

# PLAYBILL®

Titusville Playhouse  
Titusville, FL

The word "Tootsie" is rendered in a large, 3D, marquee-style font. The letters are red with a metallic silver outline and are covered in numerous small, glowing white dots, giving them a festive, illuminated appearance. The text is set against a solid blue background.

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# **TITUSVILLE PLAYHOUSE**

**301 Julia Street  
Titusville, FL 32796**

**Phone: 321-268-1125**

**Office Hours: Tues - Fri  
10:00am - 3:00pm**

**[www.TitusvillePlayhouse.com](http://www.TitusvillePlayhouse.com)**

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# TITUSVILLE PLAYHOUSE

A Note From The Executive and Artistic Director

## Welcome to the Titusville Playhouse and our first show of our 60th Season TOOTSIE!

I am so happy that you have decided to join us here at the Titusville Playhouse for TOOTSIE and the opening of our INCREDIBLE 60th Season! The movie "Tootsie" is a beloved classic that has left a lasting impression on many, including myself. The musical brings back fond memories of the film in a fresh and exciting way to a modern audience. For those that don't know this show, it is a hilarious comedy that follows the traditional theme of a man going to great lengths to achieve his desires, only for everything to go awry.

"Tootsie" set the stage for films like "Mrs. Doubtfire" while drawing inspiration from earlier comedies such as "Some Like It Hot". The original film premiered in 1982 with Dustin Hoffman delivering a standout performance as Michael/Dorothy. It was then adapted to a Broadway musical that premiered in 2019. Initially criticized for overlooking modern perspectives upon its Broadway debut, the licensed tour version has since incorporated these considerations. Exploring themes of authenticity, gender, and identity, the story remains even more relevant in today's society while being written in the style of a television sitcom.

The cast features standout performances from everyone. Each person embodies their role perfectly to create a vibrant, hilarious, and entertaining show. Every character, no matter how small, has a chance to shine and add to the laughter-filled atmosphere. I hope, no I KNOW, you will experience as much laughter and joy as I have directing this amazing cast.

The creative team of this show has worked hard to bring theatre magic to the stage for the start of our 60th Season! From the angular and glitzy scenic design to theatrical marquee lighting (with a modern twist) to stunning costumes, each department has worked hard to open the season with pizzazz. To help bring Broadway magic to the stage we have worked with the wardrobe team from the Original Broadway/Tour show to figure out how to achieve all of Michael/Dorothy's transformations. I have been watching this show through the entire rehearsal process and still have moments of WOW when I see the transformations!!!

As the opening show of the 60th Season, "Tootsie" sets the perfect tone for a season filled with laughter and entertainment, providing a temporary escape from the outside world and allowing you the opportunity to immerse yourself in the joyous absurdity of the show. I look forward to another amazing year of theatre with you!! You honor me with every hug and handshake each time you join me for the adventure of live theatre! Thank you for your support and most importantly, your time.

**THANK YOU!**

**Steven J. Heron, Executive & Artistic Director**



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**T Loop Hearing Assistance System** in the orchestra.  
Please tune into the system or ask  
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**Titusville Playhouse**  
**Steven J. Heron, Executive and Artistic Director**  
**PRESENTS**

# Tootsie

Music and Lyrics by  
**DAVID YAZBEK**

Book by  
**ROBERT HORN**

*Based on the story by DON MCGUIRE and LARRY GELBART and the COLUMBIA PICTURES motion picture produced by PUNCH PRODUCTIONS and starring DUSIN HOFFMAN*

with

Jordyn Linkous  
Erica deJongh  
Dana Vinci

Anthony Gjelaj  
Frank Thompson

Emilee Mari Fruscella  
Christopher deJongh  
Michael Coppola

**Sound Designer**  
**Spencer Crosswell**

**Scenic & Video Design**  
**Christian Fleming**

**Lighting Design**  
**Davis Vandesteeg**

**Costume & Wig Design**  
**Jordyn Linkous**

**Stage Manager**  
**Emily O'Neal**

**Prop Design**  
**Kaylee Kilgore**

**Music Directed by**  
**Spencer Crosswell**

**Choreographed by**  
**Rachel Erickson**

**Directed by**  
**Steven J. Heron**

Vocal and Incidental  
Arrangements by  
**ANDREA GRODY**

Dance Arrangements by  
**DAVID CHASE**

Orchestrations by  
**SIMON HALE**

Originally Produced on Broadway by

Scott Sanders Carol Fineman Unibail-Rodamco-Westfield Columbia Live Stage Sally Horchow James L. Nederlander  
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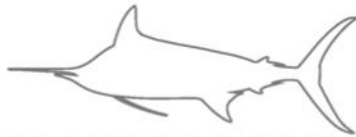
**TOOTSIE**

