

PLAYBILL

THE SIOUX EMPIRE COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS

ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY BY
DEAN PITCHFORD

STAGE ADAPTATION BY
DEAN PITCHFORD
& WALTER BOBBIE

MUSIC BY
TOM SNOW

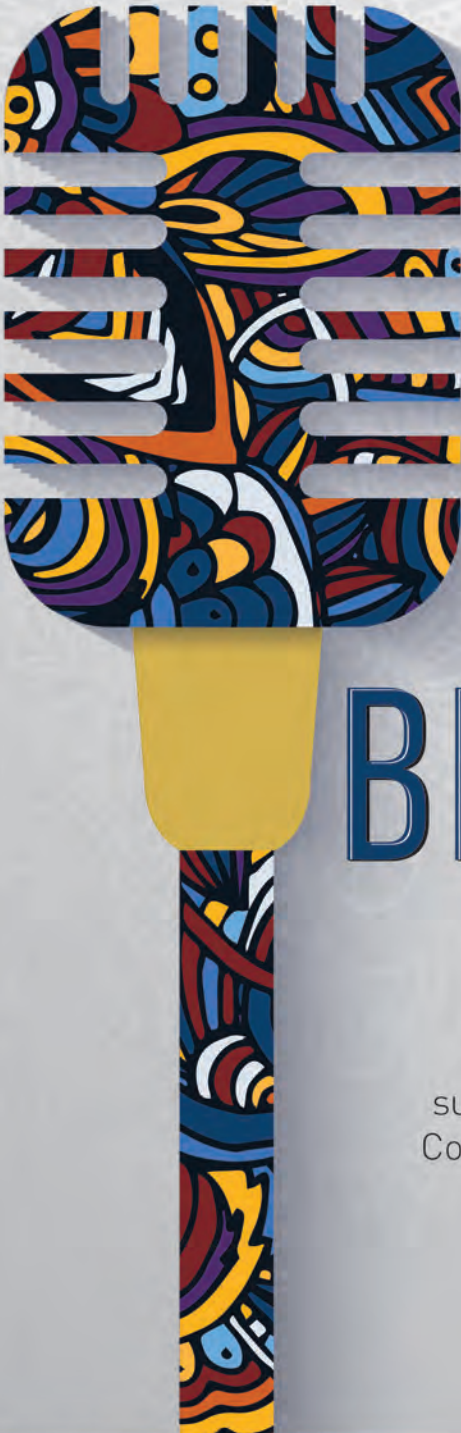


JUNE 17 - 20 & 24 - 27

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THANK YOU TO MILES & LISA BEACOM

The Sioux Empire Community Theatre would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt appreciation to Miles and Lisa Beacom for sponsoring our production of *Footloose*.

Miles and Lisa have been supporters of the arts including community theatre for many years. We can't thank your both enough for bringing this wonderful community production to the historic Orpheum Theater and the Sioux Empire region.



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Bethke, Breanna
Blocker, Gail
Caldwell, Larry
Chuanpit, Wei
Coombs, Linda
David Baumeister Jr.
Deberg, Amy
Faber, Sheryl
Flynn, Carol
Gerberding, Bette
Goldammer, Michaela
Johannsen, Jess
Jones, Debbi
Lawrence, Madison
Lenderts, Keaton
Masters, Jennifer
Meier, Linda
Nelson, Bob
Nesheim, Roberta
Nesiba, Ronald
Newcomb-Weiland, Alex
Peters, Fred
Rieck, Matthew
Schofield, Amy
Schulte, Linda
Schulz-Elsing, Sharon
Simmons, Thomas
Smotherman, Tom
Snuggerud, Jill
Sopko, Darlene
Spencer, Linda
Spomer, Todd
Sutton, Pam
Weiland, Donnie
Weiland, Kevin
Wenzel, E. Stuart

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We made it!

We started our Season 18 very late in December and squeezed it into 7 months making *Footloose* our final show before starting Season 19 in September. We have a terrific 5 show line up for the new season that will be announced to you live at this performance.

A heartfelt thank you to those of you who have supported us throughout and attended shows without intervals, wearing masks and socially distanced. Most of that is behind us now although we are asking you for one last time to please cooperate and wear your mask. We cannot ask people to produce evidence of vaccinations and as some people bought tickets expecting the mask rule to be in place until the end of the season, this is why we ask for your cooperation. Next Season we plan to return to normal and to entertain you without these restrictions.

