

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the BUS!

THE MUSICAL


**CIRCLE
THEATRE**

MAY 1-4



GENERAL INFORMATION

BOX OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY | 12PM - 5PM

MONDAY - FRIDAY PERFORMANCE DAYS | 12PM - CURTAIN

SATURDAY | 5PM - CURTAIN

SUNDAY | 1PM - CURTAIN

LATE ARRIVALS

Patrons arriving late will be seated at the House Manager's discretion.

NO STANDING

No standing is permitted in the back of the theatre. If you become uncomfortable and/or have to move out of your seat for any reason, you may stretch your legs in the upper or lower lobby.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Please turn off all electronic devices that light up or make noise. Please, no texting. The taking of pictures and/or recordings (audio or video) is prohibited; the device may be taken from you and held until after the show.

EMERGENCY CALLS

If you anticipate the need to be reached in the event of an emergency, you may leave your name and seat number with the House Manager. A House Manager will also be available in the House during the run of the show. Our emergency contact number is **616 632 2996**. In the event that someone is not available at this number, Aquinas College Campus Safety's number is **616 632 2462**; a dispatcher is available 24/7.

YOUNG AUDIENCE

Most Main Stage productions are geared toward mature audiences and may not be appropriate for younger audiences. Our Magic Circle productions provide wonderful family entertainment and an introduction to the live theatre experience. Please call the box office at **616 456 6656** for information on age appropriateness of any of our shows. Children below school age may not attend our Main Stage productions. Please, no babes in arms or toddlers. At no time can a child enter the auditorium without a ticket.

SPECIAL PATRON SERVICES

An induction loop is provided for the benefit of hearing aid users. To use, please switch your hearing aid to "T." Handicapped and wheelchair seating is available and easily accessible. When reserving tickets, please notify the box office personnel of any special needs or seating requirements.

SMOKING

Aquinas College is a smoke-free campus.



CIRCLETHEATRE.ORG | 616 456 6656
BOX OFFICE | 1703 ROBINSON RD SE

WELCOME TO OUR CIRCLE

Greetings!

Welcome to our 2025 family show, *Don't Let The Pigeon Drive The Bus! The Musical!* We are thrilled to be continuing our Magic Circle Productions, providing families a chance to create memories together while introducing the younger generation to the beauty of live theatre. I always look forward to our Magic Circle shows because it provides me with the opportunity to interact with our youngest patrons. I hope you enjoy the show.

Derek Call
President of the Board of Directors

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Kerrigan Smedley, Fiona Walsh, Francesca
Varricchio**

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Ashlee Lambart Photography

Official Photographer

James Duiven and Keira Lehan

Patron Services Interns

Everything Under the Sun

Official Headshot Photographer

SJK Video Productions

Production & Archival Videographer

Caroline Cahoon

Production Graphics

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We collectively acknowledge that Grand Rapids Circle Theatre occupies the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary Lands of the Anishinaabeg – Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples. The Grand Rapids Circle Theatre is built on native land of The Three Fires People, as they are indigenous to this land. We understand that we are guests on this native land, and in doing so we would like to acknowledge the histories and traditions of the The Three Fires People. It is important to us that we are continuously advocating for diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) in our community.

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SPECIAL THANKS

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This season is made possible with the support from the Wege Foundation, as well as the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner Agency of The National Endowment for the Arts.



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PRODUCTIONS

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Circle Theatre



WEDDINGS



EVENTS

COMMERCIAL

CAST



KAELEB COGSWELL



JENNY
FISCHER-ROBERTS



CARA GLASS



SARAH LACROIX



KAIYA MIKEL



JACK MORGAN



STEVE PLACE

PIGEON.....	KAELEB COGSWELL
OLD LADY/ENSEMBLE.....	JENNY FISCHER-ROBERTS
HOT DOG VENDOR/ENSEMBLE.....	CARA GLASS
BUS DRIVER.....	SARAH LACROIX
DUCKLING/ENSEMBLE.....	KAIYA MIKEL
TEENAGER/ENSEMBLE.....	JACK MORGAN
BUSINESSMAN/ENSEMBLE.....	STEVE PLACE

