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JOSEPH STEIN

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JERRY BOCK

Lyrics
SHELDON HARNICK

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Directed by Artistic Director
Michael Unger**

Choreography
Yehuda L. Hyman**

Choreography for the Bottle Dance inspired by JEROME ROBBINS

Music Direction
David Bonofiglio

Scenic Designer
Jonathan Berg-Einhorn

Costume Designer
Michelle Therese Grimm

Lighting Designer
Smooch Medina

Sound Designer
John Tanner

Production Stage Manager
Emily Wright*

Assistant Stage Manager
Malaina Moore

Assistant Stage Manager
Sydney Smith

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
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**The Director and Choreographer are Members of the STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union

Fiddler On The Roof **5**

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF *FIDDLER ON THE ROOF*



Photo by Phil Kidd,
for MKE Lifestyle

Welcome to Skylight Music Theatre's 66th season. It is a thrill to be launching yet another blockbuster season with one of the world's most beloved musicals, *Fiddler on the Roof*. As a general rule, our small but mighty team here at Skylight picks the shows that we present. But sometimes a show picks us. That's what happened when Linda Edelstein, CEO of the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra reached out to my partner in art here, Susan Varela, and described the *Violins of Hope - Wisconsin* residency project. Through this project, MYSO is partnering with nearly 60 organizations across the state to program around these remarkable stringed instruments that were rescued from the Holocaust.

Linda asked Susan if Skylight could think of a musical to feature these instruments. It was not a long journey to arrive at *Fiddler on the Roof*. The two violins you see onstage today, and the one displayed in the salon, are part of this amazing collection; lovingly rescued and restored by three generations of Israeli luthiers - Moshe, Amnon, and Avshalom Weinstein. Avshalom recently told our cast and crew that prisoners struggled daily to keep the Arts alive in the camps, "concerts, shows; whatever they could just to try to stay human." And his father, Amnon, said that even amidst the profound loss and tragedy, "the Holocaust is also a story of hope because many people survived, and the music was a part of it... We are restoring the violins so now, when you hear the violin again, it can pray. And if it can pray, it is talking for these people." To have one, let alone three of these instruments in our building, is a privilege we do not take lightly.

Adapted from the colorful stories of Sholem Aleichem (1859-1916), *Fiddler on the Roof* opens with the famous song, "Tradition." But, in truth, this musical is more about change than it is about tradition. Tevye is grappling with society advancing, as evidenced by the fiancées his daughters have chosen. Back then, young people were not to decide these things for themselves. That's what Yentes were for. The strength at the core of these impressive young women confounds Tevye, but they are the very strengths he and his wife, Golde, have instilled in them.

This production marks Skylight's first partnership with Marquette University's musical theatre department. Thanks to Jamie Cheatham, who heads that program, for facilitating this rewarding collaboration resulting in the professional debut of so many in our company.

I am pleased to introduce Milwaukee audiences to the choreography of my dear friend, Yehuda Hyman. The famed bottle dance (the mere 105 seconds of choreography that are not Yehuda's) is inspired by the great Jerome Robbins, director and choreographer of the original production. Keep in mind that no magnets, nor Velcro, nor other attachment devices have been employed to help keep the bottles on our dancers' heads. Precarious, perhaps, but so is a fiddler on a roof.



Very few stories are as universal as *Fiddler on the Roof*. There has not been a single day since it opened on Broadway in 1964 that *Fiddler* has not been playing somewhere in the world. The producer of a Japanese production once asked book writer, Joseph Stein, "Do they understand this show in America? Because it's so Japanese." The profound themes of love and loss in *Fiddler* can apply to families regardless of locale or background. And when the Anatevians are forced to leave their home, they leave part of their souls behind.

In our current world, with such division and friction, we are all fiddlers on a roof, as Tevye says, "trying to scratch out a simple, pleasant tune without breaking his neck." What can keep us all safe up there is community and compassion. It is a delicate balance but one that we have the capacity to achieve when our hearts live in harmony and we aspire to all be in tune with one another.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS



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VETERANS' NIGHTS

Thanks to the Gary Sinise Foundation, Veterans' Nights are back! The Gary Sinise Foundation sponsors dinner and a show for a group of Veterans and First Responders.

Fiddler on the Roof

Friday, October 17th, 2025

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Friday, December 12th, 2025

Amadeus

Friday, January 30th, 2026

The Spitfire Grill

Friday, March 6th, 2026

A ROCKIN' Midsummer Night's Dream

Friday, April 24th, 2026



JOIN OUR GENERAL SKYLIGHT
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PRIDE NIGHT

Calling all fabulous friends and allies! Your Pride Night event ticket includes access to pre-show entertainment, light refreshments, and of course admission to the show. Subscribe to the Skylight mailing list to get notified of all upcoming events and ticket availability dates!

