NOVEMBER THEATRE ARENSTEIN STAGE



The Beloved Broadway Phenomenon!



BOOK BY
JESSIE NELSON

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
SARA BAREILLES

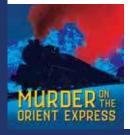
DIRECTED BY RICK HAMMERLY

BASED UPON THE MOTION PICTURE WRITTEN BY ADRIENNE SHELLY

JOIN US # 2025/26 SEASON

rep

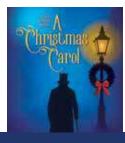
A Pulitzer Prize-winning drama, a classic Whodunnit, a side-splitting comedic romp, an enduring family favorite, and the regional premiere of a beloved Broadway musical—the 2025/2026 Season at Virginia Rep is certain to thrill and delight Richmond audiences!



Murder on the Orient Express

SEPT 11 - OCT 12, 2025

All Aboard for Murder



A Christmas Carol

NOV 28 - DEC 28, 2025

One Night. Three Ghosts. A Lifetime Changed.

Deathtrap

DEC 12, 2025 - JAN 18, 2026

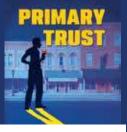
A comic thriller that's funny... until it's fatal.

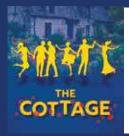


Primary Trust

MAR 5 - 29, 2026

Welcome friend, you're right on time

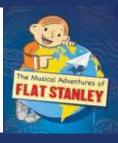




The Cottage

MAR 27 - APR 26, 2026

Tea's hot. So is the scandal.



The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley

APR 8 - MAY 3, 2026

A Family Musical Adventure that is Flat-Out Fun!

Come from Away

JUN 18 - AUG 2, 2026

38 planes. 6,579 passengers. 1 remarkable town.



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Book **Jessie Nelson**

Music and Lyrics by Sara Bareilles

Based upon the motion picture written by Adrienne Shelly

Orchestrations by Sara Bareilles & The Waitress Band

Music by Arrangement with Sony Music Publishing Originally Produced on Broadway by Barry and Fran Weissler Norton and Elavne Herrick

David I. Berley Independent Presenters Network A.C. Orange International Peter May Michael Roiff Ken Schur Marisa Sechrest Jam Theatricals 42nd.club/Square I Theatrics Benjamin Simpson & Joseph Longthorne/Shira Friedman Alecia Parker, Executive Producer

Original motion picture produced by Michael Roiff/Night & Day Pictures
World premiere produced by the American Repertory Theatre at Harvard University, August 2, 2015
Diane Paulus, Artistic Director and Diane Borger, Producer
Peter Duchan, Script Consultant for A.R.T. Production

DIRECTED BY

Rick Hammerly[^]

MUSIC DIRECTION

Leilani Fenick

SCENIC DESIGN

Mercedes Schaum

LIGHTING DESIGN

Joe Doran+

SOUND DESIGN

Jonathan Pratt

CHOREOGRAPHY

Paul Dandridge[^]

COSTUME DESIGN

Sarah Gradv

PROJECTION DESIGN

Dasia Gregg

STAGE MANAGEMENT

Abby Bobb*

FIGHT & INTIMACY DIRECTION

Casey Kaleba

SHOW SPONSOR



SEASON SPONSORS







E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

The Mary Morton Parsons Foundation









CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

| Jenna | Emelie Faith Thompson* |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Becky | Miya Bass* |
| Dawn | Kylee Márquez-Downie |
| Cal | William Vaughn |
| Joe | Joe Pabst |
| Earl | Greg Twomey* |
| Nurse Norma/Ensemble, U/S Becky | Imani Blair Crosby |
| Dr. Pomatter | Terence Sullivan |
| Ogie | Bear Manescalchi |
| 5 | Lindy Pokorny |
| • • | Calvin Malone* |
| Ensemble. U/S Dawn | Brie Ramirez |
| Ensemble, U/S Ogie | Mason Jett |
| | Patrick Rooney |
| | David Ramirez |
| | Sarah White Pruden |
| · , | Audrey Baker |
| | Jennifer Lent Hamilton |
| | Garrett D. Reese |
| | Emily Goodman, Phoebe Janosik, Josie Sledd |
| | Maria Carpinelli |
| • | Joey Gravins |
| Swing | Joey Gravilis |

