

## Get to Know the Cast

**Lauren Barnes** (Pick-A-Little Lady, Featured Dancer) is a townie and is enjoying her 8th CUTC musical on the Virginia Theatre stage as a featured dancer and Pick-a-Little Lady. Lauren is also known for performing in musicals and plays at the Station Theater and Parkland, she was a member of Champaign's Zoo Improv for 6 years, and has acted in local commercials and films. Lauren studied acting at Columbia College Chicago before moving back to the area. She is thankful to be on stage again for the first time since having her daughter in 2019. Lauren wishes to thank her parents and Julia for supporting her and allowing her to chase her dream again. She hopes you enjoy the show in this very special theatre!

**Lindsey Behrens** (Townsperson) is excited to be back on the stage for the first time since high school. Outside of the theater, she enjoys singing with the Baroque Artists of Champaign Urbana, baking, board games, and working as a Molecular Analyst. Lindsey has had so much fun being a part of *The Music Man* and hopes everyone enjoys the show!

**Eric Brucker** (Jacey Squires) Eric's most recent performances were with ArtCo in the ensemble for *How to Succeed in Business* (2015) and the Gatekeeper in *The Wizard of Oz* (2014). Since 2010, Eric has been singing with the Cole's County Barbershop Chorus and has been waiting for his chance to be in *The Music Man* quartet. When he's not on stage, Eric works for a local seed company developing new sweet corn varieties. Everyone at work knows where he is because he's the only one singing in the cornfield.

**Julian Buckingham** (Salesman #2, Townsperson) is a multi-instrumentalist musician who goes to Parkland College. Julian has been involved in theatre and musicals since elementary school such as *Annie* (Franklin D Roosevelt), *Oklahoma* (Ike Skidmore), *The Jungle Book* (Big Bad Wolf), *Les Miserables* (Enjorlas), and *Cyrano* (as Cyrano); this is his first production with CUTC. Julian likes to play guitar and sing at various open mics and open jam sessions around the area. Julian also plays piano, bass, drums, and tuba.

**Sean Camp** (Tommy Djilas) is a rising sophomore studying Biochemistry at the University of Illinois and conducts research in Professor Collin Kieffer's Lab. Past productions include *Into the Woods* (Steward) and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Ensemble). He hopes to perform in *The Producers* with Larry David... one day. He would like to thank Mom and Pops, Benny and Ry, friends, family, and the wonderful cast and creative for welcoming him with open arms. Joannie, I love you, watch me dance!

**Tori Corkery** (Pick-A-Little Lady, Townsperson) is thrilled to be back on stage since her last performance in CUTC's 2017 production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and her many years performing and designing costumes for the Champaign Urbana Junior Woman's Club's Tom Thumb Theatre. Retired from the University of Illinois Department of Mathematics, she enjoys gardening, cooking, and her many volunteer activities. Tori thanks her family and friends for their amazing love and support.

**Emily Corray** (Townsperson) is excited to make a return to musical theatre after 11 years! By day, she runs a small business, Bare, offering body waxing services at two locations. She would like to thank the CUTC cast & crew for a warm welcome back to the stage.

**Jim Cowley** (Salesman #5, Constable Locke) thanks the excellent director and producers of this musical play for the opportunity to be a part of this talented cast. I was last on the Virginia Theatre stage in the Picklesheimer/Lawrence production of *1787, the Musical*, in 2011. I've been cast in various productions at CDW, Homer Opera House, CHM Bible Theater and most recently appeared at Monticello Theatre Association's *Hamlet, the Lost Scene* a one-act play. A retired Frito-Lay salesman, I live in Champaign with my splendid wife Susan who now knows my lines as well or better than do I. Much gratitude is deserved by her and my director, producers, and fellow cast members for their selfless attitudes and hard work.

