Disney The Little Mermaid

August 19-21 | 24-28
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The Springfield Municipal Opera and RSM

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DISNEY’S THE LITTLE MERMAID

Music by **Alan Menken**  
Lyrics by **Howard Ashman & Glenn Slater**  
Book by **Doug Wright**

Based on the Hans Christian Andersen story and the Disney film produced by Howard Ashman & John Musker and written & directed by John Musker & Ron Clements

Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Directed by</th>
<th>Assistant Directed by</th>
<th>Apprentice Directed by</th>
<th>Produced by</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Craig Williams II</td>
<td>Elizabeth Cheney</td>
<td>Seth Wheeler</td>
<td>Jake Smith</td>
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<tr>
<th>Vocal Directed by</th>
<th>Choreographed by</th>
<th>Stage Managed by</th>
<th>Music Directed by</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christie Lazarides</td>
<td>Ronda Brinkman</td>
<td>DJ Rudd</td>
<td>Damien Kaplan</td>
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<tr>
<th>Accompanied/Assistant Musical Directed by</th>
<th>Rehearsal Accompanied by</th>
<th>Costumes Designed by</th>
<th>Properties Designed by</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cory Brown</td>
<td>Tyler Maul</td>
<td>Debbie Schoppenhorst</td>
<td>Melody Sheehan</td>
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<tr>
<th>Set Designed by</th>
<th>Make-up &amp; Hair Design by</th>
<th>Lead Set Builders</th>
<th>Scenic Artistry by</th>
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<tr>
<td>Craig Williams II</td>
<td>Stacy Kolaz and Clare Hart</td>
<td>Harvey Edwards and Kevin Ford</td>
<td>Annette Settles, Jen Gronewald and Elizabeth Cheney</td>
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<tr>
<th>Production Coordinated by</th>
<th>Shellebration Coordinated by</th>
<th>Lighting Designed by</th>
<th>Sound Designed by</th>
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<tr>
<td>Taylor Fishburn</td>
<td>Taryn Grant</td>
<td>Kevin Zepp and Daniel Bonn</td>
<td>Gabe Rutledge</td>
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DISNEY’S THE LITTLE MERMAID is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019  
Tel: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.
Proud to support The Muni!

Congratulations on another great season!

www.DeliverDelGiorno.com

Paid for by Friends of Tony DelGiorno.
box office
Muni ticket reservations are handled by the box office staff at Sangamon Auditorium at the University of Illinois at Springfield. Hours: Monday–Friday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. except show nights until 3 p.m. To reserve tickets, call (217) 793-MUNI (6864) or visit www.Themuni.org, or on show nights only, the theater site box office opens 90 minutes prior to curtain time. Call (217) 529-5787. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. for productions this season.

ticket prices
Reserved Seats: $14.00; Seniors/Students/Children/Military Patrons $12.00
General Admission Lawn Seating:
Adults $10.00; Seniors/Students/Children/Military Patrons $8.00; Children age 3-12, $6.00; 2 and under, free.

group rates
Special rates are available for groups of 25 or more and 100 or more. Please call the box office at 793-MUNI.

family night
Wednesday performances of each production are designated as Family Night. Tickets for children 12 and under are $3.00 for the General admission section (lawn seating) and $6.00 for a Reserved seat when accompanied by an adult who has a paid General or Reserved Admission ticket. (See box office staff for admission limits.)

senior night
Thursday performances are designated Senior nights. Reserved seat tickets for seniors (patrons 60 and older) are $11.00 and senior General Admission tickets are $7.00.

interpreted performances
Sunday, June 26 – South Pacific, Friday, July 15 – Sweeney Todd, Saturday, July 30 – Nice Work If You Can Get It and Sunday, August 21 – Disney’s The Little Mermaid.
For reservations, call (217) 793-MUNI.

listening devices
A limited number of sound enhancement devices are available free of charge for our hearing impaired patrons. These may be checked out from the house manager at the entrance and returned after the performance.

picnic facilities
Picnic facilities are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

backstagers
Backstagers offer financial contributions which assist in maintaining the quality of our productions and facility. For more information on joining this special group, see the house manager, or contact us at www.Themuni.org.

house rules
Photography/Recording – The taking of any photographs and/or audio or video recording of a performance is strictly prohibited.
Cell Phones/Texting – Please turn off cell phones during performances. Please refrain from texting, as it can disturb others who are trying to enjoy the show.
Smoking and e smoking are only allowed in designated smoking areas outside the gate.

animals/pets
For the safety and comfort of our audience with the exception of certified service animals and animals performing in the cast, no pets are allowed inside the fence of the theater on performance nights.

rain policy
Retain your ticket stub. In the event of rain, The Muni reserves the right to hold the performance for a maximum of 1 hour, or in the event of rain during a performance, to interrupt the show for a maximum of 30 minutes. In either case, if a show has played for a total of 1 hour or to intermission, it is considered that a performance has been given, and rain checks shall not be issued. If a show is called for rain and has not played for a total of 1 hour or to intermission, your ticket stub may be exchanged for a seat at a subsequent performance. However, the same seat location is not guaranteed. A performance has not been called for rain until an announcement is made from the stage and in the concession stand. Patrons holding General admission tickets must obtain rain checks before leaving the theater.