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Saturday, November 15th, 2025

Amadeus

Saturday, January 24th, 2026

A ROCKIN' Midsummer Night's Dream

Saturday, April 11th, 2026



Eye Physician Associates



Below: Andrew Zolot, MD

Above, from left: Robert W. Bjerregaard, MD; Emy J. Lutchka, OD; Marc D. Hirsch, MD; Jaime D Blanchard, OD; Dale Buettner, OD; Rosemarie M Brueggeman, MD; Charles B. Yang, MD



INTRODUCING DR. ANDREW ZOLOT, MD

Eye Physician Associates is proud to welcome the upcoming addition of Dr. Andrew Zolot, MD, to our practice. Dr. Zolot, a native of Mequon, brings a strong family background in eye care and a wealth of expertise. He completed his ophthalmology residency at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, where he served as chief resident. Currently, Dr. Zolot is finalizing his fellowship at the University of Iowa, specializing in glaucoma. The Milwaukee community will greatly benefit from the addition of a highly skilled glaucoma specialist and he is enthusiastic about returning to the area. We invite you to join us in extending a warm welcome to Dr. Zolot as he joins the Eye Physician Associates team!

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Fiddler on the Roof

Tevey	Andrew Varela*	Shaindel	SaraLynn Evenson
	Artist sponsor, Brian and Elizabeth Casey		
Golde	Janet Metz*	Constable/	Joseph Green
		Yitzhak	
Tzeitel	Erin Fricker	Mordcha	Thom Cauley
Hodel	Kynkade McLachlan	The Fiddler/Yael	Kimberly Hanson
Chava	Naomi Kriege	Mendel	Joshua Zientara
Shprintze	Allyson Lindberg	Avram/Sasha	Peter Neugent
Bielke	Alice Nguyen	Malkah/Simon	Emmeline Buesing
Motel	Grayson Buesing	Davida	Kendall Syslack
Perchik	Ben Shields	Mirala	Audrey Ellis
Fyedka	Michael Mingus	Peshka	Mia Mannella
Yente	Sara Stern	Fayge/Yudel	Brianna Brincks
Lazar Wolf	Chad Larget	Yakira/Natan	Shannon Burke
Rabbi/Srul	John Schneider	Nachum/Yussel	Nate Rodriguez
Grandma Tzeitel/	Amanda Satchell	Ruth/Reuven	Alyssa Tyson
Rivka		Annon	Rohan Rhys
Fruma-Sarah/	Jackey Boelkow	Avshalom	Mars Schultz
Yehudit			

Fiddler on the Roof has a runtime of 2 hours and 40 minutes, including a 20 minute intermission.

Dance Captain SaraLynn Evenson

*Appearing through an agreement between Skylight Music Theatre and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies/Standbys never substitute for listed players unless a specific notification is made at the time of the performance.

For Tevey – Chad Larget; **For Golde** – Amanda Satchell; **For Yente** – Jackey Boelkow,
For Tzeitel – Mia Mannella; **For Hodel** – Kendall Syslack; **For Chava** – Emmeline Buesing;
For Motel – Joshua Zientara; **For Perchik** – Nate Rodriguez; **For Fyedka** – Peter Neugent;
For Grandma Tzeitel & Fruma-Sarah – SaraLynn Evenson; **For Rabbi** – Thom Cauley

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

Prologue: Tradition	Tevye, Company
Matchmaker, Matchmaker	Tzeitel, Hodel, Chava
If I Were a Rich Man	Tevye
Sabbath Prayer	Tevye, Golde, Company
To Life	Tevye, Lazar Wolf, Company
Tevye's Monologue	Tevye
Miracle of Miracles	Motel
Tevye's Dream	Tevye, Golde, Grandma Tzeitel, Fruma-Sarah, Company
Sunrise, Sunset	Tevye, Golde, Perchik, Hodel, Company
The Wedding	Full Company

ACT 2

Entr'acte	Orchestra
Now I Have Everything	Perchik, Hodel
Tevye's Rebuttal	Tevye
Do You Love Me?	Tevye, Golde
The Rumor	Yente, Villagers
Far From the Home I Love	Hodel
Chavaleh	Tevye, Chava, Tzeitel, Hodel, Motel, Fyedka, Perchik
Anatevka	Company

ORCHESTRA

Music Director/Keyboard	David Bonofiglio
Violin	Pamela Simmons
Cello	Braden Zitoun
Reed 1 (Flute)	Emma Lundquist
Clarinet	Britni Cohen-Wirchen
Trumpet	Greg Garcia
Trombone	Kyle Samuelson
Drums/Percussion	Patrick Morrow

