

Virtual Show Program

Saginaw Valley State University Department of Theatre
Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts

 SAGINAW VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE



LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown and
the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture



Book by Heather Hach

Music and Lyrics by
Laurence O'Keefe & Nell Benjamin

DIRECTED BY TOMMY WEDGE

Legally Blonde

Music and Lyrics by: Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin

Book by: Heather Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Stage Manager

Paige Tuckerman*

Director

Tommy Wedge

Choreographer

Peggy Mead-Finizio

Vocal Director

Erin Whitfield

Music Director

Dr. Norman Wika

Intimacy Choreographer

Drea Brown*

Scenic Designer

Jerry Dennis

Lighting Designer

Alex Dubowski*

Sound Designer

Tyler Obermiller

Costume Designer

Courtney A. Kelly

Hair & Makeup Designer

Rebecca Dubs

Properties Designer

Lydia Bolzman

Production Manager

Peggy Mead-Finizio

Media Designer

Peggy Mead-Finizio

House Manager

Riley Will

* Denotes SVSU Theatre Scholarship Recipient

Original Production by Hal Luftig, Fox Theatricals, Dori Berinstein, James L. Nederlander, Independent Presenters Network, Roy Furman, Amanda Lipitz, Broadway Asia, Barbara Whitman, FWPM Group, Hendel/Wiesenfeld, Goldberg/Binder, Stern/Meyer, Lane Comley, Bartner-Jenkins/Nocciolino, and Warren Trepp; Produced in association with MGM Onstage, Darcie Denkert and Dean Stolber.

Saginaw Valley State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution. It encourages diversity and inclusion and provides equal opportunity in education, employment, all of its programs and the use of its facilities. It is committed to protecting the constitutional and statutory civil rights of persons connected with the University.

Saginaw Valley State University is committed to providing work and learning opportunities without regard to age, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, height, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, veteran status, weight, or on any other basis protected by state, federal, or other applicable law, and to achieving its objectives in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations that prohibit discrimination.

Cast

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Elle Woods | Zoe O.E. Gilbert |
| Emmett Forrest | Sam Kreps |
| Paulette Buonufonte | Jenna Glazier |
| Professor Callahan | George Hageage IV |
| Warner Huntington III | Noah Johnson |
| Vivienne Kensington | Stephanie Crachiolo |
| Brooke Wyndham | Dana Samalik* |
| Enid Hoopes, Grand Master Chad | Kalinah Dunn |
| Serena | Abigail Rowe |
| Margot | Scout McCulloch* |
| Pilar | Elliott Bell |
| Nikos Argitakos, Aaron Schultz | Lucas Whitlock |
| Kyle, Violinist | Taylor Howard |
| Gaelen, TV Reporter | Isabel Losa* |
| Assistant D.A., Store Manager, Second Perfume Girl | Skylar Summey |
| Dewey, Pforzheimer | Isaac Pease |
| Kate, Cashier | Mikayla Fillinger |
| Mr. Woods | Nathan P. Bonus |
| Mrs. Woods | Callie Decorte |
| Carlos, Lowell | Trent Bergman |
| Salesperson, H&H Salesperson | Kirby Young |
| Winthrop, Bailiff, Guard | Brayden Jarvis |
| Whitney, Jet Blue Pilot | Nicole Yapp |
| Harvard Student, Chutney Wyndham | Zoe Kikstra |
| Dana, Kiki the Colorist | Caroline Temple |
| Bookish Client, Court Steographer | Veronica Vozniak |
| D.A. Joyce Riley | Tori Moberg |
| Leilani, Judge | Liz Karr |
| Sundee Padamadan | Simran Lamsal |
| Bruiser Woods | JoJo |
| Rufus | CeCe Chanel |

Production Team

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Director | Tommy Wedge |
| Music Director | Dr. Norman Wika |
| Vocal Director | Erin Whitfield |
| Choreographer | Peggy Mead-Finizio |
| Stage Manager | Paige Tuckerman* |
| House Manager | Riley Will |
| Production Manager | Peggy Mead-Finizio |
| Intimacy Choreographer | Drea Brown* |
| Fight Director | Tommy Wedge |
| Scenic Designer | Jerry Dennis |
| Lighting Designer | Alex Dubowski* |
| Media Designer | Peggy Mead-Finizio |
| Sound Designer | Tyler Obermiller |
| Costume Designer | Courtney A. Kelly |
| Hair & Makeup Designer | Rebecca Dubs |
| Properties Designer | Lydia Bolzman |