**Kari Croop** (Eulalie Mackecknie Shinn) appeared earlier this spring in Parkland College Theatre's production of *Sweeney Todd* as a soprano soloist and section leader. Other credits include Madame de la Grande Bouche in CUTC's *Beauty and the Beast* (2007), Cinderella in CUTC's *Into the Woods* (2011), Eleanor Roosevelt in Parkland's *First Lady Suite* (2016), Aunt Em/Glinda in CUTC's *The Wizard of Oz* (2019) and the title role in CUTC's *Mary Poppins* (2014). Kari also performed on Krannert's Stage 5 in "An Evening of Broadway" (2018). She is thrilled to be sharing the stage with her daughter, Nora Croop, for the very first time and sends big love to her husband Andrew and boys Connor, Cameron and Baxter.

**Nora Kroop** (Amaryllis) is entering sixth grade at Edison Middle School and is an apprentice with the Champaign Urbana Ballet who will be going en pointe this fall. Past credits include Young Fiona in the Illinois High School Theatre Fest's All-State production of *Shrek: The Musical*, Young Merida in *Brave* (Champaign Ballet Academy), the Little Dutch Girl in *Miracle on 34th Street* (Three Brothers Theatre) and featured roles in CUB's *The Nutcracker*, *The Little Mermaid* and *The Sleeping Beauty*. Love to Dad, Connor, Cameron, Baxter, Nana and Poppy, and a big thank you to Aunt Rachel — her real-life Miss Marian — for helping her with all of those piano lessons!

**Jonathan Dare** (Ensemble) is an 8th grader at Edison Middle School. He performed with CUTC in *The Wizard of Oz* as a Lollipop Guildsman, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* as an ensemble member. He has participated in track and choir at Edison. Much love to his family.

**Jacob Deters** (Charlie Cowell, Featured Dancer) is proud to work on another CUTC show! Starting his career as an actor over 15 years ago, Jacob enjoys bringing the arts to life both on stage and behind the scenes. Jacob assistant directed *Shrek the Musical* at Champaign Urbana Theatre Company last year and has performed in Parkland's *Sweeney Todd* (Anthony) and DLO's *Bridges of Madison County* (Robert Kincaid). Other favorite roles include Jimmy Ray in *Bright Star*, (Legacy Theater), Alex More in *Buyer & Cellar* (Spencer Theatre Company), and Jimmy in *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (The Springfield Muni). During the day Jacob works at UIUC in the Computer Science Department as an academic advisor. Special shoutout to his partner, Jaime!

**Lena Golprarvar** (Townsperson) is a nine-year-old with a deep passion for dancing, acting, piano, and gymnastics. She will be entering fourth grade at Bottenfield Elementary School. When she is not studying for school, she dances, watches movies and plays with her friends. She also plays piano and dedicates a lot of her time to gymnastics at XCEL level, where she always strives for new achievements and pushes her limits.

**Jason Gordon** (Mayor Shinn) is a father of toddler twins, Annie Jay and Owen John. Jason has recently returned to his IT job at Parkland College after spending over two years as a stay-at-home parent. Jason is excited to make his debut with CUTC as Mayor Shinn in *The Music Man*!

**Jenna Hall** (Featured Dancer, Townsperson) is delighted to make her CUTC debut with such a talented cast! While this show is her first musical theatre production, she has a long history of performing in Studio B dance recitals and at show choir competitions. When she's not doing the Shipooopi, you can find Jenna working with seniors at Land of Lincoln Legal Aid, reading at breweries, snuggling her cat, and tap dancing down grocery store aisles. Special thanks to her family, her coworkers, and Drew for all their love and support, and a super special shout-out to Gabe.

**Zoe Harms** (Gracie Shinn) is a rising 6th grader at Edison Middle School and has been in many productions including *Charlotte's Web* (Narrator) with CUTC June 2023, *Christmas Story* (Shwartz) with Parkland December 2022, and her favorite role to date: *Fun Home* (Small Alison) with Lyric Theatre at UIUC fall 2021. Most recently she was in *Giants in the Sky* (Bert) with Class Act. Since 2018, Zoe has been studying theatre under Jaclyn Loewenstein (Class Act). Zoe enjoys singing, soccer, reading, and being with friends and family. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Erica Holmes** (Pick-A-Little Lady, Featured Dancer) is excited to be a part of *The Music Man* as her first show here in Illinois. She holds a BA in Theatre and Spanish, an MA in Teaching, and MA in Drama and Movement Therapy. She has performed on stage in CA, OR, WA, and London, UK. Some favorites include *Awake and Sing* (Bessie), *5 Lesbians eating a Quiche* (Dale), and *Sweet Charity* (Nickie). Erica enjoys being home with her 22-month-old daughter, Maeve, and is currently pregnant with her second child!