FOR THIS PRODUCTION

| Assistant Stage Manager | Donna Warfield* |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Production Assistant | Katie Willard-O'Neill |
| Dance Captain | Calvin Malone* |
| Assistant Lighting Designer | Kacey Yachuw |
| Carpenters | Liz Allmon, Avery Glenn, |
| | Van Montes |
| Scenic Artist | Julie Gallager |
| Electricians | Liz Allmon, Weston Corey |
| Stitchers | Genna Beth Davidson, |
| | Sarah Grady, Mary Nagler |
| Deck Crew Lilith Fulcher-Davis, D | Paryus Gazder, Amber Hooper, Devon Kistler |
| Fly Rail Operators Justin Janke, M | ark Persinger, Shawn Goodman°, Hans Paul° |
| Wardrobe Supervisor | Emily Andrew Mateos |
| Dresser | Rowan Sullivan |
| Audio Engineer | Jonathan Pratt |
| Light Board Operator | Jeff Meisner |
| Follow Spot Operators | Terra Comer, |
| | Logan Graves, Reese Hardy, Kacey Yachuw° |
| Photographer | Aaron Sutten |
| Videographer | |
| Front Cover Photography | Ben White |

[°] Substituting at select performances

BAND

| Keyboard 1/Conductor | Leilani Fenick |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Keyboard 2 | lan Krauss |
| Guitar 1 | Forrest Link |
| Guitar 2 | Jeremiah Martin |
| Cello | Ned Haskins |
| Bass | Beatrice Kelly |
| Drums | Bentley Cobb |

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act 1

| What's Inside | Jenna and Company |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Opening Up | Jenna, Becky, Dawn, |
| | Cal and Company |
| The Negative | Jenna, Becky, Dawn |
| Club Knocked Up | Ensemble |
| What Baking Can Do | Jenna |
| When He Sees Me | Dawn |
| It Only Takes a Taste | Dr. Pomatter, Jenna |
| You Will Still Be Mine | Earl |
| A Soft Place to Land | Jenna, Becky, Dawn |
| Never Getting Rid of Me | Ogie and Company |
| Bad Idea | Jenna, Dr. Pomatter |

Act 2

| | Becky Jenna, Dr. Pomatter, Becky, Cal, Dawn, Ogie and Company |
|------------------------------|---|
| · - | Jenna |
| You Matter to Me | Dr. Pomatter, Jenna |
| I Love You Like a Table | Ogie, Dawn and Company |
| Take It From an Old Man | Joe and Company |
| She Used to Be Mine | Jenna |
| What's Inside (Reprise) | Company |
| Everything Changes (Part I) | Jenna, Becky, Dawn |
| Everything Changes (Part II) | Jenna and Company |
| Opening Up (Finale) | |

This play is approximately 2 hours and 15 minutes with one 15 minute intermission.

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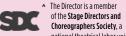
SPECIAL THANKS TO

Ashley Van Driesen, Chimborazo Elementary, Monica Spoonhour at Just Us Butterfly Braiders, Pies and Cakes RVA, Proper Pie Company, Rich's Stitches Inc., Sarah Holt, USA Med Bed LLC



* Appearing through an Agreement between Virginia Rep and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.







Audrey Baker, she/her, (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making her debut at Virginia Repertory Theatre with this talented team! Audrey is a Washington DC-based actor whose recent credits include NextStop Theatre: Footloose; Constellation Theatre: Desperate Measures; Creative Cauldron: Chicks in Heaven, Madeline's Christmas; Workhouse Arts Center: Xanadu, Urinetown, The Who's Tommy. A California Bay Area native, Audrey performed in San Francisco for many years, favorite roles including Kate Monster/Lucy in Avenue Q

and Muriel in On a Clear Day You Can See Forever.



Miya Bass (Becky) is an actor hailing from Jamaica, Queens NY. Her recent achievements include being a contestant on *The Voice*, working with celebrity coaches Adam Levine and Alicia Keys. Miya has also performed leading roles in several musical theater productions: *Aida, Sister Act, Lion King, Rent, The Wiz, Little Shop of Horrors*, and many others. Aside from performing arts, Miya also expresses an immense passion for mental health, and provides psychotherapy within her community. She can be found on Apple

Music, Sound cloud, Spotify, Youtube, and on all social media platforms as Miya Mayo Bass.



Maria Carpinelli, she/her, (Swing) is so thrilled to be a part of this beautiful show! She is a brand new graduate from James Madison University (Go Dukes!) where she graduated with her degree in musical theatre. Most recently, Maria has been seen in Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812 at JMU (Sonya), Dragons Love Tacos at VA Rep (Leroy the Dog), and finished up her time at JMU as Jenny Hill in Big Fish! She is so excited to be joining this team and hopes you enjoy the show! Bring tissues!



Imani Blair Crosby (Ensemble/Nurse Norma, U/S Becky) is a dynamic rapper, singer, and songwriter from Richmond, Virginia, with music featured on HBO, MTV, and Hulu. A three-time Webby Award-winning podcast producer, she also co-produced *Hypocrite: The Musical.* Recently, Imani starred in *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* and *Legally Blonde: The Musical.* She proudly dedicates this performance to her phenomenal parents, thanking them for their unwavering belief in her.



