

Chattanooga State Fine Arts
proudly presents

ANASTASIA

Book by Terrence McNally

Music by Stephen Flaherty

Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens



March 7-9, 2025
Humanities Auditorium

ANASTASIA

Book by Terrence McNally

Music by Stephen Flaherty

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With

Jameson Bespalec-Davis, Lydia Bridgforth, Claire Brillhart,
Julia Burns, Valerie Duke, Erin Eames, Rileigh Eames, Sam Gross,
Nahla Hanks, Gabriel Hubbard, Larry Hubbard, Alex Hull,
Eric Jackson, Evan Jackson, Greg Jackson, Ajaya Kennedy,
Tessa Kelly, Ian Kidd, Olive Kidd, Tripp Ladd, Ethan León,
Kara Mullins, Richard Nichols, Kellyn Payne, Bria Rennick,
Brenda Schwab, Jacob Taylor, Thaddeus Taylor, and Libbie Weaver

DIRECTOR

Jennifer Wilson

STAGE MANAGER

Katie Hamilton

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Jennifer & Jonathan Wilson

CHOREOGRAPHER

Lindsay Fussell

SCENIC DESIGNER

Sarah Miecielica

COSTUME DESIGNER

Brenda Schwab

LIGHTING DESIGNER

Anna Blentlinger

SOUND DESIGNER

Kaylee Payne

PROJECTION DESIGNER

Crissy Varnell

PROPERTIES MANAGER

Mia Fansler

CONDUCTOR

Nicholas Hartline

AUDITORIUM MANAGER

Justin Walker

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Stephanie Smith

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Jolay Gourley

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS

Nevaeh Blanchette
& Austin Massey

ASSISTANT SCENIC DESIGNER

Hunter Roessel

Inspired by the Twentieth Century Fox Motion Pictures by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical

From the play by Marcelle Maurette as adapted by Guy Bolton

ANASTASIA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

ON STAGE

Anya/Princess Anastasia.....	Kara Mullins
Dmitry.....	Evan Jackson
Vlad Popov.....	Richard Nichols
Gleb Vaganov.....	Gabriel Hubbard
Countess Lily Malevsky-Malevitch.....	Valerie Duke
Dowager Empress Maria Fedorovna.....	Brenda Schwab

Russian Soldier & Others.....	Jameson Bespalec-Davis
Maria Romanov, Pas de Quatre Dancer.....	Lydia Bridgforth
First Woman & Others.....	Claire Brillhart
Olga Romanov/Pas de Quatre Dancer.....	Julia Burns
Streetsweeper, Solo Woman, & Others.....	Erin Eames
Streetsweeper & Others.....	Rileigh Eames
Tsarina Alexandra & Others.....	Sam Gross
Paulina & Others.....	Nahla Hanks
Count Gregory & Others.....	Larry Hubbard
Pas de Quatre Dancer & Others.....	Alex Hull
Count Ipolitov, Drunk, & Others.....	Eric Jackson
Gorlinsky & Others.....	Greg Jackson
Marketeer, Drunk, & Others.....	Ajaya Kennedy
Tatiana Romanov, Dunya, & Others.....	Tessa Kelly
Alexei Romanov & Others.....	Ian Kidd
Young Anastasia & Others.....	Olive Kidd
Count Leopold, Drunk, & Others.....	Tripp Ladd
Pas de Quatre Dancer & Others.....	Ethan León
Streetsweeper & Others.....	Kellyn Payne
Marfa & Others.....	Bria Rennick
Marketeer, Sergei, Drunk, & Others.....	Jacob Taylor
Tsar Nicholas II & Others.....	Thaddeus Taylor
Second Woman & Others.....	Libbie Weaver

BEHIND THE SCENES

Director.....	Jennifer Wilson
Choreographer.....	Lindsay Fussell
Stage Manager.....	Katie Hamilton
Rehearsal Accompanist.....	Margaret Cooke
Conductor.....	Nicholas Hartline
Scenic Designer.....	Sarah Miecielica
Costume Designer.....	Brenda Schwab
Lighting Designer.....	Anna Blentlinger
Sound Designer.....	Kaylee Payne
Projection Designer.....	Crissy Varnell
Properties Manager.....	Mia Fansler
Auditorium Manager.....	Justin Walker
Assistant Director.....	Stephanie Smith
Set Design Assistant.....	Hunter Roessel
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Nevaeh Blanchette
	Austin Massey
Dance Captains.....	Tessa Kelly
	Ethan León
Costume Assistant.....	Garry Posey
Carpenters.....	Sam Gross, Major Parkhurst, & Taylor Williams
Lighting Assistant.....	JC Smith
Stage Crew.....	Glen Arbogast, Hunter Roessel Ryon Trammel, & Taylor Williams
Costume Shop Assistants.....	Lary Ashby, Cyndi Booth, Lydia Bridgforth, Kim Davis, Alley Dwyer, Erin Eames, April Kidd, Garry Posey, & JC Smith
Wardrobe Crew.....	Lary Ashby, Heidi Brock, Kierra Champion, & Ma'kyah Lewis
Scene Shop Assistants.....	Glen Arbogast, Glen Avelis, K Blair, Lydia Bridgforth, Claire Brillhart, AJ Demary, Brie Hamfeldt, Ethan León, Carina Miller, Midlaine Milling, Hunter Roessel, & Wade Smith