All of the shows that we performed during Covid made a small profit, not least *Beauty and the Beast* which was a sellout although social distancing meant that we had to significantly reduce seating availability. We are in good shape as we start the season in our new offices on the ground floor at the Southeast corner of the building. You are welcome to drop in, have a coffee with us and take a look. We truly hope that you do. We have double doors right into the suite from Phillips Ave south of the main entrance. Our relationship with the Washington Pavilion has developed into a strong and healthy partnership that is creating a sound and steady base for future expansion and collaborations with other Arts organizations through the hub that we hope our new offices will become. Fellow Arts professionals, come and visit us and let's explore the possibilities.

My thanks to our Board, our staff and volunteers, the show directors, stage managers, props, lighting, sound, costume, set design and building, painting, marketing, box office and countless other volunteers for working so hard to make Season 18 happen under difficult circumstances. If you like the sound of our upcoming Season when you hear it announced, you can sign up for your Season Ticket in the Foyer at the interval or after the show. We offer Five shows for only \$125.00 because we are a community theatre. Where else can you see quality live theatre at such bargain prices?

Thank you all once more and enjoy our production of *Footloose*, they have all worked so hard.

Robin Byrne

Sioux Empire Community Theatre's Executive Director



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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

There are moments in life when our struggles dominate our daily lives. We might struggle to connect with ourselves or where our lives are at. Maybe who or what we surround ourselves with. Somedays, all we can do is survive.

The story of *Footloose* is about survival. It's about overcoming the obstacles life throws at you and navigating through them. It's about understanding and building relationships. It's about grief, loss, and love. It parallels life and the challenges we face. We follow the journey of Ren in this new chapter of his life. We see his struggle with new relationships, obstacles and environments. We watch his influence on the town of Bomont, and observe transformation not only in himself, but in the people that surround him. Each character is fighting their own battles, overcoming their own obstacles and challenging themselves to think differently. Something I think we all can relate to.

When I was first approached about being a part of *Footloose*, I was nervous but excited. I had never directed before and felt extremely under-qualified to take on this show. Yet after two years of not being involved in a theatrical performance, I was itching to exercise my artistic bones and to try my hand in something I have always been interested in.

Looking back to our first day, it's hard to believe that this is the same group of people. Each person in this cast, production crew and at this company have given immense amounts of themselves to put on this performance. The passion, humor, friendship and dedication that radiates from them is what makes this community thrive. From late nights at the scene shop, to 15 hours of rehearsal a week, and countless hours outside of the show; this is the kind of community building that keeps Theatre alive. The Sioux Empire Community Theatre has a special place in my heart and the heart of this city. I couldn't be more honored to be a part of it and to be associated with the people that create it. I feel extremely lucky to be accepted by this company, and specifically this cast. They have made this experience incredible and if I could do it all over again, I would. Maybe someday soon. But right now, please join me in 'cutting loose' with the cast and crew of *FOOTLOOSE*! Enjoy the show!

Alexandra Newcomb-Weiland

Sioux Empire Community Theatre Director



Special thanks to the team at 3M Brookings
for their contributions to SECT's COVID-19
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CAST

Ren McCormack
Coleman Peterson

Ethel McCormack
Debbi Jones

Reverend Shaw Moore
Tyler Raehsler

Vi Moore
Amy Gage

Ariel Moore
Maddie Lukomski

**Lulu Warnicker,
Townsperson**
Ann Henkhaus

**Wes Warnicker,
Townsperson**
Sean Mueller

**Coach Roger Dunbar,
Townsperson**
Clinton Store

**Eleanor Dunbar,
Townsperson**
Allegra Saint-Amand

Rusty
Jaya Wilson

**Urleen, High School
Student**
Alex Van Voorhis

**Wendy Jo, High School
Student**
Noelle McCarthy

Chuck Cranston
Joshua Sauer

**Lyle, High School
Student**
Jackson Heiberger

**Travis, Cowboy Bob, High
School Student**
Christian Heiberger

**A Cop, High School
Student, Townsperson**
Marisa Moser

**Principal Clark, Betty
Blast, Townsperson**
Bekki Kniep

**Jeter, High School
Student**
Rebekah Espland

**Bickle, High School
Student**
Madi Lawrence

**Garvin, High School
Student**
Miles Cowan

**Townsperson, Dance
Captain**
Magen Richeal

High School Students
Mo Hurley
Rebekah Kane
Marlena Espland

CREATIVE TEAM

Director Alexandra Newcomb-Weiland

Stage Manager Jazlynne Williams

Assistant Stage Manager Luke Salerno

Music Director Iwona Lewter

Choreographer Rebekah Merriman

Scenic Designer Jill Clark

Costume Designer Kendra Dexter

Asst. Costume Designer Janet Liesinger

Lighting Designer Malia Lukomski

Sound Designer Malia Lukomski

Master Carpenter John Harris

Mixer Malia Lukomski

Props Master Luke Salerno

Production Assistant Sadie Mickelson

Headshot Photography Nick Weiland
Tiffany Thaelke

SHOW CREW

**Put-in Assistant Stage
Manager**

Bob Nelson

Run Crew

Amanda McMillan
Lindsay Lindaman
Ayden Gage
Riley Galer
Sophia Fette
Joselyn Williams