PRODUCTION SUPPORT

SKYLIGHT MUSIC THEATRE

Director of Production and Facilities	Terry Harper
Head Carpenter/Fleet Manager	Islay Reed
Assistant Stage Managers	Malaina Moore, Sydney Smith
Scenic Carpenters	Michael Boyle, Bianca Gonzalez, Austin Hobbs, Noah Mobius, Mark Warden
Scenic Painters	Lydia Moss, Elliot White
Properties Supervisor	Amaya Rockett
Props Artisans	Erin Chin, Miranda Croll, Ava Rodriguez
Lighting Supervisor	Ashton Karp
Electricians	Star Howard, Jen Letscher
Audio Assistant/Deck Crew	Riley McTaggart
Follow Spot Operator	Mikayla Sheremeta
Audio/Video Supervisor	Ev Ponder
Costume Director	Jeanne Schrank
Wardrobe Supervisor	Alexis Flaten
Wardrobe Run Crew	Jess Llanas, Bailey Staerker
Costume Design Assistants	Iris DeWeerd, Eva Hesse
Stitchers	Shima Orans, Brooke Wallo
<i>Fiddler</i> Fight Choreography	Jamie Cheatham
Resident Fight and Intimacy Director	Marcee Doherty
Dialect Coach	Irina Gugushina
Assistant Choreographer	Ali Molaei
Rehearsal Pianist	Megan Fitch
Graphic Design Support	Rylee Zuniga
Photographer	Mark Frohna
Videographers	Traveling Lemur Productions

MU Artistic Director
Jamie Cheatham

Assistant to the Artistic Director
Erin Cavender, Cassidy O'Neil

Production I Class:
Mae Anderson, Nelson Benitz,
Emme Buesing, Brianna Brincks,
Victoria Fabricius, Rowan Farley,
Taylor Landry, Mia Mannella,
Gillian Mendyk, Ariel Moreno,
Peter Neugent, Christian Wood,
Sophie Wright, Sofia Zeledon

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

**MU Costume Shop Manager/
Costume Designer**
Connie Peterson

Costume Shop Crew
Patricia Leon, Victoria Fabricius,
Olivia Lowndes, Ariel Moreno,
Megan Fitch

MU Scenic Designer
Stephen Hudson Mairat

Scene Shop Assistants
Miranda Croll, Jackson Sheerin,
Lilly Parrot, Naomi Kriege,
Iris Deweedt, Gabriella Shulman,
Anna Bechtal, Rory Dwyer,
Ben Shields, Rowan Estes,
Grayson Buesing

Scene Shop Crew
Stuart Chilton, Thomas Dietz,
Megan Brockway, Josh Zientara,
Michael Mingus, Ceili Callahan

New York Fiddler Pre-Production Dance Crew: Ali Molaei, Morgan Cohen, Hallie Chametzky,
Judith Golden, Aviya Hernstadt, Madelyn Wansong, Devon McCleskey, Luis Villar, Jenifer Dillow

Special thanks to Ken Yunker, Rabbi Dov Taylor, Miller and Campbell Costume Service, Sunset Playhouse,
Marquette University Department of Theatre Arts, Mike Boyle, Aaron Hubbard, Jamie Cheatham,
Val Johnson, Nathan Danzer, Mikayla Sheremeta, Rylee Zuniga, Joe Seager and Cutting Edge Fabrication



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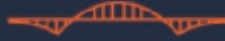
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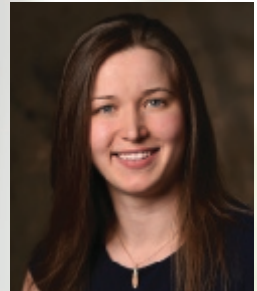
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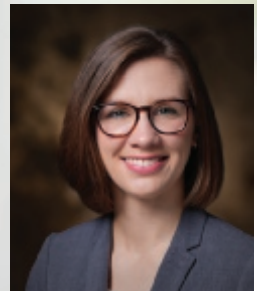
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Charles Chung, MD

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WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