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John Comeau  
Mary Croatt  
Kathy Fox  
James Glover  
Jill Goessel  
Kimberly Greig  
Deb Gunsch  
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*George Mikitarian*

George Mikitarian  
President/CEO



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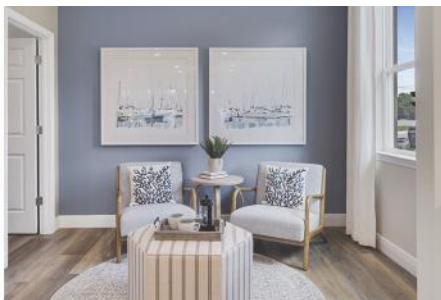
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# TITUSVILLE PLAYHOUSE

1965 2025  
**60<sup>th</sup>**  
SEASON  
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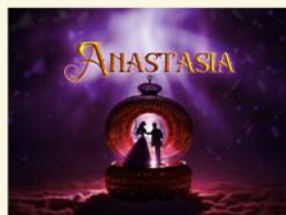
## MAINSTAGE



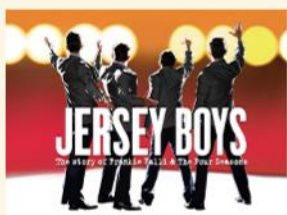
July 26 -  
August 18, 2024



September 6 -  
September 29, 2024



October 25 -  
November 17, 2024



January 10 -  
February 23, 2025



March 14 -  
April 20, 2025



May 2 -  
May 25, 2025

## STAGE 2



September 20 -  
October 6, 2024



December 6 -  
December 22, 2024



January 31 -  
February 23, 2025



April 4 -  
April 20, 2025

## SPECIAL EVENT



October 18 -  
November 1, 2024



November 15 -  
November 16, 2024



November 29 -  
December 15, 2024



February 28 -  
March 1, 2025

#playhouse60

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# CAST

Michael Dorsey/Dorothy Michaels .....	Jordyn Linkous
Julie Nichols.....	Emilee Mari Fruscella
Sandy Lester .....	Erica DeJongh
Max Van Horn .....	Anthony Gjelaj
Jeff Slater .....	Christopher DeJongh
Rita Marshall .....	Dana Vinci
Ron Carlisle .....	Frank Thompson
Stan Fields.....	Michael Coppola
Stuart/Ensemble.....	Garrett Holt
Suzie/Ensemble.....	Kara Jean (KJ) Spindle
Carl/Ensemble .....	Ryan Blagg
Ensemble .....	Patrick Miller, Sarah McKinney, Madelynn Roberts, ..... Giovanni Sanchez, Lyric Stratton

# PRODUCTION CREW

Executive & Artistic Director .....	Steven J. Heron
Associate Artistic Director .....	Niko Stamos
Director .....	Steven J. Heron
Choreographer .....	Rachel Erickson
Music Director .....	Spencer Crosswell
Costume Design .....	Jordyn Linkous
Dorothy/Michael Costume Design .....	Dylan A. Blussick
Lighting Design .....	Davis Vande Steeg
Scenic & Video Design.....	Christian Fleming
Sound Design .....	Spencer Crosswell
Wig Design .....	Jordyn Linkous
Technical Director .....	Eric Norton
Master Electrician .....	Davis Vande Steeg
Prop Design & Scenic Painting .....	Kaylee Kilgore
Video Programmer.....	Niko Stamos
Stage Manager .....	Emily O'Neal
Assistant Stage Manager .....	Laurelei Veasey
Costume Assistant .....	Helouise Duna
Set Construction .....	Anthony Gjelaj, Garrett Holt, Eric Norton, ..... Emily O'Neal, Kara Jean Spindle, Laurelei Veasey
Light Board Operator .....	Davis Vande Steeg
Sound Board Engineer .....	Logan Denninghoff
Spot Operators.....	Emma Howard, Elijah McGough, Ian Nordby

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.  
Atmospheric Effects are used in this Performance

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*Due to copyright laws there can be NO photography or video allowed.*

