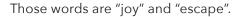


www.OutFrontTheatre.com

A Note from Paul

Welcome to friends both familiar and new!

It has never been on my radar before to have a "theme" for one of our seasons, but as I stood back and looked at everything that has happened, is happening and could happen in the world around us I kept coming back to two words as we put this season of shows together.



I think what we all need right now is an excuse to smile, laugh and breathe. For our ninth season (how is it already nine years?!) I can promise that for every show you'll find the joy that exists in our community and the world. You are allowed to escape your problems with us this year. Let us transport you to worlds where we know things will work out in the end; where people randomly burst into song or where larger than life characters feel like family. Personally, I don't want or need more weight on my soul—the real world is giving me enough of that daily, and there is nowhere to go to get away from it.

Well, guess what? You can get away from it here. From now until the end of May 2025, no matter what is happening across our country or the world, we will be here to help you smile. We will be here to make you laugh. We will be here to breathe alongside you. That is our job for all of you, and this year it is truly a gift for us to be able to do it for everyone who sits in this theater.

Let's all be silly and unserious. Let's all dance and sing. Let's all look at each other and find the joy and escape that we can provide to each other while the world keeps spinning.

No matter what happens outside of these walls, always remember these very wise words from *Hairspray*: **YOU CAN'T STOP THE BEAT!**



Until the next smile,

Paul Conroy (He/Him/His)
Founder & Producing Artistic Director
Out Front Theatre Company



BOOK BY MARK O'DONNELL & THOMAS MEEHAN

MUSIC BY MARC SHAIMAN

LYRICS BY SCOTT WITTMAN & MARC SHAIMAN

Based on the New Line Cinema film, written and directed by John Waters

ORCHESTRATIONS BY HAROLD WHEELER

ARRANGEMENTS BY MARC SHAIMAN

STARRING

Caty Bergmark, Blake Fountain, Kayce Denise, Branden Hembree, Josh Hudson, Allie Hill, Andrew Goodall, Wynne Kelly, Paul Conroy, Karastyn Bibb, Elliott Folds, Joe Arnotti, Emily Nedvidek, Autumn Dawn, Desirée Wilkins, Mya Burns, James Patrick, Jahari Franklin, Hope Clayborne, Nicholas Gilomen, Charlie Edwards, Noah Vega, Dawson Babischkin, Will Cole, Gina DeLise, Parker Reeves, Elleri Carruthers, Anna Snider, Clark Sun, Javla Nichole Lawrence, Molly Ann Tucker, Logan Reed

DIRECTOR

Justin Kalin

MUSIC DIRECTOR Alli Reinhardt

CHOROEGRAPHER Atarius Armstrong

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER Jackie Lenz

LIGHTING **DESIGNER** David Reingold

COSTUME DESIGNER Jay Reynolds

WIG DESIGNER

SCENIC/PROPS DESIGNER

Cathleen O'Neal Sydney Lee

SOUND DESIGNER

DRAMATURG

INTIMACY DIRECTOR

Brady Brown

Elliott Folds

Laura Hackman

Hairspray 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.







MAYOR'S OFFICE OF **Cultural Affairs**

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.



SETTING: BALTIMORE, 1962



THERE WILL BE ONE 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION.

CAST

Tracy Turnblad	Blake Fountain Kayce Denise Branden Hembree Josh Hudson Allie Hill
Seaweed J. Stubbs Amber Von Tussle	Wynne Kelly
Velma Von Tussle Little Inez	
Wilbur Turnblad	Elliott Folds
Male Authority Figure Female Authority Figure .	
Dynamite 1	Autumn Dawn
Dynamite 3	
Duanne	James Patrick
Gilbert	
Lorainne Brad	1 /
Tammy	
Fender	
Brenda	
Sketch	
Shelly	
IQ	
Lou Ann	
Duanne/Gilbert US	
Little Inez/Lorraine USJa	
Swing	
Swing	

PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCTION TEAM
DirectorJustin Kalin
Music DirectorAlli Reinhardt
Choreographer Atarius Armstrong
Production Stage Manager Jackie Lenz
Lighting DesignerDavid Reingold
Costume DesignerJay Reynolds
Wig Designer Cathleen O'Neal
Scenic/Props DesignerSydney Lee
Sound Designer Brady Brown
DramaturgElliott Folds
Intimacy Director Laura Hackman
Dance CaptainJoe Arnotti
Assistant Stage
Managers Annabelle Norton, Amani Clanton
Assistant Costume Designer Coral Bowron
Costume Assistant John William Price
Assistant Wig DesignerEliza Rainey
Sound AssistantDonovan Lewis
Assistant DramaturgAbby Smith
CarpentersJohn Atwell, Ellen Stowell
ElectricianTom Priester
Scenic Artists Sydney Lee,
Nicole Clockel, Sof Delgado
Production
Interns Righteous Crawford, Gray Tackett
PhotographerSydney Lee
VideographerSaturnblu Productions
Public Relations JMF Communications
Graphic DesignerBrandon D Hunt

SPECIAL THANKS Jeff Allen, Michael Ethridge, Brandon William, Austin Kunis, Ted Morrow, Kenneth Johnson, Alliance Theatre, Lost-n-Found Youth