Musicians

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Conductor | Dr. Norman Wika |
| Violin | Yeagi Broadwell |
| Flute, Piccolo | Jordan Rose |
| Saxophone | Jackson Duby |
| Trumpet | Mathew Kovalcsik |
| | Allyson Miller |
| Trombone | Victor MacDonald |
| | Carlos Rocha |
| Drum Set | Brenden Slocum |
| Percussion | Damien Stone |
| Guitar | Joshua Story |
| Bass | Brandon Manke |
| Keyboard | Charly Sly |

Production Staff

Scene Shop Supervisor

Jerry Dennis

Costume Shop Supervisor

Courtney A. Kelly

Scene Shop Assistant

Alex Dubowski*

Assistant Director

Eric Durette*

Assistant Choreographer

Lauryn Rousseau

Associate Stage Managers

Drea Brown*

Emma Koch

Lily Oddo*

Associate Production Manager

Caleb Hopper

Assistant Production Manager

Lela Murray

Associate Lighting Designer

Rem Ferguson

Associate Sound Designers

Chayse Mulka

Cooper Sawyer

Media Engineer

Eric Durette*

Dept. of Theatre Audio Manager

Eric Durette*

Logo Designer

Paige Tuckerman*

Publicity Managers

Courtney A. Kelly

Lela Murray

Administrative Secretary

Kelly Helmreich

Dept. of Theatre Office Worker

Paige Tuckerman*

Dept. of Theatre Publicity Coordinator

Dave Rzeszutek

Mentor to Properties Designers

Dave Rzeszutek

Mentor to Student Designers and Crew

Peggy Mead-Finizio

Mentor to Student Theatre Management

Tommy Wedge



Production Crew

Light Board Operator

Rem Ferguson

Sound Board Operator

Cooper Sawyer

Live Mix

Tyler Obermiller

Media Board Operator

Peggy Mead-Finizio

Prop Run Crew

Lydia Bolzman

Nate Degner

Costume Crew

Courtney A. Kelly

Lila Duvendack*

Kyle Smith

Magdalena Lambert

Hair & Makeup Crew

Daija Thornton

Follow Spot Operators

Maddie Casper

Dillen Phillips

Rylee Macomber

Reecie Nerenberg-Meeker

Publicity Team

Lydia Bolzman

Alex Kulmacz

Dog Handlers

Josh Lloyd

Deborah Lloyd

Jill Samalik



A Note from the Director

One of the benefits of being a faculty member here at Saginaw Valley is creative freedom to select the titles we direct each year. My colleagues and I are careful to select plays to give theatre majors a breadth of experiences over their four years in college (dramas, comedies, classics, musicals, theatre for young audiences, etc..), but within that framework we have a great deal of latitude. However, we are also responsive to student input. I was thrilled when *Legally Blonde* was repeatedly requested as it's given me the chance to direct a show that I've been in love with since the 2008 MTV show *The Search for Elle Woods* and the 2001 Reese Witherspoon film before it.

The main hesitation I've had about this musical is its scale. The choreography, the music, the spectacle: it's a formidable challenge in almost every area. My goal was to be strategic with our time and resources, to highlight the core of the show: matching the outside with the inside. To that end my directorial concept is an Elle Magazine photo spread, reflected in the frames filling the stage, some illuminated from the outside and some within, and of course through the vibrant and dynamic costumes.

Scale is a challenge, but it's also an opportunity. You're seeing 29 actors onstage (and two dogs!) along with 13 musicians in the orchestra pit, but there is an equal number of crew and creatives backstage and beyond who brought *Legally Blonde* to life. Students taking general education theatre classes learned while doing by supporting sets, costumes, and lights. I'm incredibly proud and thankful of the time, energy, and talent poured into this production.

Building *Legally Blonde the Musical* has been a whirlwind ride, full of work, joy, and discovery. I'm thankful you're sharing in it tonight as part of the audience; you're in for a treat. Enjoy the show!

-Tommy Wedge



Production Spotlights

Elle Woods:

Zoe is a fourth-year theatre major with a minor in entrepreneurship. She lives in Midland and owns a media producing company called New Space Productions. She recently directed Studio XP's production of *The Night Witches*, and she is fulfilling a lifelong dream portraying Elle, since *Legally Blonde: The Musical* has been her favorite show since she was 8 years old! As this will be her last show on the Malcolm Field stage, she can't think of a better way to say goodbye to the department that helped her "find her way" at SVSU. Always with love, Z



Zoe O.E. Gilbert

Emmett Forrest:

Samuel Kreps (he/him) is studying professional and technical writing here at SVSU and he is delighted to be taking part in his first show here. He was previously cast in *Be More Chill* as Jeremy Heere and in *Beauty and the Beast* as Lefou with other theaters. He's honored to be playing Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde*, and hopes you all enjoy watching it as much as he enjoys performing! Sam would like to thank his family and friends for supporting his interests and passions.