# SONG LIST

## ACT I

Overture .....	Orchestra
Opening.....	Michael, Ensemble
Whaddya Do .....	Michael
What's Gonna Happen.....	Sandy
Whaddaya Do (Reprise).....	Michael
I Won't Let You Down .....	Dorothy
I'm Alive .....	Julie, Ron, Max, Dorothy, Ensemble
There Was John .....	Julie, Dorothy
I Like What She's Doing.....	Rita, Julie, Ron, Max, Dorothy, Ensemble
Who Are You? .....	Michael, Julie
What's Gonna Happen (Reprise) .....	Sandy
Unstoppable .....	Michael/Dorothy, Ensemble

## ACT II

Entr'acte .....	Orchestra
Jeff Sums It Up.....	Jeff, Michael
Gone, Gone, Gone .....	Julie, Female Trio
Who Are You? (Reprise).....	Julie
This Thing.....	Max
Whaddya Do (Reprise 2) .....	Jeff, Michael
The Most Important Night of My Life .....	Max, Rita, Ron, Ensemble
Talk to Me Dorothy .....	Michael
Arrivederci! .....	Dorothy, Julie, Max, Ensemble
What's Gonna Happen (Reprise 2) .....	Sandy
Thank You (Talk to Me Dorothy Reprise) .....	Michael
Bows .....	Full Company



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Erica deJong  
as Sandy Lester



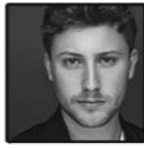
Christopher deJong  
as Jeff Slater



Jordyn Linkous  
as Michael Dorsey/  
Dorothy Michaels



Emilee Mari Fruscella  
as Julie Nichols



Anthony Gjelaj  
as Max Von Horn



Garrett Holt  
as Stuart/  
Ensemble



Kara Jean Spindle  
as Suzie/  
Ensemble



Dana Vinci  
as Rita Marshall



Michael Coppola  
as Stan Fields



Frank Thompson  
as Ron Carlisle



Ryan Blagg  
as Carl/  
Ensemble



Lyric Stratton  
as Ensemble



Sarah McKinney  
as Ensemble



Madelynn Roberts  
as Ensemble



Giovanni Sanchez  
as Ensemble



Patrick Miller  
as Ensemble

## CAST BIOGRAPHIES

**RYAN BLAGG** (*Carl/Ensemble*) is originally from Norman, Oklahoma and is excited to make his debut at Titusville Playhouse! He is currently a performer at many of the world-renowned theme parks including Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando Resort, and SeaWorld Orlando. He is also a performer at a variety of dinner theatres in Orlando including Pirate's Dinner Adventure. Previous theatrical credits: Orlando Repertory Theatre: *Make Way For Ducklings* (The Michaels); Athens Theatre: *A Funny Thing... Forum* (Miles Gloriosus), *Young Frankenstein* (Igor), *25th... Spelling Bee* (Leaf Coneybear), *White Christmas* (Mike/Phil Davis u/s); CFCArts: *Disney Beauty and the Beast: In Concert* (Lefou); The Henegar Center: *Disney The Little Mermaid* (Scuttle), *Joseph... Dreamcoat* (Zebulun); Theater West End: *9 to 5: The Musical* (Joe/ Ensemble); Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: *Assassins* (Giuseppe Zangara), *The Wizard of Oz* (Lollipop Guild/Ensemble); Reduxion Theatre: *Sweeney Todd* (Toby Ragg); Sooner Theatre: *Hello, Dolly* (Barnaby Tucker), *Disney Beauty and the Beast* (Lefou). [ryanpblagg.com](http://ryanpblagg.com) | [@OrangeRyanBlagg](https://twitter.com/OrangeRyanBlagg)

**MICHAEL COPPOLA** (*Stan Fields*) returns to the Playhouse stage having previously played roles in *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer* (Sam the Snowman), *Bright Star* (Mayor Josiah Dobbs), *Titanic* (Isidor Straus), and *The Music Man* (Olin Britt/ Barbershop Quartet-Bass). By day Michael is the Choral Director at Viera High School. Thank you, Steven and creative team, for this opportunity. Much love to Karen and family! Enjoy the show!

**CHRISTOPHER DEJONGH** (*Jeff Slater*) is so excited to bring this piece to life with this hilarious cast! Before transplanting from Massachusetts, Christopher performed in regional and community theaters throughout New England. He was last seen at Playhouse in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Riff Raff). Some favorite past roles include *Kinky Boots* (Charlie), *Les Misérables* (Jean Valjean), *Rent* (Roger) and *The Full Monty* (Jerry). Christopher would like to thank Steven, Spencer, Rachel, and Jordyn and the entire crew for their artistry and collaboration! Special thanks to Erica for being his constant comic relief and his pup Luna for being a loof!

