

Presents *Kinky Boots*

The Musical

Book by Harvey Fierstein
Music and Lyrics by Cyndi Lauper
Original Direction & Choreography
by Jerry Mitchell

Fri. Feb. 16 - 7:00 pm

Sat. Feb. 17 - 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

Sun. Feb. 18 - 2:00 pm

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KINKY BOOTS

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Proudly Presents:

Kinky Boots THE MUSICAL

BOOK BY HARVEY FIERSTEIN
MUSIC & LYRICS BY CYNDI LAUPER
ORIGINAL DIRECTION AND CHOREOGRAPHY BY
JERRY MITCHELL

FEBRUARY 16 - 18, 2024

DIRECTOR: WALLIS JOHNSON
PRODUCERS: DONNA BROWN AND LESLIE CYGAN
MUSIC DIRECTOR: JOY LAMB
CHOREOGRAPHER: AMANDA LEIGH BACKER
DRAG CHOREOGRAPHER: TODD SANTA MARIA

President:
Diane Ozmun

**Vice President of
Production:**
Wallis Johnson

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Directors:
Richard Arsenault
Amanda Leigh Backer
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Lynn Dickey
Ronald Goldstein
Wallis Johnson
Diane Ozmun
William Watson Jr



COLCHESTER COMMUNITY THEATRE, INC.

PO Box 787, Colchester, CT 06415
www.ColchesterCommunityTheatre.com

From the President of CCT

I would like to first take this opportunity to thank you, and welcome you to Colchester Community Theatre's 26th season and production of Kinky Boots. I am proud to announce on behalf of the Colchester Community Theatre Inc.'s Board of Directors, we are now a non-profit 501c3. We are filled with gratitude to be able to continue to bring high quality, affordable musical theater to the Colchester community. We continue to be honored and humbled by the outpouring of support from countless volunteers, our audience members and of course, our business and personal sponsors and advertisers who have contributed so greatly to our growth and success. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for being an ongoing part of this dream. We would also like to give a special thank you to the Connecticut Dept. of Economic and Community Development Office of the Arts for their 2023 grant award to CCT. This grant award provided CCT with the funds to purchase necessary materials to bring Kinky Boots to the stage. Please visit the portions of the digital program listing all of those who made such generous volunteer and monetary contributions. We welcome and rely on your tax-deductible donations to continue to support theater arts in our community. So please consider making a donation now to Colchester Community Theatre, Inc., P.O. Box 787, Colchester, CT 06415 or contact me at 860-908-9286 on how to make your donation.

Colchester Community Theatre proudly presents Kinky Boots through special arrangements with Music Theatre International. Kinky Boots is the big-hearted musical extravaganza that won six Tonys including Best Musical, the Grammy for Best Musical Theatre album and London's Olivier Award for Best Musical. Kinky Boots features a joyous, Tony-winning score by pop icon Cyndi Lauper, and a hilarious, uplifting book by four-time Tony winner, Harvey Fierstein. Billy Porter won a Best Actor Tony Award for his portrayal of Lola.

Charlie Price has reluctantly inherited his father's shoe factory, which is on the verge of bankruptcy. Trying to live up to his father's legacy and save his family business, Charlie finds inspiration in the form of Lola, a fabulous entertainer in need of some sturdy stilettos. As they work to turn the factory around, this unlikely pair find that they have more in common than they realized... and discover that when you change your mind, you can change your whole world.

Love, friendship, kindness, acceptance...these are things that we all seek in order to know that we matter in this world...to know that we have a place among human kind. This show has the power to teach each one of us to be more understanding, more accepting, more loving and more kind, and that if we open our hearts and minds, we can change the world. I hope that you are moved to laughter, tears, joy and love in your hearts with this performance of Kinky Boots!

Now, I invite you all to sit back, relax and enjoy the show!

