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Beautiful

The Carole King Musical



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VIRGINIA **rep**

REGIONAL PREMIERE

Beautiful

The Carole King Musical

BOOK BY DOUGLAS MCGRATH

WORDS AND MUSIC BY

GERRY GOFFIN & CAROLE KING BARRY MANN & CYNTHIA WEIL

MUSIC BY ARRANGEMENT WITH

SONY/ATV MUSIC PUBLISHING

Orchestrations, Vocal and Incidental Music Arrangements

Steve Sidwell

Originally Produced on Broadway by

Paul Blake Sony/ATV Music Publishing Mike Bosner

BEAUTIFUL is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
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SCENIC DESIGN

Frank Foster

COSTUME DESIGN

Sue Griffin

LIGHTING DESIGN

Joe Doran⁺

WIG AND HAIR DESIGN

Bettie O. Rogers

SOUND DESIGN

Jacob Mishler

STAGE MANAGEMENT

Hannah Hoffert*

MUSICAL DIRECTION

Jason Marks

CHOREOGRAPHY

Simeon Rawls

DIRECTION

Rick Hammerly[^]

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SEASON SUPPORT



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CAST (in order of appearance)

Carole King	Grey Garrett
Genie Klein	Jan Guarino
Betty, Ensemble, Carole u/s	Rachel Marrs
Don Kirschner	Mark Persinger
Gerry Goffin	Devon Goffman*
Drifter, Ensemble	Sam Bostic
Drifter, Ensemble	Simeon Rawls
Drifter, Ensemble	Garrett D. Reese
Drifter, Ensemble	Durron Marquis Tyre
Cynthia Weil	Katie Goffman*
Barry Mann	Logan Foster*
Little Eva, Shirelle, Ensemble.	Miciah Jenel
Shirelle, Ensemble	Jianna Hurt
Shirelle, Ensemble	Zahra Ndirangu
Lucille, Janelle, Shirelle, Ensemble	Bree Ogaldez
Nick, Righteous Brother, Ensemble, Gerry u/s.	Andrew Cuccaro
Lou Adler, Righteous Brother, Ensemble, Barry u/s	Taylor Witt*
Marilyn Wald, Ensemble, Cynthia u/s.	Lindy Pokorny
Swings	Ian Page, Brandi Pleasant, David Ramirez, Audrey Kate Taylor

BAND

Piano/Conductor	David Robbins
Trumpet	Roy Muth, Craig Taylor
Trombone	Philip Jones, Scott Winger
Reed	Rick Rieger, John Winn
Guitar	Forrest Link, Jeremiah Martin
Keyboard	Ryan Corbitt, Allen Macuno
Bass	Killian Winn
Drums.	Jim Bannow, Scott Clark

FOR THIS PRODUCTION

Assistant Stage Managers	MariaElisa Costa*, Emily Kimoto
Assistant Lighting Designer	Griffin Hardy
Music Supervisor	John Winn
Dance Captain.	Katie Goffman*
Deck Crew.	Gene Arroyo, Sydney Greenhill, Ennis Kristiansen
Fly Rail Op.	Gene Arroyo, Tavares Centeio
Wardrobe Supervisors	Madison Borovatz, Sassy Rychalski
Dresser	Courtney Holmes
Audio Engineer	Will Fisher
Light Board Operator	Griffin Hardy
Follow Spot Operator	Sam Browne, Brandon McLendon, Jason Winebarger
Scenic Artist.	Rowan Sullivan
Electricians	Justice Craig, Griffin Hardy
Photographer	Aaron Suttan
Vidographer.	Austin Lewis

SPECIAL THANKS

The Homeland Theatre Company, Lee Farmer, New Moon Lighting Company, Matt Landwehr

The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.



*Member of **Actors' Equity Association**,
the union of professional actors and
stage managers in the U.S.A.



+Member of **USA, United
Scenic Artists'**, local 829



^The Director is a member of the **Stage
Directors and Choreographers Society**,
a national theatrical labor union.

DEDICATIONS

Pat Cully, Barbara Kincaid, and Terri McMahon

In *Beautiful*, Carole King advises us: "You've got to get up every morning with a smile on your face, and show the world all the love in your heart."

With great affection and respect, we dedicate this production to the memories of three BEAUTIFUL women who did exactly that. **Pat Cully** shared her remarkable talents as a pen & ink artist, creating original images of iconic RVA buildings, including our historic November Theatre, and allowing us to use her drawing on our notecards. **Barbara Kincaid** was our ambassador to theatre audiences in Fredericksburg, encouraging countless groups to head south to enjoy our shows, and joining us on our annual theatre celebration trips. **Terri McMahon** acted with us throughout her 20s and 30s, touring nationally in numerous educational programs and appearing in our revival of *Quilters*. We greatly miss these exceptional women. We will treasure their talent, kindness, and generosity of spirit forever.