**ERICA DEJONGH** (*Sandy Lester*) is thrilled to return to the Playhouse after last appearing in *9 to 5* (Violet). Other past roles at the Playhouse include *Sunday in the Park with George* (Dot/Marie), *Priscilla: Queen of the Desert* (Marian), *SpongeBob: The Musical* (Karen) and *Evil Dead the Musical* (Linda). Erica is originally from Connecticut and holds a BFA from Rhode Island College and is a graduate of The American Musical and Dramatic Academy in NYC. Other past Florida credits include *42nd St* (Maggie Jones) at Osceola Arts, *Cabaret* (Sally Bowles) at Theatre West End, *Into the Woods* (The Witch) at Athens Theatre, and *Rock of Ages* at Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center. Other favorite roles include *RENT* (Maureen), *Big Fish* (Josephine), and *Gypsy* (Dainty June). Thank you to Steven, Niko, Jordyn, and Spencer for letting me be a part of this hilarious show. Love to my favorite scene partner and husband Christopher, and our dog, Luna. IG: erica.dejongh

**EMILEE MARI FRUSCELLA** (*Julie Nichols*) is thrilled to be back at the Playhouse! Prior she has been seen in *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (Missy), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella) and *Sunday in the Park with George* (Yvonne/Naomi). She is currently a senior at the University of Central Florida pursuing her BFA in Musical. Other credits include *Working* (Terry/ Roberta), *First Date* (Casey U/S), *The Addams Family* (Morticia), *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Narrator U/S).

**ANTHONY GJELAJ** (*Max Von Horn*) is here as a 2024-2025 Titusville Playhouse Actor/Tech Intern. He is a recent graduate from West Virginia University, where he got his BFA in Musical Theatre. Some of Anthony's favorite roles include *Ride The Cyclone* (Mischa), *Carrie* (Billy u/s), *The Music Man* (Professor Harold Hill), *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* (Paul), and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Jean Michel u/s). He would like to thank his parents, Steven, and the entire staff for granting him this opportunity. IG: @ajjelaj , see you all season!

**GARRETT HOLT** (*Stuart/Ensemble*) is excited to be performing at the Titusville Playhouse. He recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Theatre from Middle Tennessee State University. Where he enjoyed roles such as *Cabaret* (Herr Schulz), *Sense and Sensibility* (Colonel Brandon), and *The Tempest* (Stephano). He wants to thank his family and friends for their continuous support.

**JORDYN LINKOUS** (*Michael Dorsey/Dorothy Michaels*) has performed nationwide and globally in such productions as *Grease*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Shrek*, and as a principal vocalist aboard Royal Caribbean, Norwegian, and Azamara Cruise Lines. On stage at Titusville Playhouse, he has appeared in *Cabaret* (Master of Ceremonies), *The Wizard of Oz* (Wicked Witch), *Who's Holiday* (Cindy Lou Who), *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (Tick), *The SpongeBob Musical* (Plankton), *A Chorus Line* (Zach), *Kinky Boots* (Referee Angel), *The Who's TOMMY* (Tommy), *The Wild Party* (Burrs), *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Hedwig/Tommy), *Something Rotten* (Nick Bottom), *Matilda* (Miss Trunchbull), *RENT* (Roger), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Jacob), and *The Rocky Horror Show* (Frank & Riff Raff). Jordyn serves as Resident Costume and Wig Designer/Coordinator here at the Playhouse and is also a member of the teacher staff of the education department. Thank you to Steven, Niko, Spencer, Jonathan, and the entire staff of TPI for everything! IG: @jordyn\_wita\_y

**SARAH MCKINNEY** (*Ensemble*) is so grateful to be surrounded by such talented artists! You may have seen her towards the end of last season as Kylie Coates in *May We All* and Kira in *Xanadu*. Sarah has been performing professionally around the regional circuit and within the community for over a decade and can't wait to see what else 2024 has in store. Some of her most notable credits include: *Rock of Ages* (Sherrie), *We Will Rock You* (Scaramouche), *A Chorus Line* (Judy Turner), *Grease* (Sandy), *Shrek* (Fiona), and *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (Cindy Lou). Sarah would like to thank Steven, Rachel, Spencer, and the entire staff/cast/crew for everything! [www.sarahbethmckinney.com](http://www.sarahbethmckinney.com), social media: @sarahbeth.mckinney – enjoy the show!

