

Otterbein University

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### They're Playing Our Song

Otterbein University Theatre and Dance Department

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OTTERBEIN  
UNIVERSITY

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OTTERBEIN  
SUMMER  
THEATRE  
PROGRAM  
**2017**

**EPIC IMAGINATION.**  
**INTIMATE ENCOUNTERS.**

*Sharing the Spotlight  
with Mother Nature...*



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**"32 Acres of Gardening Pleasure"**

# OTTERBEIN SUMMER THEATRE

presents

# THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG

Book by NEIL SIMON

Music by MARVIN HAMLISCH

Lyrics by CAROLE BAYER SAGER

Directed by  
MELISSA LUSHER

Musical Direction by  
DENNIS DAVENPORT

Choreography by  
STELLA HIATT KANE

Scenic Design by  
ROB JOHNSON

Costume Design by  
TATJANA LONGEROT

Lighting Design by  
ANDY BAKER

Sound Design by  
DOC DAVIS

Stage Managed by  
ETHAN WINTGENS

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July 6-9, 13-16, & 20-22, 2017  
Riley Auditorium in the Battelle Fine Arts Center  
170 W. Park St., Westerville

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"They're Playing Our Song (Neil Simon/Marvin Hamlisch)"  
is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

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# CAST

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Vernon Gersch .....	Maxwell Bartel
Sonia Walsk .....	Leah Windahl
Voices of Vernon Gersch .....	Lincoln Belford & Daniel Kunkel
Voices of Sonia Walask .....	Isabel Billinghamurst & Kat Lee
Voice of Phil the Engineer .....	Lincoln Belford

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# ORCHESTRA

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Conductor/Keyboard .....	Dennis Davenport
Bass .....	Eric Stratton
Percussion .....	Tomasz Jarzecki

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# PRODUCTION STAFF

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Artistic Director .....	Lenny Leibowitz
Department Chair/Co-Producer .....	Christina Kirk
Co-Producer/Audience Services Director .....	Elizabeth Saltzgeber
Technical Director .....	Patrick Stone
Production Manager .....	Kristen Cooperkline
Costume Shop Supervisor .....	Julia Ferreri
Light & Sound Supervisor .....	Doc Davis
Manager of Ticketing and OnCampus Promotions .....	Alexx Conrad
Administrative Assistant .....	Matt Wolfe
Assistant Director .....	Grace Hoover
Assistant Production Manager .....	Sarah Short
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Annika Morrison
Carpenters .....	Benjamin Eckert, Jalissa Frye, Nick Hahn, Braxton Maloney
Props Master .....	Mikayla Burr
Assistant Props Master/Technical Apprentice .....	Logan Stump
Charge Artist .....	Riley Mankin
Assistant Charge Artist/Technical Apprentice .....	Jalissa Frye
Wardrobe Master .....	Miranda Cotman
Wardrobe Assistant/Technical Apprentice .....	Allison Mogle
Master Electrician/ Light Board Operator .....	Jessica Palagano
Sound Engineer .....	Kevin Siebert
Tech Apprentices ..	Lincoln Belford, Isabel Billinghamurst, André Spathelf-Sanders
Front of House Manager .....	Kaylee Barrett, Emily Bubeck
Front of House Associate .....	Shawn Meeker

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# MUSICAL NUMBERS

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## ACT I

"Falling" .....	Vernon
"Falling Reprise" .....	Sonia
"Workin' It Out - Prologue" .....	Vernon
"Workin' It Out" .....	Vernon, Sonia & Voices
"If He Really Knew Me" .....	Vernon & Sonia
"They're Playing My Song 1" .....	Vernon
"They're Playing My Song 2" .....	Vernon & Sonia
"They're Playing My Song 3" .....	Vernon & Sonia
"They're Playing My Song 4" .....	Vernon
"If She Really Knew Me - Reprise" .....	Vernon
"If He Really Knew Me - Reprise" .....	Sonia
"Right" .....	Sonia, Vernon & Voices
"Just For Tonight" .....	Sonia

### 15 - Minute Intermission

## ACT II

"When You're In My Arms" .....	Vernon, Sonia & Voices
"A Lyricist?" .....	Sonia
"False Starts" .....	Orchestra
"Still Believe In Love" .....	Sonia
"Fill In The Words" .....	Vernon, Voices
"Bows" .....	Vernon, Sonia, Voices

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# SPECIAL THANKS

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Solich Piano & Music Company  
Otterbein University Service Department  
The Point at Otterbein University

