

**WINNER OF
EVERY MAJOR
BEST MUSICAL
AWARD!**

**Book by
Harvey Fierstein**

**Music & Lyrics by
Cyndi Lauper**

Original Broadway Production Directed and Choreographed by Jerry Mitchell
Based on the Miramax motion picture of the same name, written by Geoff Deane and Tim Firth

Production Sponsors
Jay Reynolds & Michael Barnett and Dr. Jesse Peel

October 20 - November 5, 2022
#OutFrontKinkyBoots

www.OutFrontTheatre.com

A Note from Paul



Welcome, friends.

As the old saying (sort of) goes, "What a difference a year makes."

This time last year, I had no idea that we would be the first company in Georgia to produce the Tony-award winning musical, *Kinky Boots*. I feel a deep sense of both duty and privilege in bringing this story to life on our stage, and I think it's important to note how vital it is for queer stories to be told first in queer spaces. In this polarizing world, having a consistently safe and brave space for stories like *Kinky Boots* is something I hope none of us ever take for granted.

Kinky Boots is our largest undertaking to date. The cast is bigger, the sets are bigger, and the heels are without a doubt the biggest that have ever been on our stage. Everything is bigger, including our reach into the community.

This year, Out Front Theatre Company was honored by the Atlanta Pride Committee by being named a Grand Marshal for the 2022 Pride Parade and Festival. For this to happen less than six years after our inception shows me that our community craves the shows and events we produce here – shows exactly like *Kinky Boots*.

This growth isn't the normal trajectory that a theatre company takes, but it is the course we have been set on. That's all thanks to you – our devoted patrons who journey with us and the artists who help us create countless worlds on stage. You are our biggest and best assets, and nothing that you see onstage tonight, or at any other performance, would be possible without you.

I don't know what the distant future holds, or even what will happen in a year's time, but I know if you continue to stick by us then, as another old saying goes, "The sky's the limit."

Now, let's get Kinky!



Paul Conroy

Director – *Kinky Boots*

Founder & Producing Artistic Director

Out Front Theatre Company



Presents

Kinky Boots

**BOOK BY
HARVEY FIERSTEIN**

**MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
CYNDI LAUPER**

**ORIGINAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION
DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY
JERRY MITCHELL**

**BASED ON THE MIRAMAX
MOTION PICTURE KINKY BOOTS
WRITTEN BY
GEOFF DEANE AND TIM FIRTH**

ORCHESTRATIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS
Stephen Oremus

ORIGINAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION PRODUCED BY
Daryl Roth, Hal Luftig, James L. Nederlander, Terry Allen Kramer, Independent Presenters Network, CJ E&M, Jayne Baron Sherman, Just For Laughs Theatricals/Judith Ann Abrams, Yashuhiro Kawana, Jane Bergere, Allan S. Gordon & Adam S. Gordon, Ken Davenport, Hunter Arnold, Lucy & Phil Suarez, Bryan Bantry, Ron Fierstein & Dorsey Regal, Jim Kierstead/Gregory Rae, BB Group/Christina Papagjika, Michael DeSantis/Patrick Baugh, Brian Smith/Tom & Connie Walsh, Warren Trepp and Jujamcyn Theaters

STARRING

Wendell Scott, Dustin Presley, Wynne Kelly, Caty Bergmark, Alan Phelps, Justin Dilley, Akia Sembly, Nhadyne Banton Brown, Josh Hudson, Clint Clark-Duke, Jonathan Headen, Connor Lyons, Deelee Barker, Max Walls, Cookie, Jack Chavous, Jacob Bush, JaredLance H. Kerschner, TJ Ruth, Parker Reeves, Jhazzmyn Joiner, Jessica Wise, PJ Mitchell, David Hancock, Sienna Jade Eger, Ash Piña, Posy Lettwitch, Brandon Nguyen-Hilton

DIRECTOR
Paul Conroy

**MUSIC DIRECTOR
& SOUND DESIGNER**
Nick Silvestri

CHOREOGRAPHER
Atarius Armstrong

LIGHTING DESIGNER
David Reingold

COSTUME DESIGNER
Jay Reynolds

HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGNER
George Deavours

**PRODUCTION STAGE
MANAGER**
Sydney Lee

Kinky Boots is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com



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

This program is supported in part by Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly. Georgia Council for the Arts also receives support from its partner agency - the National Endowment for the Arts. This program is supported in part by the City of Atlanta Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs. Funding for this program is provided by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.

Kinky Boots

SETTING & TIME: Present day London, England

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

CAST

Lola/Simon Wendell Scott
Charlie Price Dustin Presley
Lauren Wynne Kelly
Nicola Caty Bergmark
Don Alan Phelps
George Justin Dilley
Pat Akia Sembly
Trish Nhadyne Banton Brown
Harry Josh Hudson
Mr. Price Clint Clark-Duke
Simon Sr. Jonathan Headen
Richard Bailey Connor Lyons
Young Simon Deelee Barker
Young Charlie Max Walls
Angels Cookie, Jack Chavous,
Jacob Bush, Jared Lance H. Kerschner
Ensemble TJ Ruth, Parker Reeves,
Jhazzmyn Joiner, Jessica Wise, PJ Mitchell
Swings David Hancock,
Sienna Jade Eger, Ash Piña, Posy Leftwich,
Brandon Nguyen-Hilton

SPECIAL THANKS

Jeff Allen, Michael Etheridge, Isaac Breiding,
Georgia State University School of Film,
Media and Theatre, ART Station,
Georgia Ensemble Theatre, 7 Stages,
Red Mountain Theatre Company, Alliance
Theatre, Kyle Hanes, Brandon Bostian

*We apologize for anyone who may have
been accidentally omitted from this program.*