Costume Crew

Amanda McMillan
Lindsay Lindaman
Riley Galer
Ayden Gage

Spotlight Operators

Amy Williams
Sally Chau

Soundboard Operator

Mike Kutter

Lightboard Operator

Mercedes Arnett

Fly Rail Operator

Joe Fette
Nicole Fette

BAND

Bassist

Brian Masek

Drummer

Gentry Owen

Guitarist

James Schrag

Keyboardist

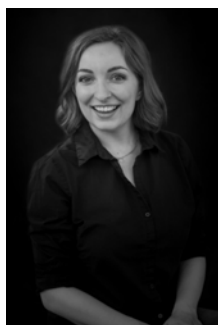
Karl Graber

MEET THE CAST



COLEMAN PETERSON / *Ren McCormack*

Coleman is excited to be making his SECT Mainstage debut in *Footloose*! Local theatre-goers might recognize Coleman from his appearances in Good Night Theatre Collective's *A Royal Cabaret*, *Augie's Clue The Musical* (Mr. Boddy), or the directing credits of *James and the Giant Peach* (AU), *Footloose* (DAPA), or *The Little Mermaid, JR.* (DAPA). Coleman graduated this May from Augustana University with degrees in Elementary Education, Music, and Theatre, and will teach 3rd grade next year at Discovery Elementary in Sioux Falls. He'd like to thank all of the amazing arts educators he's had the chance to work with thus far, and YOU for supporting new artistic endeavors here in the community! Enjoy the show!



DEBBI JONES / *Ethel McCormack*

Debbi Jones is an actor, director and choreographer in Sioux Falls, SD. She graduated with degrees in Communication Studies and Theatre and English from the University of Sioux Falls and studied at the Stella Adler Studio of Acting in NYC. She has performed with several regional theatre companies in Minnesota and South Dakota including Paul Bunyan Playhouse, Bare Bodkins Shakespeare Company, Goodnight Theatre Collective, Ephemeral Productions, and Prairie Repertory Theatre and is a founding member of Improv Falls. She is the Executive Director of Monstrous Little Theatre Company which aims to produce professional, contemporary drama to explore societal issues and human nature and she works full time helping to train the next generation of young performers at the Dakota Academy of Performing Arts. Her most recent directorial credits include the award winning production of *Love, Loss and What I Wore* with Broad Cast Theatre, *A Girl Named Destiny* with Monstrous Little Theatre Company, *Aristocats Kids* with the Dakota Academy of Performing Arts and *The Odd Couple Female Version* with SECT!



TYLER RAEHSLER / *Reverend Shaw Moore*

Tyler RaeHsler is double vacc'd and ready to cut loose! After growing up in central Minnesota, Tyler moved to Sioux Falls in 2011 and graduated from Augustana with majors in English/Secondary Education, as well as minors in Journalism/Communications. He was last seen playing Max in SECT's February 2020 production of *Lend Me a Tenor*, but he's managed to stay continually busy with theatre during the pandemic - not only did he direct a high school production of *Once Upon a Mattress* back in November, but he also directed *Beauty and the Beast* on the Orpheum stage in April (his seventh show as a director). This production marks Tyler's third experience with *Footloose* (he previously played Lyle in 2010, and directed a high school version in 2018). Another fun milestone: this is Tyler's 50th show as a performer, and it's been a blast playing a part that's pretty much his opposite in every conceivable way!

MEET THE CAST

AMY GAGE / *Vi Moore*

Amy is thrilled to be returning to the SECT stage as Vi Moore. You might recognize her most recently as the lovable Mrs. Potts in SECT's production of *Beauty and the Beast*. Other recent credits include SECT's production: *It's a Wonderful Life* (Sally Applewhite) and Lights up Production: *Lost In Vegas* (Ensemble). When she is not busy rehearsing for a show, keeping up with her children and husband, or chasing after her dogs - She works part time as a registered nurse case manager. Amy is so excited to share the stage with this beautifully talented group of performers (now friends)! Also deserving of a standing ovation is her husband, Matt and their 5 children (Ally, Ashleigh, Ayden, Anderson, and Archer). A special thank you to her mom (Georgia), dad (Chuck), sister (Amanda -and family), aunt (Julie), MIL (Karen), and FIL (Fred). Without their love and support - none of this would be possible. Now sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!



