Equality and Empowerment Club, and the MultiCultural Council Media Manager. She plans to have a career in digital media. Recent credits include North's production of *Men On Boats* and *The One Acts*.

**Sydney Whitlock***as Young Cosmo*

Sydney, a junior at Riverside Polytechnic High School, sings in Poly's Chamber Singers, choreographs for Show Choir, and serves as the Theater Club's Co-Vice President. Being part of the Honors Musical has taught her many new skills and reminded her why she loves theater. She aspires to earn a degree in musical theater and possibly become a director.

**Lela Woods-Madrigal***as Dance Ensemble*

Lela is a senior at Ramona High School. She is a member of the Dance Team and is a leader for other organizations in her school's dance program. She is also in Concert Choir and is ranking Gold in the Ramona Arts Magnet Program. She plans to use all of the techniques she has been taught later down the road and in life.

## STAGE CREW



### **Tucker Ackerman**

### *Lighting / Backstage Crew*

Tucker is a junior at Martin Luther King High School. He has been in tech theater for over two years and is in the wellness club. As part of the Honors Musical, he was challenged to learn lighting for the first time and now he feels more confidence in his skills. Tucker would like to attend Riverside City College and maybe study abroad in Japan. His career goal is to learn animation and keep doing theater tech.



### **Kaliska Barrios**

### *Costume Student Lead*

Kaliska is a senior at Martin Luther King High School. She is a recipient of the Costume and Makeup Award from the California State Thespian Festival and attended the Cinematic Makeup School. The Honors Musical experience taught her to hone in and improve on theatrical appearances. She looks forward to continuing her passion as a costume and makeup artist in the entertainment industry after graduation.



### **Hayden Bolin**

### *Sound Crew*

Hayden is a sophomore at Ramona High School, where she often participates in other theater and tech opportunities. She has enjoyed developing her skills in set construction and sound operation as part of the Honors Musical. It has been great to experience a new environment, develop a wonderful new community, and learn to use new equipment.



### **Leila Broom**

### *Makeup Crew*

Leila is a senior at Ramona High School and is excited to be in her first Honors Musical. She was challenged to learn how to do makeup on different skin types and skin colors. Leila wants to go to college to get her master's degree in business and hopes all her communication skills she has learned from this experience will help her in her pursuit.



### **Delilah Cervantes**

### *Props Crew Co-Lead*

Delilah is a junior at Ramona High School. At Ramona she is in the Chamber Singers Ensemble, digital film class, and musical theater class. She would love to go to college for cinematography and acting after high school.



### **Gracie Frasher**

### *Sound / Backstage Crew*

Gracie, a senior at Martin Luther King High School, is the secretary of Magic Club, a member of the Marching Band, Symphonic Winds, Wind Ensemble, Winter Drumline, and has been leading the front ensemble for two years. The Honors Musical program has helped her build confidence in her audio and mixing abilities, along with problem-solving and social skills, which will be essential for her future career.

# STAGE CREW



## Sean Gardner

### Props Crew Co-Lead

Sean is a senior at Ramona High School and is involved in Ballet Folklórico, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, and tech theater. He is the Treasurer in the Fashion Forward Club. This is his first Honors Musical and it has helped him to become more friendly and a more hardworking person. He wants to use this experience to go into a career in the arts.



## Holly Gragg

### Paint Crew

Holly, a junior at Martin Luther King High School, is a proud Visual and Performing Arts student. An artist both in and out of school, Holly uses many different media in her work, and is using this fantastic opportunity with the Honors Musical to continue honing her skills. Holly plans on continuing her artistic journey after high school by attending art school, eventually becoming a full time visual artist.



## Isabelle Grigio

### Lighting / Backstage Crew

Isabelle, a senior at Martin Luther King High School, is active in the advanced technical theater class. The Honors Musical experience has opened up new opportunities, helped her make friends, and pushed her to work on backstage jobs out of her comfort zone. After high school, she plans to pursue marketing while continuing to work as a backstage tech in college.



## Ashlynn Haugen

### Makeup Crew

Ashlynn is a junior at Martin Luther King High School where she is part of the costume and makeup class. In addition to her passion for soccer, she is a skilled nail artist. After high school, Ashlynn plans to attend a top-tier California college to pursue a career in the makeup or theater arts industry.



## Cassandra Heston

### Head Lighting Designer

Cassie, a senior at Martin Luther King High School, stays busy as the Thespian Board Secretary, a ComedySportz team member, and a student in the style and substance acting class. She also performs in Chamber Singers, plays tuba in the band, and competes on the Varsity Track and Field team. Next year, she plans to study theater design and technology in college to build a successful career in the industry.



## Mya Johnson

### Stage Manager

Mya is a sophomore at Martin Luther King High School where they sing in the King Chamber Choir. The Honors Musical experience has helped them learn how to become more of a family with their peers. They would love to become a criminal psychologist one day.

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## STAGE CREW

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**Kai Kieft***Costume Student Lead*

Kai is a senior at Ramona High School where she is involved in tech theater. Kai also participates in the Riverside County Office of Education Emergency Medical Technician course, designed to prepare students for positions in the healthcare industry.

**Marley Lutali***Film Crew*

Marley is a freshman at Ramona High School who is actively developing her skills through a Leadership by Design course. By focusing on the planning and execution of numerous events, she is gaining practical experience and learning strategies to effect positive change within her community, on campus, and among her peers.

**Joey McCarty***Sound Designer*

Joey is a junior at Ramona High School and is in a number of visual and performing art classes which include tech theater, film, and photography. This is Joey's third honors musical, and he believes it helps gain important experience and knowledge towards his career goals. Joey plans to apply his education into a variety of future careers such as sound engineering, directing, and photography services.

**Cole Morgan***Sound Crew*

Cole is a senior at Ramona High School and this is his second time doing the Honors Musical. This will be his ninth and last RUSD theater show. He plans on enlisting in the marines to become an armorer.