Sam Kreps

Paulette Buonufonte:

Jenna Glazier, a senior at SVSU studying biology and agriculture studies, is excited to portray Paulette in *Legally Blonde: The Musical*! Glazier is no stranger to the Malcom Field Theatre's stage, most recently appearing as Little Sally in *Urinetown: The Musical*, and Anne-Marie in *A Doll House*. She would like to thank her family, friends, and partner for their continued support in all of her endeavors as well as a specific thanks to Caroline Temple for being her rock during this process!



Jenna Glazier

Professor Callahan:

George Hageage IV is a student at Acting Out School of Drama, as well as a part-time voice student here at SVSU. Having been in over 50 shows, George was most recently in SVSU's production of *The Miser*, as Valere. He has also appeared in Bay City Players' production of *Into the Woods* as The Wolf and Cinderella's Prince, as well as Alma College Theatre's production of *Cabaret* as Clifford Bradshaw, and many other productions at Midland Center for the Arts. He would like to thank the production team for the wonderful opportunity to perform on the SVSU stage.



George Hageage IV

Warner Huntington III:

Noah is a third-year political science major, and is very excited to play Warner Huntington III in *Legally Blonde*! This is Noah's fifth performance at SVSU, and he has previously played Health Officer Sims in *Very Berry Dead*, Bobby Strong in *Urinetown: The Musical*, Freddie/Philip in *Noises Off*, and several roles in *Women Who Weave*. Additionally, he was the House Manager for the Studio XP performance *The Best Days* and a Confetti Thrower for the KCACTF performance of *Burning Bluebeard*. Noah would like to thank the College Democrats of SVSU for a great year as their president!



Noah Johnson



Stephanie Crachiolo

Vivienne Kensington:

Stephanie Crachiolo is a third-year music major and creative writing minor at SVSU, and she is thrilled to be bringing Vivienne Kensington to life! While this is her first production at SVSU, she has performed in numerous shows in the past, including debuting the title role of Joan of Arc in an original musical and having co-written a show of her own titled *Bloodline*. Stephanie would like to thank her family for their support, and the SVSU theatre department for this wonderful opportunity!



Dana Samalik*

Brooke Wyndham:

Dana Samalik is a third-year communications and theatre education major. She is so excited to share *Legally Blonde: The Musical* with an audience, portraying Brooke Wyndham. Before this production, Dana performed in SVSU's *Burning Bluebeard*, as the Faerie Queen, *The Miser* as Harpagon, and *The Night Witches* as Serafima, all performances in which she has earned an Irene Ryan nomination for from the Region 3 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. She has loved participating in the theatre program at SVSU and has been delighted to work with such a fantastic cast and crew.



Kalinah Dunn

Enid Hoopes, Grand Master Chad:

Kalinah Dunn is a second-year communication major with minors in Spanish and theatre. They are so excited to be portraying Enid, as it's a role close to their heart. Recently, they've played Lachesis in *Women Who Weave*, Assistant Lighting Designed for *The Night Witches*, and played the role of Sheriff in *The Miser*. They want to thank their friends and family for support through this process, and the cast for becoming another family to them. They hope you enjoy the show!



Abigail Rowe

Serena:

Abigail Rowe is a first-year theatre and political science-public administration major at SVSU. You may have seen her acting in *The Night Witches* as Marta (SVSU), *Legally Blonde* as Elle or *The Addams Family* as Wednesday (BHS), or seen her Choreography in *Legally Blonde*, *The Addams Family* or *Seussical* at Brandon High School. Abby is excited to continue her theatre education at SVSU when she returns from an internship at Walt Disney World in the fall of 2025! Abby would like to thank her mom for her unwavering support in her acting and technical career.



Scout McCulloch*

Margot:

Scout McCulloch is a fourth-year communication and theatre education major. She is excited (and a bit emotional) to play Margot in her final show here at SVSU. Some of her favorite roles include Tatyana in *The Night Witches*, La Flèche in *The Miser*, Dotty/Mrs. Clackett in *Noises Off*, Eddie Foy in *Burning Bluebeard*, and Lockstock in *Urinetown*. She's deeply grateful to her family, boyfriend Joseph, and friends who have supported her throughout these four incredible years. She couldn't have done it without them!

Pilar:

Elliott Bell, a second-year at SVSU, is working towards a history major and a minor in theatre.