Andrew
Varela*



Janet
Metz*



Jackey
Boelkow



Brianna
Brincks



Grayson
Buesing



Emmeline
Buesing



Shannon
Burke



Thom
Cauley



Audrey
Ellis



Saralynn
Evenson



Erin
Fricker



Joseph
Green



Kimberly
Hanson



Naomi
Kriege



Chad
Larget



Allyson
Lindberg

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST



Mia
Mannella



Kynkade
McLachlan



Michael
Mingus



Peter
Neugent



Alice
Nguyen



Rohan
Rhys



Nate
Rodriguez



Amanda
Satchell



John
Schneider



Mars
Schultz



Ben
Shields



Sara
Stern



Kendall
Syslack



Alyssa
Tyson



Joshua
Zientara

BIOS

Andrew Varela* (Tevye) Broadway/National Tours-*Les Misérables* (Jean Valjean, Javert) *Phantom of the Opera* (The Phantom), *Little Women* (Prof Bhaer), *Roundabout's Sunday in the Park with George* (Jules); *South Pacific* in concert at Carnegie Hall. Skylight credits include *Waitress* (Cal), *Candide* (Pangloss), *Evita* (Peron), *Sweeney Todd* (Sweeney), *Les Misérables* (Javert), *Wizard of Oz* (Lion), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Pirate King), *Annie* (Warbucks) and *Kiss Me Kate* (Fred). Other Milwaukee theatres include MKE Rep, First Stage, Florentine Opera, In Tandem, and Optimist Theatre. Film/TV- NBC's Chicago Justice, Chicago Fire, Showtime's The Chi, and numerous commercials.

Janet Metz* (Golde) Broadway: *Once Upon A Mattress*, *Marie Christine*, *On the Town*, *Fiddler on the Roof*; Off-Broadway: *Bingo* (Drama League nomination), *Falsettoland*, *I Love You, You're Perfect...*, *Big*, *Lucky Stiff*, *Stars of David*, *Hurrah at Last*, *I Love NY* (Bistro Award). Tours: *Joseph...* (Narrator opposite Donny Osmond - platinum recording), *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber*, *Stop the World...*, *Music of the Night*, *Fame*. Regional: *Harmony* (Drama-Logue Award), *The Spitfire Grill*, *Casino Paradise*, *The Rink*, *Mack and Mabel*, *Funny Girl*, *Sunday in the Park...*, *A Christmas Carol*. At Skylight: *Sister Act*, *Full Monty*, *Hunchback...*, *An Evening with Sir Tim Rice*. Twelve original cast recordings.

Jackey Boelkow (Fruma-Sarah/Yehudit) Credits include: Alison in *Beehive*, and Offstage Swing in *Titanic* (Milwaukee Repertory Theater), Patty in *School of Rock*, Jenna's Mother in *Waitress*, Ensemble/Romani Cultural Consultant in *Hunchback...*, and Molly/Dolores/Vicki u/s in *The Full Monty* (Skylight Music Theatre), Elizabeth in *Laundry and Bourbon* (Next Act Theatre). Bossanova in *Elixir* and Vocalist in Tribute: *The Mamas and The Papas*.

Brianna Brincks (Fayge/Yudel) is a Marquette Freshman from Gurnee, Illinois, studying Theatre Arts and Political Science. Previous roles include Emily Hobbs in *Elf*, Miss. Scarlett in *Clue*, Mimi in *Guys and Dolls*, and Susie Bones in *Puffs* at Carmel Catholic High School. Brianna is excited for this show and thanks her family and friends for their relentless support!

Grayson Buesing (Motel) is a Marquette junior from Mequon, Wisconsin, studying Theatre Arts and Digital Media. His recent theatre credits include Zebulun in *Joseph ...* at Sunset Playhouse, as well as Daddy Murphy in *Bright Star*, Don Pedro in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Marcus in the world premiere of *In the Cities of Refuge* at Marquette University.

Emmeline Buesing (Malkah/Simon) is a Freshman at Marquette from Mequon, Wisconsin, studying Theatre Arts and Elementary Education. Her most recent production includes Mrs. Potiphar in *Joseph ...* at Sunset Playhouse. Homestead Highschool: *Helena in A Midsummer Night's Dream*, The Pirate King in *The Pirates of Penzance*, and Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*.

Shannon Burke (Yakira/Natan) hails from St. Louis, MO, studying Anthropology, Theology, and Theatre Arts. Recent roles include the ensemble of *Bright Star*, Rosencrantz in *Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are Dead*, and Beth Powell in *John Proctor is the Villain*. They'd like to thank friends, family, and those who told them they can dance.

Thom Cauley (Mordcha) has had a wonderfully varied career. Recent highlights, *Secret Garden & She Loves me* (Forte Theatre), Tin Man in *Wizard of Oz* (Bombshell), and many more. Whether choreographing, teaching dance, or his original pieces, performing and storytelling are his Leidenschaft. For his friends, family, and especially his mother Susan. L'Chaim!

Audrey Ellis (Mirala) is a sophomore majoring in Psychology at Marquette University and is thrilled for her Skylight debut! A recent credit: Marquette's *Bright Star* as Dr. Norquist & Margo u/s. Favorite theatrical credits include Rizzo in *Grease* at Marquette University High School, Trunchbull in *Matilda*, and Maleficent in *Descendants* at Divine Savior Holy Angels.