PRODUCTION CREW

Book Harvey Fierstein
Music & Lyrics Cyndi Lauper
Director Paul Conroy
Music Director/
Sound Designer Nick Silvestri
Choreographer Atarius Armstrong
Production Stage Manager Sydney Lee
Lighting Designer David Reingold
Costume Designer Jay Reynolds
Hair & Makeup Designer George Deavours
Dramaturg Luke Evans
Dialect Coach Nhadyne Banton Brown
Intimacy Director Mandy Mitchell
Assistants to the Director Jordan Walker
& Elizabeth Kraft
Assistant to the
Choreographer Elizabeth Hirsch-Tauber
Assistant Stage Managers ... Kailey Graziotto,
Maria Chrysosopoulos, & Delisa Hardnick
Production Assistant Emily Utz
Master Carpenter Zach Grizzle
Assistant Carpenter Cade Sharp
Costume Assistants Alison Hergen
& Tori Morgan
Photographers Tyler Ogburn
Photography & Sydney Lee
Videographer Saturnblu Productions
Public Relations JMF Communications
Graphic Designer Brandon D Hunt



MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

"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
"Not My Father's Son"	Lola, Charlie
"Everybody Say Yeah"	Charlie, Lola, Angels, Ensemble

ACT TWO

"Entr'acte / Price & Son (Reprise)"	Full Company
"What A Woman Wants"	Lola, Pat, Don, Ensemble
"In This Corner"	Lola, Don, Pat, Trish, Angels, Ensemble
"Soul Of A Man"	Charlie
"Hold Me In Your Heart"	Lola
"The History of Wrong Guys (Reprise)"	Lauren
"Raise You Up / Just Be"	Full Company

Cyndi Lauper wishes to thank her collaborators: Sammy James Jr.,
Steve Gaboury, Rich Morel and Tom Hammer, Stephen Oremus

COMMITMENTS & VALUES

MISSION

Out Front Theatre Company's mission is to tell LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intergender, Asexual) stories.

VISION

Out Front Theatre Company's vision is to strengthen the LGBTQIA+ community in Georgia by exploring and celebrating the universal human experience through the lens of gender and sexuality.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION COMMITMENT

The staff and board of Out Front Theatre Company want to put the following metrics in place so that we can track them to completion. We want our stakeholders and our patrons to see real results.

- We want to have representative board members from black and brown communities, as well as gender nonconforming representatives and increase that representation by at least 10% every year until we reach a goal of above 50%.
- We want to produce, support, or promote at least 2 shows/events from creatives of color every year and increase that number by at least 20% every year.
- We want to increase our presence in communities of color and in women's communities through intentional outreach. We can do this by creating a communication strategy to expand our patronage. To that end, we will recruit a community outreach intern or staff member to help achieve this goal.
- We want to increase our intersectional involvement by partnering with other socially progressive nonprofit organizations to collaborate on community events. The goal is to have at least one partner event per year with an ultimate goal of three per year.

Please visit
www.OutFrontTheatre.com
to learn more.



LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We are gathered on the unceded land of the Mvskoke (Muscogee/Creek) peoples. We ask you to join us in acknowledging the Mvskoke community, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. Out Front Theatre Company also acknowledges that it was founded upon exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous peoples, including those on whose land this institution is located.

This acknowledgment demonstrates a commitment to beginning the process of working to dismantle the ongoing legacies of settler colonialism.



THE MUSCOGEE NATION

**For more information on this nation,
as well as how to support to them,
please visit www.muscogeenation.com**



Christmas Dearest

By David Cerda

It's 1953 and Joan is desperate to reignite her career with the new film *Oh, Mary!*, a big splashy musical adaption of the life of the Virgin Mary. Everything has to be perfect, but the stress of surviving in Hollywood has turned Joan into a tyrant! Even Carol Ann, Joan's faithful personal assistant is at her wits' end. What Joan needs is a miracle, and that's exactly what she gets when she's visited by three ghosts who try to show Joan the error of her ways and the true meaning of the holidays.

DEC 8 - 18, 2022

Tickets: \$30

Out Front Theatre Company
999 Brady Avenue, Atlanta



www.OutFrontTheatre.com

CAST & CREW BIOS

CAST

WENDELL SCOTT *He/Him* (Lola/Simon) is thrilled to make his debut on the Atlanta theatre scene! Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Atlanta TV/Film credits include: *Dynasty*, *Renée and the Seven Cards*, *Fame Fatale*. Sincerest love to Mom, Dad, Bria, Paris and our family always. Thank you to Forward Talent, Robert Mello, Onye Eme-Akwari, Jessie Brownie, Dr. Robert Glor and Jamie Vosmeier for their overwhelming support and love. And thank you always Lord for this moment. Follow him @atlwendell on Instagram.

DUSTIN PRESLEY *He/Him* (Charlie Price) Out Front Theatre: Debut. He is ecstatic to be making his Atlanta debut in *Kinky Boots!* Favorite regional credits: Nick Bottom in *Something Rotten!* (Eastlight Theatre), Tateh in *Ragtime*, Bruce Bechdel in *Fun Home* and Leo Frank in *Parade* (Corn Stock Theatre). Dustin studied musical theatre at Roosevelt University's Chicago College of the Performing Arts and graduated from the American Musical & Dramatic Academy in New York. He would like to thank his mom, his extended family & friends and most importantly his husband, for all their continued love and support. Follow him @dramaguy16 on Instagram.

WYNNE KELLY *She/Her* (Lauren) is so excited to begin her professional career in this production! Out Front Theatre: Debut. Some of her previous credits include: *Heathers the Musical* (Actors Express) and *Broadway Unplugged* (Oglethorpe University). Wynne is a theatre student at Oglethorpe University in Brookhaven, GA and is thrilled to share this experience with you all! She would like to thank her family, friends, and Oglethorpe professors for making this opportunity possible. Enjoy the show!