**Victoria Olvera***Props/Backstage Crew*

Victoria is a junior at Ramona High School and has worked mainly on creating props and working backstage. The Honors Musical is her first time working on a production, and she is extremely thankful for the experience and skills she learned behind the stage. She plans to attend medical school to become a surgeon in the future.

**Chase Porter***Film Crew Lead*

Chase is a senior at Ramona High School, where he is involved in student government, RamTV, and volleyball. His theater journey took a six-year break, but he is excited to be back for *Singin' in the Rain*. This production has taught him valuable lessons on collaborating with people across Riverside. He hopes to continue leading and improving his community by majoring in political science in college.

## STAGE CREW



### **Kira Pringle**

Kira, a sophomore at Riverside STEM Academy, is a member of his school's Concert Band and has also been an actor in the theater program. Being a part of the Honors Musical in costume crew has given him the chance to improve his confidence, problem-solving skills, and collaboration skills. He plans on using these skills for his future career as an emergency paramedic and trauma surgeon.

### *Costume Crew*



### **Jaelyn Pullom**

Jaelyn is a junior at Ramona High School. At school, she tutors other students who need assistance with mathematics and biology. Working on the Honors Musical has taught her that making mistakes is just part of the process and that it is never too late to correct or fix them. Jaelyn plans to pursue a career as an MRI technician after high school.

### *Costume/Makeup Crew*



### **Leeah Shaw**

Leeah, a junior at Riverside Polytechnic High School, is involved in the costume and makeup program. She is also a member of the Riverside Poly Marching Band and Color Guard, serving as the Color Guard Captain. Leeah plans to attend college for cosmetology and continue her passion for Color Guard long after high school.

### *Costume/Makeup Crew*



### **Isabel Stewart**

### *Stage Manager*

Isabel, a senior at Martin Luther King High School, has worked tech at school all four years, with three of the four in stage management. This is her second year as a stage manager for the Honors Musical and the process has taught her how to apply herself and work in a professional environment. She hopes to continue stage managing professionally after graduation.



### **Vincent Torres**

### *Costume Crew*

Vincent is a senior at Ramona High School, where he is actively involved in the advanced technical theater and advanced theater classes. He is also a participant in the Ramona Arts Magnet Program at the Bronze level and is working toward advancing his ranking. The Honors Musical marks Vincent's second production with RUSD, and he is eager to continue his theater work in the future.



### **Arsen Velasquez**

### *Props / Backstage Crew*

Arsen is a sophomore attending Ramona High School. He has taken tech theater class for two years and plans to continue taking the class in the following years. He is very grateful to be part of the Honors Musical and is excited to be part of future RUSD theater productions.

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## STAGE CREW

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### **Genevieve Younglove**

Gen, a senior at Riverside STEM High School, is elated to be making her stage managing debut in *Singin' in the Rain*. She has previously worked with Riverside Children's Theatre and Riverside Community Players, and is active in student government, newspaper, and dance. Having grown immensely through her involvement in the past three Honors Musicals, Gen hopes to pursue theater production after high school.

### *Stage Manager*



### **MaryAnne Zenteno**

### *Paint Crew*

MaryAnne, a sophomore at Martin Luther King High School, is one of the artists in paint crew. By being a part of Honors Musical she has learned how to work independently, manage her time properly, and to have more creative freedom in her projects. She does not yet know what she wants to do in the future but plans to continue pursuing art.

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# ORCHESTRA

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## Jessie Cabrera

Tuba

Jessie is a sophomore at Ramona High School. He plays tuba in Wind Ensemble, bass trombone in Jazz Band, and is a member of Concert Choir, Marching Band, and Indoor Winds. He joined the Honors Musical to further challenge himself. The program has motivated him to strive for more, expand his musical network, and open new opportunities for growth with his instrument.



## Caydence Chitwood

Percussion

Caydence, a sophomore at Riverside Polytechnic High School, is a drum major for Marching Band, a percussionist in the Orchestra and Winter Percussion, and performs in the Wind Ensemble. As part of the Honors Musical, Caydence enjoyed experiencing a more professional musical environment. The highlight of her experience has been getting to make music with other students from across the district.



## Lorenz Dilag

Keyboard

Lorenz is a junior at Riverside STEM High School and Vice President of the Robotics Club. He has trained formally in classical piano for eleven years, participating in the Certificate of Merit program and local festivals. As a pianist for *Singin' in the Rain*, he is newly mastering jazz and orchestral performance. Lorenz plans to commission in the U.S. Armed Forces and eventually become a federal agent.



## Melodee Escobedo

Tenor Saxophone

Mel is a junior at John W. North High School where she participates in the pit orchestra. She worked hard to become section leader, and focuses on fostering community. Mel is challenging her musical abilities this year, taking this production as a step toward becoming a better musician. Although she doesn't plan to pursue music as a career, her dedication to continuous improvement remains strong.



## Mikayla Haines

Trombone

Mikayla, a senior at John W. North High School, is the Marching Band Section Leader and Treasurer. She is involved in United Sound, Jazz Band, Wind Ensemble, and is a theater stage hand. The Honors Musical has challenged her to expand her musical knowledge and explore new rhythms and clefs. After graduation, she plans to use her new skills in college and aspires to play in a Broadway orchestra.



## Dominic Herrera

Clarinet

Dominic is a freshman at Arlington High School and a dedicated member of the Wind Ensemble and Marching Band. Through the Honors Musical, he has improved his collaboration skills and learned new styles of music. He intends to use this experience to pursue music in university and knows this experience will benefit him later in his career as a musician.

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## ORCHESTRA

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**Daniel Huizar Reyes***Trumpet*

Daniel is a junior at John W. North High School and is part of the Wind Symphony and Blue Star Regiment. As a part of the Honors Musical, he was challenged to learn new and difficult musical styles and he now feels more confident and comfortable when given challenging music. Daniel plans to use this experience to become a professional musician and hopes to become a music teacher.