SaraLynn Evenson (Shandel/Dance Captain) happily returns after *Frankenstein*, *Full Monty*, *Zombies...*, *School of Rock* and more at Skylight! Other recent credits at First Stage, Music Theatre Madison, SideNotes Cabaret, Musical MainStage. She is also a choreographer and has worked regionally, on tour and in NYC. Love to my amazing family! saralynnonstage.com

Erin Fricker (Tzeitel) is a senior studying Digital Media, Theatre Arts, and Dance and is thrilled to be making her Skylight debut! Recent credits include Alice Murphy (*Bright Star*) and Maryjo Kincaid (*A Piece of My Heart*) at Marquette, and three seasons with Kids From Wisconsin. Love to her wonderful family!

Joseph Green (Constable/Yitzhak) is making his Skylight debut! Credits: *Kiss Me, Kate*, *MacBeth*, *Twelfth Night* (Texas Shakespeare Festival), *It's a Wonderful Life* (Capital City Theatre), *Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Our Town*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Stones in his Pockets* (American Players Theatre). Directing credits: *A Case for the Existence of God* (Forward Theatre) *Anton's Shorts* (American Players Theatre)

BIOS CONTINUED

Kimberly Hanson (The Fiddler/Yael) is a powerhouse vocalist and fiddler with the beloved trio, The WhiskeyBelles. Her passion for violin began at age 10 when she played Shprintze in a high school production of *Fiddler*. She has performed with MYSO, the Racine Symphony, and various bands. Career highlights: opening for Charlie Daniels, rocking with the Violent Femmes and belting the national anthem at Lambeau.

Naomi Kriege (Chava) is a Marquette senior from Kansas City, MO, majoring in theatre and minoring in dance. Recent credits: a Swing (*Love's Labour's Lost*) with Summit Players Theatre, and Margo Crawford (*Bright Star*), and Hero (*Much Ado About Nothing*) at Marquette. She has played both fiddle and classical violin for 17 years.

Chad Larget (Lazar Wolf) made his Skylight debut in 1994 with *Most Happy Fella*. Recent Skylight credits: *To Catch a Thief*, *School of Rock*, Dennis DeYoung's *Hunchback...*, *Oklahoma!*, and *Fortunate Sons*. Broadway: *Candide* (Candide u/s). He has performed with Lyric Opera of Chicago, Florentine Opera, Milwaukee Symphony, Fireside Dinner Theatre, Boulevard Theatre, and Sunset Playhouse.

Allyson Lindberg (Shprintze) is thrilled to be making her Skylight Music Theatre debut as an 8th grader. Her most favorite roles include Mary Lennox in *The Secret Garden* at Forte Theatre Company; Olive Biddle in *Pete the Cat* at First Stage; Artful Dodger in *Oliver! Jr.* and Dory in *Finding Nemo Jr.* at Forte Theatre Company.

Mia Mannella (Peshka) is a sophomore at Marquette from Roselle, IL majoring in Digital Media with a Theatre Arts minor. In her freshman year, Mia performed as Leonata u/s in *Much Ado About Nothing* and as part of the ensemble in *Bright Star* at Marquette.

Kynkade McLachlan (Hodel) a senior from Austin, Texas, is a Theatre Arts major and a minor in Gender & Sexualities at Marquette University. Her recent roles include Lucy (*Bright Star*), Beatrice (*Much Ado About Nothing*), and Johanna (*Sweeney Todd*), at Marquette.

Michael Mingus (Fyedka) is a senior Theatre Arts major at Marquette with a minor in corporate communications. Credits: Mayor Dobbs in *Bright Star*, Man in *A Piece of My Heart*, Richard in *In the Cities of Refuge*, and the titular role in *Sweeney Todd*, and costume designer for *All in the Timing* at Marquette Theatre.

Peter Neugent (Avram/Sasha) a Freshman at Marquette University from Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, studying Theater and Biology. Some previous roles include Hermes in *Hadestown: Teen Edition*, Kyle in *Legally Blonde*, and Pab-bie in *Frozen* at Wauwatosa West High School. Peter is thrilled to be a part of this production and thanks his family for being his rock!

Alice Nguyen (Bielke) is honored to join the cast of *Fiddler on the Roof* for her first Skylight production. She will also be appearing in her third holiday production with First Stage this winter. Offstage, ten-year-old Alice is student council president. She enjoys writing, playing percussion, and crafting.

Rohan Rhys (Amnon) is thrilled to debut at Skylight Theatre. Recent credits: Milo in the World Premiere of *Milo Imagines the World* at Chicago Children's Theatre, *Mary Poppins in Concert* (Metropolis Performing Arts Centre), *Carousel* (Music Theater Works), and *Ragtime* (Metropolis Performing Arts Centre). Rohan trains at Actors Training Center, Voice Life Studios, and Chicago Actors Studio.

