

PLAYBILL®

GREENE COUNTY FINE ARTS COUNCIL

AT THE HISTORIC COLLINS THEATRE

CHICAGO

**Book By Fred Ebb
& Bob Fosse**

Music By John Kander

Lyrics By Fred Ebb

Directed By Jer Allen

Thu Nov 16 @ 7:00 PM

Fri Nov 17 @ 7:00 PM

Sat Nov 18 @ 7:00 PM

Sun Nov 19 @ 2:00 PM



Greene County
Fine Arts Council

**THE
HEART**
OF GREENE
COUNTY

NOVEMBER 16-19, 2023

The Greene County Fine Arts Council

PRESENTS

CHICAGO

Book by FRED EBB & BOB FOSSE

Music by JOHN KANDER

Lyrics by FRED EBB

Based on the Play by MAURINE DALLAS WATKINS

Script Adaptation by DAVID THOMPSON

Director
Jer Allen

**Musical Director &
Conductor**
Jeremy Wortham

Choreographers
Savannah Parker
Brooke Hampton

Stage Manager
Jordan Kaser

Sound Operator
Jer Allen

GCFAC Executive Director
Lauria Baker

Costumes
Full Cast

Set Design
Jer Allen

Set Construction
Zachary Wynn
Jer Allen

Light Design
Kent Straub

Set Manager
Zachary Wynn

Libby Wamock-Glasco
Robby Glasco
Maggie Freeman

Light Operator
Seth Kaser

GCFAC Board
Jer Allen
Suzanne Bushong

Shannon Freeman
Jenny Brooks
Scott Brooks

Spot Operators
Jesse Sanders
Emma Gregory

Shani Barnhill
Jana Rowland
Robby Glasco
Kristin Summers

Jessica Sims
Michael Sims
Jessica Brewer

Sound Design
Jim Kjorlang

Amy Dennis
Shona Howe

Cathy Strack
April Oakes
Chris Oakes
Jackson Vaughn

Chicago is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
www.concordtheatricals.com

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

All That Jazz.....	Velma Kelly, Ensemble
Funny Honey.....	Roxie Hart
Cell Block Tango.....	Liz, Annie, June, Katalyn, Velma, Mona
When You're Good to Mama.....	Matron "Mama" Morton
All I Care About.....	Billy Flynn, Female Ensemble
A Little Bit of Good.....	Mary Sunshine
We Both Reached for the Gun.....	Billy, Roxie, Mary, Ensemble
Roxie.....	Roxie, Male Ensemble
I Can't Do it Alone.....	Velma
I Can't Do it Alone (Reprise).....	Velma
My Own Best Friend.....	Roxie, Velma
All That Jazz (Reprise).....	Velma

Act II

I Know a Girl.....	Velma
Me and My Baby.....	Roxie, Male Ensemble
Mr. Cellophane.....	Amos Hart
When Velma Takes the Stand.....	Velma, Ensemble
Razzle Dazzle.....	Billy, Ensemble
Class.....	Mama, Velma
Nowadays.....	Velma, Roxie
All That Jazz (Finale Reprise).....	Company

CAST

Roxie Hart.....	Jadyn Edgar
Velma Kelly.....	April Oakes
Billy Flynn.....	Ryan Fisher
Matron Mama Morton.....	Libby Wamock-Glasco
Amos Hart.....	Michael Whatley
Mary Sunshine.....	Maggie Freeman
Liz.....	Jessica Brewer
June.....	Savannah Parker
Annie.....	Brooke Hampton
Katalyn Hunyak.....	Trinity Mansfield
Mona.....	Jenny Brooks
Kitty.....	Jessica Sims
Fred Casely.....	Cole Case
Sgt. Fogerty / Mr. Harrison.....	Chance Espinoza
Judge.....	Zerek Lucas
Ensemble.....	Jackson Vaughn, Sandra James, Cathy Strack, Jessica Brewer, Savannah Parker, Brooke Hampton, Trinity Mansfield, Jenny Brooks, Jessica Sims, Cole Case, Chance Espinoza, Zerek Lucas

ORCHESTRA

Reed 1, 2, & 3.....	Reese Fulkerson, David Hall, & John Brawley
Trumpet 1 & 2.....	Zachary Shearer & Milo Cross
Trombone 1 & 2.....	Nathan Anderson & Emelie Fincher
Tuba.....	Alucard Simpson
Drums.....	Samuel Treece
Piano 1 & 2.....	Ella Murray & Annessa Bratten

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

It has been a long road getting to this point. Almost 20 years ago, I was cast in my first role onstage. I was at a low point in my life and saw the local community theater was holding auditions, so I figured I'd show up and audition. It turned out that the show was a musical, and outside of a lot of mediocre karaoke, I was not (and still am not) a singer. But I managed to get a role anyway and my theater journey began. I auditioned for everything I could, almost always getting beat out for the roles I wanted, but I kept going because even if I didn't get to play the parts I really wanted, theater was therapy for me. Whether it was on stage, or as a crew member, I did everything I could. It filled an emptiness I had and it brought me back to life.