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For more information, please visit: [www.samuel french.com/whitepaper](http://www.samuel french.com/whitepaper)

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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**Lenny Leibowitz** (Artistic Director) is entering his fourth year as a member of the Otterbein Theatre faculty. Since his arrival in Westerville, Lenny has directed *My Fair Lady*, *Into the Woods*, *Clybourne Park*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Top Girls*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*. As founding artistic director of Marvell Rep, OffBroadway, Lenny directed 11 productions, including *The Threepenny Opera*, which received a Drama Desk nomination for Best Revival of a Musical. Other New York directing credits include the world premiere of Brian Yorkey's *Making Tracks*, which ran Off-Broadway at Rockefeller Center's Taipei Theater. Lenny has directed at some of the nation's leading regional theatres, including the Olney Theatre, the National Players, the Huntington Theatre's Breaking Ground Festival, and the New Harmony Theatre, where he was artistic director for four years, staging *Amadeus*, *The School for Scandal*, *Guys and Dolls*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Crucible*, and *Much Ado About Nothing*, among others. A Philadelphia native, he made his professional debut as a piano soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra. He received his B.A. from Columbia University and his M.F.A. from Boston University. Member, SDC and AEA.

**Melissa Lusher** (Director) is thrilled to return to OST, having previously directed *Invention of Theater* and *The Nerd* in past seasons. She teaches acting, speech, and dialects in the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein University, where she also serves as the Director of the Acting Area and the resident speech/dialects coach for all productions. She holds an M.F.A. in Acting from the combined program of Carnegie Mellon University and the Moscow Art Theatre in Russia, and a B.F.A. in Acting from Carnegie Mellon. Her directorial debut production of *Spring Awakening* at Otterbein was named one of the Best 10 Shows of 2012 by The Columbus Dispatch. Other Otterbein directing credits include *The Crucible*, *RENT*, *The Greeks: The Murders*, and *No Exit*. This fall, Melissa has the double honor of directing *Rumors* and playing her dream role of Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (both at Otterbein). She extends her deepest gratitude to the entire company of *They're Playing Our Song* for their creativity and commitment. Much love to the two who play her favorite song... her husband, Joe, and her son, Lucas.

**Dennis Davenport** (Musical Director) is Chairperson of the Department of Music at Otterbein University. In addition to administrative work, he teaches theory and musical theatre history, directs the Otterbein Singers, and, with colleague Jim Bates, leads the Otterbein Vienna travel course in May. Recent production work includes *A Grand Night for Singing* and *The All Night Strut* for Otterbein Summer Theatre. Davenport has collaborated with his spouse, Sarah Davenport, in the creation of two one-act operas, the second of which, *First Encounters: Berthe Morisot Meets Edouard Manet* (An Opera? A Musical?) was produced by Otterbein Opera Theatre in April 2016. Other original work includes scores for Brecht's *Galileo* at the University of Michigan, and for Brecht's *Caucasian Chalk Circle* at Otterbein. Davenport's degrees include an A.B. in Music from Princeton University, a M.Mus. in Choral Conducting from Austin Peay State University in Tennessee, and a D.M.A. in Composition from the University of Oregon.

**Stella Hiatt Kane** (Choreographer) is the Director of Musical Theatre and Director of Dance at Otterbein University and the founding Artistic Director of JazzMet. Ms. Kane has been a member of the national companies of Sugar and Bob Fosse's *Dancin'* and a member of the national and international companies of *The American Dance Machine*. She has made television appearances in productions such as PBS' "Dance

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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In America" and "The Ann Reinking Special" with Ann Reinking, Chita Rivera and Ben Vereen. Ms. Kane has taught for New York's American Dance Machine/Harkness House and the Actors' and Directors' Lab. She has been a visiting guest artist/teacher at several universities including The Ohio State University and New York University and has been a master teacher in residence at the Northern Ballet Theatre in Leeds, England. Ms. Kane has also been a guest choreographer for Columbus Dance Theatre and BalletMet.

