

## Synopsis of Scenes & Musical Numbers

Scene: The stage of Ford's Theatre, Baltimore

Time: A Very warm day in June, 1948

### ACT ONE

\*\*\* 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION \*\*\*

#### Scene 1: The Stage of Ford's Theatre, Baltimore

*Another Openin', Another Show* - The  
Company

#### Scene 2: The Backstage Corridor

*Why Can't You Behave* - Lois, Bill

#### Scene 3: Dressing Rooms of Lilli and Fred

*Wunderbar* - Fred, Lilli  
*So in Love* - Lilli

#### Scene 4: In Front of the Shrew Show Drop

*We Open in Venice* - Katherine, Petruchio,  
Bianca, Lucentio

#### Scene 5: Padua

*Tom, Dick, or Harry* - Bianca, Gremio,  
Hortensio, Lucentio  
*I've Come To Wive It Wealthily* - Petruchio  
and Men  
*I Hate Men* - Katherine  
*Were Thine That Special Face* - Petruchio

#### Scene 6: The Backstage Corridor

#### Scene 7: Dressing Rooms of Lilli and Fred

#### Scene 8: Padua

*Cantiamo D'Amore* - Gremio, Hortensio,  
Ensemble  
*Kiss Me, Kate* - Petruchio, Katherine,  
Company

### ACT TWO

#### Scene 1: The Theatre Alley, Baltimore

*Too Darn Hot* - Bill, Paul, Ralph, Ensemble

#### Scene 2: In Front of the Shrew Show Drop

#### Scene 3: The Dining Room of Petruchio's House

*Where Is The Life That Late I Led* -  
Petruchio

#### Scene 4: The Backstage Corridor

*Always True to You in My Fashion* - Lois

#### Scene 5: Dressing Rooms of Lilli and Fred

*From This Moment On* - General Howell,  
Lilli

#### Scene 6: The Backstage Corridor

*Bianca* - Bill, Stage Doorman, Paul, Riley,  
Flynt, Ralph, Lady's Ensemble  
*So In Love (Reprise)* - Fred

#### Scene 7: In Front of the Shrew Show Drop

*Brush Up Your Shakespeare* - Man #1,  
Man #2

#### Scene 8: Padua

*Pavane* - Ensemble Dancers  
*I Am Ashamed That Women* - Katherine  
*Kiss Me, Kate (Reprise)* - Petruchio,  
Katherine, Company

## Orchestra

**Trumpet**  
Kendall Kress

**Conductor**  
Sumner Jenkins

**Drum Set**  
Tanner Odle

**Keyboard**  
Heather Brand

**Bass**  
Adam Fabirkiewicz

**Percussion**  
Kenneth Brand

## Woodwinds

Jake Elder, Kelli Hess, Katey Greaney, Kyle Greaney, Heather Sumner

## Cast

*In order of appearance*

**Pops (Stage Doorman)/Wedding Priest**  
George Bartlett

**Hattie/Ensemble**  
Alison Cox

**Wardrobe Lady/Innkeeper, Ensemble**  
Angie Kraje

**Paul (Fred's dresser)/Ensemble**  
Elias Quintero

**Lois Lane Bianca Minola**  
Mayalin Quinones

**Flynt (Aide to Gen. Howell)/Gremio**  
Joshua Alafat

**Riley (Aide to Gen. Howell)/Hortensio**  
Sam Naine

**Bill Calhoun/Lucentio**  
Luke Milhoan

**Lilli Vanessi/Katherine Minola**  
Dana Beall

**Fred Graham/Petruchio**  
Ryan Davis

**Harry Trevor/Baptista Minola**  
Ronnie Brady

**Ralph (Stage Manager)/Ensemble**  
Jonathan Pannell

**Stagehand, Cab Driver/Ensemble**  
Andrew Jernigan

**First Gangster/"Aide" to Katherine**  
Ted Kraje

**Second Man Gangster/"Aide" to Katherine**  
Joshua Lindevaldsen

**Ensemble/Nicola, Ensemble**  
Merry Barth

**Ensemble/Gemma, Ensemble**  
Samantha Overton

**Ensemble/Philippa, Ensemble**  
Victoria Warner

**General Harrison Howell**  
Karl Lindevaldsen

**Howell's Driver/Haberdasher**  
Thomas Brown

## Ensemble

Parker Barnwell, Makenna Barrett, Bethany Diaz,  
Lindsey Hicks, Ingrid Lindevaldsen, Lillian Merritt,  
Sarah Pettit, Jasmine Pierce, Katherine Shepler,  
Rachel Swank, Lauren Utz.

