

# VACT

VERONA AREA  
COMMUNITY THEATER  
presents




April 7, 8, 9, 2022 - 7:00 pm

April 9, 2022 - 1:30 pm

Verona Area High School Performing Arts Center  
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31st Season, 160th Show



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The Verona Area Community Theater  
Production of



Book by

Music & Lyrics by

**KAREY KIRKPATRICK & JOHN O'FARRELL**      **WAYNE KIRKPATRICK & KAREY KIRKPATRICK**

Conceived by Karey Kirkpatrick and Wayne Kirkpatrick

Arrangements Glen Kelly, Orchestrations Larry Hochman

Originally produced on Broadway by Kevin McCollum  
Broadway Global Ventures, CMC, Mastro/Goodman,  
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Developed in association with the 5th Avenue Theatre, Seattle, WA, David Armstrong,  
Executive Producer and Artistic Director, Bernadine Griffin, Managing Director and Bill  
Berry, Producing Artistic Director

*Something Rotten!*

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

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Please enjoy all refreshments in the lobby only, and remember to turn off audible pagers and cell phones during the performance.

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

Smoking on school property is prohibited by state law.

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## Acknowledgements

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# the production staff

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Director . . . . .	Emma Vogel
Producer . . . . .	Sara Ward-Cassady
Music Director . . . . .	Kelsey Odorizzi
Choreographers . . . . .	Marsha Heuer, Kenzie Merucci
Costume Design . . . . .	Claire Johnson
Lighting Design . . . . .	Steve Nickels
Sound Design. . . . .	Dale Nickels
Set Design. . . . .	Matthew Grzybowski
Prop Master. . . . .	Marie Kyle
Supervising Stage Manager . . . . .	Dusty Smith
Student Stage Manager . . . . .	Denali Kraemer
Scenic Artist . . . . .	Gina Hamon
Orchestra Manager. . . . .	Tom Blankenheim
Costume Assistants . . . . .	Tonya Benz, Laura Connor, Barb Coulson, Allison Heil, Mylinda Heil, Krissa Hinzman, Julia Hopp, Kris McCardle, Courtney Meyer, Julia Miller, Joanne Rash, Jill Sommers, Ann Veit, Nadia Veit, Ella Waxenberg
Program. . . . .	Sara Pfantz
Tickets. . . . .	Lynn Vilker
Publicity. . . . .	Shannon Seip, Marsha Heuer, Sara Ward-Cassady
Set Building. . . . .	Daniel Christian, Alex Kiefert, Kevin Kiefert Owen Hopp, Logan Hopp, Chris Hopp, Sophia Hopp, Brian Benz, Tonya Benz, Elise Benz, Kai DeRubis, Sarah DeRubis, Audrey Vandervest, Beth Vandervest, Sarah Strube, Nadia Veit, Anne Veit, Amara Rea, Kai Dapitan, Dan Christy, Alex Christy, Clara Schuster, Ruby Hicks, Leah Meyer, Beau Meyer, Riley Grzybowski, Laney Evans, Amelia Heil, Willa Treichel, Payton Bystol, Maddi Moll, Maddy Lom, Caskey Schroeder, Aaliyah Johnson, Jasmine Connor, Audra Koerber, Matthew Powell, Dalaney Lange, Rustie Lange, Alyssa Ayen

Thank you to everyone that helped with costumes, props, sets,  
backstage, ushering and everything else that makes this production possible!