ORCHESTRA

Conductor.....	Nicholas Hartline
Clarinet/Saxophone.....	Jared Burchfield
Keyboard 1.....	Margaret Cooke
Violin/Viola.....	Emily Drexler
French Horn.....	Gordon James
Keyboard 2.....	Alan Nichols
Trombone.....	Brian Poteet
Clarinet/Saxophone.....	Benjamin Salter
Percussion.....	Nathan Shew
Cello.....	Suzanne Sims
Violin.....	J.P. Brien-Slack
Flute/Piccolo/Saxophone.....	Cindy Solfest-Wallis
Bass.....	Jay Stanfill
Trumpet/Flügel.....	Nathan Warner

SPECIAL THANKS

Chattanooga Theatre Centre

Chattanooga Ballet

Jonathan Wilson

Adam Miccieclica

Dr. Ken Cardillo, Fine Arts Department Chair

Dr. Charmayne Mulligan, Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts

Dr. Rebecca Ashford, President of Chattanooga State

DID YOU KNOW?

- The 1997 animated movie *Anastasia* that this musical is based on was produced by 20th Century Fox, and was not acquired by Disney until 2019
- The movie shares the same plot as a 1952 play by Marcelle Maurette and a 1956 film
- There really was a mystery as to whether Anastasia had survived. Women did impersonate Anastasia in an attempt to gain social status and wealth (most notably a woman named Anna Anderson). It was not until 2007 that DNA testing confirmed that all of the Romanovs, including Anastasia, had indeed been killed on the same day. (Meaning the movie was created before they knew for sure if she had escaped!)

MUSICAL NUMBERS

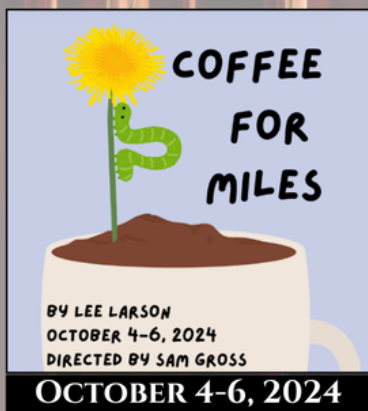
ACT ONE

Prologue.....	Offstage Ensemble
Once Upon a December.....	Dowager Empress & Young Anastasia
The Last Dance of the Romanovs.....	Ensemble
A Rumor in St. Petersburg.....	Dmitry, Vlad, & Ensemble
In My Dreams.....	Anya & Offstage Women
The Rumors Never End.....	Gleb & Ensemble
Learn to Do It.....	Vlad, Dmitry, & Anya
The Neva Flows.....	Gleb & Anya
The Neva Flows Reprise.....	Drunks
My Petersburg.....	Dmitry
Once Upon a December.....	Anya & Ensemble
A Secret She Kept.....	Anya
Stay, I Pray You.....	Count Ipolitov, Anya, Dmitry, Vlad, & Ensemble
We'll Go From There.....	Anya, Dmitry, Vlad, & Ensemble
Traveling Sequence/Still.....	Gleb, Gorlinsky, Anya, Vlad, & Dmitry
Journey to the Past.....	Anya

ACT TWO

Paris Holds the Key.....	Vlad, Anya, Dmitry, & Ensemble
Close the Door.....	Dowager Empress
Land of Yesterday.....	Lily, Leopold, & Ensemble
The Countess and the Common Man.....	Lily & Vlad
Land of Yesterday Reprise.....	Gleb
A Nightmare.....	Romanov Family & Anya
In A Crowd of Thousands.....	Dmitry & Anya
Meant to Be.....	Vlad
Quartet at the Ballet.....	Anya, Dmitry, Dowager Empress, Gleb, & Ensemble
Everything to Win.....	Dmitry
Once Upon a December Reprise.....	Anya & Dowager Empress
The Press Conference.....	Lily, Vlad, & Ensemble
Everything to Win Reprise.....	Anya & Gleb
Still/The Neva Flows Reprise.....	Gleb & Ensemble
Finale.....	Full Company

OUR 2024-2025 SEASON



CHATT STATE REPERTORY THEATRE 2025 SUMMER PROFESSIONAL SERIES



ON STAGE



Jameson Bepalec-Davis (Ensemble) is very excited to be in his second show with Chattanooga State and would like to thank his parents and all of the instructors that have helped him get where he is today. Previous roles Jameson has played includes Chat in Chattanooga State's recent production of *Coffee For Miles*.



