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PRODUCTION

SEASON
39

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the Light in the Piazza

Book by **Craig Lucas**
Music and Lyrics by **Adam Guettel**

Director
John David Partain

Musical Director
Patrick Fleitz

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Jan. 17 – 26,
2025

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A photograph of red velvet curtains, partially open, revealing a dark background. The curtains are draped and have a rich, deep red color with some highlights and shadows.

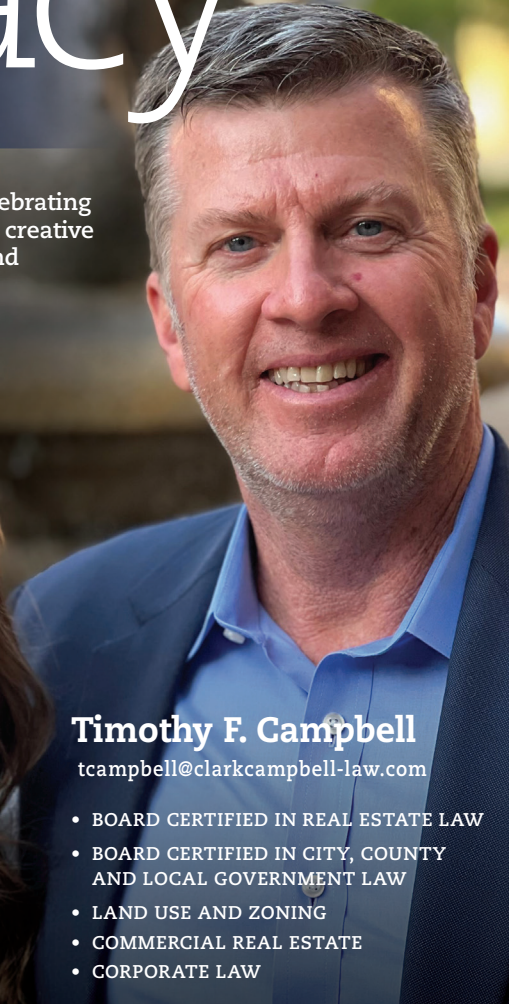
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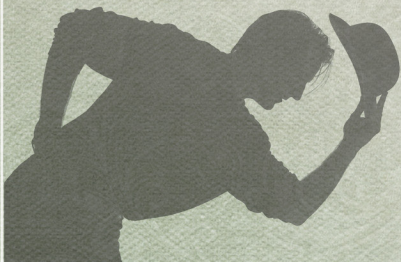
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Lakeland Community Theatre

39th ANNIVERSARY SEASON 2024-2025



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Lakeland Community Theatre

39th ANNIVERSARY SEASON 2024-2025

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One key element of Your Community Theatre's mission is to offer a high quality theatrical experience at an affordable price. This mission and promise to our community is one central reason why we exist. The fact is individual ticket sales account for less than half of our annual operating cost.

Your Community Theatre is grateful and so appreciative to those generous individuals, businesses, corporations and foundations that have made donations, gifts, grants and sponsorships, as well as support of our general operating budget. Their generosity has made it possible to continue to offer our community the quality productions and programming you have come to expect, while maintaining ticket prices at an affordable level for ALL in our community...because that's our mission.

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*Thanks to the City of Lakeland, Laura Beard, Melinda Dixon,
Theatre Winter Haven, our wonderful volunteers and everybody else
that helped make this production possible.*

A Word From Our Artistic Managing Director...



Welcome to *The Light in the Piazza*. The musical with music and lyrics by Adam Guettel, and a book by Craig Lucas is the winner of 6 Tony Awards and 5 Drama Desk Awards.

Based on the 1960 novella by Elizabeth Spencer, the show is set in the 1950s and tells the story of Margaret Johnson, a wealthy woman from the American South, and Clara, her daughter, who is developmentally disabled due to a childhood accident. The two spend a summer together in Florence, Italy. When Clara falls in love with a young Italian man, Fabrizio, Margaret is forced to reconsider not only Clara's future, but her own deep-seated hopes and regrets as well.

The score breaks from the 21st century tradition of pop music on Broadway by moving into the territory of Neoromantic classical music and opera, with unexpected harmonic shifts and extended melodic structures, and is more heavily orchestrated than most Broadway scores. Many of the lyrics are in Italian or broken English, as many of the characters are fluent only in Italian.

