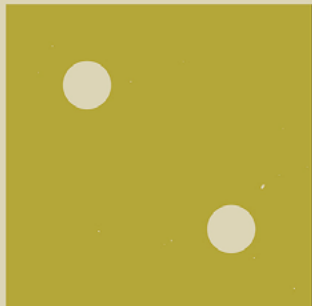


SIERRA



STAGES

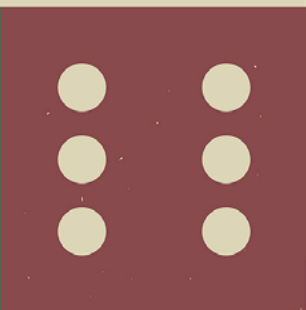


GUYS & DOLLS

Music & Lyrics by
Frank Loesser

co-directed by
**Michele Nesbit
& Sara Noah**

music direction
Christi Colombo



Tickets & Information

sierrastages.org

IN REMEMBRANCE

Today's show is dedicated to the memory of

Kenneth Neal Getz

May 16th, 1956 - May 1, 2023



Sometimes people leave you
Halfway through the wood
Others may deceive you
You decide what's good
You decide alone
No one is alone

- *Stephen Sondheim*



SIERRA

STAGES

(in association with the Nevada Theatre Commission)

PRESENTS

“GUYS AND DOLLS”

A Musical Fable of Broadway

Based on a Story and Characters of Damon Runyon

Music and Lyrics by:
FRANK LOESSER

Book by:
JO SWERLING and ABE BURROWS

STARRING

CHRISTI COLOMBO HEIDI GRASS PAUL MICSAN HUNTER REED

FEATURING

ANTHONY ANDINO, CASEY BURKE, LOU CECI, LAURA COLUMBEL, CHASE CONEY
KRISTIN DEKOWZAN, JACK KEOPECKY, MACKENZIE MARTIN, KRIS MEADOWS
KEN MIELE, GAIBRIAL MORTON, EVAN NESBIT, TOM OGDEN, TASA PROBERTS
EVE MCEHLENEY TIECK, SAM UELMEN, ANGELA WILLIAMS

SET DESIGN

TERESA SHEA

COSTUME DESIGN

MARCI WOLFE

LIGHTING DESIGN

ERIN BEATIE

SOUND ENGINEER

PAUL KRAUSHAAR

TECHNICAL DIRECTION

CASEY BURKE

MASTER BUILDER

KRIS MEADOWS

BACKSTAGE MANAGER

JILLINE HENDERSON

STAGE MANAGER

HOLLI HIRAOKA

CO-DIRECTED BY

MICHELE NESBIT AND SARA NOAH

MUSIC DIRECTION AND CHOREOGRAPHY

CHRISTI COLOMBO

GUYS & DOLLS

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.com

Thank you to Sierra Stages 2023 Season Business Sponsors

THE UNION
www.THEUNION.com

YubaNet.com
We Deliver News to the Sierra

MINERS
FOUNDRY
CULTURAL CENTER

NEVADA CITY
895
KVMR
NIGHT TALKER
WORLD OF THE COURTESY
WORLD OF THE COURTESY
WORLD OF THE COURTESY
WORLD OF THE COURTESY
WORLD OF THE COURTESY

Special thanks to The Holbrooke Hotel
and to Ken Getz for everything, always.

DIRECTORS' NOTES

I first saw *Guys and Dolls* as a student at the University of London. It was the first American musical produced at the new National Theater, and it was fabulous. The show came back into my life many years later as the first of ten musicals I directed while teaching at Bella Vista High School. Now, with Sierra Stages, I am falling in love with it all over again.

Guys and Dolls celebrates the very American characters of Damon Runyon's New York City of the early 20th century. Colorful, quirky, and funny, these people could be all of us with their hopes and dreams that tend to not always be based in reality. Runyon himself was a bit of a gambler, a friend of both Arnold Rothstein (the gent who rigged the 1919 World Series) and notorious gangster Al Capone. Frank Loesser who, with little musical training but lots of gumption, took a chance and ultimately created such hits as "Baby, It's Cold Outside."

Runyon and Loesser's memorable characters encourage us to take chances against difficult odds, which makes for some interesting stories—including the production of this show without the incomparable Ken Getz at the musical helm. This show is for you, Ken. Thank you for challenging me to be a better musician, actress, and director. I'm glad I took a gamble on *Guys and Dolls*, and am glad you all took a gamble on being a part of our audience tonight. Enjoy! - **Sara Noah**



***Guys and Dolls* is about love that endures because it was worth the gamble.** This enduring love—this gamble—is reflected in the show you are about to see.

Our production team—an ensemble of friends and partners with many of us in new roles—has been brought together through our enduring love of theatre. Of course, the true test of a relationship is not only in making it through major events, but coming out of them better than you went in. I'm happy to report that we rolled the dice on this whopper of a show, and the growth in our relationships and unique talents has been the astounding payoff. Because of the collective hard work of this amazing cast and crew, the odds are in our favor. Please enjoy this labor of love! - **Michele Nesbit**



THE MUSIC

ACT ONE

Runyonland	ORCHESTRA
Fugue for Tinorns	NICELY-NICELY JOHNSON, BUM, RUSTY CHARLIE
Follow the Fold	MISSION BAND
The Oldest Established	GAMBLERS
I'll Know	SARAH BROWN & SKY MASTERSON
Bushel and a Peck	MISS ADELAIDE & THE HOT BOX DOLLS
Adelaide's Lament	MISS ADELAIDE
Guys and Dolls	COMPANY
Havana	ORCHESTRA
If I Were a Bell	SARAH BROWN
My Time of Day	SKY MASTERSON
I've Never Been in Love Before	SKY MASTERSON & SARAH BROWN

