UAB Department of Theatre 2022-2023 Season
Dedicated to our dear friend and colleague, Marlene Johnson

A NEW BRAIN
Music & lyrics by William Finn & book by Finn & James Lapine
Directed by Cooper Ellis & Roy Lightner
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
October 12-15 at 7:30pm
October 16 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY
By Kate Hamill
Directed by Santiago Sosa
November 9-12, 16-18 @ 7:30pm; November 19 @ 2pm
The Odess Theatre

ROSECRANZT AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD
By Tom Stoppard
Directed by Dennis McLemore
February 22-25 @ 7:30pm; February 26 @ 2pm
The Sirote Theatre

SANCTUARY CITY
By Martyna Majok
Directed by Bailey Dumlao
March 6-10 @ 7:30pm
The Odess Theatre

INTO THE WOODS
Music & lyrics by Stephen Sondheim & book by James Lapine
Directed by Valerie Accetta
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
April 12-15 @ 7:30pm; April 16 @ 2pm
The Sirote Theatre

ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS
my.alyssstephens.org/events

Show information at https://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/on-stage/2022-2023-season

Presented by:
Frank and Joan Dawson • Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman
Dr. Marisa Marques • Dorinda Smith • Dr. Charles Turnbough, Jr.
OVATION THEATRE UAB

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION nights. OVATION UAB features conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as formal season events.

OVATION's mission is to support and sponsor our students. Membership dues ranging from $50 - $1500+ help support the cost of tuition for participation in productions, as well as many other programs that enhance their theatre training at UAB.

Join us! OVATION THEATRE UAB is a perfect way to assist our talented students and have lots of fun!

You can join OVATION THEATRE UAB through our website at https://www.uab.edu/ceas/theatre/alumni/give.

Questions? Contact Program Manager, Mel Christian at 934-3237 or cmel@uab.edu. We'd love to see you at our next OVATION!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT OVATION UAB MEMBERS

Founding Members
Russell Drummond, Col. Daniel D. Hall, Patty McDonald, Carol Odess, Chandler S. Smith, Jane Paris Smith, BBS Martha Moore Sykes Fund

2022-2023 Members
John & Susan Atwood, Peter & Miriam Bellis, Dr. Peter & Anne Burrows, William & Mary Ellen Capps, Peggy Carlisle, Betsy & Joe Cooper, Celeste David, Don & Kathy Davis, Frank & Joan Dawson, Mark Duren, Mike & Mary Elvir, Ben & Ellen Erdreich, Mary Jane & Ray Faircloth, John R. & Linda Frawley, Dr. & Mrs. Frank Franklin, Jr., Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Barbara Glaze, Virginia & Boyce Guthrie, Dr. Ward & Mrs. Martha Haarbauer, Dr. and Mrs. Tracy P. Hamilton, Dr. Shuko Harada, Rona Harper, The Hendrickson Family, A.J. & Kristi Jones, Dr. Marisa Marques, Allen & Cele Montgomery, Patrick & Mary Morrissey, James & Angela Owen, Beverly & David Radford, Robert Raiford & Zane Rhodes, Dr. Bates Redwine & Dan Reese-Redwine, John & Deborah Sellers, Arnold & Fran Singer, Dorinda Smith, Phil & Beverly Stine, Dr. Charles Turnbough, Jr., Nancy Whitt

Theatre UAB Faculty and Administrative Staff

Kelly Dean Allison, Professor .............................................. Chair
Valerie Accetta, Associate Professor .......................... Head of Musical Theatre Performance
Jack Cannon, Assistant Professor ......................... Acting/Intro to Theatre
Ward Haarbauer ......................................................... Professor Emeritus
Cheryl Hall, Assistant Professor .......................... Intro to Theatre
Karma Ibsen .............................................................. Professor Emerita
Karla Koskinen, Professor ....................................... Acting/Directing
Roy Lightner, Associate Professor .......... Musical Theatre Performance/Dance
Dennis McLemor, Professor ............................... Head of Performance
Amy Page, Assistant Professor ....................... Costume Director
Kimberly Schormeier, Associate Professor ...... Costume Design/Head of Design/Teach
Lee Shackelford, Associate Professor ......................... Playwriting
Santiago Sosa, Assistant Professor ......................... Voice/Movement
Alan E. Schwane, Assistant Professor .............. Scene Design
Carolyn Violi .............................................................. Musical Director/Accompanist
Vessela Warner, Professor .............................. Theatre History
Will York ................................................................. Professor Emeritus
Ed Zuckerman, Associate Professor ........ Production Manager/Technical Director

