UAB Department of Theatre 2023-2024 Season
Dedicated to our dear friend and colleague, Marlene Johnson

FUN HOME
Music by Jeanine Tesori. Book and Lyrics by Lisa Kron. Based on the Graphic Novel by Alison Bechdel
Directed by Valerie Accetta & George Barreto
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
October 11-14 at 7:30pm; October 15 at 2pm
The Sirote Theatre

EVERYBODY
By Branden Jacobs-Jenkins
Directed by Jack Cannon
November 8-11, 15-17 @ 7:30pm; November 18 @ 2pm
The Odess Theatre

THE 39 STEPS
Adapted by Patrick Barlow from the novel by John Buchan and the movie by Alfred Hitchcock (licensed by ITV Global Entertainment Limited), and an original concept by Simon Corble and Nobby Dimon
Directed by Dennis McLernon
February 21-24 @ 7:30pm; February 25 @ 2pm
The Odess Theatre

THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA
By William Shakespeare
Directed by Santiago Sosa
March 4-8 @ 7:30pm
The Sirote Theatre

SISTER ACT
A UAB THEATRE & RED MOUNTAIN THEATRE CO-PRODUCTION
Directed by Roy Lightner
Supervisor of Music & Sound: Anthony Smith
April 5-21
Red Mountain Theatre
https://redmountaintheatre.org/sister-act-2024/

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

Department of Theatre 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 ● Robert Raiford & Zane Rhoades ● 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 season tickets.

OVATION's mission is to support and sponsor our students. Membership dues ranging from $50 - $150+ 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!

The Kennedy Center

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein.

2023-2024 Members
Dr. Peter & Anne Burrows, William & Mary Ellen Capps, Peggy Carlisle, Betsy & Joe Cooper, Celeste David, Frank & Joan Dawson, Mike & Mary Elvir, Ben & Ellen Erdreich, Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Barbara Glaze, Dr. Ward & Mrs. Martha Haarbaucer, Dr. and Mrs. Tracy P. Hamilton, Dr. Shuko Harada, Rona Harper, The Hendrickson Family, A.J. & Kristi Jones, Dr. Joe & Ann March, Dr. Marisa Marques, Heath Mixon & Patrick Nelson, Allen & Cele Montgomery, Beverly & David Radford, Robert Raiford & Zane Rhoades, Dr. Bates Redwine & Dan Reese-Redwine, John & Deborah Sellers, Bart & Lynne Trench, 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
Therrin J. Eber Assistant Professor ..................................Production Manager/Technical Director
Ward Haarbaucer ..................................................Professor Emeritus
Cheryl Hall, Assistant Professor ..................................Intro to Theatre
Karma Ibsen ..................................................Professor Emeritus
Karla Koskinen, Professor ..................................Acting/Directing
Roy Lightner, Associate Professor ..................................Musical Theatre Performance/Dance
Dennis McLemore, Professor ..................................Head of Performance
Amy Page, Assistant Professor ..................................Costume Director
Kimberly Schrommeier, Associate Professor ..................................Costume Design/Head of Design/Tech
Lee Shackleford, Associate Professor ..................................Playwriting
Santiago Sosa, Assistant Professor ..................................Voice/Movement
Alan E. Schwane, Assistant Professor ..................................Scene Design
Carolyn Violi ..................................................Resident Musical Director/Collaborative Pianist
Vesella Warner, Professor ..................................Theatre History
Will York ..................................................Professor Emeritus

Adjunct Faculty
Carlon Alexandra ..................................................Intro to Dance/Tap
Mary Margaret Scalici ..................................................Ballet

Mel Christian ..................................................Program Manager/Tour Coordinator
Nora Whitten ..................................................Administrative Associate
Davis Haines ..................................................Recruitment Coordinator

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
The Southeastern Theatre Conference
FUN HOME  
Music by Jeanine Tesori  
Book and Lyrics by Lisa Kron  
Based on the Graphic Novel by Alison Bechdel  

Directed by  
Valerie Accetta & George Barreto  

Musical Direction  
Carolyn Violi  

Stage Manager  
Juliette Sosa Valle  

Guest Scenic Design  
Kristen Martino  

Costume Design  
Kimberly Schnormeier  

Lighting Design  
Kelly Allison  

Properties Design  
Inji Ha  

Audio Engineer  
Jay Tumminello  

Voice/Text Coach  
Santiago Sosa  

Acting Coach  
Karla Koskinen  

Guest Intimacy Choreographer  
Lusie Cuskey  

CAST  
Alison .............................................. Sammy Sledd  
Medium Alison ................................... Abigail Coats  
Small Alison ...................................... Charity Bielicki  
Bruce Bechdel ..................................... Ford Beshirs  
Helen Bechdel ...................................... Rose McClanahan  
Christian Bechdel ................................ Daron Dewhirst  
John Bechdel ...................................... Hannah Moss  
Roy/Mark/Pete ...................................... Travis Settoon  
Joan .................................................. Lily Cameron  

