



INTO THE WOODS

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine

Originally Directed on Broadway by James Lapine
Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

Original Broadway production by
Heidi Landesman Rocco Landesman Rick Steiner
M. Anthony Fisher Frederic H. Mayerson Jujamcyn Theatres

Originally produced by the Old Globe Theater, San Diego, CA

INTO THE WOODS

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PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

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CAST:

Baker	BEN SNYDER*
Baker's Wife.....	LEAH MATHIE
Cinderella	GENEVIEVE ELLIS
Young Narrator (Act One)	MYLES BRUCE
Older Narrator (Act Two)/Mysterious Man	STEVE WENDELL*
Jack.....	BRENT HETRICK*
Jack's Mother	COLLEEN PRITTIE
Milky White	AVA STRIPP
Cinderella's Stepmother.....	B.J. ANGSTADT*
Florinda	EMMA NATHANSON
Lucinda	ADRIA URBANOWICZ
Cinderella's Father	MICHAEL WEISS
Little Red Ridinghood.....	ZAYNA DARRES
Witch	ESTHER DEMARY
Cinderella's Mother.....	ANNA MCJUNKIN
Wolf.....	MARLEY TRESSLER*
Granny.....	KAREN BIEBEL
Rapunzel.....	KARALYN HEADLEY
Rapunzel's Prince	ALEX STALEY*
Cinderella's Prince.....	PATRICK VAHEY
Steward.....	JOHN CHAMPAGNE
Giant.....	CHARLENE NEWPORT
Snow White.....	THERESA DIERKES*
Sleeping Beauty	ABIGAIL WHITE*

**Indicates Playhouse Mainstage debut*

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....	DOMENIC DEL GRECO
Assistant Director/Choreographer.....	KATE NEUBERT-LECHNER
Music Director.....	PATRICK ROSE
Stage Manager.....	NICOLE SCHNEELOCK
Assistant Stage Manager.....	SAMI DEUFEL
Scenic Design	BRENDAN DAUGHERTY, DOMENIC DEL GRECO AUDREY KING
Scenic Assistants	NICOLE SCHNEELOCK, NICO LOMBARDO
Scenic Intern.....	AUDREY KING
Stage Crew.....	AARON HOLMAN, MOLLY PARKS, BRIANNE BURTON TESS CALLAGHAN, LISA CALLAGHAN, LILIUM PIERCE
Costume Designer.....	RYAN INGRAM
Costumer/Stitcher.....	CRYSTAL CORRITORE
Wig & Hair Design/Makeup Design	MICHAEL HIPWELL JEANNE SANTOS
Sound Tech	TONY GRESSLEY, GRISE AUDIO VISUAL
Photography.....	RICK KLEIN
Front of "LOT" Manager	ANGELA PULLING
Amenities.....	WAYSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH "WAYOUTH" THE PLAYHOUSE WING
Business Manager	CHARLES CORRITORE

THE ORCHESTRA

Conductor	PATRICK ROSE
Piano.....	ANDREW RAINBOW
Woodwinds	LINDA FEDERICI, DEB MORVAY
Trumpet	KEN BERLIN
French Horn	KATIE BERLIN, ROGER BRUMAGIN
Percussion	LIZ ALWARD
Violin	MAUREEN FERRARA, CARYN MOORE, BECKY LAND
Cello	DAN BAINBRIDGE
Bass	RYAN PATSY

Special Thanks: Wayside Presbyterian Church for hosting our "woods!"