Lydia Bridgforth (Pas de quatre dancer/Maria Romanov/Ensemble) is thrilled to be a part of *Anastasia* and is so thankful to everyone involved in making this show magical. She is a first-year Theatre Performance major here at Chatt State. Some of Lydia's recent roles include: Officer Ant (*Coffee for Miles*), Celia (*As You Like It*), Hermia (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), and a Featured Dancer/Ensemble (*The Gondoliers*). Lydia has trained in ballet for 12 years with Chattanooga Ballet and loves to express herself through dance. Because of this, being a Pas de Quatre dancer in *Anastasia* means so much to her as Lydia gets to blend her two passions of theatre and dance. When she is not on stage, Lydia enjoys creative pursuits such as crocheting, bracelet making, sewing, drawing, and painting. Lydia is dedicating her performance to her amazing family, teachers, and friends who have supported her in her theatre journey.



Claire Brillhart (Ensemble) is so grateful to be a part of the cast for *Anastasia*, this is her third college production. Some of Claire's recent productions as an actress include: *Eurydice* (Little stone), *Ride the Cyclone* (Ocean), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hodel), and *Newsies* (Kathrine). Some fun facts about Claire are: she was nominated as "Best actress" for the 2024 Jewel awards, and has been a part of choirs for the past 12 years. She thanks you for coming, and hopes you enjoy the show!

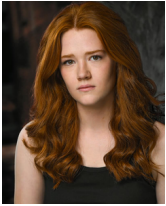


Julia Burns Coates (Pas de quatre dancer/Olga Romanov/Ensemble) is so honored to be a part of her first production in Chattanooga! Originally from Central Illinois, Julia has been dancing in some capacity for about 30 years and is stoked to be back on stage after many years of only dancing in her kitchen. When she's not performing musical numbers around the house, Julia is a tattoo artist at Main Line Tattoo Parlor. She would like to thank her husband, Tim, and dog, Pippin, for encouraging (and putting up with) her theatrical ways! Instagram: @foofytattoo

ON STAGE



Valerie Duke (Lily) is a native of Chattanooga, TN, and an alumna of CCA. Valerie, at 23 joined the Glenn Miller Orchestra and as lead female vocalist toured America, Canada, and Japan. Mrs Duke headlined the All Angel's Jazz Festival in Kauai in 2013 and again in 2015. She is regularly featured with the Chattanooga Symphony for their Big Band Fever/Big Band's Best. She spent four years writing and performing her original music in NYC, many of which can be found on [YouTube.com/@valeriedukemusic](https://www.youtube.com/@valeriedukemusic). Three of her original jazz songs can be found in the movie "Ladies of the House." She can also be found in numerous Short Films written and directed by Allen Parker. Valerie graduated with a degree in Nursing in May of 2019 from Chattanooga State where she went on to be a circulator in neurosurgery. Valerie loves performing at Chattanooga State Fine Arts where she has been seen as Mae Tuck (*Tuck Everlasting*), Madame Toureaux (*Murder at Cafe Noir*), and Brooke Wyndham (*Legally Blonde*). She is excited to once again be performing with such a wonderful cast and crew at Chatt State. She dedicates her performance to her daughters Sofia and Margot and her husband Colt who all graciously support her in every endeavor!



Erin Eames (Ensemble) is excited to return to the Chattanooga State stage! You may have seen her as Middle Winnie/Ensemble in *Tuck Everlasting* and in Ghostlight Entertainment's production of *Footloose!* Some of her other favorite credits include Teen Ensemble in *Matilda* (Atlanta Lyric Theatre), Park Swing in Dollywood's *Smoky Mountain Christmas Festival*, Fiona in *Shrek Jr.* (CCA), Queen Iduna in *Frozen Jr.* (Cumberland County Playhouse), and many others. In her spare time, she enjoys playing and recording music, filmmaking, and serving in her youth group. She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support, as well as the amazing creative team for this opportunity. Most importantly, she'd like to give all the glory to God, for none of this would be possible without Him and the gifts He has given her. Enjoy the show! Instagram: @erineames_



Rileigh Eames (Youth Ensemble) is so excited to make her debut at Chattanooga State. She has previously been in *Matilda the Musical* (Youth Swing) at the Atlanta Lyric theater, *Frozen Jr* (Young Elsa) at Cumberland County Playhouse, *Oliver* (Youth Ensemble) at the Colonnade, and *Christmas in the Smokies* (Sarah) at Dollywood Celebrity theater. You can also catch her in Season 1 Episode 10 of *Naomi*, in which she won the Young Artist Academy Award. Besides musical theatre and film, she loves volleyball, dance, playing the flute, and singing. She would like to thank her family, especially her sister, who encouraged her to audition, the amazing cast and crew who are so supportive, and most of all God for this amazing opportunity He has given her to use her gifts for Him.