**John Howard** (Salesman #1, Townsperson) came to community theater as an adult in his first job as a fund-raiser, when a potential donor said "I will make a pledge to your campaign if you audition for my show." That show was *The Murder Room* and it was the first of many. John has done shows at Richmond Hill Barn Theatre, Cornstock in Peoria, and most recently three shows at Monticello Theater Association. He comes from a theatrical family as all five of his kids were active in theater. He lives in Rantoul and in his real life serves as Director of Mahomet Public Library. This is his first show with CUTC, although he has done dozens of murder mysteries as part of the Seven Corpse Dinner troupe.

**Kristin Kelleher** (Featured Dancer, Townsperson) Kristin has loved *The Music Man* ever since she was a child (thanks dad!) and is so excited to have the opportunity to be a part of it. By day she works as the Assistant Technical Director at Parkland College, so performing is a nice change. She would like to thank the entire CUTC staff and production team for their incredible work and of course Anthony, for bringing the ruckus.

**Grace Kreps** (Featured Dancer, Townsperson) is an incoming sophomore in the Department of Lyric Theatre at the University of Illinois studying voice under the direction of Professor Dawn Harris. She is from Champaign and you may recognize her from her previous performances in the area, including *Into the Woods* at The High School of St. Thomas More (Cinderella) and *Newsies* with The Urbana Park District (Henry/Katharine Understudy). She would like to thank everyone who helped to make this show a success and her family and friends for their love and support.

**Fallon McFarland** (Townsperson) is a Senior at Uni High. She has been involved in theater productions in Champaign-Urbana for about 6 years and is very excited to be in her first CUTC musical! Fallon has had a wonderful time meeting new people working on *The Music Man* and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Rebecca Maloney** (Mrs. Squires) is very excited to be a part of her second CUTC production, and first musical in many years. She thanks her family and friends for their love and support, and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Braedan McDuffie** (Townsperson) is entering sixth grade at Franklin Middle School and enjoys performing when not playing Roblox. He has previously performed in *The Jungle Book* (elephant brigade) and *Matilda* (Bruce) with the Champaign Park District.

**Lydia Miller** (Townsperson) is an incoming Junior at the University of Illinois studying communication. This is Lydia's first show in the Champaign-Urbana area, but is not a stranger to musical theatre as she has been a part of shows such as *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Marcy Park), *Wizard of Oz*, *Schoolhouse Rock*, and *Puffs*. Lydia is thankful for the opportunity to get back onstage after a few years, to perform in The Virginia Theatre amongst some very talented performers, and to share this show with you all!!

**Miranda Molina** (Maud Dunlop) is excited to perform with Champaign Urbana Theatre Company for the first time and be in *The Music Man* for the second time! Miranda previously played Zeeneta Shinn back in 2014 and fell in love with Meredith Wilson's beautiful and hilarious musical. For more than 20 years, Miranda has had the pleasure of performing in community theater productions around Illinois. Her previous roles include Anne Shirley in *Anne of Green Gables*, Oliver Twist in *Oliver!*, and the Star to Be in *Annie*. She has also performed in other productions such as *The Wizard of Oz*, *Seussical*, *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Gypsy*, *Cinderella*, and more. Miranda thanks all her friends and family who came to see the show and the cast for all the memories!

**Heath Morber** (Ewart Dunlop) is thrilled to be part of his second production with CUTC...but his first in 24 years! (*Jesus Christ Superstar* in 1999) Heath is a local church musician and father of five. Previous roles include Curly in *Oklahoma!*, and Sky Masterson in *Guys and Dolls*. He wants to thank his wife and kids for their encouragement and his quartet for the tight harmonies and camaraderie.