SYNOPSIS OF MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Prologue: <i>Into the Woods</i>	Ensemble
<i>Cinderella at the Grave</i>	Cinderella, Cinderella's Mother
<i>Hello, Little Girl</i>	Wolf, Little Red Ridinghood
<i>The Spell is On My House</i>	Baker, Baker's Wife
<i>I Guess This is Goodbye</i>	Jack
<i>Maybe They're Magic</i>	Baker's Wife
<i>Our Little World</i>	Witch, Rapunzel
<i>Maybe They're Magic (Reprise)</i>	Baker
<i>I Know Things Now</i>	Little Red Ridinghood
<i>A Very Nice Prince</i>	Cinderella, Baker's Wife
<i>First Midnight</i>	Ensemble
<i>Giants in the Sky</i>	Jack
<i>Agony</i>	Cinderella's Prince, Rapunzel's Prince
<i>A Very Nice Prince (Reprise)</i>	Cinderella, Baker's Wife
<i>It Takes Two</i>	Baker, Baker's Wife
<i>Second Midnight</i>	Witch, Cinderella's Prince, Rapunzel's Prince, Stepmother, Florinda, Lucinda
<i>Stay With Me</i>	Witch, Rapunzel
<i>On the Steps of the Palace</i>	Cinderella
<i>Ever After</i>	Young Narrator, Ensemble

ACT II

Prologue: <i>So Happy</i>	Ensemble
<i>Agony (Reprise)</i>	Cinderella's Prince, Rapunzel's Prince
<i>Witch's Lament</i>	Witch
<i>Any Moment</i>	Cinderella's Prince, Baker's Wife
<i>Any Moment (Reprise)</i>	Cinderella's Prince, Baker's Wife
<i>Moments in the Woods</i>	Baker's Wife
<i>Your Fault</i>	Jack, Baker, Witch, Cinderella, Little Red Ridinghood
<i>Last Midnight</i>	Witch
<i>No More</i>	Baker, Mysterious Man
<i>No One Is Alone (Part 1)</i>	Cinderella, Little Red Ridinghood
<i>No One Is Alone (Part 2)</i>	Cinderella, Little Red Ridinghood, Baker, Jack
Finale: <i>Children Will Listen</i>	Witch, Ensemble

WHO'S WHO IN INTO THE WOODS:

B.J. ANGSTADT (Cinderella's Stepmother) is thrilled to be making her Erie Playhouse debut and grateful for the chance to play with this very talented cast and crew. She counts it among the highlights of her 40-plus years in theater. Other favorite roles include Grandma Tzeitel, *Fiddler on the Roof*, Damascus Theatre Company, MD – received a Washington Area Theatre Community Honors (WATCH) nomination, Mrs. Potts, *Beauty and the Beast*, Academy Theatre, Meadville; Edith Frank, *Diary of Anne Frank*, Looking Glass Entertainment tour, Florida, and Fraulein Schneider, *Cabaret*, Meadville Community Theatre. She thanks her husband Bruce for all the love and support.

KAREN BIEBEL (Granny) is so excited to get to be part of *Into the Woods*, and meet such amazing people. In the past she has had the pleasure of singing in the pit for *Mamma Mia!* and the choir for *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. She loves to sing and is so thankful that theater is on again! Karen would like to thank her loving husband Matt for not getting to frustrated when she is wandering the house singing away and always coming to see her in any show.

MYLES BRUCE (Young Narrator) is glad to be a part of *Into the Woods* at the Erie Playhouse. Although having done 14 shows at the Playhouse, this is only his second main stage show. Outside of the Playhouse he has done 7 shows through General McLane School District, and also played a role in a show at Gannon University. Outside of Theater, Myles does Ballet and Tap classes. Myles would like to thank his family and all of the directors and teachers who help him improve and support his dream of one day performing on Broadway in New York City.

JOHN CHAMPAGNE (Steward) teaches English at Penn State Behrend. After a long hiatus, he is thrilled to be returning to the Playhouse stage, where he appeared in *Aida*, *Tommy*, and *La Cage aux Folles*. He last performed as Big Mama in Dario Fo's *Elizabeth*, *Almost By Chance a Woman* at PSU. He and his husband Richard divide their time between Erie and their home in Perugia, Italy.

ZAYNA DARRES (Little Red Ridinghood) is thrilled to be performing with this exceptional cast and crew! She has been participating in Erie Playhouse productions since her Youththeater debut at age 5. Currently a rising senior at McDowell, she is looking forward to the full return to live theater and hopes to see you again soon. Enjoy the show!

ESTHER DEMARY (Witch) is thrilled to be back and singing live with her talented cast members! She recently performed in the virtual production of *Grand Night For Singing*, Belladova in *Phantom* and Anna in *Spring Awakening*. Esther is a secondary choral director and musical director at Harbor Creek Senior High School.