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



Musical Numbers

ACT ONE "Good Morning, Baltimore"......Tracy and Ensemble

"Mama, I'm a Big Girl Now"	Edna, Tracy, Prudy, Penny, Velma, Amber, and Female Ensemble
"I Can Hear the Bells"	Tracy and Ensemble
	•
	Velma and Council Members
"The Nicest Kids in Town (Reprise)"	Corny, Tracy, and Council Members
"It Takes Two"	Link, Tracy, and Male Ensemble
"Velma's Revenge"	Velma
"Welcome to the 60's"Tra	cy, Edna, The Dynamites, Mr. Pinky, and Ensemble
"Run and Tell That!"	Seaweed, Little Inez, and Motormouth Kids
"Big, Blonde and Beautiful"	Motormouth, Little Inez, Tracy, Edna, Wilbur, and Ensemble
ACT TWO	
"The Big Dollhouse"	Matron Edna Velma Iracy Amher Penny
Š	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female Ensemble
_	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female EnsembleTracy
"Good Morning Baltimore (Reprise)"	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female Ensemble
"Good Morning Baltimore (Reprise)"" "(You're) Timeless to Me"	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female Ensemble
"Good Morning Baltimore (Reprise)"" "(You're) Timeless to Me"" "(You're) Timeless to Me (Reprise)"	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female EnsembleTracyEdna and Wilbur
"Good Morning Baltimore (Reprise)"" "(You're) Timeless to Me"" "(You're) Timeless to Me (Reprise)"" "Without Love"	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female EnsembleTracyEdna and WilburEdna and Wilbur
"Good Morning Baltimore (Reprise)"" "(You're) Timeless to Me"" "(You're) Timeless to Me (Reprise)"" "Without Love"" "I Know Where I've Been""	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female EnsembleEdna and WilburEdna and WilburEdna and WilburTracy, Link, Penny, Seaweed, and Ensemble
"Good Morning Baltimore (Reprise)"" "(You're) Timeless to Me (Reprise)"" "Without Love"	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female EnsembleEdna and WilburEdna and WilburEdna and WilburTracy, Link, Penny, Seaweed, and EnsembleMotormouth and Ensemble
"Good Morning Baltimore (Reprise)"	Motormouth, Little Inez, and Female Ensemble

Director's Note

Welcome to the 60's, Atlanta!

It's hard to believe that I'm welcoming you to the opening production of our NINTH season here at Out Front. Hairspray is by far the most ambitious project we've taken on: a cast of thirty-two incredible Atlanta



actors, hundreds of costumes, moving scenic pieces, dazzling lights, and all. As a young non-profit company, we understood that producing this show would be a major lift, but we also understood that if there was ever a moment for our company to produce this show, it was now.

If you're unfamiliar with the musical, or the 1988 John Water's film on which the musical is based, prepare to be transported to early 1960s Baltimore. The hair is high, the colors are bold, and the times are changing. A new generation is coming of age in America and they're leading the charge to end segregation. This is where we find our protagonist, Tracy Turnblad. Tracy is a young woman who dreams of dancing on TV despite that chorus of voices who tell her she's too big for television. Tracy is undaunted by their prejudice and with the help of her friend Seaweed, her dream is realized. But it's her friendship with Seaweed that opens her eyes to the larger injustices around her. The black students in Baltimore share her dream but are only afforded one day a month to dance on the Corny Collins show and are prohibited from ever dancing with the white dancers. Tracy makes it her mission to use her new-found celebrity to integrate the Corny Collins show.

As we go back to 1962, I invite you to be lost in the kitsch of the era. The costumes, the music, the dancing, all meant to transport you back in time and offer you a moment of respite from the world beyond the theatre doors. But when you leave, I hope you'll carry a piece of Tracy with you and remember you aren't powerless to affect change. The world could use more Tracy Turnblad's.

"Nobody ever said this was gonna be easy. If something's worth having, it's worth fighting for."

Enjoy the show!

Justin Kalin (He/Him/His) Director, Hairspray Associated Artistic Director, Out Front Theatre Company

COMMITMENTS & VALUES

MISSION

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

VISION

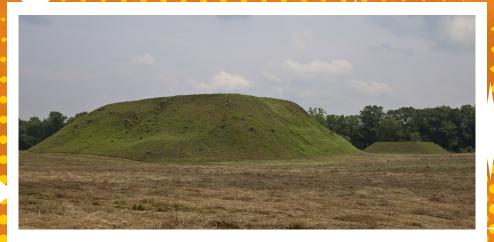
Out Front Theatre Company's vision is to strengthen the LGBTQIA+ community in Georgia by exploring and celebrating the universal human experience through the lens of gender and sexuality.

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 Myskoke (Muscogee/Creek) peoples. We ask you to join us in acknowledging the Myskoke 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.



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

CAST & CREW BIOS

CAST

CATY BERGMARK She/Her (Tracy) is very excited to be back on stage at Out Front. She is a local actor/director whose recent credits include The Prom and Kinky Boots (Out Front Theatre Co.), 9 to 5 (Woodstock Arts) A Midsummer Nights Dream (GET), Baby and Urinetown (Act3), Love's Labour's Lost (Zero Circle Theatre Co.). Many thanks to Justin, Alli, Atarius and the rest of her Out Front family for the opportunity to live this dream, her friends and family for their patience and love, and to Elliott who is timeless to me.