**Victoria Morford** (Farmer's Wife/Ensemble): Victoria is very excited to be a part of *The Music Man* for CUTC. She recently played the role of Mama Ogre in *Shrek the Musical* last summer with the Company. Victoria is a K-8 music teacher in the area and sings with the Baroque Artists of Champaign-Urbana to fulfill her passion for choral singing. She will be completing her Master's of Music Education, August 2023, from Longy School of Music of Bard College. She wants to thank her parents, family, and dog Gus for always supporting her passions.

**Nicole Morgan** (Mrs. Paroo) is so excited to make her SINGING debut on the Virginia stage and with CUTC! She has music directed many musicals here for CUTC and others, but she has never performed here. Some recent credits include Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd* (Parkland), Mamie Eisenhower in *First Lady Suite* (Parkland), soloist in Sondheim's *Putting it Together* (Station Theatre) and soloist in *Bernstein's Mass* (Krannert). When Nicole isn't on the stage she keeps busy teaching voice, making sensory friendly clothing for her business Mama's Little Shop, and driving her 11-year-old to all his therapies. Fun Fact: Nicole actually sang this role in the 8th grade – almost thirty years ago!

**John Nicol** (Featured Dancer, Townsperson) is a recent graduate of Wheaton College and is delighted to return to Champaign-Urbana to perform in another show! He has previously played ensemble and featured dancer roles in CUTC youth productions of *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Oliver!*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. John has also played a wide variety of parts in productions elsewhere, from Caliban (World Stage Homeschool Theater Company's *The Tempest*), to Margaret Dashwood (Arena Theater's *Sense and Sensibility*) and Obi-Wan Kenobi (All Roads Theater Company's *The Phantom of Menace*). John has loved his time working on *The Music Man* and hopes you all enjoy the show!

**Kristin Pitlik** (Zaneeta Shinn) is excited to be performing in her first show in 8 years! She would like to thank her husband, Taylor, for his tremendous support and encouragement in her return to the stage this summer. Kristin is an audiologist, with a passion for disability advocacy. Past credits include *The Witch (Into the Woods)*, *Sabina (The Skin of Our Teeth)*, and *Ruby (Dames at Sea)*. Kristin has loved working on *The Music Man*, where she has met some truly incredible people. Enjoy the show!

**Mike Prosize** (Oliver Hix) is a veteran of Champaign-Urbana theatre, having acted, directed, and designed for over 70 productions since 2001. It has been a blast getting to do *The Music Man* again 22 years later... many of my friends today are people I met in that production in 2001. So much love goes out to this cast and the theatre community. The most love goes to my BKR Katie, and my daughter Penny Lane. I love you, Goober!

**Emily Ritter** (Featured Dancer, Townsperson) has been involved in theatre for 13 years, performing in a variety of shows, and most recently performed in the *Villain Cabaret* at EIU, and Twin City Theatre Company's *Curious Case of Covington Manor*. While she loves to perform on stage, she has also been able to help backstage on stage crew with some of EIU's theatre shows throughout this past year. Currently, she is attending Eastern Illinois University, majoring in music education and minoring in theatre. Emily has greatly enjoyed this experience and would like to thank KT and Whitney for giving her this chance to have fun and put her dance and tumbling skills to the test.

**Adrian Rochelle** (Marcellus Washburn) is very excited to return to CUTC for the first time in 10 years. After being born and raised in Champaign Urbana, Adrian proceeded to earn their BFA in Musical Theatre from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. After receiving their degree, they performed with several professional companies including; Jet Theatre, Murray Peters Presents, and Thunder Bay Theatre. Since returning to town, they currently work at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in the patron services department. Outside of this, you can find them teaching and choreographing for different community projects, as well as being involved in the local drag scene. They would like to say thank you to this wonderful company and production staff for involving them in such a beautiful experience.

**Monica Samii-Porter** (Ethel Toffelmier) is delighted to return to the Virginia stage. Her very first performance with CUTC was in 1994's *Meet Me in St. Louis*. She currently works as a Revenue Cycle Systems Analyst at Carle Health, is mom to Estella, wife to Bradley, a Junior Leaguer, and co-owner of a small business. She would like to thank her family and friends for their encouragement and support, and dedicate her performance to her current Marcellus, Adrian and her OG Marcellus, Jeffrey Chandler.