Adjunct Faculty
Carlon Alexandra ....................................................... Intro to Dance/Tap
Bethe Ensey ............................................................... Intro To Theatre
Anna Foshee ................................................................. Jazz
Mary Margaret Scalici ..................................................... Ballet

Mel Christian ....................................................... Program Manager/Tour Coordinator
James Willis ......................................................... Administrative Associate

The Department of Theatre is committed in word and deed to creating a safe environment for learning that is free of injustice in all forms.

UAB Department of Theatre is a proud member of

ACT
The National Association of Schools of Theatre

NAST
Southeastern Theatre Conference
A NEW BRAIN
Music & Lyrics by William Finn
Book by Finn & James Lapine

Directed by
Cooper Ellis & Roy Lightner

Musical Direction
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Stage Manager
Bailey Dumlao

Scenic Design
Cliff Simon

Costume Design
Anna Medders

Lighting Design
Kelly Allison

Audio Engineer
Jay Tumminello

Properties Design
Jim Luther

CAST
Gordon Michael Schwinn..................................Troy Serena
A Homeless Lady........................................Sadie Farmer
Rhoda......................................................Kara Scullin
Nancy/Waitress........................................Madeleine Kate Erwin
Mr. Bungee...............................................Travis Settou
Richard..................................................Jason Torreyn
Dr. Jafar Berensteiner................................Ryan Charest
The Minister...........................................Terrell Miller
Roger Delli-Bovi........................................Julie Kirkman
Mimi Schwinn..........................................Abigail Coats

UNDERSTUDIES
Homeless Woman/Rhoda................................Cara Parisi
Dr. Jafar/Minister/Bungee...............................Matthew Piper
Mimi/Nancy/Waitress..................................Devin Towery
Gordon/Roger/Richard.................................Peyton Griffin

ORCHESTRA
Conductor/Keyboard..................................Carolyn Violi
Keyboard................................................Katie Holmes
Reeds......................................................Kim Bain, Matt Barron
French Horn..............................................Kevin Kozak
Cello....................................................................Patty Pilone
Bass....................................................................Abraham Becker
Drums..........................................................Joe Cooley

A New Brain includes music and lyrics by William Finn and a book by both William Finn and James Lapine. Originally premiering Off-Broadway in 1998, A New Brain has captivated its audiences with laughter, heart, and a pulsing soul. Based off of the true story of William Finn himself suffering a fatal diagnosis, Finn finds the beauty in the darkest of situations. This work is inspired and crafted off of some of the characters Finn met while in the hospital, and examines the details of the human experience, as messy as it may be. A New Brain is the voice inside our heads that tells us we aren't good enough, that makes us choose work over love, and forces us to look inward when everything around us stops. A New Brain is a glimpse of life giving us a second chance. A New Brain is the opportunity for a new beginning.

Our production utilizes 10 UAB actors to produce a fast-paced, completely sung through exploration of our main character, Gordon, a composer currently working for a children's TV program who has found himself stuck in a rut with his creativity. Gordon collapses at lunch with his agent, Rhoda, and receives a medical diagnosis that turns his world upside down in an instant. This allows him to evaluate who he wants to be and teaches him how to wrestle with inner demons in the face of death. When we are on the brink of life, how do we choose to spend our time? In the end, are we the sum of our work, relationships, or experiences? How do we handle ourselves after mass amounts of change? These are the questions A New Brain explores in a multitude of ways.

Our cast, crew, and creatives in the UAB Department of Theatre have been harnessing their passions and pouring their everything into this complex work. We have aimed to create a safe, inclusive environment for students to explore their greatest potential. We are so pleased to kick off our 2022-2023 season with A New Brain. Let the music play on.