Intermission

ACT TWO

Entr'acte	ORCHESTRA
Take Back Your Mink	MISS ADELAIDE & THE HOT BOX DOLLS
Adelaide's Second Lament	MISS ADELAIDE
More I Cannot Wish You	ARVIDE ABERNATHY
Luck Be a Lady	SKY MASTERSON & GAMBLERS
Sue Me	MISS ADELAIDE & NATHAN DETROIT
Sit Down, You're Rockin' The Boat	NICELY-NICELY & COMPANY
Adelaide Meets Sarah	MISS ADELAIDE & SARAH BROWN
Marry the Man Today	MISS ADELAIDE & SARAH BROWN

EPILOGUE

Guys and Dolls (Reprise)	COMPANY
--------------------------------	---------

Guys and Dolls is presented in 2 acts with a 15 min intermission.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

THE CAST

STARRING

Sarah Brown	CHRISTI COLOMBO
Miss Adelaide	HEIDI GRASS
Nathan Detroit	PAUL MICSAN
Sky Masterson	HUNTER REED

GAMBLERS

Nicely-Nicely Johnson	CASEY BURKE
Gambler	KRIS MEADOWS
Big Jule	KEN MIELE
Harry the Horse	GAIBRIAL MORTON
Gambler	EVAN NESBIT
Benny Southstreet	TOM OGDEN
Rusty Charlie	SAM UELMEN

HOT BOX GIRLS/GAMBLERS

Thelma Bertha	LAURA COLUMBEL
Mimi	KRISTEN DEKOWZAN
Florence	JACK KEOPECKY
Vernon	MACKENZIE MARTIN
Fergie	ANGELA WILLIAMS

MISSION BAND

Calvin	ANTHONY ANDINO
Arvide Abernathy	LOU CECI
Agatha	TASA PROBERTS
General Cartwright	EVE MCELHENY TIECK
Lieutenant Brannigan	CHASE CONEY

THE BAND

Conductor	KIMBERLY SHEPARD
Reed 1	KAREN STENGER
Reed 1 (Aug 3-5)	JOSH VOELTZ
Reed 3	DAVID COE
Reed 5	DAVE RIDDLES
Trombone 1	PAUL DESILVA
Trumpet 1 (July 13-29)	COLIN MATTHEWSON
Trumpet 1 (July 27 - Aug 5)	JIM KEPFER
Bass	STEVE NICHOLSON
Percussion	RYAN GOODPASTOR
Percussion (July 16, 29-30)	KEN HORTON
Piano	TINA SPRIGGS
Sinfonia Player	FRANCES BROUWER

THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Co-Director MICHELE NESBIT
Co-Director SARA NOAH
Stage Manager/ Light Board Operator HOLLI HIRAOKA-HURST
Music Director CHRISTI COLOMBO
Assistant Music Director/Conductor KIMBERLY SHEPARD
Orchestration Manager..... KIRSTI POWELL
Scenic Designer TERESA SHEA
Lighting Designer ERIN BEATIE
Technical Director CASEY BURKE
Costume Designer MARCI WOLFE
Sound Engineer PAUL KRAUSHAAR
Choreographer CHRISTI COLOMBO
Dance Captain HEIDI GRASS

Backstage Manager/Props Mistress JILLINE HENDERSON
Assistant Stage Manager JESSICA WERMES
Backstage Crew AUTUMN BRANDON, LEO HILL, OLIVE WALLACE
Wardrobe Manager TORI LICHTI
Sewers GINA GREY, DEBBY HENRY, IONE ISHI

Master Builders CASEY BURKE, KRIS MEADOWS
Carpenters..... BARRY DORLAND, MARK MIXSON, EVAN NESBIT
Master Electricians CASEY BURKE, HUNTER REED
Electricians HEIDI GRASS, MIA GUERRA, LEO HILL, JERRY PETERS
Special Features Builder KARL "HANK" MEYER
Sound Board Operator/Music Associate JOZI GULLICKSON
Spot Operators MIA GUERRA, JERRY PETERS

Poster Design DANIEL NOFSINGER
Photography & Program Design HEIDI GRASS
Production Photos DAVID WONG
House Manager ARIEL ELLIOTT

SPECIAL THANKS TO

RYAN BEATIE, MOOREA SMITH, MILO FASSEL, NATE YOHO, ZACHARY BEACH for assisting the lighting team; KIT HATTEM, MARION JEFFRIES, SAM UELMEN, JACK KEOPECKY & JUDY MERRICK for set building; ANNAH SUTHERLAND for sound assistance; BEAR RIVER COMMUNITY THEATER for sharing their instruments; BREE KNOX from Nevada Union for folding all those newspapers; VALARIE BUSH for her experience; HEIDI GRASS, CASEY BURKE THEATRE & CHRISTI COLOMBO for their tireless efforts, JERRY GRANT for his conducting mentorship; CARYL BARNES for sharing her accessories collection, PAULETTE GILBERT for her inspiration, JEFF and SUSAN MASON for their support, PETER MASON for his guidance and time.

ABOUT THE CAST



Anthony Andino (Calvin) is thrilled to be returning for his 2nd Sierra Stages production. Previously in *Sweeney Todd*, he enjoys all aspects of musical theater and working with the people who make it happen. Other than theater, Anthony is a Tenor 1 with the Music in the Mountains Chorus and the Sierra Master Chorale. He's also an aspiring pyrotechnician with a dream to work at Walt Disney World. Anthony wants to give a huge thanks to his friends and family for all of their love and support as he chases his dreams!



Casey Burke (Nicely-Nicely Johnson) (Technical Director) is a triple threat; actor, comedian and handyman. You may have seen him on-stage; most recently as Pirelli in *Sweeney Todd* with Sierra Stages, or performing stand-up comedy around town. But usually he can be found backstage. He is the Technical Director for the Nevada Theatre and often gets wrangled into helping build sets and hang lights. He is grateful for his loving, amazing, gorgeous and brilliant wife Heidi Grass (who plays Miss Adelaide) who designed this program and is writing his bio for him.



