

Executive Director DAVID VICTOR,
Artistic Director JOHANNA MCKENZIE MILLER,
Associate Artistic Director TIFFANY GATES,
and METROPOLIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE present

# ROCKOFAGES

Book by **Chris D'Arienzo**Arrangements and Orchestrations
by **Ethan Popp** 

# CREATIVE TEAM

Director

DEREK VAN BARHAM

Choreographer CHRISTOPHER KELLEY

Casting Director ROBIN HUGHES

Scenic Designer

JONATHAN BERG-EINHORN

Lighting Designer
G "MAX" MAXIN IV

Sound Designer MATTHEW R. CHASE

Costume Designer RACHEL SYPNIEWSKI

Makeup Designer SYD GENCO

Music Director KEN MCMULLEN

Associate Choreographer QUINN SIMMONS

Stage Manager BOBBY LEE

Asst. Stage Manager ALEXANDRA RAFFINI

Technical Director DAVID MORELAND

Associate Technical Director TREVOR TURNER

Wig & Hair Designer KEITH RYAN

Props Designer
BIANCA GONZALEZ

Intimacy Director/Violence Designer CLAIRE YEARMAN

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Wardrobe Supervisor ... MIGUEL RAMOS

2nd Wardrobe Crew ..... LIESL HOELDTKE

Crew/ASM Swing ..... ZOE SCHMIDT

Scenic Charge ...... DAVID GEINOSKY

Crew Swing ..... ANDREW XU

Hair/Makeup Supervisor .. LIESL HOELDTKE
Spotlight Operator .... NATHANIEL DENNISON
Spotlight Operator ........ AMY COLE
A2/Run Crew ........ AMANDA PUSATERI

# ACTI

Cum On Feel The Noize/Paradise/Ain't Nothin' But A Good Time Company
Sister Christian Father, Mother, Sherrie, Drew, Franz, Ensemble
We Built This City/Too Much Time
I Wanna Rock Drew, Ensemble
We're Not Gonna Take It
More Than Words/To Be With You/Heaven Isn't Too Far Away Sherrie Waitress #1, Drew, Ensemble
Waiting For A Girl Like You
Wanted Dead Or Alive Stacee, Sherrie, Ensemble
I Want To Know What Love Is Stacee, Sherrie, Ensemble
Cum On Feel The Noize/We're Not Gonna Take It (reprise)
Harden My Heart/Shadows Of The Night Sherrie, Justice, Ensemble
Here I Go Again Company
ACTII
The Final Countdown Dennis, Lonny, Hertz, Franz, Reaina, Ensemble
The Final Countdown Dennis, Lonny, Hertz, Franz, Regina, Ensemble  Pour Some Sugar (medley) Justice, Drew, Ja'Keith, Strippers, Male Customers, Strip Club DJ, Sherrie, Stylist
Pour Some Sugar (medley) Justice, Drew, Ja'Keith, Strippers, Male Customers,
Pour Some Sugar (medley) Justice, Drew, Ja'Keith, Strippers, Male Customers, Strip Club DJ, Sherrie, Stylist
Pour Some Sugar (medley) Justice, Drew, Ja'Keith, Strippers, Male Customers, Strip Club DJ, Sherrie, Stylist  We're Not Gonna Take It (reprise)
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# CASI