MADDIE LUKOMSKI / *Ariel Moore*

Maddie Lukomski (Ariel) is so excited to make her SECT Mainstage debut with the first musical to break her four-year hiatus, *Footloose*! Maddie attends the University of Michigan and plans to graduate with a degree in Social Theory and Practice in the Spring of '22, but hopes to enjoy one of her great joys in life -- musical theatre-- in the meantime. In her college career, she has served as Vice President of a theatre organization on campus, through which she directed a production of *Bright Half Life* and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, appeared in *Farragut North* (Stevie Bellamy) and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Janet). She would like to thank everyone who made this debut possible, including you for patronizing the arts. Thank you, and enjoy the show!



ANN HENKHAUS / *Lulu Warnicker, Townsperson*

Ann was involved in musical theatre during her high school career a LONG TIME AGO including *Oklahoma!* (Laurie), *Annie* (Boylan Sister/ Maid) and *Godspell* (Disciple). After a nearly 30 year hiatus, she made her debut with the Sioux Empire Community Theatre in *Mamma Mia!* (Donna's Chorus) in 2019 and is now back to sing and dance once more. She would like to thank her husband for taking the lead role of Dad and her 4 kids in taking up their supporting roles so that she can get FOOTLOOSE!!!





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MEET THE CAST



SEAN MUELLER / *Wes Warnicker, Townsperson*

After an incredible run as Maurice in *Beauty and The Beast*, Sean Mueller continues his SECT stage performance as (Wes Warnicker/Ensemble). Sean has been away from the theater for more than 2 decades and has been welcomed back onto the stage and into the SECT family with an enormous amount of love and support from both the community and his family. Sean's dream role is to play Jafar in *Disney's Aladdin* (with former *Beauty and the Beast* cast mate Casey Kusak as the Genie - hint hint) and maybe someday take on the role of director. Sean is humbled and honored to be part of another cast of extremely talented people! Sean would like to thank all of you for supporting local theater and hope you enjoy the show! Except you Steve ;) LOL



CLINTON STORE / *Coach Roger Dunbar, Townsperson*

Clinton is excited to take the stage once again for the production of *Footloose!* His credits include: *Beauty And The Beast* (Gaston/Prince), *The Odd Couple Female Version* (Je'sus), and *It's A Wonderful Life Radio Play* (Harry Jazzbo Heywood). He's performed with The Good Night Theatre Collective, The Dinner Detective Sioux Falls, voiced multiple characters for Sioux Empire Community Theatre Radio Plays, and appeared in independent films such as *Pale Dawn* (Professor Les Field) and several regional commercials. Clinton has a Master's degree from Dakota State University. When not working, performing or spending time with his family and friends, you'll probably find him at the gym or walking the dog downtown. "Connect, Set the stage, and Live out loud."

ALLEGRA SAINT-AMAND / *Eleanor Dunbar, Townsperson*

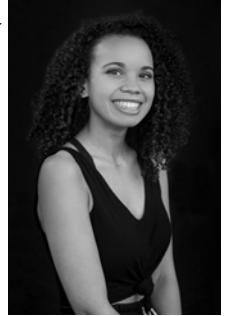


Allegra Saint-Amand (Eleanor Dunbar/ensemble) is Allegra's third performance with SECT. She is ecstatic to be cast with such wonderful talents! Past shows include that of *Beauty and the Beast* (ensemble) and *Mama Mia!* (Donna's Chorus) and she has been performing vocally since she was three. She is a Recent Graduate of Southeast Technical College's LPN program. She is always striving to "Let her voice be heard" as her Grandmother and Mother always encouraged her to do. She is a Bride to be and is elated to be able to continue to perform. Special thanks to her Fiance Andrew and Mother Dominique for all the love and constant support in her endeavors!

MEET THE CAST

JAYA WILSON / *Rusty*

Jaya Wilson is thrilled to be back on stage with Sioux Empire Community Theatre. Along with *Beauty and the Beast* (Silly Girl) and *Mamma Mia!* (Sophie's Chorus), her previous credits include *Puberty* (Joe), *Once on This Island* (Ti Moune), *Leader of the Pack* (Darlene Love), and was set to perform *Aida* (Aida) before Covid. Jaya graduated from Tea Area High School in May, and plans to continue her education at the University of Central Florida in Orlando this fall. In her free time, Jaya enjoys painting, jamming out to music, and being with friends. She would like to thank the community for supporting local theatre. Enjoy the show!