BLAKE FOUNTAIN He/Him (Edna Turnblad) has somehow weaseled his way back into Out Front, though they have changed the locks many times. Previous Out Front Theatre credits include Psycho Beach Party, Ruthless!, SnowGirls - The Musical, Christmas Dearest, The Golden Girls: The Lost Episodes - Holiday Edition, Bright Colors & Bold Patterns, and Christmas with the Crawfords. You may have seen his alter-ego, Tugboat the Queen, around town, hosting Drag Reflex, or at your neighborhood laundromat teaching one-legged pelicans how to appropriately launder lace. Previous Atlanta credits include Everybody's Talking About Jamie (Actor's Express), Fiddler on the Roof; Mary Poppins (City Springs Theatre Co.), The Wizard of Oz; Guys and Dolls (Atlanta Lyric), Bullets Over Broadway; Leading Ladies (Georgia Ensemble Theatre), Clue: On Stage; I Love You Because (Marietta Theatre Company). Buckets of love to Nana, Sam, Butter, Bean, and my entire Out Front chosen family. Follow him @nonsmokingpartyoftwo and @tugboatthequeen

KAYCE DENISE She/Her (Motormouth Maybelle) is thrilled to join the team at Out Front Theatre for *Hairspray*, a production

close to her heart. With over 40 years of stage experience, you may have seen Kayce on various Metro-Atlanta stages, including as Paulette in Legally Blonde (City Springs Theatre), Caroline in Caroline or Change (Jennie T. Anderson Overture Series), Effie White in *Dreamgirls* (Atlanta Lyric Theatre), and Justice in Rock of Ages (The Strand Theatre), among others. An ardent lover of the arts, Kayce dedicates her life to "playing well her part," whether as an educator (with 16 years of commitment), director, producer, playwright, songwriter, choreographer, or casting director. She passionately embraces each role she undertakes, knowing she's on the right path and loving every moment of it.

BRANDEN HEMBREE He/Him (Corny Collins) is thrilled to be back at Out Front Theatre Company! Branden is an Atlantabased actor, musician, and artist whose work has recently been showcased in City Springs Theatre's production of Jersey Boys, Out Front Theatre's production of *Psycho* Beach Party (Kanaka), and Players Guild's production of The Wedding Singer (Robbie Hart). He is the founder and lead quitarist of City Wide Fire. Look for their single "Summertime Drive" releasing on Halloween! He is grateful for the love and support of his friends and family and believes in the power of art and storytelling to positively impact community and cultivate change. Branden hopes to one day have his own pet pigs: Kevin Bacon and Barbie Q!

JOSH HUDSON He/Him (Link Larkin) is excited to return to the Out Front stage for Hairspray! Previous Atlanta theatre credits include Psycho Beach Party (Out Front), Bonnie and Clyde (MTC), Junie B. Jones (GET), Kinky Boots (Out Front), Fun Home (Actor's Express), and The Stranger Things Experience. Beyond Atlanta, regional credits include The Sound of Music (ECTC), Xanadu

(ECTC), *Pippin* (RTOP), *My Fair Lady* (GLOW Lyric Theatre), and the *Jurassic Quest National Tour*. He hopes you enjoy the show, and he would like to thank his incredible family and friends for their continued support! www.joshdhudson.com

ALLIE HILL She/Her (Penny Pingleton) is thrilled to be making her Out Front debut with such a wonderful group of people! Some of her favorite regional credits include Judy Bernly in 9 to 5 (Gainesville Theatre Alliance), Myrtle Wilson in Gatsby: A New Musical (Woodstock Playhouse), and next up you can catch her living her spooky caroling dreams in A Christmas Carol (Alliance Theatre). She would like to thank her incredible friends and family for their unwavering, otherworldly love; and, of course, Barbra Streisand. Follow her on all the things: @allieghill. allie-hill.com

ANDREW GOODALL He/Him (Seaweed J. Stubbs) is an actor and singer based in the Atlanta area. He is excited to join the family as he is making his Out Front Theatre debut! Recent Atlanta credits: Leaf Coneybear in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Marietta Theatre Company), dancer/ensemble/swing in Head Over Heels (Marietta Theatre Company), and Seymour in Little Shop of Horrors (Marietta Theatre in the Square). Regional credits: Francisco in The Tempest and chorus member in TEXAS! The Outdoor Musical. Enjoy the show! Instagram: @andrewbgoodall

wynne Kelly She/Her (Amber Von Tussle) is so happy to be back on the Out Front stage with such a fun and talented group of people! Previous Out Front Theatre credits include: The Prom and Kinky Boots. Previous Atlanta credits: Heathers the Musical, Everybody's talking about Jamie, Cabaret (Actor's Express). She would like to thank her parents and siblings for their laughter, love, and support. Instagram: @wynnekelly

PAUL CONROY He/Him (Velma Von Tussle) 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, La Cage aux Folles, Xanadu, Kinky Boots, Ruthless! and most recently Psycho Beach Party. Paul has taught courses in Theatre at Georgia State University, sits on OUT Georgia's Board of Directors as Board Chair and recently concluded his six-year term as a founding member of the City of Atlanta's LGBTQ+ Advisory Board for which he chaired 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 the co-founder of both the Queer Theatre Alliance, an international coalition of LGBTO+ centered theatre companies and AQuAA, the Atlanta Queer Arts Alliance, which focuses on enhancing Atlanta's vibrant and vital LGBTQ+ focused arts organizations.

