

from the creators of
Cabaret & Chicago

APRIL 30-MAY 16

**THE MUSICAL
COMEDY
WHODUNIT**

CURTAINS

Directed & Choreographed by
JOEY BUCHEKER

Music by **JOHN KANDER**

Lyrics by **FRED EBB**

Book by **RUPERT HOLMES**

Original Book and Concept by **PETER STONE**

Additional Lyrics by **JOHN KANDER** and **RUPERT HOLMES**



For a Complete PLAYBILL SCAN or visit OCONNELLANDCOMPANY.COM

CAST

(in order of appearance)

Jessica Cranshaw.....	MARIA KREUTINGER
Randy Dexter.....	BRYAN SHARRY
Niki Harris.....	ASHLEIGH CHRISENA RICCI
Bambi Bernét.....	EMILY WEBER
Bobby Pepper.....	STEVEN SAELZLER
Johnny Harmon.....	CHRISTOPHER ANDREANA
Georgia Hendricks.....	AIMÉE WALKER
Aaron Fox.....	JOE ISGAR
Carmen Bernstein.....	LISA LUDWIG
Oscar Shapiro.....	GUY TOMASSI
Christopher Belling.....	JOHN KREUZER
Lieutenant Frank Cioffi.....	NICHOLAS LAMA
Mona Page.....	JESSIE FERKIN
Harv Fremont.....	CODY GOOLEY
Roberta Wooster.....	RYLIE RANDALL
Sidney Bernstein.....	PHIL SALEMI JR.
Detective O'Farrell.....	MATTI LaVIGNE
Daryl Grady.....	MICHAEL SEITZ
Arlene Barruca.....	KAYLEE CHERNOFF
Roy Stetson.....	DANIEL BILLS-WARMAN
Brick Hawvermale.....	MATTI LaVIGNE

SETTING

Act I

The Colonial Theatre in Boston, 1959, during the out-of-town
tryout of the new musical, Robin' Hood!

Act II

The same, much later that night.

CREATIVE TEAM

Director-Choreographer.....	JOEY BUCHEKER
Music Director.....	JOE ISGAR
Stage Manager.....	ALLEY GRIFFIN
Assistant Choreographer.....	AUDRIANNA YATES
Scenic Designer.....	RICH MERANTO
Costume Designer.....	TIMMY GOODMAN
Lighting Designer.....	JAY MARKS

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

“Wide Open Spaces”.....Randy, Niki, Jessica Cranshaw, Bobby, Ensemble
“What Kind of Man?”.....Carmen, Oscar, Aaron, Georgia
“Thinking of Him”.....Georgia, Aaron, Bobby
“The Woman’s Dead”.....Entire Company
“Show People”.....Carmen, Cioffi, Entire Company
“Coffee Shop Nights”.....Cioffi
“In the Same Boat #1”.....Georgia, Niki, Bambi
“I Miss the Music”.....Aaron
“Thataway!”.....Georgia, Ensemble

Act II

“He Did It”.....Entire Company
“In the Same Boat #2”.....Bobby, Randy, Harv
“It’s a Business”.....Carmen, Male Ensemble
“Kansasland”.....Randy, Niki, Harv, Bambi, Bobby, Ensemble
“Thinking of Him”/“I Miss The Music” (Reprise).....Aaron and Georgia
“A Tough Act to Follow”.....Cioffi, Niki, Ensemble
“In the Same Boat #3”.....Entire Company
“A Tough Act to Follow” (Reprise).....Entire Company

THERE WILL BE ONE 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION.



Executive/Artistic Director.....MARY KATE O'CONNELL
Managing Director.....JOEY BUCHEKER
Digital Marketing.....JESSICA MARINELLI
Volunteer Coordinators.....MARY ELLEN LUTZ
MARY ELLEN PULERI
Box Office Manager.....PAM SANKOFF

Board of Directors

Sara Goldhawk, Chair
David Granville, Vice Chair
Darleen Knutsen, Secretary
Pamela Rose Mangus, Treasurer
Kelly Bova Kim Piazza John Pirrone Daniel Lenzian
Michael Starzynski Marilyn Singer Todd Warfield

WHO'S WHO

NICHOLAS LAMA (Lieutenant Frank Cioffi) is thrilled to be joining the cast of CURTAINS! Previous credits include Scotty in KHAN! THE MUSICAL and Shrek in SHREK THE MUSICAL, Lenny in THE RINK (Artie Nom. for Supporting Actor in a Musical), and Wayne in PUFFS (Artie Nom. for Actor in a Play), with O'Connell & Company, and Mickey in STRING THE MUSICAL with The Kavinoky Theatre. He is thankful for his family, friends, and especially thankful to his best friend and partner Audrianna for constantly pushing him to be the best he can.