## Production Team

**Director**  
Jim Ackley

**Music Director**  
Sumner Jenkins

**Technical Director**  
Erin Foreman

**Choreographer**  
Ronnie Brady

**Set Designer**  
JD Stallings

**Assistant Choreographer/  
Dance Captain**  
Lillian Merritt

**Costume Mistress**  
Barbara Daniszewski

**Props Mistress**  
Rachel Swank

**Technical Director**  
Erin Foreman

**Stage Manager**  
Lynda Gentry

**Assistant Stage Manager**  
Deneen Safritt

## Set Construction

Steve Safritt, Sally & Greg Tyree, Greg Aldrich,  
Sarah Mandel, Tony Quaranta, Ben Copeland,  
Ben Beall, Karl Lindevaldsen, Larry Hart,  
Sidney Grutz, Ash Lass, Liz Lass, Merry Barth,  
Steve Allen, Bethany Diaz, Sarah Pettit  
and Cody Anderson.

**Thank you to these persons and  
businesses for their generous  
support of *Kiss Me, Kate*.  
We really appreciate you!**

Sackett and Alex Wood, Moore and Giles,  
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E. C. Glass Theatre, St. Paul's Episcopal Church,  
Heritage H.S. Pioneer Theatre



Renaissance Theatre is thrilled to announce our 2022 season in partnership with Lynchburg Parks & Recreation!

As your community theatre, we are excited to be bringing these wonderful shows to both the Academy Center of the Arts and the Miller Center Stage this year. There's comedy, drama, and opportunity for anyone who wishes to participate either on stage or in the many supporting roles that it takes to bring a show to life.

Our partnership with Lynchburg Parks and Recreation will also bring chances to volunteer and perform in several of their upcoming programs and events in 2022.

As a 501c3 organization, we welcome donations in support of our efforts to encourage and bring the arts to our entire community. Please visit our website for more information on upcoming events, tickets, and opportunities to be part of "Your Community Theatre."

So much to do, so much to be entertained by, we can't wait to say...

*Welcome to the Renaissance!*

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# 2022

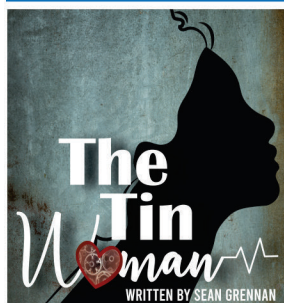


# SEASON INFORMATION

**FOR TICKET INFORMATION, VISIT [RENAISSANCETHEATRELYNCHBURG.ORG](http://RENAISSANCETHEATRELYNCHBURG.ORG)**

**ALL PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD AT THE HISTORIC MILLER CENTER THEATRE**

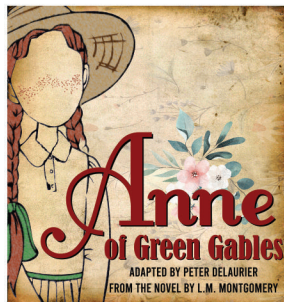
**301 GROVE STREET - LYNCHBURG, VA**



## **The Tin Woman by Sean Grennan**

Performances: April 15, 16, 22, 23, 24, 29 and 30, 2022

This intimate, funny, and poignant play explores the power of human connection as Joy, reeling in the wake of an unexpected heart transplant, finds herself drawn to contact the donor's family. A tempestuous meeting ensues resulting in a roller coaster of tears, laughter, and healing. Based on a true story, The Tin Woman uses humor and pathos to explore loss, family, and what it means to be given new life.



## **Anne of Green Gables adapted by Peter DeLaurier**

Performances: June 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 24 & 25, 2022

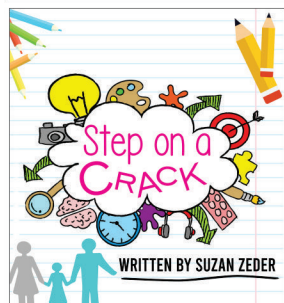
When aging brother and sister Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert send to an orphanage in Nova Scotia for a boy to help them on the farm, they get more than they bargain for. Due to a mix up, they are instead left with 11-year-old Anne Shirley, whose acclimation to life in Avonlea on Prince Edward Island isn't exactly smooth sailing. Over the course of 6 years, this romantic, hot-headed, and energetic girl wins their hearts and turns the stodgy, rural Canadian community into a bright world of "kindred spirits."