Joey Gravins, he/him, (Swing) is excited to be back at Virginia Repertory Theatre for their production of Waitress. Past VA Rep credits include; Gold: The Midas Musical, The Emperor's New Clothes, The Santa Clues, and Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed: The Rock Experience. Other credits Include; Count Dracula, Drifty's Picture-Perfect Holiday, and Schoolhouse Rock Live (Swift Creek Mill Theatre); Saturday Night Fever and Grease (Riverside Center); The Sound of Music (Wintergreen Resort); Firebringer (Dogwood)

Dell); *Plaid Tidings* (HTC); and he was last seen in *Snapshots: A Musical Scrapbook* (HATTheatre). He would like to thank his family and friends for their support. For Papa.



Emily Goodman (Lulu) is thrilled to be making her stage debut with Virginia Rep in *Waitress*. She is looking forward to starting Kindergarten at her brother's school this fall and dreams of becoming an artist when she grows up.



Jennifer Lent Hamilton (Ensemble) is excited to return for a second season with VA Rep having performed in 9 to 5 The Musical (u/s Roz/Ensemble) last summer. Favorite roles include Carol Strong in Catch Me if You Can (Virginia Musical Theater), Ms. Mazeppa in Gypsy (VMT), Blanche in Brighton Beach Memoirs (Williamsburg Players) and Miss Shields in A Christmas Story (Fort Lee Playhouse). A HoliDiva with Zeider's American Dream Theater in Va Beach, Jennifer has performed with Legends in Concert and The Lost Colony and is a

Dance Professor at CNU. She has a BA in Theater from W&M, and an MFA in Dance Performance & Choreography from FSU. @jandmproductions, @jk_lent



Phoebe Janosik (Lulu) is super excited to be in her first professional show and to follow in her dad's footsteps on the November stage! She is a rising kindergartner and she loves dogs, chickens, and ice cream. She would like to send her love and appreciation to her supportive big sister Lucy, and her amazing, loving, brilliant and perfect parents for driving her around (and writing her bio for her). Enjoy the show!



Mason Jett, he/him, (Ensemble) is thrilled to be performing in his second show with Virginia Rep this summer in Waitress. He was last seen onstage as Edward in James Madison University's production of Big Fish and before that as Anatole in their production of Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812. He graduated this May with a B.A in Musical Theatre and a minor in Nonprofit Studies from James Madison University. He would like to thank his family for their unconditional support and all those that keep pushing him to pursue this dream!



Calvin Malone, he/him, (Ensemble/Dance Captain, U/S Dr. Pomatter) - Calvin is elated to be back at the November for another summer! Recent Richmond appearances include Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and 9 to 5 The Musical at Virginia Rep, and Which Way to the Stage and Head Over Heels (RTCC nom) at Richmond Triangle Players. Regional credits include Signature Theatre, Olney Theatre Center, Studio Tenn, Virginia Music Theatre, Nashville Repertory Theatre, Kentucky Repertory Theatre, Riverside Center for the

Performing Arts, Toby's Theatre of Columbia, ATMTC, and more. Special thanks to Troy, his family and loved ones for their unconditional support. As always, this is for Mom <3 @ calvinsings



Bear Manescalchi, he/they, (Ogie) is clogging at the bit to jump into *Waitress* as Ogie with Virginia Rep! It is an honor to be a part of such a beautiful show. Having just shot off of *The Tina Tour* as Phil Spector, recent credits include many Frankie Valli's in *Jersey Boys*, Seymour in *Little Shop*, Motel in *Fiddler*, Hector in *Murder on the Orient Express*, and Watson in *Baskerville*. He also sang and performed on Disney Cruise Line and at Universal Japan. Much love to their wonderful supportive family/closest humans: AA,DA,KB,SB,KM,BS,JS. Instagram: @bearquat3



Kylee Márquez-Downie (Dawn) is delighted to return to the November stage for the first time since playing Dolly Proton in *Santa's Enchanted Workshop*! Recent credits include Margot in *H*tler's Tasters* (5th Wall Theatre), Eliante in *The School for Lies* (RTCC award nominee: Best Supporting Actress, Best Ensemble, Best Play), Lucinda in *Into the Woods*, Imogen in *Cymbeline* (Bootleg), Diana in *All's Well That Ends Well* (Richmond Shakespeare), Cecily in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and Wendla

in *Spring Awakening* (TheatreVCU). Kylee holds a BFA in Performance and minors in MT and marketing from VCU. She thanks her parents for all their love and support, and her abuelo for telling her to "just do a musical already".