CATY BERGMARK *She/Her* (Nicola) is pleased as peas to be back at Out Front. Previous Out Front Theatre credits include: *The Rocky Horror Show*, *The Ethel Merman Disco Christmas Spectacular!*, and *Judy's 100th Birthday Celebration Cabaret*. Previous Atlanta credits include *Baby* and *Urinetown* (Act3), *Love's Labour's Lost* (Zero Circle Theatre Co.), *Love and Money* (ART Station), and others. Much love to Elliott and her family for their support. This one's for Carolyn.

ALAN PHELPS *He/Him* (Don) is excited to be working with Out Front Theatre! Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Atlanta Credits include: *MacBeth* (Folding Chair Classical Theater), *Good People* (On Stage), *A Few Good Men* (Centerstage North), *Big River* (Theatre in the Square), *Assassins* (Next Stage). Film & TV includes: *Pitch Perfect 3*, *Bosses*, *Southern Gothic*, *Fatal Attraction*, *The Game*. Thanks to friends and family for their support. Alan is represented by Atlanta Models & Talent and can be followed @alanphelps1964 on Instagram.

JUSTIN DILLEY *He/Him* (George) is delighted to be performing on the Out Front stage again. Previous credits at OFTC: *The View Upstairs* and *A Kid Like Jake*. Justin has performed and directed Off-off Broadway and also regionally in the Greater Boston and Atlanta areas. Most recent credit: *Spanish Tragedy* (Resurgens Theatre Company). Change your mind & change the world! Love to M & K. Follow him @dilljus on Instagram.

AKIA SEMBLY *She/Her* (Pat) is thrilled to be gracing the Out Front stage! Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Atlanta credits include: *Nunsense Jamboree* (Marietta Theatre Company), *Sister Act* (Woodstock Arts), and *Newsies* (The Henry) all in which she wore a habit. Follow her @akia_nicole on Instagram.

NHADYNE BANTON BROWN *She/Her* (Trish) is excited to be back at Out Front Theatre. Out Front credits include *Xanadu*, *All The Natalie Portmans* and *Judy's 100th Birthday Celebration Cabaret*. London credits include *The Love of a Nightingale*, *Fine and Dandy*, *Fringe Theatre*. Austin, Texas credits: *Soul Picnic*. Atlanta, GA credits: *Barefoot in the Park*.

JOSH HUDSON *He/Him* (Harry/Charlie u/s) is excited to make his Out Front debut in *Kinky Boots!* Previous Atlanta theatre credits include *Fun Home*, *Skintight*, and *Downstairs* with Actor's Express. Other professional theatre credits include the following: *Xanadu* (ECTC), *Pippin* (RTOP), *My Fair Lady* (GLOW Lyric Theatre), *Carmen* (GLOW Lyric Theatre), and the *Jurassic Quest* National Tour. www.joshdhudson.com

CLINT CLARK-DUKE *He/Him* (Mr. Price) is excited to be returning to the stage at Out Front. Out Front Theatre credits include: Albin in *La Cage aux Folles* and Danny in *Xanadu*. Atlanta Credits: Orin in *Little Shop of Horrors* at Actor's Express, Pharaoh in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Atlanta Lyric Theatre. Regional Credits include Chad in *All Shook Up* at Alhambra Dinner Theatre and Gaston in *Beauty and the Beast* at Foothills Theatre. Thanks to his husband Eddie for his love and support. Clint is represented in TV/Film/Print by The Oui Agency. Follow him @clintclarkdukeofficial on Instagram

JONATHAN HEADEN *He/Him* (Simon Sr.) is excited to be in his Out Front Theatre: Debut. Jonathan is a native of the metro Atlanta area, but lives in South Georgia where he served a music educator for 12 years there. While in South GA, he was a part of the "Theatre Guild of Valdosta", where he was able get his start on stage. Previous credits: Jim in *Big River*, Ensemble in *9 to 5 the Musical*, Reverend Sykes in *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and Ensemble in *Gypsy* and *She Loves Me*. Jonathan is still teaching music, and he is also a freelance bassoonist here in the Atlanta area. Jonathan is very excited to have this opportunity to perform with Out Front Theatre Company and would like to thank his family and friends for

their support. Much love to Kristi Headen, LaMichael Hendrix, and Rashaan Newell for always believing in me! Follow him @jheaden77 on Instagram.

CONNOR LYONS *He/Him* (Richard Bailey) is making his debut at Out Front Theatre! Connor is Covid Baby of Atlanta that moved here May 2020 and has since performed and filmed all over the city in theatrical and comedy productions. He directs a queer sketch team called *PickleTickle* and produces/hosts a monthly Stand-Up Show at Guac y Margys. Before moving to Atlanta, Connor got his degree in Communications and Film at UAB in Birmingham and trained in New York at The New York Film Academy and The People's Improv Theater. He is excited to be back in musical production for the first time in 8 years.

DEELE BARKER *He/Him* (Young Simon) Out Front Theatre: Debut.

MAX WALLS *They/Them* (Young Charlie) is thrilled to be making their debut on the Out Front Stage. Previous Atlanta credits include Michael Banks in *Mary Poppins* (Aurora Theatre), Noah Gellman in *Caroline, or Change* (Jennie T. Anderson Theatre), and George Ismay in *The Last Lifeboat* (OnStage Atlanta). They will also appear in the film *Wash Me In The River* this fall. They would like to thank their family for their support! Follow them (@maxjamesonwalls) on Instagram.

COOKIE *They/Them* (Angel) is so excited to be returning for another fun filled production at Out Front! Cookie moved here from NYC in November of 2020 to immerse themselves in more performance opportunities in and out of Drag. In addition to performing, Cookie also specializes in teaching dance fitness and not to mention their business platform called The Haus Of Cookie, which caters to mental health within the LGBTQ+ community. Previous Out Front Theatre credits include Dan in *Boys In The Buff*. NYC credits include *Naked Boys Singing* (Theatre Row), Miss Roj in *The Colored Museum* (Harbor Lights Theatre), and Richie in *A Chorus Line* (Wagner College Theatre). Cookie sends their love and a whole 'lotta

sugar to all the Cookie Monsters out there supporting. If you love a sweet treat, follow them on IG @cookiedlite (personal), @thehausofcookie (business).