**Rob Johnson** (Scenic Designer) is a full professor and the Director of Design/Technology in the Department of Theatre & Dance at Otterbein University. He has been a designer and professor at Otterbein for 29 years, joining the faculty in 1987. His undergraduate degree is from Bowling Green State University. He also holds two master's degrees, one from West Virginia University where he studied scenic design, and the other from the Ohio State University where he earned his M.F.A. in lighting design. He has free-lanced professionally as a scenic and lighting designer for many years working with other universities and professional companies. He has designed lighting and scenery for much of his career, most recently designing the set for Otterbein's musical hits, *My Fair Lady* and *Damn Yankees*. Lighting designs include work for Ballet Met, Denison University, Ohio State University and Ohio Wesleyan University. He was also a pioneer in the use of 3D computer modeling and animation for scenic design and authored an interactive CD-ROM on "Basic Lighting Technology for the Theatre," published worldwide through First Light Video, out of Venice, CA. He gives thanks to his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ for all of his many opportunities and blessings.

**Tatjana Longerot** (Costume Designer) is an Assistant Professor of Drama at Kenyon College. She received an M.F.A. degree in Design for the Stage from The Ohio State University. There she was awarded two of six USITT Peggy Ezekiel Awards for excellent and outstanding achievement in the theatre arts. After graduating, she worked as a freelance Costume Designer for stage and film, Stylist, Wardrobe Master (local crew for tours include: *42nd Street*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, The Rolling Stones, Aerosmith, Elton John), Makeup Artist and Wig Master. Her professional costume designs include: *The Elixir of Love* (OSU Opera), *Homebody/Kabul* (Denison University), *The Wild Party* and *The Greeks: The Murders* (Otterbein University), CATCO's *The Clean House*, *The Piano Lesson* (honored by the Central Ohio Theatre Critics Circle for "Best Production of a Play" and "Best Design"), *The Pillowman* ("Best Overall Design", COTCC), *Evil Dead the Musical* and *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*, and Short North Stage's productions of *Ordinary Days*, *Passing Strange*, *Fugitive Songs* and *The Fantasticks*.

**Andy Baker** (Lighting Designer) is celebrating his tenth season with Otterbein Summer Theatre and he is humbled and excited to be back. Previous lighting designs at Otterbein include *A Grand Night for Singing*, *Invention of Theater*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *The All Night Strut*, *The Fantasticks*, *Dames at Sea*, *The Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Greeks: The Murders*, *The Full Monty*, *Spring Awakening*, *Altar Boyz*, and many more. A graduate of Otterbein College (BFA Design/Tech 2009) and The Ohio State University (MFA Lighting Design 2016), Andy has worked for several theatre companies, including Shadowbox Live, Kenyon College, and Ohio Wesleyan University. In 2009, Andy was nationally recognized as the United States Institute of Theatre Technology Undergraduate Lighting Designer of the year for his work on Otterbein's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*. Andy would like to thank his friends and family for their endless support.



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# BIOGRAPHIES

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**Doc Davis** (Sound Designer/Lighting and Sound Supervisor) was born and raised in Pearl, MS. After receiving a BA in Theatre from Belhaven University, he continued his education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. While completing his MFA in Sound Design, he worked as a sound engineer at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, assisting such acts as Mark Morris Dance Company, The National, Derek Trucks Band, Keb' Mo', Ralph Lemon Dance Company, and more. After receiving his MFA, he acted as a Mastering Engineer, Sound Designer, A1, Location Recordist, Video Designer, and Re-Recording Mixer for various theaters, companies, and films. Since moving to Columbus, OH, Davis has worked at Otterbein University as Lighting and Sound Supervisor and Events Coordinator. He continues to design and mix shows many times a year and especially loves sharing his approach to Audio Engineering and Sound Design to students of all ages!

**Ethan Wintgens** (Stage Manager) is a junior BA Theatre major with a minor in Arts Administration. His previous university credits include Stage Manager for *My Fair Lady* and Assistant Stage Manager for *Damn Yankees*, *The Addams Family*, *A Grand Night for Singing*, and *Invention of Theater*. He will also be the Stage Manager for *Rumors* in the fall. Enjoy the show!

**Kaylee Barrett** (House Manager) is a senior BFA Acting major from Cleveland, OH. Her previous university credits include Angie/Pope Joan in *Top Girls* and Mary Warren in *The Crucible*. Her other credits include Cathy in *The Last Five Years* at Revolution Theatrics. She would like to thank her parents and sisters for their constant love and support, as well as the amazing cast and crew for their dedication to this show. Much love.

**Maxwell Bartel** (Vernon) is very excited to be returning for another production with Otterbein Summer Theatre. You may have seen him recently in *My Fair Lady* (Doolittle), *The Crucible* (Thomas Putnam), or *Brighton Beach Memoirs* (Stanley Jerome). He would like to thank his friends, family, and Trey Plutnicki for their incredible support. Enjoy the show!