With sincerest appreciation for your support -

Diane Ozmun

President, Colchester Community Theatre

Scenes & Musical Numbers

ACT I

“PRICE & SON THEME”FULL COMPANY

“THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING” FULL COMPANY

“TAKE WHAT YOU GOT”.... HARRY, CHARLIE, ENSEMBLE

“THE LAND OF LOLA”.... LOLA, ANGELS

“THE LAND OF LOLA (REPRISE)”.... LOLA, ANGELS

“STEP ONE”.... CHARLIE

“SEX IS IN THE HEEL” LOLA, PAT, GEORGE, ANGELS, ENSEMBLE

“THE HISTORY OF WRONG GUYS”...LAUREN

“I’M NOT MY FATHER’S SON”..... LOLA, CHARLIE

“EVERYBODY SAY YEAH”..... CHARLIE, LOLA, ANGELS, ENSEMBLE



ACT II

“ENTR’ACTE/PRICE & SON THEME - REPRISE”.... FULL COMPANY

“WHAT A WOMAN WANTS”..... LOLA, PAT, DON, ENSEMBLE

“IN THIS CORNER” LOLA, DON, PAT, TRISH, ANGELS, ENSEMBLE

“THE SOUL OF A MAN”... CHARLIE

“HOLD ME IN YOUR HEART”.... LOLA

“RAISE YOU UP / JUST BE” FULL COMPANY



From the Director

Each year, the Board of Directors takes great pains to decide the show for our big Winter production. This year was no different. We read scripts, talked, debated, voted – AND – the winner was Kinky Boots. This musical won every major best musical award including the Tony, the Grammy and London's Olivier Award. Cyndi Lauper, who wrote the music for our show, was the first woman to win a Tony Award on her own.

Kinky Boots is based on the true story of Steve Pateman who tried to save his family-run W.J. Brooks Shoe Company in Earls Barton Northamptonshire, England by creating women's shoes for men. The musical tells the story of two people who think that they have nothing in common. Charlie owns the failing shoe factory. Lola has a crazy idea about boots. With compassion and understanding the unexpected pair learn to embrace their differences and – begin to realize – how much they are alike. By the end of the show, their greatest achievement is not the boots that they create, but rather the wonderful friendship that they form.

Our cast and crew come from all walks of life. We have worked together, laughed together, made mistakes together and are ready to tell a story of great friendship. Imagine what our world would be like if each of us took the time to get to know the people we meet, listened to their stories with open hearts and treated others the way that we ourselves wished to be treated – with acceptance, dignity and respect. It is my hope that as we leave this theater, we take a moment to look at this beautiful world full of wonderful people all around us.

Thank you,

Wallis Johnson

Director, Colchester Community Theatre

Best wishes to our friends in CCT!



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The Cast

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Mr. Price	Rich Gallacher
Young Charlie.....	Parker Nelson
Young Lola	Carlton Kristoff
Simon Sr.	Chris Ozmun
Nicola	Jessica Bowman Engster
Charlie Price	Tiernan Shea
George.....	Martin Lane
Don	Doug Stoyer
Lauren	Janet Aldrich
Pat	Debra Mitchell
Harry	Cailean Brown
Lola	Cecil Carter
Angels	Joey Army, Samantha Bessette, Claire Galarneau, Trevor Howard, Eddie Krauss, Margaret Madole, Sarah Putnam McCoy, Maegan Meakem, Nina Paul, Zella
Trish	Diane Ozmun
Richard Bailey	Jay Cohen
Milan Stage Manager	Marissa Perez
Ensemble	Diane Caron, Jay Cohen, Ronald Goldstein, Robin Greenwald, Christine Herzberg, Colleen Kaplan, Jeanne Kowalsky, Susie Milner, Sasha Okonuk, Kailyn Perez, Monica Swyden



TO THE FABULOUS
CAST & CREW OF

Kinky Boots

BREAK A LEG

*With Love,
Christine & Jeanne*



The Cast



Janet
Aldrich



Joey
Army



Samantha
Bessette



Cailean
Brown



Diane
Caron



Cecil
Carter



Jay
Cohen



Jessica
Engster



Claire
Galarneau



Rich
Gallacher



Ronald
Goldstein



Robin
Greenwald



Christine
Herzberg



Trevor
Howard



Colleen
Kaplan



Jeanne
Kowalsky



Eddie
Krauss



Carlton
Kristoff



Martin
Lane



Margaret
Madole

The Cast



Sarah
McCoy



Maegan
Meakem



Susie
Milner



Debra
Mitchell



Parker
Nelson



Sasha
Okonuk



Chris
Ozmun



Diane
Ozmun



Nina
Paul



Kailyn
Perez



Marissa
Perez



Tiernan
Shea



Doug
Stoyer



Monica
Swyden



Zella

Kinky Boots

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Meet The Cast

JANET ALDRICH (Lauren) is a classically trained soprano who has sung in various productions in the central CT area over the last few years. Recent productions include Philoclea in Head Over Heels with Connecticut Theater Company, Alice in Addams Family with the Niantic Bay Playhouse, and Kitty in The Drowsy Chaperone with Connecticut Theater Company. She is very excited to do her first show with Colchester Community Theatre as Lauren in Kinky Boots!