JACK CHAVOUS *He/They* (Angel) is elated to be making his Out Front and Atlanta theatre debut! Most recent credits include *Sweeney Todd* (Tobias Ragg), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander), and *RENT* (Steve, u/s Angel). Film: *Little Women* (Timothée Chalamet Hand Double). Recent UGA graduate. Much love to family, friends, and mentors for their endless support. Follow them on Instagram @jaceyrockett (drag) and @jackchavous (personal).

JACOB BUSH *He/Him* (Angel) is thrilled to be a part of Out Front's 22-23 season premiere of *Kinky Boots!* Out Front Theatre: Debut. Coming from a professional ballet background, spanning 20+ years (Atlanta Ballet and Theatre Augsburg, Germany), Bush has danced many Principal roles in classical, neoclassical, and contemporary dance works. He is beyond thrilled to be working with local Atlanta artists to bring this fabulous production to life. Follow him @justjacobbush on Instagram.

JAREDLANCE H. KERSCHNER *He/Him* (Angel) is strutting back to the Out Front stage and this time in HEELS! Previous Out Front credits include: The North American Premiere of *Boys In The Buff* as Max. He is looking forward to expanding his musical theatre knowledge, perspective, and craft by joining the *Kinky Boots* cast. Outside of the theater, JaredLance is a newlywed to his hunky husband Dorian where they binge watch horror movies together and share a mutual love of taking selfies. He appreciates you coming to this performance and supporting LIVE THEATRE! Be sure to give JaredLance a follow on Instagram @ItCouldOnlyBeJared

TJ RUTH *He/Him* (Ensemble/Lola & Simon Sr. u/s) is thrilled to be back on the Out Front stage! Previous Out Front Theatre credits include: *The Golden Girls: Lost Episodes - Holiday Edition* and *Boys in the Buff*. Previous Atlanta credits: *The Exterminating Angel* (Vernal & Sere Theatre), *The Shift* (Found

Stages). Educational: *In the Red and Brown Water* (Virginia Commonwealth University).

PARKER REEVES *He/Him* (Ensemble/Harry u/s) is humbled and thrilled to be making his Out Front: Debut! He is an Atlanta actor/choreographer from Birmingham, Alabama. Previous Atlanta acting credits include *Legally Blonde* (Ensemble) and *Willy Wonka* (Augustus Gloop). Previous choreography credits include *A Chorus Line: High School Edition* and *Orphie and the Book of Heroes*. He would like to thank his friends and family for their loving and passionate support of his art, and hopes you enjoy this show brimming with joy and heart. Roll Tide!

JHAZZMYN JOINER *She/They* (Ensemble/Lauren & Nicola u/s) is excited for her/their Out Front Theatre: Debut! Previous Atlanta credits: *What's Going on, What's Going on 2, The Merry Wives of Windsor*. Thanks to everyone for coming out! Follow Jhazzmyn @jazzyjhazz on Instagram.

JESSICA WISE *She/Her* (Ensemble/Pat & Trish u/s) is honored and thrilled to make her debut on the Out Front stage! She recently wrapped a season contract at Stage Door Theatre, where she performed as Lady Capulet in *Romeo & Juliet*, Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and more. By day, she works as a copywriter for a local agency and runs her e-magazine for millennial professionals, Audacity Magazine & Events (audacitymagazine.org, @audacitymagonline on Instagram). Special thanks to her friends and family who encouraged her to come out of dancer retirement!

PJ MITCHELL *He/Him* (Ensemble/Male Swing) is so excited to make his Out Front debut in *Kinky Boots!* Previous Atlanta credits include *RENT* (ACT3), *tick, tick... BOOM!* (ACT3), and *Baby* (ACT3). Originally from the Washington, DC area, he has studied at Howard Community College (MD) and with The Alliance Theatre (GA). A graduate of The Paul Mitchell School (VA), PJ has served as a hair and makeup designer for Dominion Stage (VA), where he garnered a Washington Area Theatre (WATCH) award nomination for *Psycho Beach Party*. Much

love to the cast, crew, and creative team for all their hard work on this beauty and beast of a show. Follow him @pjlikepajamas88 on all platforms.

DAVID HANCOCK *He/Him* (Swing) is so excited to make his Out Front! Debut! Previous theatre credits include: Scuttle in *The Little Mermaid*, Tarzan in *Tarzan* (Buford Community Theatre), and Don Price in *Big Fish* (Artios Academies). David thanks you all for coming and hopes you enjoy the show.

SIENNA JADE EGER *She/They* (Swing) is so excited to be on the Out Front stage for the first time. Previous Atlanta credit: Minnie Wright in *Jury of Her Peers* (Theatre Arts Guild). Film credits: *Her and Him* (GSU), *Sleep* (Real Imaginary Productions), *Don't Worry Paul* (GSU), *Living the Dream* (GSU), *How to Laugh* (GSU). Sienna would like to thank her dear friends and family for all of their support, and the wonderful people at Georgia State University and Out Front Theatre for this opportunity. Follow her @siennajadeeger on Instagram.

ASH PIÑA *She/They* (Swing) is delighted to be a part of this amazing production! Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Atlanta credit: *Food Justice* (Georgia State University). Previous Educational credits: Alliance Theatre Summer Camp (Teaching Assistant/Artist), and Georgia State University Theatre Student (Currently a Graduating Senior). They would like to thank her loving family, her supportive best friend, and her diligent Therapist for being her daily motivation. Follow them @ash4ashs on Instagram!