UNDERSTUDIES  
Bruce and Roy/Mark/Pete ......................... Peyton Siegel  
Medium Alison and Helen ......................... KK Murphy  
Alison and Joan .................................... Kaleigh Jones  
Small Alison, Christian, John .................... Sawyer Luke  

THE ORCHESTRA  
Musical Director / Conductor: Carolyn Violi  

Keyboard: Carolyn Violi  
Concertmaster: Melanie Rogers  
Guitars: Chuck Cleekler  
Basses: Michael Whitney  
Reeds: Matt Barron  
Cello: Patricia Pilon  
Drums: Joe Cooley  

At Select Performances:  
Reeds: Michael Saddeki  
Cello: Donny Snyder  

Originally Produced on Broadway by:  
Fox Theatricals  
Barbara Whitman  
Carole Shorenstein Hays  

Tom Casserly • Paula Marie Black • Latitude Link • Terry Schnuck/Jane Lane • The Forstalls • Nathan Vernon • Mint Theatricals • Elizabeth Armstrong • Jam Theatricals • Delman Whitney and Kristin Caskey and Mike Isaacson  

The world premiere production of FUN HOME was produced by The Public Theater Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director Patrick Willingham, Executive Director In New York City on October 22nd, 2013  

FUN HOME was developed, in part, at the 2012 Sundance Institute Theatre Lab at White Oak and the 2012 Sundance Institute Theatre Lab at the Sundance Resort.  

FUN HOME is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.  
www.concordtheatricals.com  

Opening Night: Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 7:30pm  
The Sirote Theatre in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center  

FUN HOME will be performed without an intermission.  
This production contains strong language and mature themes.  
Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.  

There will be a special Talk-Back after the Friday, October 13th performance featuring The Magic City LGBTQ Health Studies Initiative. Participants:  
Sarah MacCarthy (Magic City LGBTQ Health Studies Endowed Chair) • Caitlin Clevenger (Clinical Psychologist)  
• Gabriel Miller (Professor, Department of Sociology), and Fun Home Director, Valerie Accetta
FUN HOME MUSICAL NUMBERS

THIS SHOW IS PERFORMED WITHOUT AN INTERMISSION

Opening – Company

Welcome to Our Home on Maple Avenue – Helen, Small Alison, Christian

Come to the Fun Home – John, Small Alison, Christian

Changing My Major – Medium Alison

Maps – Bruce, Alison

Raincoat of Love – Company

Pony Girl – Bruce

Ring of Keys – Small Alison

Days - Helen

Bruce at the Piano – Bruce and Medium Alison

Telephone Wire – Alison

Edges of the World – Bruce

Finale – Alison, Small Alison, Medium Alison

Bows - Orchestra Edges of the World – Bruce

Finale – Alison, Small Alison, Medium Alison

Bows - Orchestra

With special thanks to:
The Magic City LGBTQ Health Studies Initiative.
Randy deCelle, The University of Alabama Department of Theatre
The Alabama Ballet.

Visit our website at http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/

UAB Department of Theatre Production Staff

Production Manager/Technical Director..................................................Therrin J. Eber
Assistant Technical Director.................................................................Jonathan Harder
Costume Director..................................................................................Amy Page
Costume Studio Supervisor.................................................................Sharon Morgan
Stage Electrics Coordinator.................................................................David Page
Properties Master..................................................................................Inji Ha
Scenic Studio Assistants.................................................................Davis Carter, Ellie Cornett, Eli Smith, Devin Towery,
Morgan Rankin-Taylor
Electrics Assistants...............................................................Ryder Dean, Aurkheem Jolley, Peyton Siegel
Costume Assistants-Abigail Coats, Rosie Coryell, Sara Curren, Madeleine Kate Erwin,
McKenna Shaw, Jason Torrey, Elaysha Travis
Properties Assistants.................................................................Ava Chen, Alex Martin, Mell Packard, Juliette Sosa Valle
Media Relations..................................................................................Shannon Thomason
ASC House Management...............................................................Terrie Entrup, Summer Guffey, Donna Duke-Pope