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# the orchestra

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Conductor: BRETT WAGNER  
Bass: JOHN DOWLING  
Drums: LAURA SCHRAM  
Guitar 1: JOE HARRIS  
Guitar 2: JEFF WILLIAMS  
Keyboard 1: NICK NYDEREK  
Keyboard 2: MARSHALL ROTH  
Keyboard 3: JEFF INGEBRITSEN  
Reed (Clarinet and Sax): TOM BLANKENHEIM  
Reed (Flute and Piccolo): SHERRI SWARTZ  
Trombone: KATIE KRETSCHMAN  
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# the cast

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Nick Bottom . . . . . Brendan Moore  
Nigel Bottom . . . . . Alex Christy  
Bea . . . . . Aleah Frank  
Portia . . . . . Dalaney Lange  
William Shakespeare . . . . . Kai DeRubis  
Nostradamus . . . . . Matthew Powell  
Shylock . . . . . Daniel Christian  
Brother Jeremiah . . . . . Alexander Kiefert  
Lord Clapham/Master of the Justice . . . . . Oliver Herold  
Minstrel . . . . . Jasmine Connor

**Nick's Troupe** . . . . . *God I Hate Shakespeare, Black Death,  
It's Eggs, To Thine Own Self Be True,  
Something Rotten, Make An Omelette*

Tom Snout . . . . . Micah Friedman  
Robin . . . . . Nathan Heil  
Peter Quince . . . . . Leah Meyer  
Snug . . . . . Henry Gabrielski  
Francis Flute . . . . . Angela Miller  
Horatio . . . . . Paige Edge

**Tappers** . . . . . *Welcome to the Renaissance, A Musical,  
Bottom's Gonna Be On Top, Make an Omelette, Welcome to America*

Bella Becker (Chef)	Aaliyah Johnson	Caskey Schroeder
Elise Benz (Chef)	Maddi Moll	Clara Schuster
Ellie Gerndt (Chef)	Sydney Ray	Megan Snyder
Jori Gasser (Sad Little Egg)	Sarah Reichard	Sydney Steidl
Jasmine Connor	Sarah Rhoads	Sarah Strube
Laney Evans	Alexa Schaefer	Willa Treichel
Deanna Feil		

**Ensemble** . . . . . *Will Power, We See the Light, Welcome to America*

Kai Dapitan (Bard Dancer <i>Hard to be the Bard</i> )	Amelia Heil
Riley Grzybowski (Bard Dancer <i>Hard to be the Bard</i> )	Owen Hopp
Audra Koerber (Bard Dancer <i>Hard to be the Bard</i> )	Reese Johanningmeier
Madelyn Lom (Bard Dancer <i>Hard to be the Bard</i> )	Hayley Rahn
Molly McArdle (Bard Dancer in <i>Hard to be the Bard</i> )	Amara Rea
Eva Perez (Bard Dancer <i>Hard to be the Bard</i> )	Jordan Sommers
Payton Bystol	Audrey Vandervest
Ruby Hicks	Nadia Veit



# the scenes and musical numbers

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## ACT ONE

Overture

Welcome to the Renaissance . . . . .	Minstrel, Tappers
God, I Hate Shakespeare . . . . .	Nick, Nigel, Troupe
Right Hand Man . . . . .	Bea
God, I Hate Shakespeare (Reprise) . . . . .	Nick
A Musical . . . . .	Nick, Nostradamus, Tappers
The Black Death . . . . .	Troupe
I Love the Way . . . . .	Portia, Nigel
Will Power . . . . .	Shakespeare, Nigel, Portia, Ensemble, Bard Dancers
Bottom's Gonna Be On Top . . . . .	Nick, Shakespeare, Bea, Nigel, Shylock, Lord Clapham, Tappers

*There will be one 15 minute intermission*

## ACT TWO

Welcome to the Renaissance (Reprise) . . . . .	Minstrel
Hard to Be the Bard . . . . .	Shakespeare, Bard Dancers
It's Eggs . . . . .	Nick, Troupe
We See the Light . . . . .	Portia, Nigel, Brother Jeremiah, Ensemble
Nigel's Theme . . . . .	Nigel
To Thine Own Self Be True . . . . .	Nigel, Troupe
To Thine Own Self (Part 2) . . . . .	Nick, Troupe
Right Hand Man (Reprise) . . . . .	Bea
Something Rotten . . . . .	Nick, Shakespeare, Troupe
Make an Omelette . . . . .	Nick, Chefs, Nostradamus, Shakespeare, Tappers, Troupe
To Thine Own Self (Reprise) . . . . .	Nick, Nigel
Welcome to America . . . . .	Full Company
Bows	