JOEY ARMY (Angel) studied Theater, Dance, and Political Science at Vassar College. After living in New York City for several years he moved back to his home state of CT where he now teaches ballet and jazz at several different dance studios in southeastern CT. Joey has performed in many different Theatrical and Dance endeavors throughout his life and has enjoyed working with several different community theaters in eastern CT since returning to the area.

SAMANTHA "SAMMI" BESSETTE (Angel) is 24 and lives in Ellington. She is best known for her role as Ursula in The Little Mermaid (C.A.S.T. Children's Theater). Other credits include: Mother Abbess in The Sound of Music, Sour Kangaroo in Seussical the Musical, Dragon in Shrek the Musical, and numerous others with various theater companies. Sammi would like to dedicate her performance to the entire LGBTQIA+ community. She thanks her family and friends for their support. She is super ecstatic to be playing an angel/ drag queen!

CAILEAN BROWN (Harry) is thrilled to be a part of Kinky Boots and would like to thank their friends and family for their unending love and support. They have been acting in Colchester Community Theatre productions since 2011, first participating in the children's summer production of School House Rock Live! JR. More recently, Cailean played the part of Noah Claypole in Oliver!. Outside of CCT, Cailean enjoys writing stories and co-running a Dungeons and Dragons club at the Lebanon Library.

DIANE CARON (Ensemble) has prior experience with St. Andrews Choir and in the ensemble of Young Frankenstein. She would like to thank all of her friends and family for their love and support.

CECIL CARTER (Lola) has past theater experience as Harpo in The Color Purple and Tick in Priscilla, Queen of the Desert at the Connecticut Theatre Company. Cecil would love to dedicate this performance to his LGBTQIA+ Community. They have opened many doors for people like himself. Thank you!

JAY COHEN (Richard Bailey/Ensemble) is in his first show with CCT since 2010. He is thrilled to be back for this fabulous production! Jay gives much thanks to his family and friends for their love and support.

JESSICA BOWMAN ENGSTER (Nicola) is a Connecticut transplant from Alaska who enjoys farm stands and actually having four seasons in a year. Jess has been involved in performing, music and dance for much of her life and is overjoyed to be in her third show with CCT! She is a frequent Marvelous Wonderette (Betty Jean) and been seen in other favorite roles like Mary Poppins (Colchester Theater Company), Linda The Wedding Singer - Podium Players, Sally Bowles - Cabaret, Mayzie La Bird - Seussical The Musical, Annie/Shelley - Evil Dead: The Musical, June - Chicago and more. In her spare time, she works in the aerospace industry. Thanks to everyone at CCT and shout out to her wonderful and amazing husband, son and daughter for inspiring and supporting her.

CLAIRE GALARNEAU (Angel) is thrilled to be a part of this year's production of Kinky Boots! She is so excited to be performing in Colchester again after graduating from UConn this past fall. Claire has been a part of many CCT productions over the past 10 years, including Les Miserables, Shrek the Musical, Disney's The Little Mermaid, Jekyll and Hyde, The Wizard of Oz, Mary Poppins, and Oliver!. She is so grateful to be working with an exceptionally talented cast and crew!

RICH GALLACHER (Mr. Price/ Ensemble) has returned to the CCT stage after a three year, very boring, hiatus from theater. Thank God his wife, Deborah, who predicted his short retirement, is so loving and supportive. His last role as Mr. Bumble in the 2020 CCT production of Oliver! marked an important milestone in Rich's acting journey coming a long way from his very first time on stage as the Knife Grinder in the CCT's 2003 production of Oliver! Rich didn't realize how much he missed his fellow actors and is grateful to Director Wallis for letting him back into this magical place called Community Theater.

RONALD GOLDSTEIN (Ensemble) has performed in 17 consecutive CCT shows and is proud to serve as a member of the CCT Board of Directors. Ron is most grateful for the support that CCT receives from Colchester and the surrounding communities. "We are a true community theater – without that community support, we would not be able to bring the magic of theater to our town." Ron truly appreciates the opportunity to be on stage and to be "pushed" to take on new roles. "This show has some great themes of friendship and acceptance – important lessons to learn! I hope everyone enjoys the show!"

