UAB Department of Theatre 2021-2022 Season
Dedicated to our dear friend and colleague, Marlene Johnson

GODSPELL
(Revised 2012 Version)
Book by John Michael Tebelak
Music & New Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Directed by Cheryl Hall & Roy Lightner
Choreographed by Roy Lightner
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
October 13-16 at 7:30pm
October 17 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Jack Cannon
November 10-13, 17-19 at 7:30pm
November 20 at 2:00pm
The Odess Theatre

NOISES OFF
by Michael Frayn
Directed by Dennis McLernon
February 23-26 at 7:30pm
February 27 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

ECHO
by Brett Everingham, Rebecca Jones & Karla Koskinen
Directed by Rebecca Jones
Musical Adaptation & Direction by Alora King
March 7-11 at 7:30pm
The Odess Theatre

THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL
Based on the series by Stephen Hillenburg
Book by Kyle Jarrow, Musical Production Conceived by Tina Landau
Directed by Valerie Accetta & Devin Ty Franklin
Choreographed by Richard Riaz Yoder
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
April 13-16 at 7:30pm
April 17 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS
my.alysstephens.org/events
**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 season tickets.

OVATION’s mission is to support and sponsor our students. Membership dues ranging from $50 - $1500+ help off-set 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/cas/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!

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**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

**2021-2022 Members**
John & Susan Atwood, Peter & Miriam Bellis, William & Mary Ellen Capps, Peggy Carlisle, Betsy & Joe Cooper, Don & Kathy Davis, Frank & Joan Dawson, Mark Duren, Mr. & Mrs. Mike 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, Rona Harper, Mavis Marques, Allen & Cele Montgomery, Patrick & Mary Morrissey, James & Angela Owen, Beverly & David Radford, Robert Rairford & Zane Rhodes, James & Dawn Ribe, John & Deborah Sellers, Arnold & Fran Singer, Dorinda Smith, Phil & Beverly Stine, Dr. Charles Turnbough, Jr., Nancy Whitt

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**Godspell Production Biographies**

**Troy Serena (he/him) – Troy**
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Hometown: Oneonta, AL
Education: Oneonta High School
Recent Production Work: *Performance: MAMMA MIA!*, *The Little Mermaid* (CharACter’s Theatres); *Peter Pan, Shrek, Beauty & The Beast* (Oneonta High School).

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

**Santiago Sosa – Voice & Text Coach**
Home Town: Guayaquil, Ecuador
Education: BFA, Texas State University; MFA, The University of Wisconsin

**Rachel-Marie Strazza (she/her/hers) - Associate Choreographer/Dance Captain/Swing**
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Wilton, CT
Education: Wilton High School

**Morgan Tapp (she/her/hers) - Morgan**
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: St. Petersburg, FL
Education: Pinellas County Center for the Arts (PCCA)

**Jason Torrey (he/him) - Jason**
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Eureka, KS

**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 (NETworks Presentations/Disney Theatricals)
Goldspell Production Biographies

Jalen Kirkman (he/him/his) – Jesus
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Florence, Alabama
Education: Florence High School
Recent Production Work: Performance: 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) – Director/Choreographer
Home Town: Leawood, KS
Education: MFA - Goddard College; BM – Oklahoma City University.
Recent Production Work: Direct/Choreography: Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical, Savage, 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Hairspray, Working (UA), Newsies (New London Barn), 2018 Festival Producer (MTWichita), Legally Blonde (Lyric Opera Arizona - ASU), Lucky to Be Me (NYC Opera, asst. to Peggy Hickey), Hairspray, Miss Saigon (Sondheim Center), Bring It On (Music Theatre of Kansas City), Hound of the Baskervilles (Cape Playhouse). Little Shop of Horrors, Thoroughly Modern Millie (MTKC), Best of Broadway Under the Stars, Wondy Concert, This Magic Moment, Oh, What A Night! (Transcendence Theatre Company), Dogfight, A Chorus Line, H2S, Legally Blonde (Ithaca College), Concert Dance Choreography: Oklahoma City Dance Project, NYC’s Community Dance Project, NYC Jazz Enterprise, plus 2 full length original ballets: In Your Eyes and Under the Covers. Has performed in over 40 professional productions nationally and internationally.