volunteering
The Muni is a year-round operation run entirely by volunteers. To join us as a volunteer, please see the house manager, or contact us at www.Themuni.org.
1965  The Music Man; South Pacific
1966  My Fair Lady; Pajama Game
1967  Brigadoon; Guys and Dolls; Camelot
1968  The Unsinkable Molly Brown; Oliver!; Kiss Me, Kate
1969  Bells Are Ringing; Gypsy; Annie Get Your Gun
1970  Li’l Abner; A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum; Man of LaMancha
1971  Funny Girl; The King and I; Fiddler on the Roof
1972  You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown; 1776; Most Happy Fella; The Sound of Music
1973  Once Upon a Mattress; Carnival; Promises, Promises; Oklahoma!
1974  On a Clear Day You Can See Forever; Hello, Dolly!; Applause; The Music Man
1975  Guys and Dolls; How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; Fiddler on the Roof; Mame
1976  1776; Irene; Bye, Bye, Birdie!; Calamity Jane
1977  Cinderella; The Desert Song; West Side Story; My Fair Lady
1978  Sweet Charity; Brigadoon; Paint Your Wagon; I Do! I Do!
1979  Shenandoah; No, No, Nanette; Pajama Game; Carousel
1980  South Pacific; Good News; Gypsy; Show Boat
1981  Camelot; Grease; Oklahoma!; A Little Night Music
1982  Kismet; George M!; Oliver!; Follies
1983  The King and I; Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; The Student Prince; Hello, Dolly!
1984  Peter Pan; Funny Girl; Two Gentlemen of Verona; The Music Man
1985  Annie; Damn Yankees; You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown; Evita
1986  The Sound of Music; Jesus Christ Superstar; Cabaret; Seven Brides for Seven Brothers
1987  Annie Get Your Gun; The Wiz; Promises, Promises; Gigi
1988  Peter Pan; South Pacific; 42nd Street; Mame
1989  Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; Fiddler on the Roof; Singing in the Rain; My Fair Lady
1990  Oklahoma!; Teddy & Alice; Anything Goes; Camelot
1991  Oliver!; My One and Only; Into the Woods; Show Boat
1992  Man of LaMancha; Dreamgirls; Me and My Girl; The Unsinkable Molly Brown
1993  Hans Christian Andersen; Sugar; Pirates of Penzance; Brigadoon
1994  Peter Pan; Hello, Dolly!; Big River; Carousel
1995  The King and I; Meet Me in St. Louis; City of Angels; Gypsy
1996  Phantom; The Will Rogers Follies; Little Me; The Wizard of Oz
1997  Guys and Dolls; Crazy for You; The Secret Garden; Kiss Me, Kate
1998  Fiddler on the Roof; Bye, Bye, Birdie!; Godspell; Annie
1999  State Fair; 42nd Street; The Goodbye Girl; The Sound of Music
2000  Cinderella; Grease; Children of Eden; The Music Man
2001  How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; A Little Night Music; West Side Story; Peter Pan
2002  Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; Anything Goes; Mame; South Pacific
2003  Titanic; Big; My Fair Lady; The Wizard of Oz
2004  Honk!; Seven Brides for Seven Brothers; A Chorus Line; Big River
2005  The Sound of Music; Ragtime; Annie Get Your Gun; Disney’s Beauty And The Beast
2006  Annie Warbucks; Chicago; Elton John & Tim Rice’s Aida; The King and I
2007  Miss Saigon; Peter Pan; Grease; Oklahoma!
2008  Hello, Dolly!; All Shook Up; The Secret Garden; The Music Man
2009  Oliver!; The Producers; Fiddler on the Roof; Disney High School Musical
2010  Seussical; Into The Woods; Jesus Christ Superstar; Annie
2011  Big River; Guys and Dolls; Hairspray; The Wizard of Oz
2012  Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; Crazy for You; Once On This Island; Disney’s Beauty and the Beast
2013  Les Misérables; Dreamgirls; Peter Pan; RENT
2014  The Sound of Music; All Shook Up; Shrek the Musical; Jekyll & Hyde
2015  Spamalot; Seussical; West Side Story; Cabaret
**board of trustees**
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Dave Britton  
Georgia Dirksen  
Roger Holmes  
Dennis O’Brien  
Randy Ragan  
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Randy Ragan, *Treasurer*  
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Penny McCarty  
Michelle McLaughlin  
Connor McNamara  
Steve Rotello  
Jake Smith  
Michelle Tebrugge  
Scott Viniard  
Mark Wheeler  
Craig Williams II

**non-board committee chairs**
Caretaker: Tony Rimkus  
Concessions: Bill Bauser, Jr.  
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Front of House Co-Chair: Vicki Stehn  
Grounds: Inez Berg  
Makeup/Hair Co-Chair: Clare Hart  
Props: Melody Sheehan  
Scenic Art/Paint: Jen Gronewald  
Security: Brian Brewer  
Senior Night/Bus Co-Chair: Gil Opferman  
Sound: Daniel Shelton  
Volunteers: Genevieve Kaplan

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godspell

Director - Leigh Steiner  Artistic Director - Dave Shaw
Book by John Michael Tebelak
Music and New Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Conceived and Originally Directed by John Michael Tebelak
Based on The Gospel According to St. Matthew
Produced by arrangement with Music Theatre International

August 26-28 & September 2-4 2016

Sponsored by Edward Jones & BERGH WHITE OPTICIANS

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!
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420 S. 6TH STREET IN DOWNTOWN SPRINGFIELD
As the sun sets, the curtain rises on warm summer nights at The Muni, a summer tradition for 65 years. Welcome to our 2016 season of “Broadway under the Stars!”

Originally conceived on April 21, 1950, as a not-for-profit theatrical organization, the Springfield Municipal Opera Association transformed a 55-acre wheat field into an outdoor amphitheater.

On opening night, June 17, 1950, thousands of people turned out to see our first production, the operetta *The Merry Widow*.

The Muni, as we became affectionately known, flourished until a series of setbacks in the mid-1950s. A major fire in 1963 destroyed part of the facilities, and another the following year what was left.

With hopes for a rebirth, a test production of *Bye, Bye, Birdie!* was staged in Douglas Park in 1964. The response was so enthusiastic that The Muni was able to rebuild its facility and return to the lake site theater in 1965.

With continued support from our enthusiastic audiences and our dedicated corps of volunteers, The Muni has continued to flourish, becoming one of the largest community theatres in the Midwest. Lavish settings, dazzling costumes and a full orchestra, all are presented under a canopy of twinkling stars.

Each summer our audience continues to grow, as we entertain the very best in musical theatre. From families with young children, to teens on dates, or their grandparents, everyone is at home at The Muni.

We hope you enjoy the show.
When The Muni was founded more than 60 years ago, it was through imagination, determination and commitment. The overwhelming support of the Springfield community has played a valuable role in The Muni’s beginning and in its future. Helping to ensure that future generations will enjoy The Muni are the Backstagers — a group of individuals and businesses whose financial contributions are a vital component to our success and growth.

Their names are proudly listed on these pages. If you would like to contribute to future improvements at The Muni as a Backstager, please see the House Manager, or contact us at www.TheMuni.org.

Listing reflects Backstagers contributions received prior to June 25, 2016.

**Benefactor Roundtable ($1,500 +)**

Mark & Julie Staley  
Mr. P

**Producer’s Circle ($1,000 +)**

Kevin & Lisa Coakley

**Director ($500 +)**

Tom & Helen Appleton  
Jim & Ginny Baker  
Marjorie Berchtold  
Susan & Roland Cull  
Dr. James & Christie Davis  
George & Georgia Dirksen  
Stephan & Paula Kaplan  
Jan & David Kerwin  
Scott & Christy Kuntz  
Caroline K. Nelson  
Dennis O’Brien  
Gil & Ann Opferman  
Randy & Donna Ragan  
Springfield Electric Supply