ON STAGE



Sam Gross (Tsarina/Ensemble) is so thrilled to be a part of this amazing cast in *Anastasia*! Sam recently graduated from Chattanooga State with her A.F.A. in Theatre Performance and has continued to pursue her theatre career since. You may have recently seen her on the Chatt State stage as Big Stone in *Eurydice*, CB's Sister in *Dog Sees God*, and Letter Writer #3 in *Tiny Beautiful Things* with the Chattanooga State Repertory Theatre. She also had the privilege of directing *Coffee for Miles* in September 2024. Sam would like to acknowledge the incredibly talented cast and crew of *Anastasia*, and personally thank Jennifer Wilson, Sarah Micielica, Katie Hamilton, and Brenda Schwab for always pushing her to grow! She hopes you enjoy the show!



Nahla Hanks (Paulina/Ensemble) is thrilled to be a part of *Anastasia* as her first role in a college production. Some of Nahla's previous experience includes Constance (*Ride the Cyclone*), Dorothy (*The Enchanted Bookshop*), Little Red Riding Hood (*The Big Bad Musical*) as well as working crew (*Eurydice*). She has also been in various choirs growing up and enjoys singing with others. In her free time Nahla enjoys doing makeup, drawing, and hanging out with friends.



Gabriel Hubbard (Gleb Vaganov) has been acting since he was eight years old, and is now in his fifteenth year of acting. Some of his favorite roles he has played are; Dewey Finn (*School of Rock*), The Arbiter (*Chess: The Musical*), Cowboy Bob (*Footloose the Musical*), and Scar (*The Lion King*). Gabriel is very excited to be a part of this cast, fulfilling one of his dream roles as Gleb. He is also very excited to be sharing the stage with his dad again! So, sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!



Larry Hubbard (Ensemble) is excited to be back on stage. A few of his previous roles include Jean Val Jean in *Les Miserables*, Sweeney Todd in *Sweeny Todd*, Daddy Warbucks in *Annie*, and the world premiere of *Cyclone and the Pig Faced Lady*. He's also been part of many other shows in Michigan and Tennessee. He loves sharing the stage with his son and daughter. He wants you to sit back, relax, and enjoy the show.



Alexander Hull (Pas de quatre dancer/Ensemble) is a student at The University of Tennessee - Chattanooga. His most favorite roles were Kyle in *Legally Blonde* at Chattanooga State, Pippin in *Pippin* at HPAC, and Lucas in *The Addams Family* at Centerstage. He is excited to perform in his second show at Chattanooga State! He wants to thank all of his friends, family, and mentors who have helped him get this far!

ON STAGE



Eric Jackson (Count Ipolitev/Ensemble) is thrilled to be part of *Anastasia* and honored to bring Count Ipolitev to life! He has had the privilege of portraying a variety of memorable characters, including Willard Hewitt in *Footloose*, Angus Tuck in *Tuck Everlasting*, Claude Frolo in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, Officer Lockstock in *Urinetown: The Musical*, Corny Collins in *Hairspray*, Joe in *9 to 5: The Musical*, Bill Sikes in *Oliver!*, and Walter De Courcey in *Chess: The Musical*. Rehearsing with this talented cast has been a revolutionary experience, and Eric hopes the show leaves you feeling truly tsar-struck!



Evan Jackson (Dmitry) is excited to be performing one of his dream roles in this production of *Anastasia*! He has been performing since he was 4 years old, and this is his second show with Chatt State. He was last seen on stage as Aaron Shultz in *Legally Blonde*. Evan is a senior at Dalton State, majoring in Communications. Evan wants to thank his loving family and friends for always supporting him. He also wants to give a special thanks to his own princess, Savannah for always encouraging and supporting him. He welcomes you to his Petersburg, and hopes that you enjoy the show!



Greg Jackson (Gorlinsky/Ensemble) has been appearing in community theatre since 2007, but this is only his second show at Chattanooga State. Some of his favorite previous roles include Fagin in *Oliver!*, Harold Hill in *The Music Man*, Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*, and King Arthur in *Camelot*. A graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Greg served as an armor officer in Operation Desert Storm. He currently works as a software engineer at BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee. He lives in Ringgold, GA with his wife Amy, and they have two sons, Eric and Evan, both appearing in *Anastasia*.