**Lincoln Belford** (Voice) is a sophomore Musical Theatre major with a Dance concentration. Originally, from Asheville, NC, Lincoln now lives in Baltimore, MD. His previous university credits include Eddie/Ensemble in *Damn Yankees*, and Dancer in Dance 2016: *The Goddess*.

**Isabel Billinghamurst** (Voice) is a sophomore Musical Theatre major from the hole-in-the-cornfield town of Lagrange, OH (better known as a fifteen-minute drive from Oberlin). Her previous credits include Dull Gret/Louise in Otterbein University's *Top Girls*, Lisa in Weathervane Playhouse's *Mamma Mia!*, The Bakers Wife in Hathaway Brown Theatre Institute's *Into the Woods*, Natalie Goodman in Brecksville Theater On the Square's *Next to Normal*, and Laura Wingfield in TrueNorth's *The Glass Menagerie*. Much love and many thanks to her beautiful parents for their endless support. Thank you for supporting live theatre!

**Emily Bubeck** (House Manager) is a senior BA Theatre major from Fairfax, VA. Her previous university credits include House Manager for *My Fair Lady*, House Manager and Assistant Director for *Top Girls*, and Dramaturge for *The Crucible*, *Fiddler on the*

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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*Roof, Is He Dead?, Much Ado About Nothing, and Into the Woods.* Emily has worked as a director, playwright and a member of the committee for Festival over the past three years. Last summer she completed an internship at Mosaic Theater Company of DC and this summer, in addition to house managing for Otterbein Summer Theater, she is interning at Short North Stage. Next fall, Emily is looking forward to Assistant Directing *Adding Machine*, Dramaturging *Rumors*, Stage Managing *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, and completing her Advanced Directing Project, *Reap the Grove*. She would like to thank her friends and family for making her collegiate experience so unforgettable.

**Mikayla Burr** (Props Master) is a junior Theatre and History double major. Her previous university credits include Props Master for *Top Girls* and *My Fair Lady*. I couldn't have done any of this without the constant love and support of my family and my shop dawgs, and I can never thank you all enough.

**Alexx Conrad** (Manager of Ticketing and On Campus Promotions) is a 2016 Otterbein graduate with a BA in Theatre and is thrilled to be on the faculty/staff team. Outside of her work with Otterbein, Alexx is a Customer Services employee at the Westerville Public Library. This summer, she began her Masters in Library and Information Science at Kent State University. She is also heavily involved with Columbus' National Eating Disorder Association annual walk, and has served as a 2017 camp counselor for Muskingum University's High School Summer Music Theatre program. When she is not in the theatre, Alexx can be found with her nose in a book, walking her beloved dog, Trouble, or watching a Tom Hanks flick. She would like to thank her mother for everything.

**Kristen Cooperkline** (Production Manager) was raised in Columbus and earned her Bachelor of Arts in History/Theatre from the College of Wooster and her Master of Arts in American Culture Studies at Bowling Green State University. She then received her MFA in Stage Management from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her Illinois credits include *Macbeth, La Calisto, Battle of Angels, February Dance, and Our Town*. Following her graduation, Kristen served as the Event Coordinator for the first-ever American College Dance Festival Association South Regional Conference as well as a stage manager for Bebe Miller Company. She recently returned to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as the production stage manager for February Dance 2016, featuring the original work "Baldwin/NOW," choreographed by Ping Chong.

**Miranda Cotman** (Wardrobe Master) will be a junior BA Theatre major this year and is looking forward to being the Props Master for the first show of the season, *Rumors*. She has thoroughly enjoyed working with Julia and Allison, and could not ask for a better team.

**Julia Ferreri** (Costume Shop Supervisor) has been building and designing costumes for over fifteen years. Favorite Otterbein designs include: *Fiddler on the Roof, The Crucible, Les Misérables, and The Full Monty*. Around Columbus, she has designed for Actors Theatre: *Winter's Tale, Merry Wives of Windsor, and Beaux Stratagem*. Available Light: *She Kills Monsters* and *Cymbeline*. Columbus Opera: *Il Tabarro* and *Gianni Schicchi*. Julia has also worked at Glimmerglass Opera, The Shakespeare Theatre in Washington DC, The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and Berkshire Theatre

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Festival. Julia received her MFA in Costume Technology from Ohio University-Athens. She sends her love to Zak John for all his love and support over the years.