My first chance in the director seat was as an assistant director 15 years ago for a little-known play called *Play Ball*. However, that obscure play is actually the original play written by Maurine Watkins that the musical *Chicago* was based off of. It was so much fun and always held a special place in my heart. After that experience I was determined to one day be able to direct the musical version.

That almost came to reality 4 years ago when GCFAC announced their ambitious 7 show season for 2020. Unfortunately, March of that same year saw the entire world shut down and that incredible lineup had to be postponed. Once the theater world opened up again, the rights to perform *Chicago* were no longer available and we didn't know when the opportunity would come back around for us to perform the show. Thankfully, we were able to secure those rights for this season and now here we are and I have been able to come full circle directing the musical version of the show that gave me my directorial start.

There aren't enough people that I can thank for where I am today. None of this was done on my own and I owe so much to so many people. Kay Roth, my theater mentor who was my AD in my first role and gave me so much guidance through the years. I hope you can smile down on this show. John Elliot who gave me my first directorial opportunity with *Play Ball*. Judith Burgess who cast me in my first GCFAC production in what would unfortunately be her last before her passing. All of the casts and crews I have had the pleasure of working with. My fellow board members and friends who have worked so hard to keep GCFAC going through the years. Savannah, Brooke and Jeremy, who have put in so much of themselves to help mold this show into what it is. And most importantly my family. My adult boys Jesse and Aaryn, who have been on this journey with me since they were babies. Naomi, Owen, Desmond and Norah who bring something to smile about each and every day. And my wife Christina who is without question the reason I am the man I am today. She makes me strive to be a better man and I'm so incredibly thankful for her.

This has been an amazing chapter of my life full of ups and downs and I'm excited for what the next chapter has in store for me.

-Jer

WHO'S WHO



Jer Allen

Director

This will be Jer's 10th show he has directed for the GCFAC. Originally from Oregon, Jer moved to Paragould in 2011. Having been heavily involved in community theater prior to his relocation, he almost immediately got involved with GCFAC getting cast as Bob Bradley in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* which ran in December of 2011. Since then, he has been onstage in several other productions, stage managed, played drums in a show orchestra, and even wrote and produced an original script. Currently, he serves as the GCFAC board president and is a member of the Collins Theatre board, Jer works as a Software Development Manager for Gates Corporation and lives in Paragould with his wife Christina and their four children.



Jessica Brewer

Liz

Jessica is a native of Paragould and has a lifetime of dancing experience. She has danced many parts in *The Nutcracker* ballet, taken master dance classes, competed across the US as a child and teen, and also danced in college on ASU's A-team. She currently teaches ballet at Tabatha's Dance Co. She is a lover of musical theatre, and is thrilled to be debuting with GCFAC's *Chicago the Musical* in the ensemble and as Liz in "Cell Block Tango." When not dancing, she is an avid runner, a dental hygienist, a wife, and a mother to two daughters, Wesley Grace and Sawyer. She also enjoys traveling, shopping, going to the lake, and being active in her church—First United Methodist of Paragould. Jessica is excited to be back on the stage and hopes you enjoy the show!



Jenny Brooks

Mona

This will be Jenny's second production with the GCFAC, the first being in the ensemble of *White Christmas* in 2022. Jenny is very excited to be performing in one of her favorite plays, *Chicago*. Jenny is retired and enjoys spending time with her family and five grandchildren. She hopes to continue performing in future productions.

WHO'S WHO



Cole Case

Fred Casely

Cole Case is thrilled and delighted to return to the beautiful Collins Theatre after an eleven year hiatus from the stage. He is honored to return with such a bang of a show! Cole would like to thank the entire cast and crew of *Chicago* for the amazing experience that has unfolded, and hopes for many more shows to come!



Jadyn Edgar

Roxie Hart

Jadyn has been doing theatre for five years, however this is only her second production with the GCFAC. She is very excited for this show, as it is one of her favorites of all time. She is thankful for the friends she has made along the way and hopes to do more shows with them in the future.