# notes from the director

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In 2015, my then-new-fiancé-now-husband Michael and I took a trip to the east coast around the holidays to visit my family. As an engagement gift to each other we decided we would attend a Broadway show. After looking at the options we settled on a show that, even though we didn't know a lot about it, we thought would be a good fit for us: we both loved theater, we both studied English in college and loved Shakespeare, and we both loved comedies. So without really listening to the soundtrack or knowing much about what was in store, we bought tickets to the original Broadway cast's production of *Something Rotten*.

The night we saw the show, we laughed, we cried (from laughing so hard), and we fell head-over-heels in love with this quirky, endearing and hilarious musical.

Based on that history, selecting *Something Rotten* for our teen production was not a hard decision. Being the first teen show back at VACT post-pandemic, I wanted to do something fun and exciting and, most importantly, a show that celebrated all things theater. There are DOZENS of references in this show not only to Shakespeare's incredible masterpieces, but also to a large variety of musicals from across the decades. It's a beautiful reminder of the influence that theater has had on our culture throughout history and the joy it continually brings to our lives.

It takes a village to raise a production like this one. Sara - thanks for all the phone calls, patience with my questions, and everything you've done to keep this production organized. Kenzie and Marsha - you two are a powerhouse duo of incredible talent - your choreography goes above and beyond my wildest dreams! Kelsey - I am so impressed by how wonderful this production sounds - thank you for all the hard work and dedication you put into our music direction! Claire - I can't thank you enough for the eggs. And the omelettes. And for not running away once you actually saw all the costumes this show would need. You're a rockstar. Matt and Gina - as usual, you both brought the structure and design of our set to life in a way that far exceeds the vision I had in my head. Denali and Dusty - thank you for managing our backstage chaos with energy and positivity. Marie - thank you for finding and managing all of our props with care and excitement! Steve and Dale - your work on lights and sound is always excellent and always incredibly appreciated.

To everyone else who volunteered their time and energy to work with us backstage and behind the scenes, from the set shop to the costume shop to load in and everyone in between, we truly couldn't do this without you! Thank you, families for supporting your actors by encouraging them, driving them, volunteering, and encouraging them to participate at VACT.

To my cast - proud doesn't even begin to describe how I feel about this production. Your hard work, talent, and support of each other has made this show absolutely incredible. Savor these moments - the rush of excitement you get when you hit the stage and start singing and dancing and your ability to bring joy to an audience each night. I have loved getting to know each and every one of you, and I sincerely hope this show ends up being a positive highlight that you look back on in your journey with theater and the arts, wherever it may take you.

Now sit back and relax and enjoy because "It's...a...MUSICAL." And nothing's as amazing as a musical!

~ Emma Vogel - Director

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# who's who in the cast

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**BRENDAN MOORE** (Nick Bottom) Brendan is honored to be playing the lead role of Nick Bottom in VACT's production of *Something Rotten!* Brendan has been pursuing theater throughout his life from the gingerbread man to more recent shows, such as Oregon High School's production of *The Addams Family* (Uncle Fester), Oklahoma City University's production of *Urinetown* (Caldwell B. Cladwell), or in the Overtures Centers of the Arts Jerry Ensemble. Brendan would like to thank his sibling Miranda Moore, and his parents, who encouraged him to keep doing theater all throughout high school. Brendan intends on pursuing theater in college, with Miranda, at Oklahoma City University.