Lou Ceci (Arvide Abernathy) This is Lou Ceci's third appearance with Sierra Stages. He played Kolenkhov in the 2018 production of *You Can't Take It with You*, and Herr Shultz in 2019's acclaimed *Cabaret*. He is thrilled to be part of this gem of a show. He first heard its catchy, funny, and soulful songs when his mother brought home an original cast album in the 1950s. She would be delighted he gets to sing "More I Cannot Wish You," which she once sang to him. Lou's other interests include swimming, writing, and, since being elected to the Nevada City City Council in 2022, public service.



Christi Colombo (Sarah Brown) (Musical Director and Choreographer) has previously been seen in Sierra Stages productions as Francesca in *Bridges of Madison County* and Tobias in *Sweeney Todd*. She cannot believe her luck in finally being on stage in a musical with her husband, Hunter Reed (*Sky Masterson*) again. The last time was when they were mere & literal children. *Continued in Production Team bio ...*



Laura Columbel (Thelma Bertha/Gambler) is thrilled to dust off her dancing shoes and be in her first Sierra Stages Production with *Guys and Dolls!* She has a BA in dance and has performed in many productions including *Swan Lake*, *The Nutcracker*, and *A Christmas Carol*. When she does sit still, she enjoys drinking copious amounts of coffee and spending time outside with friends and family.



Chase Andrew Coney (Lieutenant Brannigan) is a passionate local performer who has been blessed to share the stage with our fabulous local talents these last ten years. He is thrilled to have also recently taken up the mantle of Office Manager for the Nevada Theatre. Given his new schedule he has opted to simply move his meager belongings into the theatre's attic. If you hear him scurrying about please say nothing to the zoning authorities.



Kristen "Krissi" DeKowzan (Mimi/Gambler) hails from Colorado and has made Nevada County her home for the past 7 years. Performance is in her blood; she's been seen on stages all over the country from CO to CA - performing & directing. You can usually find her on the Off Broadway stage. Recently, in the *Then and Now Variety Show* and *Shrek the Musical* with the Auburn State Theater. When not on stage she is photographing real estate. Thanks to her husband for putting up with her busy schedule and full support, her family for always visiting and God for making her dreams reality.

ABOUT THE CAST



Heidi Grass (Miss Adelaide) (Dance Cap) is elated to be on stage in her 13th production with Sierra Stages! Those credits include Emilie in *The Moors*, the Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd* and Sally Bowles in *Cabaret*. She can also be seen at Off Broadway. On a normal day, she can be found behind her camera (or computer) as a pro-photographer and retoucher; heidigrass.com. She loves performing with her husband Casey (Nicely-Nicely). She would like to dedicate this performance to her beloved & inimitable mentor Ken Getz, who gave her everything. "The thought of you stays bright." - Sondheim

Jack Keopecky (Lucky Louie/Florence) feels very lucky to be a part of this production. Shout out to Marci for doing an amazing job on the costumes. Jack would like to thank their partner for always being supportive and for sacrificing home time for play time. This performance is dedicated to Jack's friend Chuck. Normal is boring.



Mackenzie Martin (Vernon/Gambler) is extremely excited to be in her very first Sierra Stages production. Some of her previous credits would include the Steward in *Into the Woods*, Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde the Musical*, and Schwartz in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. She would like to give a special thanks to her wonderful boyfriend for always sending her pictures of their dog doing cute things when she can't be home to see them.



Kris Meadows (Gambler/Dancer) (Master Builder) is a carpenter by trade and a dancer at heart. He brings professionalism, a keen eye for detail and a whole lotta tools to every set he helps create. He is also a multi-faceted performer; actor, dancer and singer. Credits include Sierra Stages' *Chicago*; CATS' *South Pacific*; LeGacy Productions, *SCROOGE*, *Dearly Beloved*, *The Crucible* and was The Sergeant in *Biloxi Blues*. Though his days are full, he always finds time for his true love - salsa dancing.



Paul Micsan (Nathan Detroit) was most recently seen as Richard in *Fuddy Meers* with Upstart. Other Sierra Stages performances have included Roger De Bris in *The Producers* and Sam Byck in *Assassins*. He was also seen as Gallimard in *M. Butterfly* with CATS; the solo piece *Thom Pain* (based on nothing) and Mad Hatter et al. in *Alice in Wonderland*, both with Quest; Senator Fipp in *Urinetown* with Foothill; and Felix Ungar in *The Odd Couple*. Paul is honored to be a part of another Sierra Stages production and would like to express his gratitude to Peter Mason and the much-missed Ken Getz for creating this valuable addition to our arts community.



Ken Miele (Big Jule) is a veteran actor happy to be appearing in his twelfth Sierra Stages show. Favorite roles include Senex in *A Funny Thing Happened*, Mr Mushnik in *A Little Shop Of Horrors*, Mendel in *Falsettos* and Charlie in *The Bridges of Madison County*. Ken received a Best Actor nomination for Estragon in *Waiting For Godot* for Foothill Theater Company. Other notable roles include George in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* and Stage Manager in *Our Town*. He is a professional puppeteer and was a cast member of the Emmy winning PBS series *Shining Time Station*. Ken is a professional musician and was inducted into the Western Swing Hall of Fame in 2016.



Gaibrial Morton (Harry the Horse) is an art and philosophy student and is thrilled to be returning to the Nevada Theatre for *Guys and Dolls*. When he's not falling asleep in rehearsal, Gaibrial can be found drawing, playing drums, or tromping through the woods. Besides a stint as a romantically malcontent prince in Lyric Rose's production of *Into the Woods*, Gaibrial hasn't been in any shows since before the little known and rarely talked about global pandemic; those shows were so long ago, who can remember? (Though *The Funkytastical Space Mystery with Tea and Cordite* was memorable). Gaibrial hopes you enjoy the show, and he's going to wrap this bio thing up now.