Nate Rodriguez (Nachum/Yussel) is a senior majoring in Theatre Arts and Journalism from Bartlett, IL. Credits: Billy Cane in *Bright Star*, Henry in *Sanctuary City*, Dr. Lombardi in *Servant of Two Masters*, Chris in Marquette's World Premiere production of *In the Cities of Refuge*. Assistant stage management credit: *Sweeney Todd*, Detroit '67.

Amanda Satchell (Grandma Tzeitel/Rivka) previous Skylight roles: Sister Mary Patrick in *Sister Act*, a soloist in *An Evening With Sir Tim Rice*, Rosie in *MAMMA MIA!*, Bourgeoisie in Dennis DeYoung's *Hunchback...*, and Claire in *Fortunate Sons*. A proud mother, wife, root, educator, and University of Michigan's Musical Theatre alumni.

John Schneider (Rabbi/Srul) was a founding member of Milwaukee's Theatre X serving as actor, director, and playwright. He sang and danced with the John Schneider Orchestra and was the original recipient of what is now the Milwaukee Artist of the Year award. He's an arts journalist and theatre instructor at Marquette.

Mars Schultz (Avshalom) is excited to return to Skylight Music Theatre for *Fiddler on the Roof*, after making his debut with the company in *Frankenstein the Musical*. Recently, Mars portrayed the Miniature Nutcracker in *The Nutcracker: Drosselmeyer's Imaginarium* at Milwaukee Ballet. Mars wants to thank his family for their support.

BIOS CONTINUED

Ben Shields (Perchik) is beyond excited about making his professional theater debut in *Fiddler on the Roof*! He recently played the male swing for *Much Ado About Nothing*, Swift in *All in the Timing*, and Silvio in *The Servant of Two Masters* at Marquette University.

Sara Stern (Yente) a Chicago-based singing actress, is delighted to return to Skylight, where she last appeared as the Old Woman in *Candide* (2023). She recently schemed as Yente in *Fiddler* with Music Theater Works. Favorite MTW credits include *Night Music*, *Ragtime*, *Into the Woods*, *The Merry Widow*. She performs with the G&S Opera Company, Porchlight, and others.

Kendall Syslack (Davida) is thrilled to be making her Skylight debut! She is currently a sophomore at Marquette University, majoring in digital media and theatre arts. Some of her favorite past credits include *Cinderella* with the Hartford Players, *Joseph...* at Sunset Playhouse, and *Bright Star* with Marquette Theater.

Alyssa Tyson (Ruth/Reuven) is originally from South Carolina where she started her professional training at Charlotte Ballet Academy. Pursuing ballet, she joined Milwaukee Ballet's Pre-Professional Program and later Ballet Theater of Maryland. Now she's pursuing theater and is grateful to be performing her first musical theater production with Skylight.

Joshua Zientara (Mendel) is a Junior at, you guessed it, Marquette. He is double majoring in Theatre and Psychology. He is very grateful to share the stage with such wonderful people for his Skylight debut. He has performed in 23 musicals and 7 plays... Hi Mom!!! Enjoy the show!

CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

Michael Unger (Director/Artistic Director)** Artistic Director since September, 2019, Michael has directed Dennis DeYoung's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (nine Broadway-World Awards – including Best Director and Best Musical), the Deaf and Hard of Hearing production of *Spring Awakening*, *Frankenstein*, *Oliver!*, *Juliet & Romeo*, *School of Rock*, *Noises Off*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Jolly Holiday*, the virtual *Being Earnest*, as well as *Me, Myself and I* for Skylight's Education program. He was previously the Associate Artistic Director of Off-Broadway's York Theatre where credits included *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* and *Big*. For nine years, he was the Producing Artistic Director of NewArts, started in response to the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy, directing 17 productions working with over 650

area-children. Other selected directing credits include *A Christmas Carol* (McCarter Theatre for 18 years), *Two Point Oh* (NY Times Critics' Pick), *Time Stands Still* (Cape Cod Chronicle Best 2015), *My Sister in This House* (Deaf West, Ovation Recommended), and new versions of Kander and Ebb's *The Happy Time* and *The Rink*. World premiere directing credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Caligula*, and *A ROCKIN' Midsummer Night's Dream* (featured in the award-winning documentary film "Midsummer in Newtown"). He has directed 14 operas plus benefit concerts honoring Susan Stroman, André DeShields, Maltby and Shire, and Leslie Uggams, as well as for the communities of Sandy Hook, CT and Parkland, FL.