Pat Cully



Barbara Kincaid



Terri McMahon

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MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

So Far Away	Carole
Oh Carol	Neil Sedaka
1650 Broadway Medley	Ensemble
It Might as Well Rain Until September	Carole
Be-Bop-A-Lula	Ensemble
Some Kind of Wonderful	Carole, Gerry and The Drifters
Happy Days Are Here Again	Cynthia
Take Good Care of My Baby	Gerry and Carole
Who Put the Bomp	Barry
Will You Love Me Tomorrow	Carole
He's Sure the Boy I Love	Cynthia and Barry
Will You Love Me Tomorrow	The Shirelles
Up on the Roof	Gerry and The Drifters
On Broadway	The Drifters
The Locomotion	Little Eva and Ensemble
You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling	Barry and The Righteous Brothers
One Fine Day	Janelle, Backup Singers and Carole

There will be one 15-minute intermission between acts.

ACT II

Chains	Carole and Ensemble
Walking in the Rain	Barry and Cynthia
Pleasant Valley Sunday	Marilyn Wald, Gerry and Ensemble
We Gotta Get Out of This Place	Barry
Will You Love Me Tomorrow (Reprise)	Carole
Uptown	"Uptown" Singer and Ensemble
It's Too Late	Carole
You've Got a Friend	Carole, Barry, Cynthia and Don
(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman	Carole and Ensemble
Beautiful	Carole and Company



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MUSIC CREDITS

"Be Bop a Lula" by Tex Davis and Gene Vincent. Sony/ATV Songs LLC (BMI) and Three Wise Boys Music LLC (BMI). **"Beautiful"** by Carole King. Colgems-EMI Music, Inc. (ASCAP). **"Chains"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music (BMI). **"Happy Days Are Here Again"** by Milton Ager and Jack Yellen. EMI Robbins Catalog, Inc. (ASCAP). Special lyrics by Douglas McGrath and Cynthia Weil. **"He's Sure the Boy I Love"** by Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) **"I Go Ape"** by Neil Sedaka and Howard Greenfield. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) and Universal/BMG (BMI). **"It Might As Well Rain Until September"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI). **"It's Too Late"** by Carole King and Toni Stern. Colgems-EMI Music Inc. (ASCAP). **"Little Darlin'"** by Maurice Williams. Cherio Corporation (BMI) 100%. **"The Locomotion"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI). **"Love Potion #9"** by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Sony/ATV Tunes LLC (ASCAP). **"Oh Carol"** by Neil Sedaka and Howard Greenfield. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) and Universal/BMG (BMI). **"On Broadway"** by Barry Mann, Cynthia Weill, Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI). **"One Fine Day"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) **"Pleasant Valley Sunday"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) **"Poison Ivy"** by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Sony/ATV Tunes LLC (ASCAP). **"So Far Away"** by Carole King. Colgems-EMI Music Inc. (ASCAP) **"Some Kind of Wonderful"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) **"Splish Splash"** by Bobby Darin and Jean Murray. EMI Unart Catalog Inc. (BMI), Trio Music Co. Inc. (BMI) and Alley Music Corp. (BMI). **"Stupid Cupid"** by Neil Sedaka and Howard Greenfield. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) and EMI Longitude Music (BMI). **"Take Good Care of My Baby"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) **"There Goes My Baby"** by Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller, Ben King, George Treadwell and Lover Patterson. Sony/ATV Songs LLC (BMI). **"Up On the Roof"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI). **"Walking in the Rain"** by Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil and Phil Spector. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI). EMI Blackwood Music Inc. obo Mother Bertha Music (BMI). **"We Gotta Get Out of This Place"** by Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) **"Who Put the Bomp"** by Barry Mann and Gerry Goffin. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI) **"Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow"** by Gerry Goffin and Carole King. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI). **"Yakkity Yak"** by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller. Sony/ATV Tunes LLC (ASCAP). **"(You Make Me Feel Like a) Natural Woman"** by Gerry Goffin, Carole King and Gerald Wexler. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI). **"You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling"** by Barry Mann, Cynthia Weil and Phil Spector. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. (BMI). EMI Blackwood Music Inc. obo Mother Bertha Music (BMI).

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COMPANY BIOS



Grey Garrett (Carole King) was last seen on the Virginia Rep stage as Tanya in *Mamma Mia!* for which she won an RTCC Award. Other credits include *Placebo* (Yes, And! Theatrical Co.), *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Virginia Rep), *Grey Gardens* (Richmond Triangle Players), *Bright Star* (Swift Creek Mill), *Mamma Mia!* (Riverside Center of the Arts); *Lysistrata* (Quill); *Alice* (RTCC Winner Best Ensemble) (Firehouse/TheatreLAB); *HAIR*, *Wild Party*, *POP!* (Firehouse Theatre Company); *Beyond The Rainbow* (Swift Creek Mill); *Rabbit Hole* (RTCC Winner Best Supporting Actress), *August: Osage County* (RTCC Winner Best Play) (Cadence); *The Boy From Oz* (RTCC Winner Best Supporting Actress), (Richmond Triangle Players). I have so much love and gratitude for this life I'm living. To my family, my mentors, and my love and partner, Justin: Thank you for all you do to lift me up.