**MACK SPOTTS** Drew Boley



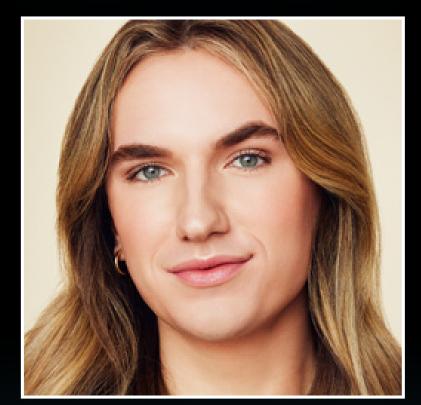
**DANI PIKE** Sherrie Christian



**CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON** Lonny Barnett



VICTOR LÓPEZ Dennis Dupree



NATHE ROWBOTHAM Stacee Jaxx | Father | Justice Charlier | Mother



**NATALIE HENRY** 



SAM HOOK Franz Klinemann



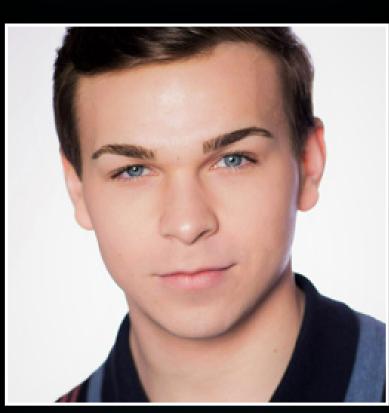
**QUINN KELCH** Hertz Klinemann



EMILY MCCORMICK Regina Koontz



**EMILY LING MEI** Constance Sack Ensemble



TYLER MEYER Joey Primo | Ensemble u/s Franz Klinemann



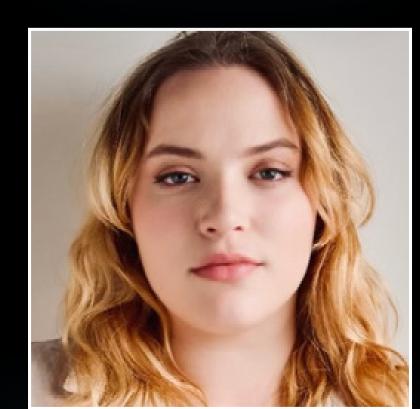
JOSPEH YANEZ
Mayor | Ja'Keith Gill | Ensemble
u/s Lonny Barnett



HANNAH REMIAN Waitress #1 | Ensemble u/s Sherrie Christian



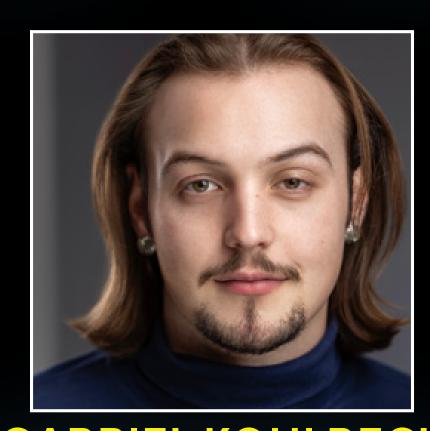
HAILEY BRISARD Ensemble u/s Justice Charlier



**AVA LANE STOVALL** Ensemble u/s Regina



Ensemble u/s Drew Boley



JAMES MUELLER GABRIEL KOHLBECK Ensemble | u/s Stacee u/s Father | u/s Hertz



ANGEL DIAZ



GRACE REIDENAUER Ens. Swing u/s Mayor Ens. Swing u/s Mother u/s Ja'Keith | u/s Primo u/s Waitress | u/s Constance

# MUSICIANS

KEN MCMULLEN Conductor | Keyboard

TJ ANDERSON Sub. Conductor | Sub. Keyboard JARED FORTH Guitar 1

MICHAEL LOCKLER Guitar 2

**COLIN RAMBERT** Drums

**KARA OLANDER** Bass

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# METROPOLIS STAFF

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This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council



# CAST



### HAILEY BRISARD (she/her)

Ensemble u/s Justice Charlier

Hailey is so excited to be making her MPAC Debut! Hailey is recent graduate of The Chicago College of Performing Arts. Her recent credits include Jump Scares Vol. 1 (Bump in the Night

Chicago), American Psycho (Kokandy Productions), Broadway Cabaret: Remembering Sondheim (The Dunes Summer Theatre), Bright Star (CCPA), Running Up That Hill (CCPA). Off stage you can find Hailey songwriting, coloring, or binge watching a new drama series. She wants to thank her parents and her roommates (Ashley and Mary) for always supporting her!











### ANGEL DIAZ (he/him)

Swing u/s Ja'Keith, Mayor, Primo Angel's recent credits include: The Addams Family (Metropolis), Ragtime (Metropolis), Cabaret (Metropolis), Mamma Mia (Brightside Theatre).