## **It Came From Mars by Joseph Zettelmaier**

Performances: September 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 23 & 24, 2022

It's October 30, 1938. The members of Farlowe's Mystery Theatre Hour are in rehearsal for their weekly radio show when they hear an alarming announcement come over the radio – Martians have landed! The actors fly into hysterics, barricading themselves in the studio, not expecting to live to see the next day. Passions ignite, secret identities are revealed and slapstick mayhem ensues when a washed-up director, his drama queen Ex, a wanna-be war hero, a ditzzy actress, and a German sound effects wiz all think they are about to be annihilated by men from Mars.



## **Step on a Crack by Suzan Zeder**

Performances: November 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 18 & 19, 2022

10 year old Ellie Murphy has been living happily with her widowed father, Max, bowling, eating TV dinners and playing with junk. But now, suddenly life is different. Max has remarried, and Ellie has a stepmother. Ellie and her imaginary friends, Lana and Frizbee, launch into a fantasy world as Ellie seeks to escape real-life problems. Only by running away and discovering what it is really like to be alone does Ellie begin to come to terms with herself and her own need for a mother.

## Director's Note

It's been a long and winding road that's finally brought us to this weekend, full of unexpected detours and seemingly insurmountable obstacles, but after three years we've finally made it. When Geoff Kershner and I began planning this production in 2019, covid was a minor mention on the back page of the newspaper that rarely received even a passing mention on the tv news. The Production Team we gathered to was comprised of a number of new faces, excited to bring this iconic American musical to the historic Academy stage. Pre-production meetings began with enthusiasm and excitement, and we were only days away from holding auditions when the pandemic hit full force and KMK was put on hold. The Production Team was disappointed but not deterred; although we all moved on to different and separate projects, we didn't forget our KMK planning. Periodically we would meet (through zoom, of course) and continue to plan together for the show that Geoff promised was still on the books. Just as we once again started to gear up for auditions, Delta arrived, putting us on hold once again.

Everything, everyone everywhere seemed to be hold – except for zoom! The Academy staff, working hard to keep afloat used the pandemic-forced “quiet time” to review and reboot. One of the changes they implemented was the creation of the Performance Partnership Program that would replace the community theatre program (never a good fit in the Academy objectives) so discussions began on how KMK could fit into this “new-look Academy.”

Enter Renaissance Theatre Company. Would they be willing to take on a full-fledged, old-fashioned, multi-set, large cast musical that was unlike anything they had done before? Would they want to “adopt” a show that came with a staff already under contract, with dates already on the books, and a budget that was way out of their usual range but still based on 2019 money and not at all realistic for 2022? It didn't take any time at all for the Renaissance leadership team to say, “Yes we will,” and a new partnership was created. And the show was still on! And then Omicron reared its ugly head but, by then, KMK had a life of its own and would not be deterred. A relatively short postponement allowed the Renaissance and Academy folks to work out all the details of the production; and what seemed, at first glance, like a project with too many incompatible parts very quickly became a well-oiled machine because everyone involved shared a common goal – get Kiss Me, Kate on the historic stage. Rehearsal space large enough to

accommodate the 35-member cast was found when the wonderful folks at St. Paul's Episcopal Church invited us to use their fellowship building, located just blocks away from The Academy. The Academy, which has always been a presenting house instead of a producing facility, didn't have the space or staff to accomplish the construction of the large sets the show needed. The problem was solved when EC Glass Theatre offered the use of their large tech theatre labs for us to use. Two nights a week for six weeks, an enthusiastic work crew comprised of community volunteers, cast members, and ECG tech theatre students built and painted the set. Fast forward to Move-In and Tech Week, costumes coming from as far away as Chicago and as nearby as the Academy Costume shop, the usual late nights of rehearsals, with some creative problem-solving sprinkled in and, voila - we've got another openin' of another show! Our amazingly gifted and dedicated Production Team (which stayed with the project from Day #1, a remarkably talented cast of triple-threat performers, and a terrific backstage crew are just the tip of the group of people whose hard work and unshakeable faith in this project is immense and too large for me to thank each one individually. Hopefully, when the house lights dim and the orchestra starts playing the overture, everyone who contributed to this production will share in the satisfaction and thrill of bringing a play to life. Clearly, that long and winding road leads to The Academy door where the village, in a very real sense, stepped up and brought it to life. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