ROBIN GREENWALD (Ensemble) has previously appeared in CCT's Young Frankenstein and Oliver!. Favorite roles include Rappin' Grandma Rosie in The Wedding Singer and Mrs. Phelps, the librarian, in Matilda. Robin is fortunate to serve as director to the talented theater kids of the Tyl Drama Company. She'd like to thank all of you for coming to see the show, and is most thankful for the support and love of Emily, Jacob, Anna, and her parents, William and Marjorie Blau.

CHRISTINE HERZBERG (Ensemble) is performing in her fourth production with CCT. She is excited to be on stage again with amazing talent and CCT friends. She dedicates this performance to her husband, Kurt, and her amazing friends and family who have supported her along the way.

TREVOR HOWARD (Angel) has performed in numerous musical theater productions and most recently appeared in Colchester Community Theatre's Young Frankenstein as The Hermit, and Arts at the Capitol Theater's production of Spring Awakening as his favorite role yet, Hanschen Rillow. Previous performances with ACT include Funny Girl (Eddie Ryan), and Seascape (Charlie). In addition, Trevor has been in the ensemble for the following CCT productions of Oliver!, Mary Poppins, The Wizard of Oz, Jekyll & Hyde, & Disney's The Little Mermaid. Trevor is grateful to all his educators, family, and friends who came out to see Kinky Boots. Furthermore, Trevor is beyond grateful that Colchester Community Theatre decided on this production as it explores how different communities can come to respect and accept each other for their differences.

COLLEEN KAPLAN (Ensemble) is happy to be performing with the CCT family again. What would winter be without a CCT show to enjoy? Past shows with CCT include Mary Poppins, The Wizard of Oz, Cinderella, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Fiddler on the Roof. Thank you to John for taking care of Lenny during all of those rehearsals!

JEANNE KOWALSKY (Ensemble) is performing in her 8th production with CCT. Jeanne is a married mother of 5 and grandmother of 5. She thanks her husband, Bill and family for their support. "I want to thank the board of CCT for their hard work keeping this wonderful institution going and providing quality productions year after year."

EDDIE KRAUSS (Angel) is excited to return for his third production with CCT. He has previously been in CCT's productions of Young Frankenstein (Tap Dancer) and Mary Poppins (Admiral Boom). Most recently he joined the cast of The Rocky Horror Show with Windham Theatre Guild and performed in Eastern Connecticut Ballet's The Nutcracker at Garde Arts Centre. He has performed many duties on and off stage as a choreographer, dance captain, music director for several musicals and other performances. He is an award-winning dancer and studied many styles of dance for many years and competed nationally with the Danceworks Repertory Company. Eddie has been the music director, choir director, and piano accompanist for the Plainfield Senior Chorus, 11th Hour Choir, a few local churches, and other community choirs. Eddie is a graphic designer, wedding and event DJ (Best of Eastern CT 2023), certified lifeguard, water aerobics teacher, and swimming instructor. BIG THANK YOU to everyone who has worked behind the scenes to make this show a success, to this talented cast, and to his family and friends, who support him at every performance! Enjoy the show!

CARLTON KRISTOFF (Young Lola/Simon) is currently a sixth grader in William J. Johnston Middle School. This is his first time acting with the Colchester Community Theatre. He has always enjoyed acting in the plays at school. Carlton played Sylvester McMonkey McBean in his 5th grade play, The Sneetches. It was so much fun that he decided to audition for the part of Young Lola/Simon. Carlton is dedicating his performance to his sister, Katie. She is his biggest fan.

MARTIN LANE (George/Ensemble) states it has been several years since he last performed on stage. He's no stranger to CCT, having performed in multiple productions, his first in 2005. Marty thanks his wife, Patricia, his children, and grandchildren for their unconditional love and support. Now kick off those boots and enjoy the show!

MARGARET MADOLE (Angel) is a CNA at Apple Rehab Colchester. Her most recent appearance on stage was in 12 Angry Jurors at Chestnut Street Playhouse, and before that she appeared in numerous shows with Broadway Kids and Company, most notably as Miss Hannigan in Annie JR and Cha-Cha in Grease. She also is a member of the Colchester Choir and Orchestra as an alto and a violist, and runs her own Etsy shop called Paper Cranes and Pride.