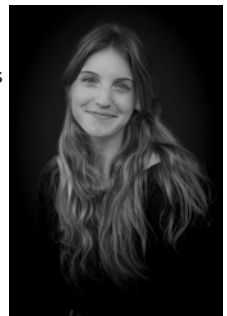
ALEX VAN VOORHIS / *Urleen, High School Student*

Alex is thrilled to be a part of this SECT production of Footloose! Some of her favorite performance experiences include her roles in *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle) and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey), along with working as a Character Performer at Walt Disney World, and performing in the 2014 and 2015 Phantom Regiment Drum & Bugle Corps Color Guard. Alex graduated from North Dakota State University and currently works as a Media Specialist at Lawrence & Schiller. She will be pursuing a master's degree in Social Work starting in the fall at University of South Dakota to continue her passion for giving back to the community and creating social change. In her free time, Alex enjoys traveling, dancing in LiRa Dance Theatre Company and hanging out with her husband (Matt) and golden retriever (Nala). She would like to thank you all for your continued support of the arts in the Sioux Falls community. Enjoy the show!



NOELLE MCCARTHY / *Wendy Jo, High School Student*

Noelle McCarthy (Wendy Jo) is thrilled to be making her debut with SECT. Her previous musical theater credits include *Into the Woods* (Baker's Wife), *Grease* (Marty), and *Shrek the Musical* (Gingy). Noelle is currently pursuing her B.S. in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Grand Canyon University. In her free time, she enjoys reading, hiking, and hanging out with friends.





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OCTOBER 22, 23, 24 & 29, 30, 31 - 2021

ADAPTED BY TIM KELLY

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DECEMBER 3, 4, 5 & 10, 11, 12 - 2021

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BY VALENTINE DAVIES

"MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET" is produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY OF WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS.



FEBRUARY 25, 26, 27 & MARCH 4, 5, 6 - 2022

BY JEFF DANIELS

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ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY TOM BRIGGS, FROM THE TELEPLAY BY ROBERT L. FREEDMAN
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MEET THE CAST

JOSHUA SAUER / *Chuck Cranston*



Joshua Sauer is excited to return to the stage, after a short hiatus to further his acting education, where he attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts (AADA) in NYC, furthered his singing abilities, and has attended several acting intensives. His past shows include *Les Miserable Jr* (Jean Val Jean), *Little Shop of Horrors* (ensemble, puppeteer), *Treasure Island* (Jim Hawkins), and *Legally Blonde Jr* (Kyle the UPS Guy). Outside of the walls of the Orpheum Theater, Joshua is known for his roles as a “scare actor” for Universal Orlando Resort’s Halloween Horror Nights (HHN26, HHN27), and his array of roles at South Dakota’s Premiere escape room, Conquer Escape Rooms. Joshua is proud to be cast in *Footloose*, as he sees this as the next step in his acting career.

JACKSON HEIBERGER / *Lyle, High School Student*



Jackson Heiberger (Lyle) is thrilled to return to the SECT stage after almost two years! He previously made his SECT debut in fall 2019 with *Mamma Mia!* (Ensemble), and in high school acted in *Check, Please* (Guy), *The Suessification of Romeo and Juliet* (Balthazar), and *Tracks* (High School Boy). Jackson currently works full time overnight at the Glory House. Outside work, he enjoys reading, video games, and playing piano. Jackson would like to thank his brother, Christian, for dragging him to auditions for *Mamma Mia!* two years ago and getting him back on stage again.

CHRISTIAN HEIBERGER / *Travis, Cowboy Bob, High School Student*



Christian Heiberger is thrilled to return to the Sioux Empire Community Theatre stage once again in *Footloose* as Travis. He made his debut on the main stage in the fall of 2019 as an ensemble member (*Mamma Mia!*) and continued performing straight into the spring of 2020 as Frank the Bellhop (*Lend Me a Tenor*), and just recently performed as Cogsworth in *Beauty and the Beast*. Prior to performing with SECT, Christian also performed in high school as Principal Humleker (*Miss Nelson is Missing!*) in 2010 and as the Cheshire Cat (*Alice in Wonderland*) in 2012. When not performing Christian works full time at the Glory House. He occasionally makes appearances with Simply Ever After Entertainment, LLC, at their events and parties as a particular hero who dresses like a giant bat or a space bounty hunter who carries a tiny green critter around. Christian absolutely loves to perform and be characters and doesn't plan to stop doing so any time soon. While not doing so or working, he can be found climbing at Falls Park, perusing books and puzzles at Barnes and Noble, or baking cookies and brownies for his friends and coworkers.