Ajaya Kennedy (Ensemble) is coming to the end of her second year as a theatre performance major here at Chatt State, she was previously seen in *Footloose* as the Cop and worked as the Understudy for Chatt States recent performances of *Eurydice*. Ajaya is so excited for the opportunity to be a part of this production of *Anastasia*! Enjoy the show!

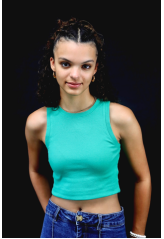


Ian Kidd (Alexei Romanov/Youth Ensemble) is stepping up in this production from his previous minor roles in a church Christmas play and a community play. He is an eighth-grade student at Ooltewah Middle School, playing the French Horn in the school band and running on the cross country team. After school, Ian enjoys reading science fiction and fantasy, diving into Legend of Zelda, flying his drone, and participating in the Meadowview Baptist Church youth group.

ON STAGE



Olive Kidd (Young Anastasia/Youth Ensemble) is a sixth-grade student at Ooltewah Middle School making her debut on stage in this production. Last year she participated in Hamilton Sings, where she has honed her musical skills and passion for performance. Her love for speaking was showcased last year when she had the honor of giving the elementary graduation speech for Ooltewah Elementary. This year she is active in the Ooltewah Middle School band and represented her school at the state cross-country meet.



Tessa Kelly (Dance Captain/Tatiana Romanov/Ensemble) is so happy to be here on the Chatt State stage! She is a (soon to be) freshman at Penn State University as a BFA acting major and cannot wait to start her journey there. She has recently appeared in *Ain't Misbehavin'* at the Chattanooga Theatre Centre, and Players Ensemble, an audition only group at Stagedoor Manor in upstate New York. She is so grateful to be a part of her dream musical and have such an incredible cast that surrounds her. Tessa would like to thank her mum for always supporting her and being so kind (as well as letting her borrow the car so much!!) she would also like to thank the entire production crew for letting her have this amazing opportunity!



Tripp Ladd (Count Leopold/Ensemble) is a Chattanooga State alum and has been in various shows here and at the theatre center such as *Matilda*, *Newsies*, *A Nutcracker Christmas Carol*, and *Into The Woods*! Tripp is looking forward to being back in Chattanooga and taking part in great theatre! He would also like to thank his friends and family for supporting him!



Ethan León (Ensemble/Pas de Quatre Dancer) is very grateful to be a part of this show! Currently a theatre major at Chattanooga State, Ethan has been performing since he was 7 years old and has since been blessed with the opportunities to play roles such as King Arthur in The 8th Annual Tennessee Medieval Faire, Diego Montoya in The 7th Annual Tennessee Pirate Fest, Sundeep Padamadan in *Legally Blonde*, The We Beseech Thee Soloist in *Godspell*, Ensemble in *Waitress*, Orpheus in *Eurydice*, and many, many more. He has also directed and choreographed a number of shows including *Ride the Cyclone* and *Zombie Prom*! Ethan is rarely not busy. He would like to give a big shout out and hug to all who support him!



Kara Mullins (Any) is thrilled to be part of this production and to work alongside such talented cast and crew. Currently in her final semester at Chattanooga State, Kara is set to receive her AFA in Theatre Performance this May. Her recent productions include Rusty in *Footloose* (Ghostlight Entertainment), Kate in *Legally Blonde* (Chattanooga State), and Marcy in *Dog Sees God* (Chattanooga State). She would like to thank Dr. Jennifer Wilson and the production team for this incredible opportunity, as well as her family, friends, and cat Zena for their endless love and support. She hopes you'll sit back, relax, and enjoy joining us on this journey to the past!

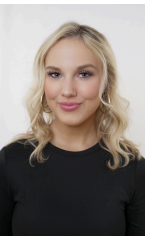
ON STAGE



Richard Nichols (Vlad Popov) has been passionate for the arts since he worked on his first student film in high school eons ago in 2007. Since then he attended Columbia College in Chicago where he received his BA in Film Studies. Upon returning to Chattanooga he decided to dive head first into the world of theatre! He graduated from Chattanooga State's Professional Actor Training Program in 2017 and he's had the bug for theatre ever since. Some of his favorite performances include: *Avenue Q* (Brian), *Urinetown* (Officer Lockestock), *Shrek* (Lord Farquaad), *Seussical* (Horton the Elephant), and *Lucky Stiff* (Vinnie). Some of his more recent works include directing *Dog Sees God* for Chatt State's previous season, and he was one of the Letter Writers for CSRT's production of *Tiny Beautiful Things*. He would like to thank his friends and family for their constant love, encouragement and support!



