

# The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

October 2021

Dear theater family & friends,

Welcome back to our first live musical since 2018! We thank you for your willingness to wear a mask to be sure we can remain open and continue to provide live theatre arts opportunities to our community.

Brookfield Theatre is so thankful and grateful for the many people who reached out with their moral and financial support throughout this past year. Please see our thank you page for a list of the many people who make it possible for us to continue our work despite the financial constraints of the pandemic. There are also untold volunteer hours spent behind the scenes. I am continually humbled by the dedication of the actors, and the artistic and production teams in the creating of these shows.

Please be assured that we are taking reasonable precautions concerning the Covid-19 pandemic including requiring vaccinations to allow for a larger audiences, along with cleaning and ventilation protocols. Please be thoughtful of your fellow patrons throughout the show. The Town of Brookfield still has a mask mandate in place, so masks are required indoors at all times, even if you are fully vaccinated. We look forward to when we can enjoy live theatre without interruption. In the meantime, please be patient as the protocols change regularly. We are committed to bringing you live performances while keeping audiences and theatre makers safe.

Please watch our web site and emails for an announcement of our 2022 season—Brookfield Theatre's 65th anniversary year as an all volunteer non-profit organization, providing a brave space for the arts. Brookfield Theatre relies on our loyal patrons to continue the work of providing a creative center for the Brookfield community. Please help us spread the word!

*Enjoy the show,*

Lou Okell, President

## COMING UP

Virtual **The Taming of the Shrew**—Oct 24 Premiere

Spotlight **All Together Now!**—Nov. 12-15

**Dot**—December 10-18

**[www.BrookfieldTheatre.org](http://www.BrookfieldTheatre.org)**

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For the safety of performers, the courtesy of patrons, and in compliance with CDC recommendations, please follow current mask & social distance guidelines. Remain seated throughout the performance and mingle with cast and friends outdoors after the show. Please use all exits.

# [title of show]

music & lyrics by **JEFF BOWEN**

book by **HUNTER BELL**

directed/musical directed by **DAVID ANCTIL**

choreographed by **FAITH FERNANDES**

## STARRING

*Jeff* . . . . . **Nick Mason**

*Hunter* . . . . . **Rob Bassett**

*Heidi* . . . . . **Jami Valzania**

*Susan* . . . . . **Jennifer Beveridge**

*Mary* . . . . . **Sarah Fay**

*Running time approx. 90 minutes–no intermission.*

[title of show] was originally produced on Broadway by

Kevin McCollum, Jeffrey Seller, Roy Miller,

Laura Camien, Kris Stewart, Vineyard Theatre and LAMS Productions

at the Lyceum Theatre, where it opened on July 17, 2008.

Originally produced by the Vineyard Theatre, New York City, February 2006

[title of show] was originally presented by Bridge Club Productions at the 2004

New York Musical Theatre Festival

**[TITLE OF SHOW] is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.  
[www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)**

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**<https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists>**

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For the safety of performers, the courtesy of patrons, and in compliance with copyright laws, the taking photos or recordings of any kind is strictly prohibited. **PLEASE TURN OFF ALL** non-essential electronic devices as they can interfere with our technical systems. **Patrons are welcome to text or tweet in the lobby.**

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## BIOGRAPHIES—CAST



**Rob Bassett (HUNTER)** is so happy to be back on the Brookfield stage after a five-year break from performing. He most recently appeared in the 2016 TheatreWorks New Milford production of [TITLE OF SHOW] and is grateful for the opportunity to revisit this charming musical in the same role. Previous Brookfield Theatre credits include RENT (Mark), GODSPELL (We Beseech Thee), INTO THE WOODS (Jack), and HAIR (Woof). He sends love to his family and friends and to the fantastic cast and creative team. And he thanks YOU for coming out to enjoy and support local community theatre!