@angeldu5t



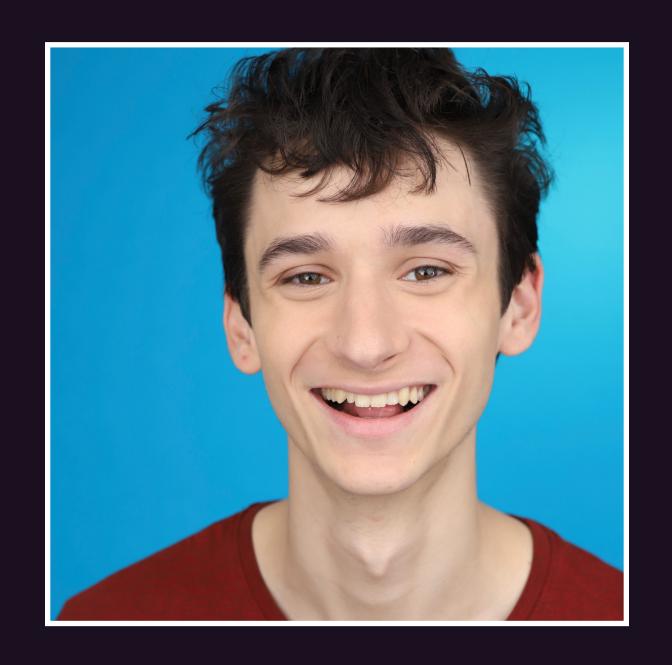


# NATALIE HENRY (she/her)

Justice Charlier Mother

Natalie is delighted to return to the MPAC stage with this cast! Most recently, she was in Mary Poppins -A Staged Concert as "Mrs. Corry" on this stage. Natalie graduated from

Columbia College Chicago in 2022. This is her 4th time on the MPAC stage including Sister Act as "Sister Mary Patrick" and Ragtime in the ensemble. Other recent credits include: The Little Mermaid (Drury Lane), Young Frankenstein (Mercury Theatre), Cabaret (Porchlight Music Theatre), Little Shop of Horrors (Citadel Theatre). Natalie is from Pella, Iowa where she and her twin sister were adopted into and amazing family who support them in achieving their dreams in theatre.



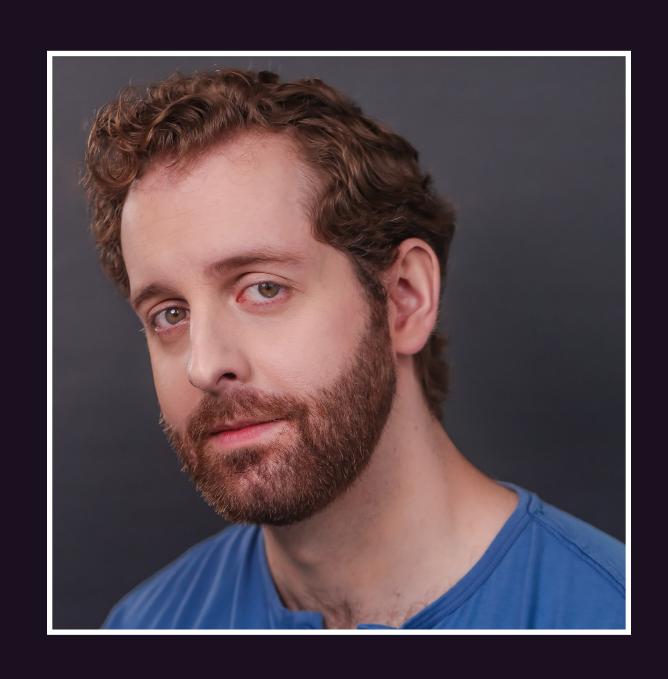
# SAM HOOK (he/him) Franz Kleinmann

Sam has lived in Chicago for 5 years and is thrilled to be making his Metropolis debut with such a fantastic team. Some of his recent credits include The Diary Of Anne Frank (Young People's Theatre); The House Without A Christmas Tree (Griffin

Theatre). Love and thanks to my family!