**Brycen Sheehan** (Winthrop Paroo) is a rising 6th grader who will be attending Edison Middle School this fall. He studies voice under Audrey Vallance, and took classes in musical theater performance at Class Act with Jaclyn Loewenstein. The part of Winthrop Paroo is Brycen's first leading role in a full-length production, but he is not new to the stage. Previous appearances include a stint as a Police/Newsie Ensemble member in the 2022 Urbana Park District Youth Summer Theater production of *Disney's Newsies*, Henry VIII in Class Act's *Shake It Up With Shakespeare*, and Elder Giant Sye in Class Act's *Giants in the Sky*. Brycen is looking forward to joining the CIYC Chamber Choir this year. He also enjoys playing the tenor saxophone, riding his scooter, listening to podcasts, and playing videogames.

**Andrew Simek** (Harold Hill) is so happy to be back with CUTC. Andrew made his company debut last year as Lord Farquaad in *Shrek the Musical*. Originally from Binghamton, NY, some favorite roles include *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* (Andrew Jackson), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella's/Rapunzel's Prince) *Les Miserables* (Marius), *A Year with Frog & Toad* (Frog), and *The Last 5 Years* (Jamie). Andrew would like to thank his friends and family for their lifelong support. Lastly, Andrew wishes to thank his partner Emily for being the greatest thing that ever happened to him or anyone.

**Kaila Simpson** (Alma Hix) is a visiting math teacher at Uni High and is participating in her second CUTC show. She was most recently in Parkland College's production of *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble) and CUTC's *Shrek*(Dragon). Kaila has had an amazing time working on *The Music Man* and is thoroughly enjoying becoming a part of the Champaign-Urbana theatre scene.

**Anna Summers** (Pickalittle lady and Featured Dancer) is excited to be in another CUTC production. She is excited to share the stage with her fellow actors and actresses. Some of her favorite performances have been *Crazy for You*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *West Side Story* and *Les Miserables*. She was most recently in *Shrek*. She would like to thank her fellow dancers for all of the support with each other. She would also like to thank her sons Ben and Alex for putting up with mom through rehearsals and to Dave for all of the love and support. Have a great time cast and crew!!!

**Karin Vermillion** (Pick-A-Little Lady, Featured Dancer, Townsperson) *The Music Man* marks Karin's second on-stage production with CUTC. Previous years were spent below stage playing oboe. During the day, Karin is a research nurse at UIUC. She is thrilled to join this wonderfully kind and talented cast and crew!

**Samantha Wells** (Pick-A-Little Lady, Townsperson) is excited to participate in her first show with the Champaign Urbana Theatre Company and her first show in ten years! As a children's therapist, Samantha encourages all of her clients to pursue what makes them most happy and It was time to take her own advice. It has been amazing working with the cast and crew of *The Music Man* and is appreciative of all of the patience as she has gotten back into the world of theatre. And no, I am NOT related to the Wellses of the Wells-Fargo group, at least I don't think so.

**Carissa Yau** (Marian Paroo) has been doing theatre in the Champaign-Urbana area since 2015, starting with student productions at the U of I. Her first community theatre role was in CUTC's production of *The Tempest* (Miranda), directed by Latrelle Bright. Recent credits include the Station Theatre's *The Good Person of Setzuan* (Shen Te/Shui Ta), directed by June Clark Eubanks, and DLO's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Esmeralda). She would like to thank her friends, family, and everyone involved in CUTC's 4th production of *The Music Man* for all their support and hard work. Thanks to all of you for supporting local theatre, you make this possible.

**Gil Yohnka** (Salesman #3, Townsperson) This is Gill's 8th CUTC show (Producers, Legally Blonde, How to Succeed, Les Mis, Guys & Dolls, Joseph, Shrek). He has performed for several local theater companies and is on the Monticello Theatre Assoc. board. Gil is a retired Champaign Police Lieutenant. He thanks his wife Peg for her support of his community theater hobby. Gil is having a blast working with this talented cast and crew and he hopes the audiences feel well served by their efforts.