Jim Ackley

## Who's Who in the Company

**Jim Ackley** (Director) has directed more than 150 plays for high school, college and community theatre companies in Central Va. A Lynchburg native, he graduated from EC Glass, the Virginia Military Institute (where he was a founder of the VMI Theatre), and VCU. He was the Entertainment Editor for the Winchester (VA) Evening Star newspaper for three years, and then an English-Drama teacher for four years at John Marshall High School in Richmond. He returned to EC Glass in 1980 and began the Drama Department there which he led for 32 years before retiring in May, 2012. During his tenure, Glass drama students won five Virginia Theatre Association state championships. Glass Drama was also named the National High School Theatre Champions twice by the American High School Theatre Festival and was selected to represent the USA at the Edinburgh (Scotland) Arts Festival Fringe four times. Four of his productions were selected for performance at the Educational Theatre Association's annual international summer conference. Additionally, a number of Glass shows under Jim's direction were world high school premiere productions including *A Chorus Line* (1990), *Big River* (1991), *The Civil War* (2002), *Les Misérables: The Musical* (2003), *Cats* (2006), and *Phantom of the Opera* (2011). Since retiring from EC Glass, he directed *Avenue Q* at Randolph College, *A Raisin in the Sun* at the Academy, *I Hate Hamlet* at VES and also at EC Glass, *The Laramie Project* at The Renaissance Theatre, and *Follies* at The Academy. A finalist for the prestigious John Barner Award, a prize given annually to one international secondary school teacher whose theatre program is judged to be exemplary. Jim was awarded the 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award by the James River Council of the Arts, and in 2014 he was similarly recognized. when the Virginia Theatre Association presented him with their Lifetime Achievement Award and also renamed the award in his honor. Jim and his wife, Susan, have two married children and four grandsons.



**Joshua Alafat** (Gremio, Riley) is currently a Liberty University student studying Business Administration: Human Resources. In his spare time, he enjoys playing board games, card games, watching movies, reading books, and hiking. He has been in over 20 stage productions, including favorites like Bert in *Mary Poppins* at Starz Theater Company, Aladdin in *Aladdin* at CYT, Race in *Newsies* at Starz Theater Company, and Ensemble/The Artful Dodger in *Oliver!* at Liberty University.

**Parker Barnwell** (Ensemble) is a 2019 CVCC graduate with an Associate Degree in General Studies. He has participated in other community theater productions such as *Holiday Inn* (Masterworx) and *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* (Renaissance Theater), last summer as Mr. Tumnus. In his free time, he makes it a point to read 50 pages of a book each day. No kidding!

**Makenna Barrett** (Ensemble) is a current student at Liberty University, working towards degrees in both English and Theatre. She spends most of her time outside of the classroom inside a rehearsal! Residing in Chicago, she's been doing theatre in the Windy City for seven years now - not only as a performer, but as an instructor at a local youth theatre, specializing in stage combat and accent teaching! This is her first performance on a Lynchburg stage.

**Merry Barth** (Nicola/Ensemble) is a native of Maryland but has lived in Lynchburg for the last 15 years. During the day she is a Document Control Specialist at KDC reviewing paperwork and bandaging papercuts. When she has free time, she enjoys going Salsa and Swing dancing, knitting, puzzles, and reading anything she can get her hands on. Merry has been in many shows over the years including *Ragtime*, *Urinetown the Musical*, *Old City Cemetery's Candlelight Tours*, and was most recently seen in *Seussical the Musical*. She has wanted to be in *Kiss Me, Kate* since she was 15 and is excited to finally get to be a part of bringing this show to life.

**George Bartlett** (Pops, the Stage Doorman, and the Priest) George earned a BFA at VCU in Drama Education. In Lynchburg, he performed in *My Fair Lady, 1776*, and two shows with the Lynchburg Little Dinner Theatre. He directed the TKA Drama Club for 14 years, along with directing the Crystal Springs Dinner Theatre in Ohio and The King's Chapel Players in Fairfax.