Kellyn Payne (Youth Ensemble) is absolutely thrilled to be taking part in *Anastasia* this semester! A freshman in high school, she started acting in middle school, but this is her first time performing at Chatt State. When she's not at rehearsals, she can be found obsessively listening to show tunes and crying because plane tickets to New York City are expensive. She'd like to extend a special thanks to Cathy Shultz and Malory Payne, as well as to the rest of her Creative Stages family, for being their awesome, dramatic selves, as well as to her parents, for being so supportive of her theatrical endeavors. Now, she hopes you sit back and enjoy the show!



Bria Rennick (Marfa/Ensemble) is a 2021 graduate of The Professional Actor Training Program here at Chattanooga State. She most recently has played Ariel Moore in *Footloose* with Ghostlight Entertainment as well as Margo in *Legally Blonde* with Chattanooga State. She is very excited and grateful to be apart of this amazing production with such a talented cast and crew. She wants to thank all of her friends, family, and mentors for the constant love and support.



Brenda Schwab (Dowager Empress/Costume Designer) has spent the past 40 plus years working in theater - professional, community and educational - acting, directing, costuming, coaching actors and singers and producing. She was co-founder of the New Harmony Theatre, a professional theater in New Harmony, Indiana, where she was in charge of the educational wing of the theater and directed the children's theater program. The past 18 of those years she has spent at Chatt State where she is the resident costume designer and teaches costume design and construction. She has appeared onstage at Chatt State and other theaters in the area. In the Chattanooga area as a director she has worked with the Signal Mtn. Playhouse, Oak Street Playhouse, Ensemble Theatre of Chattanooga and the Tennessee Valley Theatre in Spring City. She was the resident costume designer at the Cumberland County Playhouse for a number of years and was part of the first professional acting company hired there.

ON STAGE



Jacob Taylor (Ensemble) is excited to be doing another show here at Chattanooga State, with some of the best people ever! Jacob is a recent graduate of Chattanooga State - where he acquired his AFA in theatre performance! He is really excited to be a part of this show for many reasons, but mostly because he feels like this show will definitely help with his dancing! You may even recognize him from this very stage, some recent roles include: Beethoven (*Dog Sees God*), Warner Huntington III (*Legally Blonde*), and Algernon Moncrieff (*The Importance of Being Earnest*). Jacob is excited to do this show, and hopefully book some more professional work afterwards- through UPTAS or SETC! Until then, he is just going to continue having fun with theatre and all of his friends! Enjoy the show!



Thaddeus Taylor (Tsar/Ensemble) is delighted to be back on stage and excited for his first production with Chattanooga State. He has performed locally with the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera Chorus, Chattanooga Theatre Centre, and the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. He is a self-employed Learning Experience Design consultant (Uraffa Learning) guiding organizations in building engaging and effective educational activities. He thanks his husband, Ron, for the encouragement and flexibility to spend time on performing, Jennifer and the production team for the opportunity to be part of the production, and friends and family for their understanding and support.



Libbie Weaver (Youth Ensemble) is thrilled to be in her first production with Chattanooga State! She is a high school sophomore who enjoys performing, writing, and film. Some of her favorite roles include Mal (*Descendants the Musical*), Arrietty (*The Borrowers*), Junie B. (*Junie B. Jones Jr.*), Young Amy (*Little Women*), and Matilda (*Matilda*). She would like to thank the creative team for this incredible opportunity and her family for all their support.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Nev Blanchette (Assistant Stage Manager) is so thankful to work again with Katie Hamilton and Jennifer Wilson on *Anastasia: the Musical*. Nev has worked several shows with the wonderful production team at Chattanooga state such as, *Legally Blonde*, *Footloose*, *Tiny Beautiful Things*, *The Importance of being Earnest*, and *Tuck Everlasting*. Nev has recently completed her first costume design project at the Chattanooga Theatre Centre in *The 3 Little Pigs* and hopes to continue her development in costuming. You might have also seen Nev as Amy in *Coffee for Miles* and you can see her in *Five Lesbians Eating a Quiche* this spring as Vern!

BEHIND THE SCENES

Anna Blentlinger (Lighting Designer) is delighted to be working with Chattanooga State once again! Previous collaborations include *Legally Blonde*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Radium Girls*, and *Lucky Stiff*. She recently finished designing *Willy Wonka* for the Chattanooga Theater Center, and is excited to have been given the opportunity to work on another favorite piece of media from her childhood. She thanks her friends and family for their endless support and Chattanooga State for trusting a part of their art to her.

Mia Fansler (Properties Master) is incredibly excited and honored to get a chance to help work on such a gorgeous production. When she's not on stage, she loves scurrying around behind the scenes lending a helping hand wherever she can. Mia hopes you enjoy the show & all the hard work her friends have put into this production.