**April Yu** (Townsperson) is entering 5th grade at Dr. Howard elementary school. April has been included in other performances such as *The Nutcracker*, *Into the Woods*, *Jungle Book*, and *Giants in the Sky*. She is also a drummer and violin player. She takes ballet and horse riding classes. April also likes to make movies. She has thoroughly enjoyed her time working on *The Music Man* and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Travis McNeese** (Conductor, Wagon Driver, Costume Crew) is a Champaign County native and a small business co-owner of Prism Studios in Champaign. He hasn't been a part of a production in over 10 years and is so thrilled for the opportunity to return to a stage! He is also delighted to have been a part of the process of getting the cast in costumes.

## Get to Know Our Staff

**Addie Hoegberg** (Set Designer) is a current Senior at UIUC studying Arts and Entertainment Technology. This is her second show with CUTC, having done set design for *Arsenic and Old Lace* earlier this year. She is currently working in Vermont as the Assistant Technical Director for St. Michael's Playhouse and would like to thank the whole production team for working with her while she is out of state. Website: [addie-hoegberg.com](http://addie-hoegberg.com)

**Alina Loewenstein** (Rehearsal Accompanist/Keyboard) is delighted to be a part of this production. They have previously been involved in numerous CUTC productions as a cast member, but this will be their debut as a musician. They would like to shout out the rest of the rehearsal staff and the pit for being so fantastic to work with throughout this process.



**Beth Caughlin** (Assistant Stage Manager) has been a backstage volunteer for numerous CUTC shows over the past 6 years and serves as stage manager for CUTC's Penguin Project. *The Music Man* is one of her favorite musicals ever since her sister was cast in the ensemble for a local high school in 4th grade, and Beth was at most rehearsals. Beth is very excited to be part of the production. She knows you will enjoy the show!

**Brian Hagy** (lighting designer) is honored to be returning to CUTC after having designed lights for *Shrek*. And particularly excited to be designing for *The Music Man*, as this was the very first musical he ever saw, when he was a wee lad. When not involved with theater (performing, tech-ing, teaching, or improvising), Brian also is an active(ly waking back up from COVID) filmmaker, cybernetician, and book lover. He also supports actors who demonstrate that a disability does not imply an inability.

**Chris Kreps** (Producer) is very proud to be a part of this production of *The Music Man*. While CUTC audiences are most likely to remember him for his time onstage in numerous shows dating back to 1997, he has most recently been serving as the Drama Coach at The High School of Saint Thomas More to satisfy his theatre bug. Outside of his theatre endeavors, you can most likely see him chasing around after Grace, Gianna, Tobias, Joshua, Samuel, Nicholas, Alexander, Gwendolyn, or Gabriella!! As you can see by that list, he has the greatest partner in life, Britta, whom he loves very much! Enjoy the Show!!!!

**Cindy Havice** (Properties Designer/Set Decorator) has served as Properties Designer/Set Decorator for 65+ theatrical productions in the C-U area. She has served in this capacity mostly for The Champaign-Urbana Theatre Company, but also for the Virginia Theatre, Station Theatre, Parkland College Theatre, Central High School, and Lee School of Ballet, among others. She has also acted as a decorator for many special events in the area. Her family previously owned local florist, Abbott's Florist for over a century, and she spent countless hours working and being involved in the floral business. Currently, she has been employed part-time for 22 years in the University of Illinois System, University Academic Program and Services department. She sends great thanks to Autumn for her unwavering support and assistance!

**Dave Ivy** (Conductor) is a long-time music theatre veteran, mostly as an orchestra musician (37 different shows, 12 with CUTC, 51 productions total). Since 2016, he has conducted four CUTC productions - *Oklahoma!*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and now *The Music Man*. A former band and choir director for 14 years, Dave is an active low brass musician and Bass Guitarist in C-U and Danville who once got to play in a section of 76 Trombones (no, really - at EPCOT Center in 1982). He deeply appreciates getting to return to the podium for CUTC, and thanks everyone involved for helping make this classic tale come to life once more.

