RESTON COMMUNITY PLAYERS PRESENTS



PRODUCED BY ANNA BALCHUNAS
DIRECTED BY JOEY OLSON
MUSIC DIRECTION BY DAVID JAYNES
AND SARA WATSON

THE CENTERSTAGE AT RESTON COMMUNITY CENTER OCTOBER 13-29, 2023

restonplayers.org

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RESTON COMMUNITY CENTER PRESENTS



Sunday, November 19 • 7:00 p.m. the CenterStage • RCC Hunters Woods

Farsad is a regular panelist for NPR's weekly current events program "Wait Wait Don't Tell Me." In her feature film, "The Muslims Are Coming!," she took a group of Muslim-American comedians on the road in Middle America to do shows, meet people and counter Islamophobia through jokes. Copies of her book, "How to Make White People Laugh," will be on sale for the author to sign.

Youth under 16 should be accompanied by an adult.

\$20 Reston/\$30 Non-Reston



www.restoncommunitycenter.com



RESTON COMMUNITY PLAYERS PRESENTS



Music and Lyrics by
Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx
Book by Jeff Whitty
Based on an original concept by
Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx

AVENUE Q IS PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI). ALL AUTHORIZED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI.

WWW.MTISHOWS.COM

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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

As a Board Member I have tried to get us to do this show for years and NOW we are HERE, and I am so giddy to be a part of it. I grew up on Sesame Street, The Electric Company, The Muppets, The Simpsons and later in life got to work on Muppets From Space. On set, when the Director called cut, the Puppets would turn from their cute personas to Raunchy Cussing like a Sailor evil minions playing with each other till the Director called Action. I was laughing so hard and even stayed late just to get those moments. Wish they had smartphones back then... I'd be rich secretly recording them.

This show is about so much more than Puppets... The Puppets give us a tool to talk about things that have become too taboo for humans. The puppets of Avenue Q are able to fight, yell, and belt out things that have certainly been thought of but not said out loud by many of us. They express their desires, their frustrations, and their ambitions with few barriers. Along the way, they are frequently raw, offensive, and insulting. They live in the extremes to discover moments of clarity in their lives. Princeton, Kate, Rod, Nicky, Trekkie, and the rest can recognize that their individual ambitions mean little without community — relationships and friendships are ultimately more important than selfish desires.

For those of you who have not run out by the first swear word, I thank you for coming. It's the land of Make Believe with some spicy hot sauce thrown in. We need to laugh more now than ever with this crazy world we live in. I hope you go home and have a better day than before.

I'd personally like to thank our Stage Manager, Kaiti Parish, for being my rock throughout this show. You are the heart of this Production and everyone in this production would agree with me. Stage Managers are the core of any great show, and we are blessed to have you calling the shots from Backstage.

Joey Olson, Director

SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to thank Show Consultant Melissa York-Tilley and all those who volunteered after the Playbill was finalized.

VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Reston Community Players' first show of our 57th Season! And as always and with as much sincerity as ever - Thank you for giving your time and your money to community theatre. We could not bring our art to life without you.

We are beyond excited to bring you our 57th Season - kicking off with serious life issues delivered with the humor only a puppet musical for mature audiences can create. Presenting **Avenue Q!**

This winter we're bringing you a murder mystery classic - Ken Ludwig's adaptation of Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express* - in all its 1930s art deco glory. In the spring, we take you on a comedic and timely journey to small town middle America with the musical, *The Prom.*

We continue to strive to bring you a mix of new and tried and true productions with a commitment to high production value. This wouldn't be possible without your support or without the many volunteers who share their talents onstage, backstage, in the scene shop and even in the conference room tending to all the tasks that go in to running a non-profit arts organization.

In true community theatre fashion, RCP's president, Joey Olson, jumped in to direct Avenue Q, so this message is

brought to you by the letter **V**. **V**ice President. **V**ersatility. **V**ariety. (Everyone should now have the Sesame Street theme song playing in their head.)