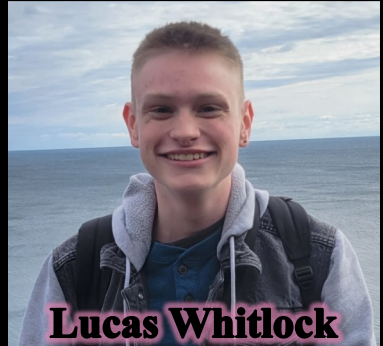
Elliott has worked on 13 shows, including Hot Blades Harry in BCC's *Urinetown*, Vera in SVSU's *The Night Witches*, Assistant Sound Design in SVSU's *Women Who Weave*, and now *Legally Blonde*! Elliott is thrilled to be playing Pilar and working on the publicity team! They would like to thank their friends, family, and boyfriend for all of their support. Enjoy the show!



Elliott Bell

Nikos Argitakos, Aaron Schultz:

Lucas is a third-year special education major. You may have seen him in *Urinetown: The Musical* and *columbinus*. He wants to thank his friends and family along with the production team who help make his dream of being in *Legally Blonde: The Musical* a reality.



Lucas Whitlock

Kyle, Violinist:

Taylor is in his third-year at SVSU and is majoring in chemistry with a minor in theatre. This is his second show here at SVSU, his first being *Urinetown: The Musical*, playing Robbie the Stockfish, in the winter of 2023. He has also been involved with shows outside SVSU, most recently playing The Steward in *Into the Woods* at the Bay City Players. Currently, he is a co-op at Dow Chemical and hopes to be a full time chemist after graduation. He would like to thank his family, fellow cast, and crew for supporting him.



Taylor Howard

Gaelen, TV Reporter:

Isabel Losa is a third-year theatre major and sociology minor. This is the 11th production she has worked on. She has been prop run crew for *Tiny Beautiful Things* and *The Effect of Gamma Rays of the Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*. She was also a Hair & Makeup designer for *Women Who Weave*. She portrayed Soupy Sue in *Urinetown*, Henry Gilfoil in *Burning Bluebeard*, Selsdon Mowbray in *Noises Off!*, Faith in *columbinus*, Elise in *The Miser*, Polina in *The Night Witches* and U/S for Ma in *Very Berry Dead*. She is so excited to be part of *Legally Blonde* and can't wait to see what the audience will think. Isabel would like to thank her mom and dad for always supporting her passion for acting.



Isabel Losa*

Assistant D.A., Store Manager, Second Perfume Girl:

Skylar Summey is a third-year psychology major with music and theatre minors at Saginaw Valley State University, focusing on voice. *Legally Blonde* is her first musical ever, and she is excited to be a part of such a wonderful ensemble! Skylar could previously be seen in SVSU's *The Miser* as the chaotically clueless servant Madame Claude, for which she earned a Certificate of Merit for Memorable Silent Performance from The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and as Atalanta, the fiery protagonist of *Women Who Weave*. Skylar is thankful to God and her family for always supporting her dreams. She's looking forward to an awesome show!



Skylar Summey



Dewey, Pforzheimer:

Isaac is a third-year theatre major with a double minor in graphic design and creative writing. They are playing Dewey/Pforzheimer as well as ensemble. They were previously on stage as Master Simon in *The Miser*. Isaac has done many backstage roles such as being a stagehand in both *Noises Off!* and *Women Who Weave*. They were the Sound Board Operator for *columbinus* along with being one of the Prop Designers for *Urinetown*. Isaac would like to thank their friends and family for their continued support and the SVSU Theatre Department for giving them another opportunity to perform on stage.



Kate, Cashier:

Mikayla Fillinger is a second-year music education major at SVSU, with a focus in voice. She grew up in New Baltimore, Michigan and enjoyed singing in many school and community choirs from third through twelfth grade. Mikayla continues to sing in choirs at SVSU. She participated in school and community musicals, and always enjoyed being on stage. This is her first SVSU musical, and she is excited to take on the roles of Kate and Cashier, and be a part of such an amazing ensemble!



Mr. Woods:

Nathan is very excited to be a part of SVSU's production of *Legally Blonde: The Musical!* Nathan is in his final year at SVSU as a creative writing major and theatre minor. *Legally Blonde* is Nathan's second production as an actor and his first ever musical. Nathan would like to thank all his friends and family for their support and confidence in him throughout his journey with theatre. Nathan feels a lot of love and gratitude for everyone involved with the SVSU Theatre Department. Despite this being his last production as a student at SVSU, Nathan is determined this not be the end of his time in theatre and he looks forward to whatever comes next.



Mrs. Woods:

Callie Decorte is a recent SVSU graduate with a BA in Theatre and Communications. Callie is thrilled to be back on stage playing Elle's Mom and others in *Legally Blonde!* Callie is no stranger to the world of theatre, having been a stage manager for eight productions and she recently made her directorial debut. She would like to thank everyone in the department for creating a safe community and a place of encouragement throughout the entire production process! She would also like to thank her friends, family and bruddas for their continued support. She would like to leave you with her favorite quote from *Legally Blonde*: "You must always have faith in people. And, most importantly, you must always have faith in yourself." -Elle Woods.