POSY LEFTWICH *She/Her* (Swing) is delighted to be making her Out Front Theatre debut! Previous credits include: Leah in *Call Number* (Horizon Theatre Company's NSYPF) and Vera in *She Kills Monsters* (Georgia State University). She is so pleased to be back onstage after a nearly two-year break, thanks to this little thing called a global pandemic. She'd like to thank her mom for driving her to acting/voice/dance classes for years, her fiancé for always letting her sing loudly in the car, and her dad and

brothers for always cheering the loudest during bows. You can follow her adventures on Instagram, @posytheaerie.

BRANDON NGUYEN-HILTON *He/Him* (Swing) is very excited to make his *Kinky Boots* debut with Out Front! Brandon was born in Fort Worth Texas and began his dance training at Margo Dean School of Ballet and later at the Houston Ballet Ben Stevenson Academy on full scholarship. He has danced professionally with Orlando Ballet, Cirque du Soleil, Atlanta Ballet, and the Atlanta Opera. In 2018 he had the honor to perform in Seoul, South Korea in celebration for the Winter Olympics. He has a massage and bodywork practice called B-right Atlanta Sports Massage located in Grant Park.

PRODUCTION CREW

HARVEY FIERSTEIN (Book) is a four-time Tony Award-winning writer and actor. His Broadway writing credits include *Kinky Boots*, *Torch Song Trilogy* (Tony, Drama Desk, Dramatists Guild Awards), *Casa Valentina*, *Safe Sex*, *Legs Diamond* and *A Catered Affair* (12 Drama Desk nominations and the Drama League Award for Best Musical). His *La Cage Aux Folles* is the only show to ever win Best Musical and 2 Best Revival Tony Awards. Other plays include *Spookhouse*, *Forget Him* and *Flatbush Tosca*. His teleplays include *Tidy Endings* for HBO (ACE Award), and *On Common Ground* for Showtime. His children's HBO special, *The Sissy Duckling*, won the Humanitas Prize and the book version is in its eighth printing. Other honors include the Drama League Award for Outstanding Performer of the Year, a special OBIE award, NY Magazine Award, and nominations for The Olivier Award and an Emmy. His political writings have been seen on PBS' series *"In The Life"* and published in The NY Times, Huffington Post and Hartford Courant. He was inducted into The Theater Hall of Fame in 2008.

CYNDI LAUPER (Music & Lyrics) is a Grammy, Emmy and Tony Award-winning artist with over 30 sterling years and global record sales in excess of 50 million albums. With her first album, *"She's So Unusual"*, Lauper won a Grammy Award for Best New Artist and became the first female in history to have four top-five singles from a debut album. Since then, Lauper has released ten additional studio albums, been inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and celebrated as a New York Times best-selling author. Overall, during her storied music career, Lauper has been nominated for 15 Grammy Awards, two American Music Awards, seven American Video Awards and 18 MTV Awards. In 2013, Cyndi Lauper became the first solo woman to win Best original score for her music and lyrics for *Kinky Boots*. Never one to slow down, next she is currently writing the score for the Broadway adaptation of the 1988 feature film *Working Girl*, contributed a song to the score of the Broadway musical *Spongebob Squarepants* and launched her own fashion line A Touch of Cyn with Home Shopping Network.

PAUL CONROY He/Him (Director) is the Founder and Producing Artistic Director of Out Front Theatre Company, Georgia's LGBTQIA+ focused theatre company. Originally from the Boston area, he holds a BA in English/Writing with a Minor in Theatre from Long Island University in addition to both a MA in Directing from Roosevelt University and a MFA in Directing from the University of Idaho, and as a playwright his original musical, *The Ethel Merman Disco Christmas Spectacular!* (which he also directed) premiered at Out Front Theatre Company in December of 2018. Other select directing credits at Out Front include *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert: The Musical*, *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told*, *The View UpStairs*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *Xanadu* and most recently the North American Premiere of *Boys in the Buff*. Paul teaches courses in Theatre at Georgia State University, sits on Historic Atlanta's LGBTQ Historic Preservation Advisory Committee and recently began his fifth year term as a founding member of the City of Atlanta's LGBTQ+ Advisory Board for which he co-chairs the Arts, Culture and Entertainment

subcommittee. He was named one of Georgia's 100 Most Influential LGBTQ+ people in 2020 and has been featured in The New York Times, The Times of London and numerous other media outlets speaking about the importance of queer centered arts. Paul is also the co-founder of the Queer Theatre Alliance, a national coalition of LGBTQ+ centered theatre companies.

NICK SILVESTRI He/Him (Music Director/ Sound Designer) Select Out Front Theatre credits: *The Rocky Horror Show*, *The View UpStairs*, *La Cage aux Folles*, and *Boys in the Buff*.

ATARIUS ARMSTRONG He/Him (Choreographer) is excited to make his debut with Out Front Theatre. Past performances: *Newsies*, *Mamma Mia* (Aurora Theatre), *Billy Elliot*, *Elf the Musical* (City Springs Theatre), *Hello Dolly*, *Damn Yankees*, *Once Upon a Mattress* (Summer Lyric Theatre). Dance credits: David Dorfman, Julio Medina, Patsy Collins, Admix Project, and Fuerta. Choreography featured: Jennie T. Anderson, Dance Canvas, Excuse the Art, CDCFest, Georgia Tech & Emory Musician's Network, and Fall for Fall Dance Festival. Outside of the theatre, Atarius is a software engineer and the artistic director of the contemporary dance company ALA Dance. Stay updated with him! @atariusarmstrong | atariusarmstrong.com

SYDNEY LEE She/Her (Production Stage Manager) - Everybody Say Yeah! because Out Front's favorite stage manager named Sydney is back at it again. Past Out Front credits include: *Xanadu*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Pink Unicorn*, and Paul and Brian's Wedding. Previous Atlanta credits: *A Christmas Carol* and *Unbossed & Unbowed* (Aurora Theatre), *Ebenezer: A Reconstruction Concert* (Atlanta Musical Theatre Festival), *Songs for a New World* (BUICentennial Productions), *Love's Labour's Lost*, *A New Brain* (Zero Circle Theatre Company). Much love to the people she likes and her cats.