**Belen Jimenez***Clarinet*

Belen, a junior from Martin Luther King High School, has been playing for eight years and this is her first year performing in the pit for the Honors Musical. She is using this experience to improve as a musician by taking on more challenging music.

**Anthony Larios***Trumpet*

Anthony is a senior at Martin Luther King High School. He loves music with a passion and strives to deliver his best performance every time he steps on stage. With ten years of trumpet experience, he plans to continue studying music in college and pursue a professional career in performance.

**Anastasia Niemeier***Flute*

Ana is a senior at Martin Luther King High School and performs with her school's Marching Band. This is her third year participating in the Honors Musical. She plans to continue playing in college and looks forward to continuing to grow as a musician.

**Reyce Peters***Bari Sax/Bass Clarinet/Clarinet*

Reyce, a junior at Martin Luther King High School, is a multi-instrumentalist performing on baritone sax, clarinet, and bass clarinet. Amongst other roles, he is a Varsity Basketball Captain, a Varsity Track athlete, a Junior Class Officer, and a leader in King Band. Reyce plans to major in biology, aspiring to study anesthesiology or neurosurgery, while remaining open to a career in professional basketball.

**Embry Petty***Alto Saxophone/ Flute*

Embry, a senior at Martin Luther King High School, is a dedicated musician who taught herself piano, ukulele, and guitar, and has participated in multiple conducting competitions. With four years in the parade and field band, she just finished her last season as this year's Field Drum Major. Her future plans include majoring in music with a double emphasis in choral and instrumental performance.

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# ORCHESTRA

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## Vincent Solis

Violin

Vincent is a junior at Riverside Polytechnic High School, where he performs in both the Poly High School Orchestra and the Riverside Youth Orchestra. Driven by a deep love for music, he is now participating in his second Honors Musical, following his freshman experience in the *Beauty and the Beast* orchestra. He plans to pursue music alongside a bioengineering major in college.



## Sam Souders

Percussion

Sam is a junior at Arlington High School. She is center snare, percussion co-captain, and the Media Coordinator for the Golden Pride Band. She has learned to work efficiently in a tight, fast-paced environment thanks to the Honors Musical. She wants to pursue music in Drum Corps International and enter the medical field after attending Riverside City College.



## Nadia Thrush

Violin

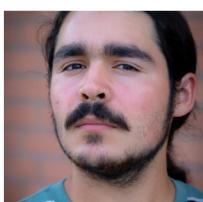
Nadia, a freshman at Riverside Polytechnic High School, is a member of the Poly Orchestra and has performed with both the Riverside Youth Orchestra and the LA Youth Philharmonic. She also successfully auditioned for the All-Southern Honor Orchestra for the past three years. Her participation in the Honors Musical is helping expand her knowledge of diverse musical styles for her future musical journey.



## Simon Thrush

Trombone

Simon is a junior at Riverside Polytechnic High School and a dedicated brass player. He currently serves as the head drum major of the Riverside Poly Marching Band. He has participated in groups such as the SCSBOA All-Southern Honor Orchestra and the LA Youth Philharmonic. He hopes to go on to college to major in music education.



## Miles Watts

Drums

Miles is a senior at Riverside Polytechnic High School, where he serves as the percussion captain in the Marching Band and sings with the Chamber Singers. He has performed in several productions, including the last two Honors Musicals. After graduation, he plans to attend Riverside City College to build on the musical skills that the Honors Musical has helped him develop.

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## PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

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### **Chari Arespacochaga**

*Director Coach*

Chari is a director for theatre, film, special events and concerts; and, Associate Professor at Florida State University where she heads the MFA Directing Program. One of Roundabout Theatre Company's Directors Group, her credits include Theatre Group Asia's *Into The Woods*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812*, *Kinky Boots*, *Rent*, *In The Heights*, *The Motherf\*\*ker With The Hat*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, among others. Chari has led the world premiere readings of *Shame Bomb* (29 Hour Ventures and New York Rep), Fumiko Enchi's *Restless Night in Late Spring* and *A Hell of Her Own* (Abingdon Theatre Company). She worked with Susan Stroman on *Dot* (Vineyard Theatre), and with Jeff Whiting on *Single Wide* (NYMF). [chariarespacochaga.com](http://chariarespacochaga.com)



### **Benet Braun**

*Music Director Coach*

Benet Braun is a pianist, music director, and composer based in Santa Clarita. Originally from Topeka, KS, Benet studied piano at Vanderbilt University and earned an MFA in Music Direction from UC Irvine. He has worked on national Broadway tours (*Cabaret*, *Waitress*, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*), for regional theaters in California and Utah (Sacramento Music Circus, La Mirada Theater, Tuacahn), on cruise ships around the world, and was the resident music director at the Groundlings Comedy Theater and School. These days Benet is teaching at Chaminade Preparatory Middle School, teaching musical theater to kids in Burbank and Santa Clarita, writing jingles, and raising his daughter with his wonderful wife, Ashley.



### **Mui-Yee Chu**

*Violin*

Mui-Yee Chu holds a Master's Degree in Violin Performance from the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music. A versatile musician, she has performed with countless artists from Itzhak Perlman and Yo-Yo Ma to Kelly Clarkson and Nicki Minaj. She performs regularly with the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Riverside Philharmonic, San Bernardino Symphony, Redlands Symphony, and New West Symphony, as well as on film and television including *The New Girl*, *Glee*, *American Music Awards*, *BET Awards*, and *America's Got Talent*.