SARAH PUTNAM MCCOY (Angel) is a Connecticut native who has been involved in the performing arts most of her life. She works as a Marketing Director by day and is excited to make her CCT debut in Kinky Boots! She's been a member of The Sweetest Key a capella group for over 10 years and has been seen in other favorite roles like Dorothy - The Wizard of Oz, Oddfellow's Playhouse, Muffet Di Nicola - Uncommon Women, Wagner College Theater, Queen Aggravain - Once Upon a Mattress and more. She'd like to thank everyone at CCT for such a warm welcome and special thanks to her husband, son, family and friends for always encouraging and supporting her.

MAEGAN MEAKEM (Angel) is excited to be back with CCT for a second year performing in Kinky Boots. As a busy teacher and mom, finding an outlet away from work and home is necessary and considered "self-care"! Maegan would like to thank family and friends for their continued support as she renews her love for dancing on stage. Past shows include Young Frankenstein with CCT and The Rocky Horror Show with WTG and she is looking forward to more!

SUSIE MILNER (Ensemble) is overjoyed to be on stage again with CCT in one of her all-time favorite musicals, Kinky Boots! "You change the world when you change your mind!"

DEBRA MITCHELL (Pat) is thrilled to be returning for her 6th production with CCT! She has performed in other productions with Little Theatre of Manchester, The Chestnut Street Playhouse, The Bradley Playhouse and Windham Theatre Guild. Previous CCT credits include Young Frankenstein (Ensemble), Almost Maine (Glory), Oliver! (Widow Corney), Mary Poppins (Mrs. Corry) and The Wizard of Oz (Ozian/Jitterbug). Thanks to the cast and crew for another wonderful experience! All the love to her husband and family!

PARKER NELSON (Young Charlie) is thrilled to be back at CCT! Recent theater work includes Kurt Von Trapp in Ivoryton Playhouse's The Sound of Music, Nathan in Little Theater of Manchester's The Full Monty, Wadsworth Mansion's A Christmas Carol, and CCT's Oliver!. He has done films with Discovery Channel, Emerson College, Purchase College, Wesleyan University, Magic Society Productions and commercials with TypoDuctions. Parker is 11 years old, and is represented by Connecticut Kids Talent Management.

SASHA OKONUK (Ensemble) is performing in her 3rd CCT production after Oliver! (2020) and Young Frankenstein (2023). She has also performed in St. Andrew's Passion Play and Life Teen Choir. Sasha is grateful to be here performing with her talented and beautiful friends.

CHRIS OZMUN (Simon Sr. /Ensemble) is making his tenth appearance with Colchester Community Theatre, having played many roles including Bill Sykes in the 2020 production of Oliver!, Benjamin Guggenheim in Titanic - the Musical, Von Hussler in Mary Poppins, and his two favorite roles- Moonface Martin in Anything Goes and Joy, one of the stepsisters in Cinderella. Chris is the Chef and co-owner of OzNBones BBQ, an Award winning Food Truck and restaurant, along with his wife Diane. Chris dedicates this show to his non-binary (LGBTQ) child Carey, who has taught him more about unconditional love and acceptance than anyone else. Love you Carey.

DIANE OZMUN (Trish) is so thrilled to return to the CCT stage for CCT's 26th season, and is proud to be performing with the outstanding cast and crew of Kinky Boots. Previous roles with CCT include Frau Blucher in Young Frankenstein, Mrs. Bedwin in Oliver!, Bird Woman in Disney's Mary Poppins, Mrs. Gulch/Wicked Witch of the West in The Wizard of Oz, Nellie in Jekyll & Hyde, Ursula in Disney's The Little Mermaid, Mme. Thenardier in Les Miserables, Queen in Cinderella, Ida Straus in Titanic, Mrs. Potts in Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Mrs. Potiphar in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, and Dolly Levi in Hello, Dolly! She also holds the honor and privilege of being President of the CCT BOD for the past 15 years, and the Music Director for the CCT's Summer Children's Theatre Workshop for 15 years. She is so grateful for the love & support of her husband & Oz 'N Bones BBQ business partner, Chris. Diane dedicates this performance to Carey Ozmun, her non-binary adult child. Carey is courageous, kind, loving, and true to their authentic best self and I love you!

NINA PAUL (Angel) attended school at The Greater Hartford Academy for Performing Arts for the past 4 years where she performed in several school productions. She is currently a sophomore at Rham High School. This is Nina's first year with the Colchester Community Theatre. She has performed in the summer musical productions with YPCCA (Young People's Center for Creative Arts) in East Hampton for the past 10 years. Nina is excited to be performing as an Angel in Kinky Boots.