CurtainUp called the musical a "gorgeously staged and musically sophisticated adaptation... the Guettel sound is nevertheless plush and enjoyable with a genuine musical theater sensibility.... Lucas has made room for the young lovers' voices and retained enough of the psychological complexities to prevent this from being the dated soap opera it could easily have been."

In reviewing the revival starring Renee Fleming in 2019, Chris Jones said the show employed, "the most soul-satisfying score written for Broadway so far this century" He concluded, "Piazza is still very much alive and, in this staging, as vital as ever."

So I invite you to sit back and enjoy this beautifully lush musical love story,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan S. Reynolds".

Alan S. Reynolds
Artistic Managing Director
Lakeland Community



Music and Lyrics By: Adam Guettel

Book By: Craig Lucas

CAST

*Denotes first time on the LCT MainStage

Margaret Johnson.....	Staci Morin*
Clara Johnson.....	Abigail Rogers*
Fabrizio Naccarelli.....	Giovanni (Gio) Murro*
Signor Naccarelli.....	Michael Kennedy*
Signora Naccarelli.....	Nicole DeGolyer
Giuseppe Naccarelli.....	Judah Grooms
Franca Naccarelli.....	Abby Mann
Roy Johnson.....	Paul Morin*
Priest.....	John Pierce
Ensemble.....	Heaven Hopkins*, Bobby Waterston, Emilee Melvin, Alessandra Stillinger

PRODUCTION STAFF

Artistic Managing Director/Scenic Design.....	Alan S. Reynolds
Director.....	John David Partain
Musical Director.....	Patrick Fleitz
Costume Design.....	Heather Clarke
Technical Director.....	Orlando Mora
Lighting Design/Master Electrician.....	Orlando Mora
Scenic Artist.....	Alex Reynolds
Stage Manager/Light Operator.....	Lindsey Brown
Props Mistress.....	Kelsey Reynolds
Sound Operators.....	Makayla Gillett, Dedrick Saenz-Mendieta
Flies.....	Chris Dierking
Run Crew.....	Mari Romero, Damian Stillinger, Charlotte Totten
Spotlight Operators.....	Maddy Murphy, Emily Springer

MUSICIANS

Piano and Conductor.....	Patrick Fleitz
Harp.....	Damara Besker
Violin.....	Callum Muldoon
Violin.....	Connor Greer
Cello.....	Chad Sell
Bass.....	Shelby Montgomery
Alternates	
Violin.....	Alvaro Pereiro
Violin.....	Christine Collister
Bass.....	Luke Braxton

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Overture.....	Orchestra
Statues and Stories.....	Margaret, Clara, Ensemble
The Beauty Is.....	Clara
Il Mondo Era Vuoto.....	Fabrizio
American Dancing.....	Orchestra
Passeggiata.....	Fabrizio
The Joy You Feel.....	Franca
Dividing Day.....	Margaret
Hysteria/Lullaby.....	Clara, Margaret
Say It Somehow.....	Clara, Fabrizio

ACT II

Aiutami.....	Fabrizio, Priest, Signor & Signora Naccarelli, Franca, Guiseppe
The Light In The Piazza.....	Clara
Octet.....	Clara, Priest, Signor & Signora Naccarelli, Franca, Guiseppe, Fabrizio, Margaret
Clara's Tirade.....	Clara
The Beauty Is (Reprise).....	Margaret
Let's Walk.....	Margaret, Signor Naccarelli
Clara's Interlude.....	Clara
Love To Me.....	Fabrizio
Fable.....	Margaret

MEET THE CAST

Nicole DeGoyer (Signora Naccarelli) is thrilled to return to the LCT Stage! She is a mother of 3 adult children and spends her days teaching life skills to young adult students with special needs. Nicole graduated from Harrison Arts in 1993 and studied opera performance at Westminster Choir College. You may have seen her recently in Theatre Winter Haven's production of *Clue: the Musical* (Mrs. White). She thanks her amazing LCT theatre family for this opportunity to perform this beautiful music!

Heaven Hopkins (Ensemble) is a dedicated classical singer performing since 2012. Heaven is very excited to be a part of her first show with Lakeland Community Theatre! She is a 2020 graduate of Harrison School for the Arts and is currently a student at Polk State College, where she is pursuing a degree in music education. She is also a member of the Lakeland Choral Society. In addition to performing, Heaven enjoys traveling and volunteering.