@samhook20





# CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON (he/him) Lonny Barnett

Ready to Feel the Noize with this extraordinary team! Recent credits include: Bruce Granit, On the Twentieth Century; Franklin Shepard, Merrily We Roll Along (Blank Theatre Company); Judge Turpin and Sweeney u/s, Sweeney Todd (Kokandy Productions);

Mal Beineke, The Addams Family; Professor Callahan, Legally Blonde (Metropolis Performing Arts Centre). Off-stage, Christopher serves as Assistant General Counsel with Rotary International. He is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the Chicago-Kent College of Law.

christopherjohnson.com



©chrisjohnson42





# QUINN KELCH (he/him) Hertz Kleinmann

Quinn is excited to make his MPAC debut. Favorite credits include: Dragons Love Tacos, The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show (NTYA); Avenue Q (William Street Rep); the Jeff Award winning American Psycho (Kokandy Productions); The Steadfast Tin Soldier

(Lookingglass Theatre Company); and Spring Awakening (Porchlight Music Theatre). Quinn is a dual-degree graduate of Northwestern University, an avid charcuterie enthusiast, and is represented by Big Mouth Talent.



# GABRIEL KOHLBECK (he/him) Ensemble | u/s Stacee u/s Hertz | u/s Father

Metropolis debut! Recent credits: Spectacular, Spectacular with Producing Body. Other professional credits include: La Cage aux Folles Mercedes (Music Theater Works);

Aïda (Lyric Opera of Chicago) Footloose, A Chorus Line (North Coast Theatre Festival), and Cinderella at (Children's Theatre Company in Minneapolis). CCPA musical theatre dance alum. Other performing credits include Wonderful Town; 42nd Street; and The Theory of Relativity at CCPA. All the love to my wonderful friends and family. For my Oma.

### @gabekohlbeck





# VICTOR LÓPEZ

Dennis Dupree

Metropolis debut! A Florida transplant, he's been performing around Chicago and its suburbs since 2018. Recent credits include: Carlos/Winthrop in Legally Blonde (Music Theatre Works), and the Caterpillar/King of Hearts swing in the midwest premiere of Alice

by Heart (Kokandy Productions). He's passionate about latine art and all dogs. Many thanks to all who have led me to where I am today!

@victor\_lopez3





# EMILY McCORMICK (she/her) Regina

MPAC: A Christmas Carol. REGIONAL: The Sound of Music (Studio Tenn), Romeo and Juliet (Tennessee Shakespeare Company), Twelfth Night (TSC), Pericles, Prince of Tyre (TSC), Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley (TSC). Young Artist with Ohio Light

Opera (The Pajama Game, Candide, Iolanthe). THEME PARKS: Six Flags Over Texas, Valleyfair, Kings Dominion. BFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Memphis. Emily is an advanced knitter, avid reader, and lover of rock 'n' roll. "All my love to my family and my besties!"



# EMILY LING MEI (she/her) Constance Sack Ensemble

Emily is excited to make her debut at MPAC with this amazing team! Recent credits include: Young Alice in *Alice By Heart* (Kokandy Productions), Natalie u/s in *Next to Normal* (Paramount

Theatre), Annie (Encore Musical Theatre Company), Chastity in Anything Goes (Porchlight Music Theatre), and Ella in Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella (The Barn Theatre). BFA MTD at CCPA. Repped by Stewart Talent. Endless thanks to her family and friends!

emilylingmei.com



@emily.lingmei





# TYLER MEYER (he/him)

Joey Primo Ensemble | u/s Franz

Tyler is ecstatic to be back rocking on the MPAC stage. A graduate of Carthage College's Music Theatre program, Wisconsin native and proud Chicago transplant. Recent credits

include: The Four C Notes (Florida Studio Theatre), Sleeping with Beauty (PrideArts), A Chorus Line (MadKap Productions), and Xanadu (Metropolis Performing Arts Center). In addition to theater performance, Tyler dances and choreographs in the Chicago nightlife scene & is cofounder of SmartAct Productions. Tyler would like to thank his friends, family, and mentors who have helped shape him into the performer he is today.

@tyler.s.meyer





# JAMES MUELLER (he/him)

Ensemble u/s Drew

INT'L: Lord of the Rings: A Musical Tale (New Zealand). CHICAGO: Lord of the Rings: A Musical Tale (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); A Bronx Tale, The Drowsy Chaperone, Catch Me If

You Can (Surging Films & Theatrics); Mamma Mia (Brightside Theatre); Billy Elliot (Music Theater Works); I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play (Steel Beam Theatre). REGIONAL: Crimes of the Heart, Closer Than Ever (Canterbury Summer Theatre). DANCE: When Adonis Calls (Thompson Street Opera Company). Love to Sam.