**Grace Hoover** (Assistant Director) is a senior Acting major, hailing from Carlisle, PA. Previously seen during the academic year in *Top Girls* and *The Crucible*, Grace was also fortunate enough to be in the World Premier of *Invention of Theater* during Otterbein Summer Theatre '16. Many thanks to the cast, crew, and creative team of TPOS (and a special shout out to Melissa Lusher for the opportunity – and all the laughs! Just live life.

**Christina Kirk** (Co-Producer) is Chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance at Otterbein University where she has taught since 1992. Her directing credits include *The Living Theatre*, *New Dramatists*, and assisting Liviu Ciulei at Arena Stage. Favorite directing projects at Otterbein include *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *King Richard III* and *Nine*. She has also directed and performed for Otterbein Summer Theatre. Favorite summer projects include *The 39 Steps*, *Barefoot in the Park*, and *The Understudy*. She has performed at the Illinois Shakespeare Festival, the Nebraska Repertory Theatre, the Illinois Repertory Theatre, CATCO, and in the Joseph Jefferson award winning *Kabuki Medea*. Favorite roles include "B" in *Three Tall Women* at CATCO, Violet in *August: Osage County* at Otterbein and, more recently, the title roles in *Cleopatra* and *Claudiel* at Columbus Dance Theatre. Claudel received the Artistic Excellence Award by the Greater Columbus Arts Council and *Cleopatra* was nominated for this same award. Her one-woman show, which premiered at Columbus Dance Theatre, was featured in the March 2006 Theatre Journal. And, most recently she had the pleasure of reading her daughter Margaret Veach's poetry in an evening of her work at Columbus Dance Theatre. Kirk has an M.F.A. in Directing from Columbia University and a B.F.A. in acting from the University of Illinois. She is also a certified yoga instructor.

**Daniel Kunkel** (Voice) is excited to be a part of *They're Playing Our Song!* He was previously seen in *My Fair Lady* (Pickering) here at OST, as well as in *The Flick* (Skylar/The Dreaming Man) with Cadence Theatre, *The Tempest* (Ferdinand) with Quill Theatre, *The Human Terrain* (Pvt. Detty) with 5th Wall Theatre, and *Macbeth* (Macduff) with SPARC. He would like to thank his parents and whole family, as well as the entire cast and crew of OST 2017!

**Kat Lee** (Voice and U/S Sonia) is so excited to share the journey of Passion in *They're Playing Our Song*, as well as having the honor of understudying Sonia. Kat has also been seen in the ensembles of *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Damn Yankees* and as Tituba in *The Crucible*.

**Riley Mankin** (Charge Artist) is a junior Theatre Design & Technology major from Hilliard, OH. Her previous university credits include Charge Artist for *My Fair Lady*. I would like to thank my family for their support and encouragement.

**Allison Mogle** (Costume Assistant) is a junior BA Theatre major from Liberty Township, OH. Her previous university credits include costume assistant for *The Crucible* and *The Addams Family* and Paint assistant for *Damn Yankees*. Thank you to my family for always supporting me!

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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**Annika Morrison** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore Theatre Design & Technology major. Her previous university credits include Assistant Stage Manager for the Dance 2016: *The Goddess* and she is looking forward to spending her first summer with Otterbein Summer Theatre.

**Jessica Palagano** (Master Electrician) is a junior Theatre Design & Technology major with focuses in Lighting and Scenic Design. Her previous university credits include Master Electrician for *My Fair Lady*. I hope my future is "bright"!

**Elizabeth Saltgiver** (Co-Producer/Audience Services Director) has been a member of the administrative staff since 2000. Her experience in Arts Administration includes work for dhc productions, the Westerville Symphony, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Ohio Light Opera, Ashland University College of Arts and Sciences, the 2013 Westerville Year of the Arts celebration, and the Ashland Balloon Fest. Elizabeth holds a B.A. in Music and Business from Otterbein University and is currently Treasurer for the Columbus Arts Marketing Association.

**Alyssa Samuelson** (Assistant Production Manager) is thrilled to be working for OST this summer! She is a sophomore BA Theatre student with concentrations in Directing, Choreography, and Management and double minor in Dance and Arts Administration. Previous Otterbein work includes *My Fair Lady* (Assistant Stage Manager), Festival 2017 (Choreographer), and *Top Girls* (Props Assistant). She would like to thank her parents and siblings for their love and support.