**JASMINE CONNOR** (Minstrel) Jasmine is thrilled to be playing the Minstrel in *Something Rotten!* She is so excited to be a part of the Verona Area Community Theater family. Jasmine's past shows with VACT include *Chicago* (Narrator #4, Dancer), *42nd Street* (Tapper), *Legally Blonde Jr.* (Beauty Shop Cashier), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Kim MacAfee), *Guys & Dolls Jr.* (Hotbox/Havana Dancer), *Billy Elliot* (Alison Summer, Ballet Girl), *High School Musical Jr.* (Brainiac), *Elf Jr. The Musical* (NY Office Staff), , *A Suessified Christmas Carol* (Mayzie-Fred's wife), & her first VACT production in 2015, *Hairspray Jr.* (Little Inez Stubbs). Jasmine is a Junior at Verona Area High School. In the future she plans on going to college (hopefully playing Lacrosse) to pursue being a radiologist and a singer/actor. Jasmine would like to thank her Mom for supporting her in every one of her activities, the driving to rehearsals, practicing lines, and listening to songs/watching dances over and over and over. Thanks also to her brothers Jacob & Jackson (also VACT alums), Grandma Barb, family, and friends for always being so supportive by coming to her plays.

**ALEAH FRANK** (Bea) Aleah is overjoyed to be able to participate in *Something Rotten!* This is her first VACT show and she is so thankful to have met so many incredible people through this production. Her past favorite roles include Donna (*Mamma Mia*), Mitchie (*Camp Rock*), Narrator 12 (*Chicago*), and Elle Woods (*Legally Blonde*). Aleah is going to college to pursue a career in Musical Theater. She thanks her incredibly supportive parents for helping her through this crazy part of her life and for feeling her love of music. She also thanks her friends who make her laugh when she is overwhelmed. Aleah also thanks VACT for helping her grow as a performer and for giving her the opportunity to play this hilarious character.

**KAI DERUBIS** (Shakespeare) Kai is thrilled to be playing a dream role of his. He has also appeared as Bobby in *Urinetown*, Touchstone in *As You Like It*, and will soon be playing Race in *Newsies*. Kai would like to thank his incredible directors and cast members for bringing this show together so well and always being friendly.

**DALANEY LANGE** (Portia) Dalaney is very excited to perform in her first VACT production. Dalaney recently appeared in *Stellaluna* (Children's Theater of Madison), *Matilda the Musical* (Sun Prairie Civic Theater), and her high school's production of *Cinderella* as Charlotte. She is currently a second-year member of Children's Theater of Madison's Actor's Academy and a first-year member of The Southern Wisconsin Jerry Ensemble. Dalaney thanks VACT for the opportunity to bring this hilarious musical to life with over 50 amazing cast mates, and of course, to Sarah DeRubis, too, for all the Sunday night transportation. "To thine own self be true." Enjoy the show!

# who's who in the cast

**ALEXANDER KIEFERT** (Brother Jeremiah) Alexander is thrilled to be in the VACT production of *Something Rotten!* Alexander has been in many VACT shows, some of his favorite roles were Emmett in *Legally Blonde Jr.*, Prince Hans in *Frozen Jr.*, and Michael Banks in *Mary Poppins*. Alexander is so happy to have this production be his first high school show, and he is very excited for everyone to see it.

**MATTHEW POWELL** (Nostradamus) Matthew is extremely excited to take on the role of Nostradamus in *Something Rotten!* This is Matthew's fifth VACT show. Some of Matthew's favorite previous roles include Ralphie in VACT's production of *A Christmas Story the Musical*, Michael Banks in the Dells Palace Theater's production of *Mary Poppins*, and James in ALCS's production of *James and the Giant Peach*. Matthew would like to thank his family and friends for their constant support and encouragement, shown through the entirety of the show.

**DANIEL CHRISTIAN** (Shylock) Daniel is a junior at Verona Area High School and has enjoyed his involvement in VACT productions since 4th grade. He is excited to be portraying the role of Shylock in the VACT production of *Something Rotten!* Daniel would like to thank everyone who gave their time and talent to bring this show together. Enjoy the Show!