DAVID REINGOLD He/Him (Lighting Designer) is stoked to be here at Out Front with you! Out Front Theatre: *Boys in the Buff*. Previous Atlanta credits: Lighting Designer

for *Into the Woods, And Then There Were None* (Act3 Productions); *Sylvia, On Golden Pond* (Center Stage North), *Sweet Charity* (Reinhardt University). Projections Designer for *She Persisted, Dragons Love Tacos* (Georgia Ensemble Theatre). Up next David is excited to be designing *The Legend of Georgia McBride* with Georgia College. A recent graduate of Penn State University with a BFA in Lighting Design, David is very glad to be back home and working in Atlanta. Many thanks to Paul and the entire Out Front team for such a great process and for making queer theatre happen. Sometimes it's really hard to just be. Hopefully this show helps. davidreingold.net

JAY REYNOLDS *He/Him* (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be designing at Out Front Theatre for *Kinky Boots!* Past Out Front Theatre credits for Costume Design include: *When Last We Flew, All The Natalie Portmans, Xanadu, La Cage aux Folles* (Suzi Bass nomination), *The Ethel Merman Christmas Disco Spectacular!*, *The View UpStairs*, *The Rocky Horror Show* (MAT nominee), *Sordid Lives, Priscilla, Queen of the Desert: The Musical* (MAT Award), and *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told* (MAT nominee). He has designed for Actor's Express, The Atlanta Lyric Theatre, The Aurora Theatre and OnStage Atlanta. Reynolds has also designed and constructed costumes for major films, television, and concerts. He would like to lovingly thank his husband Michael for loaning him to the theatre. www.houseofwu.com panoply

GEORGE DEAVOURS *He/Him* (Wig & Makeup Designer) is delighted to working with Out Front again, after his last work on *Xanadu*. An actor as well as a professional hair and wig designer, he has created hair designs for more than 300 shows such as *Mamma Mia!*, *Anything Goes!*, *Dreamgirls*; *The Producers*; *42nd Street*; *Into the Woods*; *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Cabaret*; *The Mikado*; *la Cage aux Folles*; *White Christmas*; *A Little Night Music*, *Legally Blonde*, and *Gypsy* to name a few. He recently was Hair Department Head for *LEGO Masters, Season 3*. By day, George has a studio at French Door Salon & Spa in Duluth, Ga.

LUKE EVANS *He/Him* (Dramaturg) is a Georgia-based dramaturg, playwright, and theatre critic who is excited to be doing his first show with Out Front Theatre Company. Luke earned his undergraduate degree from Oglethorpe University before earning his master's degree in Theatre Studies from the University of Houston. He is also a staff writer for ArtsATL. As an autistic, queer-identifying artist, Luke's primary focuses are neurodivergent and queer theatre, so he is naturally thrilled to be making his professional Atlanta debut with the city's premiere queer company!

NHADYNE BANTON BROWN *She/Her* (Dialect Coach) See cast bio.

JORDAN WALKER *He/Him* (Assistant to the Director) is excited about his Out Front Theatre Debut!

ELIZABETH KRAFT *She/Her* (Assistant to the Director) is excited about her Out Front Theatre: Debut! Previous international credits include: *Ти Особливий* (Щасливе Дитинство, Kharkiv, Ukraine), *Створення до Різдва* (Kharkiv, Ukraine), *Пригоди Олівера* (Kharkiv, Ukraine), *Із-за любові частина перша* (Kharkiv, Ukraine), *Із-за любові частина друга* (Kharkiv, Ukraine), Writer and Director for *True Love* (Metro-Atlanta, USA), Writer and Director for *reJOYce* (Metro-Atlanta, USA).

ELIZABETH HIRSCH-TAUBER *She/Her* (Assistant to the Choreographer) SAG/AFTRA member. Elizabeth is a local actor, dancer and filmmaker and is psyched out of her mind to be working on her first show at Out Front. Previously, Elizabeth has choreographed for GSU Theatre (*She Kills Monsters*, 2022), The Los Angeles SAG Conservatory (Student Showcase, 2009), OnStage Atlanta (*Willy Wonka: The Musical*, 2021), White Mountain Dance Festival at Sarah Lawrence College (Showcase, 2012) and Camp Judaea (*Hairspray Jr.* 2011, yup, a bunch of jewish kids did Hairspray.) Thanks so much to Atarius, Paul and Sydney for this wonderful opportunity. Let's dance!

KAILEY GRAZIOTTO *She/Her* (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to join the Out Front community and *Kinky Boots* crew! Kailey recently graduated from Emory University with a B.A. in English and Creative Writing and Theater Studies. Past Atlanta credits include: Stage Manager for *Tapas: The Bronze* (The Academy Theatre). Her favorite student theater credits include: Stage Manager of *The Last Five Years* (Theater at Emory), Director of *Hearing Voices: Self-Loathing, Self-Love* (OxTheatre), Technical Director for *Fun Home* (Ad Hoc Productions), and Stage Manager of *Eurydice* (Dooley's Players). Big thanks to her family and friends for their unending love and support in all her creative endeavors!

MARIA CHRYSOPOULOS *She/Her* (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to join the Out Front stage! Maria is pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Theatre at GSU. Previous involvement at Out Front Theatre: *Xanadu* (Calliope/Aphrodite). Previous theatre achievements: GHP 57' finalist and regional literary winner. Huge thanks to the people in her life supporting her!