Jan Guarino (Genie Klein) is so excited to be a part of this amazing cast for the summer! She was last seen on stage at Hanover Tavern as Clairee in *Steel Magnolias* and before that in the world premiere of *Bonnie and Claire* written by her favorite playwright, Bo Wilson. She had the privilege to direct *Barefoot in the Park* (the first show back after the shutdown) and before that she was in *The Charitable Sisterhood Christmas Spectacular* for Virginia Rep at the Tavern. She has also directed (among others) *Where's Charley?*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *They're Playing Our Song* for Virginia Rep. A familiar face and voice in Richmond-area advertising, Jan is perhaps best known as spokesperson for Haynes Furniture. She would like to thank Rick for giving her the chance to work with this oh so talented bunch!!



Rachel Marrs, she/her, (Betty, Ensemble, Carole u/s) is thrilled to return to the Virginia Rep stage! She was last seen at the November Theater as an ensemble member and understudy for Louise in *Gypsy* (2015). Rachel has been performing professionally in Richmond for almost a decade. Notable local appearances include: Jerusha Abbott in *Daddy Longlegs* (Swift Creek Mill; RTCC Nominee, Best Actress in a Musical); Woman 2 in *I Love You...Now Change* (Swift Creek Mill; RTCC Nominee, Best Actress in Musical, Best Musical); Alice in *Alice: A New Musical* (TheatreLAB and Firehouse, RTCC Winner Best Ensemble), among others. Eternal love and thanks to her husband, Joel. www.rachelmarrs.com, @parksand_rach.



Mark Persinger (Don Kirschner) is excited to return to the November Theatre! He was last seen in *Gabriel-The Musical* at Firehouse Theatre. Other on-stage credits include *Mary Poppins*, *Croaker*, *Gypsy*, *South Pacific*, *My Fair Lady*, *White Christmas*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Seussical*, *Honk!*, *Annie*, *Joseph...*, and *She Loves Me* at Virginia Rep. *Shrek-The Musical* at Brightpoint C.C. *She Stoops to Conquer*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, and *A Servant of Two Masters* at Richmond Shakespeare, and *It Shoulda Been You* and *La Cage aux Folles* at Richmond Triangle Players. Love to Caryn and Lorelei for their endless support!

COMPANY BIOS



Devon Goffman, he/him, (Gerry Goffin) played Tommy DeVito in the Broadway National Tour of *Jersey Boys*, 2022-2023. Credits include: *Jersey Boys*: Las Vegas, U.S. Tour (The Kennedy Center, Pittsburgh CLO, 5th Avenue Theatre); *On Your Feet* (Phil, U.S. Tour-1st National); *Motown The Musical* (U.S. Tour- 1st National); *Grease* (Vince Fontaine, U.S. Tour with Frankie Avalon). Recent credits include: *Race Against Time* (NY Theatre Workshop). TV: *Law & Order Organized Crime* (Detective Greg Florial) and *Lincoln Rhyme* (Amelia's Father). Devon is an acting teacher, @TheDevonGoffmanStudio. Doing this show with Katie Goffman is a dream come true. Thank you, Rick Hammerly and Virginia Rep for the opportunity to join this community in Richmond.



Sam Bostic (Drifter, Ensemble) is elated to be a part of *Beautiful* here at Virginia Repertory Theatre with this incredible cast and company! Past credits include Benny in *In the Heights*, Aldolpho in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Riff Raff in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, and most recently touring with Virginia Rep's Children's tour. He received his B.F.A. in Acting from Shenandoah Conservatory. Much thanks to Jason and Rick for the opportunity and much love to his family for all of their love and support throughout his career. "Break a leg, but not really!"



Simeon Rawls (Drifter, Ensemble) from Salina, Kansas, is a Dance Performance alum of Oklahoma City University. His past credits include Lola in *Kinky Boots* (Salina Theatre), Ensemble in *Dreamgirls* (Lyric Theatre OKC), and Henry in *Newsies* (Music Theatre Wichita). He has most recently traveled the world on the Regent Seven Seas Explorer as a singer/dancer. As a choreographer, he has choreographed for many regional theaters and high schools across the Midwest including *The Wedding Singer* (CAC), *Ghost* (Forum Theatre), and *Legally Blonde* (Wichita Collegiate). He is thrilled to be making his Virginia Rep debut not only as part of the cast but as a choreographer for this talented group of people! simeonrawls.com