**OLIVER HEROLD** (Lord Clapham/Master of the Justice) Oliver is thrilled to have you at VACT's production of *Something Rotten!* He has had so much fun working with the entire cast and crew and is thankful for the opportunity to make new friendships. Other favorite roles include playing Harry Bright in SPHS's spring 2022 production of *Mamma Mia!* He would like to thank his parents and little brother for supporting him throughout his crazy schedule.

**ALEX CHRISTY** (Nigel Bottom) Alex is fired up to be performing in the production *Something Rotten*. He has previously performed in many of VACT's shows including *Willy Wonka* (Charlie) and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Jeremy), and Madison Memorial High School shows, including *Beauty and the Beast* (Chip) and *The Nerd* (Thor). He is grateful for the support of family and friends and thankful for VACT's continued support in, and production of, musical theater.

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## who's who in the crew

**EMMA VOGEL** (Director) Emma Vogel is so excited to be directing her third VACT production! Previously, she directed *GTK Footloose* and *Singin' in the Rain Jr.* at VACT and *Into the Woods*, *Annie*, and *My Fair Lady* at Belleville High School. You may have also seen her around VACT as the Education Director teaching drama classes and leading summer camps, or on the VACT stage as Miss Honey in *Matilda the Musical*, and Truly Scrumptious in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. A HUGE thank you from the bottom of her heart to the cast and crew who worked incredibly hard to make this show possible. This whole production truly has been a labor of love. To Michael, this one's for the "us" from six years ago, who had no idea then what this show would mean to us all these years later. I'll run in the rain to catch a train with you anyway. Here's to "us" and here's to "Roo."

**KELSEY ODORIZZI** (Music Director) Kelsey is beyond ecstatic to be back music directing such talented teens from the Madison area! Past MD credits with VACT include: *Chicago: High School Edition*, *Newsies*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Hairspray*, *West Side Story*, and *Bring It On: The Musical*. Other MD credits, all with Sun Prairie High School, include: *Mamma Mia*, *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *Footloose*, *The Pajama Game*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Urinetown*, *Peter Pan*, and *Crazy For You*. Past theater acknowledgements include: Overture Center Jerry Awards for Outstanding Musical for *The Pajama Game*, *Seussical the Musical*, and *Urinetown* with SPHS; and Outstanding Musical for *Newsies* and *Hairspray* with VACT. Thanks to Emma, Sara, Marsha, and Kenzie for another wonderful opportunity, and thank you for supporting the arts. Enjoy the show!

**SARA WARD-CASSADY** (Producer) Sara is thrilled to be a part of this fantastic production! Sara enjoys working both onstage and offstage, with favorite onstage roles at VACT including Sandy, in *Four Weddings and an Elvis*, Mother, in *A Christmas Story: The Musical*, and Kate, in *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, and favorite offstage roles including co-directing VACT's *Matilda the Musical*, and directing *The Radio Play Disaster* and *High School Music 2 Jr.*, as well as producing and stage managing many other VACT productions. Thanks to the amazing *Something Rotten!* production team and special thanks to Colin and Erin for their love and support.

**MARSHA HEUER** (Co-Choreographer) is thrilled to be co-choreographing VACT's *Something Rotten!* She has been teaching high school social studies and theater for 15 years and is currently at Sun Prairie High School where she also directs and choreographs their shows. Marsha is honored to have been awarded Jerry Awards for her direction of SPHS's *Anything Goes*, *Crazy For You*, *Urinetown*, *Seussical*, and *The Pajama Game* as well as for her choreography for *Urinetown*, *Seussical*, and *The Pajama Game* at SPHS, as well as *Bring It On*, *Hairspray*, and *Newsies* with VACT. She has been an active member of VACT since 2003 where she met her husband at an audition... the rest is history! Some favorite past VACT roles include Corie Bratter in *Barefoot in the Park*, Ulla in *The Producers* and Cherie in *Bus Stop*. Enjoy the show! "Love to C, T, K & FM."