DELISA HARDNICK *She/Her* (Assistant Stage Manager) is pleased to join the production of *Kinky Boots* as her Out Front Theatre: Debut. Delisa is a student at Georgia State University pursuing her Bachelors degree in Acting. A few of her previous credits include: *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (ImaginOn) *Once On This Island* (ImaginOn) *48 Hour Play Festival* (Savannah College Of Art And Design). She's grateful for her friends and family and their overwhelming support in her dedication to theatre.

EMILY UTZ *They/Them* (Production Assistant) Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Educational credits: *Little Women* (Young People's Performing Company) *Mr. Toad's Wild Ride* (YPPC) *Annie: The Musical* (Durham School of the Arts) *Seussical* (DSA) and *33 Variations* (DSA). Emily is very excited to be a part of this show!



OUT FRONT
THEATRE COMPANY

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DADDY

Nov. 12, 2022 @ 8PM
Tickets: \$25-\$40
www.OutFrontTheatre.com



Steve Pateman,
former Managing Director
of WJ Brookes

The Boss in Boots: ***The Real Story Behind Kinky Boots***

Steve Pateman, the man whose story inspired the one you see before you tonight, was a man of risk. He had been raised in a traditional environment, groomed from a young age to take over the family shoe factory in the village of Earl Barton in old-school Northamptonshire – yet he believed in saying yes. His belief in innovation and openness to the unknown eventually led him to make a drastic choice in a desperate bid to save his livelihood – that choice would spawn a story that would inspire millions to embrace their best, most authentic selves. And it all started with a shoe.

Pateman's family had owned the factory for over a century when he started working for his father in 1979, at the age of 17. Over the years, he learned everything there was to know about the shoe business; he knew how to operate every machine in the building and he knew the names of every one of his father's employees. By 1993, he had officially taken over as managing director of W.J. Brookes. However, by that point the factory was no longer the thriving template for shoemaking excellence that it once was. Inflation, competition from name brands, and an increase in cheap, imported men's shoes had led to a decline in shoe sales across the nation. Orders were canceled and with no way to repurpose the materials for said orders, factories were forced to absorb massive financial losses. By 1997, hundreds of similar shoe companies across England had closed their doors, and Pateman had been forced to reduce his work force from 70 to a mere 21. The family business was dying.

That's when Pateman received a fateful call from one Miss Sue Sheppard about designing. Sheppard owned a clothing shop in London that catered specifically to transgender and drag queen clientele. However, she had been

having difficulty finding a manufacturer that could reliably provide her with high-heeled shoes that could comfortably be worn by male and AMAB customers. Manufacturers usually took between six to eight months to fill orders and the boots were usually of a lower quality. Not only that, but they were not always guaranteed to fit – manufacturers used standard women’s sizes and scaled them up to fit men’s feet, which proved to be a faulty system.



The shoe gallery at the Northampton Museum and Art Gallery. A pair of the original W.J. Brookes boots can be seen in the top right.

Pateman hoped that the revenue from these boots would save the factory. He devised a process for putting a steel rod through the heel and sole of a shoe to allow it to support more weight, which required Pateman to spend £12,000 on the necessary machinery. However, when it came time to advertise the boots, he could not convince any of his male factory workers to model the boots, so Pateman ended up modeling them himself: “I had to learn to walk in the boots. Of course my legs couldn’t be hairy so I had to learn to shave them.”

The new line of shoes was named Divine Footwear, and by 1999, it comprised over 50% of the factory’s sales. W.J. Brookes gained widespread attention, coming to be known as the “Kinky Boots Factory.” The workers, of course, were happy to still have their jobs. That same year, W.J. Brookes was featured in an episode of the BBC documentary series *Trouble at the Top*, which would later catch the attention of filmmaker Tim Firth. In 2005, Firth wrote and released a film loosely adapted from the story of Steve Pateman and W.J. Brookes: *Kinky Boots*. In 2006, the process of adapting the movie into a musical began. Finally, the musical hit the Broadway stage in 2013, with music and lyrics by Cyndi Lauper and book by Harvey Fierstein. The production would win six Tony Awards for Best Musical, Best Original Score (Lauper), Best Leading Actor (Billy Porter as Lola), Best Choreography, Best Orchestrations, and Best Sound Design.

Today, the W.J. Brookes factory has been turned into housing and Steve Pateman works as a firefighter. However, he has made numerous appearances at seminars and talk shows to talk about his experiences, and even assisted in the making of the original *Kinky Boots* film. When asked if he ever regretted the path that he took, even knowing that the factory would eventually shut down, he stated unequivocally that he would never regret trying. Even now, his efforts continue to inspire others to tell his story, and perhaps may even inspire us to be bold enough to “say yeah” when we are offered the chance.

– Luke Evans, *Dramaturg*



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Out Front Theatre Company was established to tell stories of the LGBTQIA+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intergender, Asexual) experience and community, giving voice to LGBTQIA+ authors, composers, artists, and creators through the medium of theatre and the performing arts. Out Front plans to develop new works and produce classic pieces of theatre that have communicated these stories of the LGBTQIA+ population to a wider audience over time.

As a non-profit organization with a dedicated focus to better the LGBTQIA+ population, we strive to:

- **Produce** established works and premiere productions created by members of the LGBTQIA+ society,
- **Generate** productions with universal themes which are important to the LGBTQIA+ community,
- **Educate** the populous to LGBTQIA+ history,
- **Work** with local and national LGBTQIA+ organizations to bring awareness of issues facing the LGBTQIA+ to the greater Atlanta area,
- **Create** artistic and educational opportunities for at-risk LGBTQIA+ youths by collaborating with local educational institutions and organizations,
- **Expand** the number of theatrical opportunities for artists who are members of or who support the LGBTQIA+ community.

Out Front hopes to create a narrative that will reach beyond the stage, into the

conversations and minds our audiences and artists. Theatre's power as a catalyst to spur dialogues goes back thousands of years. Out Front lives to continue that grand tradition of bringing the stories of the LGBTQIA+ people into the spotlight.

