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FRONT INSIDE COVER

Welcome to the Bellevue Little Theatre!

To Our Friends and Patrons,

The Board of Directors of the Bellevue Little Theatre welcomes you to our 52nd Season. We were heartbroken to see our previous season come to an early end and are happy to be welcoming back everyone. Now is the time we need theater to reconnect and enjoy the arts. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have helped us to present and maintain top notch live theatre in the Bellevue area for the past 50+ years.

We extend a heartfelt thanks to our season ticket patrons for their investment in previous years. Please consider becoming a season ticket holder – it's the best value for great entertainment.

Our season is made possible by the generous support of our Sponsors and Contributors. As always, we are grateful for their support, which enables the theatre to continue to mount top-notch productions. All sponsors are greatly appreciated and recognized in every program throughout the year. Together we can continue raising curtains for another 50 years.

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President/Treasurer, BLT Board of Directors

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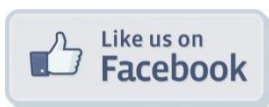
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FOREVER PLAID

Written and Originally Directed & Choreographed by
STUART ROSS

Musical Continuity Supervision and Arrangements by
James Raitt

Originally Produced by
Gene Wolsk

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THE TAFFETAS

Conceived by
RICK LEWIS

Vocal Arrangements by
Rick Lewis

Additional material by
Arthur Whitelas

Director/Music Director
D. Lauren Pickle

Choreographer
Eastin Yates

Stage Manager
Melissa Caranahan

Sound Designer
Joey Lorincz

Costume Designer
Todd Uhrmacher

Light Designer
Joey Lorincz

Props Master
Melissa Caranahan

Scenic Designer
Joey Lorincz

Production Crew

Crew	Melissa Caranahan, Todd Uhrmacher, Aiden Young
Set Build	Joey Lorincz
Painters	Joey Lorincz, Laureen Pickle, Meg Latta
Playbelle Editor	Joey Lorincz
Public Relations	Lauren Anderson, Clara Sue Arnsdorff, Joey Lorincz, Toni Menear
Box Office/Season Tickets	Toni Menear
Production Committee	Joey Lorincz, Toni Menear. Marya Lucca-Thyberg, Nancy Buennemeyer, Eric Cavanaugh

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Cast

Forever Plaid

Jinx.....Kyle Avery
Frankie.....Thomas Stoysich
Sparky.....Eric Micks
Smudge.....Benjimin Pettiford

The Taffetas

Peggy.....Samantha Shatley
Kaye.....Brooke Lewis
Cheryl.....Kate Simmons
Donna.....Suzanne Birnley

Orchestra

Piano.....Meg Latta
Bass.....Tyler Cook
Drums.....Travis Kilpatrick

Musical Numbers:

Forever Plaid

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| "Chant: Deus ex Plaid" | "The Catering Drill/She Loves You" |
| "Three Coins in the Fountain" | "The Golden Cardigan" |
| "Gotta Be This Or That" | "Catch a Falling Star" |
| "Undecided" | "Caribbean Plaid" |
| "Moments to Remember" | "Heart and Soul" |
| "Crazy 'Bout Ya Baby" | "Mercury" |
| "No Not Much" | "Lady of Spain" |
| "Perfidia" | "Scotland The Brave" |
| "Cry" | "Shangri-La/Rags to Riches" |
| "Sixteen Tons/Chain Gang" | "Love is a Many Splendored Thing" |
| | Bows |

Musical Numbers:

The Taffetas

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| "Sh-Boom" | "Travel Medley" |
| "Love's a Two Way Street" | "Music Music Music" |
| "Mr Sandman" | "Sincerely" |
| "Three Bells" | "Boys Medley" |
| "You Belong to Me" | "I'll Think of You" |
| "Hurt Medley" | "Little Darlin' " |
| "Achoo Cha Cha" | "Spotlight on Music" |
| "Mockin' Bird Hill" | Bows |

From the Director

The cast and I were laughing the other night. We were talking about how we would look back at this insanity in our lives and comment, “remember that time we did two musicals in the middle of a pandemic?” We must have been crazy to think we could pull this off. I mean, we can’t sing at each other, we can’t touch each other or anything that’s been handled, and we can’t be less than 5 feet apart. How did we ever think this was going to work? And yet.....where there’s a will, there’s a way. If not for the exceptional cast and crew of *Forever Plaid* and *The Taffetas*, it would never have happened.