Yehuda L. Hyman (Choreographer)** is the Artistic Director of Mystical Feet Company. He was born in Los Angeles to immigrant parents from Poland and Russia. Original plays include *The Mad Dancers*, *Center of the Star*, *David in Shadow and Light* and *The Mar Vista*. Honors include the Kennedy Center New American Plays Award, the NEA/TCG Playwright-in-Residence Grant, and Playwrights' Center of Minneapolis Jerome Fellowship. MFA in Dance from Sarah Lawrence College. His dance writing has been published in *Seeing Israeli and Jewish Dance*, *Dance in America*, *A Reader's Anthology* and "The Oxford Handbook of Jewishness and Dance." Yehuda dedicates his work in *Fiddler on the Roof* to the memory of violinist, Daniel Hoffman.

David Bonofiglio (Music Director) holds a BFA in piano performance from Cardinal Stritch University. Selected credits as music director: *Juliet & Romeo*, *Oliver*, *An Evening with Tim Rice*, *Xanadu*, *School of Rock*, *Evita*, *Mamma Mia!*, *The Full Monty*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* for Skylight Music Theatre; *Little By Little*, *Scrooge In Rouge*, *A Cudahy Caroler Christmas*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar* for In Tandem Theatre. Associate music director: *A Christmas Carol* for Milwaukee Rep.

Jonathan Berg-Einhorn (Scenic Designer) (he/him) previously had the privilege of designing Skylight's 24-'25' season and is very fortunate to return for the 25-'26' season this year. Jonathan has worked with companies such as, Paramount Theatre, Metropolis, Porchlight Music Theatre, Kokandy Productions, American Blues Theatre, Haven Theatre, Music Theater Works, Citadel Theatre, and Redtwist Theatre, to name a few. Jonathanbergeinhorn.com.

BIOS CONTINUED

Michelle Therese Grimm (Costume Designer) is happy to return to Skylight after designing costumes for *OLIVER!* last season. Seattle credits include 5th Avenue Theatre, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Seattle Opera, Village Theatre, and Cornish College of the Arts. Michelle has a B.A. in Theatre Arts from Marquette University where she currently works in the costume shop, and an M.F.A. in Costume Design and Tech from Northern Illinois University. She lives in Cedarburg with her husband and three children.

Smooch Medina (Lighting Designer) is thrilled to be working on *Fiddler on the Roof* with Skylight Music Theatre. A Chicago-based designer, Smooch's credits include *Cabaret*, *Rent*, *Watsons Go to Birmingham*, and Jeff-nominated work with Porchlight and Irish Theatre. Smooch is also Technical Supervisor at Hemmens Cultural Center. More at smoochdesign.com.

John Tanner (Sound Designer) is a composer, recording engineer, and sound designer. He works in scoring, arranging, recording, and music composition for television, documentaries, radio, industrial video, and theatre. His original music has won Golden Reel Awards; Telly Awards; and National American Advertising Federation Awards. John has earned both Gold and Platinum albums for his engineering work.

Emily Wright* (Production Stage Manager) is happy to kick off another season at Skylight! She recently assistant stage managed *Pretty Woman* at Gateway Playhouse. Favorite stage management credits include *Sister Act* and *Noises Off* (Skylight Music Theatre), *Lumberjacks in Love* and *Guys On Ice* (Milwaukee Rep), *An Iliad* and *Liberace!* (Milwaukee Chamber Theatre), and *Escape From Peligro Island* (First Stage). Born and raised in Cleveland Ohio, she is a graduate of Denison University and a proud member of Actors Equity Association.

Terry Harper (Director of Production and Facilities) is originally from Houston, Texas where he began his career as a Rock and Roll Lighting Designer, a Musical Theater Sound Engineer, and an Opera Technical Director. Opera has taken up most of his time, working for Texas Opera Theater, Central City Opera, Opera Omaha, Vancouver Opera, The Atlanta Opera, and most recently Houston Grand Opera. Terry spent 5 years on the road touring the world with magician David Copperfield. He also helped take Mr. Copperfield's show to Broadway for a limited, record breaking run.

Susan Varela (Executive Director) professional career began as a performer, which landed her in New York City for 20 years. She performed on Broadway in *Les Misérables* and at Radio City Music Hall in *The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber*. Other notable performances include Jo March in *Little Women: The Musical*; Grizabella in *Cats* and Eva Peron in *Evita*. Susan performed in world premieres at both the Denver Center Theater (for their Tony-award winning season) and the Yale Repertory Theater. Before joining the Skylight staff, she performed here on the Cabot Theatre stage in *Sweeney Todd*, *Into the Woods*, *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Les Misérables*. Susan has produced, directed, performed and written for the stage and television alongside her husband, actor Andrew Varela. Susan was named a 2025 Women of Influence by the Milwaukee Business Journal. She currently serves on the board of directors for Brew City Opera and The Historic Third Ward Association and is a member of TEMPO - a group of executive women leaders from Milwaukee.