# DANI PIKE (she/her) Sherrie Christian

Dani was born and raised in Houston, TX. This is her Metropolis debut! Recent credits: Tell me On a Sunday (Theo Ubique), First Date (Oil Lamp), Shrek the Musical (Music Theater Works), Little Shop of Horrors (Citadel), The Kelly Girls (Factory), The

Gala (Annoyance). FILM: American Schemers. Graduate of Oklahoma City University (BFA in Acting, Directing Minor). Dani is an avid reader, enthusiastic dog owner, and a proud cancer survivor. She is beyond grateful for her extraordinary support system. Represented by Talent x Alexander.

danipike.com



@danipike77





# GRACE REIDENAUER (she/her)

Swing Ensemble

u/s Waitress #1

u/s Constance | u/s Mother

Grace is so excited to be in this silly
high energy show!! You may have last
seen her in Bat Boy as Shelley or in the
ensemble of Pippin at CCPA. She loves

dancing in the Chicago community with her hip hop team. Grace would like to thank the team and cast for letting her be a part of the creative process. She would also like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her. She loves them so much and she loves rock and roll!

@grace.reidenauer





# HANNAH REMIAN (she/her)

Waitress #1
Ensemble | u/s Sherrie
Theatre Dance B.F.A. 2021 Graduate
of the Governor's School for the Arts.
Chicago credits: Disney's The Little
Mermaid (Drury Lane), Anything Goes
(Porchlight MT). Regional credits:

GYPSY, 9 to 5, Disney's Frozen, Matilda, Beautiful: The Carole King Musical (Music Theatre Wichita). Love to my Virginia Beach family! Lets rock!



### NATHE ROWBOTHAM (they/them)

Stacee Jaxx

Nathe is thrilled to be making their MPAC debut! Chicago credits include The Who's Tommy (Goodman Theatre), 1776, The Snow Queen (Marriott Theatre), New Faces Sing Broadway 1979 (Porchlight Music Theatre), The Threepenny Opera, Once Upon

A Mattress (Theo Ubique), Camelot (Music Theatre Works), Tick, Tick... BOOM! (BoHo Theatre). Regional credits include Songs for a New World (Berkshire Theatre Group). Nathe is represented by Stewart Talent and is a graduate of CCPA at Roosevelt University.

@nathe.row





### MACK SPOTTS (they/them/he/him)

Drew Boley

Mack was last seen in the ensemble and understudying Billy Bigelow in Carousel with MTW. Past productions include Anything Goes (Porchlight Music Theatre), Assassins (Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre), St Sebastian (Refracted Theatre Company), Merrily

We Roll Along and She Loves Me (Blank Theatre Company), Sister Act and A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Highland Summer Theatre) and more. BFA in Musical Theatre from MNSU. All my love to my friends and family. Proudly represented by Big Mouth Talent Agency.

@mackspotts





# AVA LANE STOVALL (she/her)

Ensemble
Club DJ | u/s Regina

Ava is ecstatic to be making her MPAC debut! Chicago Credits include: *Alice By Heart* (Kokandy), *Legally Blonde* (Music Theater Works), *New Faces Sing Broadway NOW* (Porchlight), and

ICONS Gala 2024 (Porchlight). Regional Credits: Jekyll and Hyde, Little Women, Mary Poppins, Little Mermaid, Much Ado About Nothing. When offstage, Ava is a vocal teacher to the greatest students in the world, a multi-instrumentalist, a writer, and an avid devourer of cheese and crackers. As always, she dedicates this performance to the people she loves. Special thanks to Talent X! Let's get ready to ROCK!!!