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# who's who in the crew

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**KENZIE MERUCCI** (Co-Choreographer) is excited to be choreographing her first teen production with VACT! You may have seen her on stage in previous VACT shows such as; *Matilda the Musical*, *Mamma Mia*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Willy Wonka*, and *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel), as well as various productions with Edgewood College and Middleton Players Theater. You may also know her as the Choreographer from VACT's *Singin' in the Rain Jr.* or Co-Director/Co-choreographer from VACT's *Matilda the Musical*. Kenzie would like to thank her mother, fiancé, and friends for always supporting her throughout her theatrical journey.

**CLAIRE JOHNSON** (Costume Director) Claire is thrilled to be designing costumes again and is grateful to have been a part of this production of *Something Rotten!* She has been a costume designer with VACT since 2017 leading the design in 11 different productions. Having worked with many of these teens over the past 6 years it has been so fun to see them shine again onstage as high schoolers.

**STEVE NICKELS** (Lighting Designer) Steve has been designing lights for VACT shows for over 15 years, and can usually be found up in the lighting booth. He has also worked backstage as a stage manager, ropes operator, spotlight operator, and producer, and occasionally can even be found on stage, but always manages to be involved with the lights. "May the Light shine on you!"

**DALE NICKELS** (Sound) Dale has produced or directed many VACT shows and has designed the sound for nearly every show since *The Wizard of Oz* in 1996. From time to time he shows up on stage. Most of the time he lives behind the soundboard, dealing with an increasing number of wireless microphones. His most recent directorial outing was *Four Weddings and an Elvis*. "Thanks to my lovely wife, Deb, for letting me play."

**MATTHEW GRYZBOWSKI** (Set Designer) has worked on a number of theatrical productions across the state in various roles on and off the stage. He is grateful to have had the opportunity to work with VACT on several of their shows. Many thanks to those that helped on the weekends to make the set possible and deepest thanks to Emma, Gina, and Dusty for the artistic collaboration throughout this production.

**MARIE KYLE** (Prop Master) has been the elementary music teacher at Sugar Creek Elementary School in Verona for over 25 years. She has worked as the music director, and appeared on stage for many VACT shows, as well as directing the teen productions of *Grease*, *Legally Blonde*, *Bye, Bye Birdie* and *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Favorite roles include Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Glinda in *The Wizard of Oz*, Betty Haynes in *White Christmas* and Mother Superior in *Sister Act*. Marie loves being in shows with her husband Jim and playing the role of mom to sons Joe and Tom.

**DUSTY SMITH** (Supervising Stage Manager) Deep within the dark wings of the theater is Dusty Smith, your stage manager or perhaps stage manager manager! "I like this place and would willingly waste my time in it." Has been heard on occasion. Some of his recent theater highlights include *Matilda the Musical* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Mamma Mia!* (Stage Manager), *Young Frankenstein!* (Director), *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Assistant Stage Manager), *The Odd Couple* - Female Version (Director) and many more that shall not be named! "A big thank you to my family and friends for their love and support!"

**DENALI KRAEMER** (Student Stage Manager) Denali has been involved with VACT since she was 4 years old! She has performed in the shows *Mamma Mia*, *42nd Street*, *A Christmas Story*, and many more! Although she loves being on stage she recently has discovered her love for tech crew and stage management. She has been on the tech crew for 10 shows. She was stage manager for *Xanadu* and the Multicultural Showcase at VAHS, and she's so excited to be stage manager for *Something Rotten!*

# who's who in the crew

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**GINA HAMON** (Scenic Artist) is thrilled to be taking part in her 10th VACT production! Gina has previously been the scenic artist for other VACT productions such as *Matilda the Musical*, *Mamma Mia*, and *Young Frankenstein*. Gina wants to thank Matt and Emma for including her on the set design team, it is always a pleasure to work with you both! Another huge thank you to all of the cast members who came out to help paint - this set was a huge project and it wouldn't have turned out without all of your help!