ABOUT THE CAST



Evan Nesbit (Gambler/Dancer) (Carpenter) is usually behind the scenes, assisting with set construction. This is his first time on stage at the Nevada Theater. Evan has helped with builds for numerous shows including Sierra Stages' *Guys and Dolls*, *The Moors*, *Sweeney Todd*, and CATS' *Joy Luck Club*. He is a frequent volunteer for concessions. Evan brings his experience as a [painter and visual artist](#) to the stage, and is always excited to see the show come together.



Tom Ogden (Benny Southstreet) was last seen on the Nevada Theater Stage five years ago in the CATS production of *South Pacific*. Along with his fellow sailors, the guys were loudly proclaiming that there is "Nothing Like a Dame." Apparently, he has an affinity for classic American Musicals and singing with his fellow guys about that worldwide weakness they've got for Dolls. He is thrilled to join this talented cast and crew to bring you this collection of colorful characters and great tunes. He hopes you leave the theater with a smile on your face and a song in your heart.



Tasa Proberts (Agatha/Patron) Tasa is grateful to be in her second Sierra Stages production. Her debut in *Sweeney Todd* last summer was an extraordinary experience she will not soon forget! She also performs at Off Broadway Musical Comedy Theatre, showcasing her vocal abilities. By day, she works in HR, where she enjoys helping people at a happy time in their life - getting a new job! She thanks her husband, Charles (the hottest man on earth), for his perpetual support!



Hunter Reed (Sky Masterson) is delighted to be on stage after a 20 year hiatus as a stage technician & farmer. He began treading the boards in Equity at age 9 playing Kurt in *The Sound of Music*. Favorite roles include Jem in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Jason in *Falsettos* and Romeo in *Romeo & Juliet*. At 13, Hunter met his beautiful & talented wife Christi (10) while playing The Artful Dodger in *Oliver!* They own a farm and raise 2 wonderful little performers, August and Nori! Hunter is the Theater Manager & Technical Director at Colfax High & can't wait to show his students that a techie can perform!



Eve McElheny Tieck (General Cartwright) is delighted to make her Sierra Stages debut with *Guys and Dolls*. She appeared in numerous productions in the Bay Area including *Quizer (Steel Magnolias)*, *Golde (Fiddler on the Roof)*, *Annie Sullivan (The Miracle Worker)*, *Joanne (A Few Good Men)*, and *Charlotte (Moon Over Buffalo)*. Other musicals include *Can Can*, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Grandma Tzeitel), and *Avenue Q (Mrs. Thistlethwaite)*. This is Eve's second *Guys and Dolls* production, the first 25 years ago as a Hot Box Doll. Eve now lives in Nevada City with husband, Kendall, & mini-Schnauzer, Rizzo.



Sam Uelman (Rusty Charlie) is elated to be in *Guys And Dolls* this Summer. With *Sweeney Todd* under his belt and a dream of being on Broadway, Sam can't wait to show you what he's worth in this production.



Angela Williams (Fergie/Gambler) is very excited to be a part of another Sierra Stages show. Other shows include *Chicago*, *James and the Giant Peach*, and *Cabaret*. She has also been seen with CATS as Nellie Forbush in *South Pacific* and with Lyric Rose as Rapunzel in *Into the Woods*. Angela is a homeschool teacher that loves to spend her free time dancing, singing, doing art, and being active in nature. Angela is extremely grateful to her children and loving partner, Chris, for all of the support they have given to make it possible for her to be on stage.

ABOUT THE BAND

Kimberly Shepard (Conductor/Assistant Music Director) is honored to conduct the wonderful musicians of the *Guys & Dolls* band. She also loved preparing singers for the show. Kimberly was Assistant Music Director to her dear friend and mentor Ken Getz for five Sierra Stages productions and was on stage in *Chicago*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *CATS' South Pacific*. Kim studied pipe organ and vocal performance as a music major. She played and sang professionally in L.A. prior to a 23-year career with Caltech/JPL. Although she's done a bunch of choral directing, conducting is a fresh challenge. She thanks Jerry Grant for his transformational conducting lessons that gave her much-appreciated skills and confidence just in the nick of time.

Frances Brouwer (Sinfonia Player) is 19 years old and this is her first time in a Sierra Stages production. She has been studying at Sierra College and will be transferring to The Master's University to major in music with an emphasis in composition. Her primary instrument is piano but jumped at the opportunity to learn a new instrument for this production! The only other show she has been in before was *A Very Merry Christmas* by The Tribe Arts where she helped with lighting, but she is excited to be part of another show and happy to be here.

David Coe (Reed 3) resides in Wheatland CA with his wife, Judy. He is a retired insurance agent and middle school band teacher with 33 years in the classroom. He graduated from University of the Pacific in Stockton with a degree in music education. He has performed with numerous area bands and orchestras, including the Apollo Orchestra, Auburn Symphony, Camellia Symphony, Veridian Symphony, and the Yuba Sutter Symphony, and has been principal clarinet with the Sierra Nevada Winds for 33 years. This is his third time performing in the pit orchestra for Sierra Stages, having previously played for *Chicago* and *Cabaret*.

Paul DeSilva (Alto, Tenor and Bass Trombone) has been with the North State Symphony Orchestra since 2001. Live shows include Tony Bennet, Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith, Nancy Wilson, Sammy Davis Jr, Debbie Reynolds, Celtic Woman, Marlena Shaw, Connie Francis, the Temptations, Imperials, 4 Tops, Isaac Hayes, Gladys Knight and the Pips, Frankie Valli, Bobby Vinton, Petula Clark, Go Hiromi, Jonathan, Vickie Lane, Jamie Davis, Tiny Tim, Red Foxx, Bobby Darin, Red Buttons, Leroy Jenkins, Nelson Riddle, the Rat Pack, Dr. Noize, Paradise Found, Bandaloop, Machaira, Black Barn Collective, Django Mack and many others. Paul also enjoys singing and playing Jazz and Hawaiian music.