Carlos, Lowell:

Trent Bergman is a fifth-year studying secondary English education at Saginaw Valley. He was previously featured as Freak in *columbinus* and as Cléante in *The Miser* here at SVSU. Trent has been eagerly anticipating the performance of *Legally Blonde* as it is his musical debut! He would like to thank his family and friends for all their support and the cast and crew for putting on a wonderful show!



Salesperson, H&H Salesperson:

Kirby is a second-year political science major here at SVSU. This is their first ever production, and they're so excited to be part of the show *Legally Blonde*! They'd like to thank everyone who helped them get to this point.



Winthrop, Bailiff, Guard:

Brayden Jarvis is a third-year political science student here at SVSU. He grew up in Pinconning, Michigan and plans to practice law in his future endeavors. Previously, he acted in *Urinetown: The Musical* as Tiny Tom. Brayden would like to thank all of his friends and family for providing support.



Whitney, Jet Blue Pilot:

Nicole is a first-year elementary education major, and she is thrilled to make her Saginaw Valley debut as Whitney and the Jet Blue Pilot. She recently played DeeDee Allen in In The Mitten's production of *The Prom* and has appeared in numerous other shows. Nicole is grateful to her family and friends for their endless support and to the incredible cast and crew of *Legally Blonde* for making this an unforgettable experience. Enjoy the show!



Harvard Student, Chutney Wyndham:

Zoe Kikstra is a second-year elementary education major with a minor in theatre, and she is so excited to play Chutney and Harvard Student in *Legally Blonde: The Musical*. This is Zoe's third show with SVSU Theatre, having previously worked as assistant costume designer for *The Night Witches* and playing Messenger, Phaedra, and Procne in *Women Who Weave*. Zoe would like to thank her friends who have supported her and helped her break out of her shell.



Dana, Kiki the Colorist:

Caroline Temple is an SVSU Theatre alum, who is excited to return to her old roots. Caroline is utilizing her communication and theatre degree in many different ways, one being Bay City Central High School's choreographer for their many theatre productions, alongside some of her best friends, Jared, Lexie, and Kyler. Caroline is also a licensed physical therapist assistant practicing in the Midland and Bay City areas. Caroline would like to thank her roommates for their help and support, her church family for their encouragement, and Jenna Glazier for convincing her to step back on the stage.



Veronica Vozniak

Bookish Client, Court Stenographer:

Veronica Vozniak is a fifth-year secondary education and mathematics major. She has worked on several shows here as an electrician at SVSU, including *Burning Bluebeard*, *Noises Off!*, and *The Miser*. In addition, she also recently made her stage debut as Irina in *The Night Witches* during the fall semester of 2024. She is so excited to continue her love and passion of theater with the audience. All the love to her family and friends for their unwavering support throughout her years here at SVSU, and to the cast and crew of *Legally Blonde* for their hardwork and perseverance!

D.A. Joyce Riley:

Tori Moberg is a first-year finance major. They are thrilled to be a part of *Legally Blonde* as their debut show at SVSU. Honored to play the roles of D.A. Joyce Riley and a Delta Nu, they cannot wait to bring this production to life on the stage. They are glad they have the opportunity to continue their theatre presence, surrounded by an amazing cast and crew.



Tori Moberg

Leilani, Judge:

This is Liz Karr's freshman year in pursuing a secondary education major. This is her first production at SVSU although she has previously been part of ensemble for multiple shows in her high school. She wants to thank her parents for always encouraging her when she faced new challenges and the cast and crew for making rehearsals and the whole process so memorable.



Liz Karr

Sundeep Padamadan:

Simran Lamsal is a first-year nursing major. This is Simran's first experience in theatre, and she is excited to explore her passion for performing arts while balancing her nursing studies. She believes that both fields require compassion and dedication, and she looks forward to bringing her unique perspective to the stage.



Simran Lamsal





Bruiser Woods:

Jojo is thrilled to make his acting debut in *Legally Blonde the Musical*! A natural star, Jojo has been waiting for his big break and is excited to finally bring his talents to the stage. When he's not dazzling audiences, he loves playing fetch, zooming around the house, and enjoying a good belly scratch. He'd like to thank his dad, nana, and pawpaw for their endless love and support.



Rufus:

CeCe Chanel is a 10-month-old pup, who is making her stage debut in *Legally Blonde: The Musical* portraying the role of Rufus! CeCe Chanel comes from a long line of show dogs, so she knows how to strut her stuff! Her hobbies include cuddling, playing, and refusing to go outside when it rains. She wants to thank her home father Jim Maxwell for teaching her how to be a good dog, and her new adopted family, Jill, Lexi, Dana, and Roger, for providing her with tons of love, attention, and new clothes! CeCe would also like to give a big thanks to her groomer Jill Smith Gilbert for all her hard work on keeping her so beautiful.