KAILYN PEREZ (Ensemble) has done a total of 7 shows with CCT and hopes to do many more in the future. Kailyn attends Norwich Technical High School and is in their Biotechnology trade. She would like to dedicate this performance to her adoring friends, loving family and to her incredible music teachers Mrs. Kollias and Mr. Kaplan, who are always supportive and there for her every step of the way.

MARISSA PEREZ (Ensemble) is performing in her 7th show with the CCT. Her first production was The Wizard of Oz as a munchkin in 6th grade. She is now a senior at Norwich Technical High School planning to go to Manchester Community College to be an ultrasound technician. Marissa would like to dedicate this performance to her Choir teachers, Mrs. Kollias and Mr. Kaplan for musically inspiring her and making her believe in herself more than she ever did. They are also solely responsible for her ability to read sheet music.

TIERNAN SHEA (Charlie) is so thankful to be playing the role of Charlie Price in his first show with CCT. After 9 years away from theater, Tiernan made the 2023 season one he will always be so, so thankful for. Favorite credits include Roger Davis; RENT (White Rabbit Theatre), Otto; Spring Awakening (Connecticut Theatre Company), and Mal Beineke; The Addams Family (Niantic Bay Playhouse). A big thank you to CCT for being very welcoming, and a huge "I love you" to all my friends, family, and Destiny. "Thank you for supporting me!"

DOUG STOYER (Don) is thrilled to be cast in this production of Kinky Boots. This is his first production with the group. Previous roles with the Windham Theatre Guild include Inspector Kemp in Young Frankenstein, Hercule Poirot in Murder on the Orient Express, Sir Lawrence Wargrave in And Then There Were None and the Narrator in The Rocky Horror Show. Shows with the Somers Village Players include A Mother, a Daughter and a Gun, The Importance of Being Earnest and A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. He has also appeared in their productions of Dearly Departed, Over the Checkerboard, Arsenic and Old Lace, Play On, Becky's New Car, and I'm Connecticut. Doug has appeared at the Little Theater of Manchester, shows there include Our Town, MAME, Camelot, The Music Man and The Man Who Came to Dinner. A special thanks to Carol, his wife, girlfriend, mentor, and muse for helping an old man learn his lines.

MONICA SWYDEN (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back on stage with CCT! Previous favorites include Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Les Miserables, and Titanic - the Musical. Monica is sending love to friends, family and CCT for believing in her.

ZELLA (Angel) is a Hartford-based drag queen who is quickly approaching three years in the business, well-established as a mainstay of the CT drag community with a background in both the performing and visual arts. She performs all over the state regularly, most often at her home bar Chez Est, and has graced the stage in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Boston as well. She has been able to marry her passions for theater and drag previously in Balm in Gilead (David) at Skidmore College and In The Heights (Ensemble) at Little Theatre of Manchester. Zella also serves as Connecticut's Drag Ambassador for the national nonprofit, Drag Out The Vote, working to increase voter access and engagement. Many thanks to Wallis, Joy, Amanda, Todd, Laura, the entire production team, cast, and crew, for putting on this show and spotlighting the art of drag at a time when the community is so in need. Support your local artists. @thequeenzella



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Meet The Directors

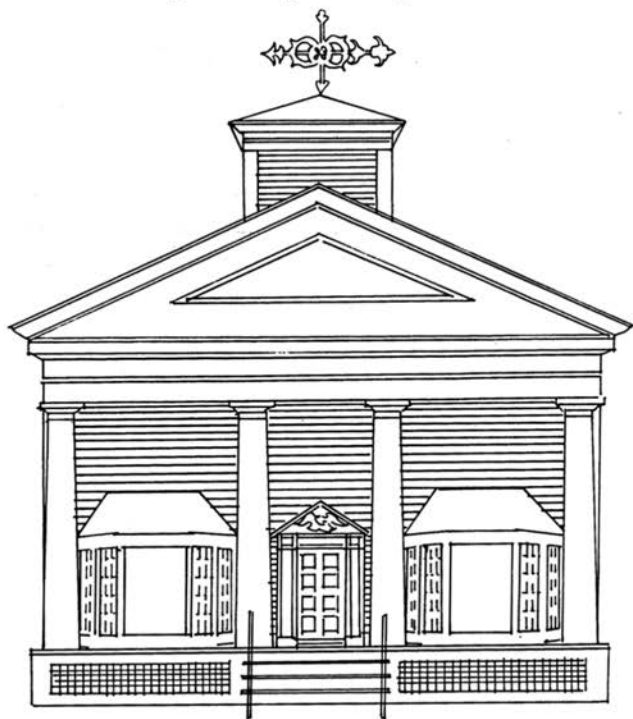
WALLIS JOHNSON (Director) is delighted to return to the Colchester Community Theatre for this production of Kinky Boots. She most recently directed The Thanksgiving Play with the Windham Theater Guild. Prior to that she directed the original production of Mother's Day, as part of the Chestnut Street Playhouse Playwright Festival. She has been directing theatrical productions since college. Favorite directing credits include Almost Maine, Titanic - The Musical, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Young Frankenstein, The Wizard of Oz, and Fiddler on the Roof – both the full-length production and the Junior production with her students at the CREC Academy of Computer Science and Engineering. Wallis has been nominated for the Best Director of a Musical in Connecticut for her work on Titanic – The Musical, Anything Goes, and her 2018 production of The Wizard of Oz. She thoroughly enjoyed collaborating with Tony Award Nominee Forrest McClelland on a project with The University of Connecticut and the Charter Oak Cultural Arts Center of Hartford. She is one of the founders of the Colchester Community Theatre and has directed for several local theater companies. She is a Certified Music Educator with her doctorate degree in Educational Leadership. This Spring, she is excited to again be directing for the Chestnut Street Playhouse, as well as beginning a chorus for middle school students in Hartford.