@itsmarqymarq | www.kyleemarquezdownie.com



Joe Pabst, he/him, (Joe) is excited to join this talented team, and to play a character with such a great name! Previous Virginia Rep roles include Lumiere in Beauty & the Beast; Mayor Shinn in The Music Man; Inspector Andre in Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (Richmond Theatre Community Circle award nominee); and many more. Joe has received RTCC awards for Faith Healer and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead (produced by Richmond Shakespeare). He shares his life with his wonderful wife Debra Wagoner and their fur family. "Stress cannot exist in the presence of a pie." – David Mamet



Lindy Pokorny, she/her, (Ensemble, U/S Jenna) is ecstatic to be part of this dream-come-true production. Favorite past credits include Much Ado About Nothing (Richmond Shakespeare), BKLYN (Swift Creek Mill; RTCC Best Musical), Beautiful: The Carol King Musical (Virginia Rep; RTCC Best Musical), Mamma Mia (Homefront Players), A Broadway Christmas (Virginia Rep), and Julie, Monster (OC, Firehouse Theatre/RVA Baroque). She has a BA in Theatre Performance from Wagner College in New York City. Infinite love and gratitude to Mom, Dad, Nana, Skyler, and Sina.



Sarah White Pruden, she/her, (Ensemble, U/S Nurse Norma) is absolutely thrilled to be back on the Virginia Rep stage! Some of her favorite regional credits include: Little Shop of Horrors (Audrey), Grease (Marty), Hairspray (Prudy Pingleton), The Music Man, and Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. Proud Alumna of Theatre VCU. Sarah considers herself incredibly lucky to teach her passion as she is the Theatre teacher at Glen Allen High School. Huge thank you to my wonderfully supportive family and friends. "Have courage and be kind!"



Brie Ramirez (Ensemble, U/S Dawn) is thrilled to make her regional theatre debut! She holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Lynn University, where favorite credits include Velma in *Chicago* and Eva Perón in *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber.* She was honored to perform "All That Jazz" for Chita Rivera. Originally from the Bronx, she sends love and gratitude to her family, partner, friends, and Virginia Rep for this opportunity.



David Ramirez, he/they, (Ensemble) was born and raised in the Richmond region. He attended VCU where he earned degrees in both Philosophy & Urban Planning. He's super excited and grateful to be able to work with Virginia Rep again, after performing in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Swing), 9 to 5 The Musical (Ensemble, Detective), Beautiful: The Carole King Musical (Swing) and in Mamma Mia (Ensemble, Harry u/s). David's other Richmond theatre credits include: Billy Lawlor in 42nd Street at Dogwood Dell and Freddy in

Carrie: The Musical with 5th Wall Theatre company.



Garrett D. Reese, he/him, (Ensemble) is a Richmond, Virginia-based actor, singer, dancer, and educator. His notable credits include One in *Two* at Richmond Triangle Players, Bob Enright in 9 to 5 The Musical, Scrooge in Scrooge No More, Cityweed in BKLYN, and Clark in Firebringer. He has also performed as a soloist at New York's The West End Lounge Cabaret. Garrett is thrilled to be working with Virginia Repertory Theatre again alongside the talented cast and

crew of *Waitress*. He extends his deepest gratitude to the Virginia Repertory team for this incredible opportunity and thanks his friends, partner, and family for their unwavering support. Follow his journey at www.garrettdreese.com or on social media @Garrett.dreese.



Patrick Rooney (Ensemble, U/S Earl) Actor, musician, singer, and director based in Richmond. Selected credits include: Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus, Moriarty, (VA Rep); Buried Child, Roman á Clef (Firehouse Theatre); Straight White Men (TheatreLab); The Lyons (Curtain Call Theatre); Big Maggie (Albany Civic Theatre). Film credits include: Deb and Seth Save the World, Earworm (DSP). Patrick also performs traditional Irish music throughout the region. He'd like to thank his wife. Claire, for her unwavering support.



Josie Sledd, she/her, (Lulu) is thrilled to make her acting debut as Lulu in *Waitress*! She thanks her mom, dad, brother, grandparents, cousins, aunt and uncles, and her beloved cats for their love and support. A big thanks to her dance family at Barbara Hammond School of Dance and her amazing SPARC theater teachers. When she's not on stage, Josie loves building with LEGO. She's excited to share this special moment with everyone—especially her family!



Terence Sullivan, he/him, (Dr. Pomatter) is delighted to return to Virginia Rep's stage, where he previously appeared as Gabe in *Next to Normal*. Other favorite credits include Chris in *Miss Saigon* (Broadway By The Bay), Burrs in *The Wild Party* (Firehouse Theatre), Roger in *Rent*, and Frank N Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show*, for which he received the RTCC Award for Best Actor. Terence is also a digital creator with over one million followers and ongoing writing projects in film and fiction. He's honored to bring Dr. Pomatter to life in *Waitress*.