LISA LUDWIG (Carmen Bernstein) happily returns to O'Connell & Company, where she previously appeared as Berthe in PIPPIN and directed ROMANCE/ROMANCE at The Smith Theatre. Lisa serves as Executive Director of Shakespeare in Delaware Park and is a multiple Artvoice Theatre Award-winning actress and director. Recent credits include EVERYBODY at Ujima, THE BOOK OF WILL at Road Less Traveled, and directing Second Generations production of MAMA MIA! at Shea's 710. Favorite past roles include SWEENEY TODD, INTO THE WOODS, DOUBT, 'NIGHT, MOTHER, STEEL MAGNOLIAS, and EXTREMITIES. In 2021, she made her feature film debut in Pan American Film Division's award-winning Mother's Day. She also fulfilled a longtime dream in 2020 by earning her New York State cosmetology license and now happily serves the senior community at the Lion's Mane Salon at Canterbury Woods. Her proudest productions are her two extraordinary children, Cydney and Griffin — and her newest starring role as "Granny" to the beautiful Della Joan. And yes, she remains one of the few people in the world who has never joined Facebook.

ASHLEIGH CHRISENA RICCI (Niki Harris) is so happy to be back at O'Connell & Company. Most recently you might have seen her in LUCKY STIFF (Annabel) at Lancaster Opera House, STRING (Clotho) at The D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre or PIPPIN (Catherine) with O'Connell & Company (Artie Nominee). When not on stage, Chrisena is the Host for WNED's 'Let's Go!' (Emmy Nominee) and voices various cartoon characters in "Transformers: Rescue Bots Academy", "Transformers: Cyberverse", and "Mini Beat Power Rockers". Off-Broadway credits include HONESTLY ABE: THE MUSICAL and COME BACK ONCE MORE. She would like to thank her family, friends, and husband Chris for their love and support.

AIMÉE WALKER (Georgia Hendricks) was most recently seen as Mary Magdalene in JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR. Favorite roles include Charity Hope Valentine in SWEET CHARITY (Artie Nomination), Velma Kelly in CHICAGO, Cassie in A CHORUS LINE, Luisa in NINE, Angel in THE RINK, and Lola in DAMN YANKEES for which she won the Artie Award for Outstanding Actress in a Musical. Aimée holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from the University at Buffalo and is a certified dance educator through Dance Masters of America.

WHO'S WHO

JOE ISGAR (Aaron Fox/Music Director) is a Buffalo-based accompanist, music director, and voice coach. Previous Music Director credits include LEGALLY BLONDE (MusicalFare), SWEET CHARITY (Kavinoky), DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (TOY), TICK, TICK,...BOOM! (SGT), and THE ADDAMS FAMILY (O'Connell & Company). He is also an adjunct faculty member at Niagara University and accompanies regularly for UB Theatre, West Seneca East, and Lancaster High School. His next production will be SWEENEY TODD at 710.

CHRISTOPHER ANDREANA (Johnny Harmon) is happy to be back at with O'Connell & Company. He was last seen as Chuck in GRUMPY OLD MEN. He has been seen in numerous productions in WNY and has been fortunate enough to have worked with MusicalFare, Second Generation, Subversive Theater, ART, Rocking Horse, Lancaster Opera House, The Palace, and NRTG. Christopher holds a BFA in musical theater from UB. He would like to dedicate this show to his family and mentors. Without them this wouldn't have been possible! This one's for you Mom and Dad!!!!

MARIA KREUTINGER (Jessica Cranshaw) is back after a long break, bringing her quirky muppet face back to the scene. An Artie winning actress, favorite credits include: AVENUE Q, PUMP BOYS, SILENCE! THE MUSICAL, TONY N' TINA'S WEDDING and more. Realtor. Teacher. Over-actor. Dedicated to Fred, Ernie, and Adam in heaven. Make art every day!

JOHN KREUZER (Christopher Belling) should look familiar, as he has been blessed to be cast in several O'Connell & Company shows including PIPPIN, KHAN!!!, GRUMPY OLD MEN, LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, WICKET, ART, YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN, and the just-closed ALIVE & KICKING. During his 30 years in Buffalo theatre, he has appeared in many wonderful production houses, most recently as Zeus in STRING at Kavinoky Theatre. Many thanks to the Kreuzer Dynasty for their endless inspiration and support.