Both *Forever Plaid* and *The Taffetas* harken back to a simpler time before cell phones and the internet and 126 channels of television to choose from. A time when radio, Ed Sullivan and 45 rpms entertained the masses; and anyone could be a star if they could just catch that perfect break. A time of petticoats, dinner jackets and love songs – so many love songs. A time before we all became frightened of an unseen enemy that kept us from hugging each other and silenced our singing voices. If there is one thing that COVID-19 has proven to me and to my cast, it’s that we really are all in this together. I hope, at least for a little while, you can forget about the distance and the fear separating us. Try to remember, if you are of age, or imagine, if you are not, this simpler time as we visit it together. Enjoy it. Breathe a little, sing a little, smile a little, and when you leave us and it, be safe.

Thank You. . .

The cast and crew of *Forever Plaid* & *The Taffetas* thank the following organizations and individuals for their contribution.

The Bellevue Leader
The Council Bluffs Nonpareil
The Omaha World Herald
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Ralston High School
Gail McGinnis
Walter Shatley
June and Anne Soderlund
Randy Wallace

Did You Know??

- Usher volunteers are always welcomed. It is a great way to help your local community theatre, and you get to see a show. Contact US at bellevuelittletheatre@gmail.com for more information.
- Want to get involved in our theatre? Visit our website's auditions page for all the upcoming on-stage possibilities. For those of you that want to assist with backstage and booth positions, visit our website volunteer's page, and fill out the Technical Position Form.

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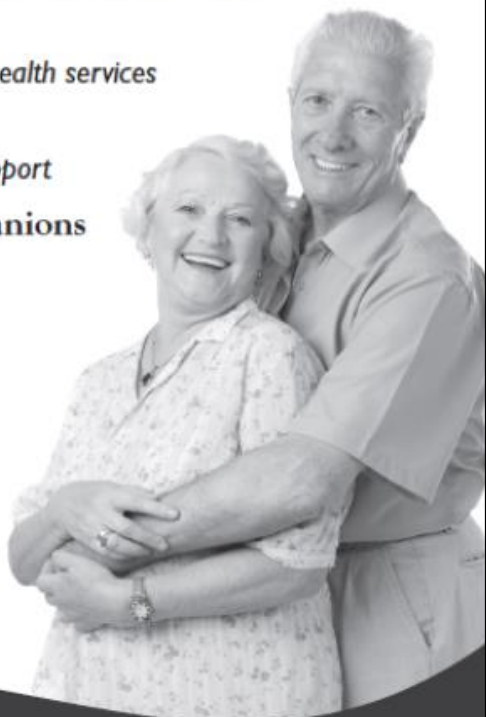
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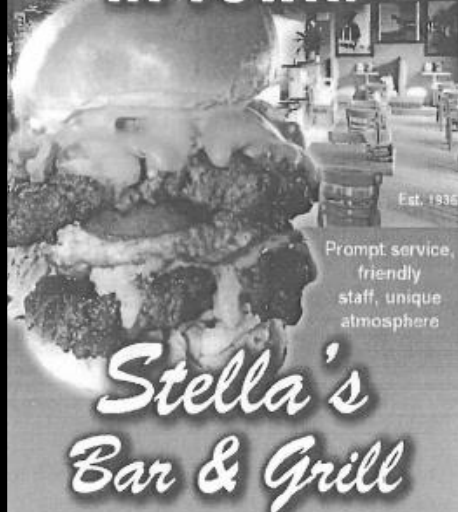
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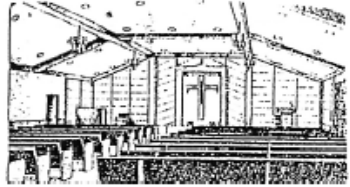
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**AD
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Meet the Cast

KYLE AVERY (Jinx) is glad to be back at the BLT for his ninth production on this stage. Previous BLT productions include *She Loves Me* (Steven Kodaly), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour), and *1776* (Courier). Kyle has also performed on the stages of other area theaters in productions like *My Fair Lady* (Freddie), *Carousel* (Mr. Snow), *Spamalot* (ensemble), *Les Misérables* (Lesgles/Faunchelevent), and *Nine to Five* (Joe). Kyle also enjoys playing the trombone with the Nebraska Wind Symphony and in pit orchestras for productions like *The Music Man*, *In the Heights*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Tarzan*, *A Chorus Line*, and *Annie*.