### **Rachel Coosaia**

*Cello*

Rachel Coosaia is a professional cellist and string instructor in Los Angeles, California. Rachel has more than 30 years of orchestral experience and is currently a member of the Riverside Philharmonic, Long Beach Ballet, and the St. Matthew's Chamber Orchestra. In addition to solo recitals, classical ensembles, musicals and international tours, Rachel has performed with a variety of notable artists including John Williams, Stevie Wonder, and Sir Elton John. Rachel regularly works as a studio musician, recording and appearing in films, movies and television shows. Throughout her career, Rachel has been a dedicated music instructor. Rachel has spent much of her time teaching for non-profit organizations, including Harmony Project and Young Musicians Foundation, offering free music education to children in underserved communities. Currently, Rachel has a private studio and is a music coach at Sierra Canyon and Harvard Westlake.

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## PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

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### **Joe Di Fiore**

Reeds

Joe Di Fiore is a Los Angeles-based woodwind recording artist and composer known for his diverse career across numerous genres and ensembles. As a performer, he has shared the stage and studio with artists like Rod Stewart, Matthew Morrison, Susan Egan, and Stewart Copeland (The Police). His playing spans big bands (Tom Kubis, John Daversa, Glenn Miller Orchestra), orchestras (Southland Symphony, Whittier Regional Symphony), and R&B/rock horn sections. As a composer and orchestrator, his work is heard on film scores (*Stitch Head, Electra*), commercials (Princess Cruises), documentaries (Alex VS Arod, *The Untold Series*) and video games (*League of Legends: Wild Rift, BTS World*). His scores for *Blackheads* and *Forever Home* have won festival awards. He was recently commissioned for the webcomic soundtrack *Señorita Cometa*. Joe has two albums, *Out of the Woods* (2020), and *Choose Your Inventory* (2024). His compositions have been featured on NPR's KVC-Arts. He holds both a B.M. and M.M. from Azusa Pacific University (APU), studying saxophone, clarinet, flute, and composition.



### **Alastair Edmonstone**

Keyboard

Dr. Alastair Edmonstone has performed throughout the Americas, Europe and Africa. Notable performances include recitals at Weill Recital Hall (Carnegie Hall), Ghent Conservatorium, Seattle Art Museum and Boston's Jordan Hall. His chamber music partners include members of the Baltimore, Boston, City of Birmingham, Cleveland, Orpheus and Seattle Symphonies, as well as LA and Metropolitan Opera Orchestras. His recording of Gunther Schuller's Concerto for Percussion and Keyboards can be found on Naxos Records. He is also featured alongside soprano Lousie Toppin (U. Michigan) and countertenor Darryl Taylor (UC Irvine) on an anthology of African American art songs, *Dear Friends & Gentle Hearts* (Albany Records). He studied at the University of Washington (DMA), New England Conservatory (MM, CD) and Birmingham Conservatoire (BMus). He is currently Collaborative Artist and Music Director of Opera at CSU San Bernardino and was a visiting lecturer at USC Thornton in 2021-2022.



### **Martim Galvão**

Audio

Martim S. Galvão is a Brazilian-American composer, percussionist, and multimedia artist whose work focuses on the exploration of sound in relation to human-computer interfaces and the web. His compositions and multimedia projects have been featured at venues such as the International Conference on New Interfaces for Musical Expression (NIME), International Computer Music Conference (ICMC), ANT Fest at Ars Nova, SPLICE Institute, New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival (NYCEMF), and Babycastles. Galvão holds a bachelor's degree from Emory University, an MFA in Integrated Composition, Improvisation, and Technology from the University of California, Irvine, and a PhD in Computer Music and Multimedia from Brown University. Currently, he serves as an Assistant Professor in Music Technology at Cal State San Bernardino.

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## PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

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### **Mia Haiman**

*Technical Director Coach*

Mia Haiman is the Production Manager at New York Theatre Workshop. As a technical and production manager, Mia has worked in live entertainment for Broadway, regionally, and abroad. Previous credits include work at Yale Repertory Theatre, Showmotion, Inc., Boston Center for the Arts, and the Cameri Theatre of Tel Aviv. MFA in Technical Design & Production from Yale School of Drama.



### **Alex Henderson**

*Trombone*

Alex Henderson is a Southern California native who has been playing trombone professionally for nearly three decades. He attended Riverside City College and California State Los Angeles where he majored in music. Henderson has performed with multiple artists including Tito Puente, No Doubt, Green Day, LeAnn Rimes, The Brian Setzer Orchestra, Wayne Newton, Burt Bacharach, Michael Bublé, and James Darren. For four years he was a touring member with Poncho Sanchez before joining the well-known swing band Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. On the road for more than 100 days a year, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy participates in pops programs of the American Symphony Orchestra, which includes the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, San Francisco Symphony, and the Atlanta Symphony. The band has appeared on several television shows such as *Dancing with the Stars*, *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, and *the Today Show*. When he is not touring with Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Henderson freelances regularly with local orchestras, rock and salsa bands, big bands, and jazz groups.



### **I-Ting Huang**

*Viola*

I-Ting Huang, praised by The Strad Magazine for her "zesty, youthful performance" in Merkin Concert Hall, New York, is a delicate violist and an educator originally from Taiwan. Being the top winner of all instrumental concerto competition at the Taipei National University of the Arts, National Taiwan on Viola/Chamber Music Competitions and Chamber Music Competition at Mannes, she was awarded as an outstanding young artist and sponsored by LCU Foundation. She studied with Hsin-Yun Huang, Benny Kim and Scott Lee with full scholarship for her MM and DMA degrees and participated with full scholarship in prestigious music festivals including Pacific Music Festival, Schleswig-Holstein, Kneisel Hall Chamber Music, and Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Chamber Music Program and Concert in Taiwan. As an active chamber musician, she has collaborated with Benny Kim, Nina Beilina, Richard Beene, Orion String Quartet, members of Kansas City Symphony and among others in many acclaimed international stages. Driven by the enthusiasm on the viola performance of the younger generations, she serves as the viola faculty in the summer music camp of CSUSB, the judge in OC strings division and is lately invited to the artist faculty of the interHarmony International Music Festival in Italy. She currently serves as an associate principal violist of San Bernardino Symphony, performing with Redlands Symphony and Riverside Philharmonic, Viola and Chamber Music Faculty at California Baptist University – School of Performing Arts (since 2016) and Claremont Unified Schools string instructor (since 2019).

## PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS



### Evan Mayer

Producer Coach

Evan Mayer currently serves as the Associate Producer for Madison Wells Live. With over a decade of experience in commercial theater, Mayer has produced and collaborated with the industry's top creative teams and regional theatres on a wide variety of productions, national and international tours, and special projects. At Madison Wells Live, Mayer played an integral role in the development and execution of *Jaja's African Hair Braiding* (Samuel J. Friedman Theatre, Broadway), *Swept Away* (Longacre Theatre, Broadway), *We Live in Cairo* (New York Theatre Workshop), *The Thing About Jellyfish* (Berkeley Repertory Theatre), the national tour and original cast recording of *Million Dollar Quartet Christmas*, and the Drama Desk Award-winning immersive production, *Seven Deadly Sins*. Madison Wells Live is currently represented on Broadway with the Tony Award-winning Best Musical *Hadestown*. Past Broadway productions include *Good Night, and Good Luck*, *Shucked*, *Company* (Tony Award, Best Revival of a Musical), *Pass Over*, and *The Inheritance* (Tony Award, Best Play). As an actor, he originated the role of Sasha in the Drama Desk Award-winning Revival of *Fiddler on the Roof* in Yiddish, under the direction of Academy Award winner Joel Grey. Other Broadway National/International Tours: *My Fair Lady*, *A Christmas Story*, and *Annie*. Mayer originally hails from Milwaukee, WI and graduated from Indiana University with a BFA in Musical Theatre.



### Dacy Nottingham

Audiovisual Specialist

Since 2003, Dacy has operated a professional media business specializing in video, photography, and graphic design for clients including Vivendi-Universal, UPS, and Coca-Cola. In 2017, he joined the faculty at Ramona High School, where he teaches Career Technical Education (CTE) Digital Film and Photography. At Ramona, he has transformed the media program to include a daily news show, a high school film festival, and unique events such as ViDance and the Ramona's Lip Dub. His students are returning to Florida this year to compete at the national Student Television Network (STN) competition. Dacy is proud to support this year's Honors Musical by providing technical production assistant for the district's talented performers.



### Forrest Powell

Trumpet

Forrest Powell, Professor of Trumpet at CSU San Bernardino, is a veteran freelance musician with over 20 years of experience throughout California. He holds a B.M. from CSU Northridge and an M.M. from UCLA, where he studied with masters such as William Bing, Jens Lindemann, and Uan Rasey. In 2014, his talent earned him an invitation to the Banff Center for the Arts' elite Brass and Percussion Artist Development program. Forrest has toured the globe with the Glenn Miller Orchestra and held lead trumpet chairs for Broadway hits like *A Chorus Line* and *Legally Blonde*. Forrest's other credits include *Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons*, *Tito Puente Jr.*, *Momotombo*, *Luis Enrique*, and the Southern California Brass Consortium. Beyond the stage, Forrest is a transformative educator. During the pandemic, he served as Program Director for the Sacramento Mandarins Music Academy, expanding the nonprofit to serve over 1,200 students. He continues this mission today with Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA) through the LA Phil's YOLA program. Outside of music, he enjoys golf and global travel.

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## PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS

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### **Patricia Scarborough**

*Scenic Charge Artist*

Patricia Scarborough is retired from teaching theater at Martin Luther King High School and is ready to get back to live theater. She has been involved with area theaters for many years, and audiences may remember her last appearances have been at Riverside Community Players as Sherlock in *Sherlock's Last Case*, Janet McKenzie in *Witness for the Prosecution*, or Kate in *All My Sons*. Patricia sings with the St. Catherine of Alexandria Gospel Choir (so come on by the noon mass on Sunday) and gives thanks to God for her wonderful husband Trey, family, and friends.



### **Steve Schmidt**

*Percussion Coach*

Steven was raised in Riverside, California and is a graduate of J.W. North High School. He began studying percussion at California State University, Fullerton and continued on to earn Master of Music degrees in both composition and percussion performance from the University of Southern California. Steven currently teaches composition, music theory, and percussion performance at Riverside City College and can be heard playing drum set and percussion for Performance Riverside.



### **Eric Sittner**

*Double Bass*

Eric was born in Chicago and studied Double Bass/Music at DePaul University. He moved to the LA area in 2006, and since then has performed all over the world with the likes of Patti Austin, Frankie Valli, Billy Valentine, and many more. He has taught at Yamaha Corporation, Windward School, and others. Eric just returned from a tour in Japan playing with Patti Austin at the Blues Note in Tokyo. He is currently a member of the West Coast Jazz Hour trio with Josh Nelson and Kevin Van Den Elzen.

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## CREATIVE TEAM

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### **Dominique Araiza-Cauldwell**

*Director/Choreographer*

Dominique is honored to return as director and choreographer for *Singin' in the Rain*. Through this production, she seeks to create an immersive experience that celebrates the iconic music, dance, and the "beautiful chaos" of the filmmaking world. Her work with the Honors Musical Program includes choreography for *Beauty and the Beast*, *Chicago*, *Hairspray*, and *Such Sweet Sorrow*, and direction/choreography for *In the Heights*. Dominique holds a BA in Theatre (Dance minor) from UC Riverside and a Master's in Education from Chapman University. Her training began in classical ballet and jazz at Riverside Ballet Arts and Inland Pacific Ballet Academy. After studying at Cambridge University, she developed a passion for Shakespeare, often adding choreographic elements to the Bard's works. With nineteen years of experience in Southern California, her choreography credits include *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Urinetown*, and *Dracula: the Musical?*. She is a two-time Inland Theatre League award winner for her roles in *Hello Dolly!* and *Sleeping Beauty*. Dominique thanks her husband, Mike, her two children, and her parents for their love and support. Special thanks to the production team—Jessica, Spenser, Stacey, Katie, Michelle, and Chari—for bringing this story to life. Finally, she expresses her gratitude to Annemarie, Molly, and Alejandra for their dedication to keeping the arts thriving through this program.