STEVEN SAELZLER (Bobby Pepper) is excited to be making his O'Connell & Company debut! For 7 years, he worked in entertainment at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, FL. He also graduated from SUNY Fredonia with his BFA in Musical Theatre. You might've seen him recently at the Historic Palace Theatre in Lockport in SHREK as Lord Farquoad, RENT as Steve/Ensemble, THE HAPPY ELF as Eubie The Happy Elf, SWEENEY TODD as Aldo Pirelli, 9 TO 5 as Joe, KINKY BOOTS as Angel, WHITE CHRISTMAS as Phil Davis, JERSEY BOYS as Nick DeVito, and ALL SHOOK UP as Chad.

PHIL SALEMI JR. (Sidney Bernstein) is thrilled to be back on the O'Connell & Company stage and was last seen in ALIVE AND KICKING and as Cinderella's father in their production of INTO THE WOODS. Favorite roles include Cornelius Hackl in HELLO, DOLLY! (O'Connell & Company), Dr. Einstein in ARSENIC AND OLD LACE (Lancaster Opera House), Max Detweiler in THE SOUND OF MUSIC (Lancaster Opera House) and many others. A huge thank you to his husband, family, friends and colleagues for their unending support.

WHO'S WHO

MICHAEL SEITZ (Daryl Grady) is best known by the O'Connell & Company audiences for his spot on portrayal of Dorothy Zbornak in THE GOLDEN GIRLS – THE LOST EPISODES series. He has worked for several WNY theater companies and is a company member of Buffalo United Artists. Credits include SILENCE! THE MUSICAL (Buffalo Bill), IT'S ONLY A PLAY (Peter Austin), and POSEIDON! AN UPSIDE-DOWN MUSICAL (Nonnie) which earned him an Artie Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Musical. Mike has also done commercial and feature film work including Sugar Wonder Blues and G.O.D..

GUY TOMASSI (Oscar Shapiro) has worked in many Western New York theatres and is excited make his to return to the stage. Favorite credits include O'Connell & Company: YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN (Director), COMPANY (Harry), NUNSENSE, A-MEN I & II (Reverend Mother), MUSICAL OF MUSICALS, THE MUSICAL (The Hero, Billy) Artie Award - Outstanding Ensemble of a Musical, Buffalo United Artists: CLEOPATRA (Caesar), VAHALLA (Pfeiffer and others), SALOME, Alleyway Theatre: REEFER MADNESS (Lecturer). Film: MARSHALL (Algonquin Friend); THE PANIC (Party Guest). Television: DEADLY VOWS (Minister); A CHRISTMAS IN VERMONT (Jesse); A MOTHER'S REVENGE (Shopkeeper). Member Screen Actors Guild.

EMILY WEBER (Bambi Bernét) is so excited to be back with O'Connell & Company! Previous credits with OCC include SHREK (co-choreographer) and PIPPIN (Player/Mason Trio). Other recent credits include MusicalFare's WHITE CHRISTMAS (Rhoda, Ensemble) and CRAZY FOR YOU at the Lancaster Opera House (Dance Captain, Follies Ensemble). She also teaches tap, jazz, hip hop and modern at Lancaster Dance Center and is a teaching artist for Second Generation Theatre Academy. She holds a B.A. in Theater from St. Bonaventure University and is currently working towards her certification under the Dance Masters of America. Thank you to the whole cast and creative team!

DANIEL BILLS-WARMAN (Roy Stetson) is excited to be onstage at O'Connell & Company! He is a member of Ujima Theater Company and holds a BFA in Theatre Performance from the University at Buffalo. Past credits include CRAZY FOR YOU (Moose) and THE PAJAMA GAME (Charley) with The Lancaster Opera House and GOODNIGHT, TYLER (Davis) and THE THANKSGIVING PLAY (Jaxton) with Ujima. He would like to thank his friends, family and husband for all of their love and support! @dan_bills_warman23

KAYLEE CHERNOFF (Arlene Barrauca) is a freshman BFA Musical Theatre and BA Dance student at the University at Buffalo. She is thrilled to appear in O'Connell & Company's CURTAINS. She most recently appeared in Starring Buffalo's YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN as a part of the ensemble chorus. Her past high school credits include MAMMA MIA (Tanya) and SPONGEBOB THE MUSICAL (Squidward), which she also choreographed. She extends heartfelt thanks to the directors and cast for welcoming her into this production and for the opportunity to continue growing as an artist.