Ryan Goodpastor (Percussion) is an active percussionist who plays in a variety of musical situations. He has enjoyed participating in several productions with Sierra Stages. He has also worked with State Theatre Acting Company, Green Valley Theatre Company and Sierra College. He received a bachelor's degree in Percussion Performance from California State University, Sacramento. Ryan is a member of the Auburn Symphony, Folsom Lake Symphony, and Sierra Nevada Winds Orchestra. On drum set Ryan regularly performs with the Stardust Cowboys, Wild Duck, StickNwithit, and Tepid Club of Cool.

Ken Horton (Percussion) performed with The Sacramento Symphony Orchestra for 20 seasons & also performed as Timpanist of the Reno Symphony. He has toured with Paul Anka, Dick Clark, Bob Hope, Englebert Humperdink, Steve Lawrence and Edie Gourmet, Henry Mancini, Johnny Mathis, Lou Rawls, Joan Rivers, The Smothers Brothers, Dionne Warwick, Andy Williams and Jerry Van Dyke. He joined the National Touring Companies of "*Raison*", "*Sugar Babies*" and "*9 to 5*" and has played in several Sacramento Music Circus Productions. In his spare time he studies the Art of Taiko Drumming with The Sacramento Taiko Dan.

Jim Kepfer (Trumpet 1) is a teacher and an accomplished musician. After graduating from Nevada Union High School he studied music at CA State University, Long Beach. Since 1998 he has been teaching band at EV Cain middle school in Auburn. An avid runner, Jim also coaches the EV Cain track & cross-country teams. Since 2018 he has been the conductor of the Auburn Winds Concert Band, and jazz trumpet soloist for the Auburn Winds Big Band Jazz Ensemble.

Colin Matthewson (Trumpet 1) received his Bachelor's degree in trumpet performance from California State University Sacramento, and has been performing professionally since 2005. He can be found playing frequently around the Sacramento region in recitals, operas, musical theatre, brass quintets, orchestras, and myriad other freelance and recording settings. In addition to a demanding performance schedule, [Colin has maintained an active private teaching studio since 2012](#). Outside of music Colin is an avid photographer, swimmer and backpacker.

ABOUT THE BAND

Steve Nicholson (Bass) and his wife Mimi Vishoot moved to Nevada City in 2000. They both sing in the Sierra Master Chorale. He plays and sings '60s and '70s music in Then Again and attempts to play classical bass in the OLLI orchestra at Sierra College. Steve is proud to have been Ken Getz' bass player for every Sierra Stages musical that wasn't piano-only. *Guys & Dolls* is his 27th Sierra Stages production

Dave Riddles (Reed 5) spent 35 years in the L.A. music biz, where he worked on over 700 movies, numerous TV shows, and played with several "live" ensembles including the Joffrey Ballet and Pacific Symphony. In 2006 Dave and his wife Carol moved to Nevada City to retire. Until 2010, he continued to commute to L.A. to play on Fox TV shows including *The Simpsons* and *Family Guy*. In "retirement" he has worked on many Sierra Stages productions and continues to perform with the InConcert Sierra and Music in the Mountains orchestras. His hobbies include watercolor painting and bicycling.

Tina Matthewson Spriggs (Pianist) was born in San Diego, & moved to Grass Valley at 10. Her brother Steven showed her how to read notes and make chords when she was 8 years old; jump-starting her musical career. Her first gig was as a church organist at the age of 12, and she has played in many churches since. She has been the organist at Trinity Episcopal Church in Nevada City for the past 20 years and has played for numerous music productions and groups in Grass Valley, Yuba City, Sacramento, Florida and Tucson, Arizona. She's been married to her husband Gary for 45 years, and has one daughter and 3 grand daughters.

Karen Stenger (Alto sax, Clarinet, Flute, Piccolo) earned a B.M in Education from the University of Pacific in Stockton, Ca. She performs with InConcert Sierra Orchestra, Auburn Symphony, Sierra Nevada Winds, Rocklin Theater Co., Sutter Street Theater in Folsom, and is debuting here at Sierra Stages in the *Guys and Dolls* pit orchestra! She has enjoyed playing with the Garmisch Kurorchester and Big Band in Garmisch, Germany, where she lived for ten years. [She enjoys teaching private lessons in Auburn.](#)

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Michele Nesbit (Co-Director) is excited for her first musical as Executive Director of Sierra Stages. Michele was the production manager for Sierra Stages *Sweeney Todd* last year and is thrilled to be producing such a great show with many of the *Sweeney Todd* cast members. Since 2015, Michele has taken great pleasure in acting, producing, directing and writing for local theatre. Her next project will be producing *The Drowning Girls* in the fall.

Sara Noah (Co-Director) is thrilled to be co-directing (with the lovely Michele Nesbit) her first main-stage production for Sierra Stages. Previously she directed *Tally's Folly* and *The Gin Game* for Theater by the Book. She last directed *Guys and Dolls* at Bella Vista High in Fair Oaks. Other favorite directing projects include *Legally Blonde*, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*, and *Play On!* at Bear River High School; and *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Music Man*, *The Crucible*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *The Rimers of Eldritch* at Bella Vista High School.

Holli Hiraoka-Hurst (Stage Manager/Light Board Operator) has been involved in theatre since she was a teenager, both on stage and off. You may have seen her last year in the CATS production of the *Joy Luck Club*. She is excited to be stage managing again and is grateful to Sierra Stages for providing her with this opportunity!