- Cooper Ellis, Co-Director
A NEW BRAIN SONG LIST

Prologue..................................................Gordon

Specials...........................................Homeless Lady, Gordon, Rhoda, Waitress, Mr. Bungee

911 Emergency..............................................Ensemble

Heart and Music..........................................Ensemble

Mother’s Gonna Make Things Fine......................Mimi, Gordon

Be Polite.................................................Mr. Bungee, Ensemble

Sailing....................................................Roger

Family History............................................Nancy, Richard, Mimi, Gordon

Gordo’s Law of Genetics......................................Ensemble

And They’re Off............................................Gordon, Ensemble

Roger Arrives............................................Homeless Lady, Roger, Rhoda, Mimi, Gordon

Just Go..................................................Gordon, Roger

Poor, Unsuccessful, and Fat Intro.......................Richard, Roger, Minister, Gordon

Poor, Unsuccessful, and Fat..............................Richard, Mr. Bungee, Gordon

M. R. I. Day................................................Nancy

Sitting Bcalmed in the Lee of Cutty Hunk..............Ensemble

Craniotomy..............................................Doctor, Nancy, Gordon, Minister

An Invitation to Sleep in My Arms....................Gordon, Roger, Rhoda, Mimi

Change....................................................Homeless Lady

Yes..........................................................Gordon, Mr. Bungee, Ensemble

In the Middle of the Room..............................Gordon, Mimi, Richard

Throw It Out..............................................Mimi

In the Middle of the Room Reprise......................Gordon

A Really Lousy Day in the Universe....................Homeless Lady, Roger

Brain Dead................................................Gordon, Roger

Whenever I Dream.........................................Rhoda

Eating Myself Up Alive.................................Richard, Ensemble

The Music Still Plays On................................Mimi

Don’t Give In.............................................Mr. Bungee, Gordon, Roger, Rhoda, Mimi

You Boys are Gonna Get Me in Such Trouble............Richard, Gordon, Roger

On the Street............................................Homeless Lady, Gordon, Roger

Time......................................................Gordon, Roger

Time and Music..........................................Ensemble

I Feel So Much Spring....................................Gordon, Ensemble

With special thanks to

Dr. Patrick Evans
DeJohn Tellis-Oliver
Red Mountain Theatre

UAB Department of Theatre Production Staff

Production Manager/Technical Director..................Ed Zuckerman
Assistant Technical Director..................................Jonathan Harder
Costume Director............................................Amy Page
Costume Studio Supervisor................................Sharon Morgan
Stage Electrics Coordinator................................David Page
Properties Master............................................Jim Luther
Scenic Studio Assistants....................................Davis Carter, Ellie Cornett, Trevor McMullen, Morgan Rankin-Taylor, Caitlin Irelan, Kirk Kirkpatrick, Joshua Lang, Matthew Ochoa
Electrics Assistants.......................................Cindy Bungee, Jared Seeman, Kirk Kirkpatrick, Pulseful Productions, Ignite Entertainment
Costume Assistants.........................................Rosie Coryell, Sara Curren, Cooper Ellis, Madeleine Kate Erwin, Cade Mccall, Anna Medders, Kelan Millican, Jazzy Pedroza-Watson, Meg Williams
Properties Assistants......................................Angus Black, Emma Mansour, Malik Muhammad, C.J. Romano
Media Relations..........................................Shannon Thomason
ASC House Management..................................Jennifer McGee, Terrie Entrup

Staff for this Production

Assistant Stage Managers.................................Cappy Elvir, Brandon Marquez
Assistant Choreographer..................................Hannah Moss
Assistant Musical Director................................Rose Mcclanahan
Musical Theatre Intern....................................Olivia Laine Scott
Graphic Design............................................Michael Vizzina, Fred Communication by Design
Scenery/Lighting Construction/Electrics................Angus Black, Davis Carter, Emma Chippendale, Ellie Cornett, Madeleine Kate Erwin, Fitz Fitzgerald, Trinity Glover, TaShauna Jenkins, Michael Jones, Mackenzie Kilpatrick, Owen Mcmanus, Trevor McMullen, Morgan Rankin-Taylor, C.J. Romano, McKenna Shaw, Eli Smith, Juliette Sosa Valle, Alexandria Stone, Kaitlyn Taylor, Elaysha Travis, Ryshae Whyns, Logan Zirlott
Scenic Painters.............................................Davis Carter, Ellie Cornett
Properties Construction.................................Angus Black, Emma Mansour, Malik Muhammad, C.J. Romano
Scenery/Properties Running Crew........................Davis Carter, Emma Chippendale, Costumecraft Construction...Abigail Coats, Rosie Coryell, Sara Curren, Cooper Ellis, Isabella Davis, Madeleine Kate Erwin, James Gavino, Jannat Guard, Lindsey Hand, Brandy Hobson, TaShauna Jenkins, Kirk Kirkpatrick, Alex Martin, Cade Mccall, Ari Meghee, Trevor McMullen, Anna Medders, Kelan Millican, Leen Murad, Jazzy Pedroza-Watson, Meg Williams, Nicholas Williamson, Charlie Wood
Dressers.........................................................Jekira Dial, Georgiana Dramble
Light Board Operator....................................Ellie Cornett
Follow Spot..................................................Angus Black, Gavin Cleckler
Sound Deck..................................................Deztonie Cunningham, Khaliah Williams