Staff for this Production

Assistant Director..........................................................................Kiersten David
Assistant Musical Director.................................................................Cara Parisi
Assistant Stage Managers............................................................Victoria Chaves, Emma Gibson
Assistant Scenic Design.................................................................Ellie Cornett
Assistant to Lighting Designer...........................................................Matthew Piper
Guest Wardrobe Supervisor.............................................................Heather Hood
Choreography/Wig Supervisor.......................................................McKenna Shaw
Guest Assistant Intimacy Choreographer..........................................Mhairi Kerr
Scenery/Lighting Construction/Electrics ............................................Hannah E. Adams, Jay Brown,
Kazarious N. Brown, Jasmine Chaney, Abigail Coats, Issac A. Daniel,
Ryder C. Dean, Nathan J. Fuller, Dana C. Guajardo, Jalen Kirkman,
Sadie M. Libby, Lynn Miller, Valerie E. Reindl, Lily Rose Sauger,
Taylor M. Webb, Patrick C. Wilson

Scenic Charge/Painter.....................................................................C.J. Romano
Properties Construction............ Ava Chen, Alex Martin, Mell Packard, Juliette Sosa Valle
Scenery/Properties Running Crew.... Emma Chippendale, Makayla Dial, James Taylor,
Caleb Womak
Fly Rail................................................................................Sophia Evangelidis
Drapers.......................................................................................Amy Page, Sharon Morgan
Ager/Dyer.....................................................................................Sharon Morgan
Costume/Craft Construction..............Ford Beshirs, Tyneshia Carlton, Jasmine S. Chaney,
Emily M. Clulee, Deztone Cunningham, Kiersten David, Marcus S. Dilworth,
Peyton Griffin, Kaleigh E. Jones, Sawyer Luke, Brandon M. Marquez,
Rose K. McClanahan, Hannah Moss, Brooke A. Payne, Autumn C. Pentecost,
Eva S. Stewart, Alexandria M. Stone , Rysheal B. Whynms,
Martez R. Williams, Shadow Williamson

Dressers.............................................................................Davis Carter, Jalen Kirkman
Light Board Operator.................................................................Georgiana Dramble
Follow Spot..............................................................................Isabel Behr, Knox Villemarette
Sound Deck.............................................................................Brandon Marquez, Vallerie Reindl

Graphic Design........................................................................Michael Vizzina, FRED Communication by Design
Photography..............................................................................Taylor Campbell Photography
**Fun Home Production Biographies**

**Valerie Accetta - Director**  
Home Town: Columbus, OH  
Education: MFA - Virginia Commonwealth University  

**Kelly Allison - Lighting Design**  
Home Town: Litchfield, MN  
Education: BFA-Stephens College, MFA-University of Minnesota.  

**George Barreto (he/him/his) - Director**  
Concentration: BA General Theatre  
Home Town: Isabela, PR  
Education: Northeast Alabama Community College, Albertville High School  

**Ford Beshirs (he/him/his) – Bruce Bechdel**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Huntsville, AL  
Education: Huntsville High School  

**Charity Bielicki (she/her) – Small Alison**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Huntington Beach, CA  
Education: HB Academy for the Performing Arts  
Recent Production Work: Performance: *Alice in Wonderland* (Rose Center Theatre), *The Drowsy Chaperone, Grease, Newsies* (Academy for the Performing Arts).

**Lily Cameron – Joan**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Birmingham, AL  
Education: Shades Valley High School  
Recent Production Work: Performance: *Dreamgirls, Once on This Island* (Red Mountain Theatre), *Les Miserables* (JCATD).

**Victoria Chaves (she/her/hers) – Assistant Stage Manager**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Florence, AL  
Education: Florence High School  

**Abigail Coats (she/her/hers) – Medium Alison**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Florence, AL  
Education: Florence Academy of Fine Arts  

**Ellie Cornett – Assistant Scenic Design**  
Concentration: BA General Theatre  
Home Town: Madison, AL  
Education: Bob Jones High School  
Recent Production Work: Scenic Design: *Sanctuary City* (UAB).  
Fun Home Production Biographies

Kiersten David (she/her/hers) – Assistant Director
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Chelsea, AL
Education: Chelsea High School
Recent Production Work: Assistant Stage Manager: Into The Woods (UAB), Production Assistant: The Crossing (Red Mountain Theatre Human Rights New Works Festival), Performance: Sense and Sensibility (UAB), High School Musical (Red Mountain Theatre), Performing Ensemble (Red Mountain Theatre Conservatory), The Wizard of Oz (Chelsea High School).