CREW

DRESSERS.....	MACK RENO, ABBIE LARINK
DECK CREW.....	NAOMI OLDENBERG, MAX MAKSYMOWSKI
SPOT OP.....	TIM VACANTI
PLANE OP.....	ABBIE LARINK
LIGHT BOARD OP.....	KENNEDY MIKEL
DECK SUBS.....	ALEXA LUNT, MAYA OVERMAN
SPOT OP SUB.....	DEVIN SMITH
SOUND BOARD BOARD OP.....	AMBER KOLP

PRODUCTION STAFF



Andrew
Schneider



Matty Owen



William Schutte



Kennedy Mikel



Shoshanah Hilliker



David Len



Sam Verburg



Sam
Johnson-Begay



Liz Arendshorst



Val Fischer



Brandon Shafer

DIRECTOR.....	ANDREW SCHNEIDER
MUSIC DIRECTOR.....	MATTY OWEN
CHOREOGRAPHER.....	WILLIAM SCHUTTE
STAGE MANAGER.....	KENNEDY MIKEL
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....	SHOSHANAH HILLIKER
SCENIC DESIGNER.....	DAVID LEN
LIGHTING DESIGNER.....	SAM VERBURG
COSTUME DESIGNER.....	LIZ ARENDSHORST
SOUND DESIGNER.....	SAM JOHNSON-BEGAY
SOUND TECHNICIAN.....	AMBER KOLP
PROPERTIES DESIGNER.....	VAL FISCHER
HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGNER.....	BRANDON SHAFER
INTIMACY DIRECTOR.....	SARAH DENICK

WHO'S WHO | CAST

Kaeleb Cogswell *He/Him (Pigeon)* past Circle Theatre roles include: Senator Fipp/Billy Boy Bill in *Urinetown*, Swing/Ensemble in *Curious George* and the *Golden Meatball*, and a Vocalist in *The British Invasion* concert. Other recent roles include: Freddy/Billy U.S. in *Carrie* with Betka-Poke Productions, Kenickie in *Grease: In Concert* with Shadblow Theatre, and Luciana in *Comedy of Errors* with The Pigeon Creek Shakespeare Company. Kaeleb is a 2022 Graduate of Aquinas College, where he studied Theatre for Social Change. When not on stage or working as a associate at a grocery store, he loves collecting and playing video games that take way too long to complete, honing his skills in the kitchen, and spending time with his friends and family.

Jenny Fischer-Roberts *She/Her (Old Lady/Ensemble)* has participated in several productions throughout my years in Grand Rapids, traveled to NYC for training and experience, and she was lucky enough to be on several tours around the country! Jenny has recently graduated from Aquinas College with a Bachelors in Business Administration. Prior to her most recent degree, she has Musical Theatre Performance education at AMDA in NYC, became a mom of 3, and moved back to Grand Rapids. Currently, she is enjoying family life, traveling, date nights, and spending time with loved ones.

Cara Glass *She/Her (Hot Dog Vendor/ Ensemble)* is making her Circle Theatre debut! Other credits include *Avenue Q* (Kate Monster and Lucy) with National Broadway Theatre, *Beautiful* (Carole King US) with Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, and a featured vocalist with Shadowbox Live.

When she's not on stage, she works with the Literacy Center of West Michigan. *"Thanks to Karson for taking care of our two little pigeons during rehearsals."*

Sarah LaCroix *She/Her (Bus Driver)* past credits include *Mama Mia* (Rosie) at GRCT, *One Night With Fanny Brice* (Fanny Brice) Jewish Theatre, *Les Miserables* (Mme Thenardier) GRCT, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Rona) GRCT, *Nine* (Ensemble) Circle Theatre, and *Honk* (Ida) Circle Theatre. Sarah is a full time mom to her three year old, Lucille. *"Special thanks to R.J. and Lulu."*

Kaiya Mikel *She/Her (Duckling/ Ensemble)* is making her Circle Theatre debut and we're thrilled to have her! Kaiya graduated from GVSU with a bachelor's in Economics and Mandarin Chinese and is currently a Barista at 6Eight Coffee Shop. In her free time, she enjoys playing DnD, crocheting, reading, and watching TV.