Visit our website at http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/
Kelly Allison (he/him/his) - Lighting Design
Home Town: Litchfield, MN
Education: BFA-Stephens College, MFA-University of Minnesota.

Ryan Charest (he/him/his) - Dr. Jafar Berenstein
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Tampa, FL
Education: Tampa Preparatory School

Abigail Coats (she/her/hers) - Mimi Schwinn
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Florence, AL
Education: Florence Academy of Fine Arts
Recent Production Work: Performance: Survivors (First Table Read, Red Mountain Theatre), The Miracle Worker (Ivy Green 60th Annual Production), The 2022 Heroes vs Villains Tour, Much Ado About Nothing, Disconnect, Clarkston (UAB).

Bailey Dunlap (he/they) - Stage Manager
Home Town: Germantown, TN
Education: BA - University of Alabama at Birmingham

Cooper Ellis (she/her/hers) - Co-Director/Choreographer
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Atlanta, GA
Education: Lambert High School
Recent Production Work: Directing: 2022 Heroes vs Villains Tour (UAB), Assistant Directing: 2021 Get Animated Tour, Godspell (UAB), Once (Red Mountain Theatre).

Cappy Elvir (she/her/hers) - Assistant Stage Manager
Concentration: BA Performance
Home Town: New Orleans, LA
Education: St. Mary’s Dominican High School

Madeleine Kate Erwin (she/her/hers) - Nancy/Waitress
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Houston, TX

Sadie Farmer (she/her/hers) - Homeless Lady
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Birmingham, AL
Education: Jefferson County International Baccalaureate (JClB)
Recent Production Work: Performance: The SpongeBob Musical, Godspell, Hair (UAB), Lizzie (Southern Plains Productions).

Peyton Griffin - U/S Gordon/Roger/Richard
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Ellisville, MS
Education: South Jones High School and Jones College
Recent Production Work: Performance: The SpongeBob Musical, Godspell (UAB), Grease (South Jones High School), Mamma Mia, Godspell (Jones College).

Jalen Kirkman (he/him/his) - Roger Delli-Bovi
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Florence, AL
Education: Florence High School
Recent Production Work: Performance: Once On This Island, Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella (Red Mountain Theatre), The 2022 Broadway Bros! Tour, Godspell (UAB), The Last Five Years (Summerstock at the Ritz), Almost Maine, The Music Man, Peter and the Starcatcher (Florence High School).

Roy Lightner (he/him/his) - Co-Director
Home Town: Leawood, KS
Education: MFA - Goddard College; BM - Oklahoma City University
Recent Production Work: Director/Choreographer: Godspell, Disconnect, Hair, Savage, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Hairspray, Working (UAB), Roaring 20s, Holiday Spectacular, Once (Red Mountain Theatre), Newsies (New London Barn), Legally Blonde (Lyric Opera Arizona), Lucky to Be Me (NYC Opera, ass't to Peggy Hickey), 2018 MT Wichita Festival Producer, Hairspray, Miss Saigon (Sonheim Center), Bring It On (MTKC), Hound of the Baskervilles (Cape Playhouse), Wine Country Speakeasy, Best of Broadway Under the Stars, This Magic Moment, Oh, What a Night! (Transcendence Theatre Company). He is currently the Artistic Director of Red Mountain Theatre.

Jim Luther - Properties Design
Home Town: Honolulu, HI
Education: BFA - University of Hawaii at Manoa
Recent Production Work: Properties Design: Childplay, Tacoma Actors Guild, Taproot Theatre Company, Seattle Children's Theatre.