Joseph Stein (Book) won the Tony Award and Drama Critics Circle Award for *Fiddler on the Roof*. His other musicals include *Zorba* (Tony nomination, Drama Critics Circle Award); *Rags* (Tony nomination); *The Baker's Wife* (Olivier Award nomination, London); *Take Me Along* (Tony nomination); *Juno*; *Irene* (starring Debbie Reynolds); *The King of Hearts*; *All About Us*; and *Enter Laughing: The Musical* (Lucille Lortel nomination, outstanding revival). He also co-authored, with Alan Jay Lerner, *Carmelina*; and with Will Glickman, *Mr. Wonderful* (starring Sammy Davis, Jr.), *The Body Beautiful*, and *Plain and Fancy*. His plays are *Enter Laughing*, *Before the Dawn*, and *Mrs. Gibbons' Boys*. Stein grew up in the Bronx and first became a social worker while pursuing writing on the side. He began his career in TV and radio, writing for "The Sid Caesar Show," "Your Show of Shows," "Henry Morgan Show," and many others, and for personalities including Tallulah Bankhead, Phil Silvers, Jackie Gleason and Zero Mostel. On Broadway he made his debut contributing to the theatrical revues *Lend an Ear* (featuring Carol Channing) and *Alive and Kicking*. He wrote the screenplays of *Enter Laughing* and *Fiddler on the Roof*, for which he won the Screen Writers Guild Award. In 2008, he was inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame.

Jerry Bock (Music) Jerry Bock was born in New Haven, Connecticut on November 23rd, 1928. That was his first out-of-town tryout. Thirty years later, he and Sheldon Harnick gave birth

BIOS CONTINUED

Jerry Bock (Music, cont) to *The Body Beautiful* in Philadelphia. That was his fourth out-of-town tryout. In between was *Catch a Star*, a fleeting revue that, according to critic Walter Kerr, posed the question; "What do you call something between a flop and a smash?" Kerr's answer? "A flash!". Next, Jule Styne and Tommy Valano midwived Bock, Larry Holofcener and George Weiss into birthing *Mr. Wonderful* starring Sammy Davis Jr. The title song and "Too Close For Comfort" are still active off springs. Bock and Harnick's celebrated collaboration yielded five scores in seven years. *The Body Beautiful*, *Fiorello!* (winner of Broadway's triple crown: The Tony Award, The New York Critics' Circle Award and The Pulitzer Prize in drama, the fourth musical to do so), *Tenderloin*, *She Loves Me* - (winner of Variety's poll of critics as best musical, citing Bock and Harnick as best composer and lyricist), *Fiddler on the Roof* - (nine Tonys, notably the citation for best musical of the year), *The Apple Tree* and *The Rothschilds*. In addition to the 1989 silver anniversary production of *Fiddler* (from which a major excerpt was featured in Jerome Robbins' Broadway), a highly esteemed revival of *The Rothschilds* enjoyed a successful run off-Broadway the following year. Since then, Bock and Harnick were triply honored by being inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame, receiving the Johnny Mercer Award from the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Spirit of American Creativity Award from the Foundation for a Creative America. But the "award" that Bock held near and dear was the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from the University of Wisconsin. It was there that he met his wife Patti, and it was there that he decided to be a composer. Mr. Bock was a member of a number of professional guilds and associations, among which the BMI Foundation, Inc. was a membership he relished. As for Patti, his wife, George, their son and Portia, their daughter, Bock confessed they were his longest running hit. Jerry Bock passed away in 2010.

Sheldon Harnick (Lyrics) career began in the 1950s with songs in revues (e.g., "The Boston Beguine," "The Merry Little Minuet"). With Jerry Bock he created a number of memorable musicals, including *Fiorello!* (Tony Award, Pulitzer Prize), *Tenderloin*, *She Loves Me* (Grammy), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tony), *The Apple Tree*, and *The Rothschilds* (subsequently revised as *Rothschild & Sons*). Other collaborations: *Rex* (Richard Rodgers), *A Christmas Carol* (Michel Legrand), *A Wonderful Life* (Joe Raposo), *The Phantom Tollbooth* (Arnold Black, Norton Juster), and *The Audition* (Marvin Hamlisch). He wrote three musicals himself: *Dragons*, *A Doctor in Spite of Himself*, and *Malpractice Makes Perfect*.

Actors' Equity Association* ("Equity") founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. #EquityWorks Equity is governed by its own members through an elected Council, representing principal actors, chorus actors and stage managers living in three regions: Eastern, Central and Western. Members at large participate in Equity's governance through a system of regional Boards and Committees. Equity has 28 designated liaison areas, metropolitan areas with a concentration of more than 100 members.

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