KARASTYN BIBB She/They, (Little Inez) is so grateful to be back on the Out Front stage! Previous Out Front Theatre credits: SnowGirls - The Musical. Previous Atlanta credits include: As You Like It (Atlanta Shakespeare Company), Head Over Heels (Marietta Theatre

Company), Women in Jeopardy, Bright Star (Georgia Ensemble Theatre), the world premiere of FLEX! (Theatrical Outfit), Boozily Blonde, Heathers VS. Plastics (Acting Under the Influence) Educational credits include: R&J: 60, Midsummer: 60, The Tempest Jr. (Atlanta Shakespeare Company), She persisted, Dragons Love Tacos (Georgia Ensemble Theatre). They would like to thank the truly, lovely people in their life for their immense support and hopes you enjoy the show! IG: @knbibb

ELLIOTT FOLDS He/Him (Wilbur Turnblad) is so excited to be back on the Out Front stage for the first time since the one-man comedy Buyer & Cellar in 2018. Since then, he's worked as a dramaturg for multiple Out Front productions, including The Prom, Psycho Beach Party, Ruthless!, All the Natalie Portmans, and Xanadu. Previous Atlanta acting credits include: A Year with Frog and Toad (Synchronicity Theatre), The Bridges of Madison County (Aurora Theatre), The Last Night of Ballyhoo (Stage Door Theatre). Deepest thanks to Justin, Alli, Atarius, Jackie, and Paul, for bringing him out of retirement. Equally deep thanks to Abby, who is one kickass dramaturg. Tons of love to both his stage wife, Blake, and his IRL wife, CB -- you are, indeed, timeless to me. @elliottfolds

JOE ARNOTTI He/Him (Male Authority Figure/Dance Captain) President of the Newnan Cultural Arts Commission and dance educator at NTC. Joe led entertainment at the Coweta County Fair, co-organized Southern LitFest '22, and produced the Scottish Sister City Celebration at Wadsworth Auditorium. As a dancer/ choreographer he has been featured in commercials, films, Broadway tours, and theme park shows. Joe trained in jazz, tap, musical theater, and hip-hop. He's created the movement for musicals like Little Shop Of Horrors, Once on this Island,

9 to 5, Hairspray, and The Wiz. Joe has danced alongside Legends such as Phoenix from RuPaul's Drag Race, Chita Rivera, and Debbie Reynolds. An accomplished singer, Joe has had the privilege of performing with icons like Clav Aiken and Linda Eder. He was previously a tenor for the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and played the role of Billy Bigalow in Georgia Symphony Orchestra's production of Carousel. Additionally, he served as the Vocal Chair for Mablehouse Amphitheater's education program and has music-directed multiple musicals including Legally Blonde, Singing In The Rain, Wedding Singer and Thoroughly Modern Millie. Joe is a recent entertainer at Six Flags Over GA and a former Stone Mountain Theme Park and GA Aguarium show developer. For his work, he's a Broadwayworld and Metropolitan Atlanta Theatre Awards Winner for Best Actor and SUZI Bass Nominee @joearnotti

EMILY NEDVIDEK She/Her (Female Authority Figure) is once again returning to the Out Front stage to play a really subtle role! You may have previously seen her as Bettina Barnes in Psycho Beach Party or Joan Crawford in Christmas with the Crawfords or Christmas Dearest. Select Atlanta credits include: Mac|Beth and Legacy of Light (Synchronicity), Alabama Story and Bullets Over Broadway (Georgia Ensemble Theatre), and Wizard of Oz (Atlanta Lyric). She holds a Masters in Classical Acting from LAMDA, but you'd never know it with the choices she's making in this show. Thanks to Mark and her family for their never ending love, the cast for putting up with her shenanigans, and Paul and Justin for keeping her employed!

AUTUMN DAWN She/Her (Dynamite 1) is thrilled to have Hairspray as her Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous Atlanta Credits include: Summer: The Donna Summer Musical (Aurora Theatre), The Curious

Cardinal (Alliance Theatre), RENT (The Henry Players), In The Heights (The Henry Players), and All Shook Up (The Henry Players). "I'd like to thank my friends and family for their support, and would like to shoutout my amazing and supportive boyfriend, Jack, for always encouraging me everyday". Follow her @itsautumndawn on Instagram.

DESIRÉE WILKINS She/Her (Dynamite 2) is super pumped to make her Out Front Theatre Debut! She spent the last year sailing the Caribbean as a Production Singer onboard the MSC Seascape. Other previous credits include Feels Like Christmas (Six Flags Over Georgia), Christmas at the Southern Palace (Six Flags Over Texas), Grand Carnivale Festival (Carowinds), Sister Act and Newsies (Big Fork Summer Playhouse). So much love to her family, friends, and Joey for all of their support!

MYA BURNS She/Her (Dynamite 3) is an actress and choreographer based here in Atlanta! Some of her recent credits: The Color Purple (Aurora Theatre) Sister Act (Aurora Theatre) Beautiful: The Carol King Musical (Aurora Theatre). Mya is blessed to be working with Out Front and all the cast and crew involved in making this show possible! She would also like to give a shoutout to whoever is reading this bio (yeah you!) and taking the time to come see live theatre! Thank You! HAPPY PRIDE! Insta: @mya.burns_ TikTok:@myaburns_

JAMES PATRICK He/Him (Duanne) Hairspray is James' second production with Out Front theatre, his first being *The Prom* in 2023! You could have seen James in previous productions such as Everybody's Talking About Jamie and Urinetown the Musical with Actors Express or Jukebox Giants at the Strand Theatre! James is currently a student at Oglethorpe University studying to get

a B.A. in Theatre and has also worked and trained at the Alliance Theatre, James would like to thank his parents for supporting his dream and sticking with him every step of the way. He also sends love to his brothers for bringing so much joy to his life.