# JOSEPH YANEZ (he/him) Mayor | Ja'Keith Gill u/s Lonny

Joseph is thrilled to make his MPAC debut in Rock of Ages! He will graduate from Roosevelt University/ CCPA with a BFA in Musical Theatre in May 2025. Recent credits include

The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical (Otherworld Theatre), Carrie: The Musical (Roosevelt University), as well as Spring Awakening, Bright Star, Merrily We Roll Along, Avenue Q, and The Theory of Relativity. Joseph is actively pursuing theatre, TV, and film here in Chicago. He sends love to his friends, family, and especially his mother Amber.

josephnyanez.com



@josephnyanez



# CREATIVEAND PRODUCTIONTEAM



# DEREK VAN BARHAM (he/him) Director

Derek is the Producing Artistic Director of Kokandy Productions. Directing credits include Children of Eden in Concert (Broadway In Chicago), Into the Woods, Alice by Heart, Sweeney Todd, American Psycho, Head Over Heels (3 Jeff Awards and 2 Jeff

nominations, Kokandy); Spring Awakening (Flint Rep); The View Upstairs (Circle Theatre); Miracle by Dan Savage, Poseidon (Hell in a Handbag). Choreography credits include Evil Dead (Jeff nomination), Coraline the Musical, Ghost Quartet, and Shockheaded Peter (Black Button Eyes). He was previously named one of Windy City Times' 30 Under 30, and one of Newcity Magazine's 50 Players 2024. MFA: CCPA/Roosevelt University. Up next: the Chicago premiere of Amélie the Musical at Kokandy

derekvanbarham.com







#### MATTHEW R. CHASE (he/him)

#### Sound Designer

REGIONAL/SOUND DESIGN: Strangers On A Train (Meadow Brook Theatre); CHICAGO/SOUND DESIGN: Fun Home, Sunday in the Park with George, Anything Goes, Ernest Shackleton Loves Me, Cabaret, Rent, Spring Awakening (Porchlight Music Theatre); Tell Me On A Sunday, The Secret Garden, Never Better, The Sondheim Tribute Revue, Assassins, Baked; A New Musical! (Theo); Legally Blonde: The Musical, Little Shop of Horrors, Shrek the Musical, The Producers, Pippin (Music Theatre Works); Who's Holiday (Theater Wit); The House Without a Christmas Tree (Griffin Theater); Elephant And Piggie's We Are in a Play (Marriott Theatre).

matthewrchasedesign.com



@matthewchasedesign



#### AMY COLE

#### Spotlight Operator

Amy has a degree in Industrial Engineering from the University of Michigan, but her creative flair has steered her path in a different direction. After getting involved with theater as a parent volunteer when her children were the performers, she has expanded her experience and talent to design costumes for Three Brothers Theatre (Boeing Boeing), Standing Ovation Theatre (Seussical), Metropolis Performing Arts Center (Xanadu), the Northwestern University Opera (Die Fledermaus), and many other schools, park districts, and theater groups in the Chicago area. She has worked in various other offstage roles including choreography (Nunsense), set building (The Odd Couple), and stage management (Proof), as well as appearing onstage in such shows as Afghanistan/ Wisconsin (Navy Chaplain) and Miracle on 34th Street (Foster Mother/Elf Q). She is the Touring Company Manager for Red Clay Dance Company and also a school bus driver. She is married with three children and lives in Gurnee. She has worked on almost 100 shows and feels that theater is a boon to the exhilaration she gets from trying something new.

# JARED FORTH (he/him)

#### Guitar 1

Jared grew up in Chicagoland and has been actively gigging for over a decade. Jared last performed at Metropolis on guitar for *Xanadu* and is excited to be back. Other recent pit orchestra show credits include *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Brightside Theatre), *West Side Story* (Summer Place Theatre), and *Jekyll & Hyde in Concert* (Brightside Theatre). In addition to playing in pit orchestras, Jared composes music, gigs as a guitarist and bassist in various contexts, and teaches. Love to Lydia.







#### BILL FRANZ (he/him)

#### Director of Production

Bill is thrilled to working here at Metropolis on this production of Rock of Ages. Everyone involved In this show is incredibly talented. He would like to thank his family for their love and support and remind you the every rose has its thorn. Just like every night has its dawn. Just like every cowboy sings a sad, sad song. Every rose has it's thorn.

