



Presents

the

PROOM

April 5th-13th

**Director:
Rebecca Shea**

**Music Director:
Kelly Bidstrup Graham**

**Choreographer:
Ellie Griffin**

CreativeTeam

Director



Rebecca Shea has spent the last 10 years directing and choreographing musicals for kids and teens across Colorado. This is her third time directing for the Venue, and she's thrilled to be back. Originally from St. Louis, MO, Rebecca has trained in dance and acting under master teachers since the age of 3, and has been seen on stage in regional productions including *Jekyll & Hyde* & *West Side Story*. In 2021, she founded Apex Performing Arts Collective in Denver, which won Colorado Parent Magazine's award for Favorite Theater Group in 2023. She also recently got married, and currently lives in Denver with her husband, Joe, and their pup, Rudy.

Choreographer



Ellie Griffin works as a director, choreographer, intimacy director, stage manager, and theatre educator. She recently directed *Schoolhouse Rock Jr*, *Finding Nemo KIDS*, & *The Haunting of Hill House* at The Venue. Other recent credits include *Nana's Naughty Knickers*, *Machinal*, *Legally Blonde*, & *Little Women*. Ellie is proud to be the Venue's Technical Director, resident Lighting Designer, a regular creative team member and the Program Director of The Venue's conservatory-style program. Ellie also works with Mirror Image Arts, a youth advocacy nonprofit working to disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline using theatre. She holds a degree in theatre and film, having studied at both Pomona and Pitzer College. Ellie is honored to be an educator to this thoughtful and enthusiastic group of students, and hopes you enjoy watching them dance their hearts out as much as she has!

CreativeTeam

Music Director



Kelly Bidstrup Graham is a Jill of many trades and loves to bring her music directing skills up the hill to this lovely community in Conifer. You last heard her in the pit for the Lightning Thief here at the Venue. Down the hill she has been nominated for 2 Broadway world awards, one for her Music directing and conducting of Sweeney Todd and another for costume design for Eigg the Musical which was part of the 2023 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. She was also the founder and director for the Colorado New Musical Festival, which over 4 years brought 30 new musical works to the Denver theater community through staged readings and showcases. Check her out online @ilove_apiano on Instagram and at conewmusicalfest.com.

Assistant Music Director



Bryce is a recent high school graduate and Venue alum. He has been performing at The Venue for over 5 years and has been in shows including, Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief (Luke), The Addams Family (Lucas), and Fiddler on The Roof (Perchik). Recently, Bryce has taken the role of music director for the middle school cast of School House Rock Live! and the elementary cast of Finding Nemo Kids. As assistant music director for the Prom, he is thankful to be in a position where he can help his former cast-mates sing their hearts out! Aside from working in theatre, Bryce also has a strong passion for songwriting and vocal performance. Bryce is excited to attend the Belmont School of Music for a degree in Commercial Music and vocal performance in the Fall.

Musical Numbers

Act One

"Changing Lives" - Dee Dee, Barry, Ensemble

"Changing Lives" (Reprise) - Dee Dee, Barry, Sheldon,
Angie, Trent

"Just Breathe" - Emma

"It's Not About Me" - Dee Dee, Barry, Sheldon Angie,
Trent, Ensemble

"Dance with You" - Emma, Alyssa

"The Acceptance Song" - Trent, Dee Dee, Barry,
Ensemble

"You Happened" - Emma, Alyssa, Ensemble

"We Look to You" - Mr. Hawkins

"Tonight Belongs to You" - Barry, Emma, Mrs. Greene,
Ensemble

Act Two

"Zazz" - Angie, Emma

"The Lady's Improving" - Dee Dee

"Love Thy Neighbor" - Trent, Ensemble

"Alyssa Greene" - Alyssa

"Barry Is Going to Prom" - Barry

"Unruly Heart" - Emma, Ensemble

"Changing Lives" (reprise) - Barry, Angie, Dee Dee,
Trent, Sheldon, Mr. Hawkins

"It's Time to Dance" - Emma, Alyssa, Company

Production Team

Stage Manager



Abba Wilson is a professional stage manager from New York. She graduated from Pomona College with a degree in theater and math. She has also spent many years working in the summer in wilderness education with kids and teenagers. She's excited to be working at The Venue, combining those two of her favorite things: education and theater!