LGBTQIA+ Definitions

L stands for Lesbian: Term used to describe female identified people attracted romantically, erotically, and/or emotionally to other female identified people.

G stands for Gay: Term used in some cultural settings to represent male identified people who are attracted to other male identified people in a romantic, erotic and/or emotional sense. Also, a term used to refer to the LGBTQIA+ community as a whole or as an individual identity label for anyone who does not identify as heterosexual.

B stands for Bisexual: A person emotionally, physically, and/or sexually attracted to people of more than one sex and/or gender. This attraction does not have to be equally split between genders and there may be a preference for one gender over others.

T stands for Transgender: A person who lives as a member of a gender other than that expected based on anatomical sex. Sexual orientation varies and is not dependent on gender identity. This term is sometimes used to refer to the gender variant community as a whole.

Q stands for Queer: An umbrella term, which embraces a matrix of sexual preferences, orientations, and habits of the not-exclusively-heterosexual-and-monogamous majority. Queer includes lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transpeople, intersex persons, and many other sexually transgressive explorers. The term is sometimes used as a sexual orientation label instead of 'bisexual' as a way of acknowledging that there are more than two genders to be attracted to, or as a way of stating a non-heterosexual orientation without having to state who they are attracted to.

I stands for Intergender: Intergender people have a gender identity that is in the middle between the binary genders of female and male, and may be a mix of both.

A stands for Asexual: A term describing individuals who do not experience sexual attraction or do not have interest in or desire for sex. Asexuality is different from celibacy, which means abstaining from sex. Asexuality is often viewed as a spectrum – meaning there are varying levels and identities regarding someone's emotional, spiritual and romantic attraction. The best way to refer to the asexual community is to use the umbrella term "ace" or "aces" as in the "ace community," which acknowledges that spectrum.

+ stands for Many Other Identifications including, but not limited to pansexual, genderqueer, polysexual, agender, androsexual, demisexual, and skoliosexual. We strive to be as inclusive as we can and know we can always improve.

Please visit outfronttheatre.com for a more expansive list of identities, sexualities, terms, resources and more

We welcome all humans, regardless of labels, and hope we celebrate and accept everyone regardless of how they identify.



STAFF AND BOARD LIST

Out Front Theatre Company Staff

Paul Conroy (He/Him) –
Founder & Producing Artistic Director

Precious West-Allen (She/Her) –
General Manager

Justin Kalin (He/Him) –
Associate Artistic Director

Brady Brown (He/Him) – Director
of Marketing & Communications

Robby Myles (He/Him) –
Box Office & Front of House Manager

Mandy Mitchell (She/Her) –
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ON SEASON 6,
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♡
Tyler Ogburn
PHOTOGRAPHY



PRIDE PARTNERS

Out Front Theatre Company's Pride Partners program was established to forge and strengthen bonds with queer-owned and led spaces in the metro Atlanta area and beyond. Below is a list of our current Pride Partners. Continue to support them and their missions as they uplift and celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community!



GUAC Y MARGYS



If you are interested in becoming a Pride Partner, please email our Director of Marketing & Communications, Brady Brown, at brady@outfronttheatre.com.



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Donation Listing

Donations made between July 1, 2022 - October 14, 2022

Out Front Theatre Company is a 501c3 non-profit organization. The health of the company depends on support from patrons just like you! All donations are 100% tax deductible and greatly appreciated! No gift is too small because it truly takes a community to make the arts thrive and grow.

We wouldn't be here without the support of the friends listed below and we would LOVE to add your name to our list of supporters! Donation information is available at the box office or at outfronttheatre.com.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A

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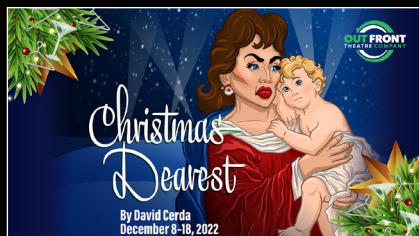


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OUR 2022 - 2023 SEASON



Christmas Dearest

DEC. 8 – 18, 2022 By David Cerda

It's 1953 and Joan is desperate to reignite her career with the new film *Oh, Mary!*, a big splashy musical adaption of the life of the Virgin Mary. Everything has to be perfect, but the stress of surviving in Hollywood has turned Joan into a tyrant! Even Carol Ann, Joan's faithful personal assistant is at her wits' end. What Joan needs is a miracle, and that's exactly what she gets when she's visited by three ghosts who try to show Joan the error of her ways and the true meaning of the holidays. **SOUTHEASTERN PREMIERE!**



I Wanna Fucking Tear You Apart

FEB. 2 – 18, 2023 By Morgan Gould

Samantha and Leo are a team—best friends and roommates, fat girl and gay guy against the world—until a new friend upends their cozy co-dependent diet of mutual self-loathing and *Grey's Anatomy* marathons. An ode to the complications of friendship in its many fucked-up forms, with a special nod to a kind of love that sometimes looks a lot like rage.

SOUTHEASTERN PREMIERE!



one in two

MAR 16 – APR 1, 2023 By Donja R. Love

Three Black queer men sit in an ethereal waiting room. One is about to be chosen to live the unforgiving story of a man diagnosed with HIV, struggling to be defined by more than his status. Ten years after his own diagnosis, Donja R. Love has written a fearless account of the reality for too many Americans. A deeply personal call to action, one in two shines a light on the people behind a statistic and the strength of the community they make up. **GEORGIA PREMIERE!**



Ruthless! The Musical!

MAY 4 – 20, 2023 Book & Lyrics

by Joel Paley; Music by Marvin Laird
A co-production with Georgia State University
Eight-year-old Tina Denmark knows she was born to play Pippi Longstocking, and she will do **anything** to win the part in her school musical. "Anything" includes murdering the leading lady!

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