Terrell Miller (he/him/his) – Terrell
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Hometown: Birmingham, AL
Education: Jefferson County International Baccalaureate

Sharon Morgan (she/her/hers) – Costume Design
Home Town: Gadsden, AL
Education: BA Jacksonville State University, MFA, University of Alabama

J. Marc Quattlebaum – Properties & Puppets Design
Home Town: Lexington, SC
Education: MFA Wayne State University 2009, BA Newberry College 2005

Kara Scullin (she/her/hers) – Kara
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Cincinnati, OH
Education: High School: Saint Ursula Academy

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
Karlak Koskien, Professor..........................Acting/Directing
Roy Lightner, Associate Professor..................Musical Theatre Performance/Dance
Dennis McLernon, Professor.................................Head of Performance
Amy Page, Assistant Professor..................Costume Director
Kimberly Schnormeier, Associate Professor..............Costume Design/Head of Design/Technical Director
Lee Shackleford, Associate Professor..................Playwriting
Cliff Simon, Professor..................................Scene Design
Sanjagio Sosa, Assistant Professor..........................Voice/Movement
Carolyn Violi..................................Musical Director/Companist
Vessela Warnier, Associate Professor..........................Theatre History
Will York..................................Professor Emeritus
Ed Zuckerman, Associate Professor...............Production Manager/Technical Director

Adjunct Faculty
Carlon Alexander..........................Intro to Dance
Bethe Ensey..................................Intro To Theatre
Monique Gannon..................................Musical Theatre for Non-Majors
June Mack..................................Intermediate Narrative Filmmaking
Mary Margaret Scalici..................Ballet II
Mel Christian..................................Program Manager/Tour Coordinator
Nora Whitten..................................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
NAST
SETC

The Kennedy Center
AMERICAN COLLEGE THEATER FESTIVAL
The National Association of Schools of Theatre

Southeastern Theatre Conference
GODSPELL
(2012 Revised Version)
Conceived & Originally Directed by John Michael Tebelak
Book by John-Michael Tebelak
Music & New Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Originally Produced on the New York Stage by Edgar Lansbury/Stuart Duncan/Joseph Beruh

Directed by
Cheryl Hall & Roy Lightner

Choreographer
Roy Lightner

Musical Director
Carolyn Violi

Opening Night: Wednesday, October 13, 2021, 7:30pm
Godspell will be performed without an intermission.
**Godspell Production Biographies**

**Kelly Allison (he/him/his)** – Lighting Design  
Home Town: Litchfield, MN  
Education: BFA-Stephens College, MFA-University of Minnesota.  

**Tyler Arnold (he/him/his)** - John the Baptist  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Saint Petersburg, FL  
Education: New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA)  
Recent Production Work: **Performance:** *Godspell (Magic City Ballet), A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder (PCCA @ Gibbs High School)*.

**Ford Beshirs (he/him/his)** - Judas  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Huntsville, AL  
Education: Huntsville High School  
Recent Production Work: **Performance:** *Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical (UAB)*.

**Nina Ballon (she/her/hers)** – Nina  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: New Orleans, LA  
Education: New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA)  
Recent Production Work: **Performance:** *Newsies (Bigfork Summer Playhouse), Something Rotten (Bigfork Summer Playhouse), Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical (UAB)*.

**Craig Brandwein - Sound Engineer**  
Home Town: Stony Brook, NY  
Education: Masters in Music Theory & Composition, Long Island University at CW Post Assistant Professor Music Technology UAB Department of Music  
Recent Production Work: Composer for Film and Television, (Emmy Nominated 2010).

**Ryan Charest (he/him/his)** – Assistant Musical Director/Swing  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Tampa, FL  
Education: Tampa Preparatory School  
Recent Production Work: **Performance:** *Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical (UAB), 52nd Street Comics (Student Written Show, Samford). Running Crew: The Wolves (UAB)*.