Michael Kennedy (Signor Naccarelli) retired as a 43 year teacher, school administrator, and college professor. He sings with the choir at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Lakeland. Michael's favorite roles include *Man of La Mancha* (Sancho Panza), *The Fantasticks* (Bellomy), *Trouble in Tahiti* (Tenor Trio), *Brigadoon* (Sandy the Candy Man), and *The Music Man* (Barber Shop Quartet). Michael is ardently thankful for portraying this role in his LCT debut. He thanks John David Partain and Patrick Fleitz for their expertise, professionalism and dedication for making this production a success! Michael also thanks all office staff, tech crew, costume designers and all cast members. What a pleasure to work with these professionals ! Arrivederci !

Abby Mann (Franca Naccarelli) welcomes you to Firenze! Abby was recently seen on the LCT stage in *School of Rock* (Principal Mullins), *The Fantasticks* (Luisa), and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Edwin Drood). When she is not playing pretend onstage in Lakeland, she spends her time teaching elementary music in Wesley Chapel. Other credits include *Oklahoma!*, *Zombie Prom*, *Little Women*, and *Disney's Descendants*. Thank you, John, Pat and Lindsey, for the opportunity to play onstage again. Goditi lo spettacolo! (Enjoy the show!)

Emilee Melvin (Ensemble) is excited to be a part of this production. She has appeared in two LCT shows prior to this, *School of Rock* (Ensemble) and *Jekyll & Hyde* (Ensemble) and is so happy for another opportunity in this theatre. Prior to *School of Rock*, it had been about 7 years since she had performed and she is so happy to be performing again. Emilee and her family have recently moved to Florida from Nevada and she's excited to get more involved here.

Paul Morin (Roy Johnson) is excited to be making his LCT debut! In the theatre, Paul is happy to float wherever he is needed most, as a director, musical director, actor, vocalist, sound technician, or set builder. He holds a bachelor's in music from Rhode Island College and is currently musical directing *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at Haines City Theatre. Favorite directing credits include *L'Oca del Cairo* with Garden State Opera, *And to All a Good Night* at Alpha NYC, the premiere of *Wake Up* at San Antonio Theatre Coalition, *The Sound of Music*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Night Must Fall*, *White Christmas*, *Cabaret*, and *The Music Man*. Paul served as the Artistic Director of Kaleidoscope Touring Theatre for 4 years and ran a performing arts center. Some favorite onstage credits include *Into the Woods* (Baker), *Secret Garden* (Archibald), *Les Misérables* (Jean Valjean), *Godspell* (Jesus), *She Loves Me* (George), *Grey Gardens* (Gould). As always, working with and seeing his wife Staci on stage is his light in the piazza. PaulDavidMorin.Com

Staci Morin (Margaret Johnson) is overjoyed to be making her LCT debut in this stunning show! She was most recently seen in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (The Chaperone) with Haines City Theatre. In August 2024 Staci successfully debuted her one woman show *Filtered Conversations*! She has performed around the country in professional regional theatres, sang with *Essential Voices* at Carnegie Hall for Stephen Schwartz and also worked Off-Broadway at The Players Theatre. Some of her favorite credits include *Ragtime* (Mother), *The Sound of Music* (Mother Abbess) *Into the Woods* (Witch), *The Music Man* (Marian), *The Secret Garden* (Lily), *She Loves Me* (Amalia), *Little Women* (Aunt March), *Mary Poppins* (Ms. Brill/Bird Woman), *My Fair Lady* (Mrs. Pierce) and *Les*

Misérables (Fantine). Off-Broadway Credits: *Sleepy Hollow* (Lady van Tassel), *A Christmas Carol* (Midge), *Beauty and the Beast* (Fairy). Staci sends many thanks to everyone at LCT for such a warm welcome, she is so honored to be a part of this talented cast! To Paul: "I will always look for your eyes in the pouring in rain"! Staci dedicates her performance to anyone searching for love! StaciMorin.Com

Giovanni (Gio) Murro (Fabrizio Naccarelli) a New Jersey native, is grateful to be appearing on the LCT stage for the first time. Gio has performed at Theatre Winter Haven in *Hairspray* (Sketch) and *Titanic the musical* (Frederick Fleet). Other favorite credits include: *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip Tolentino) and *Bare: A Pop Opera* (Zach). Gio is currently a vocalist for *Belles and Beaux* with Central Florida Vocal Arts and was previously seen in their production of *The Light in the Piazza*. It feels like a dream to be able to tell this story again, especially this time as Fabrizio. Alongside Gio's theatre experience, he has also performed at Universal Orlando in *Grinchmas*, Universal's Holiday Parade ft. Macy's, Mardi Gras Parade, and Halloween Horror Nights. Gio is excited to share the Piazza with you. "Alla bellezza della vita! To the beauty of life!"