Erin Beatie (Lighting Designer) has been dedicating her life to live theatre for 22 years and has been working with Sierra Stages for 13 years. Her most recent works with Sierra Stages includes *Sweeney Todd*, *Bridges of Madison County*, and co-producing *The Summit* with Devin Cameron. Erin also spends a lot of her time teaching technical theatre elements and design at Bear River High School. This will be Erin's 20th year teaching high school students Technical Theatre and Design as well as setting up apprenticeship opportunities for them. Erin would like to take a moment to thank her husband and Moorea Smith for their undying support and helping with watching her super cool son. She cannot do this without them.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION TEAM



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Sierra Stages is ever so grateful to have the multi-talented Christi Colombo join us as an Actress, Musical Director and Choreographer.

As our mentor Ken Getz said "directing requires someone to be able to create. And very few people can do that. I believe you can."- we agree!

Christi Colombo *Continued from actor bio ...* *Guys and Dolls* also benchmarks a return to choreographing, a previous lifetime's passion, but her first time providing musical direction for a full stage production. She has had many mentors in this new endeavor, but none greater than Ken Getz. Christi would like to thank him and Peter for everything they have contributed to her and her family's lives. She would like to dedicate her performance to Ken's memory.

Teresa Shea (Set Designer) with a lifelong love of theatre and art, and degrees in Fine Arts and Performing Arts Design/Technology from the Art Institute of Chicago and California Institute of the Arts, brings her design talents to the diverse worlds of theatre, dance, film, video, fashion, sculpture, photography and education. She has received several awards, including an Elly for Scenic Design for Sierra Stages' 2019 *Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach* and an Elly for Costume/Scenic Design for CATS' 2013 *Journey to the West*. As well as a Rose Parade Tournament Trophy Award, 2016 for Milk Advisory Board Float Design; and an LA Ovation Award for Costume Design in 2010 for Bootleg Theatre's *Project Wonderland*.

Marci Wolfe (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be back in Nevada County after a long Southern California sojourn in her starring role as Gramma Nanny! A founding director of The Center for the Arts and proprietor of the legendary Tanglewood Forest Gallery, she used her free time over the last four decades to design costumes and sets for The Center for the Arts, Foothill Theatre Co., CATS, Chris Harada Productions, Off Broad Street, Community Players, Lyric Rose Theatre and Nevada Union High. She would like to thank all the talented actors and artists who convinced her to come back and make magic all over again!!

Casey Burke (Technical Director) (Master Electrician) (Carpenter) See "Actor Bio"

Paul Kraushaar (Sound Engineer) is a life long musician and multi instrumentalist. He began his professional career as performing musician at age 16 and gained his expertise by working with some of the best sound engineers and music producers in the business. He has toured as a performer with 3 major label acts, and was a live sound engineer for touring acts. He has done sound design and musical composition for indie movies and television commercials and is in charge of the house sound for The Silver Legacy and Pala Casinos. His career began in academia, studying music theory and composition, and grew as a studio musician, recording engineer and later record producer. He runs his own studio and record label at psrrecording.com

Karl "Hank" Meyer (Prop Builder) graduated 47 years ago with a BFA in Theatre. He worked for 44 years in the largest independent prop house in Hollywood and played in theatre all along.

Jilline Henderson (Backstage/Asset Manager) most recently was stage manager for the CATS production of *The Great Leap*, and previously worked with them on the wonderfully funny play, *Chinglish*, as well as their sumptuous production of *M. Butterfly*. Her list of Sierra Stages shows includes: the epic musical *Sweeney Todd*, the intimate *Tiny Beautiful Things*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *The Thanksgiving Play*, *Cabaret*, *Hand to God*, *You Can't Take It With You*, and *Blithe Spirit*.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Jozi Gullickson (Sound Board Operator/Music Associate) has been involved with a number of local productions over the years, including *Peter Pan*, *The Producers*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *End Days*, *Cabaret*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Fuddy Meers*, and *Into the Woods*. Her most recent theatrical adventures have been operating sound and projections for CATS' *The Great Leap* and designing lights for Holt Ballet Conservatory's *Swan Lake*. This is her 21st show with Sierra Stages.

Kris Meadows (Master Builder) See "Actor Bio"

Evan Nesbit (Carpenter) See "Actor Bio"

Jessica Wermes (Assistant Stage Manager) is stoked to be back in the theatre with her first Sierra Stages production! Her previous work includes set design for the musical *Crazy For You*, ushering for *Ghost Light* and *The Real Inspector Hound*, as well as being a technical stage hand with a Burlesque troupe in Spokane Washington. She also enjoys being on stage and has previously performed in the musicals *Crazy For You* and *Working*, as well as concert bands, multiple dance performances, and many choral ensembles, including WorldStrides Onstage Productions 2018 Young Adults Honors Choir at Carnegie Hall. She is extremely grateful for the community she's found in this beautiful part of California, and is looking forward to future collaborations.

Tori Lichti (Wardrobe Mistress) is excited to be involved with her first production with Sierra Stages. After learning to sew when she was young, Tori is glad to have a place to apply the skill she learned and have fun while doing so. She has met many great people while working with Sierra Stages and hopes to continue doing so in the future.

Autumn Brandon (Backstage Crew) is a 21 year old detail oriented creative, pushed into the technical side of theatre by chance her second year of high school. After that, she became determined to do more productions, continuing with high school classes and shows out of school, getting her to where she is now!

Leo Hill (Backstage Crew) is a college freshman currently pursuing a career as a theatre technician. He worked as crew for Sierra Stages on *The Moors*, *Sweeney Todd*, and has also worked on a multitude of Bear River Community Theatre Productions.

Olive Wallace (Backstage Crew) is 15 and a student at Nevada Union High School. She comes to Grass Valley from San Jose, where she spent 5 years as a performer at the nationally acclaimed Children's Musical Theater. True to theater kid form, Olive will travel to NYC this fall with the NU drama department for a week of Broadway shows and workshops. She is excited to be a part of the Sierra Stages backstage crew and hopes to one day perform on stage!