**Conductor ($300 +)**

The Benoit Family  
Scottie & Diane Bevill  
Bonnie Bloome  
The Bonn Family  
David & Tara Burdell  
Mary Alice Davis  
Dwayne & LuAnn Gab  
Burnell A. Heinecke & Shirley Clark  
Patrick Foster & Donna Lerch  
Tom & Kay Fervert  
Tony & Holly Grasch  
David & Ruth Hicks  
J. Richard & Sharon Lyons  
Barbara & Stan Papp  
Stephen & Dora Rotello  
Ken & Anne Sagins & Family  
Cathy Schwartz & John Shafer  
Ralph M. Sloman  
Richard L. Smothers  
Mark, Brenda & Erin Staab  
Carol & Cressida Stapleton  
Barb & Walt Stokes  
Dr. Andrea Stonecipher, M.D.  
Vicki Thomas  
United Community Bank  
Donald & Eloise VanFossan  
Elizabeth Virginia Wirtz
## Lead Actor ($200+)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mike &amp; Mary Lou Aiello</td>
<td>Linda Hittmeier</td>
<td>Director of Agriculture</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doug Anderson &amp; Ed Wittrock</td>
<td>Steve &amp; Pat Jacobs</td>
<td>Raymond &amp; Carol Poe</td>
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<td>Sharon &amp; Bill Bell</td>
<td>Carol &amp; Tom Kerins</td>
<td>Maria &amp; Gary Robinson</td>
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<td>Harold &amp; Darlene Bruntjen</td>
<td>John &amp; Sharon Kwedar</td>
<td>Sandi &amp; Darrel Salzman</td>
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<td>BUNN</td>
<td>Dennis &amp; Marilyn Lawler</td>
<td>Dave &amp; Emily Schwegel</td>
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<td>Don, Melanie &amp; Mark Caspary</td>
<td>Gary &amp; Connie Leach</td>
<td>Sue Sammons &amp; Jerry Seibert</td>
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<td>Julie &amp; Roger Finnell</td>
<td>Terry &amp; Judy Lucas</td>
<td>Kathy Sees</td>
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<td>Twila Clark &amp; Martha Lewey</td>
<td>Steve &amp; Janet Madden</td>
<td>Tim &amp; Melody Sheehan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward &amp; Caroline Cunningham</td>
<td>Penny &amp; Bill McCarty</td>
<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. Larry E. Sherwin,</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark &amp; Misty Dannenberger</td>
<td>Joe &amp; Lynn McMenamin</td>
<td>DC, FACO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg &amp; Elizabeth Donathan</td>
<td>Doug &amp; Linda Meyer</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Jane Snyder</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laura Ann Drennan</td>
<td>Greg &amp; Dawn Muller</td>
<td>Joe Temperelli</td>
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<td>Wanda Dunkel</td>
<td>David &amp; Maebeth Nicholson</td>
<td>Wanda Tracy</td>
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<td>Phyllis Eubanks</td>
<td>Gail Noll &amp; John Milhiser</td>
<td>Bob &amp; Anita Walbaum</td>
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<td>Kitty Feidt &amp; Tom Ala</td>
<td>Mary &amp; Jerry Parsons</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Kristin Wheeler</td>
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<td>Dr. Kevin &amp; Kendra Floyd</td>
<td>Dan &amp; Sally Petrone</td>
<td>Scott &amp; Karla Wilhelm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randy &amp; Kathy Germeraad</td>
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<td>Elvin &amp; Sharon Zook</td>
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## Supporting Performer (100+)

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<tr>
<td>Don &amp; Erin Biggerstaff</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Karen Heintzelman</td>
<td>Betty Jo Robertson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben &amp; Megan Cady</td>
<td>Lynn, Connie &amp; Elizabeth</td>
<td>Jake &amp; Mary Kate Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne &amp; Mary Ellen Carlson</td>
<td>Kelley</td>
<td>Stagehands Local 138 IATSE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mike &amp; Lori Downing</td>
<td>Margaret Kirschner</td>
<td>Joe, Ann &amp; Kate VonDeBur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Duckworth &amp; Lauren Burns</td>
<td>Vaughn Morrison &amp; Sherry Knight</td>
<td>Bob Wagner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Anne Elson</td>
<td>Dr. Mary Ann Rackauskas</td>
<td>Franklin C. Weinkauf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bill &amp; Tudie Ghesquiere</td>
<td>Jennifer Ramm</td>
<td>Don &amp; Joyce Werner</td>
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## Featured Performer (50+)

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<tr>
<td>Denysia Bastas</td>
<td>Christian H. &amp; Dorothy</td>
<td>Ann Meckes</td>
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<td>Lori Bennett &amp; John Simpson</td>
<td>Homeier</td>
<td>Penny Meyer</td>
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<td>Nancy Cole</td>
<td>Joe &amp; Sandra Kihn</td>
<td>Paul &amp; Marilyn Thornburgh</td>
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<td>Margaret (Peggy) Fenley</td>
<td>Franklin &amp; Mary Lewis</td>
<td>Kevin &amp; Beth Waldman</td>
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<td>Ann Londrigan</td>
<td>Penny Wollan-Kriel</td>
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## Ensemble ($25+)

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<tr>
<td>John &amp; Elly Brandt</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Judy Gunn</td>
<td>Kathleen A. Sass</td>
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<td>In Memory of Evans, Marilyn &amp; Charles Brittin</td>
<td>Howard and Lori Hammel</td>
<td>Dale &amp; Kathy Smith</td>
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<td>Lisa Corea Art by Design</td>
<td>Sarah &amp; Bob High</td>
<td>Donn Stephens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dennis &amp; Patti Daniels</td>
<td>Karen Holmes Hall</td>
<td>Ronald &amp; Kathy Jo Stuva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert &amp; Marlene Dawe</td>
<td>Lori Iocca</td>
<td>Jim &amp; Jenny Vieweg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Detting</td>
<td>John A. Klickna Family</td>
<td>Will &amp; Holly Wietfeldt</td>
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<tr>
<td>John &amp; Pat Dietrich</td>
<td>Loren &amp; Emalee Knop</td>
<td>Dolores M. Young</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sue &amp; Craig Feger</td>
<td>Ron &amp; Janet McElroy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Fendrich</td>
<td>Lois A. Pitz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Harvey Rieck &amp; Linda Yount</td>
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Become a key part of making The Muni Magic happen!

Backstager Benefits Include

- Muni news, emails & updates
- Preseason Backstager Preview Event
- Exclusive backstage performance night tours
- Concessions coupons
- Season Tickets
- Premium parking passes/Express exiting
- Ordering tickets 2 weeks before the public

Backstager Packages start at just $25!

For more information, visit our website at www.themuni.org/Backstager.aspx
Dive “under the sea” into a magical underwater kingdom, with the young mermaid, Ariel (AIR-e-el), who wants nothing more but to leave her ocean home — and her fins — behind and live in the world above. But first, she’ll have to defy her father King Triton, make a deal with an evil sea witch, and convince the handsome Prince Eric that she’s the girl whose enchanting voice he’s been seeking. Based on the 1989 Disney film and one of Hans Christian Andersen’s most beloved stories, Disney’s The Little Mermaid is a beautiful love story for all ages.

Music by Alan Menken

Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Glenn Slater

Book by Doug Wright
Stop by OUR dressing room!

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We all yearn for something. There is this innate need to dream for something greater, something different or for the unknown. It is what makes us, as people, become better at what we do. No matter the motivation, change comes from this inalienable ability to dream. It can cross boundaries and leap mountains, and in the case of our show this evening, it brings soulmates, from sea and shore, together.

Disney’s *The Little Mermaid* was the first movie I remember as a child and the first movie theater experience I ever had. It was unforgettable and truly started my obsession with making the magical become real. Even in the swimming pool, I imagined I was flying like Peter Pan over the deep end or a merman like Ariel swimming under the sea. I mean, who didn’t?! Isn’t this the whole mantra of Disney “Making the impossible possible”? But, let’s get real for a moment, this is true to my reality, today. If I think it or believe it, I can almost make it true. Somethings may take a lot of work, and maybe a lot of money, but a dream is lost if not pursued. And that is what this show means to me. An incredible story that makes impossible things reality.

The magic and beauty of this show would not be possible without the passion and dedication of our staff and cast. It has been my honor and pleasure to work with such talented individuals who have not only given their time, sweat and tears, but hearts to hopefully reach just one person in the crowd. My sincerest thanks and admiration goes out to each person involved in this production.