**Jennifer Beveridge (SUSAN)** was most recently seen as Katherine Plummer in NEWSIES (Curtain Call) and April in COMPANY. Other recent performances include Deirdre in I HATE HAMLET (Center Stage) and Wendy in PETER PAN (New Paradigm). She also co-produced the Off-Broadway stage reading COST OF TECHNOLOGY on Theater Row. She was nominated by Broadway World CT as Best Younger Actress for her role as Dodger in New Paradigm's OLIVER! and received a Seven Angel's Halo Award for Best Leading Actress in 2017. While pursuing her onstage career Jen has worked behind the scenes professionally as assistant director, stage manager and co-producer in the CT and NY area. "I am super excited to perform my first show here at Brookfield and would like to thank my family and friends for their constant support!"



**Nick Mason (JEFF)** From Atlanta to NYC, and now Connecticut! This recent Danbury resident is making his Brookfield Theatre debut. Nick works for the National Audubon Society and received a BFA in Musical Theatre from Shorter College and an MS in Media Management from the New School. His professional credits include Nicky/Trekkie Monster in AVENUE Q, Moritz in SPRING AWAKENING, Bud Frump in HOW TO SUCCEED..., and Leo in THE VIBRATOR PLAY. Much like Jeff, Nick enjoys birds, comic books, and obsessing over musicals. Thanks to the cast and crew for welcoming me into your family. All my love to Brian. "Only connect!" —E.M. Forster



**Jami Valzania (HEIDI)** is stoked to be back at Brookfield Theatre for another amazing show! Before the pandemic she was seen in Green Day's AMERICAN IDIOT as Saint Jimmy. She would like to thank her parents for letting her eat dinner at their house up the street before rehearsal. Jami would also like to thank her director and friend, David, for giving her this incredible experience.



**Sarah Fay (MARY)** is thrilled to return to the Brookfield stage in a role with lines. She has musically directed over 30 shows, including BTA's recent productions of SWEENEY TODD, and BEST LITTLE WHOREHOUSE. She teaches voice at Frederick Gunn School, and piano at Bearclaw's Academy of Music in New Milford. Sarah lives in New Milford with her husband Chris, whom she met on this stage—dreams do come true.

## BIOGRAPHIES – CREATIVE



**Jeff Bowen (MUSIC & LYRICS)** wrote the music and lyrics for and starred in the Broadway musical [TITLE OF SHOW] (Obie Award). Additionally, he has written music and lyrics for NOW. HERE. THIS. (Vineyard Theatre), VILLAINS TONIGHT! (Walt Disney Company), and the theme songs for the web series the [TITLE OF SHOW] show and SQUAD '85. His songs can be heard on the original cast albums of [TITLE OF SHOW] and NOW. HERE. THIS., as well as Broadway Bares Openings and Over the Moon: The Broadway Lullaby Project. He is a proud member of ASCAP, AEA, the Writers Guild, the Dramatists Guild and the National Audubon Society. He serves as a faculty member of the National Theatre Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center.



**Hunter Bell (Book)** earned an Obie Award, a Drama League nomination, and a Tony nomination for Best Book of a Musical for the Broadway musical [TITLE OF SHOW]. Other credits include books for NOW. HERE. THIS., FOUND (Drama Desk Nomination, Outstanding Book of a Musical), SILENCE! THE MUSICAL (Lucille Lortel Nomination, Outstanding Musical), BELLOBRATION! (Ringling Bros. Circus), VILLAINS TONIGHT! (Disney Cruise Lines), Other World, and Julie Andrews' THE GREAT AMERICAN MOUSICAL. He is a co-creator of the web series "the [TITLE OF SHOW] show" and has developed television with ABC Studios. Hunter is a proud graduate and distinguished alumnus of Webster University's Conservatory of Theatre Arts, a member of the Dramatists Guild, Writers Guild, and a MacDowell Fellow. @huntbell