Jack Morgan *He/Him (Teenager/ Ensemble)* past credits include *Camp Rock* (Sander) at GR Civic Theatre, *Curious George and the Golden Meatball* (Ensemble) Circle Theatre, *Disney's The Descendants* (Ensemble) at Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, *Pippin* (Theo) at Circle Theatre, *The Three Musketeers* (King Louis/Young D'Artagnan), and *School of Rock* (Mason) at GR Civic Theatre. Jack is currently a freshman at City High Middle School. When he's not on stage, he enjoys playing violin in his school orchestra, participating in school news videos, and being a member of the National Honor Society! *"I would like to thank my family for always supporting me in all of my theatre endeavors and also like to thank the GR theatre community for all of your help and support every step of the way."*

WHO'S WHO | CAST

Steve Place *He/Him* (Ensemble/Swing)

is no stranger to the Grand Rapids theatre community! With over 21 stage credits at Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, he has also appeared at Actors' Theatre in *Grey Gardens* (Major Bouvier). He was last seen at Circle Theatre in the Magic Circle production of *The Three Musketeers* in 2023. Steve is the Lead Pastor at Faith Community Church on the NW end of Grand Rapids, and has also served for over three years as Director of Worship at Cornerstone Church in Caledonia, MI. "Special thanks to my wife - she is an ever present source of encouragement!!!"

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WHO'S WHO | PRODUCTION STAFF

Andrew Schneider *He/Him (Director)* is no stranger to the Grand Rapids theatre community! Both on stage and behind the scenes, Andrew has many credits as a director and actor for Circle Theatre, GR Civic Theatre, and other surrounding companies. For the last seven years, Andrew served as the theatre director for East Grand Rapids School District working with Elementary and Middle school students. He also served as the theatre director Grand Rapids City High/Middle school from 2017-2021. He is a freelance director, actor and production manager that works for a few different theatrical companies based on the east coast that specialize in comedy and murder mystery shows. Andrew also was a member of the stage management team for 2009 National Tour of DREAMGIRLS, that opened at the historic Apollo Theatre in New York City. *"For Penny and Mom! Always."*

Matty Owen *She/Her (Music Director)* is a Kansas born Grand Rapids transplant. After graduating from Indiana University in 2018, she began working and volunteering in the Grand Rapids theatre scene. In 2022, she joined the staff of the Grand Rapids Voice Collective as a collaborative accompanist, audition coach, and voice teacher. She has previously music directed with GR Civic Theatre, Aquinas Theatre, Betka-Pope Productions, Jewish Theatre GR, and Master Arts Theatre. Also a pit orchestra musician, her favorite place is behind the keyboard and she has been lucky to play for many shows in town. Recent favorite shows she's been a part of include: *Indecent*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Dr Horrible's Sing Along Blog*, *Lizzie*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Cats*, and *9 to 5*.

(Choreographer) has appeared in *Beauty & the Beast* (Lumiere) and *Mary Poppins* (Bert) at Grand Rapids Civic Theatre. He was the choreographer for Circle's productions of *Freaky Friday*, *A Chorus Line*, *Evita*, and *On The Town*. He has also been seen as Drosselmeyer in The West Michigan Youth Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*. Some of his interests outside of theatre include dancing, singing, movies, and TV. William is the owner of Kicks Dancewear. *"Vroomy-Vroom-Vroom!"*