### **Molly Brooke Becker**

*Assistant Producer*

Molly is the RUSD Arts Program Supervisor, previously serving as the Arts Team Certificated Site Support for TK-12 Arts. A dedicated advocate, Molly supports over 100 teachers across five disciplines to ensure a vibrant, comprehensive creative education for all students. In collaboration with the Arts Team, she organizes eight annual professional development days and facilitates over 500 events showcasing district talent. This year, Molly launched the weekly Arts OppARTunities newsletter to connect the community with local artistic endeavors. Now in her fourth year as Assistant Producer for the Honors Musical, she is profoundly grateful for the dedication of the teachers, students, staff, and families whose passion creates such an impactful experience for the community.



### **Stacey Fraser**

*Vocal Direction*

Stacey has been described as having a "wonderfully controlled soprano voice" (New York Times) and "an astonishing presence" (San Diego Union-Tribune). Her eclectic interests make her much in demand on international operatic, concert, and theatre stages. The Los Angeles Times praised her rendition of Berio's *Sequenza III* as "a seamless aria... missing none of the humor or the frightening shocks of horror." Credit highlights include the title role in Miss Donnithorne's *Maggot* by Peter Maxwell Davies; the starring role in a music art film entitled *Still Life After Death* by Los Angeles-based and Emmy-winning filmmaker Sandra Powers; and the premiere of Grammy-winning composer Jack Van Zandt's song cycle written for her, *A Chaos of Light and Motion*. Her performances are available on MicroFest (NAXOS), Neuma, Bridge, and ein Klang records. Fraser is a core member of the LA-based Brightwork ensemble and Director of Opera Theatre and Endowed Professor at CSU San Bernardino. She was voted "Favorite Opera Singer" for the 2025 San Francisco Classical Voice Audience Choice Awards and is a 2025 CSUSB Outstanding Professor. [www.staceyfraser.com](http://www.staceyfraser.com)

## CREATIVE TEAM



### Alejandra Garcia

*Assistant Producer*

Alejandra Garcia, Arts Administrative Assistant, joined the Arts team in January 2023. She has been part of the Arts team for three years now, and has a vast range of experience logically organizing and assisting with various district-wide programs serving the Arts department. In addition, Alejandra's degree in journalism brings her expertise in graphic design and copy editing to the Arts Team. Whether it is creating designs for the department to initiating a little over 30 contracts this year, she has been versatile with the many tasks at hand which includes initiating purchase requisitions for supplies needed for our newest program, Kinetic Creations. For this production, Alejandra has been involved in every aspect, from catering, costuming, to initiating payment processes for this program's expenses.



### Michelle Grotness

*Assistant Technical Director*

Michelle is a "retired" RUSD Theatre teacher having taught for 31 years at John W. North High School. Michelle is pleased to be working again on the Honors Musical but is also pleased that it is in a helping position. She is proud to have directed five of the previous Honors Musicals produced at the Fox, *Such Sweet Sorrow*, *A Chorus Line: High School Edition*, *Hairspray*, *Chicago: Teen Edition*, and Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. The experience of working with high school students and challenging them to develop their skill to a level where one forgets they are high school students is well worth the time and energy. Michelle wants to recognize all the theatre teachers in the district. They are the best. Their support, and willingness to lend things, is always invaluable to this project. The parents also deserve to be recognized for supporting their students in this artistic endeavor. The students always bring a collaborative energy which is greatly appreciated. Michelle knows the number of people that it takes to produce and mount a show of the caliber of Riverside Unified School Districts Honors Musical is huge and everyone is doing their part to create a great show and a great learning experience for the students. She is very happy to be back in this creative environment.



### Annemarie Guzy

*Producer*

Annemarie Guzy, MM, is the RUSD Visual and Performing Arts Specialist, coordinating district-wide arts initiatives and community connections to ensure that all students reach their highest creative potential. During the 2024-25 school year, she oversaw 560 district-wide events and 92 projects, managed 195 community partnerships, and oversaw the expansion of the elementary music program to 20,289 students. With a Masters in Piano Performance from New England Conservatory, and a Bachelors dual degree in English Literature and Music from Brown University, Ms. Guzy has produced live concerts and events both nationally and internationally at the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Seattle Symphony, and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra in the United Kingdom. A native of Los Angeles, Ms. Guzy is recognized for her creativity, vibrancy, and innovative approach to live performance and educational programs.

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## CREATIVE TEAM

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### **Spenser Kalnin** *Music Director and Conductor*

Spenser Kalnin is a Riverside native and multi-instrumentalist who has been performing on violin and trumpet since childhood. This production marks his third time as Music Director and Conductor for the RUSD Honors Musical at the Fox Theater, following *Hairspray* and *Beauty and the Beast*. An alumnus of Poly High School, where he performed in the 2001 All-State Honor and Jazz bands, Spenser now directs the Poly High School Symphony Orchestra and teaches band and strings at Alcott Elementary. Since 2007, he has served as the founder and director of the Empire Swing Orchestra, and he continues to perform and record with professional jazz, rock, and country groups throughout Southern California, Las Vegas, and Nashville. In the summer of 2026, he will be touring Europe with Nashville artist Sheyna Gee. A graduate of the University of Redlands (B.M. in Music Education), Spenser believes music enriches the human spirit and has the power to communicate directly with the heart, mind, and soul. He is grateful to Annemarie, Dom, Jessica, Michelle, Stacey, Alejandra, Molly, and the entire production team for their vision, and extends his deepest thanks to the pit orchestra students for their incredible dedication.