**TOM BLANKENHEIM** (Orchestra Manager) If VACT is producing a musical, you can usually find Tom in the pit with an assortment of clarinets and/or saxophones. Tom's first VACT pit appearance was for *Annie Get Your Gun* (2007), and has performed in the pit for 30+ VACT productions. Not satisfied with simply 'playing' the pit, Tom has taken on the responsibilities of recruiting orchestra musicians and working with Sara, Brett, and Dale to make sure that everything goes as planned down below. When the COVID-19 pandemic prevented live productions, Tom ventured outside of the pit for a stint as a recording engineer, audio mixing engineer, and video editor for *A Very Virtual Merry Hometown Holiday* (2020). Since then, Tom has also been assisting Dale with sound when not wielding a clarinet or sax. When not involved with VACT, Tom plays for several area Concert Bands and Big Bands. Tom has also performed with Coe College Bands (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) in the U.S., China, Central America and Europe. It has been a pleasure to work with Sara, Brett, Dale, and all of the musicians to bring this hilarious musical to the Verona Community.

**BRETT WAGNER** (Conductor) Brett is thrilled to be conducting *Something Rotten!* Brett has performed a variety of roles with VACT as well as many other theaters around the Madison area. From playing in the pit to music directing the cast, conducting the orchestra to performing on stage, he enjoys watching the music on the page come to life through musical connection and collaboration. Brett holds a degree in Piano Performance from UW-Madison under the direction of Professor Christopher Taylor. Having performed across the U.S, in Europe and South America, Brett always enjoys coming home to make music with his childhood community.

**KAREY KIRKPATRICK** (Book, Music & Lyrics) began his career as a screen and songwriter for Disney Animation where he penned *The Rescuers Down Under* and *James and the Giant Peach*. With more than a dozen feature films produced, screenplay credits include *Chicken Run* (Golden Globe nominee for Outstanding Comedy), *Charlotte's Web*, *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, *The Spiderwick Chronicles* and *Over the Hedge*, which he also co-directed. He directed the Paramount Pictures film *Imagine That* starring Eddie Murphy and co-produced, wrote and performed on the film's soundtrack. He recently directed the Warner Brothers animated musical *SMALLFOOT* for which he also co-wrote the screenplay and the songs (with brother Wayne). He has won a number of Tony, Oscar and Grammy awards and that number is zero. Other credits: husband of Nada, father of Sami, Maia and Finn.

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## who's who in the crew

**WAYNE KIRKPATRICK** (Music & Lyrics) is the Grammy Award-winning songwriter of *Change the World* by Eric Clapton (Song of the Year). Top 10 singles include *Every Heartbeat*, *Good for Me* (Amy Grant); *Wrapped Up in You* (Garth Brooks); *Boondocks*, *Bring It on Home*, *Little White Church* (Little Big Town); *Place in This World* (Michael W. Smith). He is a multi-formatted songwriter with songs recorded by Bonnie Raitt, Faith Hill, Joe Cocker, Gabe Dixon, Trisha Yearwood, Babyface and Peter Dinklage, among others. His songs have been featured in TV shows (*Grey's Anatomy*, *True Blood*, *Hart of Dixie*) as well as feature films (*Almost Famous*, *Phenomenon*, *Smallfoot*). Wayne lives in Nashville with his wife Fran and was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame for 2018. Favorite productions: Kourtney, Shelby and Carson.

**JOHN O'FARRELL** (Book) is one of the UK's best known comic authors and script writers. Best-selling novels include *The Best a Man Can Get*, *May Contain Nuts* and *The Man Who Forgot His Wife*. Non-fiction includes *An Utterly Impartial History of Britain*, the political memoir *Things Can Only Get Better* and its recent sequel plus three collections of his satirical columns for *The Guardian* newspaper. O'Farrell's books have been translated into thirty languages and adapted for BBC Radio and television. Winner, British Comedy Award. Previously a writer (and later panelist) on BBC's *Have I Got News For You* and lead writer on ten series of ITV's *Spitting Image*. Currently writing the sequel to *Chicken Run*, and adapting one of his novels for Sony International Pictures.



