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SCAN ME



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Office Hours: Tues - Fri

10:00am - 3:00pm

www.TitusvillePlayhouse.com

TITUSVILLE PLAYHOUSE

A Note from the Executive and Artistic Director Welcome to the Titusville Playhouse and 1776

I couldn't be more excited to bring this incredible musical to our community as we celebrate America's 250th anniversary. It feels especially meaningful to share this story at a time when our nation is reflecting on its beginnings and the people who helped shape its future.

For those who may not be familiar with its history, 1776 first opened on Broadway on March 16, 1969. With music and lyrics by Sherman Edwards and a book by Peter Stone, the show became an unexpected hit, running for more than 1,200 performances and earning the Tony Award for Best Musical. It was later adapted into the beloved 1972 film, introducing the story to an even wider audience.

The musical returned to Broadway in a celebrated revival in 1997 and was reimagined again in 2022. Each revival has found new ways to explore the show's themes of democracy, debate, compromise, and the ongoing pursuit of a more perfect union.

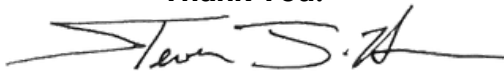
One of the greatest joys of this production has been working alongside this talented cast, creative team, and crew. From the first rehearsal to opening night, it's been amazing to watch everyone's passion and dedication bring this story to life. Theatre is always a team effort, and this group has made the journey a truly special one.

What I love most about 1776 is that it reminds us that our Founding Fathers weren't marble statues or names in a history book—they were real people. They were stubborn, passionate, imperfect, and often disagreed with one another. They argued. They got frustrated. They stood their ground. But in the end, they found ways to listen, compromise, and work together toward something bigger than themselves.

That's what makes this story so powerful. It's not just about the birth of a nation; it's about the messy, challenging, and sometimes frustrating process of people coming together to accomplish something extraordinary. The lessons found in 1776 are just as relevant today as they were 250 years ago.

Most importantly I want to thank you for all your support, trust and as always, the sharing of your time. I am so honored to share 1776 with you, and I hope you leave entertained, inspired, and perhaps with a renewed appreciation for the people—and the compromises—that helped create our nation. It is always my hope that your time here at the Titusville Playhouse is moving, meaningful and matters; thank you for being part of the Titusville Playhouse family.

Thank You!



Steven J. Heron, Executive & Artistic Director

steven@titusvilleplayhouse.com



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Titusville Playhouse
Steven J. Heron, Executive and Artistic Director
PRESENTS

1776

America's Prize Winning Musical

Music and Lyrics by
Sherman Edwards

Book by
Peter Stone

Based on a concept by SHERMAN EDWARDS

Christopher deJongh
Andrew LeJeune
Aaliyah Amarante

STARRING
Dennis Pisarz
Michael Coppola
Makaylah Largent

Carson Skidmore
Mindy Ward
Brooke Ashlyn Hayes

Sound Design
Spencer Crosswell

Prop Master & Scenic Charge
Stephen Menard

Scenic Design
Cody Tellis Rutledge

Costume & Wig Design
Jordyn Linkous

Stage Manager
Emily O'Neal

Lighting Design
Cameron Filepas

Music Directed by
Spencer Crosswell

Directed by
Steven J. Heron

Original Production Directed by
Peter Hunt

Originally Produced on the Broadway Stage by
Stuart Ostrow

1776

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Connie Washam

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Shan Bergeon

Dollie Boggs

Andy Boyd

Charles Braun

Joanne Capobianco

Dennis Collins

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Karl Daday

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Art has long been recognized as a powerful tool in the healing process. Since 2016, Parrish Healthcare and Titusville Playhouse have proudly partnered in a one-of-a-kind collaboration that highlights how health care organizations and the arts can come together to uplift and strengthen a community.

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Why do we do this? Because during life's most challenging moments, the gift of live performance—through storytelling, music, dance and drama—can offer comfort, hope and healing in ways that medicine alone cannot.

