

Zoe Vales is absolutely thrilled to take on this iconic show! She is a junior Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre. Her past University credits include: *Into the Woods* (Jack's Mother), *Ride the Cyclone* (Constance Blackwood), *The Most Happy Fella* (Postal Worker/Ensemble), and *As It Is in Heaven* (Betsy). She was also in the cast of *Waitress* at Playhouse on the Square (Jenna Understudy/

Ensemble). She would like to thank Max, Nathan, and the entire cast and crew for their tireless work on this show. She hopes you love this show as much as she does! @zoe_vales (she/her)

Mollie West is making their murderous debut back to show biz and Props Design this semester with *Chicago*! She received her BFA in Scenic Design and Tech from the University of Southern Mississippi and currently is a second year MFA candidate. They want to thank Brian & Co. for the opportunity to be here and the team for trusting Mollie to expand the world of the show. (they/she)





presents

Chicago

Book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse

Music by
John Kander

Lyrics by Fred Ebb

Based on the play by
Maurine Dallas Watkins

Script Adaptation by

David Thompson

All authorized performance materials are supplied by Concord Theatricals www.concordtheatricals.com

Funding provided by SAF and The College of Communication and Fine Arts.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Velma Kelly Madeline Comer
Roxie HartKatie Blackburn
Billy FlynnLandon Graham
Amos Hart
Matron "Mama" MortonZoe Vales
Mary SunshineLogan Bass
Fred Casely/EnsembleMaddox Bierman
Liz/Ensemble, u/s Roxie HartSophia Carpenter
Hunyak/EnsembleHolly Frances
June/EnsembleAa'liyah Green
Judge/EnsembleSamantha Love
Harry/EnsembleJeremiah McDonald
Mona/Ensemble, u/s Velma KellyErin McKee
Annie/EnsembleMadilyn Mobbs
Go-to-Hell Kitty/EnsembleCharis Peters
Sergeant Fogarty/Ensemble, u/s Amos HartRecco Sargent
Court Clerk/EnsembleAurora Short
Martin Harrison/EnsembleLA Smith
Aaron/Ensemble, u/s Billy FlynnBrayden Street
Featured Dancers Morgan Doss Madison Hill Niya Taylor

Max Robinson
Director/Choreographer

Nathan Thomas *Music Director*

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.



Aurora "Ari" Short is a freshman BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre. She is overjoyed to be making her University of Memphis debut in *Chicago*! Favorite credits include Will Bloom in *Big Fish*, Quaxo in *CATS*, featured dancer in *Grease*, *The Addams Family*, and *Seussical*, and most recently a stunt performer/ featured dancer in *Pippin*. She is grateful for her professors, peers,

family, and mentors who continue to support her. (she/her)



Logan "LA" Smith is a sophomore BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre and a minor in Dance. This is his sixth production here at the University of Memphis. Some of his favorite recent productions include *Hello, Dolly!* (Cornelius Hackl), *The Most Happy Fella* (Jake/Priest/Ensemble), *Vices: A Love Story*, and *Emerge* (2025). "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but

to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style." – Maya Angelou. @la.5306.s (he/they)



Brayden Street is so excited to be performing in this production of *Chicago*. This is his first production in college and with the University of Memphis. Brayden has received an ALLSTATE Distinction in musical theatre and a MIDSTATE Distinction in acting. He won the musical theatre scholarship at Allstate. He'd like to thank his family and friends for always supporting him and making sacrifices to help

him succeed.

Rowan Sullivan is a third-year MFA candidate in Design & Technology with an emphasis in Sound Design and Engineering. Her previous sound design credits at the University of Memphis include *Ride the Cyclone, Into the Woods,* and *Emerge 360.* Outside of the U of M department, Rowan has designed sound for The Black Hills Playhouse productions of *Murder on the Orient Express, Legally Blonde,* and *Waitress,* and engineered *Cats* and *Anything Goes* with Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre. (she/they)



Niya Taylor is a senior Psychology major with a minor in Dance. She is very excited to be a part of her first theatre production! She was a part of *Memory House* (*Allure*) and *Emerge* 2025 (*Triumphant, Anchor Between the Waves*, and *The Consequence of Imagination*). She would like to thank God and her family for all the love and support!