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# recent VACT Productions

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- 2011 Guys and Dolls; Stone Soup; Disney's Beauty and the Beast Jr.; Footloose; The Wizard of Oz; Undertow: The Musical
- 2012 Noises Off; Welcome to the Jungle; Seussical Jr.; Grease; Encore! 2012: Celebrating 20 Years; High Society; The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
- 2013 The Producers; Disney's Winnie The Pooh KIDS; Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.; Legally Blonde, The Musical; Peter Pan; Seven Brides for Seven Brothers; The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
- 2014 Heaven Can Wait; Disney's 101 Dalmatians, KIDS; Encore Jr.; Bye Bye Birdie; The Music Man; How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; Getting to Know The Sound of Music; White Christmas
- 2015 Singin' In The Rain; Aladdin, KIDS; Hairspray Jr.; The Drowsy Chaperone; Shrek The Musical; Forever Plaid; Elf The Musical Jr.; A Very Merry Hometown Christmas
- 2016 Brighton Beach Memoirs; Dinosaurs Before Dark, KIDS; High School Musical Jr.; Bring It On the Musical; Mary Poppins; Billy Elliot the Musical; A Seussified Christmas Carol; It's A Wonderful Life the Musical
- 2017 South Pacific; The Lion King, KIDS; Guys and Dolls Jr.; West Side Story; The Little Mermaid; Sister Act the Musical; Stone Soup; Godspell Jr.
- 2018 The Hunchback of Notre Dame; Bus Stop; A Race To The Finish; The Jungle Book KIDS; Bye Bye Birdie YPE; Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka; Little Shop of Horrors; Annie KIDS; Legally Blonde Jr.; A Christmas Story
- 2019 The Odd Couple; Three Nanny Goats Gruff; The Aristocats KIDS; 42nd Street YPE; Disney's Newsies; Chitty Chitty Bang Bang; Young Frankenstein; We Are Monsters; Disney's Frozen Jr.
- 2020 Mamma Mia!; 4 Weddings and An Elvis; Chicago High School Edition\*; Getting To Know Footloose The Musical\*; Seussical KIDS\*; Pajama Party\*; VACT Virtual Youth Theater Fall 2020; A Very Virtual Merry Hometown Holiday (\*cancelled due to COVID)
- 2021 The Importance of Being Earnest In a Pandemic; VACT Virtual Youth Theater Spring 2021; The Radio Play Disaster; Seussical KIDS; Singin' In The Rain Jr.; Matilda The Musical
- 2022 Don't Dress for Dinner

For a complete list of VACT's past productions since 1992, please visit  
[www.vact.org/page-pp](http://www.vact.org/page-pp)

## Verona Area Community Theater, Inc

VACT, Inc. originated in the summer of 1992 and is now producing ten shows a year. From the beginning, our goal has been to offer the people in the Verona Area community opportunities to utilize their talents in all facets of the arts. Our primary goal is to have fun! If you are interested in participating in any way, please contact one of the board members listed below:

### VACT INC., BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Officers

President: Dale Nickels  
Vice President: Sara Ward-Cassady  
Secretary: Elizabeth Kraemer  
Treasurer: Brian Johnson

#### Additional Members

Tom Arnol, Dee Baldock, Kim Eckmayer, K.B. Kendricks,  
Marie Kyle, Sarah Lederer, Lynn Vilker



Thank you so much for attending *Something Rotten*. Like many arts organizations, COVID-19 caused a great deal of change for VACT. We are so grateful for all of the support we received. Every kind message, donation, and show of support meant the world to us as we navigated time without live theater and figured out how to adapt. While there is a light at the end of the tunnel, your support will help us return to live theater and come back stronger than ever. If you're a theater lover who is in a position to help, please consider making a donation to VACT. Donations can be made through our website by going to [www.vact.org](http://www.vact.org) and clicking on the "donate now" link at the top of the page.

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