**Dana Beall** (Lilli Vanessi/Katherine Minola) is so excited to be back on the beautiful historic stage after performing in the soft opening show *All Kinds of People in November* of 2018! The San Diego native has spent the past decade teaching students of all ages and performing in Lynchburg. You may have seen her here at the Academy as Mother in *Ragtime* or The City in *The Gifts of the Magi* or more recently as The Witch in *Into the Woods* at the Miller Center or Vivian/Female Swing in *Oklahoma!* on a live, working farm in Nelson County! She would like to thank God and the production team for this amazing opportunity and her wonderful husband, Ben, for his unwavering support and for watching their two babies so she can be here! Follow on IG: @danaitpronouncedbell

**Ronnie Brady** (Choreographer, Baptista Minola, Ensemble) Since moving back to Lynchburg in the fall of 2018, Ronnie has marketed himself as a Freelance Choreographer. Currently contracted with E.C. Glass Theater, Ronnie also often finds his way to the Roanoke Valley, partnering there with Virginia Children's Theater. He has ventured back to VA to enrich and inspire young and seasoned actors, and to be top notch artists in theaters nationwide! Ronnie is thrilled to be working with his FIRST adult cast, and has been patiently waiting for opening night of *Kiss Me Kate*. With a B.A. in Musical Theater and Performance from Liberty University, Ronnie has traveled the world as an actor, singer and dancer. From Music Review shows in Las Vegas, to cruise ships, to regional work in D.C., he has now found a passion and a gift for teaching and creating. EC Glass Theater Credits include *Hairspray*, *So We Dance*, *In The Heights*, *Oklahoma!*, *Big Love*, *All Together Now*, and currently *Mary Poppins*. Ronnie has also been choreographing at the recently renovated Academy of Fine Arts since 2015. Those credits include *Tarzan*, *West Side Story*, *Beauty and the Beast Jr*, *Newsies*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, and *Elf*. His Virginia Children's Theater Credits include *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *Matilda*, *Junie B. Jones*, and *Oz!* Ronnie has been teaching masterclasses with VTA, DTI and other organizations here in the state of Virginia and hopes to grow more in this profession. Huge shout out to Lillian Merritt, my assistant choreographer and dance captain! Keep up with Ronnie by following him on Instagram @ronnieb\_jr. Upcoming: *Mary Poppins* (EC Glass Theatre), *My Son Pinocchio, Jr.* (Academy Spring Break musical), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Endstation Theater Summer Musical)

**Thomas Brown** (Haberdasher, Gen. Howell's Driver) For the last five years of his working life Tom traveled the country as a professional speaker. Then he retired and found that he missed being on a stage at the front of the room with everyone in the audience watching him. Community theatre to the rescue! For well over ten years Tom has performed for Endstation Theatre Company, Renaissance Theatre, Old City Cemetery Tours, Randolph College, The Academy, and Poplar Forest. When asked for his favorite role, his answer is always "the one I'm playing right now."

**Alison Cox** (Hattie, Ensemble) Theater and the arts have always been an important part of Alison Cox's life. As a career elementary school teacher, she has written several original musicals for children; *What a Magnificent Night* was performed in the Warehouse Theater at the Academy in 2019. In March of 2020, Ali had the opportunity to play several roles in the Academy's production of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, which re-ignited her love of performing. Past ensemble experience includes appearances in *Barnum*, *Leader of the Pack*, *Evita*, *West Side Story*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Playing Hattie has been an absolute joy, both onstage and off, and Ali would like to thank her family and everyone involved in KMK who has made this experience so fantastic.

**Barbara Daniszewski** (Costumer) Barbara's passion for theater has been, and continues to be, a lifelong pursuit which includes: acting, singing, dancing and costuming. She has performed in over 60 productions and costumed over 40. She was the costumer at the Lynchburg Fine Arts Center for many years, as well as helping to costume various productions of "The Nutcracker." She is thrilled to be able to help bring this musical to life through its costumes.



**Ryan Davis** (Fred Graham/Petruchio) is a new resident of Lynchburg. A graduate of Shenandoah Conservatory with a bachelor's degree in Choral/General Music Education and a master's degree in choral conducting, Ryan is a high school choral teacher. He has been the music director of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Annie Jr.*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Jr.*, and is currently the music director for E.C. Glass High School's upcoming production of *Mary Poppins*. As a soloist, Ryan has sung with Grammy award winning conductors both as a student and as a professional. In 2015, he was the top placing vocalist in the Shenandoah Conservatory Student Solo Competition and 3rd place overall against undergraduate and graduate students of various instruments. As a young professional, he has performed as a soloist in concert works such as Faure's *Requiem*, *Jephte* by Giacomo Carissimi, Anton Bruckner's *Te Deum*, Maurice Duruflé's *Requiem*, G.F. Handel's *Messiah*, and Schubert's *Magnificat*. He has toured through Europe as a concert soloist and has studied voice in Salzburg Austria. While having experience in operatic productions, *Kiss Me, Kate* is Davis's debut on the musical theatre stage.