**PATRICK MILLER** (*Ensemble*) is beyond excited to be returning to the Playhouse stage this Summer! He was last seen at the Playhouse over a year ago in *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (Ensemble). Patrick is a rising Sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania studying Political Communication with minors in Legal Studies & History (Wharton) and Theatre Arts. Following his education, he hopes to pursue a career in the legal side of the entertainment industry. Recent credits include: *Spring Awakening* (Ernst), *Legally Blonde* (Aaron Schultz/Kiki), *Heathers* (Preppy Stud/Officer Milner), and *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* (Asst. Director/Choreographer). Patrick would like to thank his friends – those from Philly to the Sunshine State – as well as his father, for his endless support, and his mother, who will always have the best seat in the house at any production to come.

**MADELYNN ROBERTS** (*Ensemble*) is a recent graduate from Hagerty High school and plans to continue her theatre education at Ohio Northern University in the fall for a BFA in Musical Theatre. After recently competing in Orlando's Dr. Phillips Applause Awards winning numerous awards including an Outstanding lead Performer recognition for portraying *The Drowsy Chaperone* (The Chaperone) and Orlando's Jimmy Nominee Runner Up (*National High School Musical Theatre Awards*). Her recent credits include *Legally Blonde* (Elle Woods) at Theatre West End, *Mean Girls* (Regina George) at Hagerty High School, and *R&H's Cinderella* (Ella) at Theatre West End. She thanks you for watching her professional debut and hopes you enjoy! Go Bears!



**GIOVANNI SANCHEZ** (Ensemble) has been acting since the age of 5, but had the dream to be onstage and film since the age of 2. He started his career at 18 and has already been in a multitude of shows/short films. Some of the most recent shows he's done were *Oliver!* at Osceola Arts, *Sweet Charity* at Osceola Arts, *Cruel Intentions* at Osceola Arts, *A Chorus Line* at the Dr. Phillips Center, *The Sound of Music* at The Henegar Center, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at Athens Theatre, and *The Bodyguard* at The Henegar Center. He's also been behind the scenes with the technical department for a few shows, some of which being *Steel Magnolias* at Osceola Arts, *Hunchback of Notre Dame* at Osceola Arts, *Kiss of the Spider Woman* at The Abbey, and *The Play That Goes Wrong* at Osceola Arts. This is his first time at the Playhouse, and he is thrilled to be starting the season off with Tootsie!! IG: @ \_gions\_ratton.

**KARA JEAN (KJ) SPINDLE** (*Suzie/Ensemble*) originally from Waynesville, North Carolina is so thrilled to be making her professional debut at Titusville Playhouse! She just graduated with her BFA in Musical Theatre and Dance from Western Carolina University. She wants to thank her Mommy for all her support. IG: @kara.jean

**LYRIC STRATTON** (*Ensemble*) is going into her sophomore year as a BFA Musical Theatre Major with a minor in Dance at the University of Central Florida (Go Knights!). She is so excited to be a part of her second show here at the Playhouse! Some of her favorite roles include *Shrek the Musical* (Princess Fiona), *Legally Blonde* (Margot), *Disney's Descendants* (Evie), and *Xanadu* (Erato). Aside from performing, Lyric loves yoga, despises anything banana flavored, and cuddles her cat frequently. Enjoy the show, and follow her journey on Facebook @ Lyric Stratton.

**FRANK THOMPSON** (*Ron Carlisle*) is excited to return to the stage, after his debut last season in *The Wizard of Oz* (Tinman), which was followed by *Beautiful* (Donnie), and *May We All* (Harley). Frank grew up in Beckley, West Virginia, and studied vocal performance at West Virginia University. He began his career singing at amusement parks, then moved to NYC where he was a singing server at *The Stardust Diner* in Times Square. Frank performed on five world cruises with Princess Cruises and Regent Seven Seas. Being cast in the first staged reading of *Rock of Ages* in NYC, winning an IAAPA Big E award, and winning an Emma here at the Playhouse have been career highlights he'll never forget. Thanks to everyone behind the scenes, those in the spotlight, and you!

**DANA VINCI** (*Rita Marshall*) Tootsie marks Dana's third production at the Playhouse! She was recently seen as Crystal Coates in *May We All* and Genie Cline in *Beautiful*, *The Carole King Musical*. She is thrilled to be part of the Titusville Playhouse family and has been blown away by the amazing talent on the stage and behind the scenes. Some of Dana's favorite roles include: *Sweeney Todd* (Mrs. Lovett), *1776* (Martha Jefferson), *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes...* (Becky), *Oklahoma!* (Ado Annie), *Shenandoah* (Jenny), and *South Pacific* (Nellie Forbush). Dana sends love to her family and thanks them for their continued support!

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