Nathan Thomas is happy to revisit *Chicago*, almost forty years since the first time he music directed it as an undergraduate at Indiana University. Thanks to Max for their generosity (and great work on the show), and to the entire team as well. Special thanks, as always, to Tracy Thomas, for all things.

Michael O'Nele joined the design faculty of the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of Memphis in the fall of 1998. Michael believes that the art of technical direction is to transform imagination into reality. In order for students to compete in a future workforce, Michael's goal for each class and project is to lay the ground work for technological skill development that will make them competitive.

Anthony Pellechia is the Associate Professor of Theatre in the areas of lighting and sound design at the University of Memphis. A Columbus, Ohio native, Anthony received his BA from Kenyon College and his MFA from The Ohio State University. Anthony's professional and academic work in theatre, dance, and opera has received awards and recognition from various organizations, including the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Region V, USITT Ohio Valley, and USA Weekender.



Charis Peters is a senior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre and a minor in Dance. Previous credits include: Rapunzel/Cinderella's Mother (Into the Woods), Antonia (12N, or What You Will), Agatha/Dancer (Guys and Dolls), Morticia (The Addams Family), Helen Hill (The Hello Girls), and Miss Fleming (Heathers). Charis also studied at the Theatre Academy of London

in 2024. When not performing, she enjoys teaching and directing. @Charisrpeters (she/her)

Elisabeth Reinagel is a junior Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre. This is their first time assistant directing. Previous performance credits include *As It Is in Heaven* (Establishment u/s), *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Ensemble), and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Lucy). They want to thank the cast and crew for making this an enjoyable process to be a part of. @elisabethr_theatre



Max Robinson has been a theatre and dance educator, performer, and choreographer for the last 17 years. Both an alum and current student at the University of Memphis and proud to call Memphis home. This is for Liz and Connor, my blood and chosen family, Kyle, my Memphis community, and this beautiful department. Thank you for loving and carrying me and being the most phenomenal support

system during the biggest changes of my life. I love you. (they/them/theirs)



Recco Sargent is a freshman Musical Theatre major and he is so excited to be a part of this program. Some of his favorite roles include: *Beauty and the Beast* (Gaston), *Firebringer* (Grunt), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Schroeder), *The Wizard of Oz* (Lion), and *Shrek the Musical* (Shrek). He would like to thank his family and especially his mom for continuously supporting him in all his

endeavors. HOPE YOU ENJOY THE SHOW!! (he/him)

PRODUCTION STAFF

Anthony Pellecchia

Abrielle Gray

Assistant Choreographers

Iulia Kowalski

Assistant Directors

Scenic Designer	Lighting Designer
Shandi Anderson	Rowan Sullivan
Costume Designer	Sound Designer
Michael O'Nele Technical Director	Holly L. Derr Artistic Director
Elliott Norton	Katye Baker
Elisabeth Reinagel	Holly Ferguson

Amy Salerno Hale Production Manager

Stage ManagerOlivia Mittag
Assistant Stage ManagersOlivia Ensor, Miles Goble, Cade Jett
Assistant Technical Director
Lighting Console Operator
Spot OperatorsSteele Bowers, Cheyenne McDonough
Production Electrician Chloe Smith
Assistant Costume DesignerMargaret Andrews
Costume Shop ManagerKathleen Kovarik
Costume Shop StaffMargaret Andrews, E. Blaha, B'lynn Evans
Wardrobe CrewB'Lynn Evans, Kathie Kovarik
Audio Engineer and Sound Console OperatorDrew Hamby
Audio AssistantSamantha Mejias-Zigmant
Props CoordinatorMollie West
House ManagerLydia Smith
Assistant House Manager Shalon Scruggs

Special Thanks

We gratefully acknowledge:
Debra Burns, Dean, College of Communication and Fine Arts
Lane and Circle Music