### **Jessica McCarty** *Technical Director*

Jessica is an alumnus of Ramona High School; she pursued her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre: Technical and a minor in Music at Dordt University in Iowa, studying under Teresa Ter Haar, Laura Berkompas, and Josiah Wallace. Jessica has her Master's of Education and Teaching Credential from the University of California, Riverside. Under her direction, Ramona's Theatre Program has evolved and received nominations and awards from JRAYS, the Lucie Arnaz Awards, and California Educational Theatre Association (CETA). Notable awards include: Best Theatre Performance from the Riverside Arts Council's Mayor's Ball, Best Choreography from the Lucie Arnaz Awards. Ramona's 2023 Fall Production of *The Wolves* received 3rd place in Area 2 and performed at the SoCal CETA Festival last January. She would like to thank everyone involved throughout this production and her family for all their support.



### **Katie Williams** *Costumes*

Katie Williams is the theatre director and acting teacher at Martin Luther King High School. This is her fourth year teaching full time at this school site and her 15th year teaching in RUSD. Katie grew up in theatre; performing in numerous productions throughout Riverside. She earned her BA in Theatre at Cal State Fullerton, Masters in Education at California State University, San Bernardino, and most recently, her Career Technical Education (CTE) Credential in Arts, Media and Entertainment with a focus on technical theatre and live event production. Last summer, she was excited to bring her entire production of *The Drowsy Chaperone Jr.* to the mainstage at the International Thespian Festival in Bloomington, Indiana. The show was selected as one of eight in the entire country to perform at the week-long theatre festival. She is a proud member of the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA) and currently serves on the state board for California Thespians. She would like to congratulate this amazing cast, crew, and production team for all their hard work on this outstanding production. Thanks also to her husband, Luke, her children Emma & Ryan, and her family for all their love and support. Finally, thank you to everyone who comes out to support live theatre.

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## ABOUT SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

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### **Nacio Herb Brown**

*Author/Songwriter*

Nacio Herb Brown (22 February 1896 - 28 September 1964) was a United States songwriter. Brown was born as Ignacio Herb Brown in Deming, New Mexico. He graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles. He was a successful writer of popular songs, and Broadway theater music in the 1920s, originally doing this as a sideline to his financially successful career in California Real Estate. In 1928 he was hired to work in Hollywood by MGM and write movie music for the new medium of sound film. For his film work, he often collaborated with lyricist Arthur Freed. He appears in the film *The Hollywood Revue of 1929*. In the 1930s he was married to actress Anita Page. Brown's hits included "Fit as a Fiddle and Ready for Love", "Pagan Love Song", "Singin' in the Rain", "Wedding of the Painted Doll", and "You Are My Lucky Star". Nacio Herb Brown died in San Francisco, California. Brown is an inductee of the Songwriters Hall of Fame.



### **Arthur Freed**

*Author/Songwriter*

Arthur Freed (September 9, 1894 - April 12, 1973) was born in Charleston, South Carolina. He was a lyricist and a Hollywood film producer. Freed began his career in vaudeville, and he appeared with the likes of the Marx Brothers. He soon began to write songs, and was eventually hired by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. For years, he wrote lyrics for numerous films. In 1939 he was promoted to the position of producer, and helped elevate MGM as the studio of the musical. Freed chose to surround himself with film directors such as Vincente Minnelli and Busby Berkeley. He also helped shape the careers of stars like Judy Garland and Gene Kelly. His team of writers, directors, composers and stars came to be known as the "Freed Unit" and produced a steady stream of popular, critically acclaimed musicals that lasted until the late 1950s. Freed served as associate producer on *THE WIZARD OF OZ*. His most famous song is "Singin' in the Rain," and two of his films won the Academy Award for Best Picture. Those being, *AN AMERICAN IN PARIS* (1951) and *GIGI* (1958).



## Betty Comden and Adolph Green

Authors



The team of Betty Comden and Adolph Green, 1991 recipients of the Kennedy Center Honors, and the longest running creative partnership in theatre history, began writing and performing their own satirical comic material in a group called The Revuers, which included the late Judy Holiday. They went on to collaborate with Leonard Bernstein and Jerome Robbins on what was the first show for all of them, "On The Town." Also with Mr. Bernstein they collaborated on the score for "Wonderful Town." With Jule Styne they wrote the book and/or lyrics for "Bells Are Ringing," "Do Re Mi," "Subways Are For Sleeping," "Peter Pan" and others. They also wrote the book for "Applause," the book and lyrics for "On the Twentieth Century" and the lyrics for "The Will Rogers Follies," with Cy Coleman, and "A Doll's Life." Five of these, "Applause," "Hallelujah Baby," "Wonderful Town," "On the Twentieth Century" and "The Will Rogers Follies" won them six Tony Awards, and "A Doll's Life," a Tony nomination.

Their many film musicals include "Singin' in the Rain," "The Band Wagon," "On the Town," "Bells are Ringing," "It's Always Fair Weather," "Good News" and "The Barkleys of Broadway." Their non-musicals include "Auntie Mame" and "What a Way To Go." Two of these musicals, "The Band Wagon" and "It's Always Fair Weather," received Academy Award nominations and, along with "On The Town," won the Screen Writers' Guild award. "Singin' in the Rain" was recently voted one of the ten best American films ever made and, by a vote of international film critics conducted by the prestigious magazine Sight and Sound, it was ranked third among the ten best films of all time.

As performers, Comden and Green appeared in "On the Town" and later did an evening at the Golden Theatre, "A Party With Betty Comden and Adolph Green," comprised of material from their own shows and movies, and from their act, The Revuers. In 1977 they did a new version of "A Party" to unanimous acclaim at the Morosco Theatre, and toured with it. "A Party" received an Obie Award when it was first performed.