**Sarah Short** (Assistant Production Manager) is a sophomore BA Theatre major from Marion, OH. Her previous university credits include Light Board Operator for *The Crucible* and Production Assistant/Set Crew for *Damn Yankees*.

**Kevin Siebert** (Sound Engineer) A graduate of Capital University's Music Technology program, Kevin is excited to join the team in putting on *They're Playing Our Song*! He currently works for the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts at the Lincoln Theatre as a Sound Engineer and is Head of Audio for Veritas Community Church (Short North). He has recently done sound for Columbus Children's Theatre's production of *James and the Giant Peach* and Columbus Gay Men's Chorus' *Jackson 5+*. He enjoys supporting live theatre and hopes you will enjoy the show!

**Patrick Stone** (Technical Director) began his tenure as the Technical Director at Otterbein in the Fall of 2014. He spent the previous seven years at the University of Arkansas as the Faculty Technical Director. He holds a Masters of Fine Arts from the University of South Dakota in Vermillion and a Bachelors of Arts from Doane College in Crete, Nebraska. He teaches classes in stage-craft, properties design and construction, metal working, technical direction, wood working, and motion scenery. Patrick also enjoys consulting with local and regional theatres ranging from professional through junior high school. Lately, he has been exploring the use of negative feedback loops in motion control. When not in the Shop or backstage, Patrick enjoys any activity that gets him outdoors. Patrick believes most band saws are of low moral character.

**Logan Stump** (Props Assistant) is a sophomore Theatre Design & Technology major from Dublin, OH. His previous university credits include Set Crew for *The Addams Family*, Light Crew for *The Crucible*, Set and Props Crew for *Top Girls* and Assistant

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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Master Electrician for *Damn Yankees*. He is very glad for the opportunity to be a part of OST. He would like to thank his friends and family, specifically mom and Anabelle.

**Leah Windahl** (Sonia) is a senior BFA Musical Theatre major from Cleveland, OH. Her previous university credits include Sister in *Damn Yankees*, Wednesday in *The Addams Family*, and Grandma Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Other credits include Sheila in *Hair* at Near West Theatre. She is so excited to be a part of Otterbein Summer Theatre this year! A big thank you to my parents for always being my biggest supporters. Much love.

## OTTERBEIN THEATRE & DANCE 2017-18

Neil Simon's RUMORS  
September 21-30

ADDING MACHINE  
A Musical  
October 19-28

Dance 2017: MOVE ME  
November 16-19

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK  
February 15-24

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE  
April 5-14

Subscription renewals for  
the 2017-18 Season will be  
mailed at the end of July!



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# ABOUT THE WRITERS

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**Neil Simon** (Playwright) American playwright and screenwriter Neil Simon is widely regarded as one of the most successful, prolific and performed playwrights in the world. In addition to *Lost In Yonkers*, which won a Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize, his plays and musicals include *Come Blow Your Horn*, *Little Me*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *The Odd Couple*, *Sweet Charity*, *The Star-Spangled Girl*, *Plaza Suite*, *Promises, Promises*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, *The Gingerbread Lady*, *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*, *The Sunshine Boys*, *The Good Doctor*, *God's Favorite*, *California Suite*, *Chapter Two*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *I Ought to be in Pictures*, *Fools*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Biloxi Blues*, *The Odd Couple* (female version), *Broadway Bound*, *Rumors*, *Jake's Women*, *The Goodbye Girl*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *London Suite*, *Proposals*, *Hotel Suite*, *The Dinner Party*, *45 Seconds from Broadway*, *Oscar and Felix*, and *Rose's Dilemma*. Mr. Simon has received more Academy and Tony nominations than any other writer. Awards he has received include the Pulitzer Prize for *Lost In Yonkers*, Emmy Awards for *The Sid Caesar Show* and *The Phil Silvers Show*, Tony Awards for and a special Tony Award For Overall Contribution To The Theatre. His nominations include Tony Award Nominations for *Little Me*, *Barefoot in the Park*, *Plaza Suite*, *Promises, Promises*, *The Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Broadway Bound*, *Lost in Yonkers* and *The Goodbye Girl* (musical).