Darion Dewhirst (he/him) - Christian Bechdel
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: New Orleans, LA
Education: The New Orleans Center for Creative Arts
Recent Production Work: Performance: Shrek! the Musical, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Red Mountain Theatre).

Therrin J. Eber (he/him) - Production Manager/Technical Director
Home Town: Fort Wayne, IN
Education: MFA - University of Alabama, BA - Purdue Fort Wayne

Emma Gibson (she/her/hers) – Assistant Stage Manager
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Biloxi, MS
Education: Biloxi High School
Recent Production Work: Performance: Into The Woods (UAB), Legally Blonde (Tribe Theatre Productions), Footloose, Carrie, Mamma Mia (Wings Performing Arts), Matilda (Triple Threat Academy).

Inji Ha (she/her/hers) – Prop Master/Designer
Home Town: South Korea
Education: MFA in Scenic Design, University of Texas at Austin; BFA Theatre Design and Technology, Auburn University
Recent Production Work: Scenic Design/Properties Design: Decapitations (Salvage Vanguard Theatre), Les Contes d'Hoffmann (Butler School of Music, UT Austin), In Sisters We Trust, or My Fucked Up American Grl Doll (B. Iden Payne Theatre, UT Austin), Detroit 679 (Telfair B. Peet Theatre, Auburn University), Love and Information (Oscar G. Brockett Theatre, UT Austin).

Fun Home Production Biographies

Kaleigh Jones (she/her/hers) - U/S Alison & Joan
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Lakeland, FL
Education: Harrison School for The Visual and Performing Arts
Recent Production Work: Assistant Stage Management: The Spongebob Musical (UAB) Performance: Godspell (UAB), Bright Star, Sunday in the Park With George (HSA).

Karla Koskinen – Acting Coach
Home Town: Chicago, IL
Education: MFA, Illinois State University

Sawyer Luke (she/her) – U/S Small Alison/Christian/John
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Hometown: Birmingham, AL
Education: Shades Valley High School
Recent Production Work: Performance: The SpongeBob Musical, 9 to 5 (Virginia Samford Theatre), True North (Red Mountain Theatre Company), Assistant Stage Manager/Choreography: Sanctuary City, Sense and Sensibility (UAB).

Rose McClanahan (she/her/hers) – Helen Bechdel
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Lexington, KY
Education: School for the Creative and Performing Arts at Lafayette High School

Hannah Moss (she/her) – John Bechdel
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre
Home Town: Pasadena, CA
Education: Marshall Fundamental Secondary School
**Fun Home Production Biographies**

**Name: KK Murphy (she/her/hers) - U/S Medium Alison, Helen**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Columbus, OH  
Education: Upper Arlington High School  

**Cara Parisi (she/her/hers) - Assistant Musical Director**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Kansas City, MO  
Education: Bishop Miege High School  

**Matthew Piper (he/him/his) - Assistant to Lighting Designer**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Corner AL  
Education: Corner High School  

**Kimberly Schnormeier - Costume Design**  
Home Town: Gambier, OH  
Education: MFA in Scenography from Northwestern University. BFA in Graphic Design, Miami University  

**McKenna Shaw (she/her/hers) - Choreography/Wig Supervisor**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Pittsburg, KS  
Education: Pittsburg High School  

**Travis Settoon (he/him/his) - Roy/Mark/Pete**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Ponchatoula, LA  
Education: Ponchatoula High School  

**Peyton Siegel (he/him) - U/S Bruce and Roy/Mark/Pete/Bobby**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: San Antonio, TX  
Education: North East School of the Arts  

**Sammy Sled (she/her) - Alison**  
Concentration: BFA Musical Theatre  
Home Town: Huntsville, AL  
Education: Grissom High School  
Recent Work: Performance: *Nashville Shakespeare Festival Apprentice Company, The 2023 Fiercely, Shakespeare Touring Company, Into The Woods, Sense and Sensibility (UAB), The Hunchback of Notre Dame, The Drowsy Professor (Grissom High School), Legally Blonde (Lyric Music Productions).*
Fun Home Production Biographies

Santiago Sosa - Voice & Text Coach
Home Town: Guayaquil, Ecuador
Education: BFA, Texas State University; MFA, The University of Wisconsin
Recent Production Work: Performance (Narration): The SpongeBob Musical (UAB), Voice & Text Coach: Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead, The SpongeBob Musical, Much Ado About Nothing, Godspell (UAB), As You Like It, The Wolves (University of Kansas), The Tempest (Nashville Shakespeare Festival), Directing: Sense and Sensibility (UAB), Love's Labour's Lost (Island Shakespeare Festival), Blood Wedding (Lipscomb University), Much Ado About Nothing (The Theater Bug) Twelfth Night (Vanderbilt University), Julius Caesar (Nashville Shakespeare Festival), Fight Direction: A Midsummer Night's Dream (Nashville Shakespeare Festival), Two Gentlemen of Verona (The Theater Bug).