Kim Leone Vice President Reston Community Players



RCP Board of Directors 2023-2024

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Member At Large Jerry Morse

Member At Large Kendall Mostafavi

Member At Large Alexa Yarboro Pettengill

Member At Large Katie Pond

Member At Large Catherine Zimmerman



Season 57

MUSICAL NUMBERS

The Avenue Q Theme - Company
What Do You Do with a B.A. in English? - Princeton

It Sucks to Be Me - Brian, Kate Monster, Rod, Nicky,

Christmas Eve, Gary Coleman, and Princeton

If You Were Gay - Nicky with Rod

Purpose - Princeton and Company (via "singing boxes")

Everyone's a Little Bit Racist - Princeton, Kate, Gary, Brian, and Christmas Eve

The Internet Is for Porn - Kate, Trekkie Monster, Brian, Gary Coleman, Rod, and Princeton

Mix Tape - Kate and Princeton

I'm Not Wearing Underwear Today - Brian

Special - Lucy

You Can Be as Loud as the Hell You Want (When You're Makin' Love) - Gary, The Bad Idea Bears, Princeton, Kate, and Company

Fantasies Come True - Rod, Kate, Nicky and Princeton My Girlfriend, Who Lives in Canada - Rod There's a Fine, Fine Line - Kate

ACT It Sucks to Be Me (Reprise) - Princeton
There Is Life Outside Your Apartment - Brian, Princeton,

Christmas Eve, Gary, Nicky, Trekkie Monster, Lucy, and Company

The More You Ruv Someone - Christmas Eve and Kate Schadenfreude - Gary and Nicky

I Wish I Could Go Back to College - Kate, Nicky and Princeton The Money Song - Nicky, Princeton, Gary, Brian and Christmas Eve

School for Monsters – Trekkie Monster and Company

The Money Song (Reprise) - Nicky, Princeton, Gary, Brian and Christmas Eve

There's a Fine, Fine Line (Reprise) - Princeton and Kate What Do You Do With a B.A. in English? (Reprise) -Newcomer

For Now - Company

SETTING

Avenue Q is a fictional street in an outer borough of New York City. The time is the present.

CAST

| Princeton | Bennett Atwater |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Kate Monster | Colleen Lynch |
| Rod | Jim Bowen-Collinson |
| Nicky | Erich DiCenzo |
| Trekkie Monster | Joshua McCreary |
| Trekkie Monster | Evan Zimmerman |
| Brian | Jack Dixon |
| Christmas Eve | Kyle Chua |
| Gary Coleman | Ashley Williams |
| Gary Coleman (October 20) | Alexa Yarboro Pettengill |
| Mrs. Thistletwat | Cara Giambrone |
| Lucy The Slut | Brittany Washington |
| Bad Idea Bear | Stacy Crickmer |
| Bad Idea Bear | Ethan Keller |
| | |

THE BAND

| Music Director/Keyboard. | David Jaynes |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Keyboard | Robert LaRose |
| Keyboard | Matthew Scarborough |
| Guitar | James Mader |
| Bass | Avi Walters |
| Drums | Laura Moniuszko |
| Woodwinds | Justin Baughman |