Bernard & Mary Laws of RP Tracks for generously providing our season posters

SET AND PROP CONSTRUCTION CREW

Julia Kowalski, Patrice Nelms, Mollie West with

Kennedi Arnett, Rachel Bonner, Sophia Carpenter, Olivia "Via" Caspersen, Alexia Cole, Madeline Comer, John Lucas Daniels, Landon Graham, Aa'liyah Green, Casey Gurlen, Excellence Hinds, Maya Holmes, August Hughes, Cade Jett, Savannah Jones, Samantha Love, Cheyenne McDonough, Erin McKee, Elliott Norton, Alexander Osborne, Emille Parker, J Reed, LA Smith, Joan Townsend, Nakia Wallace, Maya Woods

LIGHTING AND SOUND CREW

Klair Soukup, Rowan Sullivan, Samantha Mejias Zigmant with

Ja'Mya Bell, Katie Blackburn, Elizabeth Blair, Steele Bowers, Olivia "Via" Caspersen, Lashawn Edwards, Adam Ehrett, Jacob Galloway, Drew Hamby, Naeemah Handley, Kelby Hicks, Hezekiah Howze, Robert Kovacs, Auby Lopez, Thaile Maden, Aphrodite Morman, Elliott Norton, Charis Peters, Lyz Rieger, Parker Sanders, Chloe Smith, Niya Taylor

COSTUME CONSTRUCTION CREW

Margaret Andrews, E. Blaha, B'lynn Evans with

Brady Ballard, Maddox Bierman, Brayden Cox, Erin Clark, Madelyn Cobb, Alison Drewry, Casey Gurlen, Caelan Ingram, Jeremiah McDonald, Madilyn Mobbs, Brylee Pusser, Camille Queena, Teryn Rodriguez, Recco Sargent, Taylar Townsend, Rylee Wagner, Maya Woods

PUBLICITY CREW

Max Robinson with

Jade Amburgey, Daniel Hughes, Aniya Lance, Jeremiah McDonald, Charis Peters, J Reed, Shalon Scruggs, Bryce Seay, Lydia Smith, Sydnei Sutton, Zoe Vales

BAND

Woodwinds	Brian Sims
Trumpet	Logan Smoot
Trombone	Ken Spain
Banjo/Mandolin/Ukulele	Will Lang
Bass	Kaleb Ritchie
Drums	Larry Gooch
Keyboard	Nathan Thomas



Jeremiah McDonald is so excited to be a part of this wonderful production of *Chicago*! He is a currently a senior at the University of Memphis pursuing a BFA in Theatre with a concentration in Musical Theatre. Recent credits include *Something Rotten!* (Ensemble/Bard Boy/Nigel US), *Grease* (Ensemble, Sonny/Johnny Casino US), and *Cinderella* (Ensemble) at Theatre Memphis and *Punk Rock Girl!*

(Dudley), *Parade* (Ensemble/Jim Conley US), and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Ensemble) at POTS, as well as the University of Memphis's *Elektra* (Orestes). He wants to thank his family and friends for their support. Hope you enjoy the show!!



Erin McKee is a senior, pursuing a BFA in Theatre with a concentration in Musical Theatre and a minor in Dance. Erin's previous departmental credits include *Elektra* (Elektra), *Memory House* (*Brothers and Sisters*), *Emerge* 2023 (*Fake Art*), *The Mousetrap* (Miss Casewell US, Mrs. Boyle US), *Home* (*porch swing, Adaptive Creatures*) as well as *Into the Woods* (Lucinda, Little Red US, Jack US)

for which she was awarded an Ostrander for Best Featured Performer in a Division II Musical. You might recognize Erin from community performances at Voices of the South, Circuit Playhouse, Theatre Memphis, or as an award carrier at the Memphis Ostrander Awards. Erin would like to thank her grandmother, Dolores Albonetti, for her never-ending support of her artistic endeavors. (she/her)