Lindsay Fussell (Choreographer) has a long association with Chattanooga State as a dance teacher/choreographer/actor. She currently teaches tap, and served as Movement & Dance instructor in the Professional Actor Training program since its inception through 2022. Lindsay's many musicals here include *Legally Blonde*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Into the Woods*, *Seussical the Musical*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Nutcracker Christmas Carol*. Acting roles at Chatt St. include Spirit of Turpentine (*Nutcracker Christmas Carol*) and Mrs. Gottlieb (*Dead Man's Cell Phone*). At the Chattanooga Theatre Centre, Lindsay has been the resident dance teacher from 1996, and has choreographed numerous musicals, to include *La Cage aux Folles*, *Something Rotten*, *Hello Dolly*, *A Christmas Story*, *Chicago*, *Cabaret*, and *Anything Goes*. She has also directed and choreographed *Spamalot*, *9 to 5*, and *Miracle on 34th Street*. Lindsay also taught theatre dance & tap at Center for Creative Arts from 1999-2019 and remains as a resident choreographer for the Choo Choo Kids. CCA musicals, include *Legally Blonde*, *Pippin*, *Footloose*, and *Hairspray*. Fussell's choreography has been presented internationally in Lisbon, Portugal; Gangneung, South Korea; Ascoli Picena, Italy; and Hamm, Germany. Her 2010 flash mob video, with 144 local dancers, "Footloose in Chattanooga" can be seen on YouTube.

Jolay Gourley (Production Assistant) is excited to be apart of the team behind Anastasia. This is her first time being an assistant stage manager for a show and is so honored to be helping. In high school, she played the role of Jo March in *Little Women*. She is ecstatic to see the show be brought to life and hopes that everyone will enjoy seeing this wonderful production!

Katie Hamilton (Production Stage Manager) is excited to be taking on the role of the Theatre Production Manager this year at Chattanooga State. She has a passion for stage management, and enjoys learning so much from the amazing artists all around her. Some shows that she has recently stage managed, that you may have seen around town include: *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Chattanooga State), *Murder at Café Noir* (Chattanooga State), *Seussical* (SMPH), *Tuck Everlasting* (Chattanooga State, Assistant Stage Manager), *Cinderella* (Colonnade Players), *Bye Bye Birdie* (SMPH), *Harvey* (SMPH), and *Annie* (SMPH). She hopes that you enjoy the show!

BEHIND THE SCENES

Nicholas Hartline (Conductor) is Associate Professor of Music at Chattanooga State Community College, where he directs the Symphonic Band, Chamber Music Ensembles, and teaches clarinet and saxophone. He performs regularly with the Chattanooga Symphony and the Huntsville Symphony and has also performed with the Knoxville Opera. He has conducted the orchestra for several musicals at Chattanooga State and has been the pit conductor for the Signal Mountain Playhouse since 2017.

Austin Massey (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be working behind the scenes again with the Chattanooga Theatre scene's best and brightest! Though he isn't on the stage this time, he's extremely proud of the cast and crew that have come together to put on this extraordinary show. Austin would like to thank Jen and Katie for the opportunity to help bring this story to life!

Sarah Miecielica (Production Designer) is an Assistant Professor of Theatre Design and Technology at Chattanooga State Community College. She obtained her MFA in Theatre Design and Technology from the University of Arkansas and a BS in Theatre from the University of Wisconsin-Lacrosse. Before teaching Sarah served as the Resident Designer and Production Manager at the Chattanooga Theatre Centre. She has worked professionally as a Prop Artisan and Manager at various professional theatres including The Alley Theatre, McCarter Theatre, and the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre. Sarah's design credits include productions at the Chattanooga Theatre Centre, Princeton University, The Playhouse in San Antonio, and the Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre.

Kaylee Payne (Sound Designer) is excited to be a part of the production team for *Anastasia*. Kaylee is currently a dual enrollment student at Chattanooga State and senior in high school. Some of her most recent works include sound design for *Tiny Beautiful Things* (Chattanooga State), *Coffee for Miles* (Chattanooga State), and various other productions put on by her high school's theatre department. On top of Kaylee's work in the theater world, she is an assistant sound engineer at Yellow Racket Records. She would like to thank Justin Walker, Chris Holbrook, and Ben VanderHart for their guidance and continued support of her endeavors into audio engineering.

Hunter Roessel (Assistant Scenic Designer) is a sophomore at Chattanooga State and is happy to be working on this production with such a talented crew and cast.

Stephanie L. Smith (Assistant Director) trained at The New Actors Workshop in New York City with Rex Knowles and Sherry Landrum. Stephanie holds a Master of Arts in Acting from Antioch University and Master of Education and Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance degrees from UTC. Stephanie was Artistic Director/Director of Process Theatre Productions in NYC for 3 years. Stephanie is proud to be a graduate of the Holmberg Arts Leadership Institute (Go Holmies 2015!) and Vice President of the Board of Barking Legs. By day, she teaches English as a Second Language at Hixson Middle School. Favorite past roles include: Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Shakespeare Chattanooga, Soprano Lead in *The All-Night Strut* at the Chattanooga Theatre Centre, and the many zany roles she played over seven years with The Muse of Fire Project. Many thanks to Jen for letting me be a part of *Anastasia*. Go team!