They are both members of the Council of the Dramatists Guild, have been elected to the Theatre Hall of Fame, and the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and have received the Mayor of New York's Certificate of Excellence. Ms. Comden received the Woman of the Year Award from the Alumni Association of New York University. Comden appeared in the films "Garbo Talks" and "Slaves of New York," and on the stage in the Playwrights' Horizons production of Wendy Wasserstein's "Isn't It Romantic?". Green appeared in the films "Simon," "My Favorite Year," "Garbo Talks," "Lily In Love" and "I Want To Go Home." Some of their best-known songs include "Just In Time," "The Party's Over," "Make Someone Happy," "New York, New York," "Neverland," "It's Love," "Lonely Town" and "Some Other Time."

Stars they have written for in their musicals and films include Gene Kelly, Fred Astaire, Lauren Bacall, Rosalind Russell, Judy Holiday, Mary Martin, Phil Silvers, Carol Burnett and Nancy Walker.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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This incredible, collaborative event was made possible by many dedicated individuals and partner organizations. We are grateful for such immense support and would like to thank:

**RUSD Board of Education**, who championed and fostered the RUSD Arts Plan, which made these events possible. Special thanks to Board Members and Cabinet, Superintendent Dr. Sonia Llamas, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Dan Sosa, and Directors Dr. Jamie Angulo and Kiersten Reno-Frausto.

**City of Riverside**, especially Margie Haupt, for supporting and nurturing this program, and for providing support for the venue.

**Live Nation**, for mentoring students in the Live Tech program and all the technical, logistical, and production support since the inception of the Honors Musical. Special thanks to Hayley Monge, Jordyn Nevarez, Shawn Yates, and their teams.

**Riverside Educational Enrichment Foundation (REEF)**, and President Lauri Byers for their sustaining support of the Honors Musical, Live Tech, and RUSD arts programs.

**Riverside Fox Theater Foundation**, and Brenda Flowers, for supporting the Live Tech program.

**California State University, San Bernardino Department of Theatre Arts** and Kristi Papailler, for the generous loan of technical equipment required to bring this ambitious show to life.

**First Student** for facilitating the transportation needs of students to attend the matinee performances.

**RUSD Career and Technical Education and Expanded Learning Programs**, under the leadership of Ron Weston and Geri Castro, for their steadfast commitment to expanding student access to the arts.

**RUSD Performing Arts Teachers**, for fostering a love of the arts daily. Special thanks to the teachers who shared their time, equipment, and expertise to make a production of this magnitude possible.

**RUSD Staff**, for assisting with essential logistical details: Norma Barles, Blanca Calderon, Ray Batarse, Vanessa Beltran, Norene Bishop, Mario Garcia, Daniel Gomez, Edmundo Gomez, Ryan Hightower, Susan Kelly, Heather Kerr, Armando Mendez, Eli Muñiz, Liam Ogawa, Shawn Owen, Pascual Palomares, Elizabeth Pinney-Muglia, Annette Raspudic, Ivan Santiago De La Rosa, Lelani Santos, and Melissa Shaw. Special thanks also to the teams at Publications, Maintenance and Operations, and custodial staff at Poly and Ramona High Schools.

**Theater Booster Clubs**, who have helped support theater students throughout their RUSD careers.

**RUSD Performing Arts Students**, who helped with setup and ushering. Special thanks to Shivam Dhar and Eli Naranjo for their participation in rehearsals.

**RUSD Parents**, for supporting our students and fostering a lifelong love of the arts.

**Honors Musical Partners**, for helping the RUSD arts programs grow and flourish.

**Honors Musical Creative Team**, Dominique Araiza-Cauldwell, Molly Brooke Becker, Stacey Fraser, Alejandra Garcia, Michelle Grotness, Spenser Kalnin, Jessica McCarty, and Katie Williams, whose talents, dedication, and creativity were instrumental in preparing students for this production.

**Honors Musical Professional Artists**, who mentored, rehearsed, coached and performed with students, including Mui-Yee Chu, Rachel Coosaia, Joe Di Fiore, Alastair Edmonstone, Martim Galvão, Alex Henderson, I-Ting Huang, Dacy Nottingham, Forrest Powell, Patricia Scarborough, Steve Schmidt, and Eric Sittner. Thank you also to professional development coaches who supported the Creative Team: Chari Arespacochaga, Benet Braun, Mia Haiman, and Evan Mayer. A huge thank you to Daniel Gilstrap for all his help with rigging.

**THANK YOU!**

Annemarie Guzy, Visual and Performing Arts Specialist, RUSD

# ARTS ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024-2025



# ARTS THRIVE

92  
District Arts  
Programs

~\$3M  
Arts Plan Budget  
LCAP Funding

560  
District  
Arts Events

195  
Arts  
Community  
Partners

20,289  
Students in  
Elementary  
Music

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



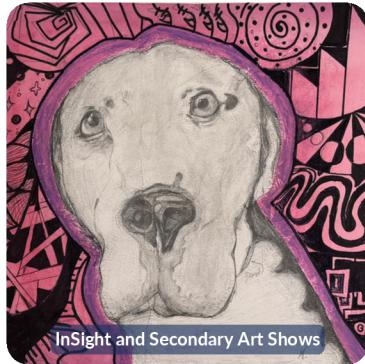
Band & Orchestra  
Festival



Secondary Choral  
Festivals



Chalk Festival



InSight and Secondary Art Shows



Elementary Music Expansion



Arts Plan  
Readoption



Live Tech



Arts Teacher  
Training



BRAVA Dance



**RUSD** | ARTS

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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**Dr. Noemi Hernandez Alexander**, *Board Vice President*

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**Dr. Jesse Tweed**, *Board Member*

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