JOY LAMB (Music Director) is happy to be collaborating with the lovely people of Colchester Community Theatre again. Previously, Joy was Music Director with CCT for Mary Poppins. Joy enjoys all aspects of theater and has a long history of participating either on stage, backstage, in the pit, directing, or conducting. Joy works at the United Methodist Church of Gales Ferry, CT as Director of Worship Arts. She has a private studio where she teaches Voice and Piano and over the years has helped in several capacities with the music and drama program at Ledyard High School. Joy was a Vocal Performance and Music Education Major at The College of Charleston, SC. Many thanks to Mark Lamb, (husband) who makes it possible for Joy to do all the things she loves.

AMANDA LEIGH BACKER (Choreographer) is thrilled to be choreographing Kinky Boots, and work alongside her son, Parker (Young Charlie). She has choreographed Colchester Community Theatre's Oliver! and Young Frankenstein, as well as Windham Theater Guild's Young Frankenstein, Podium Players' Matilda and The Wedding Singer. Amanda has performed in musicals in Connecticut and New York for over 20 years. Special thanks to the talented Todd Santa Maria.

Kinky Boots!

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Rumi



Jessica

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Love,

DAD AND MOM

Meet The Creative Team

RICHARD ARSENAULT (Lighting Design) started with CCT as a founding board member in 1998 and is excited to be lighting Kinky Boots which is his 24th season with CCT. Rich has also worked productions with Blue Fire Stage Company, Podium Players, and other theater groups across Connecticut in areas of lighting, sound, and photography.

RICK BENNETT (Set Construction and Design) has been involved with CCT since 2010. He has performed in Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Titanic - The Musical, Anything Goes, and Les Miserables. Since then he has been helping build the set, and it's a blast having the workshop so busy with builders and painters for the weeks leading up to the show.

LAURA BROWN (Stage Manager) began her journey with CCT as a cast member in Carousel in 1999. At that time, she was elected as Treasurer on the CCT Board of Directors and has remained so to date. Oliver! in 2003, was Laura's debut as stage manager, so this 2024 production marks her twentieth musical for which she has "performed" in this role. While she lovingly remembers sneaking out on stage with Lesley Gallagher to dance to "Oom Pah Pah" in 2003, she has happily settled into being busy backstage. Previous ON-stage performances with CCT include: The Music Man, The Sound of Music, The Odd Couple -Female Version, and Jesus Christ Superstar. She has also performed in Brigadoon and My Fair Lady with other local community theaters. As much as she misses performing under the lights, she has created her own magic and "choreography" backstage with an awesome, dedicated stage crew. Much love and thanks to her family and friends for all their support!

LYNN DICKEY (Master Costumer) is ACCEPTING her love of theater by channeling her organizational skills into creative costuming for Kinky Boots. She has been working with the costume teams for previous productions - Young Frankenstein, Oliver!, Mary Poppins and The Wizard of Oz. She enjoys sharing backstage with her sons - Sam (lighting) and Michael (props). Big hug and shout out to her husband, Christopher, for his love and support!