**Victoria Chaves (she/her/hers)** – Assistant Stage Manager  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Florence, AL  
Education: Florence High School  
Recent Production Work: **Performance:** *The Last Five Years (SummerStock at the Ritz), The Yellow Boat (Florence High School)*.

**Bailey Dunlao (he/they)** – Stage Manager  
Concentration: BA Performance  
Home Town: Germantown, TN  
Education: Houston High School  
Recent Production: Stage Management: *DISCONNECT, The Glass Menagerie (UAB), The Addams Family (UAB ArtPlay). Performance: Spring Awakening (VST), The Producers (Harrell Theatre). Directing: Significant Other (UAB), The Way You Made Me (UAB), Clarkston (UAB)*.

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**CAST**

Prepare Ye (John the Baptist)..............................................Tyler Arnold  
Day by Day .................................................................Nina Ballon  
Learn Your Lessons Well ..............................................Briana Hernandez  
Bless the Lord ..............................................................Sadie Farmer  
All Good Gifts .............................................................Troy Serena  
Light of the World .......................................................Jason Torrey  
Turn Back, O Man .......................................................Kara Scullin  
We Beseech Thee ..........................................................Terrell Miller  
By My Side .................................................................Morgan Tapp  
Judas ..........................................................Ford Beshirs  
Jesus..........................................................Jalen Kirkman  
Swings….Ryan Charest, Peyton Griffin, Kaleigh Jones, Rachel-Marie Strazza

**ORCHESTRA**

Conductor/Piano..............................................Carolyn Violi  
Guitar.........................................................Carlos Pino  
Guitar/Keyboard..............................................Colin Zuckerman  
Bass..........................................................Abe Becker  
Drums..........................................................Joe Cooley

Community is vital. It is something we have all longed for and learned to cherish, especially over the past two years. UAB’s production of *Godspell* aims to celebrate community and all it has to offer. This show brings together all different kinds of people, and celebrates their individuality, building mutual respect and a strong foundation of support for one another. Our differences are our strengths. The company of *Godspell* is a community, both on and off stage.

*Godspell* is timeless. It could take place now, five years ago, ten years from now, and so on. It exists to serve us all, to showcase who we are as individuals. Every character is named after themselves, as this story is just as much theirs as it was the original cast’s in 1970. Each moment in the show is woven into a string of universal experiences. You will see yourself in this show. It may be a version of yourself you used to be, or someone you have yet to become. This show has the power to hold up a mirror to its audience and say, “Look at yourself and look at those around you.” We must continue to notice, care for, and respect one another. Be goofy, make mistakes, be yourself, and above all: love.

Aching to be seen, accepted, and valued is to be human. Our production is human. We hope as you sit in these seats, you take a moment to reflect on how essential it is to be truly accepted and loved for all that you are, and to provide that same experience for others. Love yourself, love the person sitting next to you, love the person in the last row of the balcony!

*Godspell* reminds us: love is our anchor.

We are honored to share this space with you. Prepare ye the way…

- Assistant Director, Cooper Ellis  
- Associate Choreographer, Rachel-Marie Strazza
**Songs**

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<td>Save the People</td>
<td>Jesus &amp; Ensemble</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day by Day</td>
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<td>Learn Your Lessons Well</td>
<td>Briana Hernandez</td>
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<td>Bless the Lord</td>
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<td>All for the Best</td>
<td>Jesus, Judas, and Ensemble</td>
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<td>All Good Gifts</td>
<td>Troy Serena</td>
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<td>Light of the World</td>
<td>Jason Torrey</td>
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<td>Turn Back, O Man</td>
<td>Kara Scullin</td>
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<td>Alas for You</td>
<td>Jesus</td>
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<td>By My Side</td>
<td>Morgan Tapp</td>
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<td>We Beseech Thee</td>
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<td>Beautiful City</td>
<td>Jesus</td>
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<td>On the Willows</td>
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<td>Finale</td>
<td>Ensemble</td>
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**With special thanks to Dr. Julianne Odahowski Steele**

**Visit our website at [http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/](http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/)**