THERESA DIERKES (Snow White) is new to the Erie area as of February and is grateful to be included in Erie Playhouses production of *Into the Woods!* Her dream role is Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* and her favorite role to ever play on stage is Jetsam in *The Little Mermaid*. She would love to thank everyone in the cast for being so welcoming and warm! Here's to a good show!

GENEVIEVE ELLIS (Cinderella) is overjoyed to return to the Playhouse stage, and in one of her favorite shows! She is a graduate of SUNY Fredonia's BFA in Musical Theatre program, and currently working towards her advanced certificate in vocal pedagogy. Favorite credits include: Mabel (*Pirates of Penzance*), Brooke Ashton (*Noises Off*), Helena (*Midsummer Night's Dream*), Sister Mary Robert (*Sister Act*), and she is looking forward to geeking out onstage as Portia in the Playhouse's production of *Something Rotten* this October! Genevieve would like to thank Daniel, Bentley and her family for their constant love and support. Also, a HUGE thanks to the entire production team for bringing live theatre back!

KARALYN HEADLEY (Rapunzel) is delighted to finally be a part of this rich and thought-provoking show, years after falling for it as a teenager. Karalyn recently earned her MFA and MLitt degrees in Shakespeare and Performance from Mary Baldwin University. She would like to thank Dom, Kate, and Niki for their excellent leadership, and the whole team for making this such a joyful and memorable experience. It is wonderful to be back with the Playhouse!

BRENT HETRICK (Jack) is so excited to be making his Playhouse debut in *Into The Woods*. His past onstage experience has been at the Barrow Civic Theatre in Franklin. Brent just graduated from Allegheny-Clarion Valley in Foxburg and will be attending SUNY Fredonia to study musical theatre in the fall. He has had a wonderful time preparing for this show and has had so much fun with his amazing cast mates. He would like to thank his teachers, family, and friends for their support.

LEAH MATHIE (Baker's Wife) is so happy to share the stage with this wonderful cast. Recent credits include *A Christmas Carol*, *Stop Kiss*, and *Spring Awakening*. She'd like to thank Stephen Sondheim for writing all her favorite musicals, and Kate & Dom for letting her be a part of this one.

ANNA MCJUNKIN (Cinderella's Mother) is so thankful for the opportunity to be a part of The Playhouse's return to live, in-person performance. She studied English and Theatre at Baldwin Wallace University and is now an active participant in Erie's community theaters. Recent Playhouse credits include *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Ensemble), and *Spring Awakening* (Adult Authority Figure). She is the Community Programming Manager on Dramashop's Creative Team and enjoys acting and directing as well as coordinating the monthly book club. Dramashop credits include *Natural Shocks* (Assistant Director), *Crumble: Lay Me Down Justin Timberlake* (Director), *Edgar Allan Poe's Nevermore* (Virginia), and *Fun Home* (Medium Alison). Anna also enjoys painting, ceramics, and costume design. She works for a local screen-printing business and lives with her husband Brandon, who is a Metalsmith, and her dog Sufja, who is an Australian Shepherd.

EMMA NATHANSON (Florinda) is thrilled to return to the stage after a hiatus! She is currently pursuing her PhD in school psychology at Michigan State University and plans to return to Erie following graduation to work as a psychologist. Past favorite roles include Penny in *Hairspray* (2010) at the Erie Playhouse, and Maria in *West Side Story* (2012) and Olive Ostrovsky in *Spelling Bee* (2011) at General McLane High School.

CHARLENE NEWPORT (Giant) has been acting for about 3 years. This is her second Playhouse production, after being in *A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play* last December. She has been onstage at PACA, Dramashop and All An Act, and can be next seen in Gannon's Shakespeare Summer Nights production of *Titus Andronicus* on July 19, 20 and 21.