Garrett D. Reese, he/him, (Drifter, Ensemble) is an actor, singer, dancer, and educator based in Richmond, Virginia. Some of his previous credits include Scrooge in *Scrooge No More*, Yolland in *Translations*, and being a soloist for a Cabaret at The West End Lounge of New York. Garrett is beyond thrilled to be making his Virginia Rep debut here with the *Beautiful* cast and crew. He would like to thank the team at Virginia Rep for this amazing opportunity, his friends, partner, and parents for their undying love and support! "Enjoy the show; It's truly *Some Kind of Wonderful*." - Garrett



Durrón Marquis Tyre (Drifter, Ensemble) is excited to be back at Virginia Rep for the summer in this exciting musical! He was last seen starring on stage at the Firehouse Theatre in Yes, And! Theatrical Co.'s production of *The Light* by Loy A. Webb. A graduate of the University of Richmond, he has had the privilege of performing regionally and here in Richmond. Favorites roles: Dr. Frank N. Furter in *Rocky Horror Show* (Richmond Triangle Players), Henry in *Sugar in Our Wounds* by Donja R. Love (Richmond Triangle Players) which

COMPANY BIOS

won the RTCC Award for Best Play (2022), Lt. Eddie Souther in *Sister Act* (Virginia Rep), CC White in *Dreamgirls* (Virginia Rep), and Tom Collins in *Rent* (Firehouse Theatre), where he earned the RTCC Award for Best Lead Actor in a Musical in 2010.



Katie Goffman (Cynthia Weil) is thrilled to be making her Virginia Rep debut. Off-Broadway: *Clueless* (standby Cher) National Tours: *Jersey Boys* (Mary Delgado), *Ghost* (Molly), *Rock of Ages* (Regina). Katie created the web-series, *Wisco Queens*, streaming now on Broadway OnDemand! Special thanks to Rick Hammerly for this opportunity! Much love and gratitude to the cast and crew, her wonderful husband Devon, her brothers, and parents! Follow on IG/TikTok @katiegoffman www.katiegoffman.com



Logan Foster, he/him, (Barry Mann) is so excited to be joining this incredible cast and making his Virginia Rep debut! Past credits include: *The Tale of Despereaux* (Berkeley Repertory), *One Man Two Guvnors* (Wagon Wheel), and *9 to 5!* (New Stage). Endless thanks to my Mom, Spy Kids 3D, Hayden, Claire, anyone else I may have forgotten, and everyone here tonight. Education: Elon University B.F.A. MT. Enjoy the show!



Miciah Jenel, she/her, (Little Eva, Shirelle, Ensemble) is a senior in the Musical Theatre program at VCU. And she was Joanne in their recent production of *Rent*. Some of her past credits include Fiona understudy, Dragon, and Humpty Dumpty in the production of *Shrek-The Musical* at the Lynn Theatre. Miciah would like to thank her family for their support in her passion for the arts. She would also like to thank the team/cast of *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* for their efforts towards this musical! She's ecstatic to be making her Virginia Rep debut in this production!



Jianna Hurt (Shirelle, Ensemble) is incredibly excited to be part of Virginia Rep's *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*! She is a hardworking performer and is excited to further her wonderful career in the industry. These days you will find her producing a self tape, or working to connect with her community and promoting a new up and coming theatre company called Yes, And! Theatrical Co. Her most recent credits include *Once on This Island* (Timoune; Brightpoint Community College), Virginia Rep's *She Persisted* (Performer), Virginia Rep's *Mamma Mia!* (Female ensemble/Swing), Virginia Rep's *Beehive: The '60s Musical* (Wanda Track) and so much more. She would like to thank her family and friends, the cast and crew, and you wonderful supporters!

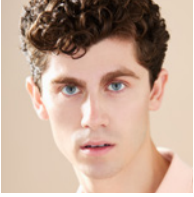


Zahra Ndirangu (Shirelle, Ensemble) is thrilled to be making her professional debut in Virginia Rep's production of *Beautiful*! She is a journalism major with a minor in musical theatre and French at VCU where she was most recently seen in their production of *RENT*. She is a Gemini with an affinity for the color pink and collecting Calico Critters. Much love to her family, her friends, her cast and the incomparable Carole King! IG: @zahrandirangu

COMPANY BIOS



Bree Ogaldez (Lucille, Janelle, Shirelle, Ensemble) is a New York-based Afro-Caribbean actress and singer making her Virginia Rep debut! TV: *Law & Order*. Theatre credits include: *Hair* at Cortland Repertory Theatre (Abe Lincoln/Tribe), *Mamma Mia!* at Totem Pole Playhouse (Lisa/Ensemble), *Katy and Jennifer Vs the Flasher on New Year's Eve* at Theater for the New City (Jennifer). Bree is focused on art that uplifts and represents people in new and fulfilling ways. She is always interested in projects that explore the complicated intersections of humanity and that point to the inherent value within us all. breeogaldez.com.