Thank you,
Craig Williams II
Ron & Paula’s
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Director .................................................................................................................. Craig Williams II
Assistant Director ............................................................................................ Elizabeth Cheney
Apprentice Director .......................................................................................... Seth Wheeler
Vocal Director ................................................................................................. Christie Lazarides
Choreographer ................................................................................................. Ronda Brinkman
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Production Coordinator .................................................................................. Taylor Fishburn
Flight Director ................................................................................................. Tom Brinkman
Shellebration Coordinator .............................................................................. Taryn Grant
Lighting Designer ............................................................................................. Kevin Zepp and Daniel Bonn
Sound Designer ............................................................................................... Gabe Rutledge
Costume Crew .......... Marie Kulavic, Tina Franklin, Emma Johnson, Angie Estabrook,
Jamie Nichols, Pamela Stewart, Laura Bledsoe, Stephanie Lockhart,
Jenni Hughes, Michelle Yeager, Shireesha Gomantham, Flo McCue, Kitty Feidt,
Laura Abner, Cassie Reiterman, Oliana Bartley, Angie Eickhoff
Makeup/Hair Crew ........ Bailee Brinkman, Allison Means, Megan Hart, Amanda Elshoff,
Betsy, Buttell, Tia Spencer, Lindsey Petersen, Tammy White,
Dewayne Williams, Ariana O’Keefe, Whitney Barnes
Properties Crew ............................................................................................... Dennis Settles
Set Crew .......... Mike Snyder, Alex Edwards, Jake Fahey, Taylor White, Julie Howie,
Holly Wyatt, Brady Brinkman, Jen Gronewald, Faith Prince, Natalie McDonald
Painting Crew .......... Gil Opferman, Justin Brandon, Ann Opferman, Sophie Lanser,
Molly McCue, Cambell Coker, Lori Ann McCabe, Haley Muller
Building Crew .......... T. David Parker, Todd Schumacher, David Burdell, Ken Carter,
Ryan Fisher, DJ Shultz, DJ Rudd, Luke Busboom, Greg Busboom,
Jeff Prince, Faith Prince, Bill Davison, Greg Muller, Bob Lanser
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Keyboard 3 .............................................................................................. Tyler Maul
Reed 1 ................................................................................................. Dia Langellier
Reed 2 ................................................................................................. Bekah Philbrick
Reed 3 .................................................................................................. Donna Lerch
Trumpet ................................................................................................. Brian Blythe
Horn ........................................................................................................ Bethany Spear
Bass ......................................................................................................... Rhett Bradley
Violin 1 ................................................................................................. Sally Fritz
Violin 2 ................................................................................................. Rachel Helton
Cello ....................................................................................................... Sharon Lombard
Drums ..................................................................................................... Brandt Sitze
Percussion .............................................................................................. Tommy Sagins
for Disney’s The Little Mermaid

Props
Springfield Theatre Centre
Addison Bonn
Everett and Elias Hager
Ellie and Maddie McGady
Jackson Pitz
Gavin Biddle
Lucy Bassett
Kaden Smith
Sophie Reimers

Costume
Broadway Costumes, Inc.
Frank Weinkauf
Michael Baker
Carrie Warren
Terry Schoppenhorst
Jordan Schoppenhorst
Sherri Zara
Elizabeth Cheney

Sets
Doug Hahn
The cast of Little Mermaid
Dennis O’Brien
Mid America Advertising

Flight
zFX

Mary Bonn
Jeremy Goeckner

for Nice Work If You Can Get It

Nancy Difenback for her amazing work especially on the program
Paul Presney Jr. for his work ... the staircase it was a masterpiece
The Daniels family for their extraordinary work on the show
Jen Gronewald for her work on the set ... beautiful work
Harvey Edwards and Kevin Ford ... set looked great
Apologies the Phyllis Evans for no bio in the program ... You’re the BEST
Finally thanks to Dennis ... as a Producer he went above and beyond ... thanks
Ariel .................................................................Sophie Lanser
Prince Eric ..........................................................Ryan Fisher
Flounder ............................................................Maddie Eickhoff
King Triton ................................................................DJ Shultz
Ursula ........................................................................Lori Ann McCabe
Sebastian ...............................................................Anthony Glover
Scuttle ......................................................................Matthew Hanauer
Flotsam ....................................................................Elizabeth Roehrs
Jetsam ......................................................................Hannah Levin
Mersisters ................................................Ashton Burdell, Haley Muller, Alyssa Shultz, Hannah Siehr,
                                           Courtney Wick, Zoey Zara
Grimsby ........................................Ken Carter
Chef Louis ..............................................................Jeff Prince
Carlotta ....................................................................Kristy Cole
Windward ..................................................................Caroline Mitchell
Leeward ....................................................................Cece Donathan
Ensemble ..................................Lizzy Benoit, Justin Brandon, Rylee Kate Brinkman, Jeremy Brown,
                               Ashton Burdell, Luke Busboom, Alex Clifton, Campbell Coker, Carson Cole,
                               Stephanie Fahey, Shishir Gomatham, Raya Johnson, Molly McCue, Chloe Mimms,
                               Montel Morgan, Anthony Munar, Holden Nichols, Parker Nichols,
                               Ann Opferman, Gil Opferman, Elizabeth Ross, Amalia Schneider, Brooke Seacrist,
                               Kayla Simon, Madigan Sweeney, Annelyse Warren, Samantha White,
                               Matthew Woodson, Makenna Yeager, Mercedes Yingling
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ACT ONE

Overture

The Water’s Surface
The World Above .................................................................................................................. Ariel
Fathoms Below .................................................................................................................. Sailors, Prince Eric, Grimsby

King Triton’s Court
Daughters of Triton ................................................................................................................. Mersisters
If Only (Triton’s Lament) ......................................................................................................... King Triton

Ursula’s Lair
Daddy’s Little Angel ............................................................................................................. Ursula, Flotsam, Jetsam

Ariel’s Grotto
Part of Your World .............................................................................................................. Ariel
The Storm ............................................................................................................................ Sailors

Ship/Sea Below/Beach
Part of Your World (Reprise) ............................................................................................. Ariel

Mersister’s Girl Cave
She’s in Love ....................................................................................................................... Mersisters, Flounder

The Beach
Her Voice ............................................................................................................................... Prince Eric

Open Water
Under the Sea ....................................................................................................................... Sebastian, Sea Creatures

Ariel’s Grotto
If Only (Ariel’s Lament) ......................................................................................................... Ariel
Sweet Child ............................................................................................................................. Flotsam, Jetsam

Ursula’s Lair
Poor Unfortunate Souls ....................................................................................................... Ursula
ACT TWO

Entr’acte

The Beach
Positoovity ........................................................................................................ Scuttle, Gulls

King Triton’s Court
Palace: Ariel’s Chambers
Beyond My Wildest Dreams ...................................................................... Ariel, Carlotta, Maids

Palace: Kitchen
Les Poissons ........................................................................................................ Chef Louis

Palace: Banquet Hall
Les Poissons (Reprise) .............................................................................. Chef Louis, Chefs

Palace: Ballroom
One Step Closer .......................................................................................... Prince Eric

Ursula’s Lair
Daddy’s Little Angel (Reprise) ................................................................... Ursula, Flotsam, Jetsam

The Lagoon
Kiss the Girl .............................................................................................. Sebastian, Animals

King Triton’s Court

Ariel’s Room/Ship/King Triton’s Court
If Only ........................................................................................................... Ariel, Prince Eric, Sebastian, King Triton

Palace: Ballroom
The Contest ................................................................................................. Grimsby, Princesses

Ursula’s Lair
Poor Unfortunate Souls (Reprise) .............................................................. Ursula

The Beach
If Only (Reprise) ........................................................................................ King Triton, Ariel
Finale ........................................................................................................... Prince Eric, Ariel, Ensemble
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Lizzy Benoit (Ensemble) has performed in several productions with the SBC, SYPG and played an Indian in Muni’s Peter Pan. Lizzy will be a sophomore at SHG and sends her love to family, friends and her wonderful teachers.