**Bethany Diaz** (Ensemble) Bethany grew up in Florida, but moved to Lynchburg a few years ago. She attends Liberty University where she is studying to become an elementary school teacher. She currently works as a substitute teacher and is the choreographer for Liberty Christian Academy's upcoming production of *Bye Bye Birdie*. She has appeared in many shows in local theaters including *Into the Woods*, *Oklahoma*, and *Godspell* at Liberty Christian Academy. She has also appeared in *Hairspray* and *Seussical* at Masterworx. She is looking forward to this fall where she will be moving to Orlando to work at Disney World.

**Erin Foreman** (Technical Director) is the Tech Theatre instructor at E.C. Glass High School and Tech Director of the school's award-winning theatre program. She holds an MA in Theatre and has directed, designed, and performed in productions both in Lynchburg community theatre and in the Lynchburg City Schools. She is thrilled to be a part of this show. An avid supporter of the arts, Erin thanks all the volunteers that have made this show and building this set possible. Her proudest role is mom to her ten-year-old son, Thomas.

**Lynda Gentry** (Stage Manager) A Lynchburg native and retired from the Central Virginia Training Center, Lynda is no stranger to the Community Theatre scene in Lynchburg. She has been the stage manager for numerous productions at the Academy Center of the Arts, JLP Productions, The Renaissance Theatre, EC Glass Theatre, and The Black Theatre Ensemble. Occasionally, Lynda will come from behind the curtain to perform in front of it! Once described as “the girl who’s joined at the hip with Jim Ackley,” Lynda is thrilled to be working (again) with Jim Ackley on this amazing production team and with this phenomenal cast! Thanks to the Academy Center of the Arts (there’s no place like home) and the Renaissance Theatre for the opportunity to be a part of *Kiss Me Kate*! It’s been a long time coming!! Enjoy! Love and peace to all!

**Lindsey Hicks** (Ensemble) is a 15-year- old Sophomore at Enlightium Academy. In her free time, Lindsey both ushers and performs at the Academy Center of the Arts. Her favorite role that she has ever played was Bruce in *Matilda*. Lindsey looks forward to working backstage for *My Son Pinocchio Jr.* in the spring and auditioning for *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* in the summer.

**Sumner Jenkins** (Music Director) earned the Bachelor of Church Music degree and Master of Music, Organ Performance degree, from Shenandoah Conservatory of Music (now Shenandoah University). He currently serves St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Lynchburg, as Organist & Choirmaster. Sumner served as a Stage Manager at Theatre Memphis, Memphis, TN, for seven years. This is Sumner’s first foray into theater in Lynchburg.

**Andrew C. Jernigan** (Cab driver/Ensemble) Andrew has a passion for the theatre and is very excited to be bringing it back to the stage after a nine-year break. He has done shows such as *Once Upon a Mattress* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. He looks forward to a bright new career in the performance world, starting with this brilliant show! A special thanks to his family, friends, and miniature dachshund, Sadie Grace, for their love and support!

**Angie Kraje** (Wardrobe Lady, Innkeeper, Ensemble) Angie is a reading specialist with Bedford County Public Schools and currently works at Moneta Elementary School. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to perform in another production along with her husband, Ted. You may have recently seen Angie in Masterworx Theatre's production of *Seussical the Musical* as well as *Fiddler on the Roof* with Alluvion Stage Company. Over the years, Angie has also performed in numerous community productions through Masterworx and the Academy Center of the Arts!

**Ted Kraje** (Gangster #1) works as the Director of Information Systems at OrthoVirginia, but he's more well known in the community as Teddy Spaghetti the Clown. He and his wife, Angie, will be celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary later this year. And though she be but little, she is fierce. He was last seen at the Academy Center of the Arts as General Genghis Khan Schmitz in Masterworx's production of *Seussical*, an Historical Interpreter at *Old City Cemetery's Candlelight Tours*, and Avram in Alluvion's production of *Fiddler on the Roof*. Shout out to Zak, Ariel, and Derek!