Andrew Cuccaro, he/they, (Nick, Righteous Brother, Gerry u/s) is so grateful to be spending his summer in Richmond! A native of Syracuse, NY, Andrew is a graduate of SUNY Cortland and is currently based in NYC. Favorite credits include Billy in *Good Morning New York* (Off-Broadway), The Man with the Yellow Hat in *Curious George* (National Tour), Frank N. Furter in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Forestburgh Playhouse; Clear Space Theatre Company), and Billy Cane in *Bright Star* (Weathervane Rep- NHTA Best Supporting Actor Nom.) Thank you to my family, Peter, and of course, Carole. @andrewcuccaro.



Taylor Witt, he/him, (Lou Adler, Righteous Brother, Ensemble, Barry u/s) is thrilled to be back with Virginia Rep. Previously seen in *Tuck Everlasting*. Credits include; Arena Stage: *Exclusion*. Olney Theatre Center: *A Nice Indian Boy*. Signature Theatre: *The Upstairs Department*. Studio Theatre: *Admissions*. The Keegan Theatre: *Shakespeare in Love*, *An Irish Carol*. NextStop Theatre Co: *First Date*. Toby's Dinner Theater: *Newsies* (Helen Hayes Awards Nom. Supporting Actor), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*; *Ghost*. Riverside Center: *Grease*. Education: B.M., George Mason University.



Lindy Pokorny, she/her, (Marilyn Wald, Ensemble, Cynthia u/s) is ecstatic to be making her November Theatre debut — a lifelong dream come true. Favorite past credits include *Mamma Mia!* (Homefront Players), *Bootleg Shakespeare: Cymbeline* (Richmond Shakespeare), *A Broadway Christmas* (Virginia Rep), and *Julie, Monster* (OC, Firehouse Theatre/RVA Baroque). She has a B.A. in Theatre Performance from Wagner College in New York City. Infinite love and gratitude to Mom, Dad, Nana, and Skyler, and extra thanks to Sina for his unending support.



Ian Page (Swing) is excited to share the November Theatre stage with such talent. He was last seen at Virginia Rep as Elephant (*Elephant and Piggie: We are in a Play*). Other credits include *Forever Plaid* and *1776* (Virginia Rep); *She Stoops to Conquer* (Richmond Shakespeare); *bare: a pop opera* (RTCC nomination best leading actor in a musical), *It Shoulda Been You* (RTP); *Little Shop of Horrors* (RTCC nomination best leading actor in a musical), *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (RTCC Nomination Best supporting actor in a musical), *Bright Star*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and *The Andrews Brothers* (Swift Creek Mill Theatre).

COMPANY BIOS



Brandi Pleasant, she/her, (Swing) This is her first show at Virginia Rep and she is excited to join the cast and crew in this production. Other credits include James in *James and the Giant Peach* (VCU Theatre), Zanni in *The Dentist* (VCU Theatre), and *The Girl in Eclipsed* (VCU Theatre). Instagram: @thatsonbrand.i



David Ramirez, he/they, (Swing) was born and raised in the Richmond region. He attended VCU where he earned degrees in both Philosophy & Urban Planning, and now works full-time in photography. He's super excited and grateful to be able to work with Virginia Rep for a second time. The first time was last summer, in *Mamma Mia!*, where he was a part of the ensemble and understudied the role of Harry. 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. Big shout out to: Mom, Mamaw, Robyn, Kelly & Ice Spice. <3 Couldn't do it without y'all.



Audrey Kate Taylor, she/her, (Swing) is ecstatic to be in such a beautiful musical after last performing on the November Theatre stage in *A Christmas Story*. Her favorite production that she has performed in with Virginia Rep is *Junie B. Jones: The Musical*. Audrey Kate is a rising junior at Montclair State University, where she just portrayed Alice in *Bright Star*. She would like to thank her educators at Montclair State for equipping her with the tools to be a swing, and the creative team for allowing her to be part of such an inspiring production.

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

Jason Marks (Music Director) is delighted to be spending a "Beautiful" summer with this incredible company of talent. Mr. Marks has served as music director for many Virginia Rep productions, including Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Seussical*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Elephant & Piggie: We Are In a Play*, *Knuffle Bunny*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *Olympus On My Mind*, and others. As a composer, his works have appeared on tour across the United States, and his latest family musical, *The Emperor's New Clothes*, will have a mainstage production on the Children's Season at the new Virginia Rep Center this fall. Jason is best known to local audiences for his award-winning stage performances in numerous musicals, such as *1776*, *Shrek*, *The Producers*, *My Fair Lady*, *Guys & Dolls*, and his recent tour-de-force one man show, *Zero Hour*. Special thanks to Rick for this opportunity.