Chance Espinoza

Sgt. Fogerty / Mr. Harrison

This will be Chance's first performance with the GCFAC! Chance has four years of marching experience with The Paragould Pride Marching Band and two years of cheerleading. He is excited to be performing again but with something completely new! He is a barista at Shadrach's, and hopes that he sees some familiar faces. He loved the support and the love he received when he announced he was in this production. He can't wait to see you all there and hopes you enjoy the show!!



Ryan Fisher

Billy Flynn

Ryan is 46 years old and has been married to Charity for 23 years. They have 2 wonderful sons: Aaron, who is a senior in college in Oklahoma City, and Ian who is a junior at Paragould HS. They have a bonus daughter, Nikki, who has 2 great kids of her own. Ryan attends Faith Fellowship Church and has the best church family ever. He works for Focus Inc. and absolutely loves his job. He is part of the Ultimate Oldies show and performs regularly at The Roundup Music Show in Brookland. Ryan has been in several productions at the Collins theater: *Evita*, *Cats*, *Les Miz*, *Cat in the Hat*, *Seussical*, *White Christmas* and *Hometown Christmas* with Ryan and Suzie, to name a few. He wants to thank his mom and dad, Robert and Cheryl, and grandparents, Jack and Faye Millikin, for always supporting him in everything he does. Ryan also wants to say Happy Birthday to his Nanny Faye. He is dedicating his performance to her!

WHO'S WHO



Maggie Freeman

Mary Sunshine

Maggie is very excited that she got the *unexpected* opportunity to play Mary Sunshine in GCFAC's *Chicago!* Maggie is a senior at Paragould High School and enjoys being involved in many activities at school. She is a proud member of the State Championship Paragould Pride Band where she marched center snare on the drumline. Maggie has enjoyed being on stage since a young age. She loves to sing with her dad and brother. At the age of 8 she was in *Cats* at the Collins Theatre. She has enjoyed participating in several PHS Theatre productions where she played Beth in *Little Women*, Jenna Wilburn in *Farce of Habit*, and Angela in *Honky Tonk Angels*. Last but certainly not least, a childhood dream came true when she was cast as Dorothy in GCFAC's *The Wizard of Oz!* The LORD God is my strength and song. Isaiah 12:2



Brooke Hampton

Choreographer & Annie

Brooke is a junior at Arkansas State in the Social Work program. She has been dancing since she was 4 years old, choreographing for several companies as well as competing nationally. She has been apart of the GCFAC since 2012 where she has been apart of several productions as well as shows with Paragould High School as the Theatre Department President and a Student director for TheatreEdge. Recently she has choreographed two shows for the GCFAC, *Cinderella* and now *Chicago!* She would like to thank her friends, family, and amazing boyfriend who have always advocated for and supported her love of the arts.



Sandra James

Ensemble

Sandra is married and has two great kids that always stand by her side. Sandra is a Professional at GCT school. She has been with GCFAC since 2016. She has been ensemble in *Beauty and the Beast*, *Little Mermaid*, *Mary Poppins*, *Seussical*, *Elf*, *Wizard of Oz*, *White Christmas*, *Mamma Mia*, and *Cinderella*. Her favorite was *The Addam's Family* where she played Grandma Addams. Sandra has also been in *A Window for Murder* and *Alice in Wonderland* with the CCAC. Sandra loves being in plays where she can see old friends and make new ones. She says it helps her stay active and young. She wants to say thanks to all of her family and friends for always being there to support her.

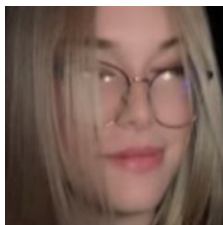
WHO'S WHO



Zerek Lucas

Judge

Zerek is 18 and graduating from PHS this year. He is part of the theater program at PHS and is a thespian. He has been a competitive dancer for 6 years and is currently dancing for Elite Performing Arts Studio. This is his first show with GCFAC, and he has a passion for the arts. In his free time, Zerek loves to listen to music, draw, and spend time with his cat Thea.



Trinity Mansfield

Katalyn Hunyak

Trinity is 18 years old and graduated earlier this year from Paragould High School where she was a part of the Pride Band. This is her second show with the GCFAC after performing in Cinderella this summer. She has a passion for the performing arts and can't wait to be on stage again.



April Oakes

Velma Kelly

April is a Paragould native who has participated in several community theater productions over the past 8 years. Her most notable roles include Sally Bowles (Cabaret) and Constance Sack (Rock of Ages) but says that every role, both ensemble and lead, have changed her...for the better. She is eternally grateful for the opportunity to bring Velma Kelly to NEA. April would like to thank her family and friends for all of their support but most of all her husband, Chris, for encouraging her to pursue this passion.