Brandon Marquez (he/him/his) - Assistant Stage Manager
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Mandeville, LA
Education: New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA), Mandeville High School
Recent Production Work: Performance: The SpongeBob Musical, Significant Other (UAB), Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Rivertown Theaters)
Producing: Senior Night Live (NOCCA).
A New Brain Production Biographies

Rose McClanahan (she/her/hers) - Assistant Musical Director
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Lexington, KY
Education: School for the Creative and Performing Arts at Lafayette High School
Recent Production Work: Performance: The SpongeBob Musical (UAB), Into the Woods (ACTivate Artists), Grease (Woodford Theatre), Little Shop of Horrors (School for the Creative and Performing Arts).

Anna Medders - Costume Design
Concentration: BA Design/Tech
Home Town: West Jefferson, AL
Education: Corner High School
Recent Production Work: Costume Design: Noises Off (UAB), Assistant Costume Designer: Hair (UAB), Dresser/Running Crew: Savage (UAB), Costume Design: Mary Poppins: The Musical (CTA).

Terrell Miller (he/him/his) - The Minister
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Birmingham, AL
Education: Jefferson County International Baccalaureate

Hannah Moss (she/her) - Assistant Choreographer
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Pasadena, CA
Education: Marshall Fundamental Secondary School
Recent Production Work: Performance: The 2022 Loving Shakespeare Tour, The SpongeBob Musical, Significant Other (UAB), Chicago, Peter Pan (Marshall Fundamental).

Cara Parisi (she/her/hers) - U/S Homeless Lady/Rhoda
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Kansas City, MO
Education: Bishop Miege High School
Recent Production Work: Acting: The SpongeBob Musical (Shawnee Mission Theatre in the Park), All Shook Up (Stage Right Performing Arts), Chess (Stage Right Performing Arts).

Matthew Piper (he/him/his) - U/S Dr. Jafar/Minister/Bungee
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Corner AL
Education: Corner High School
Recent Production Work: Directing: Dark Road (Corner Theatre Academy)

Olivia Scott (she/her) - Musical Director Intern
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Panama City, FL
Education: A. Crawford Mosley High School
Recent Production Work: Directing: Little Shop of Horrors (Mosley High), Crew Chief: The One Act Play that Goes Wrong (Mosley High), Acting: Singin’ In the Rain (Mosley High).

Kara Scullin (she/her/hers) – Rhoda
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Hometown: Cincinnati, OH
Education: High School: Saint Ursula Academy
Recent Production Work: Performance: The 2021 Contemporary Broadway Tour, Godspell, The Wolves (UAB), Sleeping Beauty, Emma J (The Children’s Theatre of Cincinnati), Bye Bye Birdie (Cincinnati Landmark Productions).

Troy Serena (he/him) - Gordon Schwinn
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Hometown: Oneonta, AL
Education: Oneonta High School
Recent Production Work: Performance: Rodgers & Hammerstein’s Cinderella (Red Mountain Theatre), 9 to 5 (The Virginia Samford Theatre), The 2022-2023 Broadway Bros! Tour, The SpongeBob Musical, Godspell (UAB), Mamma Mia!, The Little Mermaid (CharACTers Theatrics)

Travis Settou (he/him/his) - Mr. Bungee
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Ponchatoula, LA
Education: Ponchatoula High School
Recent Production Work: Performance: The SpongeBob Musical, Much Ado About Nothing, Disconnect, Clarkston (UAB).

Cliff Simon – Scenic Design
Home Town: New York, NY
Education: MFA, University of Texas at Austin

Jason Torrey (he/him) - Richard
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Eureka, KS
Recent Production Work: Performance: The SpongeBob Musical, Godspell (UAB), Little Shop of Horrors, Mary Poppins (Music Theatre Kansas City).

Devin Towery (She/Her) - U/S Mimi, Nancy
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: New Braunfels, TX
Education: North East School of the Arts
Recent Production Work: Performance: An American in Paris (NESA), Rock of Ages (NBPA). Dance: Swan Lake (CBSA)

Carolyn Violi (she/her/hers) - Conductor/Musical Director
Home Town: Indiana, PA
Education: BS in Music Education, Certification in Elementary Education
Recent Production Work: Broadway: Producer: Hello Dolly/Bette Midler/Tony Award, Betrayal/Tom Hiddleston, Chasing Rainbows: The Road to Oz. National Tour: Conductor/Musical Director: Disney’s Beauty and the Beast National Tour US and Canada (Disney Theatricals).