Simeon Rawls (Choreographer) See biography in actor section

Frank Foster (Scenic Designer) is a Richmond designer who holds an M.F.A. in Scenic Design from VCU. He has designed scenery for several original productions, including Barter Theatre's *Huck Finn*, Cumberland County Playhouse's *Funny, You Don't Look Like A Grandmother*, and Playhouse on the Square's production of *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline*. Frank's local credits include Virginia Rep's *Steel Magnolias*, *The Music Man*, and *Blues in the Night*; The Production Company's *August Snow*; Riverside Center's *Ragtime*, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, *Nunsense*,

COMPANY BIOS

Camelot, Bright Star, Annie, South Pacific, The Color Purple, On Golden Pond, and OKLAHOMA!; RTP's *The Inheritance, The Normal Heart, I Am My Own Wife, It Shoulda Been You, The Boy from OZ, La Cage aux Folles, Angels In America, Psycho Beach Party, and Cabaret*; and Swift Creek Mill's *Gaslight, Cyrano de Bergerac, and Dracula*, and numerous musicals at Dogwood Dell. Other favorite credits include *Barnum, Droad, Big River, Little Shop of Horrors, Footloose, Singing in the Rain, Laughter on the 23rd Floor, Tommy, Godspell, and Once Upon A Mattress.*

Sue Griffin (Costume Designer) has headed up the Virginia Rep costume department for the last nineteen years. Over this time, the shop has produced costumes for more than 300 shows, from traveling fairy tales to major musicals. With the help of the full time shop, hundreds of costumes, wigs, shoes and hats are sent out on a stage or packed up on tour. Some of the most memorable shows include *1776, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Color Purple, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, and A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder.*

Bettie O. Rogers, she/her, (Wigmaker, Hair Designer) As a wigmaker/hair designer, her credits extend beyond 100 productions in theatre, TV and film. She served as the Department Head Hairstylist for NBC's *Saturday Night Live* for 10 seasons (2006-2016) where she received 9 Emmy nominations for hairstyling and 6 wins. Ms. Rogers' brainchild and greatest achievement, the NBC wig shop, was born in May of 2016 and although she no longer is the wigmaster there, it still runs and services the wig and facial hair needs for NBC's *Late Night With Seth Meyers, The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon* and *SNL*. Ms. Rogers' wig and hairstyling company, Bowdown LLC currently services the entertainment community but also to the medical field for people in need due to hair loss.

Joe Doran (Lighting Designer) Virginia Rep: *Mamma Mia!, 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... Dreamcoat., Anything Goes, West Side Story, Flashdance the Musical, In the Heights*. Off-Broadway: *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, and Swift Creek Mill Theatre. 2008, 2009, 2012, 2016, 2017, 2020, and 2022 recipient of Richmond's "Artsies" Award. Graduate of NC School of the Arts and member of USA Local 829. www.joedorandesign.com

Jacob Mishler (Sound Designer) has been involved in live production for 25 years, moving into theatrical sound design in 2004. Most recently, Jacob's work was heard in Virginia Rep's production of *Mamma Mia!*, winning the Artsie Award for Outstanding Sound Design of a musical. He also designed sound for *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley*. Other selected credits include: *42nd Street* - Palace Theatre New Hampshire; *Cabaret, Rent, The Drowsy Chaperone* - Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre; *Gypsy* (Broadway World Award Central PA), *Woman in Black, Ghost* (World Premiere), *Million Dollar Quartet* - Fulton Theatre; *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, and *The Bridges of Madison County* (Henry Award) - Fine Arts Center at Colorado College. All my love and gratitude to Julie and Amelia!

COMPANY BIOS

Hannah Hoffert, she/her, (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be a part of the *Beautiful* team! This is her second season with Virginia Rep, and her previous credits include *Beehive: The '60s Musical*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Chicken & Biscuits*, *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, *She Persisted*, and *Elephant & Piggie's We are in a Play!*. Hannah is a proud alumnus of Carnegie Mellon University, receiving her B.S. ('16) and M.S. ('17) in Mechanical Engineering. Hannah would like to thank her family, mentors and her service dog, Olive, who helped to make this dream a reality!

MariaElisa Costa (Assistant Stage Manager) is so excited to be involved in her first musical at Virginia Rep! Originally from New York City, MariaElisa is excited to become a part of the Richmond Theater Community. With a Bachelor in Theater Arts from Brooklyn College and a certificate in musical theater performance from The Institute for American Musical Theatre, MariaElisa has collected quite a few credits in her young career. In NYC she stage managed shows at Theater Row, Theatre 315, The Heights Players, The Gallery Players, and Brooklyn College to name a few. She is excited to see what Richmond and Virginia Rep hold for her future. She'd like to thank her family and friends, Eric, Chris, and The Metas for all their incredible love and support.