DESIGN & PRODUCTION STAFF

| Producer | Anna Balchunas |
|---|--|
| Director | Joey Olson |
| Music Directors | David Jaynes, Sara Watson |
| Vocal Coach | Merissa Martignoni Driscoll |
| Choreographer | Stacy Crickmer |
| Stage Manager | Kaiti Parish |
| Assistant Stage Manager, P | uppet Captain Molly Atwater |
| Production Assistants | Ellie Janrow, Jayne Parish |
| Puppet Consultants | Nathan Cloud, Julia Tasheva |
| Puppet Wrangler | Mai Le |
| Running Crew Chief | Alex Parish, Sara Birkhead |
| Running Crew Thomas | Pulisic, Anna Mintz, Jacquelyn Duval, Richard Durkin |
| Flyman | John Turner |
| Intimacy Choreographer | lan Claar |
| Co-Set Designers | Dan Widerski, Anna Mintz |
| Master Carpenter | Dan Widerski |
| Set Construction Crew | Benjamin Archie, Rich Bird, Sara Birkhead, |
| Scott Birkhead, P | atrick Hammes, Francis Kosciesza, Kendall Mostafavi, |
| | |
| Alex Parish, Molly Atwat | er-Pulisic, Thomas Pulisic, Tim Skjerseth, John Turner |
| Set Painting Design | Cathy Rieder |
| Set Painting Design | • |
| Set Painting Design | Cathy Rieder |
| Set Painting Design Set Painting | Cathy Rieder, Catherine Zimmerman, Amanda Owens, |
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| Set Painting Design | Cathy Rieder Cathy Rieder, Catherine Zimmerman, Amanda Owens, Rahmah Hagmagid, Jacquelyn Duval, Sara Watson Alecia Nault Mary Jo Ford Alecia Nault Ken & Patti Crowley Andrew Harasty |
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| Set Painting Design | Cathy Rieder Cathy Rieder, Catherine Zimmerman, Amanda Owens, Rahmah Hagmagid, Jacquelyn Duval, Sara Watson Alecia Nault Mary Jo Ford Alecia Nault Ken & Patti Crowley Andrew Harasty David Katz, Cecilia Hilliard Adrian Steel, Weston Weber |
| Set Painting Design | Cathy Rieder Cathy Rieder, Catherine Zimmerman, Amanda Owens, Rahmah Hagmagid, Jacquelyn Duval, Sara Watson Alecia Nault Mary Jo Ford Alecia Nault Ken & Patti Crowley Andrew Harasty David Katz, Cecilia Hilliard Adrian Steel, Weston Weber Elizabeth Shaher |
| Set Painting Design | Cathy Rieder Cathy Rieder, Catherine Zimmerman, Amanda Owens, Rahmah Hagmagid, Jacquelyn Duval, Sara Watson Alecia Nault Mary Jo Ford Alecia Nault Ken & Patti Crowley Andrew Harasty David Katz, Cecilia Hilliard Adrian Steel, Weston Weber Elizabeth Shaher Courtney Washington Patrick Hammes |
| Set Painting Design | Cathy Rieder Cathy Rieder, Catherine Zimmerman, Amanda Owens, Rahmah Hagmagid, Jacquelyn Duval, Sara Watson Alecia Nault Mary Jo Ford Alecia Nault Ken & Patti Crowley Andrew Harasty David Katz, Cecilia Hilliard Adrian Steel, Weston Weber Elizabeth Shaher Courtney Washington Patrick Hammes |
| Set Painting Design | Cathy Rieder Cathy Rieder, Catherine Zimmerman, Amanda Owens, Rahmah Hagmagid, Jacquelyn Duval, Sara Watson Alecia Nault Mary Jo Ford Alecia Nault Ken & Patti Crowley Andrew Harasty David Katz, Cecilia Hilliard Adrian Steel, Weston Weber Elizabeth Shaher Courtney Washington Patrick Hammes Dan Widerski |

MEET THE CAST



BENNETT ATWATER



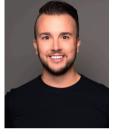
JIM BOWEN-COLLINSON



KYLE CHUA



STACY CRICKMER



ERICH DICENZO



JACK DIXON



CARA GIAMBRONE



ETHAN KELLER



COLEEN LYNCH





JOSHUA MCCREARY ALEXA YARBORO PETTENGILL



BRITTANY WASHINGTON



ASHLEY WILLIAMS



EVAN ZIMMERMAN

MEET THE CAST

Bennett Atwater (Princeton) is so excited to be joining the Reston Community Players for his debut Virginia theater production! Bennett has been part of a plethora of shows throughout his theatrical career including *Pippin* (Pippin), *Into the Woods* (Prince Charming), *Legally Blonde* (Emmett), and *Sound of Music* (Rolf). Still, it's fair to say that *Avenue Q's Princeton has been an acting experience unlike any other, and Bennett has been thrilled to take on the challenge. Bennett would like to give special thanks to his family and friends for their support in getting him up onto the stage, and his amazing wife for making it possible to fully immerse in the production. Without you, none of this would be possible or nearly as fun.*

Jim Bowen-Collinson (Rod) is thrilled to be making his RCP debut with this hilarious and wickedly talented cast and team. A Cape May, NJ native, Jim has been on the NOVA stage since moving to the area. His past roles include Ragtime (Tateh), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Lumiere), Sister Act (Joey), How to Succeed... (Bud Frump), Sweeney Todd (Beadle Bamford), and Little Women the Musical (Laurie). He directed shows in the area including Steel Magnolias and Godspell - 2012 Version. When not on stage, Jim enjoys going on adventures with his husband, Erik, playing Villainous, having Mario Kart tournaments, and discussing the Oscars (his real Super Bowl). Jim would like to thank his family and friends for all their love and support.