JAHARI FRANKLIN He/Him (Gilbert) is excited to return to the stage in his first Out Front Theatre production. A former student of Kennesaw State University, you may have seen him in the various works within their Spring Dance Company or as a feature in various fashion and retail advertisements. "Thank you for supporting the arts, the stories within it can shape reality beyond imagination, hope you enjoy."

HOPE CLAYBORNE *She/Her* (Lorraine) is elated to grace the Out Front stage for a second time! You may have caught her last season at Out Front Theatre as Berdine in Psycho Beach Party. Previous Atlanta credits include Cleo in The Game (Horizon Theatre Co.), Benvolio and Lady Capulet in Romeo and Juliet:60 (Shakespeare Tavern Playhouse), and May in Junie B. Jones the Musical (Georgia Ensemble Theatre). She is extremely grateful for this opportunity and hopes you enjoy the show. Thank you for supporting live theatre!

NICHOLAS GILOMEN He/Him (Brad) Out Front Theatre: Debut. Atlanta: Guys and Dolls (Atlanta Lyric Theatre), Prayer for the French Republic and Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train (Actor's Express), Tuesdays with Morrie (Stage Door Theatre), A Christmas Tradition (The Strand Theatre), Les Boozeables (Acting Under the Influence) and Exit, Pursued by a Bear (Contemporary Classics). Educational: The SpongeBob Musical and The Spitfire Grill (Kennesaw State University). Audiobooks: Ashen Realm Books 1-5, CAMP 1985, In The End, and The Inheritors (Audible). Education:

BA, Theatre and Performance Studies, Kennesaw State University and Actor's Express 2022-2023 Apprentice Company. Follow him @nicholasgilomen everywhere.

CHARLIE EDWARDS She/Her (Tammy) is thrilled for her official performing debut at Out Front! Her other Out Front credits are The Prom (ASM) and Psycho Beach Party (ASM/Gorilla Double). Recently she was in Circadian (Atlanta City Theatre) and is currently the Vice President of Atlanta City Theatre Players at GSU. She is a Junior at Georgia State University majoring in acting. She is a teaching artist at the Alliance Theatre and assistant technical director of Dahlberg theater. To her fellow cast mates: Merde! Lots of love. You can find Charlie on Instagram @char.renee04

NOAH VEGA He/They (Fender) is elated to be back at Out Front after appearing in SnowGirls - The Musical as Herbie.

Most recently, Noah portrayed Jamie in Everybody's Talking About Jamie (Actor's Express). Noah holds his BFA in Musical Theatre from Kent State University. Favorite Ohio credits: The Secret Garden (Magical Theatre Company), Beauty & The Beast (Akron Civic Theatre), Joseph...Dreamcoat (Weathervane Playhouse), and La Gringa (Latinx in Theatre). Much love to Andrew, Kari, Peaches, and Mom. Check him out as @noahavega on Instagram.

DAWSON BABISCHKIN She/Her (Brenda) is thrilled to be making her Out Front Theatre: Debut! Her previous Credits include: Disenchanted! (Birdhouse Theatre), The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Birdhouse Theatre), Ride the Cyclone (GCSU), Head Over Heels (GCSU). Dawson would like to thank the Hairspray cast and crew for welcoming her into the Out Front community with open arms, as well as friends and family

for their constant love and support! Whether you're a redhead, blonde, or brunette... thanks for coming and enjoy the show! ;)

WILL COLE He/Him (Sketch) is so excited to be back on the Out Front stage! Out Front Theatre: The Prom. Previous credits: Deliverer (Jennie T. Anderson Theater), Wilderness (The Breathe Project, Miami), The Comeback Cabaret (The Drama Company, NYC), The Wild Party (Next Act), & 9 to 5 (Thespian Troupe 3670). Will thanks his agent Carol Shaginaw, his representation Six O'Clock Studios, his voice coach Carrie Madsen, as well as those closest to him for always being in his corner, showing up, and cheering him on!

GINA DELISE She/Her (Shelly) is so happy to be back at Out Front after performing as Shelby in *The Prom* last season. Other credits include: u/s Cory/Honor in *Darlin'* Cory (Alliance Theatre), Thea/Frau Gabor in Spring Awakening (Univ. of Evansville), and Rose of Sharon in *The Grapes of Wrath* (Univ. of Evansville). She sends love to her family, friends, and her dog, Ziggy. @gina_delise

PARKER REEVES He/Him (IQ) is excited to be back with Out Front Theatre Company for another incredible show! Previous Out Front Credits include *The Prom* and *Kinky Boots*. Previous Atlanta credits include *Rock of Ages* and *Honeymoon in Vegas*, He would like to thank his friends and family for their continued love and support. Roll tide!

ELLERI CARRUTHERS They/Them (Lou Ann) is ecstatic to be a part of this incredible production! Elleri previously worked on Xanadu at Out Front Theatre Company. Atlanta Credits: Into The Woods (Bellissimo Theatre). Regional Credits: Into The Woods (Trentino Music Festival) The Addams Family, Shrek, Frozen (Georgia Singers Theatre Company) Educational Credits: Cinderella,

Pygmalion, The Crucible, Henry V (Gainesville Theatre Alliance), She Kills Monsters (Atlanta City Theatre). They also work in student and short film work in the Atlanta area. Elleri is forever grateful to their mentors, friends and family for their endless love and support! Instagram: @elleri_carruthers

ANNA MARIE SNIDER She/Her (Tracy US) is a Georgia native and is so excited to be making her Out Front Theatre debut! Anna graduated from Reinhardt University in May 2023 with her BFA in Musical Theatre. Professional credits include *The Little Prince* at Synchronicity Theatre and *The Rainmaker* at Silver Dollar City. She would like to thank her friends, family, and fiancé Chase for all of their love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show!