Olivia Mittag is a junior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Design/Tech and an emphasis in Stage Management. She is thrilled to spend some time in *Chicago* with some of her favorite people! Past department credits include *Into the Woods, Ride the Cyclone,* and *Silent Sky* (SM), and *Murder Ballad* and *The Most Happy Fella* (ASM). She sends her unending thanks to her family and friends for listening to her sing "Cell Block Tango" for months, as well as to her team, especially her wonderful ASMs, for always having her back! (she/her)



Madilyn Mobbs is a senior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre. Previous credits in the program include Columbia/Usherette (*The Rocky Horror Show*), Mrs. Jennings (*Sense and Sensibility*), Henrietta Leavitt (*Silent Sky*), Florinda/us Witch/us Baker's Wife (*Into the Woods*), Malvolia (*12N, or What You Will*), Ocean (*Ride the Cyclone*), and Cleo (*The Most Happy Fella*). "Many

thanks to my friends, family, and partner, JD, for supporting me and cheering me on behind the scenes!" @ madilynmobbs

Elliott Norton is a sophomore BFA Theatre student with a concentration in Design/Technology and an emphasis in Lighting Design. So far this season, he has acted as the production electrician for *As It Is in Heaven* and one of the lighting designers for *Home*. He would like to thank his dog, Duke, for simply existing. The world is so big, and he is so small. (he/him)

Drew Hamby is a senior Design/Tech student with an emphasis in Sound Design and Engineering. Previous credits at the university include *The Most Happy Fella* (Audio Engineer) and *Ride the Cyclone* (Assistant Audio Engineer). Previous regional credits include *Driving Miss Daisy* (Sound Designer/A1, Allie Award Winner) and *Steel Magnolias* (Sound Designer/A1, Allie Award Nomination) at Panola Playhouse. (she/her)



Madison Hill is a senior Theatre major with a concentration in Dance and is graduating this December. She is from Nashville, Tennessee, and has loved every moment of performing and creating throughout her time in school. Madison has performed in pieces like *Moonlit, Parasitism, Always*, and *It's Not Goodbye* in *Emerge* 2025, as well as dancing in *Memory House* and *Emerge* 360 in the 2024 season.

She also had the amazing opportunity to choreograph her own piece, *Solace*, in *Emerge* 2025.

Cade Jett is a freshman BFA Musical Theatre major, and he is really happy to be at the U of M! His previous college, community, and high school credits are *Godspell* (Jesus), *The Most Happy Fella* (Herman), *Catch Me If You Can* (Frank Abagnale Jr.), and *The Mousetrap* (Christopher Wren). He would like to thank his family and friends and girlfriend for supporting him in everything he does. Please enjoy the show! (he/him)

Robert Kovacs is a Hungarian third-year BFA Design/Tech Theatre major with a focus on Lighting. This is Robert's third show designing at U of M. Past department shows include *Home* as Cornelius Carter's lighting designer, *The Most Happy Fella* as the assistant LD, and *Emerge* as Ilana Randle's lighting designer. He is excited to work on *Chicago*, which has Hungarian representation. He would love to thank everyone for the support and thank AP for the opportunity to work on *Chicago* with him, and Chloe, and Olivia for making this show possible. Enjoy the show!

Julia Kowalski is a second year Scenic Grad Student at U of M. She received her BFA from SCAD. Recent professional designs include *Skeleton Crew* at Playhouse on the Square and *The Bridges of Madison County, Sister Act, Mary Poppins, Hairspray, The Cottage*, and the premiere of *The Pet Project* at the New London Barn Playhouse. This is her first lead design at U of M, after being the associate on *The Most Happy Fella*, and she is very excited to see what comes next.



Samantha Love is a sophomore Musical Theatre major, and she is extremely excited to be part of yet another production here at the University of Memphis. Her last show was *Emerge* 2025, and she is happy to have the opportunity to dance again! She would like to thank her parents for supporting her, as well as her closest friends and peers! Have a great show and enjoy the performance!