**Ingrid Lindevaldsen** (Ensemble) is a senior Fashion Merchandising major at Liberty University. She grew up in a theater family and spent her entire life until college, performing and dancing. In 2016, she moved to Philadelphia to join Pennsylvania Ballet as a trainee. She spent a year with them receiving professional training in ballet before moving back to Lynchburg to start her degree in fashion. She has performed in Thomas Road Baptist Church's *Virginia Christmas Spectacular* for several years and has been the choreographer for Dunbar Middle School's theater program for three years. After this performance of *Kiss Me, Kate*, she can be seen in Liberty University's production of *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* at the end of April. When she's not performing, Ingrid loves to sew, crochet, and cuddle with her cats.

**Joshua Lindevaldsen** (Gangster #2) is a 24-year-old graduate of Liberty University. He has a Bachelor's in Film Scoring and has loved musical theatre since he was in middle school. Some of his favorite shows that he's had the pleasure of being in are *Anything Goes*, *Guys and Dolls*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, and *Newsies*. This is his first time performing on the historic Academy Theatre stage, but he hopes it isn't his last.

**Karl Lindevaldsen** (Gen. Harrison Howell) is excited to be part of *Kiss Me Kate* and sharing the stage with his children, Joshua, and Ingrid. Some of his favorite roles have been Ben Stone in *Follies* at the Historic Academy Theater, and El Gallo in *The Fantasticks* and The Baker in *Into the Woods* at the Warehouse Theater, Charles Guiteau in *Assassins* with Endstation. He has performed with Wolfbane as The Judge in *Sweeney Todd*, Herr Schultz in *Cabaret*, Rev. Parris in *The Crucible* and Pierre Michel in *Murder on the Orient Express*. He portrayed John Adams for six years in *1776* at Poplar Forest. He is thankful for his family and their love for theatre.

**Lillian Merritt** (Ensemble, Dance Captain) is a classically trained ballet dancer, having begun the journey into the field of dance at the age of two. She has performed with Central Virginia Ballet as well as Charlottesville Ballet in many roles from ensemble to soloist. Some of her solo variations have included Gamzatti from *La Bayadere*, Emeralds from *Jewels*, and 1<sup>st</sup> Variation from the *Pas De Quatre Ballet*. Outside of her passion for dance, Lillian is a professional Fine Art Photographer. Her work has been featured in many galleries from the United States to Europe, the most prestigious being the Carrousel de Louvre in Paris, France.

**Luke Milhoan** (Bill Calhoun/Lucentio) is performing for his third time on the Academy stage after his one-year hiatus in the Pacific Northwest. In his free time, he enjoys throwing plastic at metal baskets on the many disc golf courses in and around the Lynchburg area. After graduating from Brookville High School in 2016, he began working with Wolfbane Productions where he met his wonderful wife, Rebecca. While performing with Wolfbane, he portrayed many characters including his two most beloved roles as Eddy in the *Rocky Horror Show* and Benjamin in *Romeo and Juliet*. He sincerely hopes you enjoy the show, and wishes you all the best. "Keep it quirky Lynchburg!"



**Samuel Naine** (Hortensio, Flynt) is a student at Liberty University majoring in Musical Theater. He works at Garbanzo as a cook. In his spare time he reads, sings and plays cards. While he has appeared in six shows since graduating high school, his favorite stage performance has been as Mr. Sowerberry in *Oliver!* at Liberty University.

**Samantha Overton** (Gemma, Ensemble) is a junior at Liberty University pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Theatre Arts degree with a minor in dance. She started theatre in high school playing Ursula in *The Little Mermaid*, and an ensemble member in *Annie*. This is her first show with Renaissance Theatre and the Academy Center! In her spare time, Sam enjoys singing, spending time with friends, family, and dog, Daisy.

**Jonathan Pannell** (Ralph, Ensemble) is an INFP and a graduate of Liberty University. He currently works as a teacher's aide in the Charlotte County Schools. He enjoys writing, a good cup of coffee, and playing Dungeons & Dragons in his spare time. Some of his favorite performances include *Ragtime*, *Parade*, and *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*.

**Sarah Pettit** (Sarah, Ensemble) Sarah Pettit is a Junior at Liberty University studying Business Administration. She has trained in dance for over fifteen years; she also trained in dance, theatre, modeling and acting in Los Angeles and has acted in several student films through Liberty University. Sarah performed in *Follies* with The Academy Center of the Arts and she also performed with Downtown Actors' productions of *Holiday Inn* and *Hairspray*. She performed in *Barnum* and *The Music Man* with Masterworx. Sarah has enjoyed performing in the *Virginia Christmas Spectacular* at Thomas Road Baptist Church the last eight years. In the future, she plans on attending dental hygiene school and pursuing a career in real estate. Sarah is very thankful to have supportive friends and family that attends all of her performances!