Emily Kimoto, she/her, (Assistant Stage Manager) is a stage manager and theatre technician. She received a B.A. in Theatre from New Paltz University in 2020. She has previously worked at Interlochen Center for the Arts (Box Office associate) and Arizona Theatre Company Phoenix (Stage Management Apprentice). In 2020, she became Production Manager of Pocket Theatre VR, a pioneering exploration of immersive VR theatre. At Virginia Rep, Emily has stage managed *Steel Magnolias* and *A Broadway Christmas*, as well as assistant stage managing *She Persisted*, *Elephant & Piggie: We're in a Play!*, and now *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*.

WRITERS' BIOS

Douglas McGrath (Book) was a filmmaker and playwright. Most recently, he directed the HBO documentary "Becoming Mike Nichols." He collaborated with Woody Allen on the screenplay for *Bullets Over Broadway*, for which they were nominated for an Academy Award. He wrote and directed the Oscar-winning *Emma* from the Jane Austen novel; *Company Man*; *Charles Dickens's Nicholas Nickleby*, which won the Best Ensemble Cast from the National Board of Review; *Infamous*; and the HBO documentary, "His Way," nominated for an Emmy for Outstanding Nonfiction Special. His play *Checkers* opened the 30th anniversary season of New York's acclaimed Vineyard Theatre. His book for *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* was nominated for Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle awards. He began his career as a writer for "Saturday Night Live" in what was incontestably the worst year in the show's history. He has written essays on the arts and politics for the *New Republic*, the *New Yorker*, *The Nation*, *The New York Times* and *Vanity Fair*. Douglas McGrath passed away on November 4, 2022.

Gerry Goffin (Words and Music) Born in Brooklyn in 1939, Gerry Goffin met Carole King at Queens College, and their musical collaboration began almost immediately. They married in 1959, and that same year wrote their first hit song "Will You Love Me Tomorrow?" (The Shirelles). The duo penned more than 50 Top-40 hits

COMPANY BIOS

including “The Locomotion,” “Natural Woman” and “Up on the Roof.” In 1987, Goffin and King were inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1990. Goffin has left an indelible mark on American music.

Carole King (Words and Music) Pop music would be very different without the contributions of Carole King, who at age 17 wrote her first #1 hit with Gerry Goffin, “Will You Love Me Tomorrow,” for the Shirelles. The dozens of chart hits Goffin and King wrote during this period became legendary, but it was 1971’s *Tapestry* that took King to the pinnacle, speaking personally to her contemporaries and providing a spiritual musical backdrop to the decade. More than 400 of her compositions have been recorded by over 1,000 artists, resulting in 100 hit singles and six Grammys.

Barry Mann (Words and Music) has written the melodies of some of the most influential pop songs in musical history. In addition to “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feeling,” the most-played song of the last century, and the songs heard in *Beautiful*, he composed later standards like “Somewhere Out There” (winner of two Grammys), “Here You Come Again,” “Sometimes When We Touch,” “Just Once” and “Don’t Know Much.” Together he and Cynthia Weil have amassed an incredible 112 pop, country, and R&B awards from Broadcast Music Inc. for significant radio air play. He has been inducted into both the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Cynthia Weil (Words and Music) was the acclaimed lyricist of classic songs such as “You’ve Lost That Lovin’ Feeling,” the most-played song of the 20th century. In addition to the songs heard in *Beautiful*, she set the words to later standards including “Somewhere Out There,” “Here You Come Again,” “He’s So Shy,” “Just Once” and “Don’t Know Much,” to name just a few. Weil was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, honored with multiple Grammy nominations and two Grammy awards for “Somewhere Out There” as the Motion Pictures Song of the Year and Song of the Year. Weil passed away on June 1, 2023.

Music Theatre International (MTI) is one of the world’s leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting theatres from around the world the rights to perform the greatest selection of musicals from Broadway and beyond. Founded in 1952 by composer Frank Loesser, and orchestrator Don Walker, MTI is a driving force in advancing musical theatre as a vibrant and engaging art form. MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these musicals to provide official scripts, musical materials and dynamic theatrical resources to over 70,000 professional, community and school theatres in the US and in over 60 countries worldwide. MTI is particularly dedicated to educational theatre, and has created special collections to meet the needs of various types of performers and audiences. MTI’s Broadway Junior™ shows are 30- and 60-minute musicals for performance by elementary and middle school-aged performers, while MTI’s School Editions are musicals annotated for performance by high school students. MTI maintains its global headquarters in New York City with additional offices in London (MTI Europe) and Melbourne (MTI Australasia).

Biographies supplied by MTI.

LEADERSHIP



RICK HAMMERLY

*Artistic Director
of Programming*

Rick has worked as an award-winning, DC-based actor, director, filmmaker, and arts manager for over

three decades. 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. This past Spring, he directed Virginia Repertory Theatre's world premiere of *After December*. 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*.

His debut film, *signage*, which he wrote, directed, and produced, has screened in over 60 film festivals worldwide, receiving 6 film festival awards and was subsequently licensed by MTV's LOGO Channel.