MEET THE CAST

MARISA MOSER / *A Cop, Townsperson, High School Student*

Marisa is pleased to be returning to the SECT stage. Marisa has previously performed in two of this season's shows, *The Odd Couple Femal Version* (Florence Unger), and *It's A Wonderful Life* (Lana Sherwood/Violet Bick). Some of her favourite previous work includes Monstrous Little Theater Company's *A Girl Named Destiny* (Destiny), and King's College London Literary Society's *When the Bang Comes* (Kirsty). She would like to thank the community for their continuing support of local art, and her fellow performers and directors, past and present, for teaching her so many priceless things, and for giving her a space to continue to develop the craft she so obsessively loves.



BEKKI KNIEP / *Principal Clark, Betty Blast, Townsperson*

Bekki is so thrilled to be a part of Sioux Empire Community Theatre's *Footloose!* Aside from appearing as an ensemble member of SECT's *Beauty and the Beast*, Bekki has been in multiple shows, including SECT's *Mamma Mia!* (Sophie's Chorus), *The Wedding Singer* (Holly), *At the Vanishing Point* (Nora Holtz), and *Fame* (Ensemble). Bekki is a full time Cosmetologist and Day Maker at The Spa at Grand Falls. She enjoys visiting with friends and family, and does a lot of reading in her free time.



KALEB BAKER / *Willard Hewitt*

Kaleb Baker (Willard) is excited to be returning to the Sioux Empire Community Theatre stage after a 5 year departure in *Footloose!* Kaleb is currently studying Theatre Performance and Film Studies at the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities. His local Musical Theatre credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour), *The Addams Family* (Lucas), and SECT's own production of *Mary Poppins* (Neleus.) Kaleb is elated to be performing for the first time in over a year. He would like to thank this wonderful cast and crew for making it possible, his friends and family for all the love and support, and YOU for supporting local theatre!



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OR ONLINE AT WWW.TICKETMASTER.COM

MEET THE CAST



REBEKAH ESPLAND / *Jeter, High School Student*

Rebekah is excited to come back to the Sioux Empire Community Theatre after making her debut in *Oliver* (Charolette) in 2019 and her most recent part (Silly Girl) in *Beauty and the Beast*. Rebekah has always loved to dance but has never done it anywhere besides the comfort of her own home, and of course when she's in Theatre. She is excited to get the chance to finally dance her heart out on stage. Rebekah loves to song write, longboard, and be outdoors in her free time. You can find her helping out on her worship team, or at work sharing her passion for music with two year olds at the day care where she works. Rebekah hopes that you enjoy the show and that your able to let loose!



MADI LAWRENCE / *Bickle, High School Student*

Madi is excited to be back on stage for her fourth Sioux Empire Community Theatre musical. Previously she was seen on stage in *Beauty and the Beast* (Silly Girl), *Mamma Mia!* (Sophie's Chorus), and *Oliver!* (Ensemble). Madi cannot wait to share the stage and dance the night away with many of her talented friends. This will be Madi's final bow before she dances her way to New York City in August to continue her education. She would like to dedicate her whole performance to her roommate, best friend, and director, Alex Newcomb Weiland. She would not be here without her. Seriously. Alex's actual words were, "If you do not audition we are no longer friends, just roommates."



MILES COWAN / *Garvin, High School Student*

Miles Cowan (Garvin) is excited to be returning to the Sioux Falls stage after a three year absence. His last role in the Sioux Falls area was when he performed *Grease* (Kenickie) with DAPA. Other performances in Sioux Falls include *Young Frankenstein* (The Monster) as part of an SECT summer camp, and *Romeo and Juliet* (Prince). He just finished his junior year in the acting program at Minnesota State University Mankato where he was seen in *Mamma Mia!* (Ensemble), *Sense and Sensibility* (Lady Middleton/Robert Ferrars), and *The Tempest* (Trinculo). Outside of acting, he enjoys playing guitar and is learning lighting design. He loves Jesus, grilled cheese, and is thrilled to be part of local theatre again!

MEET THE CAST

MAGEN RICHEAL / *Townsperson, Dance Captain*

Magen is excited to be part of *Footloose*! She made her Sioux Empire Community Theatre debut as choreographer and part of the ensemble in *Beauty and the Beast*. Magen is a graduate of USD, a dance instructor and studio owner, as well as a competitive cheerleading coach. She would like to thank all of the wonderful people of SECT for their encouragement and shared love of music and performance!



MO HURLEY / *High School Student*

Mo is excited for *Footloose* to be her fourth Sioux Empire Community Theatre production. She has previously appeared in *The Odd Couple Female Version* (Vera), *Lend Me a Tenor* (Maggie Saunders), and *The Great Gatsby* (dancer). She has also enjoyed being a part of the run crew for SECT's production of *Beauty and the Beast* and performing with the Mighty Corson Art Players in *A Christmas Carol: A Live Radio Play* (Sally Applewhite). Mo works at the Sanford Cancer Center as the survivorship program coordinator.