Savannah Parker

Choreographer & June

Savannah is co-owner/artistic director of La Studio in Jonesboro. She has been dancing since she was born. She has taught dance at La Studio for the past 9 years whilst teaching at Jackson County Dance & Cheer for 3 of those years. She has danced in, and helped choreograph many productions. Some of her recent dance roles include Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*, Anna in *Frozen*, and Poppy in *Trolls*. Musicals to her credit are: White Rabbit in *Alice in Wonderland*, Chorus/Dancer in *Pajama Game*, Chorus/Dancer in *Sister Act*, Bombalurina in *Cats*, and LuLu in *Cabaret*. Savannah continues to pursue her career in Jonesboro coaching a dance team for the fifth and sixth grade girls of Jonesboro Public School District. She loves spending time with her loved ones, fur babies, dance family...and is shouting out to her new and old friends at GCFAC..."Break a Leg"!

WHO'S WHO



Jessica Sims

Kitty

Born and raised in Paragould, Jessica is an occupational therapy assistant for Cynergy Rehab Group. She loves working with her patients at ArKids Pediatric Day Center. Jessica and her husband Michael love to travel and attend just about any kind of sporting event. She was previously in the GCFAC production of *Matilda* as Mrs. Phelps. Jessica is excited to be back on the historic Collins Theater stage, playing Kitty this time. Hope to see you there!



Cathy Strack

Ensemble

Cathy moved here from NJ in 2017. She was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, but spent most of her life in NJ. This is Cathy's second production with GCFAC after performing in *Southern Fried Funeral* and she is thrilled to be in *Chicago*. She has been in other productions of *Trolls*, *Back to the Future*, *The Grinch*, and *Beauty and the Beast* as a dancer with Studio de la Danse. Back home in NJ, she danced in productions in her community as well such as *The Follies*, *The Good Old Days*, *Reflections*, and *A Christmas Carol*. Cathy has three children and loves to dance, bowl, and is an avid fan of the NJ Devils hockey team.



Jackson Vaughn

Ensemble

Jackson is no stranger to the stage and has been in a variety of shows playing anything from a somewhat nerdy kid in *13 The Musical* to most recently a bully in *Footloose*. He is a graduate of Greene County Tech and has been in All Region Choir and is currently employed by Allen Engineering. Jackson enjoys getting to explore new roles on the stage and is thankful for all of the support he has received from his family and friends throughout the years and again now as he once again takes the stage

WHO'S WHO



Libby Wamock-Glasco

Matron "Mama" Morton

Libby is a native of Paragould and the owner of Kiss The Cook Homemade Fooderie. She's married to Robby (aka...the smartest guy she knows), and they have 2 children and 2 amazing grandchildren. Libby has played several roles in GCFAC productions, including Charlotte (*Charlotte's Web*), Rosie (*Mama Mia*), Emily (*Elf*), Fraulein Schneider (*Cabaret*), and the Wicked Witch of the West (*The Wizard of Oz*). Last month she played Dorothy (another Mama) in the GCFAC comedy dinner theater production *Southern Fried Funeral*. Being involved in community theater is a unique way of opening doors to new opportunities and unexpected friendships, and Libby is thankful for all of them.



Michael Whatley

Amos Hart

This is Michael's first GCFAC production, previously he was in Center Stage Productions' *Rock of Ages* and *Carrie*. He is an Army veteran of 17 years and is still serving, as well as serving on multiple tours to Afghanistan. He enjoys doing theater because performing is a form of therapy to him. Michael also enjoys the friends and the bonds he gets to create with fellow cast members. He looks forward to seeing everyone in future productions



Jeremy Wortham

Musical Director

Jeremy was born and raised in Paragould, and this is his third GCFAC production and his debut as the music director. He was a part of multiple musical productions in his youth at Greene County Tech, including *Oklahoma* (Ensemble), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Harry McAfee), and *Li'l Abner* (Marryin' Sam, Student Director). Jeremy is also a professional French Horn player with the Delta Symphony Orchestra which he has been a part of since 2008. He received a bachelor's degree in music education and master's degree in education from Arkansas State University, and a master's degree in music education from Kent State University. He currently works as a Customs Trade Specialist at FedEx Trade Networks and is pursuing an MBA at the University of Memphis. He would like to acknowledge his marvelous wife and daughter, family, and friends for their incessant support and the cast/crew for this marvelous opportunity to be part of the GCFAC family!

SPECIAL THANKS

MOR Media

Lauria Baker

Curtis Davenport

Libby Wamock-Glasco

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Joe Wessel



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