Judah Grooms (Guiseppe Naccarelli) holds a BA in Music Education from FSC. Judah is the elementary music teacher and middle school musical theater director at Jewett School of the Arts. At JSA he was the music director for shows including *Matilda Jr.*, *Once on This Island Jr.*, and *Descendants*. Judah also serves as co-director for JSA's junior thespian troupe 88932. Previous LCT roles include *Beauty and the Beast* (Cogsworth), *Assassins* (John Hinkley), and *Escape to Margaritaville* (Tully Mars). Other notable onstage roles include *Forever Plaid/Plaid Tidings* (Smudge), *Into the Woods* (The Baker), and *Matilda the Musical* (Agatha Trunchbull).

John Pierce (Priest) is a former AEA actor and MFA graduate of the National Theatre Conservatory. He has performed professionally in productions including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Smoke on the Mountain*, *Pump Boys and Dinettes*, *Cotton Patch Gospel*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Forever Plaid*, and *Macbeth*. John taught educational theatre at both the high school and collegiate level directing 50+ productions.

Abigail Christine Rogers (Clara Johnson) is so grateful to be returning home to the theatre she started her artistic journey with. Abigail was born and raised in Lakeland and recently graduated with a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre with minors in Directing and Theatre Tech & Design from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Some of her favorite shows while at college include *Carrie the Musical* (Chris), The world premiere of *Wings* (Costume Designer), *42nd Street* (Phyllis/Dance Captain), and *It Shoulda Been You* (Rebecca). She thanks her family and friends for their endless love and support, she could not do this without her people! abigailchristinerothers.com

Alessandra Stillinger (Ensemble) is excited to be a part of this production. Alessandra has had a love for musical theater since she was a young girl, attending Harrison School for the Arts as a vocal major and eventually starting her own non-profit performing arts production company. She loves spending time with her husband and 4 kids and creating art. Recent credits include *Bye Bye Birdie* (Rosie/WLP), *Big the Musical* (Ensemble, LCT) *West Side Story* (Glad Hand/WLP) and *In the Heights* (Daniela/WLP).

Bobby Waterston (Ensemble) is excited to appear in *The Light in the Piazza* and is happy to be back on the LCT stage again. Bobby is playing many roles in this production. He previously appeared in *Jekyll and Hyde* (Ensemble/Poole) as also in *Shrek* (Prince Eric). He would like to leave one piece of advice “enjoy right now today”.

MEET THE PRODUCTION STAFF

Alan S. Reynolds (Artistic Managing Director/Director/Scenic Design) is a former 24-year member of Local IATSE 477 studio mechanics and a former member of design Local USA 829. Mr. Reynolds served over seven years as a regional executive board member of IATSE 477. His involvement in theatre, film, and television spans over 40 years and over 500 productions. Mr. Reynolds received his B.F.A. in Theatrical Design from Florida Atlantic University and pursued graduate studies at Carnegie Mellon University. He served

as Adjunct Professor/Guest Scenic Designer at Florida Southern College and Southeastern University and as Resident Designer of LCT and TWH. Mr. Reynolds' numerous directing credits include *Tommy*, *Shrek*, *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Mary Poppins*, *Rock of Ages*, *Mel Brooks' Young Frankenstein*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Les Mis*, *The Addams Family*, *Spamalot*, *Aida*, *You Can't Take it with You*, *A Christmas Story*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, *Chicago*, *Macbeth*, *Godspell*, *Always...Patsy Cline*, *The Producers*, *Of Mice and Men*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *Sanders Family Christmas*, *Moonlight and Magnolias*, *Swing!* and *The Last Five Years*. In 2010 Mr. Reynolds received the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts American College Theatre Festival Meritorious Achievement Award for Excellence in Direction. He has also received 3 Broadway World Orlando Awards for Best Scenic Design. His numerous Television and Film credits include *Monster*, *True Lies*, *Marvin's Room*, *Parenthood*, *Robo Cop III*, *The Punisher*, *Great Expectations*, *The Waterboy*, *Kermit's Swamp Years*, *Mortal Kombat Conquests*, *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls*, *Swamthing*, *Basic*, *Tigerland*, *21 Jump Street*, *Thunder in Paradise* and *Sheena*. Also, an avid actor, his over 75 onstage appearances include the title role in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Crucible* (John Proctor), *The Fifth of July* (Ken Tally), *Oklahoma!* (Jud), *Peter Pan* (Captain Hook), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Conrad Birdie), *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Mitch), and *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (Max Prince). His other theatrical and production associations have included HSN, PRG, MTV, BET, Walt Disney Studios, Universal Studios Florida, Nfocus, Harrison Arts Center, Burt Reynolds Jupiter Theatre, Mark I and II Dinner Theatres, The Playmakers of Tampa, The Des Moines Playhouse and Mad Cow Theatre. In 2019 he was honored to serve as an Adjudicator for the Florida Theatre Conference Community Theatre Competition. Mr. Reynolds served on the board of directors of the Central Florida Human Services Inc.; his community outreach and support of programming using the Arts with Youths in achieving higher academically and gaining more social responsibility is one of his many passions. He is a founding member of Platform Kids, an annual event showcasing and promoting Children and the Arts throughout Polk County. Mr. Reynolds has also served as Arts and Programming Director of Oasis Community Church and Site Director of Prodigy Lakeland, a Cultural