**Delaney Wright** (Stage Manager) is entering her fifth year as a Scenic Technology BFA student at the University of Illinois. A graduate of Parkland College's Theatre Design program, Delaney has been a local Champaign resident her entire life. She started working in theatre at the age of thirteen with CUTC's Broadway Beginners Program production of *Schoolhouse Rock, Live! Jr.* and has been involved in many productions with Champaign Urbana Theatre Company, Urbana Park District, Parkland College, the U of I, Danville Light Opera Musical Theatre, and The Station Theatre. When she finishes her BFA, she hopes to pursue an MFA in Stage Management. Some past technician credits include *How I Learned to Drive* (Parkland College; Costume Design), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Parkland College; Carpenter, Stitcher), *The Neverland* (UIUC; Carpenter), *Sister Act* (CUTC; Stage Manager), *Newsies* (UPD; Master Carpenter, Assistant Stage Manager), *A Little Night Music* (U of I; Head Carpenter), *tick, tick...Boom!* (The Station Theatre; Head Carpenter), *Coriolanus* (UIUC; Asst. Technical Director), and *The Lion King jr.* (DLO Musical Theatre; Technical Director).

**Jeff Dare** (Vocal Director) is a long-time collaborator with CUTC, having directed *The Wizard of Oz*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Avenue Q*. He also directed *Memphis* and *Sweeney Todd* for Parkland College. Previous stage roles include Jud Fry (*Oklahoma!*), Zoser (*Aida*), Moonface Martin (*Anything Goes*), Fyedka (*Fiddler*) and yes, Harold Hill in 2011 (CUTC) and 1997 (Herrick Middle School). Jeff teaches music at Edison Middle School in Champaign. Shoutouts to Rachael, Jack, J, Dad, and Luddy. For Mom.

**Katye Newhouse** (Costume Team) Champaign townie turned small business owner, operates a local sustainable fashion line of hand-upcycled clothing and accessories in support of their art studio and gallery Prism Studios. With the mission statement "Art for All, All the Time", Katye is excited to support close friend and Music Man Director KT Burke and the CUTC with alterations to costumes to provide excellent costuming to the cast while remaining sustainable.

**KT Burke** (Director) *The Music Man* is KT's first production directing for CUTC. With the Station Theatre, KT directed *Silent Sky* (winner of Best Local Theater Production of the Decade 2010-2019, Smile Politely), *MAMMA MIA!*, and *I Hate Hamlet*. KT directed for campus theatre troupes such as Illini Student Musicals (*Pippin*, *Urinetown*, *The Rocky Horror Picture Show Shadow Cast*), and the Penny Dreadful Players. She provided dramaturgy for *The Aliens* (Station Theatre), *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Illinois Theatre), and *Failure: A Love Story* (Illinois Theatre). In 2018, she received the Lloyd and Edna Morey Award for Excellence as a Student and Practitioner of Theatre (Illinois Theatre). KT wants to thank you for your gracious support of local theatre and live performing arts venues like the Virginia Theatre. KT sends lots of love to her family, friends, muse, and two rescued cats.

**Michael Miller** (Sound Designer) received his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Montana and his Master of Music degree from The Ohio State University. He has performed throughout the Midwest with regional theatre companies in a wide variety of shows. He has designed sound for productions of *Memphis*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Shrek The Musical*; and most recently, *Sweeney Todd* for Parkland Theatre, and many others. Michael has recorded local bands and is currently working with Spectrum on their upcoming album. Michael lives in Champaign IL and works for the National Center for Supercomputing Applications at the University of Illinois.

**Whitney Havice** (Choreographer) has directed, choreographed, and/or appeared in over seventy productions locally and in the Chicago area. Recent directing credits include *Shrek the Musical* (CUTC) and recent choreography credits include *The Music Man* (August 2023-CUTC), and *Young Frankenstein* (Parkland). In addition, she has also served as Dance Rehearsal Director for the Lyric Theatre at the UI, and is the musical theatre dance instructor for the Champaign Park District. A Champaign native, Whitney works as the Director for Ticketing and Patron Services at Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.