For updates on our upcoming season or information on how to get involved, check out our Social Media Pages!

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Website](#)

[TikTok](#)

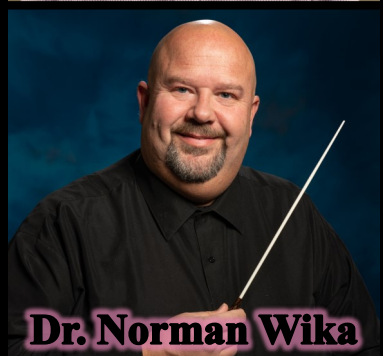




Tommy Wedge



Eric Durette*



Dr. Norman Wika



Erin Whitfield



Peggy Mead-Finizio

Director:

Tommy Wedge is an Associate Professor and Chair of the department of Theatre at Saginaw SVSU where he mentors student directors, fight choreographers, and arts managers. Recent directing credits include *Next to Normal*, *Noises Off!*, *Urinetown*, *A Doll House*, *Mama Mia!*, *Curious Incident...*, and *Hairspray*. Tommy holds an MFA in Directing from The University of South Dakota and a BS in Theatre from South Dakota State University. Professional memberships include Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC), The Association of Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), and The Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD) where Tommy holds the rank of Advanced Actor Combatant.

Assistant Director, Projections Engineer:

Eric Durette is a third-year theatre and political science major focusing on pre-law. Eric's past theatrical directing experience was the University premiere of *Burning Bluebeard* as the Assistant to Dave Rzeszutek. Eric joins this production as the Assistant Director, and Projections Engineer! Eric would like to thank director Tommy Wedge for all of his support and allowing Eric to learn and have some creative freedoms! Eric would also like to thank the Management team for always being amazing, working hard, and keeping him on task. Finally, Eric would like to thank the ensemble of *Legally Blonde* for working so hard and always putting their best foot forward!

Music Director, Conductor:

Dr. Norman Wika currently serves as the Director of Bands, Associate Professor of Music, and the Chair of the Music Department at Saginaw Valley State University. He conducts the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band, coaches chamber music and directs the Cardinal Marching Band. Dr. Wika appears regularly as a trombone player with the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra and the Saginaw Eddy Concert Band, where he also serves as guest conductor. In addition, Dr. Wika conducts the Saginaw Bay Youth Orchestra.

Vocal Director:

Erin Whitfield is thrilled to serve as Vocal Director for *Legally Blonde*, especially to get to connect with this awesome cast and crew! She has been an Adjunct Voice Instructor for the SVSU Music Department since 2023, along with maintaining the thriving Whitfield Voice Studio in Midland and an active performance schedule around the Great Lakes Bay Region. Upcoming projects include: soprano soloist in Mozart's *Requiem* (Saginaw Choral Society) and Mary Flynn in *Merrily We Roll Along* (Midland Center). Erin earned her MM in Vocal Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and BM from Pacific Lutheran University. www.erinwhitfield.com

Choreographer, Production Manager, Media Designer:

Peggy is an active choreographer, dance instructor, theatre designer, arts administrator, technical theatre instructor, and director. She holds MFA degrees in Choreography and Theatre Arts with a focus in Lighting Design from the University of Iowa. She is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre at Saginaw Valley State University and serves as the mainstage season Production Manager. She is a mentor to SVSU student designers and technicians for mainstage and Studio XP productions. Peggy teaches the Musical Theatre Dance classes for the SVSU Department of Theatre and teaches dance classes at the FIM Flint School of Performing Arts in Flint, MI.



Paige Tuckerman

Stage Manager:

[Paige](#) is a third-year theatre major with a minor in marketing who is so excited to be Stage Managing *Legally Blonde*! Over the past three years in university she has developed a love for theatre management, and this show has been such a wonderful growth opportunity for her. She could previously be seen Stage Managing SVSU's production of *Burning Bluebeard* in which she was the runner-up in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Stage Management Fellowship. Paige would like to thank her incredible family for their constant support and her boyfriend who has been her rock through this process. She would like to dedicate her work on this show to her Uncle Mike. Enjoy the Show!



Drea Brown

Associate Stage Manager, Intimacy Choreographer:

[Drea](#) is a fourth-year theatre major with a minor in management. Previous roles at SVSU have included Stage Manager (*Tiny Beautiful Things*, *Very Berry Dead*, *Noises Off*, *The Night Witches*, *Women Who Weave*), Sound Designer (*Top Girls*, *columbinus*), and Assistant Stage Manager (*Burning Bluebeard*). She has also held positions at Midland Center for the Arts as Stage Manager (*next to normal*) and Assistant Stage Manager (*Newsies*, *Footloose*). Drea is an Actor Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors, and was the Assistant Fight Director for *Newsies* (MCFTA) and *columbinus* (SVSU).