Shandi Anderson is an artist and designer based in Lincoln, Nebraska. Favorite and notable designs include *The Huntsmen* (Portland Playhouse, world premiere); *Everything you Touch* (Theatre Vertigo); *La Cage aux Folles, Endgame,* and *An Iliad* (OmniArts Nebraska); *Reefer Madness: the Musical, Amelie, Fly by Night,* and *Between the Lines* (Doane University).

Margaret Andrews is a first-year MFA Candidate with a focus in Costume Design. *Chicago* is the fourth show that she has worked on at the University of Memphis. Her previous design credits include *Emerge* 2025 (Costume Designer) and *Home* (Costume Design); her previous technical credits include *As It Is In Heaven* and *Home*. She would like to thank her friends and family for always supporting them!

Katye Baker is a junior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Dance Science. She is thrilled to be involved in *Chicago*, her first musical at the University of Memphis. She has previously danced in University productions such as *Memory House, Chroma, Emerge360*, and *Emerge*. Beyond her work in the department, she shares her passion for dance by teaching young dancers in the Memphis community. She is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work on this show and thanks her family and friends for their unconditional love and support. (she/her)



Logan Bass is a freshman BFA Theatre major with a double concentration in Musical Theatre and Dance. Some of his past credits include *Mary Poppins* (George Banks, Bert), *The Sound of Music* (Max Detweiler), *Les Misérables* (Thenardier) and *Cinderella* (Lord Pinkleton). Logan would like to thank his friends and castmates for making this process so beyond amazing! He hopes you enjoy the

show! (he/him)



Maddox Bierman is beyond thrilled to make his Memphis debut. Recent credits include *Mystic Pizza* (George/Waiter) at the Collierville Arts Council, *Legally Blonde* (Kyle) at Draco Playhouse (Nominated for the Orpheum's High School Musical Theatre Award), and *Stranger Sings* in the round (Regional Premiere) also at Draco (Dr. Brenner/Mr. Clarke). Other credits include *Coach Comet* at the

Arts Council in Rudolph, Ron Weasley in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* (Regional Premiere) at Draco Playhouse, and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (featured dancer), also at Draco. He'll be appearing in *Legally Blonde* at Theatre Memphis this summer! Maddox thanks his parents, directors, and vocal coaches Nathan and Brooke for helping him along this journey!



Katie Blackburn is a junior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre. She has performed in *As It Is in Heaven* (Phebe) as well as *The Most Happy Fella* (Ensemble), *Vices: A Love Story* (Vocalist), and *Into the Woods* (Swing) here at the University of Memphis. She has also been in *Clue: On Stage* (Mrs. White), *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), and *Legally Blonde: The Musical* (Vivienne) in

her community theater. Over the summer, she performed in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Ensemble). She would like to thank the creative team and her friends and family for supporting her dreams.



Sophia Carpenter is a senior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre. This is Sophia's second show at The University of Memphis, her first being *The Most Happy Fella* where she played Ciccio. Other notable performances include Lumière in *Beauty and the Beast* and Solanio in *The Merchant of Venice*. Sophia would like to thank Max. Nathan, and the entire cast/crew for this wonderful

experience. She would also like to thank her partner, friends, and family for their continuous support. Enjoy the show, and all that jazz! @sophluvs



Madeline Comer is a junior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre. Madeline's past credits include As It Is in Heaven (Peggy), The Most Happy Fella (Cleo), Ride the Cyclone (Ocean O'Connell Rosenberg), Footloose (Ariel Moore), Elektra (Pylades, U/S Orestes), School of Rock (Patty DiMarco). Maddie would like to thank her family, her professors, her boyfriend Cade, and all of her

roommates for their love and support. Enjoy the show! (she/her)



John Lucas Daniels is a sophomore BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre originally from Cookeville, TN. He is absolutely thrilled to be a part of this production and has had a wonderful time working with this team! You may have seen him last year in *Vices: A Love Story* (Vocalist) or *The Most Happy Fella* (Clem). He would like to give thanks to his family, friends, professors, and

everyone involved in this production for their guidance and support! Enjoy the show!