Emelie Faith Thompson, she/her, (Jenna) is overjoyed to be back at the Rep! Audiences may remember her from *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* (Siobhan) and *MAMMA MIA!* (Donna). Her credits include Off-Broadway's *Night Games* and A.A. Milne's *The Ugly Duckling* (Marvell Repertory Theatre). Regional credits include Mother in *Ragtime* (Shenandoah Summer Music Theatre), the title roles in *Major Barbara* and *Candida* (Washington Stage Guild), Reno in *Anything Goes* (Barter Theatre), Shelby in *Steel Magnolias*

(Wayside Theatre), and Eliza in *My Fair Lady*, Violet in *Violet*, and Annie in *Annie Get Your Gun* (Virginia Theatre Festival). National tours include *A Christmas Carol* and *Miracle on 34th Street*. Love to Nathan and their three babies—may we all be so lucky! IG: @ emeliefaiththompson.



Greg Twomey (Earl) DC AREA: Olney Theatre Center: *Waitress* (Earl). Signature Theatre: *HAIR* (Ensemble), *Ragtime* (Wille Conklin). ArtsCentric: *Rent* (Roger); Toby's Dinner Theatre: *Memphis* (Huey), *Rent* (Roger), *Xanadu* (Sonny); Adventure Theatre: *Oliver* (Bill Sykes), *Petite Rouge* (Gator); EDUCATION: AA in Theatre from Montgomery College, BA in Theatre University of Maryland. Instagram @g2dot



William Vaughn, he/him, (Cal) is thankful to live in the only southern state that still has full access to bodily autonomy, i.e. abortion. Want to keep it that way? Donate to @rrfpva & @valeague4pp, and don't forget to vote for the Virginia Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment in 2026 . Why would he bring this up in the bio for this show in particular? No spoilers! William sends a pie full of love to his family, Chelsea, Penny, and Baxter.

Rick Hammerly, he/him, (Director) See biography on Leadership page.

Leilani Fenick (Music Director) is a professional pianist and vocal coach in the Richmond area. She has collaborated with professional vocalists, performing throughout the US, China, Italy, and Mexico. Some of her most recent shows as a music director include: *Urinetown* (University of Richmond), *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory* (Virginia Repertory Theatre), *Firebringer* (Dogwood Dell), 9 to 5 The Musical (VA Rep), From Up Here (HATTheatre), BKLYN: The Musical (Swift Creek Mill), Something Rotten (Dogwood Dell), Gabriel (Firehouse Theatre), Kiss Me, Kate (Homefront Players), Passing Strange (Firehouse). Many of her shows have been nominated by the Richmond Theatre Community Circle for several awards including Best Musical and Best Musical Director and was recently awarded 2024's Best Musical Director for her work in BKLYN:The Musical (Swift Creek Mill). Mrs. Fenick holds a Master's degree in Piano Performance from VCU. She studied with Dr. Sonia Vlahcevic and Prof. Melanie Day.

Paul Dandridge, he/him, (Choreographer) is a collaborative choreographer who enjoys the process of discovering meaning and purpose behind movement. Paul began teaching and choreographing at Richmond Ballet as an Associate Director of the Minds In Motion program and has transitioned to teaching dance for Henrico High School's Center for the Arts specialty center. Paul has choreographed work for Henrico, Cadence Theatre, and Virginia Rep (*Gold: The Midas Musical* for the Children's Theatre Season, *On Air* at Hanover Tavern, and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* on the November Stage). Thank you Emily and my parents, Beth and Bill, for supporting our girls, Eleanor and Charlotte!

Mercedes Schaum (Scenic Designer) is delighted to be working with the entire Virginia Rep team in the third season at Virginia Rep Center. Mercedes has been designing and painting in Richmond for 20 years. She has been quite busy designing for Naked Mole Rat, Santa Clues, Dragons Love Tacos, Satchmo at the Waldorf, Miss Bennett: Christmas at Pemberley, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, She Persisted, Elephant and Piggie's "We are in a Play!", and GOLD: The Midas Musical & many others for Virginia Rep; Mercedes has also been designing for Swift Creek Mill theatre, VCU Opera, & SPARC. Favorite past designs include Annie, Honk!, A Christmas Story, Mame, The BFG, Song of Mulan, Into the Woods, Bunnicula, and The Magic Flute, for Virginia Rep; and Peter and The Starcatcher and Little Shop of Horrors, and many more for SPARC. She has a BFA from JMU in theatre and an MFA in set design from the University of Illinois. When she's not working in the theatre, Mercedes is raising four kids with her husband, Jason Alley, and creating new projects & taking on new challenges with them all. Love to my supportive & patient family.

Sarah Grady (Costume Designer) has been designing costumes for Richmond audiences since 2004. Recent designs include Dial M for Murder and Moriarty (Virginia Rep) and True West (Cadence). She worked as a Costumer on the Pharrell Williams movie "Atlantis", Apple TV's Swagger and AMC's The Walking Dead: World Beyond. She was the Assistant Costume Director for Virginia Repertory Theatre for 17 years. Favorite designs include Sister Act, West Side Story (RTCC Award for Best Costume Design), In the Heights, Dreamgirls (RTCC Award for Best Costume Design), Junie B. Jones, The Music Man, Spring Awakening, The Sound of Music (Virginia Rep); Fun Home, Violet, The Mountaintop, Caroline or Change, and Appropriate (Cadence). For three lucky summers, Sarah traveled to Roma, Italy, to work with the Operafestival di Roma, where she coordinated the costumes for The Magic Flute, Suor Angelica, The Marriage of Figaro, and Die Fledermaus. She has also worked at TheatreVirginia, Williamstown Theatre Festival, and Seaside Musical Theatre.