SUZANNE BIRNLEY (Donna) loves the stage and is happy to be performing again! In addition to local theater, Suzanne sings with the Omaha MasterSingers. Her favorite role was as the Diva in *Spamalot* at the Beavercreek Community Theatre. When not performing, Suzanne works for a foundation that accredits cellular therapy programs, cord blood banks and helps rescue dogs. But she wouldn't be able to do any of it without her husband Adam and three amazing kids. Thanks for all of your support!

BROOKE LEWIS (Kaye) is a music teacher in the Millard Public Schools. This is her fourth show at the Bellevue Little Theatre. She graduated from UNL with a degree in music education and loves doing community theater in her free time. Most recently she's been in BLT's *Catch Me If You Can*. Some of her favorite shows are *Something Rotten*, *Once on this Island* and *Big Fish*. She would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her through all her artistic endeavors over the years.

ERIC MICKS (Sparky) is thrilled to be back at the Bellevue Little Theatre. He holds a B.M. in Vocal Performance from Hastings College. Stage credits: LeFou- *Beauty & the Beast* (BWW Nom) at Ralston Community Theater; Carl Hanratty- *Catch Me If You Can* (BWW Nom), Sipos- *She Loves Me* (BWW Nom), Amos Calloway- *Big Fish* (BWW Nom), Matt- *The Fantasticks* at Bellevue Little Theatre; Marcellus- *The*

Music Man at Chanticleer Theater; William Barfée- *The 25th Annual.. Spelling Bee* (Barbara Ford Award, TAG and OEA Noms) at the OCP; and Potiphar- *Joseph..Dreamcoat* at the Rose Theater. Thank you to my wife, three loving and crazy kids, and family for their support.

BENJIMIN PETTIFORD (Smudge) is a musician, educator, family man and video game enthusiast. He has performed in several venues as a pianist, vocalist, dancer and director. His resume includes performing in ICCA, internationally with *Up With People*, locally at the Lofte Community Theatre, and work as the accompanist (and when called for, instructor) at Papillion-LaVista High School. He is currently getting his 2nd degree to become a music educator from Peru State College and is a stay-at-home father for his daughter Cecilia while his wife Kaitlan educates young minds as an elementary music teacher.

SAMANTHA SHATLEY (Peggy) has been seen at BLT as Amalia in *She Loves Me*, Crystal in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Mrs Paroo in *The Music Man*, as well as other productions around town. She'd like to thank this amazing team for this experience; and send her love to her husband Walter, her daughters Anabelle & Angela, and her mother for all she does.

KATE SIMMONS (Cheryl) is excited to be returning to the BLT for her 7th production, her last appearance was in *Catch me If You Can*, last fall. She has appeared on many area stages over the last 15 years including SNAP Productions, the Omaha Community Playhouse, The Florentine Players, & the Chanticleer Theater. Other notable roles include Mrs. T/Bad Idea Bear (TAG Nomination) in *Avenue Q* for SNAP Productions, the Birdwoman in *Mary Poppins* at the Chanticleer Theater & Doatsy Mae in *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* at the Bellevue Little Theatre. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theater & Voice Performance from Creighton University & is a member & board president of MasterSingers Omaha.

THOMAS STOYSICH (Frankie) is thrilled to be returning to the Bellevue Little Theatre stage. Thomas was last seen as Col Arbuthnot in *Murder on the Orient Express*, Frank Jr in *Catch Me If You Can* and Bill in *The Perfect Wedding*. Some of Thomas' previous credits include: *The Music Man*, *Once on this Island*, *Guys and Dolls*, *City of Angels* and *Culture, Culture!* (North American premiere). Thomas

grew up in Bellevue and was very active in music and theater. At UNL, he studied vocal music and performed frequently in numerous ensembles. In his free time, he enjoys golfing and playing with his 3 year old Belgian Malinois, Gustav.