Justin Brandon (Ensemble) was recently seen as “Ryan” in Pleasant Plains HS’s High School Musical. Justin is excited to be in his third show at Muni. Other local theater credits include The Jungle Book (Baloo) at HCFTA, Miss Saigon, The Adventures of Flat Stanley (Stanley) at the STC and Children of Eden at TIP. He would like to thank his mom, dad and sister for “always putting up with my busy schedule and supporting me.”

Rylee Kate Brinkman (Ensemble) has been dancing since the age of two, takes all styles of dance at Springfield Dance and is a first year trainee with the SBC. She has performed in The Nutcracker and many shows with SYPG. This is Rylee Kate’s second year performing with Muni. She will be a 4th grader this fall, entering her second year of homeschooling. Rylee would like to thank her big sister, Bailee, for being an inspiration to her.

Jeremy Brown (Ensemble) was recently seen in Muni’s South Pacific. Theater credits include Doctor Dolittle Jr. (Dr. Dolittle) at STC, Bye, Bye, Birdie (TIP), and several productions at Athens HS. Jeremy would like to thank his parents, grandparents, siblings, Sarah and Demi for supporting him. “I want to thank Craig and staff for letting me be part of this magical experience. Follow your dreams!”

Ashton Burdell (Ensemble) is no stranger to Muni having appeared in Annie (July), The Wizard of Oz (Coroner), Peter Pan (Indian), Shrek (Teen Fiona), and Seussical (Bird Girl). She has also appeared in shows at STC and Blackburn College. Ashton is a senior at Glenwood HS, where she is involved in Titan Fever Show Choir, and Fusion Jazz Choir. She would like to thank the Mermaid staff and her family for their endless support and encouragement.

*Luke Busboom (Ensemble) is new to Muni, but is an experienced performer! He has performed in various productions at GHS and is in Titan Fever Show Choir. He has performed in Velveteen Rabbit, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, The Adventures of Flat Stanley (STC) and Children of Eden at St. John’s Lutheran Church. Luke would like to thank the staff, “mom and dad for driving me to and from rehearsal, Emma and Liam for being so supportive and excited when I made the show!” Welcome, Luke!

Ken Carter (Grimsby) is thankful to perform in his second Muni show. Ken thanks his family “for their continued support as I pursue another one of my loves. It would not be possible to participate without their understanding and willingness to help me.”

Alex Clifton (Ensemble) has appeared in Muni’s All Shook Up and South Pacific. While at Glenwood HS, he was a member of Titan Fever Show Choir, and performed in their Les Miserables (Gavroche), Seussical (Mr. Mayor), Legally Blonde, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and West Side Story. Alex is currently a student at the University of Spa & Cosmetology Arts.

*Campbell Coker (Ensemble) has performed in The Music Man and Children of Eden at TIP, School House Rock Live! Jr. at STC and Alice in Wonderland at HCFTA. Campbell attends Rochester Junior HS where she participates in band, choir, literary and track. Campbell would like to thank her parents for their support and the Mermaid staff for casting her in her first Muni show!

*Carson Cole (Ensemble) was recently the Baker in Williamsville Jr. High’s Into the Woods, Jr. and various performances with Springfield Dance. Carson will be a freshman at Williamsville HS. He would like to thank his friends that encouraged him to audition for his first Muni show.

Kristy Cole (Carlotta/Ensemble) is excited to be back on stage after a long break to raise her boys, one of which she is sharing the stage with for the first time (Carson)! She was last seen on stage as Rizzo in Grease, Aunt Polly in Tom Sawyer and the Baker’s Wife in Into the Woods. Kristy is the choir and theater director at Williamsville Jr. High.
Cecilia Donathan (Leeward/Ensemble) has been in Muni shows since she was 8 years old, and Mermaid will be her fifth show at Muni. She has also appeared in productions at TIP, The Legacy Theatre, and the Hoogland Center for the Arts. Cecile is also a member of the SBC. She will be a sophomore at SHG and participates in many clubs and activities there. She would like to thank her mom and dad, Elizabeth and Greg, and three siblings: Edward, Matthew, and Mary.

*Maddie Eickhoff (Flounder) is brand new to theater, having only participated in her 5th grade musical this year. She would like to thank her voice teacher, CJ Dyas, for “pushing me and teaching me so much. You’re the best. I’d also like to thank my family for encouraging, supporting and always believing in me!”

Stephanie Fahey (Ensemble) is happy to make her return Muni this summer. In years past, Stephanie played Gertrude in Seussical Jr., Jan in Grease, and Liesl in Sound of Music. She also played Margot in Legally Blonde at The Legacy Theatre and Logannine SchwartzandGrubenierre in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee at the Iowa City Community Theatre. When she’s not onstage, Stephanie works as a speech-language pathologist. She would like to thank her family, friends, and boyfriend for support.

Ryan Fisher (Prince Eric) has appeared in Muni’s All Shook Up and West Side Story (Baby John). He is a senior at Illinois Wesleyan University where he is a Theatre Arts Major. At IWU he has worked various designs in sound and scenic, and also held a number of production positions on creative teams. Ryan would like to thank his family for their endless love and support, Craig and the staff for the opportunity and for their incredible commitment to this show. Proverbs 3:5-6

*Anthony Glover (Sebastian) is a newcomer to Springfield, coming from the Chicagoland area. A licensed cosmetologist for 9 years, he’s elated to exercise the art of theatre. Working through Benefit Cosmetics at Ulta Beauty he works in esthetics and extensive facial waxing techniques. And he also partakes in community service, short film cinema, and a YouTube series, ManKave TV, in which he’s featured. Welcome Anthony!

*Shishir Gomatham (Ensemble) has appeared in STC’s Dr. Dolittle, Jr., Blather, Blarney & Balderdash and several school productions. He would like to thank the staff for the wonderful opportunity and his family for supporting him through it all.

Matthew Hanauer (Scuttle) was last seen in this season’s South Pacific. Other Muni credits include Spumalot (Sir Robin) and Cabaret (Bobby). He’d like to thank Craig and Christie and Mercedes, the cutest starfish.

*Raya Johnson (Ensemble) fell in love with theatre after participating in Butler Elementary’s Beauty and the Beast. Raya is a 6th grader at Franklin MS.

Sophie Lanser (Ariel) is so excited to be playing the debut role of Ariel this summer and is so thankful this dream has become a reality. This is Sophie’s 4th Muni show, recently playing Natalie in All Shook Up. Sophie is a third year student at the U of I at Urbana-Champaign studying industrial engineering. Sophie would like to thank Craig and the staff for this amazing opportunity, Becky Kemp and Erin Haupt for the countless voice lessons, and her parents for the continual support.

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Hannah Levin (Jetsam) was in this season’s South Pacific, and has also appeared in Muni’s Seussical and Rent. Hannah is a junior at Millikin University studying elementary education and is a member of Pi Beta Phi and choir. Hannah would like to thank her friends and family, “especially my mom for showing me how to achieve my dreams.”