Joe Doran (Lighting Designer) Virginia Rep: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, 9 to 5 The Musical, Satchmo at the Waldorf, Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, Mamma Mia, The Silver Belles, Once, Fun Home (Cadence/Virginia Rep), In the Heights, A Christmas Story, Dreamgirls, South Pacific, The Color Purple, A Year With Frog and

Toad. Broadway (Asst. LD): Summer, The Donna Summer Musical, Prince of Broadway, Doctor Zhivago, Magic/Bird. National Tours: Hamilton, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Anything Goes, West Side Story, Flashdance the Musical, In the Heights. On Your Feet. Off Broadway: Chanteuse, H4, and Shakespeare's Slave. NYC Dance: Sean Curran Company, Armitage Gone! Dance, Stephen Petronio Company, Shen Wei Dance Arts, and Martha Graham Dance Company, among others. Regional Credits: Red Mountain Theatre, Bristol Riverside Theatre, The Fulton Theatre, Alpine Theatre Project, The Richmond Ballet, The Atlanta Ballet, Richmond Triangle Players, and Swift Creek Mill Theatre. 10 time recipient of Richmond's "Artsies" Award. Graduate of NC School of the Arts and member of USA Local 829. www.joedorandesign.com

Dasia Gregg (Projection Designer) is a projection and scenic designer based in Richmond, VA. Some recent and favorite credits include Projection Designer for *Misery* (VA Rep), Animator for *The Dragon King's Daughter* (The Kennedy Center), Scenic and Projection Designer for Disney's *Descendants: The Musical* (VCUarts Theatre), Assoc. Projection Designer for *Cinderella: Enchanted* (Flat Rock Playhouse), and Assoc. Projection Designer for *On Your Feet! The Musical* (Gala Hispanic Theatre). Dasia graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts in 2018 with a BFA in Theatre and concentration in Scenic Design.

Jonathan Pratt, he/him, (Sound Designer), is thrilled to be designing again at Virginia Rep where some of his recent designs include Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Ken Ludwig's Moriarty, Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery, Satchmo at the Waldorf, On Air, and 9 to 5: The Musical, the latter two winning the RTCC Award for Outstanding Sound Design of a Musical. At the Rep Family Theatre, Jonathan's favorite shows designed include The Santa Clues and Grace for President. Jonathan also produces, writes, and directs his own audio dramas adaptations of classic literature including Dracula; Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde; War of the Worlds; Jane Eyre; and Alice in Wonderland. Previously, he was the resident sound and projection designer for Camelot Theatre in Talent Oregon where he designed over 40 shows. In addition to design, Jonathan directed Catch Me If You Can and wrote and directed tribute shows to Stephen Sondheim and Motown.

Casey Kaleba (Fight & Intimacy Direction) has arranged violence and intimacy for nearly 600 productions, most recently at Signature Theatre (Soft Power), Wolf Trap Opera (Cosi fan Tutte and Silent Night), and the Glimmerglass Festival (Pagliacci and Elizabeth Cree). He has worked throughout the country, including Northern Stage, Washington National Opera, Ford's Theatre, Round House Theatre, Spoleto Festival USA, Guthrie Theatre, and as an audition choreographer for Marvel Universe Live. A Fight Director and Certified Teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors, Casey holds a PhD in Theatre History from the University of Maryland - College Park. For more of his work go to www. ToothAndClawCombat.com

Abby Bobb, she/her, (Stage Manager) a proud member of AEA is thrilled to be back at VA Rep. Tour Credits: Come From Away, Bartlett Sher's Fiddler on the Roof, A Chorus Line (Tokyo, Japan), South Pacific, An American in Paris, Legally Blonde the Musical. Regional Highlights: Dreamgirls (White Plains Performing Arts Center), Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (VA Rep), Bright Star (Riverside Center for Performing Arts), Last 5 Years, Private Lives. Dance Highlights: Richmond Ballet's: The Nutcracker, American Dance Festival (Durham, NC), Chita Rivera Awards. Proud dog mom to Josie and Finley. Much love to Weston and my family for their unwavering support!

Donna Warfield, she/her, (Assistant Stage Manager) joined Virginia Rep on staff in 2022 and currently serves as Production Associate. Past VA Rep stage management credits include *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Misery, 9 to 5 The Musical, Satchmo at the Waldorf, POTUS, and Gold.* Other notable past stage management credits include *Jersey Boys* (Norwegian Creative Studios), *The Nutcracker* (Atlanta Ballet - Fox Theatre/Kennedy Center), and *Hair* (Serenbe Playhouse). Donna would like to thank her partner Ben, her Mom and brothers, and her friends near and far for their endless support.