Mia Guerra (Spot Operator) is super excited to work in her first Sierra Stages production! She loves to be part of a crew, and is thrilled to be able to participate in the show!

Jerry Peters (Spot Operator) is 17 years old and thrives in the theater community. He's been in a number of productions playing such roles as Mowgli in *The Jungle Book*, Pirate 4 in *Pirates of Penzance*, Oliver Rivers in *Puffs*, and most recently Chip Tolentino in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. It is his 4th time doing spotlight and he enjoys being off the stage as much as being on it. He aspires to be an entertainer and is grateful to share his joy of the arts with the world or any local town. He hopes that you all enjoy this incredible show.

Ariel Elliott (House Manager) is thrilled to have joined the Sierra Stages production team. She is a born and raised Nevada County local, who's been performing here since she was 12. Ariel has a AA-T in Theatre Arts from Sierra College. You may have seen her most recently in *Joy Luck Club* as Rose Hsu. Last year she directed the stage reading *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* for Sierra Stages. Alongside her passion for theater, Ariel is pursuing her Native American Studies degree to help keep her own culture alive. She hopes to be a fluent speaker and story keeper.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, THANK YOU'S, AND SHOUT OUTS



For every person onstage, there is someone in the wings or behind the light board or in the box office working to make a show happen. With *Guys and Dolls*, we want to give a massive shout out to two of our most amazing long term volunteers, Jilline Henderson and Jozi Gullickson.

This mother-daughter dynamic duo has been keeping the wheels on back-stage through multiple shows both big and small, since the very beginning of Sierra Stages. Whether it's finding lost props, prepping the set or manning the tech booth, these two are true unsung heroes of the Sierra Stages family!

Thank you, Jilline and Jozi. We are so lucky to have you!

Special thanks to Christi Colombo who went above and beyond to help build props and contribute to the *Guys and Dolls* sound design! Additional thanks to Heidi Grass for keeping the cast and crew fed and laundered.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOLUNTEER?

We're always looking for enthusiastic people to join our theatrical shenanigans! If you'd like to find out what life is like behind the scenes, drop an email to volunteer@sierrastages.org or scan the QR code—we would love for you to come out and play!



SIERRA STAGES IS A NONPROFIT, TAX-EXEMPT COMMUNITY THEATRE.

Sierra Stages has been bringing professional-level community theatre to Nevada County for 15 years.

We incorporated in October 2008, and received tax-exempt status in March 2009. Our mission is to enrich the cultural life of Nevada County by providing high-quality, affordable, and accessible performances for everyone.

Now in our 15th season, we have presented or co-presented 45 full productions at the Nevada Theatre, Off Center Stage, Miners Foundry Cultural Center, The Center for the Arts, and outdoors at The North Star House:

Side by Side by Sondheim, The Sound of Music, How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying, She Loves Me, Into the Woods, Babes in Arms, Lend Me A Tenor, A Grand Night for Singing, Marry Me A Little, Old Explorers, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Death of a Salesman, I Want It All: A Broadway Revue Celebrating Women, The Music Man, Assassins, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Avenue Q, Closer Than Ever, Company, Proof, Peter Pan, You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, The Producers, Falsettos, The Cripple of Inishmaan, The Last Five Years, Little Shop of Horrors, Dead Man's Cell Phone, End Days, Chicago, Ordinary Days, A New Brain, Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach, You Can't Take It With You, Hand to God, Cabaret, The Thanksgiving Play, Blithe Spirit, The Bridges of Madison County, Tiny Beautiful Things, Sweeney Todd and The Moors. We also have co-presented eleven seasons of Theater by the Book play readings with the Miners Foundry—more than 52 play readings and cabarets over ten years!

We strive for quality in all aspects of our productions, while working with local actors, directors, designers, technical staff and musicians. The members of our board of directors are Erin Beatie, Valarie Bush, Heidi Grass, Laura LeBleu, JR Lewis, Keith Porter, Kirsti Powell, and Hunter Reed. Our executive director is Michele Nesbit.

2023 Season Sponsors

Thank You to Our Contributors and Members - we are grateful to you!

Producer's Circle (\$1500 - \$4999)

Ron & Bobbie Cook, Community Player Trust Grant, Anonymous

Director's Circle (\$1000-\$1499)

Jeffrey Leiter, David Painter & Sharon Winegar, Kimberly Shepard & Patrick Kleinhammer, Virginia Threshi, Rebane Family Foundation, Anonymous

Designer's Circle (\$500-\$999)

Audry & John Agle, Tom & Barbara Cross, Hindi Greenberg, Roger & Debra Henry, Richard & Nancy McRay, Samuel & Adele Taylor Mills, Vince & Sandra Mutascio

Actor's Circle (\$250-\$499)

Terry Armor, Judy Armstrong, Ron Barker, Beth and Jerry Biagini, John and Valarie Bush, Greg & Connie Fowler, Tom & Barbara Cross, Susan & Rod Fivelstad, Joan Goddard, M & J Hill-Weld, Samuel & Adele Mills, Keith Porter, Becky Schultz

Production Staff (\$200-\$249)

Joe & Clydene Hohenrieder, Ray & Cathy Shepherd

Stage Manager (\$100-199)

Cicely Brookover, Larry & Mary Anne Dulmage, Gwen Eymann, Mark Hotels, Jeffrey & Susan Mason, Doug Morgan, Detlef & Thelma Osburg, Ronnie Paul & Jeff Kane, Bob and Cheryl Riopel, Joann Ryan, Carole Schreier, Judy Seabridge, Tom Taylor, Jeanne Thies, Mick & Kat Tuttle, Diane Walker

Friend (\$50-99)

Lee Auerbach, Ron & Conni Barker, Marlene Becker, Margaret A Brewer, Helen Cavanaugh, Catherine Chase, Tom Clark, Vince Dallugge, Patrick Delaney & Mark Hotsenpiller, Jeanette Dunckel, George & Janet Dunstan, Timothy Geckle, Elizabeth Hammond, Holli Hiraoka, Theresa Houtman, David Imgrund, Susana Knox, Azriel & Michael LaMarca, Debra Lindh, *In memory of Ken Getz* - Liz Lydic - *California Community Theatre*, Carol Mattis, John & Susie Monary-Wilson, Nancy Morehouse, Sid Page, Joyce Pierce, Leanne Regan, Gordon Sakaue, Paul Schierenberg, Henry Shires, Janet & Rawlin Trimble, Corrie Upham, *Anonymous in memory of Ken Getz*

Cast Member (\$ Incalculable)

Special thanks to every cast member for donating their valuable time and often real cash for snacks. And thanks to Sierra Stages for their generous cast-snack donation fund; which they ate through at remarkable speed.