Lori Ann McCabe (Ursula) has been involved in local productions since 1996, both onstage and off. Favorite roles include The Witch in Into the Woods, Mama Morton in Chicago, Vera in Mame, Mrs. Baskin in Big (Muni); Mama Rose in Gypsy (TIP); Miss Hannigan in Annie, Paulette in Legally Blonde (Legacy Theatre); Katisha in The Mikado and starred in Smokey Joe’s Café, Nunsense, and Pump Boys & Dinettes at HCFTA. She is known for appearing as Patsy in Always, Patsy Cline in central Illinois theatres, including The Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan. Before swimming into Mermaid, she was Assistant Director for Sister Act at The Legacy and for The Sound of Music & Guys & Dolls at Muni; and directed The Last Five Years at HCFTA. She sends lots of love to her favorite leading man, husband Bill Davison.

Molly McCue (Ensemble) has appeared in Muni’s Seussical, The Wizard of Oz, and The Sound of Music. She recently appeared in Into the Woods at Glenwood HS, where she is a sophomore. She is involved in concert choir and Titan Fever Show Choir. She would like to thank the Mermaid staff and her family for supporting her since day one!

Chloe Mimms (Ensemble) is excited to return to Muni. She made her Muni debut as the Sour Kangaroo in Seussical. Since moving to Chicago, she has played the character “Life” in a production for the Just Ranting the Blues theatre, takes dance classes, and has taken workshops to improve her craft in theater. She thanks Muni for allowing her to return and thanks her mother and boyfriend for all the support.

Caroline Mitchell (Windward/Ensemble) appeared in Muni’s Shrek and is also a member of the SBC. She is a sophomore honors student at SHG where she is a member of Key Club, Our Lady of Nazareth, Student Ambassadors and French Club. She would like to thank her parents, friends and anyone who has helped her with accomplishing her dreams.

Montel Morgan (Ensemble) is thrilled to be joining Mermaid this go-round at Muni. Banking and studying by day while playing video games, eating bacon, with the occasional trips to the gym, by night. He thanks his friends and family for their love and support they provide him, allowing him to do what he loves. Montel welcomes all to the show, one that he hopes will be as magical an experience for you as it has for him. Enjoy the show!

Haley Rae Muller (Atina) has performed in Annie, Les Miserables, and South Pacific at Muni. She has also appeared in productions with STC, TIP, and Athens HS. Haley is a sophomore vocal music education major at Millikin University and is a member of Pi Beta Phi. Haley thanks her family, friends, the Ernsts, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Holmes and the staff of Mermaid for “supporting me and giving me this incredible opportunity.”

*Anthony D. Munar (Ensemble) returned to Illinois after studying and performing in Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of Marywood University where he studied musical theatre and dance. He was in productions of West Side Story and South Pacific in Wilkes-Barne, PA, along with many university productions. He would like to thank everyone who has supported his dreams over the years and dedicates his performance to them.

*Holden Nichols (Ensemble) is a member of Hoogland Juniors and also enjoys playing piano and tap dancing. Holden has previously appeared in A Christmas Story (STC), Children of Eden (TIP), and Alice in Wonderland (HCFTA). Holden is a 3rd grader at Rochester Elementary. He would like to thank big brother, Parker, for inspiring him and Craig and Elizabeth for such a fun summer!

Parker Nichols (Ensemble) is active in local theater having previously been in shows with the Hoogland Kids & Teens, STC, TIP and Muni. He enjoys playing drums, chorus and literary club. Parker is a 7th grader at Rochester Junior High. He would like to thank Craig, Elizabeth and the rest of the staff for giving him this opportunity.
**Ann Opferman** (Ensemble) has performed at Muni, STC, SBC, LCT, JTG and TIP. She and husband, Gil, have directed at STC and Muni. Ann is a very happily retired special education administrator. Ann loves to travel, read and participate in theater with little time for anything else!

**Gil Opferman** (Ensemble) has performed at Muni, STC, TIP, SBC and LCT. Gil and wife, Ann, have also directed at Muni and STC. Gil is a happily retired elementary teacher and principal. ‘Gil is co-chair of The Muni Senior Bus Program.’ Seniors rock!

**Jeff Prince** (Chef Louis) has been in theater since 1986 where he played Rolf in *Sound of Music* at Muni. Favorite roles include Pat in *State Fair*, Danny Zuko in *Grease* and Tulsa in *Gypsy*. Jeff was also part of a *Godspell* cast that performed at the Youth Conference in Malta in 2000. He shared the stage with wife, Karee, and daughter, GraceAnne, in *Seussical* at Muni in 2015. Jeff thanks his wife and family.

**Elizabeth Roehrs** (Flotsam) is very excited for the chance to play an evil character! Lizzie works in the Public Relations and Marketing department at Lincoln Land Community College. Her hobbies outside of theater include sewing, petting dogs, roller derby refereeing, and Dungeons and Dragons. She would like to thank her parents for encouraging her to use her vocal talents somewhere other than her car and shower.

*Elizabeth Ross* (Ensemble) is thrilled to be part of *The Little Mermaid* as her first Muni production! She spent her high school years dancing with the SBC and can’t wait to get back on stage. Elizabeth holds a BA in International Development and has spent time across Central America. She thanks her loving family for all of their support and devotion as she chases her dreams.

**Amalia Schneider** (Ensemble) was recently in Muni’s *Seussical*, *Shrek* and played Wednesday in *The Addams Family* (HCFTA). She is also part of the Hoogland Education program where she was recently student director of *Alice in Wonderland*. Amalia will be a freshman at SHS and enjoys dance, singing and giving speeches. She is excited for another magical year at Muni and would like to thank her family, the staff and her dog, Violet, for supporting her love of the arts.

*Brooke Seacrist* (Ensemble) recently appeared as Trixie in *Grease* at TIP and as Little Red in Glenwood HS’s *Into the Woods*. She is a member of Glenwood’s Titan Fever Show Choir and would like to thank her parents and Elyssa Swickard as well as Craig for this opportunity. Welcome, Brooke!

**Alyssa Shultz** (Mersister) is enjoying her third season at Muni and she has also enjoyed performing with STC and HCFTA. Alyssa always loves a chance to perform with her husband DJ, but being paired in *Mermaid* as father-daughter is a first! When not onstage Alyssa and DJ enjoy working together as brokers and renovation designers for their business, Endow Real Estate.

**DJ Shultz** (King Triton) has been featured in numerous local shows over the years, including *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Les Miserables*, and *Jekyll & Hyde* at Muni and recently appeared in *Show Boat* at HCFTA. His other credits include HCFTA’s *Forever Plaid*, *Les Miserables in Concert*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Man Of LaMancha* and STC’s *Miss Saigon*. DJ is again excited to be sharing the stage with his wife and sends his love to his kids, Kinsley and Kreston. Go Cubs!

**Hannah Siehr** (Arista) is very excited to finally be the mermaid she always knew she was! At Muni she has been in *Seussical* (Gertrude), *Shrek* (Princess Fiona), *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), *Les Miserables*, *Annie*, and *Peter Pan*. She has also been in several STC and Hoogland productions. Hannah is a student at LLCC and works at Cooper’s Hawk Winery. Hannah enjoys painting, playing ukulele, 70’s music, NetFlix, STAR WARS, swimming, Disney, and collecting “thingamabobs!”