LEADERSHIP



RICK HAMMERLY
Artistic Director

Rick has worked as an award-winning actor, director, filmmaker, and arts manager, formerly based in Washington, DC,

for over three decades.

Since moving to Richmond and joining Virginia Repertory Theatre's leadership team, he has directed Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, for which he received an RTCC Award for Best Direction of a Musical, Misery, Martha Mitchell Calling, and After December. In addition, he received a 2018 Helen Hayes Award for his direction of Lela & Co. and a 2020 Helen Hayes Award nomination for his direction of Agnes of God, both for Factory 449. Other directing credits include Dizzy Miss Lizzie's Roadside Revue's The Brontes (New York Musical Theatre Festival), Reykjavik (Rorschach Theatre), Emilie: La Marquise du Châtelet Defends Her Life Tonight (WSC Avant Bard), Driving Miss Daisy featuring Karen Grassle (Riverside Center for the Performing Arts), Junie B. Jones Is Not a Crook (Adventure Theatre MTC). Dead Man Walking (American University), and Closet Land (Factory 449).

As an actor, he has performed Off-Broadway and regionally, receiving a Helen Hayes Award

for his turn as Hedwig in Signature Theatre's production of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, as well as nominations for his work in *Angels in America* (Signature Theatre), *Me and Jezebel* (MetroStage) and *Oliver!* (Adventure Theatre MTC). For ten years, he played Mr. Fezziwig in Ford's Theatre's annual production of *A Christmas Carol* and was most recently seen as Miss Tracy Mills in Round House Theatre's *The Legend of Georgia McBride*.

He is a founder and Producing Artistic Director of Factory 449, the recipient of multiple Helen Hayes Awards, including the John Aniello Award for Outstanding Emerging Theatre Company, and the Executive Director of the Washington Area Performing Arts Video Archive (WAPAVA). For Idle Rich Productions, he wrote, directed, and produced *signage*, his debut film, which screened in over 60 film festivals world wide, garnered 5 festival awards, and was purchased by MTV and programmed on their LOGO channel.

Rick is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC) and Actors' Equity Association (AEA). He received a B.A. in Theatre from the University of Virginia, an M.A. in Film & Video Production from American University, and has completed the coursework for an M.A. in Arts Management, also from AU.



KLAUS SCHULLER Managing Director

Schuller boasts more than 20 years of experience managing the operations of complex, multi- venue and multi-disciplinary

organizations and has produced and presented live, touring and televised events that included collaborations with The Kennedy Center and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, among others.

Known as much for his collaborative nature as his creativity, he has worked on various projects with celebrities such as Martin Short, Eugene Levy, Tina Fey, Catherine O'Hara, Bob Martin, and Dave Thomas.

Most recently, Schuller served as the executive director and producer for Randolph Entertainment, which presented Teatro

ZinZanni and Cabaret ZaZou in partnership with Broadway in Chicago, from 2018-23. He led the planning, construction and launch of a unique new theater in a "forgotten" space that was rediscovered during a hotel renovation that revealed the original grand space inside the historic 1926 building in the Chicago Loop.

Schuller also served as executive director and producer for The Second City Canada from 2005-17, where he supervised the planning and construction of its Mercer Street home in Toronto and planned or led the construction of venues in Toronto, Cleveland and Las Vegas.

"Virginia Rep's exceptional reputation and the diversity and quality of its offerings immediately appealed to me," Schuller said. "I am humbled to have the opportunity to contribute to the incredible legacy the organization has built over the past 70-plus years and its impact on the arts community in Richmond, Central Virginia and beyond.

WRITER & PUBLISHING BIOS (PROVIDED BY MTI)

Jessie Nelson

Jessie Nelson wrote the musical *Waitress* with music and lyrics by Sara Bareilles. The show played on Broadway for 4 years and moved to the West End in London. Sara and Jessie went on to create the show *Little Voice* which they Executive Produced with JJ Abrams for Apple TV. Jessie wrote, directed and produced *Corrina Corrina* and *I Am Sam* staring Sean Penn, who received an Academy Award nomination for his performance. Among her other directing credits are *Curb Your Enthusiasm* and *Love, the Coopers* with Diane Keaton. Her writing credits include *Step Mom* and *The Story of Us*. She produced Fred Claus and Danny Collins. In London, Jessie directed *Alice By Heart* which she co-wrote with Steven Sater with music by Duncan Sheik at the National Theater Connections Program and again at MCC in NYC. She began her career as an actress at the Public Theater working with the award-winning experimental theater Mabou Mines and at the New York Shakespeare Festival. She wrote the children's book <u>Labracadabra</u>. She has been the artistic Director of the Sundance Screen Writers Lab.