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George Mikitarian
President/CEO of Parrish Healthcare

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CAST

John Adams Christopher deJongh
Benjamin Franklin Dennis Pisarz
Thomas Jefferson Carson Skidmore
John Dickinson Andrew LeJeune
Edward Rutledge Michael Coppola
Richard Henry Lee Mindy Ward
Abigail Adams Aaliyah Amarante
Martha Jefferson Brooke Ashlyn Hayes
John Hancock Makaylah Largent
Roger Sherman/James Wilson Erik Narvaez
Robert Livingston Ryan Farias
Courier/Painter/Morris/George Read Isaiah Bussey
Caesar Rodney Edina Minyard
Samuel Chase/Rev. Witherspoon/Dr. Lyman Hall Erica deJongh
Leather Apron/Thomas McKean Jacob Ballard
Stephen Hopkins/Joseph Hewes Domanick Rose
Josiah Bartlett/Andrew McNair Aidan Jackson (AJ) Halsey

PRODUCTION TEAM

Executive & Artistic Director Steven J. Heron
Associate Artistic Director Niko Stamos
Director Steven J. Heron
Music Director Spencer Crosswell
Stage Manager Emily O'Neal
Resident Costume & Wig Design Jordyn Linkous
Original Costume Design Daniel Hill, Resident Costume Designer
of the Historic Cocoa Village Playhouse
Lighting Design Cameron Filepas
Scenic Design Cody Tellis Rutledge
Prop Master & Scenic Charge Stephen Menard
Sound Design Spencer Crosswell
Technical Director Eric Norton
Carpenter/Welder Domanick Rose
Master Electrician Addie Pawlick
Costume & Wig Associate Lou Walker
Set Construction Eric Norton, Emily O'Neal, Domanick Rose,
Makaylah Largent, Isaiah Bussey, Edina Minyard, AJ Halsey
Light Board Operator Ian Nordby, Christina Threlkeld
Sound Board Engineer Ollie Cox
Spot Operators David Knight, Makenzie Roberts, Emma Howard
Backstage Crew Emily O'Neal, Lou Walker

NOTICES

THERE WILL BE USE OF HAZE IN TODAY'S PERFORMANCE
THERE WILL BE ONE FIFTEEN MINUTE INTERMISSION

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES

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

SONG LIST

ACT I

Sit Down, John John Adams & the Congress
Piddle, Twiddle and Resolve Adams
Till Then..... John & Abigail Adams
The Lees of Old Virginia Lee, Franklin & Adams
But, Mr. Adams Adams, Franklin, Jerson, Sherman & Livingston
Yours, Yours, Yours John & Abigail Adams
He Plays the Violin Martha Jefferson, Franklin & Adams

ACT II

Cool, Cool, Considerate Men..... Dickinson & the Conservatives
Momma Look Sharp..... Courier, McNair & Leather Apron
The Egg Franklin, Adams & Jefferson
Molasses to Rum Rutledge
Yours, Yours, Yours (Reprise) Abigail
Is Anybody There? Adams



Christopher DeJong
as John Adams



Dennis Pisarz
as Benjamin Franklin



Carson Skidmore
as Thomas Jefferson



Andrew LeJeune
as John Dickinson



Michael Coppola
as Edward Rutledge



Mindy Ward
as Richard Henry Lee



Aaliyah Amarante
as Abigail Adams



Brooke Hayes
as Martha Jefferson



Makaylah Largent
as John Hancock



Ryan Farias
as Robert Livingston



Edina Minyard
as Caesar Rodney



Domanick Rose
as Stephen Hopkins/
Joseph Hewes



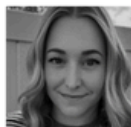
Aidan Jackson (AJ) Halsey
as Josiah Barlett/
Andrew McNair



Erik Narvaez
as Roger Sherman/
James Wilson



Isaiah Bussey
as Courier/Painter/
Morris/George Read



Erica DeJong
as Samuel Chase/Rev. Witherspoon
Dr. Lyman Hall



Jacob Ballard
as Leather Apron/
Thomas McKean

SPECIAL THANKS

Cocoa Village Playhouse

BIOGRAPHIES

AALIYAH AMARANTE (*Abigail Adams*) is more than excited to be back at Titusville as Abigail Addams! You may have just seen her in their previous production of *Prince of Egypt* as Yocheved. She's been in other projects, such as CFVA's *Heated Ribaldry* (Ensemble/Svetlana) at the Orlando Fringe Festival, *American Psycho* (Ensemble/US Sabrina) & *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Ensemble/Soul Sister) at Theater West End, and *Grease* at Icehouse (Jan). She hopes you enjoy the show and that you'll keep up with her on insta/facebook: aaliyah.amarante

JACOB BALLARD (*Leather Apron/Thomas McKean*) is excited to be a part of this beautiful production of *1776*! This will be his third time on the Titusville stage having also been in *Clue: The Musical* (Mr. Green) and *Young Frankenstein* (Ensemble). He would like to thank his family who has supported him in all he has done.