Emma Koch

Associate Stage Manager:

Emma is a third-year theatre major with minors in management and sociology. She is a jack of all trades within the theatre department and prior to this production, has been involved as the Stage Manager for *The Miser*, Assistant Director for *The Night Witches*, and as the Assistant Stage Manager for *Noises Off!*. She would like to thank this amazing cast and crew that have worked so hard to make this production what it is!



Lily Oddo

Associate Stage Manager:

Lily is a first-year theatre and communication major with a minor in secondary education. This is Lily's third show in an associate stage manager role, but fourth show at SVSU. She was recently an associate stage manager in the show *Woman Who Weave*. She is so grateful to be here and is grateful to be given the opportunities she has. She is so lucky to have her friends by her side keeping her sane along with an amazing cast and crew. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Riley Will

House Manager:

Riley Will is a fourth-year communication major and theatre minor. She is grateful for the opportunity to be House Managing *Legally Blonde* as her third show here at SVSU. Previously she has been the House Manager for *The Night Witches* and *Noises Off!*. She is so excited to be working with the Theatre Department once again!



Alex Dubowski

Lighting Designer:

[Alex Dubowski](#) is a third-year theatre major with a minor in psychology and a focus on lighting design and technologies. He is delighted to return to lighting design on such a creative show. He has previously light-designed at SVSU on the productions of *Burning Bluebeard*, *columbinus*, & *Women Who Weave*, which earned a Certificate of Merit and an Honorable Mention for Theatrical Excellence in Lighting Design at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. This is his second year serving as the Student Scene Shop Worker. Alex is incredibly honored to be able to work with such a talented team.

Sound Designer:

Tyler Obermiller is a second-year theatre major. He is so excited to be the sound designer for *Legally Blonde*. With this being Tyler's first design for a musical he is so thrilled to have the opportunity to explore the world of musical theatre. Tyler's previous involvement with the theatre department consist of the role Robert Murray in *Burning Bluebeard*, assistant sound design for *Noises Off*, sound designer for *The Night Witches*, and sound designer for *Women Who Weave*. Tyler thanks all his friends and family for their continued support as he explores his passion for theater. Tyler would also like to thank Eric Durette and Caleb Hopper for their continuous mentorship and support this year!



Tyler Obermiller

Costume Designer:

Courtney Anderson Kelly (she/hers) Costume Designer is currently an Adjunct Faculty member and Resident Costume Designer at SVSU. She earned her MFA in Theatre from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and her BA from Northern Michigan University in Theatre, French, and English. As a white, cis, lesbian, Courtney seeks out projects with an emphasis on family structures, 2SLGBTQIA+, women's stories, and environmental focus. Some of her recent designs include *The Women Who Weave* (SVSU), *The Last Time I Saw Caileigh* (NYC), *The Wizard of Oz* (Midland), *The Miser* (SVSU), and *Fun Home* (Flint).
www.courtneyakelly.com



Courtney A. Kelly

Hair & Makeup Designer:

Rebecca is a two-time SVSU alum with a Master of Public Administration - University/ College Student Affairs Administrative Track and a Bachelor of Arts in English Education, with Minors in Theatre/Communications Education and Sociology. This will mark her twenty-first show here and the sixteenth show she has designed. She received Certificates of Merit from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival for her hair and make-up designs in *The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds* and *Very Berry Dead*. She is currently the Carmona College of Business Student Engagement Manager and is pursuing further graduate studies.



Rebecca Dubs

Properties Designer:

Lydia is a fourth-year communication major with a theatre minor. She gained a newfound passion for theatre (especially musicals) when she started at SVSU in Fall of 2021 after being on stage for many years, both as a choir singer and dancer in grade/high school. She hopes to eventually take the stage again as an actor in the future, after debuting at SVSU as Baby Horse in *Animal Farm* in 2021. Lydia is also the leading videographer for the SVSU Theatre Publicity Team. She wants to thank her family, her boyfriend Thomas, Professor Dave Rzeszutek for guiding her through this production, and all of her theatre friends both at SVSU and in Flint (Light in the Dark Musical Theatre Company) for their never ending love and support as she navigates her dreams in the theatre world!