Kyle Chua (he/they) (Christmas Eve) is thrilled to be making a return to RCP! CFTC: Big Fish (Ensemble) (2023); RCP: Cabaret (Hans/Rudy) (2023); PWLT: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Chip Tolentino) (2023); SP: The Addams Family (Ensemble, Gomez Addams u/s, Mal Beinike u/s) (2022), Ragtime (Ensemble) (2022). IG: @kyle.jpeg.

Stacy Crickmer (Girl Bad Idea Bear) returns to RCP after 2003 in City of Angels (Oolie/Donna)! Favorite roles include: StageCoach - Legends & Bridge (July Garland), Don't Hug Me Xmas Carol (Sven); PWLT - Sister Act (Sister Mary Patrick), Annie (Star-to-Be/Mrs. Greer); Xmas Chaos (Diva Scrooge); SP - 42nd St (Anytime Annie); Zemfira Stage - Legally Blonde (Paulette), Wizard of Oz (Glinda), My Fair Lady (Eliza Doolittle), Spamalot (Lady of the Lake), Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (Christine Colgate); Alliance Theatre - Beauty and the Beast (Mrs. Potts). Stacy also danced in the Macy's NYC Thanksgiving Day Parade and studied choreography at Duke University. By day she is a Digital Solutions Business Analyst for the American Cancer Society. This show is brought to you by the Letter T - Thanks, Theatre, and TEAM!

Erich DiCenzo (Nicky) is thrilled to end his six-year hiatus from the stage with RCP, where he performed as Tulsa in Gypsy*, and the Mayor/JaKeith in Rock of Ages. He also directed and choreographed Hairspray* Prior roles include Leading Player in TAP's production of Pippin* and Michael in Dominion Stage's Snakebit*. Erich proudly serves as the Director of Fairfax Academy's Musical Theatre & Actors Studio, a preprofessional training program in Fairfax County Public Schools geared for Broadway-bound students (www.mtasacademy.weebly.com). Prior to teaching, Erich toured with Disney's High School Musical [Jack Scott/Troy Bolton u/s] and performed as a Featured Singer/Dancer aboard Regent's Seven Seas Voyager, an experience which afforded him the opportunity to tour and explore over 65 countries. Shout out to his "right hand man," Ethan! Thanks for sticking by me!

*WATCH Nomination

Jack Dixon (Brian) is excited to be making his RCP debut, along with his debut performing alongside puppets! Since moving to Northern Virginia, Jack has performed as Marcellus in *The Music Man* (SP) as well as roles in various original productions. He is a singer and trumpet player who is happy to be back on stage after a theatre hiatus. Jack would like to thank the cast and production team for their passion for making this performance the best it can be; he would also like to thank his wife, Mary, for supporting him and encouraging him as he dives back into the world of theater!

Cara Giambrone (Mrs. Thistletwat) returns to the RCP stage after last appearing as Mrs. Winsley in last season's *Stop Kiss.* RCP audiences may also remember her as Mae in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Mrs. Brill in *Mary Poppins* and in *Sunset Boulevard*. Other credits include Donna in *Mamma Mia!* (TAT), Jessie in *Sweat* (Glass House), *Company* (MCP), *Young Frankenstein* (TAT) and *The Full Monty* (LTA). On the small screen, Cara has been seen in Meet, Marry, Murder; Nightmare Next Door; Homeland; Who Killed Jane Doe; Perfect Suspect and in various commercials and corporate videos. Love to Gary!

Ethan Keller (he/him) (Boy Bad Idea Bear) is excited to be joining the cast of *Avenue Q!* Most recently, Ethan has been seen on stage as Victor in RCP's *Cabaret* and as Pythio in ASGT's *Head Over Heels*. He sends so much love and gratitude to his mom for never letting him give up on his passion for theatre, and to the rest of his incredible family and friends for their unconditional love and support.