@soundtrunk



#### SYD GENCO

### Makeup Designer

Syd is thrilled to be collaborating with Metropolis for the first time! Syd wears a few hats in the Chicagoland theatre community, including Makeup Artist, Theatrical Makeup Designer, and an actor. She's an ensemble member and company manager at Hell in a Handbag Productions, where she's performed and makeup designed many shows over the past 12 years. She has also designed the past 3 seasons for Kokandy Productions together with Derek Van Barham and the current Beauty Squad for Rock of Ages. She's designed for companies across the city such as Highland Park Players, Trap Door, and national makeup work for Wintrust Bank, Fever Productions/Warner Brothers, and more. Syd is a graduate of the CCPA at Roosevelt University with a BFA in Musical Theatre Performance, and is a certified Makeup Artist through Make Up First School Chicago.

madcbs.com



#### BIANCA GONZALEZ (she/her)

### Props Designer

Bianca is making her Metropolis debut with Rock of Ages. She is a props designer, scenic painter, and carpenter from Kenosha, Wisconsin. She has served as Props Designer for *She Kills Monsters* (Case High School), *Schoolhouse Rock Live* (College of Lake County), and *L'Apparatement* (Renaissance Theatreworks).

# ROBIN M. HUGHES

# Casting Director Lead Artistic Associate

Director, producer, and actor, Robin began professionally at The Guthrie with Garland Wright (Christmas Carol), acting in Joanne Akalaitis' world premiere of The Rover, and working on Akalaitis' The Screens and Pravda with Goodman's Robert Falls. Awarded Steppenwolf's Acting Fellowship, Robin was in The Ballad of Little Joe (world premiere) directed by Tina Landau and worked with Anna Shapiro, David Cromer, Jessica Thebus, John Malkovich, and Terry Kinney. Select regional credits: Victory Gardens, Little Theatre On the Square, Williams Street Rep, Paramount, Light Opera Works, New Millenium, Mary-Arrchie, Circa 21, and Phipps Center. Robin has worked at Metropolis as Artistic Director, Producer, and Director of Production and has directed/acted in many Metropolis productions. She is an ISU MFA and Steppenwolf School grad, and proud member of SDC.

#### BOBBY LEE (he/him)

#### Stage Manager

Bobby was born and raised in the Chicago suburbs. He was the Stage Manager last year for *Million Dollar Quartet* (MPAC) and is grateful to work with this talented cast and staff to bring you *Rock of Ages*! Bobby is also a Stage Hand and Production Coordinator at the Hemmens Cultural Center in Elgin, IL.

#### KEN MCMULLEN

#### Music Director

Ken is pleased to be returning as music director/pianist on the metropolis stage, especially on a show performing music from his childhood! Ken also teaches piano at Metropolis. Other projects include being the principal pianist at Lincolnshire Academy of Dance and pianist of the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus. Ken is also the pianist/music director of Lisa Rock Entertainment, performing music of the Carpenters, Carole King, Barry Manilow and numerous others. During the years 1997–2002, Ken was found on Carnival Cruise Lines playing jazz/rock piano. Love the 80's music!!!

#### ALEXANDRA RAFFINI (she/her)

### Assistant Stage Manager

Alexandra is a regular stage manager at Metropolis and novice props designer (as of 2024!). This marks Alex's twelfth mainstage production at Metropolis, and recent credits include: Sister Act (ASM), Cabaret (ASM), A Christmas Carol (ASM), The Legend of Georgia McBride (SM), Ragtime (SM), Xanadu (Crew Swing), The Addams Family (ASM), 9 to 5: The Musical (ASM), Million Dollar Quartet (Crew Swing), R+H's Cinderella (ASM), and Disney's Mary Poppins: A Staged Concert (Props Designer/Costume Coordinator). During the day, she serves as the Metropolis Presents Series Manager, and also has worked as Props Assistant for Porchlight Music Theater on several recent productions. She's looking forward to more exciting opportunities upcoming at MPAC!

#### RACHEL SYPNIEWSKI

# Costume Designer

Rachel is grateful to be working at Metropolis for the first time! Other companies she has worked with include Goodman, Kokandy, Music Theater Works, Theater Wit, Backstage Breckenridge Theater, Babes with Blades, Trap Door, Oak Park Festival Theater, Citadel, Black Button Eyes, Hell in a Handbag, Lifeline, Porchlight, Griffin, Strawdog, Midsommer Flight. She also has designed at Wheaton College, Governor's State University, North Central College, St. Patrick's High School, Indiana University Northwest, Loyola Academy, and the Chicago Academy for the Arts. She is a ten-time Non-equity Jeff nominee, having been awarded two.