Arts program that served at risk kids throughout our community. For over 4 years Mr. Reynolds has continued to serve as a team member of Art and Design as a Scenic Designer for for Universal's Halloween Horror Nights. Married to his very talented and patient wife Susan for 35 years, he confesses that the best thing they ever produced were their very artistic and entertaining grown children: Grant, Kaitlyn and Alex. Mr. Reynolds is proud and honored for the past 13 years to serve as the Artistic Managing Director of "Your Community Theatre".

John David Partain (Director) is excited to direct this production and bring this beautiful show to the stage. Previously, John directed LCT's productions of *Sister Act*, *Dolly Parton's 9 to 5 The Musical*, *Forever Plaid*, and *Plaid Tidings*. In addition to his work as a director, John enjoys performing on stage. Some of his past favorite productions include *The Last 5 Years*, *Grease*, *Aida*, *Legally Blonde*, *Anything Goes*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Music Man*, *Titanic*, *The Full Monty*, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. John studied music at Atlanta Christian College and Central Florida Lyric Opera and had the honor of performing at Carnegie Hall in 1997 and 1998. He resides in downtown Lakeland with his husband, Scott, and is proud to have served on the Board of Directors of LCT. Special thanks to the talented cast, crew, and production team for their collaboration, dedication, and work on this stunning score and piece of theatre.

Patrick Fleitz (Musical Director) is excited and honored to be involved at LCT for over 30 years now. Patrick holds a Master's Degree in Piano Performance from USF as well as undergraduate degrees in both music (FSC, '91) and theatre (St. Leo, '88). Last fall he began his 5th year as Head of Piano Studies at the Harrison School for the Arts. He is on the Music faculty at Florida Southern and has been teaching piano and voice privately for over 30 years. He and his son Robert are the creative force behind the Swan City Piano Festival, which will present its 5th season in June. He has served as Musical Director for numerous Lakeland Community Theatre productions over the past 31 years. *Some of his LCT theatre credits include West Side Story, Godspell, Into the Woods, Fiddler on the Roof ('94), The King and I, Ain't Misbehavin', Grease, Anything Goes,*

Legally Blonde, Hello Dolly!, Oklahoma!, Chicago, Grease, Young Frankenstein, The Addams Family, Rock of Ages, Sweeney Todd, Mary Poppins, Bridges of Madison County, Assassins, The Who's Tommy, Matilda, Ring of Fire, Mamma Mia!, Sister Act, Escape to Margaritaville and *The Fantasticks* last season. Also, he has served as musical director for TWH's productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar, Sondheim on Sondheim* and *Jacques Brel*. He also created a tribute to Johnny Cash, which performed several sell-out shows at the Polk Theatre. Patrick is married to the very talented Teresa, and they have four children: Robert, who is a professional musician and holds his Master's in piano from Juilliard, Claire, who recently completed her Master's in Applied Theatre at CUNY, Carl, working towards his Doctor of Pharmacy at UF, and Dennis, a cellist who began in the Master's program at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. Patrick thanks Alan for giving him this opportunity and John Partain, for having the faith in him to tackle this amazing and challenging musical!

Orlando Mora (Technical Director/Lighting Design/Master Electrician) works as a theatre technician at Polk State College. Orlando has previously worked on many productions with LCT including *Hello Dolly, Boeing, Boeing, Aida, Les Misérables, The Graduate, Always...Patsy Cline, Peter Pan, Forum, Grease, Sweeney Todd, A Christmas Story, Mary Poppins, Bridges of Madison County* and most recently *Shrek, Leading Ladies, Forever Plaid, Mr. Popper's Penguins, Noises Off, Annie Get Your Gun, and Sleeping Beauty*.