Colleen Lynch (Kate Monster) is delighted to be making her RCP debut! Her favorite credits include the original Chicago run of *The American Girl's Revue* (Becky/Molly) and the pre-Broadway reading of *On Common Ground* (Corinne). Regional credits include: *Annie* (Pepper/Annie u.s.) with Drury Lane Oakbrook; *Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy) with Quest Theatre Ensemble; and title roles in *Legally Blonde* with Up and Coming Theatre, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* with SOS Productions. She has trained at the Fine Arts Building in Chicago under John Komasa, the University of Oklahoma's Weitzenhoffer School of Musical Theatre, and at the NYU Steinhardt School of Performing Arts. Favorite role: wife to Katie Truitt. Proud member of SAG/AFTRA.

Joshua McCreary (Trekkie Monster) is ecstatic to return to RCP. He was last seen in the role of Smee for Peter and the Starcatcher. His other credits include Little Charlie for Providence Player's August, Osage County, Guzman for Providence Player's Lovers and Executioners, and Reuben for City of Fairfax Theatre Company's Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. He'd like to thank his partner in crime, Evan Zimmerman, for sharing the role and a puppet (a very sweaty puppet), his parents for their love and guidance, and his wife Katie for everything else.

Alexa Yarboro Pettengill (Gary Coleman) is beyond excited to join this cast and crew for such a fun show. She's been a fan ever since she saw the show in NYC. Many thanks to Joey for offering her the opportunity to take on a dream role. Though her run is short the experience will last forever. Much love to her friends and family for their love and support.

Brittany Washington (Lucy the Slut) is thrilled to be joining this spectacular cast for her first RCP production! She was most recently seen as Trisha in *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* (DS). Favorite past roles of hers include Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray* (TAT), Cinderella in *Into the Woods* (CFTC), Nadia in *Bare* (TFTC and CA), and Joanne in *RENT* (CA). She thanks her family and friends for all their encouragement and support as she lives out her slut era.

Ashley Williams (Gary Coleman) is in her first production at RCP and is elated to be here. Some of Ashley's favorite past roles include Crystal in Little Shop of Horrors, Rusty in Footloose, Judas in Jesus Christ Superstar, and Deloris in Sister Act! When she's not on stage you can find her teaching Pre-Kindergarten, and eating nuggets and pickles. Ashley is a part of a variety of bands including: Juanita Williams and Family, JWCO, The Tremault Band, and more. She always thanks her family, and God for all of their support and love. Instagram: qweenshley

Evan Zimmerman (Trekkie Monster) is extremely excited to be returning for his 2nd production at RCP. Currently working towards his BFA in Musical Theater at George Mason University, Evan wants to thank all those who have and continue to support him. He has appeared as Emcee in Cabaret (RCP), Joey in Sister Act (LTA), Robin in Something Rotten! (LTA), Francois in The Frenchman (Shoestring Theater), Truffaldino in The Servant of Two Masters (GMU), Head Over Heels (GMU), and Footloose (GMU). Evan is on Facebook / Instagram: @evanzimmerman99

MEET THE BAND

Justin Baughman (Alto Sax, Clarinet, Flute) is excited to return to RCP's orchestra pit for another wonderful production! His past productions with RCP include A *Little Night Music* and *Gypsy*.

Robert LaRose (Keyboard) is thrilled to be playing in this production of Avenue Q. A native of Alexandria, VA, he has played for musicals across the DC area. Recent shows include American Idiot (MCP), Mamma Mia! (Flint Hill School), and Ragtime (SP). In addition to theater, Robert has played in a wide range of settings such as ballet, modern dance, gospel churches, contra dances, and festivals throughout the mid-Atlantic region. He regularly performs with several groups including the Irish Breakfast Band, Whiskey Before Breakfast Band, Petrichord, the Glen Echo Open Band, and the Washington Balalaika Society. He would like to thank his family, friends, and fellow pit members for their patience and support.

James Madar (Guitar) is excited to be joining the Avenue Q orchestra on guitar and banjo. James has played with several area theater companies including Prince William Little Theater, The Arlington Players, and the McLean Community Players. When not playing in musicals, James is also a guitarist and vocalist with "Echoes--A Tribute to Pink Floyd" and a guitarist with "The Apple Zed."