*Kayla Simon* (Ensemble) has been entertaining everyone around her for years. Kayla and her sister, Karley, have sung the National Anthem for events such as recently at the Midwest Charity Horse Show at the State Fairgrounds. Kayla is a gymnast on the competition team for Gymnastics and Cheer Zone but, like most 9-year-olds, she spends her time as a student at St. Agnes. She sends a special “shout out” to all her 4th grade classmates.
meet the cast

*Madigan Sweeney* (Ensemble) is new to central Illinois, but is not new to theater! Favorite theater credits include *Alice in Wonderland, Tarzan, Seussical, Peter Pan, Shrek* and *Wizard of Oz*. Madi has been dancing since age two. Soon-to-be sixth-grader at Blessed Sacrament, Madi sings with the Jubilate Choir. She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support.

*Annelyse Warren* (Ensemble) enjoys singing in the choir at F.U.M.C., dancing at Springfield Dance, reading and girl scouts. Annelyse is a 5th grader at Glenwood Intermediate. She sends love to her family, Mac, Carrie, Addelyn and Amelya.

*Samantha White* (Ensemble) recently appeared in the SHS’s *Beauty and the Beast* as a Silly Girl and Napkin. Samantha has been in several productions with SBC and SYPG. She is involved with IN Session Show choir, and Scarlett Harmony. She would like to thank her whole family, including her mom, Tammy, for “always being part of all productions I’m involved in and being my biggest support system I have. I also perform in loving memory of my father, Troy White.”

*Courtney R. Wick* (Aquata) last appeared at Muni as Alexi Darling in *RENT* and has played the role of Janet the last two years in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (ADHD Productions). Courtney recently finished her Master’s degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and is thrilled to be spending her summer “under the sea instead of drowning in text books.” She thanks her family and friends for being amazing, supportive, beautiful people and would like to give a special shout out to her awesome little, Gwen!

*Matthew Woodson* (Ensemble) has performed in Muni’s *Once on This Island, All Shook Up, West Side Story* and was in *South Pacific* at Muni in June. Matt graduated from Illinois College where he studied music education. He thanks his friends, family, the staff, and above all, God for all his blessings.

*Makenna Yeagar* (Ensemble) has appeared in performances with the SBC and SYPG. She will be a fifth grader at Glenwood Intermediate. Makenna enjoys reading, art, soccer, basketball, dancing, singing, playing piano and playing with her friends. She’d like to thank family, Katy Kamerad for giving her the confidence to try out, and the *Mermaid* staff for giving her this amazing opportunity.

*Mercedes Yingling* (Ensemble) was just in Muni’s *South Pacific*. Other credits include *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (ADHD Productions) and *Cinderella*. Mercedes works as a theatre technician at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum. Mercedes considers herself a devoted dog mom, mediocre ukulele player, and Matthew Hanauer enthusiast.

*Zoey Zara* (Allana) is thrilled to appear in *Mermaid* after being behind the scenes this season as the vocal director for *South Pacific*. Past Muni credits include *West Side Story, All Shook Up, Crazy For You, and Hairspray* to name a few. Zoey currently teaches music at Riverton Elementary. She sends her love and thanks to the incredible staff of *Mermaid* for allowing her to travel under the sea, the cast for being the best and most fun people to share the stage with, and her friends and family for their never-ending support!

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Auditions Saturday, August 20, 2016

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Directed by Joe Jackson
Auditions Sunday, September 18, 2016

The Music Man, Jr.
Dec. 2-4 & 9-11, 2016
Co-directed by Adam Power
& Kristine Wheeler
Auditions Saturday, October 1, 2016

A Chorus Line
Co-directed by Andrew Maynerich
& Morgan Kaplan
Auditions Saturday, November 19, 2016

Into the Woods, Jr.
Feb. 10-13 & 17-19, 2017
Directed by Cynthia Higgison
Auditions Saturday, December 10, 2016

Murder Mystery
— Fundraiser —
Good Deeds, Deadly Deeds
March 17-19 & 24-26, 2017
Director to be announced
Auditions Saturday, January 21, 2017

Jesus Christ Superstar
April 21-23 & 28-30, 2017
Directed by Mark Wheeler
Auditions Saturday, February 18, 2017

Doubt
May 12-14 & 19-21, 2017
Directed by Edward H. Smith
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We salute The Muni on another fine season!

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Craig Williams (Director) is so excited to bring another Disney production to life on the Muni stage! He has been in and directed many shows including SHS’s All Shook Up, The Wiz, Thoroughly Modern Millie, CATS, Legally Blonde, Hairspray and Disney’s Beauty and the Beast; Cinderella, Snow White, Gepetto and Son, Miss Saigon and 9 to 5 at STC; The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee for the HCFTA; and Disney’s High School Musical, Hairspray, Disney’s Beauty and the Beast, Dreamgirls and Shrek for Muni. He gives a special shout out to the Little Mermaid staff and most importantly his husband, Ryan!

Elizabeth Cheney (Assistant Director) is currently a dance instructor at Springfield Dance where she teaches high school age children modern dance. She also teaches ballet, tap, point, ballroom, jazz and yoga. She grew up dancing with the SBC, and currently is a Nurse Practitioner with Springfield Clinic. She has choreographed many shows around town including: Cabaret, The Wizard of Oz, Oklahoma, The King and I, and Annie Get Your Gun at Muni. She has also choreographed White Christmas, Thoroughly Modern Millie, and several others for STC, as well as choreographed numerous pieces for SYPG and SBC.

Seth Wheeler (Apprentice Director) This is Seth’s 8th consecutive summer with Muni but his first time not on or backstage. He has appeared in Muni’s West Side Story, Crazy for You, and Jesus Christ Superstar, among others, and stage managed Les Miserables and Shrek the Musical. Seth holds a BFA in Theatre Administration from Millikin University and now serves as the Production Manager at the Hoogland Center for the Arts. Seth would like to thank Craig and the rest of the Mermaid staff for letting him work alongside them on this amazing production.

Christie Lazarides (Vocal Director) is so excited to be a part of the Mermaid team! The Little Mermaid was Christie’s favorite Disney movie growing up, and she is thrilled to be part of bringing it to Muni for the first time. Christie is active in local community theater, both behind the scenes and onstage. She most recently appeared onstage in Muni’s Big River, Beauty and the Beast, and Les Miserables, and recently vocal directed Muni’s RENT, Shrek, and Spamalot. This past fall, Christie co-directed STC’s Miss Saigon. Christie is excited that she and her husband Mike will be welcoming their first baby this November, and would like to thank Mike for always being so supportive.

Ronda Brinkman (Choreographer) has been a member of the Springfield arts community most of her life. She has been the owner of Springfield Dance since 1995. Ronda danced with SBC for 16 years, dancing leading roles, including Sugarplum Fairy, Snow White and held staff and board positions. Teaching for over 26 years, she is pleased to be the founding director for Springfield Youth Performance Group. She would like to thank her family for putting up with her during Muni season, and Craig for giving her this opportunity.

DJ Rudd (Stage Manager) This is DJ’s first time filling the stage managing shoes. He dedicates this show to Lindsey, Aiden, and the alluring Kevin Kulavic.

Jake Smith (Producer) is an attorney for the State of Illinois. He currently serves on Muni’s Board of Managers. Jake thanks the staff for their time and dedication, and he sends love to Mary Kate, Stella, Jesse and Jude.