BEHIND THE SCENES

Crissy Varnell (Projection Designer) is thrilled to join the production team at Chattanooga State as the guest designer for projections for *Anastasia!* Crissy graduated from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UTC) in 2017 with a BFA in Theatre and Speech and English Literature. Since graduating, she has worked as a projection designer, set designer, and scenic painter for productions all over the state of Tennessee and recently received the 2023 KCACTF Faculty Achievement Award for her projection designs for UTC's production of *Alabaster*. Outside of the theater, Crissy holds a Masters of Library and Information Science from the University of South Carolina and works as the Manager of the 4th Floor Makerspace at The Chattanooga Public Library.

Justin Walker (Auditorium Manager), the manager for Chattanooga State's Humanities Auditorium comes to us from the Memorial Auditorium and Walker Theatre, where he served as Technical Director from 2012 to 2021. He has over 25 years of experience working with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees on productions and events ranging from the River Bend festival to Broadway productions and televised events. He's excited to continue his journey here as an asset to the Chattanooga State theatre department.

Jennifer Arbogast Wilson (Director) is the Artistic Director of Theatre at Chattanooga State, where she teaches Acting, Applied Voice, Voice and Speech, and Audition Techniques. She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre Arts Directing from University of Idaho, as well as a Master of Music and Doctor of Arts in Vocal Performance from Ball State University, and a graduate certificate in Community College Leadership from East Tennessee State University. Some cherished directing credits include *Big Fish*, *Tiny Beautiful Things*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Lucky Stiff*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Murder at Café Noir*, *Seussical*, and *Into the Woods*. An avid performer as well, some favorite past roles include Anna Leonowens (*The King and I*), Lady of the Lake (*Spamalot*), Lily Craven (*The Secret Garden*), Irene Molloy (*Hello, Dolly!*), and Snoopy (*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*). Her favorite roles ever, though, are as wife to her incredible husband Jonathan, and mother to their remarkable sons, Asher and Everett, and their furbabies, Benvolio (cat) and Puck (dog).

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CHATTANOOGA STATE
Theatre Department

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WHAT'S NEXT

Music: Savanna Daniel Flute Recital

March 24 at 7:00 pm (Monday)

Location: Humanities Theatre

Graduating Chattanooga State AFA Music major, Savanna Daniel, will present a solo flute recital that will include works by Telemann, Milhaud, Muczynski, and Liebermann. Savanna is a student of Cindy Solfest-Wallis, and will be accompanied by Dr. Alan Nichols on piano.

Music: Concert Choir

April 1 at 7:00 pm (Tuesday)

Location: Humanities Theatre

"Something Old, Something Blue, and a Few Jokes Just For You!" Come join Chattanooga State's Concert Choir as we celebrate April Fool's Day. Be ready for some "off the wall" selections and musical shenanigans.

Music: Jazz Festival

April 3, 11:00 am-8:00pm (Thursday)

Location: Humanities Theatre & OMNI 124/126

Join us for Chattanooga State's annual Jazz Festival, a celebration of jazz that includes performances by the Premier Jazz Orchestra, the ChattState Jazz Band, and faculty and staff. For a detailed schedule of performance times and locations, please call 697.2699.

Music: Chattanooga Clarinet Choir & Jericho Brass Band

April 6 at 3:00 pm (Sunday)

Location: Humanities Theatre

The Chattanooga Clarinet Choir, led by Nicholas Hartline, will once again join forces with the Jericho Brass Band of Chattanooga, led by David Butler. Each ensemble will perform a diverse program of works for their unique instrumentation and then combine for a powerful finale!

Theatre: Dinner Theatre - *Five Lesbians Eating a Quiche* by Evan Linder and Andrew Hobgood

April 24-26 (Thursday through Saturday) at 6:00pm

Location: OMNI 124/126 Faculty/Staff Dining Room

Chattanooga State Fine Arts is pleased to present its third annual dinner theatre production, this time featuring the play *Five Lesbians Eating a Quiche* by Evan Linder and Andrew Hobgood. Concord Theatricals describes the show with this: "It's 1956 and the Susan B. Anthony Society for the Sisters of Gertrude Stein are having their annual quiche breakfast. Will they be able to keep their cool when Communists threaten their idyllic town?" The play will be directed by guest artist Amanda Medlin and will feature ChattState students and alumni.

Admission: \$20; includes dinner and the show.

Tickets available at www.chattanoogaastate.edu/theatre.