Laura Moniuszko (Drums) is a percussionist, performer, and educator based in Northern Virginia. She teaches percussion full time at Flint Hill School, has a private teaching studio, and performs throughout the DMV. She has recently performed in the orchestra pits for: American Idiot, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Mamma Mia, Working, and Ragtime.

Matthew Scarborough (Keyboards) is thrilled to work again with RCP, where he recently portrayed Ernst Ludwig in Cabaret. Other credits this year include music director/keyboards for MCP's Green Day's American Idiot, as well as keyboards for TAP's Into The Woods and PWLT's The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. Many thanks to cast, crew, friends, family, Caroline, and Sebastian. Enjoy the show!

Abraham "Avi" Walter (Bass) is a bass player out of Silver Spring, MD with 10+ years of gigging under his belt, and hundreds of concert appearances including shows at The Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage and The 9:30 Club. He played his first production in 2019 for the show *BKLYN* at Drama Learning Center in Columbia, MD, and returned to theatre this year for *Heathers: The Musical*, and joined Little Theatre of Alexandria for *Freaky Friday!*, and *Young Frankenstein*. You can also find Avi locally playing out with his band Friday Night Flicks, and hear their new record "Welcome to Violence" online and on all streaming platforms.

DESIGN & PRODUCTION STAFF

Molly Atwater-Pulisic (Assistant Stage Manager, Puppet Captain) is beyond excited to be back with RCP, now on the production team! Originally from Delaware where she enjoyed singing & dancing, she appeared in *Big Fish* (Featured Dancer, CFTC) and *Cabaret* (Helga, RCP). Huge thanks to Kaiti, her family, and backstage buddy Thomas.

Anna Balchunas (Producer) is thrilled to be joining RCP's production team. She was most recently a part of the production team for PWLT's performances of *The 25th Annual Putnum County Spelling Bee* and *Oliver!* She adores spending her days teaching high school chorus in Prince William County Schools and her evenings in community theater. In addition to her work with RCP and PWLT, Anna also dedicates her time as Chorus Vice President of The City Choir of Washington and to Pied Piper Theatre (PPT). Anna would like to thank her family (Mom, Dad, Elle, CJ), partner (Sean), friends, and all those involved with Avenue Q for an unforgettable, hilarious experience.

lan Claar (Fight & Intimacy Choreographer) has been involved in the performing arts for almost 20 years. He is a member of the Society of American Fight Directors and is the Managing Director of the Noble Blades stage combat troupe. Production Fight Direction credits include: NextStop Theatre Company: A Midsummer Night's Dream. Workhouse Arts Center: The Art of Murder. Theatre Prometheus: Or, VLOC: The New Moon, El Capitan. RCP: Peter and the Starcatcher, Superior Donuts [WATCH Award], Time Stands Still, The Game's Afoot, Newsies, Cabaret. LTA: Mary Stuart, Key for Two. Levine Music Theatre: Matilda. Website: LightsAndFights.com

Nathan Cloud (Puppet Consultant) has studied prop fabrication and puppetry arts since seeing "Sesame Street", "Star Wars", and John Carpenter's "The Thing" at the age of 6. His company "Exosphere Workshop LLC" in MD specializes in physical fabrication and external performance aspects of the puppetry arts. Nathan and his team are always ready to work with clients to make their creative ideas a reality.... Whether it be furry friends for the classroom, realistic creatures for horror content, a character for a drag queens next campy set, or even performance training and educational resources.

Ken & Patti Crowley (Lighting Designers) have been designing lighting for many local theatre shows, including A Little Night Music, Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Peter and the Starcatcher, Aida, Gypsy, and Our Town with RCP. They have garnered multiple WATCH nominations and awards and enjoy bringing light to the stage.

Merissa Martignoni Driscoll (Vocal Coach) has been an Educating Musician for over 15 years. She earned a Bachelor of Music in Composition at Temple University. Merissa received her teaching certification from GMU and taught for seven years in Prince William County as an Elementary Music Teacher. Merissa is a full-time teaching artist, with a home studio who offers coaching services to professional and educational institutions. She is Music Director in upcoming productions of Monarch: A Mexican-American Musical at Creative Cauldron and The Who's Tommy at Lorton Workhouse.