**David Antcil (DIRECTOR & MUSIC DIRECTOR)** is excited to be making his Brookfield Theatre directorial debut with [TITLE OF SHOW]! Past directing and MD highlights include 13, XANADU, LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, GODSPELL, RENT, and LUCKY STIFF. David has also acted in regional and community theatre productions across the region, including AMERICAN IDIOT (Johnny), ...SPELLING BEE (William Barfée), AVENUE Q (Brian), A CHORUS LINE (Mike), GREASE (Kenickie), FOOTLOOSE (Willard), and HELLO, DOLLY! (Ambrose). David does UX and operations work in the non-profit world for a living, and spends his free time off-stage traveling, learning languages, and advocating for equitable education opportunities across the country. A million thanks to my cast, creatives, and crew; you're all this person's favorite thing. Break legs and congratulations!!



**Faith Fernandes (CHOREOGRAPHER)** is excited to be part of this great production team! This is the first show she has worked on since theatre has reopened and she is thrilled! This is the first show she has choreographed as well so happy to say Die Vampire Die. She was most recently in Brookfield theater 's virtual MR. BURNS (Colleen/Bart). Her favorite credits include AMERICAN IDIOT, IN THE HEIGHTS, and WEST SIDE STORY. Best of luck to the cast and thank you to David for believing in my dancing skills I will be forever grateful! Let's slay some vampires!

## BIOGRAPHIES – CREATIVE



**Sarah Denn (STAGE MANAGER)** is thrilled to be working with these g'nerds to bring you [TITLE OF SHOW]! Sarah has been hanging around Brookfield Theatre for a few years now and can show you where they keep the cool, secret stuff.

**Stephen Cihanek (LIGHTING CONSULTANT-2012 Volunteer of the Year)** After studying theater and engineering in college, his interest in theater returned while attending the First Baptist Church in Brewster where he took on the role of technical director and lighting/sound designer (and sometimes actor) for many shows. Since then he has designed lights for Brookfield and other local theaters. Shows include AMERICAN IDIOT, LOST IN YONKERS, SWEENEY TODD, FROST/NIXON, DAMN YANKEES, THE FANTASTICKS, COMPANY, GODSPELL, BLITHE SPIRIT, GOD OF CARNAGE, DIVINE SISTER, BE A GOOD LITTLE WIDOW, INTO THE WOODS, BOOK OF LIZ, SPELLING BEE, HARVEY, DIVINERS, DINNER WITH FRIENDS, AS BEES IN HONEY DROWN, PUTTING IT TOGETHER, OUTWARD BOUND, MASTER CLASS, LITTLE RED & THE HOODS, lighting consultant for BLOOD AT THE ROOT, and sound design for THOU SHALT NOT DANCE, TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE, and GODSPELL. Steve is also Brookfield Theatre's house photographer. Visit him at Cihanek.com.

**Catherine Malek (PROJECTIONIST)** is happy to return to Brookfield Theatre after a long hiatus. Catherine is the president of the Brookfield Arts Commission and has dedicated a tremendous amount of volunteer time in promoting the arts in the Brookfield region.

**Andrew Okell (SET DESIGNER & BUILDER-2011 Volunteer of the Year)** first started in theatre at the tender age of 8 in THE TIME MACHINE. He has been building and designing sets at Brookfield since 2008. Favorites include LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS, MOONLIGHT & MAGNOLIAS (Rose Brand Best Amateur Set Design 2012), STEEL MAGNOLIAS, LION IN WINTER, MOON OVER BUFFALO, and personal favorite NOISES OFF. Thank you to building cohorts Bob Lane, Don Lombardo, and Larry Coleman for enabling me.