**Jasmine Pierce** (Ensemble) is enjoying her fifth year in Lynchburg. She is finishing up her theatre degree in the next few months and is excited to be heading to NYC to further her theatre education at AMDA post-graduation. She has been doing theatre for about 10 years now and recently closed her first professional production *Fiddler on the Roof* with Alluvion Stage Company. Jasmine wants to give a shout-out to Jesus, and her friends & family for the consistent support. Enjoy the show, the cast is thrilled that you're here!

**Mayalin Quiñones** (Lois Lane/Bianca) is thrilled to be doing "Another Openin'" with The Academy and Renaissance Theatre. Some of her previous productions with the two theatres include *Follies*, *Gifts of the Magi* (Della), and *Mamma Mia!* (Lisa). Some of her favorite roles have included *The Buddy Holly Story* (Maria Elena Holly) with Endstation Theatre Company, *Company* (April), and *Spring Awakening* (Wendla) at Sweet Briar College. Mayalin is so grateful to be returning to the stage in her first production since the pandemic began and would like to thank her colleagues at the VCCA for their support, the cast and crew for their humor and creativity, and her mom, who flew out from Houston, TX to see this show!

**Elias Quintero** (Paul, Ensemble) was born in Bedford, VA and moved to Lynchburg shortly after. He has been homeschooled his whole life and enjoys any media form of art including nature photography, woodworking, and pencil art. Elias started participating in community theater when he was 14 years old. He has acted in eight theatrical productions, and takes pride in his role as Mr. Wormwood in *Matilda*, Peter Pan in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, and Santa Claus in *Elf the Musical*, all produced by the Academy Youth Theater. *Kiss Me, Kate* is his Renaissance Theater debut.

**Deneen Safritt** (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be working with the Academy for the first time and with these talented actors! She has been a part of the Little Dinner Theater Players since 2003. She is currently the Treasurer for Renaissance Theatre. Deneen loves to visit her children whenever she can. She thanks her husband, Steve, for his support.

**Katherine Shepler** (Ensemble) is currently a Junior at Liberty University studying music and child psychology. This is her first show with the Academy, and she has enjoyed getting to create this story with her fellow cast members. Katherine has been performing since she was very young, and has participated in several of the productions with Liberty (*Crazy for You*, *As It Is In Heaven*). She grew up dancing and acting in the professional film industry, but truly fell in love with musical theater at the age of 14. She wants to thank everyone involved in the process and hopes you enjoy the show!

**JD Stallings** (Set Designer) has a BA in Education with a Minor in Theatre from Wake Forest University and an MFA in MFA in Scenic Design and Technology from the University of Virginia. During his 11 years as the Tech Theatre instructor/director at EC Glass High School, he also was the Technical Director for Endstation Theatre's Blue Ridge Summer Theatre Festival, the Southeastern Summer Theatre Festival, the National Black Theatre Festival, and the Parkway Playhouse Summer Theatre. He is currently the Technical Director and Stagecraft Instructor at the College of Charleston in South Carolina.

**Rachel Swank** (Ensemble, Props Mistress) Rachel Swank attended Liberty University, where she earned her B.S. in Psychology in 2020. She has been a resident of Lynchburg ever since. She recently joined the local theatre community, helping backstage for two of Renaissance Theatre's productions and was a ghost storyteller for Lynchburg Historical Society's Ghost Walk on Cabell Street in October. When not dabbling in theatre, Rachel co-facilitates mental health recovery groups at the Unlimited Potential Foundation and teaches 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on Sunday mornings at Calvary Chapel. She is looking forward to playing her first, albeit small, role on stage and hopes to stay involved with community theatre for a long time to come!

**Lauren Utz** (Ensemble) Originally from Norton, Kansas, Lauren is now local to Lynchburg and works for Liberty University, where she graduated with a BA of Theatre Arts in 2020. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in Promotion and Video Content. Her recent theatre credits include *Seussical* (Masterworx), *In the Heights* (Lynchburg Dance Connection), *Mamma Mia!* (Renaissance Theater), and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Liberty University). She would like to thank her husband, Caleb, for always being so supportive! Romans 8:28

**Victoria Warner** (Philippa, Ensemble) recently graduated from Liberty University with her Bachelors in Choral Music Education. Since then, she has been teaching private piano in Amherst. When she is not teaching, Victoria enjoys rock climbing and biking in her free time.