Richard Durkin (RCP Executive Producer) produced RCP's *Boeing, Boeing* and *Stop Kiss* in 2023 and *A Walk In The Woods* in 2021 (an experiment in streaming), was Executive Producer for *The Game's Afoot*, and produced nine shows with ESP and one show with VTC. He has also appeared onstage in multiple roles with RCP and ESP, starting in 1993. He thanks the Community Theatre community for proving that "the show must go on."

Andrew Harasty (Master Electrician) is excited to work with RCP again after doing run crew for *Bright Star*. He has bravely stepped back into lighting design after many years since college. Recent works have been with SSTG [Sandy Spring Theater Group] *Alice in Wonderland*, MCP [Montgomary Community Players] *The Laramie Project*, BP [British Players] *As You Like It* and RLT [Rockville Little Theater] *Stick Fly* and *Pride & Prejudice*. He is looking forward to working with Ken & Patti and learn from their expertise.

Cecelia Hilliard (Lightboard Operator) is excited to be operating lights in her fourth production with the RCP. She has been behind the scenes operating the lights with HONK! the musical with SP, and Bright Star, The Game's Afoot (WATCH award), and A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder with RCP. She would like to thank her mom for her constant love and support.

David Jaynes (Music Director) is excited to be part of the Reston Community Players for this production of Avenue Q. He has been involved with Holiday Inn, Addams Family, Young Frankenstein, 25th Annual Putnum County Spelling Bee, A Christmas Carol, Legally Blonde, Grease, Shrek and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. Dave expresses his appreciation for all of the awesome talent that he gets to witness and loves being part of these productions.

Anna Mintz (Set Design / Master Carpenter) is excited to be a part of the artistic staff of Avenue Q. Anna has been involved in almost every production at RCP since 2018 and most recently has designed the scenery for A Delightful Quarantine (RCP) and was Assistant Technical Director for RCP's production of Newsies. Anna was also involved with the scenic construction for RCP's productions of Cabaret, Stop Kiss, A Little Night Music, Bright Star and many others. Anna is looking forward to working with the wonderful tech team on many future productions!

Lisa Leary (Costume Designer) is excited to continue her costuming journey with Avenue Q. Lisa has been active with RCP for many shows including *Cabaret*, A *Little Night Music*, *Boeing Boeing*, *Bright Star*, and A *Gentleman's Guide* to *Love and Murder*. She holds the secrets of the D'ysquith family and will never tell.

Alecia Nault (Set Decoration Design) loves nothing more than to be creative on and off the stage. She's worked with RCP, SP, and FCT for years in various capacities. Helping *Avenue Q* become "the street where you live" has been a complete joy. Enjoy!

Joey Olson is RCP President, Actor, Producer and now Director because why not!! Previous acting roles include Dennis Dupree in the Watch Award Winning Musical Rock of Ages, Stanford Adams in Bright Star, Man #1 in A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder and Drunken Soldier #1 in Aida....All at RCP! He has also played the evil but misunderstood roles of Franklin Hart in 9 to 5 and the crazy Barfee in 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee at PWLT. He has Directed three shows at Stagecoach Theatre, with the most recent being the sold out run of Don't Hug Me - A Christmas Carol. Joey loves his RCP family and thanks the Cast and Crew for going on this crazy, furry ride with him.

Heather Regan (Portrait/Event Photographer) is based in Northern VA and specializes in the wonderful world of Theatre. A Fairfax native, she credits her Robinson photography and yearbook teachers with starting the spark back when film was trendy because it was the only option. She is forever grateful to both her family and the community theatre world for the chance to help tell their stories. Break legs!

Cathy Rieder (Scenic Painter) is grateful to team with Dan Widerski to bring this awesome set to a grungy shine. Cathy has painted over 100 shows in the DC area, most recently A Little Night Music, Bright Star, MOMTM, Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder, Time Stands Still and Annie (RCP). She has 19 WATCH nominations and 5 awards for Last Summer at Bluefish Cove, Shrek, Curtains, Ain't Misbehavin', and Hairspray. Cathy thanks Jacquelyn for her help, and the entire build crew for this set!

Courtney Washington (Sound Board Operator) is happy to be making her RCP tech debut! She previously worked sound board and foley for HHIP's *The SpongeBob Musical*, and back in the day was a part of YAT in this theater. Thanks to the production team for trusting her with this job, and break a leg to the cast, especially Brittany!