Our list reflects gifts received after October 1, 2022 and as of July 10, 2023. We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions; please contact us at info@sierrastages.org so we can acknowledge you properly.

ROBERTA FRANK THEATRE ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

In 2015, Sierra Stages established an annual scholarship in memory of local musician and actress Roberta Frank. The scholarship recognizes and provides financial assistance to deserving local high school students who wish to pursue a degree in theatre, technical theatre, or music or musical theatre. Sierra Stages is proud to be able to offer this scholarship to graduating local high school students with a proven interest in any of the theatre arts.

For more information, talk to the scholarship coordinator at your local high school or call Sierra Stages at 530.346.3210



SUPPORT LOCAL ARTS

Coming Soon from our friends

Coming to the Nevada Theatre
401 Broad Street, Nevada City, CA
April - May 2024

SNOW FALLING ON CEDARS

Written by
David Guterson
Adapted to the Stage and
Directed by Kevin McKeon

presented by
Community Asian Theatre
of the Sierra (CATS)
530-273-6362
www.catsweb.org

For Auditions
email info@catsweb.org



Come for the Music, Stay for the Magic



KVMR 25 years
CELTIC FESTIVAL
& marketplace

FRIDAY-SUNDAY
SEPT. 29-OCT. 1
Nevada County Fairgrounds, Grass Valley, CA

FRIDAY
YOUTH ARTS PROGRAM • FRIDAY NIGHT CEILIDH
SAT 10am-10pm • SUN 10am-8pm, featuring
TALISK • ALASDAIR FRASER & NATALIE HAAS • THE ELDERS
AND MUCH MORE!

MUSIC OF THE WORLD
NEVADA CITY **89.5** KVMR-ORG
KVMR-ORG
VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY

For information and tickets, visit
kvmrcelticfestival.org
A BENEFIT FUNDRAISER FOR AND PRESENTED BY KVMR

Scrooge

*says it's never too early to
plan for Christmas!*



BOX OFFICE
(530) 268-5419

STAY TUNED AT LEGACYPRESENTS.COM



SIERRA

STAGES



InConcert Sierra's Mission

to present exceptional classical and choral performances that inspire and enhance our cultural life. We offer a warm, inclusive community for enjoying music and we provide educational opportunities for youth and adults.



A big thanks to Carolines for donating coffee to our cast & crew.



CAROLINES COFFEE
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95945

Calling all business owners!

Spread the word about your business here. You can reach thousands of potential local customers who love the arts—just like you!

Ads start as low as \$75 per run of the show.

Contact us at advertise@sierrastages.org for details.

Show your program to these local businesses for 10% off your next drink or meal!



NEVADA CITY'S PREMIERE HERBAL LOUNGE.
COME DISCOVER THE TREASURES OF NATURE

203 YORK ST. NEVADA CITY
WWW.ELIXART.COM



DELISH BISH IS A WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS
CREATING INNOVATIVE STREET, CLASSIC AND
FUSION COMFORT FOODS.

214 BROAD ST. NEVADA CITY

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

For sharing your spaces, money and talents with us



Architectural Photography for Real Estate,
Insurance, Advertising and more.

(530) 277-8575

NevadaCountyVirtualTours.net

"A great photo is worth 1,000 escrows!"



HeidiGrass.com

specializing in portraits
families, couples & seniors



DROP IN IMPROV
With Judy

TUESDAYS AT THE STONEHOUSE
6-7:30 SLIDING SCALE \$15-25
RSVP VIA TEXT: 213-925-6333
GETYOURIMPROVON@GMAIL.COM



Facialist/Lash Artist/Wax Specialist
HEALING MASSAGE & SKINCARE
Tina Marie Kelley
(530) 615-8614

healingmassageandskincare.com
tinaathestie@gmail.com



Grass Valley Printers

www.GrassValleyPrinters.com

536 Brunswick Road
Grass Valley, CA 95945

530-273-1993
jared@grassvalleyprinters.com

SIERRA
STAGES



OUT THERE SERIES

Sends its endless gratitude to Inn Town Campground for housing our **Puppeteers for Fears** friends from far-off Oregon who brought us *Cthulhu: The Musical!*

INN TOWN CAMPGROUND



NEVADA CITY • CALIFORNIA



A family friendly campground in the heart of Nevada City, California with tent sites, RV park with hook ups and glamping tents. Dog friendly. Swimming Pool. inntowncampground.com



Tickets & Information

sierrastages.org

THANK YOU ERIN & DAN THIEM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SIERRA

STAGES

THE DROWNING GIRLS

by
**Beth Graham,
Charlie Tomlinson
& Daniela Vlaskalic**

directed by
Sharon Winegar

SEP 21 - OCT 14

St Joseph's Cultural Center
410 South Church Street Grass Valley



Tickets & Information
sierrastages.org
530.346.3210



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SIERRA STAGES!

You can keep the good karma going by making a [tax-deductible donation](#) or volunteering for a production. People like you keep our performances alive, so we hope to see you (and your friends) in the theatre for the next show!