ISAIAH BUSSEY (*Courier/Painter/George Read*) a Raleigh, North Carolina native, is thrilled to join Titusville Playhouse for their 61st season! You may have seen Isaiah previously as Seaweed J. Stubbs in *Hairspray*, Kristoff in Disney's *Frozen*, *The Prince of Egypt*, and in *Spring Awakening* at the Playhouse! Isaiah is a recent alumnus of East Carolina University, where he earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) with a double concentration in Musical Theatre and Acting. Isaiah has previously worked with Berkshire Theatre Group, Tecumseh Drama, and Okoboji Summer Theatre. His favorite credits include *Once on This Island* (Tonton Julian), *The Secret Garden* (Dr. Neville Craven), *Tecumseh!* (Wasegaboah), *Last Stop on Market Street* (CJ), *Songs for a New World* (Man 1), and *Honk!* (Ugly). He enjoys traveling and creating art in collaborative environments. Isaiah strives to foster equitable, accessible, and inclusive theatre spaces that celebrate diverse and authentic storytelling. He extends heartfelt thanks to his family and friends for their unwavering love and support. Isaiah would finally like to thank the Titusville community for allowing him to share and grow in his artistry during the 61st season! Enjoy the show! "In that one moment of time, I will feel eternity!" - Whitney Houston @icbussey | isaiahbussey.com

MICHAEL COPPOLA (*Edward Rutledge*) returns to the TPI stage having previously appeared as Stan Fields in *Tootsie*, Sam the Snowman in *Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer*, Mayor Josiah Dobbs in *Bright Star*, Isador Straus in *Titanic*, and Olin Brit/Barbershop Quartet in *The Music Man*. By day he is the Director of Choral activities at Viera High School. Thanks to Steven, Spencer, Emily, Niko, and the talented cast and crew at Titusville playhouse! Love to Karen and the Fam!

CHRISTOPHER DEJONGH (*John Adams*) is thrilled to be able to tell the story of our nation's founding during its 250th year with this wonderful group of artists! Before transplanting from Massachusetts, Christopher performed in regional and community theaters throughout New England. Some favorite past roles include Charlie in *Kinky Boots* (TPI), Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables*, Roger in *Rent* and Jerry in *The Full Monty*. Chris would like to thank Steven, Spencer, Jordyn, Niko and the entire creative team and crew for all of their collaboration and creative guidance! Special thanks to his wife Erica for being his dearest friend and to his dog Luna for brightening his days.

ERICA DEJONGH (*Samuel Chase/Rev. Witherspoon/Dr. Lyman Hall*) is thrilled to return to the Titusville Playhouse after last appearing in the Ensemble in *Frozen*. Other past roles at the Playhouse include Sandy in *Tootsie*, Violet in *9 to 5*, Dot/Marie in *Sunday in the Park with George*, and Linda in *Evil Dead the Musical*. 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 Maggie Jones in *42nd St* (Osceola Arts), Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* (Theatre West End) and The Witch in *Into the Woods* (Athens Theatre). Other favorite roles include Maureen in *RENT*, Josephine in *Big Fish*, and Dainty June in *Gypsy*. Love to my husband Christopher, and our dog, Luna.
IG: erica.dejongh

RYAN FARIAS (*Robert Livingston*) is very excited to perform his first show at the Titusville Playhouse. He's grown up around the area and is glad he has the opportunity to share his love for the stage back home. He is going into his sophomore year in college studying Musical Theatre at Southeast Missouri State University where some credits include *Floyd Collins* (Homer Collins), *Jailbait* (Seth), and *Depiction of Dragons* (Grayson). A few of his other credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip Tolentino), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Hugo Peabody), *Into the Woods* (Jack), and *All Shook Up* (Dean Hyde). He would like to thank his friends and family for the love and support through this process, the cast and crew for being so welcoming, and Steven for giving him the chance to perform with so many wonderful people. Enjoy the show!

AIDAN JACKSON (AJ) HALSEY (*Josiah Barlett/Andrew McNair*) is thrilled to be bringing history to life on the Titusville Playhouse Stage. Previous theater credits include: *SPRING AWAKENING* (Moritz), *FROZEN* (Hans) at the Titusville Playhouse; *LEGALLY BLONDE* (Warner), *LIGHTNING THIEF* (Percy Jackson), *THE WEDDING SINGER* (Robby), *SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK: LIVE!* (Tom) at PSC; *LITTLE WOMEN* (Laurie), *THE SECRET GARDEN* (Dr Neville Craven), Columbia Players; *DADDY LONG LEGS* (Jervis) at MCPA. AJ is also a singer/songwriter who has written and produced 2 solo studio albums of original material that can be listened to on all major streaming platforms under the name "AJ Halsey" and is releasing new music soon! Thanks to his family for letting him pursue his dreams.