Juliette Sosa Valle (she/her) - Stage Manager
Concentration: BA General, BS Public Health
Home Town: Granger, IA
Education: Woodward Granger High School

Caroline Viol (she/her/hers) - Tony Award nominated Broadway Co-Producer for Fat Ham, Conductor/Musical Director
Home Town: Indiana, PA
Education: BS in Music Education, Certification in Elementary Education
Recent Production Work: Conducting/Musical Direction: Into the Woods, The SpongeBob Musical, A New Brain, Godspell, The Secret Garden, Spelling Bee, Savage, Hairsparr, Hair, Spring Awakening, Avenue Q, Urinetown: The Musical (UAB), Gympy, Oliver, (Red Mountain Theatre), Bat Boy (Pittsburgh Musical Theatre), Falsettos (PGH Upstirs Theatre), Broadway Touring: Conductor: Disney's Beauty and the Beast, The Goonie Girl, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. Broadway Producer: Hello Dolly Revival (Bette Midler - Ten Tony Nominations & Seven Tony Awards including Best Actress and Best Revival of a Musical), Betrayal (Tom Hiddleston - Four Tony Nominations), Tootsie (Two Tony Awards - Santino Fantana - Outstanding Actor in a Musical & Robert Horn - Best Book of a Musical), Fat Ham, New York, New York (Kander & Ebb, Lin-Manuel Miranda), and Once Upon A One More Time (Based on songs recorded by Britney Spears). Broadway Co-Producer: Chasing Rainbows: The Road to Oz

Fun Home Guest Artists

Lusie Cuskey (she/her) - Guest Intimacy Choreographer
Lusie is an associate faculty member at Theatrical Intimacy Education, which provides tools for developing a consent-based process, setting boundaries, desexualizing the process, choreographing intimacy, and documentation. In addition to her work as a theatrical intimacy educator and choreographer, Lusie has worked as a director, actor, and technician throughout New York, Kentucky, Kansas, Oregon, and the upper Midwest. Lusie holds a PhD in Theatre Studies from the University of Kansas, an MA in Theatre Arts from the University of Oregon, and a BFA in Performing Arts (Acting/Directing) from Western Kentucky University. Her writing has been published in Studies in Musical Theatre, Ecumenica, and PArTake: The Journal of Performance as Research.

Heather Hood - Guest Wardrobe Supervisor
Heather is a proud University of Alabama graduate with a degree in Theatrical Design and a minor in Clothing Textiles and Design. They completed postgraduate work at Paris American Academy in Paris, France in clothing design. After operating several clothing stores on the Alabama Gulf Coast, she is now Wardrobe Supervisor for Red Mountain Theatre.

Mhairi Kerr (they/them) - Guest Assistant Intimacy Choreographer
Mhairi Kerr - director, dramaturg, sociologist, and writer - holds a Bachelor of Sociology and Theatre Arts from Birmingham-Southern College. As Founder and Game Master of Aldrioth D&D, Kerr channels their love of storytelling through the creation, development and management of the all-trans, all-queer actual play Dungeons and Dragons 5e group and live stream. While a student at Birmingham-Southern, Kerr served as Editor-in-Chief of Southern Academic Review, the on-campus academic journal. They are a 2023 recipient of the Dr. Arnold Powell Award for Excellence in Theatre Arts.

Kristen Martino - Guest Scenic Designer
Kristen Martino is a Scenic Designer whose work has been seen on stages in the Chicago area such as Drury Lane Theatre, The Goodman, Steppenwolf, Porchlight Theatre, and Music Theatre Works. She has also designed shows at theatres across the country including Gulfshore Playhouse (Naples, FL); Ocala Civic Theatre (Ocala, FL); Cardinal Stage Company (Bloomington, IN), Rocky Mountain Repertory Theatre (Grand Lake, CO); and Indiana University - where she completed her MFA in Scenic Design. Kristen is currently the Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at the University of South Florida. Kristen was also part of the team selected to represent the United States by designing the USITT’s Emerging Artist Exhibit for the 2019 Prague Quadrennial. Kristen is also the recipient of the 2022 USITT Rising Star Award.