Production Staff

D. LAUREEN PICKLE (Director/Music Director) a native of Texas, Laureen holds Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degrees in music and is an active local performer, stage director and music director. She served as Stage Director for the Bellevue Little Theater's production of *Oliver, Mame, 1776, Brigadoon, Oklahoma!, Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, Little Shop of Horrors, The Fantasticks, Big Fish* and last season's *Catch Me If You Can*, and as Music Director for *Kismet*. She has appeared in the BLT productions *Into the Woods, All Night Strut, Children Of Eden, Lend Me a Tenor* and most recently, *Murder on the Orient Express*. Laureen served as Stage Director for Sweeney Todd and Peter Pan at the Chanticleer Theater, and has also appeared in Chanticleer's productions of *The Women, The Secret Garden, Follies, Noises Off, Our Time: The Songs of Stephen Sondheim, A Little Night Music, Sex, Please, We're 60, The Crucible* and *Sunday in the Park with George*. She served as Music Director for Chanticleer's productions of *La Cage aux Folles, Meet Me in St. Louis, South Pacific* and *West Side Story*. Other theatrical appearances include Omaha Community Playhouse, Opera Omaha, Little Apple Productions, Shelterbelt Theater, SNAP Productions and most recently as Sara Jane Moore in the Brigit St. Brigit Production of *Assassins*. Off-stage, Laureen joyfully serves as the Artistic Director of MasterSingers and is also a private voice instructor. She does, actually, have a little spare time and fills it with gardening, arranging music and working on her 114 year old house. Love to her many cats: Mimi, Stella, Georgie, Lulu, Lily and Daisy.

MELISSA CARNAHAN (Stage Manager/Props) is back for her fifth show as stage manager with the Bellevue Little Theatre. Melissa is thankful for the love and support from her friends and family. Thank you for coming out to see our show. We are pleased as punch to share this fantastic adventure with you!

JOEY LORINCZ (Scenic/Light/Sound Designer) is an actor, carpenter, scenic and lighting designer. This is Joey's 36th show with the BLT and 127th overall. His recent lighting designs include: *Mamma Mia!*, *Crucible*, *A Christmas Story* and *12 Angry Jurors* (Ralston High School), *Beauty & the Beast*, *Annie* and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Ralston Community Theatre) and *Catch Me if You Can*, *Murder on the Orient Express*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Fantasticks* and *Blithe Spirit* (BLT). His recent set designs include: *Mamma Mia!*, *Diary of Anne Frank*, *The Crucible* (Ralston High School), *Annie* and *A Funny Thing....Forum* (Ralston Community Theatre) and *Murder on the Orient Express*; *Arsenic & Old Lace*, *Cheaper by the Dozen*, *Blithe Spirit* and *Nunsense A-Men* (Bellevue Little Theatre). He has been building sets for Ralston High School for the past 17 years and BLT for 6 years and has been light designing for the past 7 years. Joey would like to thank his wife, Erin, their two boys Elijah & Teddy and their daughter Hazel, for letting daddy do what he loves.

TODD UHRMACHER (Costume Designer) has been a part of the BLT family for over the past 20 years. Todd was named the 2002 Omaha Chamber of Commerce Arts Educator of the Year. In 2008, Todd was named Nebraska Theatre Educator of the Year by the Educational Theatre Association. He has served as director of the Nebraska Educational Theatre Association, on the RCT board of directors and the TAG board of directors. Todd is the drama director at Ralston High School. Todd will be directing our January show, *Dial M for Murder* and will be costuming our spring musical, *Grease*.

EASTIN YATES (Choreographer) is thrilled to return to the Bellevue Little Theatre stage. Eastin was seen in *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *The Music Man* and as a theater workshop teacher at BLT; as well as Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray* at Omaha Community Playhouse. Outside of theatre, Eastin teaches dance in North Omaha, works at Pentagon Federal Credit Union, and sells merchandise for Broadway tours such as *The Lion King* and *Hamilton*.

2020-21 Season

Almost, Maine

November 6-22



Dial M for Murder

January 15-31

Grease

March 12-28



The Outsider

April 30-May 16

World Premiere

Special Engagement: Temporary Insanity

June 11-27



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