BROOKE ASHLYN HAYES (*Martha Jefferson*) is thrilled to return to the stage at Titusville Playhouse as Martha Jefferson in *1776*! You may recognize her from Titusville's production of *FROZEN* as Elsa. Other stage credits include *Little Women* as Jo March, *Les Misérables* as Fantine, *The Light in the Piazza* as Margret Johnson, and *Cendrillon* as the Fairy. She is a Rollins College graduate with a degree in music; concentration in voice. Brooke has been performing since she was 5 years old and taking formal voice lessons in classical and musical theatre styles for over 10 years. Brooke was named a semifinalist in the American Pops Orchestra Next Gen. Vocal National Competition and she also won first place in the musical theatre category at the CFNATS Auditions in 2022. Brooke would like to thank Steven and Spencer for this incredible opportunity and all of her friends and family for their love and support.

MAKAYLAH LARGENT (*John Hancock*) is so incredibly honored to be on the Titusville Playhouse MainStage for the last show of their 61st season! You might've last seen them on the MainStage as Martha in *Spring Awakening*. They are one of the Actor/Technician interns here at the Playhouse for their 61st season and is grateful for the opportunity to share incredible art for an entire season with this amazing theater and its community. Coming from the smiling face state of South Carolina, they earned their Bachelor's of Arts at Winthrop University, playing many roles spanning from Leading Player in their production of *Pippin* to Joanne in *RENT*. Makaylah would like to thank everyone on the production team and the entire Playhouse staff for the support and dedication shared across all departments! They thank Titusville Playhouse for an incredible first look into the professional world of theatre and cherish the many memories that were made during their time as an intern. They would like to add a special thank you to the biggest cheerleaders in their life: their amazing mother, inspiring two sisters, and their wonderful partner, Seyven! Until next time, Titusville, Thank You!

ANDREW LEJEUNE (*John Dickinson*) has performed in theaters and theme parks up and down the East Coast, and is excited to make his Titusville Playhouse debut in *1776*. Andrew performs regularly at Epic Universe (Vocalist, The Untrainable Dragon, Vocalist/Musician, Dueling Guitars) and Universal Studios (Bass, Ragtime Gals), and he's a frequent soloist with the Space Coast Symphony. This Summer, Andrew can be found performing as a vocalist/musician in Jessie's Roundup at Magic Kingdom. Some favorite roles include Curly (*Oklahoma*), Radames (*Aida*), Cinderella's Prince (*Into the Woods*), and Frederick Barrett (*Titanic*). Andrew lives in Orlando with his wonderful, supportive wife Elizabeth and amazing daughter Sophie (who has caught the acting bug herself!)

EDINA MINYARD (*James Wilson/Caesar Rodney*) is an actress/singer/songwriter born and raised in Orlando Florida, and is thrilled to be with Titusville Playhouse as an intern for their 61st season! The performing arts have always played a big role in her life. You may have seen her most recently at TPI as Wendla in *Spring Awakening*, an ensemble member in *The Prince of Egypt*, or Lou-Ann in *Hairspray*. Her favorite past roles include Inga in *Young Frankenstein*, Gladys Hochkins in *The Pajama Game*, Philoclea in *Head Over Heels*, Sophie in *Mamma Mia*, and Waitress #1 in *Rock Of Ages*. She is also a passionate songwriter/composer and intends to further develop future musical theatre projects. Since graduating high school she has spent one year at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee as a Commercial Voice Major with an emphasis in songwriting, and has found new love for musical theatre back in her home state. She appreciates her parents, Brian and Melissa, and her sister Catherine for always being supportive of her artistic endeavors, and remains excited for what's to come! @_edinamarie

ERIK NARVAEZ (*Roger Sherman*) is so excited to be doing his first production at the Titusville Playhouse! A few of his roles include *Addams Family* (Lucas Beineke), *Oklahoma* (Jud Fry), and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Man 2). He would like to thank Steven and the entire Titusville Playhouse team for giving him the opportunity to perform. He would also like to thank his family for their love and support.

DENNIS PISARZ (*Benjamin Franklin*) Some of their favorite Titusville Playhouse roles include *Clue The Musical* (Mrs.White), *Young Frankenstein* (Igor), *Bright Star* (Billy Cane), *Newsies* (Crutchie), *The Great American Trailer Park Christmas* (Rufus), and *The Glass Menagerie* (Tom). Other credits include Universal Studios: *Grinchmas* (Nicholas Who) and Universal Studios Macy's Holiday Parade (Featured Dancer), Washington County Playhouse: *Little Women* (Laurie), The Garden Theater: *The Bodyguard* (Stalker), Celebration Theater Co: *Heathers the Musical* (JD). The biggest thank you to their unbeatable support team of friends and family.