WHO'S WHO

CODY GOOLEY (Harv Fremont) is thrilled to be returning to O'Connell & Company for another show this season! Cody has previously appeared in SHREK (Pig/Ensemble) and THE GOLDEN GIRLS: LOST EPISODES VII (Jazzy Jeff). Other credits include ROMEO AND JULIET (ABRIDGED) (Romeo) with Shakespeare in Delaware Park, and TWELFTH NIGHT (Sir Toby Belch), THE BALTIMORE WALTZ (The Third Man), and THE CRUCIBLE (John Proctor u/s) all at SUNY Fredonia. Cody is an alumni of SUNY Fredonia where he received his BFA in Acting with a minor in Business Administration. He also works at the Edward's Waterhouse Inn as the Assistant Inn Keeper in Fredonia. Website: codygooley.com Instagram: @codie_paul

JESSIE FERKIN (Mona Page) is thrilled to be back for another show with O'Connell & Company. She recently appeared as Geminae in A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM and as the Wicked Witch in SHREK THE MUSICAL. Other favorite O'Connell & Company credits include Go-To-Hell Kitty in CHICAGO, and Player in PIPPIN. Jessie serves as an Assistant Director for The Francis Bacon Experiment and frequently appears as Columbia in THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW. Jessie has also appeared on other Buffalo stages including Desiderio's Dinner Theatre, The Brazen Faced Varlets, and Shakespeare in Delaware Park. Jessie would like to thank her husband Adam for all of his love and support.

MATTI LaVIGNE (Brick Hawvermale/Det. O'Farrell) is thrilled to be back on stage with O'Connell & Company. He's recently been featured in PIPPIN (Player), as well as SHREK THE MUSICAL (Big Bad Wolf, Thelonious) Mom & Dad, thank you. I wouldn't have made it on a single stage without you both.

RYLIE RANDALL (Roberta Wooster) is thrilled to be working with O'Connell & Company again! Originally from Rochester, NY, she received her BFA in Theatre Performance from Niagara University. Her favorite roles include: WICKET (Latara) with O'Connell & Company, SHREK THE MUSICAL (3 Little Pigs/Blind Mice) with the Historic Palace Theatre, FUN HOME (Medium Alison) and GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE AND MURDER (Miss Shingle) at Niagara University. Thanks to her friends and family for the love and support!

BRYAN SHARRY (Randy Dexter) has been seen in past O'Connell & Company productions including PIPPIN (Player/Talking Head), CHICAGO (Fred Casely), OKLAHOMA! (Cord Elam), GRUMPY OLD MEN THE MUSICAL (Stan) and THE GOLDEN GIRLS – THE LOST EPISODES IV thru VII (Sylvia Martinelli/Lily Lindstrom/Others). He wants to thank his partner for their continuing support and encouragement.

WHO'S WHO

ALLEY GRIFFIN (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be returning to O'Connell & Company after recently having stage managed A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM. Previously with O'Connell & Company they stage managed GRUMPY OLD MEN THE MUSICAL and the Artie Award Winning Ensemble of the All Female Production of 1776. In addition to prop design for PUFFS and YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN, Ally is the proud parent of Max, and thanks Kaiden for his support at home and in the booth!

RICH MERANTO (Scenic Designer) is a Niagara Falls-based media professional, educator, and designer whose work spans theatre, broadcast production, and community media. He served for over 19 years as Media Education Director for the Niagara Falls City School District, where he founded the Niagara County educational access channel "Our Schools Channel," producing thousands of broadcasts including concerts, sporting events, graduations, and public meetings in collaboration with students. Rich is the owner of Meranto Media and founder of Emerge: Media Creators Co-op, a creative studio supporting podcasting, video production, and live streaming projects throughout the region. For O'Connell & Company, Rich designed SHREK and ...FORUM.

TIMMY GOODMAN (Costume Designer) has always had a passion for design and his costumes can be seen all around WNY theaters including O'Connell & Company and the Lancaster Opera House where he also runs their youth Theatre Program. Favorite O'Connell & Company designs include, THE ADDAMS FAMILY, REEFER MADNESS, PIPPIN, CHICAGO, KHAN!!!, WICKET, OKLAHOMA!, and SHREK THE MUSICAL.