Kennedy Mikel *She/Her (Stage Manager)* is a new face to the Circle Theatre community and we're thrilled to have her! Kennedy has stage managed before for Allendale Civic Theatre and City High Middle School, as well as assistant stage managed and crewed for GR Civic Theatre. She is a 2022 graduate of City High and is currently studying special education at Grand Valley State University. Kennedy works part time at a well-known bagel hot spot and a youth residential facility. *"My shout-outs go to my family, who have never run out of support for me and continue to push me towards the theatre. Thank you to Circle and all its incredible staff for letting me be a part of this experience."*

Shoshanah Hilliker *She/Her (Assistant Stage Manager)* has previously worked on or acted in *Little Mermaid* (Allendale High School), *The Murder of Roger Ackroyd* (Allendale Civic Theater), and *Little Women* (Allendale Civic Theater), as well as 17 other productions with various roles. Shoshanah graduated high school two years ago and has been working and volunteering in theater spaces ever since. Aside from acting and stage work, she enjoys writing and analyzing media of all kinds.

William

Schutte

He/him

WHO'S WHO | PRODUCTION STAFF

David Len He/Him (Scenic Designer)

is no stranger to the West MI theatre community! Since 1993, he has been the resident scenic designer at Grand Rapids Civic Theatre and recently retired just last year. He has worked for a variety of theatres including Circle, Civic, Jewish Theatre, Actors' Theatre, GR Ballet, Opera GR, and Mason Street Warehouse. David is also a freelance artist that has traveled all over the world for his different projects.

Sam Verburg They/He (Lighting Designer)

Sam has numerous credits as a lighting designer for many theatrical productions. Not only do they serve as Lighting Designer for this production, but is Circle's Assistant Technical Director and Master Electrician. Some of his lighting design credits include *Kill Move Paradise* and *MacBitches* (GRCC Players), *Ada and the Engine* (Aquinas College), and *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* (Circle Theatre). *"I would like to sincerely thank Catie Marlett-Dreher for teaching me everything I know about lighting, having the trust in my abilities, and supporting me throughout my journey in theater and in life. Thank you for everything!"*

Sam Johnson-Begay He/Him (Sound Designer)

has designed 250+ productions all over West MI and has been Civic Theatre's resident sound designer since 2016. Select favorites include *Ragtime* at Grand Valley Opera, *Carrie*, and *Freaky Friday* at Circle Theatre, *Sister Act*, *Shrek*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Newsies*, and *Matilda* at Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, and *If/Then* at Actors' Theatre. Sam is a freelance audio technician for multiple companies, manages a production company, Epik Productions, offering sound design, sound rentals, recordings, DJ and facepainting.

"For Dez and Ean, all my love, always."

Liz Arendshorst She/Her (Costume Designer)

is a brand new face to the Circle community! Though it is her first time costuming for us, she has numerous other credits costuming for EGR Middle School and Lakeside Elementary. Liz graduated from Williams College in 2004 and UIC college of Nursing in 2013. *"Special thanks to Andrew Schneider for bringing me into the Circle Theater family!"*

Val Fischer She/Her (Properties Designer)

is a long-time friend and community member of Circle Theatre. Val is a retired commercial construction news reporter who loves to travel, dabbles at gardening, loves to go antiquing, and enjoys sewing. She named her first Prius "Beauty" because she purchased it during the run of Circle Theatre's *Beauty and the Beast* in 2006.

Brandon Shafer He/Him (Hair & Makeup Designer)

is no stranger to the West MI theatre community! Brandon has numerous stage credits both as a hair and makeup designer for Circle Theatre, GR Civic Theatre, and more. Brandon has been a professional drag performer, Dymond Denae, for 20+ years. Circle is where Brandon first got his start, so it's very close to his heart!



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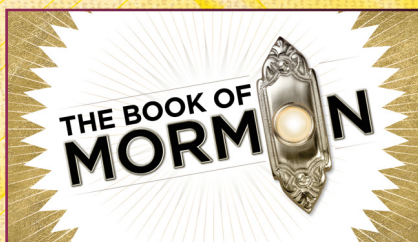


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