DOMANICK ROSE (*Stephen Hopkins/Joseph Hewes*) is born and raised in Idaho Falls, Idaho and is incredibly grateful to make his stage debut at Titusville Playhouse. Domanick graduated from Idaho State University in 2023 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in theatre. When he isn't on the stage you can find Domanick working in the scene shop for Titusville Playhouse as the resident carpenter/welder. He wants to thank the cast and crew for creating such a welcoming creative environment and special thanks to Steven and Niko for giving him so many opportunities to create wonderful art.

CARSON SKIDMORE (*Thomas Jefferson*) is excited to be a part of 1776 at the Titusville Playhouse! Originally from Lawrenceville, Georgia, he is now based in Orlando, where he works and performs at Universal Orlando Resort. He holds a B.F.A. in Theatre Performance from Columbus State University. He started his professional theatre journey as an intern here at the Titusville Playhouse in 2023. Previous credits include *Spring Awakening* (Melchior), *Hairspray* (Link), *Altar Boyz* (Matthew), *Waitress* (Dr. Pomatter), *Bat Boy: The Musical* (Bat Boy), *Cabaret* (Cliff), *The Wizard of Oz* (Scarecrow), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Brad), and many more! He would like to thank his family, friends, and Lou for their never-ending love and support. Enjoy the show!

MINDY WARD (*Richard Henry Lee*) is thrilled to be joining the cast of 1776 as Richard Henry Lee – because apparently Steven said, “Who can dramatically leave the room and sing about Virginia?” Recent credits include Elizabeth Benning in *Young Frankenstein the Musical* and Jeannie Garstecki in *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*. Endless love and thanks to Matt and Mom for supporting all the theatre chaos and rehearsal schedules. For Cohan – my 4th of July pup, always in our hearts!

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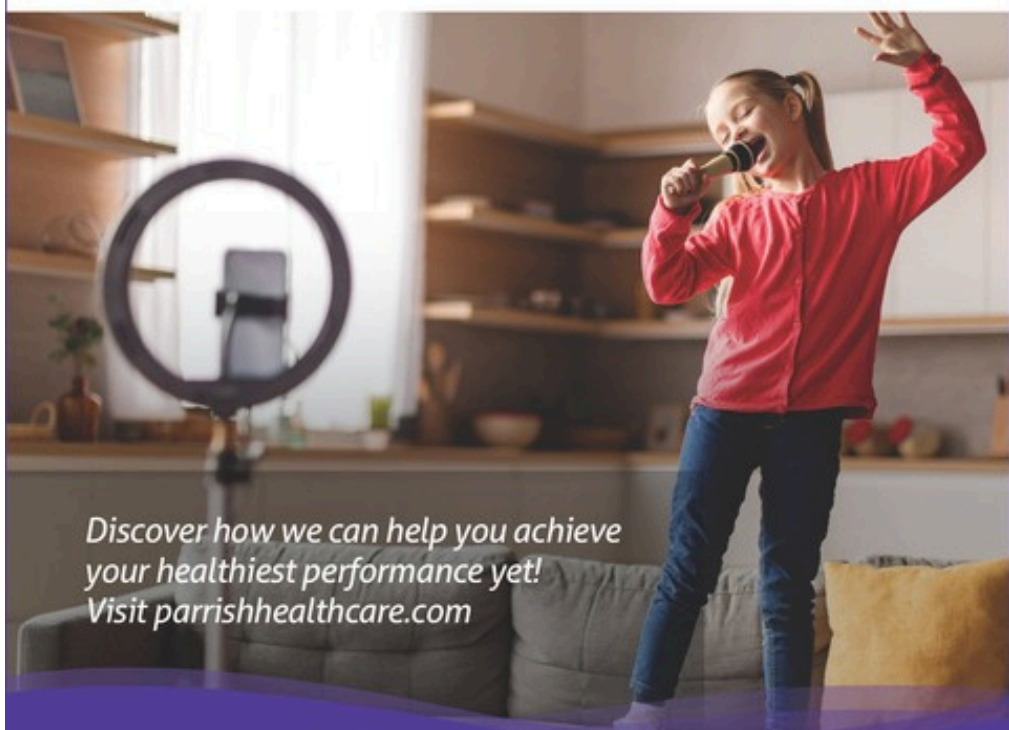


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