REBEKAH KANE / *High School Student*

Rebekah Kane is excited to be a part of *Footloose*! This is her first musical/theatre show and she has NO idea what to expect. She has just returned from Japan in April after going on exchange for a year. She is currently a high school student at Roosevelt high school.



MARLENA ESPLAND / *High School Student*

Marlena Espland is so excited to be performing with the Sioux Empire Community Theatre once again in *FootLoose*! Their previous performances consisted of *Beauty And The Beast*, - (Ensemble) and *Julius Caesar* - (Cassius). Marlena spends most of their free time drawing, writing, singing, or making silly voices to cheer up their friends. Marlena would like to thank everyone who has given them the courage to go this far and make their dreams come true. Thank you, and enjoy the show!



MEET THE CREW

ALEXANDRA NEWCOMB-WEILAND / *Director*

Alexandra Newcomb-Weiland is delighted to be making her directorial debut with Sioux Empire Community Theater's Footloose! Alex graduated from the University of South Dakota in 2019 with a B.F.A. in Musical Theater and a Dance Minor. She recently returned from NYC and is excited to be back in the Sioux Falls arts scene. Alex has been performing throughout her life and has worked with companies such as The Black Hills Playhouse, Dakota Academy of Performing Arts and Bare Bodkins Theater Company. Recently, she accepted the position of SECT's Education Coordinator and is thrilled to help build the Sioux Falls youth theater scene. She wants to thank her loving family, wonderful friends and theatre mentors for their support in these new endeavors! For more about past and upcoming projects visit www.alexnewcombweiland.com.

JAZLYNNE WILLIAMS / *Stage Manager*

This is Jazlynne's second show with the Sioux Empire Community Theatre, and she is fresh off of stage managing SECT's production of Beauty and the Beast! Jazlynne proudly holds a BFA in Stage Management from the University of Central Florida in Orlando. Jazlynne would like to thank her extremely supportive and loving family, her amazing and talented boyfriend, Luke, and her friends and second family that span across all coasts of the US! Jazlynne loves what she does because she gets to experience something transforming from ideas on a page to a phenomenal piece of art and expression on stage! Please enjoy this energetic, nostalgic, and entertaining production! To find out Jazlynne's past production credits, visit her website: www.JazlynneWilliams.com

LUKE SALERNO / *Asst. Stage Manager, Props Master*

Luke Salerno (Assistant Stage Manager/Props Master) is thrilled to be returning backstage after working on SECT's successful run of Disney's Beauty and the Beast! Luke is a recent Bachelor of Arts graduate from the University of Central Florida and is glad to be finding a sense of community here in Sioux Falls! Luke's previous backstage credits include *A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Titanic*, *And The World Goes 'Round*, and *Oklahoma!*, all set on stages around the Orlando area. Luke is appreciative of all his newfound friendships and is thankful for the support from his girlfriend, Jazlynne, and his family both near and far!

IWONA LEWTER / *Music Director*

Iwona Lewter grew up and earned her Bachelor's degree in Acting and Music Performance in Poland. She performed on professional stages in shows such as *West Side Story*, *Chicago*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Midsummer Night's Dream*. When she moved to Sioux Falls in 2010 she decided that she wanted to share her love of music and theater with young people. She earned a Master's Degree from USF and is currently teaching Middle School and High School Vocal music and theater in Freeman, SD. She has music directed children performances with Dakota Academy of Performing Arts and every spring she teaches a theater course at USF. She also gives private voice lessons. Iwona's first experience with SECT was in 2011 when she played in Sweeney Todd.

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MEET THE CREW

REBEKAH MERRIMAN / *Choreographer*

Rebekah Merriman grew up in Beresford, SD but has called Sioux Falls home since 2004. She graduated from the University of Sioux Falls with degrees in Theology/Philosophy and Communication Studies and Theatre. Rebekah grew in her love of theatre while at USF and has been a very active member of the local theatre community ever since. In the last 10 years Rebekah has choreographed over 30 musicals including *West Side Story*, *Legally Blonde*, *Mamma Mia* and *Guys and Dolls*. For the past ten years she has worked as a Biblical counselor at New Haven Ministries and also teaches dance at Balleraena Dance Studio. Rebekah would like to thank her family and friends who continue to support her in all of her dreams.