COLLEEN PRITTE (Jack's Mother) is a BCM at the Achievement Center working with some of the most inspiring children and families. She sings in the Episcopal Cathedral of St Paul, where she also assists with the children's choir. While some of her favorite roles at the Playhouse include *Cinderella* (Fairy Godmother), *Sister Act* (Sister Mary Patrick), *The Sound Of Music* (Mother Abbess), *Matilda* (Mrs. Phelps), her favorite roles are being an aunt, a godmother, and being Tigger the cat's mom.

BEN SNYDER (Baker) is not new to theatre, though this is his first performance with the Playhouse. Growing up in Titusville, PA, his parents were heavily involved with the town's community theatre organizations, and as such he spent time year-round attending rehearsals, listening to show tunes, and observing the inner workings of the theatre arts. Once old enough, he began participating in as many productions as possible and has worked both onstage and off. Ben has a degree in Music Education from Slippery Rock University and is currently applying to schools for a degree in Musical Theatre Performance. Ben currently serves on the Titusville Summer Theater board of directors. *Into the Woods* is Ben's favorite show, and the opportunity to portray the Baker has been a dream come true.

ALEX STALEY (Rapunzel's Prince) grew up in the John E. Horan apartments in East Erie. There, he was exposed to the arts through the YMCA Kids Club. As a child, he participated in annual theatre productions put on by the Kids Club. From there, Alex continued to develop his arts-based skill set and soft skills by participating in productions at the Erie Playhouse. As a teenager, Alex was enrolled in the YMCA Teen Center, where he was exposed to filmmaking and music production under the guidance of Corey Cook and John C. Lyons. As an adult, to give back to a program that was meaningful to him, Alex volunteered at the Teen Center up until the COVID-19 public health pandemic. Alex has worked as an assistant with visiting artists in 2020 with Erie Arts & Culture's visiting artist residency program. He also was one of the filmmakers selected by the Erie Dance Film Festival who worked collaboratively to create *Time's Ballad*. Additionally, starting in 2021, Alex works as a camera operator for PACA's Sunday concert series, as well as a production assistant at Community Access Media.

AVA STRIPP (Milky White) is excited to be featured in Sondheim's classic, *Into the Woods!* She will be a senior at Fairview High School this coming school year and has been active at the Erie Playhouse. A few past shows include *She Kills Monsters* (Agnes), *Cinderella* (Ensemble), and *Frozen Jr.* (Ensemble). When not on stage she enjoys video games and writing. She'd like to thank her parents Erica and Dan for their endless support.

MARLEY TRESSLER (Wolf) is excited to be performing in her second Playhouse production. Her first appearance on the Playhouse stage occurred last year as Elsa in *Frozen Jr.* She will be attending Point Park University this fall and majoring in Cinema Production. Marley would like to thank her aunts and uncles, siblings, cast mates, crew, and her mom for all helping her make progress towards her future goals and dreams.

ADRIA URBANOWICZ (Lucinda) is elated to be a part of a Sondheim classic with such an amazing and talented cast and crew! She is entering her sophomore year at SUNY Fredonia as a BFA Musical Theatre major with a double minor in Dance and Arts Administration this fall. Her most recent credits include Evil Tina in *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms* (SUNY Fredonia), Kathy Selden in *Singin' in the Rain* (Mercyhurst Preparatory School), Flora/Ensemble in *Phantom* (Erie Playhouse), Lorraine Flemming in *42nd Street* (Erie Playhouse), and Sally Ann in *Dick Clarkson's Jukebox Hop* (Station Dinner Theatre). A very special thank you to my family for all of their love and support over the years. Break legs everyone!