**Marvin Hamlisch** (Composer) As composer, Hamlisch won virtually every major award that exists: three Oscars, four Grammys, four Emmys, a Tony and three Golden Globe awards. For Broadway, he wrote the music for his groundbreaking show, *A Chorus Line*, which received the Pulitzer Prize as well as *They're Playing Our Song*, *The Goodbye Girl* and *Sweet Smell of Success*. (He also wrote the musical scores for: *Jean Seberg* (1983 National Theatre, London) and *Nutty Professor Musical* (2012 TPAC, Nashville, TN) — These two musicals have never been produced on Broadway. He was the composer of more than forty motion picture scores including his Oscar-winning score and song for *The Way We Were* and his adaptation of Scott Joplin's music for *The Sting*, for which he received a third Oscar. His prolific output of scores for films include original compositions and/or musical adaptations for *Sophie's Choice*, *Ordinary People*, *The Swimmer*, *Three Men and a Baby*, *Ice Castles*, *Take the Money and Run*, *Bananas*, *Save the Tiger* and *The Informant!*, starring Matt Damon and directed by Steven Soderbergh. At the time of his passing, he had just finished his last musical score for film. The film, *Liberace — Behind The Candelabra*, was shown at the 2013 Cannes Festival and aired on HBO in May 2013 to great reviews. Hamlisch was a graduate of the Juilliard School of Music and Queens College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree. He believed in the power of music to bring people together.


**Carole Bayer Sager** (Lyricist) Composer Carole Bayer Sager enjoyed one of the longest hit streaks in contemporary pop, with her chart success spanning across several decades. Born March 8, 1947, in New York City, she wrote her first songs while attending New York's High School of Music and Art during the early '60s; discovered by producer Don Kirshner, she signed to his Screen Gems publishing company and in 1966 authored her first hit, the Mindbenders' oft-covered "A Groovy Kind of Love." After penning a number of songs for the Monkees, Sager wrote the lyrics for the 1970 off-Broadway hit *Georgy*; in 1975, she co-wrote "Midnight Blue" with singer Melissa Manchester, who took the song into the Top Ten. They later reunited on the smash "Don't Cry Out Loud." Sager's own recording career was launched two years later, when she issued her self-titled debut LP on Elektra; the album scored a

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# ABOUT THE WRITERS

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British hit with the single "You're Moving Out Today." After writing Leo Sayer's chart-topping "When I Need You," Sager teamed with her husband, the celebrated composer Marvin Hamlisch, to write the popular Broadway musical *They're Playing Our Song*, an autobiographical work exploring the romantic entanglements of a hit songwriting team. The couple later scored an Oscar nomination for "Nobody Does It Better," the theme to the James Bond thriller *The Spy Who Loved Me* and a number two hit for singer Carly Simon. In 1981, Sager notched her biggest American solo hit with the single "Stronger Than Before," from her third LP, *Sometimes Late at Night*. She remained far better known as a writer, however, and after her marriage to Hamlisch ended, she began working with the brilliant Burt Bacharach, earning an Academy Award for 1981's "Arthur's Theme (Best That You Can Do)," a number one smash for Christopher Cross. A year later, Sager and Bacharach were married. Sager's partnership with Bacharach was among the most fruitful of her lengthy career. Perhaps their most notable collaboration was the song "That's What Friends Are For," originally written in 1982 for the comedy *Night Shift*, the couple revived the song in 1986 to raise money for AIDS research. Recorded by "Dionne Warwick and Friends" (including Elton John), "That's What Friends Are For" quickly hit number one, earning well over a million dollars for charity. With Neil Diamond, Sager and Bacharach also composed the hit "Heartlight," and later penned the Patti Labelle/Michael McDonald duet "On My Own." In 1988 they collaborated on the soundtrack for the sequel *Arthur 2: On the Rocks*, and that same year they also authored a number of tracks on the Barbra Streisand LP *Till I Loved You*. In 1991, however, Sager and Bacharach divorced. She was relatively quiet in the years to follow, most notably writing songs for films including *Beethoven's 2nd* and *Junior*. ~ Jason Ankeny, Rovi, [www.billboard.com](http://www.billboard.com)