Damien Kaplan (Musical Director) has been involved with the arts scene for over 20 years. He has played percussion/keyboards, vocal directed and conducted for many local area shows, such as Les Miserables, Into the Woods, Rocky Horror, All Shook Up, Miss Saigon, Beauty and the Beast, and many more. He has been the choral director at Springfield High School for the past 5 years. Damien is also the director and arranger for The
Lincoln Troubadours, a local a capella group that performs at various historic sites around Springfield during the summer. He also is one half of the piano duo, Dual Piano, with Mark Gifford. He sends love to his family, especially the lovely Morgan, little Sawyer and Bean.

**Cory Brown** (Accompanist/Assistant Musical Director) has been performing throughout central Illinois for many years. In addition to playing for musical theater productions, Cory plays at Christ the King Church and for private events. Favorite theater credits include: Muni’s *West Side Story, RENT, Les Miserables, All Shook Up, Oliver and Grease*, Legacy Theater’s *Songs For A New World*, HCFTA’s *The Last Five Years, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee and The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. He is also a member of the house band for HCTFA’s recent Cabaret Series. Cory is a Licensed Funeral Director at Staab Funeral Homes.

**Tyler Maul** (Rehearsal Accompanist/Keyboard) is Junior at Jacksonville High School. He has played piano for many shows including *La Cage aux Folles* (HCFTA), *Shrek the Musical* (Muni) and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Special thanks to this awesome cast and crew for making this one of his favorite shows to play for.

**Debbie Schoppenhorst** (Costume Designer) has worked on various costume teams for Muni since 2010, including *Seussical, Dreamgirls, Beauty and the Beast, and Shrek*. In addition, she leads the costume team at Springfield High School and occasionally costumes shows for STC. She would like to thank Craig for his vision and sparking her creative side, as well as Cindy for “teaching her the ropes”. In addition, Debbie also thanks her husband for tolerating a house full of fabric and costumes, as well as driving all over the tri-state area to secure the perfect fabric or accessory.

**Melody Sheehan** (Properties Master) is currently serving as Properties Coordinator for both Muni and STC, and if a show needs an odd or hard-to-find item onstage, we all call on Melody! Most recently, she designed props for *Wedding Singer, Rock of Ages, and On Golden Pond* (STC); *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (HCFTA); and *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (Muni). While all the areas’ theaters take advantage of her services, Melody still has the time, dedication, and open heart needed as a licensed home day care provider for over 30 years. Remarkable!!

**Clare Hart** (Co-Makeup Designer) has been a volunteer at Muni and STC for many years and on stage recently in *Rock of Ages and Hair*. Clare is a Parent Educator at Washington Middle School and enjoys singing in the Blessed Sacrament Choir and with Dr. Bob and the Bobettes. Thanks to Ed, Megan, Kevin, Butterscotch and Lucky for all of their support!

**Stacy Kolaz** (Co-Makeup Designer) has been involved in many productions for Muni, STC, HCFTA, TIP and many local high schools. She has designed for many productions around Springfield including Muni’s *Beauty and the Beast, Dreamgirls, Shrek, Seussical and South Pacific*. She would like to thank her family and friends for their constant love and support!

**Taylor Fishburn** (Production Coordinator) has been involved on-stage in several productions at Muni, STC, and the HCFTA for the past 10 years. This is her first time taking on a behind-the-scenes role. Thanks to Jake Smith and Craig for this opportunity!

**Kevin Zepp** (Lighting Designer) has been lighting designer for countless local productions. Recent credits include: *Sweeney Todd, Cabaret, and West Side Story* for Muni, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *The Mikado* at HCFTA, and *Brighton Beach Memoirs* for the UIS Theatre Department. Kevin completed his master’s degree in computer science at UIS and now works there as a network engineer and adjunct instructor.
Best of Luck!
Thanks for all of the Wonderful Memories!

I am honored to serve as Illinois State Representative for the 99th District!

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RSM, Illini Bank, Maynerich Financial, and Springfield Clinic for supporting the arts in our community;
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Auditions

The Hoogland Center for the Arts and their dedicated staff for providing a terrific location for auditions and rehearsals;
Audition Workshop: Dan Humphries, Christie Lazarides, Andrew Maynerich, The McLaughlin Family, Shelly Flickinger & Julie Herpel
Audition check in table: Hope Cherry, Katina Price, Paula Kaplan, Morgan Kaplan, Annette Settles, Cindy Wall, Dan Bonn, Ann Opferman, Gil Opferman, Stacy Kolaz, Shelley Flickinger, Michelle McLaughlin, Dan Frachey, Mary Matheny, and Genevieve Kaplan
Timers: Dora Rotello, Stephan Kaplan
Vocal Warm Ups: Bill Bauser, Jr., Kristie Bonn, Mel Pinter
Readers: Ada Lynn Shrewsbury, Jennifer Jones, Pat Foster, Lindsay Rudd, Jim Leach, Sandra Fritz, & Liz Donathan
Dance: Anna Bussing, Lola Gehrke, Morgan Kaplan and Tiffany Reich
Accompanists: Damien Kaplan, Dave Barnes, Mark Gifford, Deb Watts, Cory Brown, Bill Bauser, Jr., Tyler Maul and Mary Harmon
Special Services: Don Russell, Brad Wheeler
Children’s Auditions: Sara Goeckner, Bailee Brinkman, Lola Gehrke, Taryn Grant
Children’s Auditions Accompanists: Tyler Maul, Cory Brown
Host/Hostess: Ann Opferman, Stacy Kolaz, Jack McLaughlin and Shelly Flickinger
Photos: Donna Lounsberry
Audition Confirmation: Paula Kaplan and Shelly Flickinger
HyVee & Godfather’s Pizza for providing food for audition volunteers and show staffs during auditions.

Additional Thanks

The staff at Sangamon Auditorium Box Office for skillfully handling our ticket reservations and Phyllis Eubanks, John Cark, Gary Moore, Judy Carlisle and Kyle Hicks for working night after night in the ticket booth giving quick and cheerful service;
Bank of Jacksonville, Lube Master, Bank of Springfield, The Cardologist, Pease’s Candy, The Wardrobe and Williamsville State Bank & Trust for selling our season tickets;
The City of Springfield and CWLP Lake Services for mowing our parking areas;
Springfield Police Department for traffic control assistance following every performance;
Godfather’s Pizza for their generous donation of cups, lids, straws and napkins;
The State Journal-Register, Illinois Times, WICS News Channel 20, and our local radio stations for helping to spread Muni Magic;
Springfield Theatre Centre for prop assistance;
Inez Berg who works tirelessly with the Muni landscaping and flowers that provides such an ideal setting for Muni Magic;
Springfield Civic Garden Club for the beautiful flowerbed at our entrance;
John Shafer, Abe Stutsman, Morton Buildings, Mark Grigski, Goodman Fence, G & G Concrete, Ridings Plumbing, B & B Electric, Brent Stage Lighting, and VonBehren Builders for all of their wonderful work in the development and construction of our new Lundgren-Ruble Building.
B&B Electric for assistance with various electrical needs at The Muni.
Mary Bonn, Jeremy Goeckner and Anna McFarland for their graphic design assistance;
Patrick Souva and Jeremy Goeckner for updates to the website;
Wayne, Jeri & Madeline Becker from the Morris-onville Clothing Store for costume assistance;
Ben Shafer for assistance with Muni announcements;
And a very special thanks to our many volunteers who work tirelessly in every capacity to ensure that your summer is filled with music, memories and Muni Magic!
Come in today and find your style with help from the expert lighting stylists at Springfield Electric Lighting & Design.

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