Sara Bareilles

Sara Bareilles can next be seen starring in the upcoming Tina Fey's series, GIRLS5EVA. Bareilles first achieved mainstream critical praise in 2007 with her widely successful hit "Love Song," which reached No. 1 in 22 countries around the world from her debut album Little Voice. Since then, Sara has gone on to receive seven Grammy® nominations throughout her career, which include Song of the Year and Best Female Pop Vocal Performance for "Love Song" and one Album of the Year for her highly acclaimed third studio album, The Blessed Unrest. Her book, Sounds Like Me: My Life (So Far) in Song, was released in the fall of 2015 by Simon & Schuster and is a New York Times best seller. Making her Broadway debut Sara composed the music and lyrics for Waitress, for which she received her first Tony® Award nomination for Best Score and a 2017 Grammy® Award nomination for Best Musical Theater Album. She also made her Broadway acting debut in 2017 by stepping into the lead role in Waitress. 2018 was a big year for Sara, she co-hosted the Tony Awards®, was nominated for an Emmy® and Grammy® for her role in Jesus Christ Superstar Live in Concert and was awarded with the Songwriters Hall of Fame's Hall David Starlight Award. Sara also teamed up with Apple as an executive producer for Little Voice a 10-episode series, for which she created the original music. What's Inside: Songs from Waitress, her most recent solo studio album, is out on Epic Records. On April 5, 2019 Sara released her fifth full-length and first album of original material since 2013, entitled Amidst the Chaos. For this latest body of work, she joined forces in the studio with legendary Academy® Award-winning producer T Bone Burnett. As a result, the album spotlights her voice as a singer and storyteller like never before, while making an enduring statement.

Adrienne Shelly

We celebrate Adrienne Shelly as the writer of the 2007 film *Waitress*. An actor (*Trust*) and director (*Waitress*, *I'll Take You There*, *Sudden Manhattan*) for almost 20 years, she conceived the film while pregnant with her daughter Sophie (Lulu in the film), for whom she wrote it as a "love letter" in just two weeks. Adrienne's legacy includes The Adrienne Shelly Foundation, created after she died in 2006 to support Women Filmmakers. It's awarded 60+ production grants to talented women all over the world. Please visit www. adrienneshellyfoundation.org to honor Adrienne's memory and support ASF's critical artistic mission.

Sony Music Publishing

Sony Music Publishing, established in 1995 as a joint venture between Sony and Michael Jackson, is the world's leading music publisher. Sony owns or administers more than two million copyrights, including those from such iconic music catalogs as EMI Music Publishing, Leiber & Stoller, Mijac Music, Motown and Famous Music. Sony controls many of the best-known songs ever written, including "New York, New York," "All You Need Is Love," "You've Got a Friend," "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," "Over the Rainbow" and "Stand By Me." In addition, Sony represents the copyrights of such legendary artists as The Beatles, Leonard Cohen, Neil Diamond, Bob Dylan, Michael Jackson, Carole King, Joni Mitchell, Queen, The Rolling Stones, Sting, The Supremes, Hank Williams and Stevie Wonder, among others. Its ever-growing list of chart-topping artists and songwriters includes Alicia Keys, Lady Gaga, P!nk, Shakira, and Taylor Swift.

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Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Accountability Statement

Since 2020, Virginia Repertory Theatre has been intentional in our efforts to become an artistic home that is multicultural in representation and where everyone is welcomed and included. We still have much work to do and continue to commit to doing our part to dismantle systems of oppression, not only in the theatre community, but everywhere it is present.

Our Commitment

We commit to examining our organizational culture to assure that we are an artistic home centered on anti-racist and anti-oppression practices. We will actively pursue and embrace inclusion, diversity, equity, and access in all aspects of art, business, and life in our community.

We will intentionally make space for the diverse voices of our board, staff, artists, and theatre community.

We will seek to include and reflect on the varied experiences of our community to ensure everyone has access to live theatre that entertains, inspires, and challenges. We will be mindful of Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC); Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI); People with Disabilities, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ (LGBTQ+), and other marginalized communities in our efforts and we will actively seek to learn from them.

We make these commitments to the theatre community and to the community at large and we ask that they take this journey with us and hold us accountable.

We will commit to implement our action plan so that we can honestly say:

At Virginia Repertory Theatre, everyone has a voice.

At our theatre, everyone is welcomed and included.

Please refer to the Social Justice section of our website for our full Anti-Racism Commitment & Accountability Statement and our history in support of racial equity.

OUR MISSION

Our Mission: To entertain, challenge, and uplift our communities through the power of live theatre. To that end, we seek national caliber excellence in the arts, education, and community health and leadership.

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For more information, please contact Kiffy Werkheiser 804-783-1688 x1238 or kwerkheiser@virginiarep.org.







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