DIANA MATSUZAKI (Set Designer) believes it is always fun to have a creative outlet, especially during the darker days of winter. Designing the sets for CCT over the past years has been Diana's. A chance meeting at Starbucks brought her to CCT and maybe reading this will do the same for you. After the show closes it's on to the flower and vegetable gardens, and of course the blueberry patch. Join her?

TODD SANTA MARIA (Additional Choreography) - Colchester debut!! Directing credits include: Fun Home, Jekyll & Hyde, La Cage Aux Folles, Disaster, Andrew Lipka's The Wild Party, Oklahoma, Bare, Mamma Mia, Clue (AD), Spring Awakening and The Drowsy Chaperone. Select acting credits include: Doubt, The Importance of Being Earnest, Red, Fully Committed, The Normal Heart, A Chorus Line, A Christmas Carol, The Taming of the Shrew, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Little Dog Laughed, Corpus Christi, Camelot and Peter & the Starcatcher. "Thank you to Wallis, Amanda, Laura and this awesome company for being so welcoming."

BILL WATSON (Sound Design/ Engineer) has been involved with theater since his freshman year in high school--both as an actor and as a tech crew member (set construction and sound production). He was one of the original founders of the Colchester Community Theatre (CCT) and played the role of Billy Bigelow in its first production. Bill authored four plays--three of which were produced by CCT: Auditions - A Broadway Review, Broadway Cafe, and City Circus Time (Children's Summer Theater Workshop production). In addition to CCT, Bill played the part of Jesus in Jesus Christ Superstar on three separate occasions and he played the part of Jesus in the St. Andrew Passion Play (Colchester, CT) for 9 years. Bill has also been working in sound production since high school. He has been in several rock bands and started his own sound production company (Sound Decision) in 2000. He has been the CCT's sound engineer for the past 26 years and was its lead set builder for many years. While Bill has supported many other ventures and community theater groups, his heart belongs to CCT and he hopes to stay involved with them for many years to come.



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Guitar 2: Nash Medlinger

Bass: Louis Golston

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Reed: Sam Moffett

BRASS

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Trombone: Paul Gerst

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Keyboard 2: Ken Kudrak

Percussion: Maurice Thomas

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Meet The Production Staff

CCT is grateful to all the volunteers that made this production possible.

** = past/current CCT performers*

Director	Wallis Johnson*
Music Director	Joy Lamb
Choreographer	Amanda Leigh Backer*
Angel Choreographer	Todd Santa Maria
Co-Producer	Donna Brown*
Co-Producer	Leslie Cygan
Stage Manager	Laura Brown*
Asst. Stage Manager	Kenneth Johnson
Stage Crew	Rick Bennett*, Rob Esteve, Jack Faski* Carolyn Guarino, Chuck Guarino, Jonathan Piktelis, Al Uliasz*
Sound Design	Bill Watson*
Sound Crew	Mark Dumond, Kathy Lynch-Mussen*
Lighting Design	Rich Arsenault
Lighting Crew	Samuel Dickey*, Erica Feher
Set Design	Diana Matsuzaki
Set Painting	Diane Blomquist, Vivian Lubinsky, Kellee Ratzer, Saundra Woronik, Joanne Wozniak, Karli Wozniak
Original Artwork	Diane Blomquist (portraitist)
Set Construction	Rick Bennett*
Set Crew	Ryan Bennett*, Joe Doyle, Mark Dumond, Rob Esteve, Chuck Guarino, Paul Picard, Al Uliasz*
Speciality Set & Effects	David Tiefenbrunn*
Master Costumer	Lynn Dickey
Costume Seamstresses	Olivya Deluca, Linda DiCaprio, Claire Krieger, Corliss Ucci
Costume Assistants	Laura Gray
Lola/Angel Costume Consultant	David Nunner*
Props Coordinator	Kerry Felice
Props Assistants	Cindy Harrington, Meghan Gagne, Oliver Markham*
Make-Up/ Hair Coordinator	Vicki Lanzo
Wig and Hair Design	Joel Silvestro Wig and Hair Design for Professional and Community Theatre
Dialect Coach	Lesley Gallagher*
House Manager	Karen Van Heest
House Help	Janay Bear, Susan Bear, Jodi Brazal, Alyson Darvas*, Lori Faski, Deborah Gallacher, Donna Goodspeed, Anna Greenwald*, Jillian Hout, Joann Howard, Bill Kowalsky, Pam Kristoff, Ross Patterson, Mindy Pinckney, Kellee Ratzer, David Walls*, Jim Walsh
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