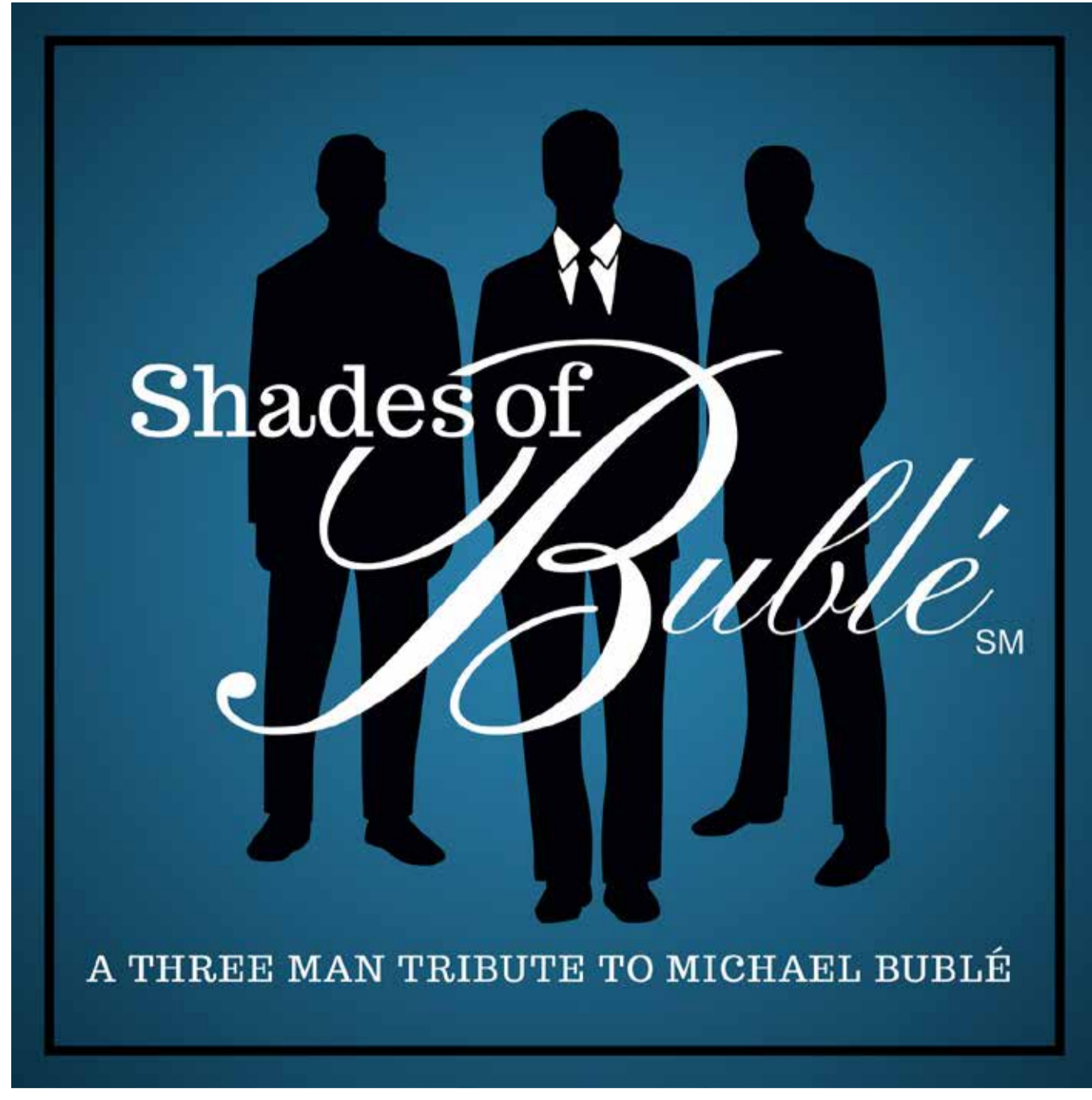
PATRICK VAHEY (Cinderella's Prince) is charmed and elated to be back at the Erie Playhouse! He was last seen on the Playhouse stage as Tarzan, 9 years ago. Since then, was a lead vocalist on Celebrity Cruises (Century & Mercury), and in numerous shows in Las Vegas, Arizona, and Seattle. Such as: *Motown Memories* (Mike Moloney Ent.), *Liverpool Knights* (Derek; MMEC), *A Touch of Broadway* (MMEC), *Jersey Rocks* (MMEC). Performed the Nat'l Anthem on the VSPN (WNET), *BravoTV*, and performed a medley for the Vanderpump Rules Cast (BravoTV), and has sang for numerous cabarets, conventions, and trade shows, in Las Vegas (Wynn, SLS, Tuscany, LVCC, Artifact) While back in Erie he's been enjoying time with family & friends, writing music, sleeping, and just being HOME! #BLM #LGBTQIA #LOVE

MICHAEL WEISS (Cinderella's Father) is so happy to be back onstage after a 17-month hiatus due to the Covid crisis. He was the assistant director for the Playhouse's last hit show *Gaslight* and appeared in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* among many others. Michael has appeared on stage, in television and film for 50 years, and was the founder of the former Directors Circle Theatre. He is enjoying his 2nd year of retirement.