Heather Marie Clarke (Costume Design) holds a BA in Theatre from Butler University and is from Lakeland. For the last 10 years, she has been the Resident Costume and Makeup Designer for the Theatre Department at Booker High School VPA in Sarasota, and the Resident Costume Designer for Lakeland Community Theatre. From 2010 to 2013, Heather was the Director of Theatre at McLaughlin Middle School and Fine Arts Academy, and taught private acting lessons in Orlando. Costume Design credits include LCT, TWH, All Saint's Academy, Harrison School of the Arts, Booker Visual and Performing Arts School, Butler University, and McLaughlin Fine Arts Academy. Heather thanks Blake, for his love and support, and her parents for always encouraging her to follow her dreams.

Lindsey D. Brown (Stage Manager) is excited to join you all in Firenze! Her previous credits as Stage Manager at LCT include The Edge Stage Read Series' *November* & *The Humans*, Theatre for Youth's *Honk! Jr.* & *Finding Nemo Jr.*, and on the Main Stage, *The 39 Steps*. She loves making magic as an event host and character attendant at Dreams Come True Entertainment in Lakeland. When she is not at her favorite theatre or her primary occupation as an elementary teacher, Lindsey enjoys working at comic cons all over Central Florida. She is deeply grateful to her friends, family, coworkers, and members of the arts community for their love and support.

Kelsey Reynolds (Props) is a graduate of FSC with a degree in graphic design. By day, she works for the City of Lakeland; and by night she likes to make herself useful at LCT. She has worked on props for several shows including *Willy Wonka*, *Seussical Jr.*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Mary Poppins* and *Shrek*.



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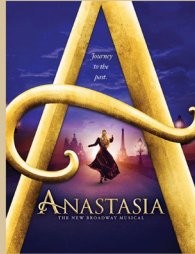
trinitylakeland.org



Other Community Theatre Events in the Area



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Feb 16,
2025



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Mar 2,
2025



Feb 14-
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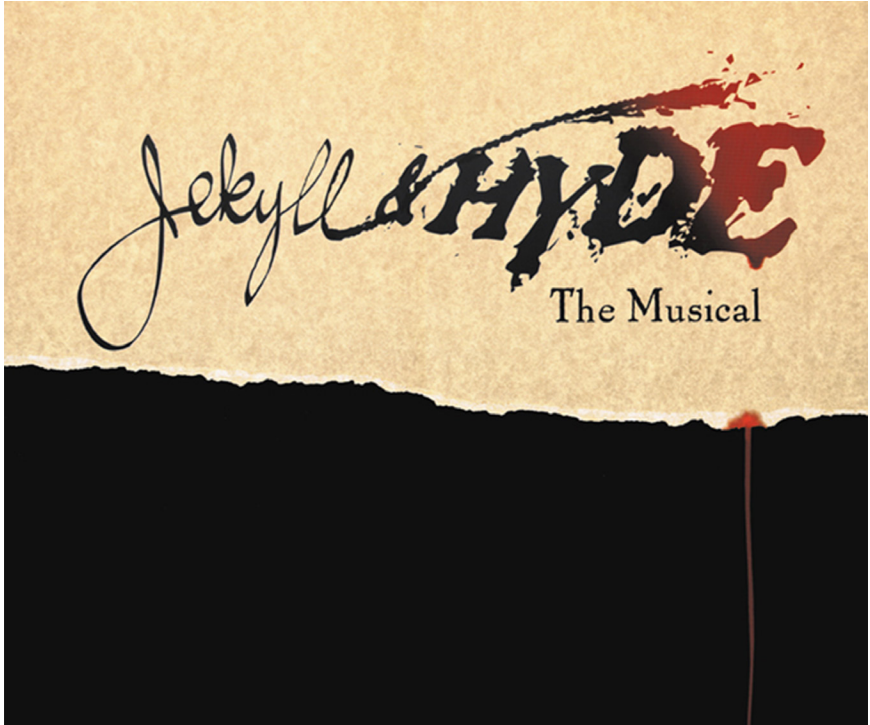


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A photograph of a large, multi-story medical building with a prominent entrance labeled "MAIN ENTRANCE". The building is surrounded by palm trees and a clear sky. The image is framed by red curtains on the left and right sides.

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