JILL CLARK / *Scenic Designer*

Jill Clark is very excited to be working with the Sioux Empire Community Theatre for their last show of the season. She has designed for this wonderful company several times, most notable productions being *Mary Poppins*, *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, *Steel Magnolias*, *The Odd Couple Female Version*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. She is a graduate of Iowa Lakes Community College and University of South Dakota where she designed *Cinderella* and *The Goat*, or *Who is Sylvia*, respectively; While at USD Jill worked as a Scenic Painter for The Black Hills Playhouse during their 2013 season. Since school she frequently works as a Scenic/Props Designer for The South Dakota Shakespeare Festival having designed shows such as *MacBeth*, *Comedy of Errors*, *Richard 3*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, and upcoming *Twelfth Night Or What You Will*. Jill grew up in Estherville, IA and currently resides in Vermillion, SD where she works as a freelance artist and bartender at The Varsity Pub.

KENDRA DEXTER / *Costume Designer*

Kendra Dexter, owner of Designs By Dexter, has made everything from wedding gowns to irish dance costumes. Her recent achievements include work on a short film project and an American College Theater Festival Award for her design work on *Much Ado About Nothing* (Fall 2016) at the University of Sioux Falls. Kendra runs her business and is the Costume Director for the University of Sioux Falls and O'Gorman High School. Kendra has costumed more than 75 shows in South Dakota, several of which were right here at your Sioux Empire Community Theater. A new recipient of her Master's in Theater from Regent University, Kendra Dexter is thrilled to bring new skills to Sioux Empire Community Theater during *Footloose*.

JANET LIESINGER / *Asst. Costume Designer*

Janet Liesinger is keeping her retirement busy with her love for theater. While she will tell you she is not creative, she sure has a knack for creative costumes. When not backstage working as a super talented seamstress she spends most of her time with her 5 grandchildren who all live close by.

MEET THE CREW

MALIA LUKOMSKI / *Lighting & Sound Designer, Mixer*

Malia Lukowski is so excited to be returning to theatrical design for *Footloose!* Malia is a 2020 graduate of Augustana University, where they received degrees in Theatre and Media Studies. While at Augustana, they served as a regular sound designer for both main stage and student-led productions, was elected as the Business Manager (2017 - 2018) and the Executive Director (2018 - 2019) of the Augustana Collaborative Theatrical Society, and was a two-time Irene Ryan Scholarship nominee. They recently graduated from the SALT Institute for Documentary Studies in Portland, Maine, where they studied audio production and earned a graduate certificate in Radio and Podcast Production. Malia would like to thank their friends, family, and Doordash for all their support. For information about past and upcoming adventures, visit malialukowski.com

JOHN HARRIS / *Master Carpenter*

John grew up in Yankton, SD, and graduated from Mount Marty College with a BA in Business Administration. He has resided in Sioux Falls since 1972. He has always had a love for the theater. The skills he has acquired over the years serve him well moving from the audience to backstage as Master Carpenter for the Sioux Empire Community Theatre. He visits New York to see his daughter each year, which usually includes seeing a Broadway production. Unfortunately, his loving wife Deb passed away in 2012. He enjoys spending time with his children and grandchildren, trying to pass on his other major skill as a cook and baker which he started learning from his mother at an early age. John is also an avid motorcyclist. His past work with the Sioux Empire Community Theatre includes *Noises Off*, *Les Misérables*, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Freckleface Strawberry*, *Avenue Q*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley*, *Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap*, *Rent*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *Rock of Ages*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. He would like to personally thank all the volunteers who helped with set production, as many hands make light work.

SADIE MICKELSON / *Production Assistant*

Sadie Mickelson is thrilled to be returning to The Sioux Empire Community Theater for *Footloose!* Her most recent endeavor was stage managing a production of *She Kills Monsters* at Lincoln High School. She loves doing technical theater and is so excited to be a part of this. She wants to thank her friends and family for supporting her in her love of theater.

RIGHTS INFORMATION

Footloose

Stage Adaptation by

DEAN PITCHFORD

WALTER BOBBIE

Based on the Original Screenplay by

DEAN PITCHFORD

Music by

TOM SNOW

Lyrics by

DEAN PITCHFORD

Additional Music by

ERIC CARMEN

SAMMY HAGAR

KENNY LOGGINS

JIM STEINMAN

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19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30 Oct 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10

Boing Boing

By Marc Camoletti

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Performances Dec. 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12,
16, 17, 18, 19, 30, 31, Jan 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9

I Hate Hamlet

By Paul Rudnick

Auditions Dec 13 & 14

Performances Feb 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27
March 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20

Caught in the Net

By Ray Cooney

Auditions Feb 28 & March 1

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21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29 June 3, 4, 5

Childrens Theatre Camp June 13-25

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