Lydia Bolzman

Original Music and Lyrics:



Laurence O'Keefe received 2007 Tony and Drama Desk nominations for his work on *Legally Blonde*. Larry thanks all Blonde producers and creative team. He won the Ed Kleban Award, the ASCAP Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award and a Jonathan Larson award for his music and lyrics. Off-Broadway credits: *Bat Boy: The Musical* (Lucille Lortel, Richard Rodgers, Outer Critics' Circle awards), which has received 100+ productions worldwide; music for *Sarah, Plain and Tall*, lyrics by Nell Benjamin (touring with TheatreWorksUSA). Co-author with Nell Benjamin of *Cam Jansen* (Drama Desk nomination) and *The Mice*. Larry is a product of his education with the Harvard Krokodiloes, the Hasty Pudding Theatricals, the Harvard Lampoon and the Actors' Gang, but especially the incomparable Nell Benjamin.

Original Music and Lyrics:



Nell co-wrote the score to *Legally Blonde, the Musical* with composer Laurence O'Keefe, which received Tony Award nominations, Drama Desk nominations, and the Olivier and Helpmann Awards for Best Musical. Nell wrote the lyrics to *Mean Girls*, which received multiple Tony Award nominations, including for Best Original Score and Best Musical. Nell's play, *The Explorers Club*, won the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Off-Broadway Play, the Edgerton Foundation New American Plays Award, and an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant. Nell has written book and/or lyrics for *Pirates! (or Gilbert and Sullivan plunder'd)*, *Sarah, Plain and Tall*, *Cam Jansen* (Drama Desk-nominated), *I Want My Hat Back*, *How I Became A Pirate*, *The Mice*, *Life of the Party* and *Because of Winn Dixie*. Upcoming musicals are: *Huzzah!*, *Life of the Party*, *Dave*. Television writing includes "Unhappily Ever After", Animal Planet's "Whoa! Sunday with Mo Rocca", "Electric Company", "Best Time Ever with Neil Patrick Harris", "Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway", "Julie's Greenroom." Benjamin is the recipient of the Kleban Foundation Award and a Jonathan Larson Grant.

Original Book:



Heather received 2007 Tony and Drama Desk nominations for her work on *Legally Blonde*. Graduate of the University of Colorado, Boulder, School of Journalism. Worked at The New York Times Denver Bureau as a research assistant and Sports and Fitness Publishing in Boulder, Colorado, as a magazine editor. Member of Denver's Comedy Sports improv comedy troupe. Worked on the TV shows "Caroline in the City" and "Dilbert." Won Walt Disney Screenwriting Fellowship in 1999. Film credits include Disney's "Freaky Friday" and "What to Expect When You're Expecting." Also wrote the young adult novel "Freaky Monday" with Mary Rodgers. Much love to friends and family, especially Jason, Harper and Drake.

Music Theatre International:

Music Theatre International (MTI) is one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting theatres from around the world the rights to perform the greatest selection of musicals from Broadway and beyond. Founded in 1952 by composer Frank Loesser and orchestrator Don Walker, MTI is a driving force in advancing musical theatre as a vibrant and engaging art form.

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MTI is particularly dedicated to educational theatre, and has created special collections to meet the needs of various types of performers and audiences. MTI's Broadway Junior® shows are 30- and 60-minute musicals for performance by elementary and middle school-aged performers, while MTI's School Editions are musicals annotated for performance by high school students.

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Acknowledgements

At Saginaw Valley State University, we recognize that we are located on the ancestral homelands of the Anishinaabe, Wyandot, and Sauk. We specifically acknowledge the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and the land ceded in the Saginaw Treaty of 1819, on which we reside. We appreciate the importance of preserving and honoring the traditions of Indigenous People who are an integral part of our shared history. As we pledge to serve as responsible stewards of the land, we endeavor for this history to inform our teaching, scholarship, and our commitment to community.

Saginaw Valley State University Department of Theatre

Full Time Faculty

Peggy Mead-Finizio, MFA

David Rzeszutek, MFA

Tommy Wedge, MFA

Adjunct Faculty

Courtney A. Kelly, MFA

Staff

Jerry Dennis, Scene Shop Supervisor

Kelly J. Helmreich, Administrative Secretary

Acknowledgements

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President of Saginaw Valley State University

The Office of Dr. Lisa Krissoff Boehm,
Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

The Office of Dr. Marc Peretz,
Dean College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences

The Office of University Communications

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Amber Schuler - for photographing technical and dress rehearsals

Diane Kitts - for help with costume stitching

Alpha Gamma Eta chapter of Alpha Psi Omega - APO is a National Theatre Honors Society for participants in collegiate theatre with the aim of encouraging dramatic production at every step in a person's academic career

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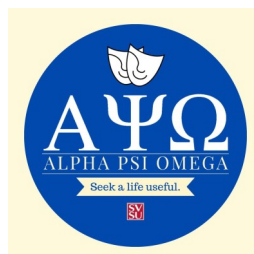
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The Kennedy Center

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Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.