Sara Watson (Music Director/Asst. Director) is excited to be making her creative team debut with Avenue Q. Recently she was Princess Fiona (WATCH nominated) in CFTC's Shrek. Her favorite roles include: Rona Lisa Peretti (25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee - MCP), Beggar Woman (Sweeney Todd - RTP, SP), Miss Shingle (A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder - RCP), Cat (originated role in The Wiz - FCT-WATCH award winner), Eponine (Les Miserables - TJP). Sara has a BFA in Music Theatre from Shenandoah Conservatory. A HUGE shout out to this incredible cast - YOU made this happen. Be proud of your work. And our creative team - so amazing to work with you and watching our vision come to life. Thank you to my supportive husband for holding down the fort at home and always being there for me.

Dan Widerski (Set Design / Master Carpenter) is thrilled to be a part of RCP's production of Avenue Q. Recent set design work includes *The Art of Murder* (Workhouse), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (TAP), *Hairspray* (RCP), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (RCP) and *Diary of Anne Frank* (PWLT). He is the recipient of WATCH awards for his set design and set construction for *Rock of Ages* as well as Elton John and Tim Rice's *Aida* for RCP. A big thanks to Sheila for everything she does for Dan.

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City of Fairfax Bands 2023-2024 Concert Season

October 14

"Concert on the Square" - Main Street Community Band @ Fairfax Fall Festival 10:00am, Old Town Square Stage

October 28

"Foreboding Darkness and Light of Halloween" - City of Fairfax Band 7:30 pm, Fairfax High Auditorium

December 3

"Home for the Holidays" - Main Street Community Band 4:00 pm, Katherine Johnson Middle School Sponsor: Sandy Spring Bank

December 16

"Christmas in Fairfax" City of Fairfax Band with Fairfax Choral Society 7:00 pm, Fairfax High Auditorium Sponsor: Gingrich Foundation

March 4

"The American Adventure" - Main Street Community Band 4:00 pm, Katherine Johnson Middle School

March 23

"Salute to Veterans" - City of Fairfax Band 7:30 pm, Fairfax High Auditorium

April 28

"Oh the Places You Will Go!" - Main Street Community Band @ Spotlight on the Arts Festival 4:00 pm, Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center

May 4

"Celebration!" - City of Fairfax Band 7:30 pm, Fairfax High Auditorium

More details available at: www.fairfaxband.org











LOCAL THEATRE REFERENCE GUIDE

| ESP | The Elden Street Players |
|------|--|
| F&F | Fun & Fancy |
| | Globe Openstage |
| HHIP | Heart House Inclusive Productions |
| NS | NextStop Theatre Company |
| SCTC | Stagecoach Theatre Company |
| TFTC | Taking Flight Theatre Company |
| | Workhouse Theatre / Workhouse Arts Center (Lorton) |

WATCH* THEATRE REFERENCE GUIDE

| ACCT | Aldersgate Church Community Theatre |
|---------|--|
| ASGT | Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre |
| BCT | Bowie Community Theatre |
| CFTC | City of Fairfax Theatre Company |
| CPA | Colonial Players of Annapolis |
| CRT | Castaways Repertory Theatre |
| DTC | Damascus Theatre Company |
| DS | Dominion Stage |
| FCT | Fauquier Community Theatre |
| GAC | Greenbelt Arts Center |
| HBP | Hard Bargain Players |
| KAT | Kensington Arts Theatre |
| LMP | Laurel Mill Playhouse |
| LTA | Little Theatre of Alexandria |
| | McLean Community Players |
| MP | Montgomery Playhouse |
| PPF | Providence Players of Fairfax |
| PTP | Port Tobacco Players |
| PWLT | Prince William Little Theatre |
| RCP | Reston Community Players |
| RLT | Rockville Little Theatre |
| | Rockville Musical Theatre |
| RTP | Rooftop Productions |
| SMP | St. Mark's Players |
| SP | Sterling Playmakers |
| SSI | Silhouette Stages |
| | Second Star Productions |
| SSS | Silver Spring Stage |
| | The Arlington Players |
| | Victorian Lyric Opera Company |
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