He is a founder and the current 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).

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.



TODD D. NORRIS

*Artistic Director
of Education*

Todd is an American theatre director, educator, writer, and actor. He recently served as president of the

International Museum Theatre Alliance and continues to act as an advisor.

Todd comes to Virginia Rep from the Children's Museum of Indianapolis, IN — the world's largest children's museum — where he worked since 2013, serving as Director of Interpretation and then Associate Vice President of Interpretation and Family Programs. In these roles, he was responsible for fiscal management, artistic direction for its professional children's theatre seasons, coordinating holistic approaches to gallery performances, and overseeing quality for hundreds of daily programs.

From 2003-2013, Todd worked at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, eventually becoming Senior Manager of Performance Interpretation. While at Colonial Williamsburg, he also acted in several episodes of their Emmy-Award winning

Electronic Field Trips and directed and performed in many evening programs and special events.

Favorite previous directing assignments include *Humble Boy*, *Tales of Olympus*, *Eleemosynary*, and *The Santa Clues*.

He has taught and directed at several schools including The College of William and Mary, Christopher Newport University, Alice Lloyd College, and Wright State University.

He was born in Columbus, OH, and received his M.F.A. in Acting from University of Louisville and his B.A. in Theatre Performance, with a minor in music, from the University of Findlay. He is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

Todd will focus on programs for children, families, and schools including touring programs and arts in education. He and Desirée Roots will co-lead Virginia Rep's award-winning Community Health + Wellness program, which creates, implements and assesses model projects that demonstrate how theatre can be used as an effective tool in addressing critical educational and societal challenges.



DESIRÉE ROOTS

*Artistic Director
of Community*

Desirée has showcased her triple threat talent for over 35 years as an active member of the Gospel,

Jazz, and Theatre scenes regionally, nationally, internationally, and in Richmond, VA where she grew up. She started singing in church when she was four, and started her professional theatrical career at age 13. Growing up in a musical family, it was only natural that she follow in her performing parents' footsteps.

Desirée has performed throughout the East Coast with orchestras, jazz ensembles, and as leader of her own ensembles. She's been the opening act for internationally renowned artists including Boney James, Brian McKnight, the late Phyllis Hyman, and B. B. King. She is a Grammy nominated recording artist and has produced shows she wrote including *Ella at 100* in honor of the First Lady of Jazz, Ms. Ella Fitzgerald's 100th birthday. She received the Theresa Pollak award for "Vocal Excellence" in 2014.



PHIL WHITEWAY

Managing Director

Phil is a key leader in Virginia's nonprofit arts management community.

He co-founded Theatre IV in 1975 as Virginia's first

professional theatre for young audiences. In 2001, he assumed the role of Managing Director of Barksdale Theatre. In 2012, he provided staff leadership as Theatre IV and Barksdale merged to form Virginia Rep, Central Virginia's flagship professional theatre.

Under his management, Phil's companies have received the first *Excellence in Instruction Award* from the Virginia Board of Education, the *Dominion Shining Star Award* from Virginians for the Arts, and the *50 for 50 Arts Inspiration Award* from the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

Phil was a founding member of the boards of the Richmond Arts Consortium and the Broad Street

Association. Along with performing, Desirée has had a long standing career in the corporate and nonprofit sectors. Upon receiving her B.A. from Virginia Union University, she initially embarked on a teaching path. This quickly evolved into other opportunities such as a Programming Manager for Richmond Jazz Society, Inc., Booking Manager for Downtown Presents (now Venture Richmond), and client liaison for Drake Beam & Morin, a Fortune 500 corporation. She has also been an educator and music facilitator privately and within the Henrico and Richmond Public school systems for over 20 years.

Desirée began her association with Virginia Rep as a high school intern when the company was Theatre IV with the unique mission "to seek national-caliber excellence equally in four areas: the arts, education, children's health, and community leadership."

These four pillars of service are what drew her to become *Artistic Director of Community* — "working with the theatre company I love to serve the community I love."

Association. Under his staff leadership, Theatre IV purchased and renovated our historic November Theatre, receiving the *Community Builders Award* from the Central Richmond Association for its contribution to downtown revitalization. Phil is a graduate and past board member of Leadership Metro Richmond. He has served on the Governance Board of Partners in the Arts and as treasurer of Virginians for the Arts.

Phil has received the *Voice of the University Award* from his alma mater (University of Richmond), the Theresa Pollak "Lifetime Achievement Award" from *Richmond Magazine*, and the *Governor's Award for the Arts* from Tim Kaine. In 2000, Phil was included by *Style Weekly* among the "100 Most Influential Richmonders of the 20th Century."

Phil consults on arts management both locally and nationally. He is forever grateful for the love and support of his wife, Donna, and their four adult children—PJ, Jennings, Alex, and Gordon.

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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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