STEVE WENDELL (Mysterious Man/Act 2 Narrator) is thrilled to be making his Erie Playhouse debut. He has appeared in over a dozen musicals in Jamestown, NY, most recently as Doc in *West Side Story*. Some favorite roles include Wilbur in *Hairspray*, Galahad in *Spamalot*, Amos in *Chicago*, among others. He is so happy *Into The Woods* is bringing theatre back to life! Love and thanks to Mindy, his family and friends for the encouragement.

ABIGAIL WHITE (Sleeping Beauty) is 15 years old. She is from Clymer, NY where she goes to school and works at The Dutch Village Restaurant. She enjoys sports and plays basketball and volleyball. Abby has taken some acting classes and hopes to use these skills in future productions. She has had so much fun being a part of *Into The Woods* at The Erie Playhouse. She says she has met so many wonderful people.

COMING THIS FALL:



Shades of Bublé: A Three-Man Tribute to Michael Bublé brings the swinging standards and pop hits of Michael Bublé to the stage in an unforgettable high-energy concert event. Starring Erie's own Michael Valentine, this act has been wowing audiences around the country with exciting harmonies, smooth choreography, and charming good looks!

Thank you to the Randy Faipler Memorial Foundation for partnering with the Erie Playhouse for this exciting event. The Foundation was created by friends and family of the late Randy Faipler. The purpose of the Foundation is to keep his legacy alive by raising money for local charities and non-profits and will be hosting a basket raffle as well as 50/50s to raise funds for the Second Harvest Food Bank during the event.

Shades of Bublé will have two performances at the Erie Playhouse:

- 2:00pm afternoon matinee
- 7:30pm evening **SEASON REOPENING GALA**, featuring a cocktail hour before the show!

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY, AUGUST 23, AT 9AM

SOMETHING ROTTEN!

The Erie Playhouse is excited to be one of the first community theatres in the nation to bring **Something Rotten!** to the stage!!! One of the funniest musicals to come out of Broadway in years, there is hardly time to recover from the last burst of hysterics or applause before you'll find yourself laughing out loud again. Fans of history and theater alike will remain enthralled with the innumerable references to Shakespeare's most infamous quotes and dozens of musical theater references. The musical is over-the-top, flashy and full of energy, keeping the audience engaged throughout each of the show's 19 lively numbers and definitely not one to miss!

**Adult language/situations*

October 8-10 & 15-17

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 AT 9AM



With a colorful score and cast of characters, **Tuck Everlasting** takes a well-known novel and brings it to life on stage. In this musical, young Winnie Foster meets the Tucks, an immortal family that is living on the edge of society, determined to keep their lives secret. When a greedy man threatens their way of life, Winnie is tasked with saving her new family. This show explores what it is to be free and live a full life while asking the question, "If given the chance of immortality, would you take it?"

**Youtheatre*

November 19-21

TICKETS ON SALE MONDAY, OCTOBER 18 AT 9AM



Based on the 1954 movie starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Rosemary Cloone and Vera-Ellen, **Irving Berlin's White Christmas** tells the story of a song-and-dance team putting on a show in a magical Vermont inn and falling for a stunning sister act in the process. Full of dancing, laughter and some of the greatest songs ever written including "Happy Holiday," "Sisters," "The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing," "Snow" and the unforgettable title song. *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* promises to be a merry and bright musical for the whole family.

December 3-5 & 10-12

TICKETS ON SALE NOVEMBER 1 AT 9AM

AUDITIONS!

August 1 & 2 • 6:00 p.m.

Something Rotten! & White Christmas

Additional information will be posted SOON! Be sure to check our website at erieplayhouse.org/get-involved to find out all audition requirements and available roles.