**Lou Okell (SOUND TECHNICIAN-2009 Vol. of the Year)** currently serves as theatre president. Huge respect to David and the entire team for such tremendous work in bringing back LIVE musical theatre to the Brookfield stage! Love always to Andy and Emma. *Please help us spread the word about the wonderful work being done here!*

**Mason Sacco (LIGHTING TECHNICIAN)** is normally seen on stage as a singer/songwriter and made his theatrical debut at Brookfield as Tunny in AMERICAN IDIOT. Mason is happy to be using his skills on the technical team for [TITLE OF SHOW].

**Jeanne Steers (GALLERY CURATOR)** is a professional artist and a graduate of RISD. Known for her dynamic and colorful paintings, Jeanne Steers works mainly in acrylic or wax oil crayon on shaped masonite board. Find out more at JeanneSteers.com

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to [title of show]!

As a lifelong theatre nerd, I was so excited when presented with the opportunity to mount this show at the beautiful Brookfield Theatre. [title of show] is perhaps one of the funniest, sassiest, most ridiculous musicals I have ever seen—but at the same time, it's a show with considerable heart. It explores the idea of creating art not only from a procedural view, but also the true-to-life breakthroughs, hurdles, moments of joy, sacrifices, trials, and tribulations that the characters experience throughout the process. The question of is it better to be nine people's favorite thing or a hundred people's ninth-favorite thing? is one that every creator copes with as they explore their own artistic expression.

Putting this show together was truly a joy. I have had the immense fortune of being surrounded by incredibly generous and hardworking friends working to create what you're seeing tonight—people like Lou, Faith, our two Sarahs, Steve, and Andy—as well as a cast made up of some of the most talented people performing in the region. I have endless gratitude, love, and appreciation for all of you, and am so proud of what we have been able to create together.

Please sit back and enjoy the show!

Regards,  
David Anctil  
Director, [title of show]

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## IN THE GALLERY

### **NOW SHOWING in our lobby gallery: Paintings by Anne Marie Foran**

We are happy to feature the paintings of Anne Marie Foran in the Brookfield Theatre Gallery throughout October and November. Gallery hours are before and after all performances of “[title of show]” and by appointment.

Anne Marie has won many awards and her works appear in numerous galleries and private collections. Noted for her vivid use of color, Anne Marie was recently awarded first prize in the Members' Exhibition at the Washington Art Association.

The Gallery is curated by artist Jeanne Steers. Artists interested in showing are encouraged to contact the theater email: BrookfieldTheatreCT@gmail.com.

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choreographed by **FAITH FERNANDES**

## **PRODUCTION CREW**

DIRECTOR & MUSICAL DIRECTOR . . . . . David Anctil  
CHOREOGRAPHER . . . . . Faith Fernandes  
ACCOMPANIST . . . . . Sarah Fay  
STAGE MANAGER & PROPS . . . . . Sarah Denn  
SET DESIGN & DECORATION . . . . . Andrew Okell, David Anctil  
LIGHTING DESIGN . . . . . David Anctil  
LIGHTING CONSULTANT . . . . . Stephen Cihanek  
LIGHTING TECHNICIAN . . . . . Mason Sacco  
SOUND TECHNICIAN . . . . . Lou Okell  
PROJECTIONIST . . . . . Catherine Malek  
HEADSHOT PHOTOGRAPHER . . . . . Nicole Morley  
HOUSE PHOTOGRAPHER . . . . . Stephen Cihanek  
POSTER DESIGN . . . . . Anna Hicks  
GALLERY CURATOR . . . . . Jeanne Steers  
VOLUNTEER MANAGER . . . . . Joy Tagliavento  
BOX OFFICE MANAGER . . . . . Danette Bottelsen

### **Special Thanks**

Liz Milazzo and Savers of Brookfield, Arketype Graphics,  
Gretchen Levitz, Missy Slaymaker-Hanlon, Noah Leibowitz

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## **EMERGENCY FIRE NOTICE**

Please observe the **EXIT** sign nearest to the seat which you occupy. It is the shortest route to the exterior of the building. In the unlikely event of an emergency, theatre personnel will be available to assist your orderly departure.

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