CLARK SUN He/Him (Duanne/Gilbert US) is a licensed creative arts therapist at Northside Hospital Behavioral Health Services. He earned his master's degree in Drama Therapy from NYU and has extensive experience in both the therapeutic and theatrical fields. His recent theatre credits include Sugar in **Our Wounds** (CollideOscope Repertory Theatre), **The Wedding Singer** (Players Guild), and **Beauty and the Beast** (FoCal Center). Clark is excited to make his debut with Out Front Theatre, a company he deeply admires for their dedication to uplifting queer voices and stories.

JAYLA NICHOLE LAWRENCE She/Her (Little Inez/Lorraine US) is super excited to be working with this amazing cast and crew! Out Front Theatre: Debut. Previous credits include: Paw Patrol Live! (National Tour), Twisty in Mystery of the Glass Ceiling (Birdhouse Theatre), Mopsa in Head Over Heels (GCSU Theatre), and Heather McNamara in Heathers (GCSU Theatre). Jayla wants to thank the incredibly talented cast for

making her first production here at
Out Front so warm and welcoming! Follow
her @jaylanicholelawrence on Instagram.

MOLLY ANN TUCKER She/Her (Swing) is thrilled to be making her Out Front debut! Previous Atlanta credits: 9 to 5 (Woodstock Arts) and Natasha, Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812 (Horizon Theater). Previous regional credits: Dusk: A Bite Size Love Story and #NoFilter (Edinburgh Fringe Festival), Throuples Counseling (Arts West), and Spring Awakening (Tantrum Theater). She also premiered her show Maggie's Convent, which she wrote, directed, and starred in, at her alma mater Ohio University. Much love to her amazing parents for their endless support. Follow her @molly_a_tuck on Instagram. She hopes you enjoy the show!

LOGAN REED He/Him (Swing) is so excited to be back on the Out Front Stage! Previous credits include: SnowGirls - The Musical (Out Front Theatre), A Year With Frog and Toad (Woodstock Arts), and A Raisin in the Sun (Marietta's Theatre in the Square). He has also gotten to work on several immersive theatre experiences including The Stranger Things Experience (Netflix x Fever) and The Little Mermaid Immersive Adventure (Disney x CAMP). Thank you so much for coming to see the show and for supporting the arts in Atlanta!

CREATIVE TEAM

JUSTIN KALIN He/Him (Director) is thrilled to be directing again on Out Front's stage! Most recent directing credits include the regional premiere of warplay at Out Front. He serves as the Associate Artistic Director at Out Front Theatre Company, where he oversees all things casting, literary, and development. Launched in 2018, Justin is the producer of the Spectrum Spotlight Series, a staged

reading series dedicated to unproduced queer work written by Atlanta playwrights. Justin has worked as a director, producer, and dramaturg with many local companies including Working Title Playwrights, Drama Tech, and Actor's Express, where he also works as Casting Director. All my love to Casey and crew for my patience as I disappear into rehearsal for weeks on end. Thank YOU for supporting this phenomenal cast and crew and being a part of live theater in Atlanta!

ALLI REINHARDT She/Her (Music Director) Atlanta: Ruthless!, SnowGirls - The Musical (Out Front Theatre); The Christians, Company, Everybody's Talking About Jamie, Falsettos, Fun Home, Head Over Heels, Heathers, Sweeney Todd, Rent (Suzi Bass award nomination - Music Direction), The Rocky Horror Show (Actor's Express); The Pretty Pants Bandit (Georgia Ensemble Theatre); Freaky Friday, Nobody Loves You (Suzi Bass award nomination - Music Direction) (Horizon Theatre); The Light in the Piazza (Theatrical Outfit); The Last Five Years (independent production, Alliance Theatre); Sweeney Todd (DramaTech Theatre). Regional: Children of Eden, Thoroughly Modern Millie (Gainesville Theatre Alliance); Forever Plaid (Jekyll Island Musical Theatre Festival); A Little Night Music, Ragtime, The Secret Garden (Peach State Summer Theatre). Education: Masters of Music Literature & Theory, The University of Georgia. "To my CCR and Hadley Sue, I love you the most!"

ATARIUS ARMSTRONG He/Him

(Choreographer) is honored to be back with Out Front Theatre for the third time! Previous choreography: Out Front Theatre: *The Prom, Kinky Boots*. Jennie T. Andersen Theatre: *The Wild Party*. Atarius is also the Artistic Director and founder of ALA Dance, a contemporary dance company based in Atlanta, GA and has had the privilege of presenting works

across the south east. @atariusarmstrong | atariusarmstrong.com

JACKIE LENZ She/Her (Production Stage Manager) Jackie has been working as a Stage Manager in Atlanta since 2018 and is thrilled to be making her debut at Out front Theatre Company! Previous credits include: Next to Normal, Assassins, The Last Five Years (The Jennie T. Anderson); Beautiful, Swindlers, Mary Poppins, The Play That Goes Wrong (Aurora Theatre); The Pretty Pants Bandit (Georgia Ensemble Theatre); Natasha, Pierre, and The Great Comet of 1812 (Horizon Theatre); Jekyll and Hyde, The Addams Family (Atlanta Lyric Theatre); The Niceties (Stage Door Theatre) She wants to thank her parents for their unending support in all she does & her boyfriend, Gray, for his support, love, and light. Jackie dedicates this production to her Pop-Pop and Grandma, who are always cheering her on in the front row in spirit. IG: @iackielenz16

DAVID REINGOLD He/Him (Lighting Designer) is always glad to be back at Out Front! Some of his other favorites here include The Prom, Kinky Boots, and At the Wake of a Dead Drag Queen. Around Atlanta: Mercury (Actor's Express); Tuesdays with Morrie, The Mad Hatterpillar, The Mousetrap (Stage Door Theatre); Rooted, Support Group for Men (Horizon Theatre); Breathe, This Silly Little Game (Atlanta Contemporary Dance Company) among many others. Up next he will be assistant designing Christmas Canteen at the Aurora Theatre. "Story construction is alchemy, not science" --Robin Laws. See more at davidreingold.net.