JAY MARKS (Lighting Designer) is a professional lighting designer and theatre technician whose work spans regional theatre, touring productions, and corporate events. Jay is the resident lighting designer for O'Connell & Company having designed THE RINK, SUNSET BOULEVARD, REEFER MADNESS, KHAN!!!, INTO THE WOODS, OKLAHOMA!, SHREK, ...FORUM, and PIPPIN for which he received the 2025 BroadwayWorld Award for Best Lighting Design. Jay's work has been seen with Lancaster Opera House, Spotlight Productions, Kleinhans Music Hall, Mt. St. Mary's Academy, The Riviera Theatre, and numerous companies throughout Western New York. In addition to his design work, he serves as an adjudicator for the Shea's Wonder Awards, supporting and celebrating the next generation of theatre artists. A member of IATSE Locals 10 and 52

AUDRIANNA YATES (Assistant Choreographer) is excited to be back at O'Connell & Company after playing Fiona in SHREK! You may have seen her in productions such as 9 TO 5 (Violet Newstead) SWEET CHARITY (Carmen/ Ensemble), PIPPIN (Player), KHAN!!! (Dr. Carol Marcus), THE MARVELOUS WONDERETTES: DREAM ON (Suzie), THE LITTLE MERMAID (Flotsam), BEAUTIFUL (Cynthia Weil), EVITA (Eva Perone), JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR (Mary Magdalene), SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ (Patty), THE TAMING (Bianca). Audrianna would like to thank her parents, her son Cory for being her biggest fan, and Nick for all the love and support.

WHO'S WHO

JOEY BUCHEKER (Director-Choreographer) is a performer, director, choreographer, playwright, and producer. He is a 6-time BroadwayWorld Regional Award winner (thrice for his acclaimed portrayal of Rose in THE GOLDEN GIRLS - THE LOST EPISODES series) and is currently tied as the most-nominated living Artie Award loser... er non-recipient with 8. Director-Choreographer Credits include CHICAGO (BW Best Choreography), THE RINK (Artie nom.), PIPPIN (BW Best Choreography/ Artie nom.), DAMN YANKESS (Artie nom), OKLAHOMA! (Artie nom), LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS, PUFFS, PLAID TIDINGS, WEST SIDE STORY and the New York Premiere of WICKET – The Star Wars Musical Parody. He is the creator and co-writer of the award-winning *Betsy Carmichael's BINGO* series. Joey holds a BFA in Theatre from Niagara University. He was awarded with the Key to the City of Buffalo and a Day named in his honor.

JOHN KANDER (Music) & **FRED EBB** (Lyrics) are among the most influential and enduring songwriting teams in the history of the American musical theatre. Together, they created some of the most iconic and frequently revived musicals ever written, including CABARET, CHICAGO, KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN, WOMAN OF THE YEAR, THE ACT, THE RINK, STEEL PIER, CURTAINS, THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS, and THE VISIT.

Beyond the stage, Kander & Ebb also made significant contributions to film and popular music. Their title song “New York, New York,” written for the 1977 Martin Scorsese film of the same name, became an international standard and is closely associated with performers such as Frank Sinatra and Liza Minnelli. Their collaborations with Minnelli and Chita Rivera, in particular, helped define the careers of both artists and further cemented the duo’s legacy in concert, television, and recording work. Together, they wrote more than a dozen Broadway shows over a 40-year partnership.

Following Ebb’s passing in 2004, Kander has continued creating new work while honoring their partnership, with later projects such as THE SCOTTSBORO BOYS and THE VISIT drawing on Ebb’s previously written material. Their legacy endures in the 2023 Broadway musical NEW YORK, NEW YORK, featuring Kander’s music and Ebb’s lyrics, with additional lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda, introducing their work to a new generation.

Kander & Ebb’s many honors include Tony Awards, Grammy Awards, Emmy Awards, and international recognition for their contributions to the performing arts. The revival of CHICAGO, currently running on Broadway, holds the distinction of being the longest-running American musical in Broadway history.

CURTAINS was the final musical Kander & Ebb developed in collaboration. Ebb completed the lyrics prior to his passing in 2004, and the project was subsequently brought to completion with a book by Rupert Holmes before its 2007 Broadway premiere, preserving the spirit and voice of the Kander & Ebb partnership.

2026-27
SEASON

716-848-0800
oconnellandcompany.com



AUGUST 14-30
Shea's Smith Theatre



SEPTEMBER 11-27
Canterbury Woods Performing Arts Center



JANUARY 29-FEBRUARY 14
Shea's Smith Theatre



FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 7
Canterbury Woods Performing Arts Center



MARCH 5-21
Shea's Smith Theatre



APRIL 23-MAY 9
Canterbury Woods Performing Arts Center