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# HONORARY CAST LIST

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Pat & Linda Blayney	John & Ann Hentz	Steve & Carol Polsley
Carl & Carol Boehm	Judith Hinckley	Sally Kay Rice
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Len & Sharon Bussard	Marta John	Anne & John Saylor
Kathleen A. Butler	Larry Johnson	John & Ann Sicker
Wallace & Barbara Cash	J. Thomas and Kathleen Jones	Albert & Louise Siegel
Barbara Clapham	Stephen Wood & Ann Jones	John & Anita Smith
Carol Lamone & David Coffman	Chris Kelley	Larry & Beverly Spees
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Mary DeVore	Ginny Kline	Terry Sternad
Margaret Morgan Doone	Thomas & Gail Kolda	Stephen Straw
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Benedicta Enrile	Richard & Gail Lyndes	Michele Wilson Toney
Jim & Di Erickson	Greg & Mary Margulies	Roger & Margaret Lloyd Trent
Thomas Evans	Suzanne Martin	Carlton E. & Judith James Weaver
John Faulkner	Trudy Mason	Oakley & Suellyn Weaver
James & Sue Farmer	Charles McDowell	Sara Willson
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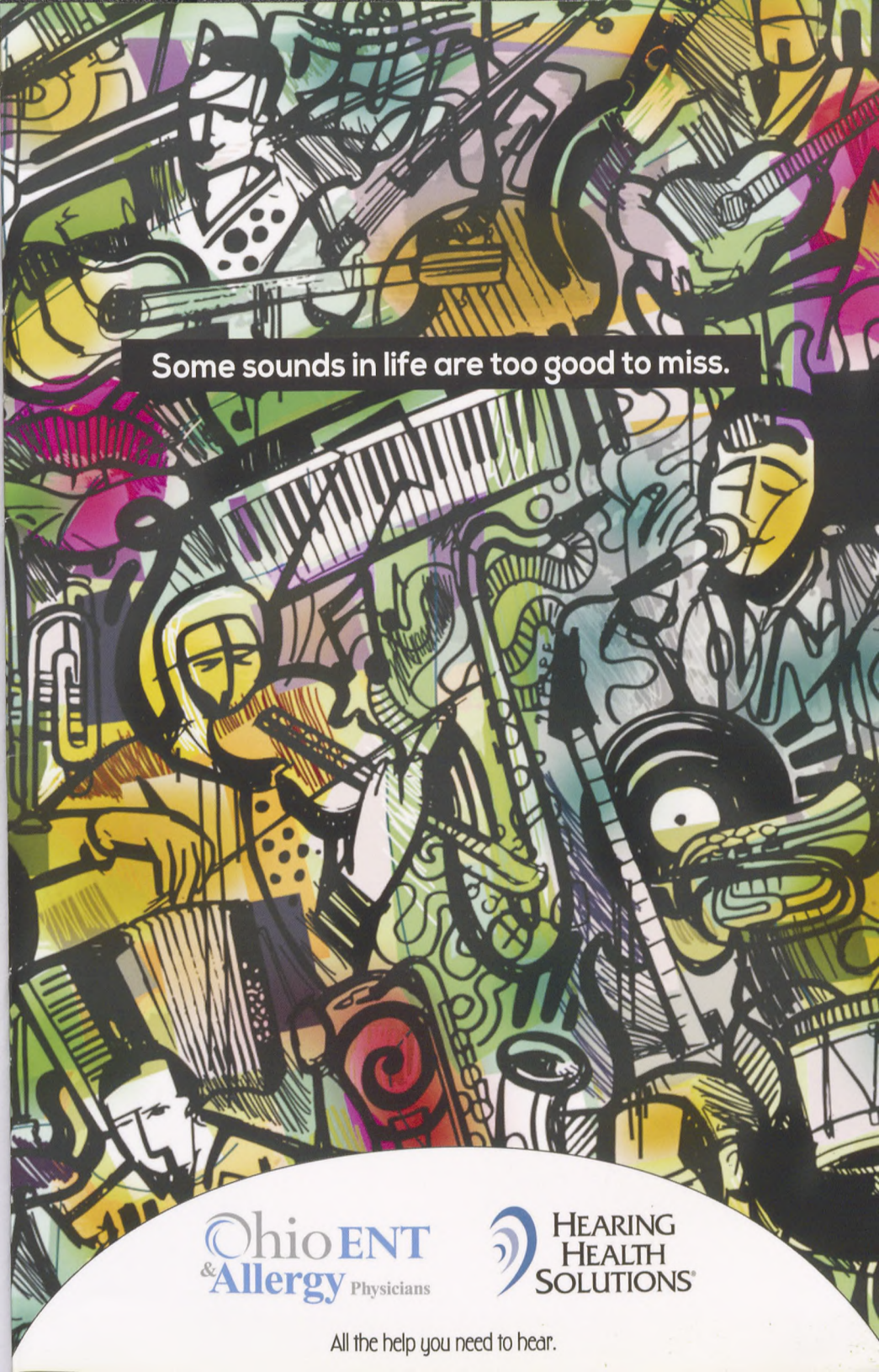
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