JAY REYNOLDS He/Him (Costume Designer), being a devoted Hair Hopper, is thrilled to be designing *Hairspray* at Out Front Theatre! Past favorite Out Front Theatre credits for Costume Design include: *Psycho Beach Party*,

The Prom, Kinky Boots, Ruthless!, When Last We Flew, All the Natalie Portmans, Xanadu, La Cage aux Folles, The Ethel Merman Disco Christmas Spectacular!, The View UpStairs, The Rocky Horror Show, Sordid Lives, Priscilla, Queen of the Desert: The Musical, and The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told. 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!

CATHLEEN O'NEAL She/Her (Wig Designer) is thrilled to be returning to Out Front Theatre Company: Previous Atlanta credits include, Wig Designer for Out Front's SnowGirls - The Musical, Costume Designer for Abigail, 1702 (Aurora Theatre), Stitcher for Mamma Mia (Aurora Theatre), Stitcher for The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Aurora Theatre), Costume Designer for A Midsummer Nights Dream (Holy Innocence Episcopal School), Costume Designer for The Wizard of Oz (HIES), Costume Designer for Frozen Jr. (HIES), Costume Designer for Alice Through the Looking Glass (HIES), Costume Designer for Head Over Heels (Georgia College and State University), Hair and Makeup Designer for The Revolutionist (GCSU), Hair and Makeup Designer for Heathers (GCSU). Cathleen works full time at Georgia College and State University as the Costume Shop Supervisor. Follow her on Instagram @cathleenonealcostumedesign.

SYDNEY LEE She/Her (Scenic & Properties Designer) is an Atlanta-based photographer, designer, and production manager. She was the production manager for the 2023 Southeast Emmy Award-Winning Georgia High School Musical Theatre Awards, assistant director for a play featured in the

Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and a founding member of Zero Circle Theatre Company. Her photography and graphic design work has been shown in publications such as American Theatre Magazine, Georgia Voice, Yale Daily News and billboards and other public-facing platforms. Past Out Front design credits include The Prom, SnowGirls - The Musical, and Kinky Boots (Co-Scenic Designer), Psycho Beach Party, The Gulf, and SnowGirls - The Musical (Props Designer). Much love to Nick and their four beautiful children (cats), her family, and viewers like you. Photography instagram @sydneywithacamera.

BRADY BROWN He/Him (Sound Designer) is flipping out to be working on Hairspray. He is the creator and director of Judy's 100th Birthday Celebration Cabaret at Out Front Theatre Company and Holigays as a part of 7 Stages' Curious Holiday Encounters. Previous sound design credits include: Psycho Beach Party, The Prom, Ruthless! (Broadway World Atlanta Award for Best Sound Design), I Wanna F***ing Tear You Apart, Christmas Dearest, Homos, or Everyone in America (Out Front Theatre), and Sweat (Atlanta City Theatre). He also serves as the Director of Marketing & Communications on staff at Out Front. Thanks to Mom for all the support. Don't stop that beat! "Give the people what they want and then go have a hamburger." Judy Garland

ELLIOTT FOLDS He/Him (Dramaturg) See cast bio.

LAURA HACKMAN She/Her (Intimacy Director) is thrilled to be back at Out Front where she previously enjoyed doing intimacy direction for Psycho Beach Party and The Prom. Locally, Laura has also intimacy directed at The Alliance Theatre, Actor's Express, Woodstock Arts, Oglethorpe

University, and Georgia State University. In NYC, Laura serves as the Resident Intimacy Consultant for Mercury Store. Laura is also a theatre director with more than 70 productions to her name and an arts educator, currently teaching in the School of Film, Media and Theatre at Georgia State University and Oglethorpe University. She holds an MFA in Directing from The Catholic University of America.

ANNABELLE NORTON She/Her (Assistant Stage Manager) is overjoyed to make her Out Front backstage debut! Previous educational credits include: Big Fish (Orbit), All Shook Up (Orbit), Ragtime (Orbit), Guys and Dolls (Onstage Atlanta), The Music Man (Onstage Atlanta). Follow her @annabelle.eliseee on Instagram (if she's logged in). She hopes you love the show as much as she does!

ELIZA RAINEY They/Them (Assistant Wig Designer) is a Theatre & English student at Georgia College & State University. This is their Out Front Theatre Debut. Educational credits: At the Wedding (Costume Designer), We Will Rock You (Hair & Makeup Designer), Leveling Up (Assistant Costume Designer & Wardrobe Supervisor), Head Over Heels (Makeup Designer). They are very excited to be working at Out Front for the first time. They would like to thank Cathleen O'Neal for this opportunity to work with her.

ABBY FRANKLIN SMITH *She/Her* (Assistant Dramaturg) is delighted to be working on her very first professional show with Out Front! Recent dramaturgical credits include *Pride and Prejudice* (Kennesaw State University) and Sweat (KSU). Love to Xavier, always.