Holly L. Derr is a director, writer, and professor of theatre. She directs new plays and gender-flipped classics, such as *Romeo and Juliet* at Opera House Arts at the Stonington Opera House and *Harry and the Thief*, by Sigrid Gilmer, at The Know Theatre in Cincinnati. Originally from Dallas, TX, she holds an MFA in Directing from Columbia University and a BA in Dramatic Arts from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (she/her)



Morgan Doss is a senior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Dance Science with an emphasis in physical therapy. This is her fifth performance with the University. She has been in *Chroma* (2023), *Emerge* (2024), *Memory House* (2024), and *Home* (2025). She has been dancing for 15 years now and plans to continue that passion and put it into helping other dancers during rehabilitation as well.

Morgan is thrilled to be a part of this year's production of $\it Chicago$ at the University of Memphis.

Olivia Ensor is a third year Theatre minor and is thrilled to be a part of this show! Olivia has been an ASM on *Ride the Cyclone* both at Germantown Community Theatre and at the University of Memphis, and she also was the Stage Manager for *Drunk Enough to Say I Love You* at the University of Memphis. She is so excited to work with this incredible cast and crew on such a wonderful show, and hopes that you enjoy it just as much! (she/her)



Holly Frances is a senior BFA Theatre major with a double concentration in Dance and Musical Theatre. She is thrilled to return for her last show here at the university! Some acting credits include *As It Is in Heaven* (Jane), *The Most Happy Fella* (Country Girl), *Vices: A Love Story* (Holly), and *Into the Woods* (Cinderella's Father/Granny). She is also a choreographer, with credits including *Emerge* 2025 and

12N, or What You Will at the University of Memphis, as well as Pirates! The Musical with Montevallo Children's Theatre. She would like to thank her family for their continuous love and support! (she/her)

Miles Goble is a freshman at U of M and is excited to be working as an assistant stage manager for *Chicago*! This is her first show for U of M. Miles is majoring in Tech and Design.



Landon Graham is a sophomore BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre and a minor in Dance. He was recently seen playing Herman in U of M's production of *The Most Happy Fella*. Some of his favorite community theatre roles include Ren McCormick in *Footloose*, Albert and Henry (two different productions) in *Newsies: The Musical*, Damian in *Mean Girls*, and

Ensemble/Featured Dancer in *Anastasia*. Thank you to my family and friends for all your support. A special thank you to all the cast and crew of *Chicago* for all of your hard work on this production.

Abrielle Gray is a sophomore BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre and a minor in Dance. She is very excited to be in this wonderful production! She has performed with the University of Memphis in *Antigone Now* (Chorus) and *The Most Happy Fella* (Ensemble), and at the Hattiloo Theatre in *The Lion King Jr.* (Sarabi). She would like to thank her amazing family and friends for their unwavering support, as well as the fantastic cast and crew. Enjoy the show!



Aa'liyah Green is a senior BFA Theatre major with a concentration in Musical Theatre and is thrilled to be a part of this wonderful production with the University of Memphis! Previous university credits include 12N, or What You Will (Valentine/Priest/Olivia US), The Mousetrap (Mr. Paravicini), The Most Happy Fella (City Boy/Ensemble), and As It Is in Heaven (Fanny) as well as community

credits such as *Heathers: The Musical* (Coach Ripper/Choreographer) and *Legally Blonde: The Musical* (Brooke Wyndham). They would like to thank their mother and sister for always being so supportive of their wildest dreams. They'd also like to give thanks to the wonderfully talented cast and crew. Enjoy the show and all that jazz! @liyahmag (they/them)

Amy Salerno Hale received her BFA in Theatre from the University of Memphis. As the Production Manager of the department, she is keen to support the artistic endeavors of her colleagues with thoughtful administration and inspire passion in a new generation of stage managers. Before returning to U of M, Amy spent over sixteen wonderful years as the Production Stage Manager and Volunteer Director at Theatre Memphis, working alongside an incredible team of stage managers, devoted volunteers and outstanding community artists.