This production of *Hairspray* is dedicated to Dr. Jesse Peel.

Last year Out Front Theatre Company lost one of the truest friends we have ever known. Dr. Jesse Peel was a champion of our work from day one and for decades he worked tirelessly to raise up the entire LGBTQ+ community through his work as an early advocate for those suffering from HIV/AIDS.

At his funeral service, the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus performed one of Jesse's favorite songs; "I Know Where I've Been" from Hairspray. While Jesse may not be physically here with us for this production, we know he is watching us from afar and singing along.

He is truly missed and forever loved.

There's a promise we must make
But the riches will be plenty
Worth the risk and the chances we take
There's a dream with the future
There's a struggle that we have yet to win
Use that pride in our hearts
To lift us up to tomorrow
'Cause just to sit still would be a sin
I know where I'm going
Lord knows, I know
Where I've been
I'll give thanks to my God
'Cause I know where I've been

There's a road we must travel





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Dramaturgy

Writer and director John Waters calls *Hairspray* (1988) the "only radical film I've created." With just a glance at any of Waters' earlier works, one might raise an eyebrow. Waters had spent the beginning of his career building up a filmography of transgressive, experimental cult films like Pink Flamingos (1972) and Polyester (1981) that featured shocking displays of gore, sex, and crime. Waters was most interested in exploring what he affectionately dubbed "good-bad taste:" the stylistic exploration of indecency. Armed with a classic underdog narrative and 1960's nostalgia, Hairspray became Waters' ticket to commercial success. Since its popularity at its release, the film has since spawned a Tony Awardwinning musical adaption in 2002, and later its own musical film in 2007, firmly cementing itself into pop culture. So how could the wholesome, technicolor world of *Hairspray* be "radical" compared to Water's prior provocative works?

The seed of *Hairspray* took root in the mind of a teenage Waters growing up in Baltimore. Much like Tracy, he witnessed the impact of racism on his peers and neighbors at a young age in the 50's and 60's, from the incarceration of Black friends for minor offenses to the segregation of his favorite local dance show, The Buddy Deane Show (1957-1964). This awareness helped to shape the unique lens through which he viewed his art: "I find humor in all the things that are terrible about America and things that people have anxiety about. The first step of getting rid of anxiety is to laugh at it."

Hairspray isn't a documentary, nor is it a message film or teen pic. It's a bizarre amalgamation of parts: political and poetic, celebratory and critical, sincere and silly. The film weaves and winds its way around these conflicting identities, reaching into the realm of camp. The term "camp" rejects definition by nature, but is described by writer Susan Sontag as "the love of the unnatural: of artifice and exaggeration." One scenestealing example of the unnatural in the film is Edna Turnblad and her traditionally male-identified performer, originated by the legendary drag queen Divine. Divine's gargantuan presence and extravagant performance gives the film a funhouse-mirror quality, and yet Edna is a fully-dimensional, lovingly written character.

Dramaturgy (CONTINUED)

This genuine treatment of the seemingly-strange is where *Hairspray* thrives, and where the through-line of John Waters' works makes itself seen: celebrating the "other." It's about the individuals and communities left on the fringes of the dominant cultural narrative, those whose contributions to culture have been appropriated and gone unrecognized. With this in mind, it's quite ironic that a film about the shortcomings of the white, cisgendered pop culture narrative managed to create its own place within it. "It snuck in mid-America," Waters said retrospectively. "Even racists like it."

In 1962 Baltimore, like in 2024 America, there are multiple ways someone can be an outsider: Blackness, fatness, queerness. *Hairspray* provides for its audience a reality in which the absurdity of societal division is on full display, and champions a vision of optimism rooted in awareness, solidarity, and love. While the reality we inhabit can feel impossibly divided, we must keep hope for a more inclusive future—one where the division of fear is alleviated by curiosity, humor, and love.

Abby Franklin Smith
 Student Dramaturg, Kennesaw State University



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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.



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Justin Kalin (He/Him) -Associate Artistic Director

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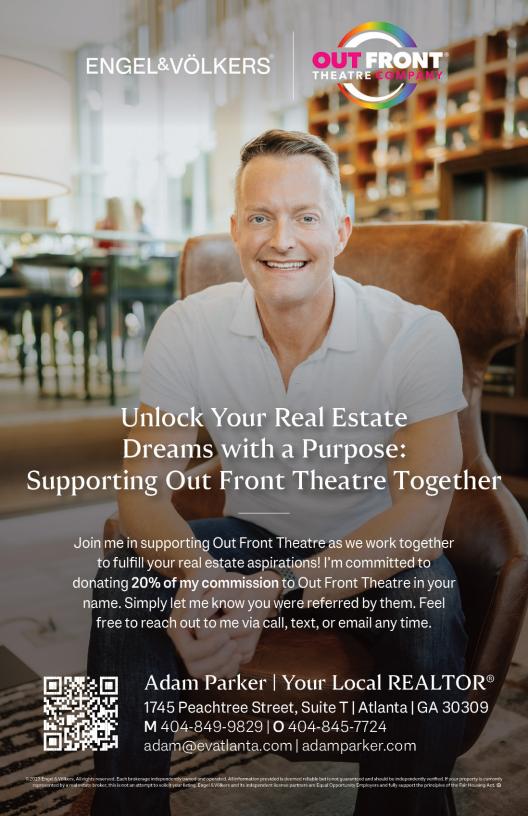
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