Director - Rebecca Shea

Music Director - Kelly Bidstrup Graham

Choreographer - Ellie Griffin

Stage Manager - Abba Wilson

Intimacy Director - Ellie Griffin

Assistant Music Director - Bryce Merrill

Lighting Designer - Ellie Griffin

Costume Designer - Carmen Liffengren and Tess Liffengren

Props Master - Trista Hertz

Set Construction - Cliff Coffey, TJ Bartt

Scenic Artist - Aimee Cassidy

Spot Operators - Zoey Runia, Oceana Olsen

Special Thanks to all of the parents who provided meals to our cast and crew!

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Sheila Fortune Foundation
"Abuse is no excuse not to perform...in the Arts."

Cast List

Emma Nolan- Ari Wagerman

Barry Glickman- Greg Hertz

DeeDee Allen- Fiona Matschullat

Trent Oliver- Matthew Fletcher

Angie Dickinson- Liberty Godwin

Sheldon Saperstein- Oli Bartt

Alyssa Greene- Keira Payne

Kaylee- Avery Elsner

Shelby- Alayna Burger

Kevin- Micah VonFeldt

Nick- Ronnie Van Beek

Principal Hawkins- Dylan Blaylock

Olivia Keating- Sammie Abbey

Motel Clerk- Bird Cassidy

Waiters- Avery Elsner, Alayna Burger, Micah VonFeldt, Ronnie Van Beek, Hallie Hannum, Mila Murphy

Reporters- Joey Tharel, Bird Cassidy, Chloe Plow, Kaylee Giese, Jay Susak

Edgewater Students- Joey Tharel, Bird Cassidy, Chloe Plow, Hallie Hannum, Kaylee Giese, Mila Murphy, Jay Susak, Sammie Abbey

Touring Cast of Godspell- Ronnie Van Beek, Joey Tharel, Chloe Plow,
Kaylee Giese, Mila Murphy, Jay Susak, Kiera Payne, Sammie Abbey

Unruly Heart Soloists- Ronnie Van Beek, Joey Tharel, Bird Cassidy, Hallie Hannum, Mila Murphy, Jay Susak

Dance Captains- Ronnie Van Beek, Joey Tharel

Mrs. Greene- Amy Fletcher/Kelly Bidstrup Graham

PTA Parents (Rotating Cast)- Trista Hertz, Jeff Hertz, Bethany Van Beek,

Noah Gray, Kristen Elsner, Karin Plow, Brian Banks

Meet the Cast

Sammie Abbey- Olivia Keating/ Ensemble



Sammie is a Junior at Conifer High School. This is her 6th year of theater! She has fallen in love with every part of it! Outside of theatre she loves to roller skate and spend time with friends! She wants to thank everyone who made the show possible! She hopes you love the show!

Oli Bartt- Sheldon Saperstein



Oli Bartt is a Junior at Conifer High School, they have been doing theater at The Venue since 3rd grade and is excited to show you Prom the musical as their character Sheldon. You may have seen them in Lightning Thief as Grover, Cinderella as Sebastian, or even most recently Chicago as Liz. They hope you enjoy the show!

Dylan Blaylock- Principal Hawkins



Dylan is a collage sophomore alumni. You may know him from his roles such as Algernon in the Importance of Being Ernest or Romeo from Newsies. He is returning for another season to help inspire the next generation in the passion of musical theater.

Alayna Burger- Shelby



Alayna Burger is 16 and a sophomore at Conifer High School. This is only her second show at Venue, but she's been doing theater at various places since she was 7. She would like to thank her directors and cast for all the fun she's had this show. She loves the Venue and The Prom and hopes you love it too!

Bird Cassidy- Clerk/Ensemble



Bird Cassidy is a Junior at Conifer High School. She's been performing for around twelve years and has been in about 22 shows prior to the Prom. She was previously seen in other Venue shows including Disaster, Addams Family, and Chicago. In her free time she likes to listen to music and watch scary movie. She hopes this production will put a little zazz in your day!

Avery Elsner- Kaylee



Avery is a senior this year! This is her 13th show at the Venue, Avery is so thankful to have found the venue and for all the friends she has made. Her favorite roles were Ben and Lisa in Disaster and Alice and Addams family. She is excited for all the fun dances in the Prom, so please enjoy! Avery would like to thank all the people that make these plays possible at the Venue. Enjoy the show!!

Meet the Cast

Matthew Fletcher- Trent Oliver

Matthew Fletcher is a junior at Conifer High School and is playing Trent. This is his 7th show at the venue! The Prom is one of his favorite shows and he hopes you enjoy it as much as he does. Enjoy the show!



Kaylee Giese- Ensemble

Kaylee is a Junior at Conifer High School. This will be her 6th show with the Venue. Outside of theater Kaylee enjoys playing her viola and spending time with her family, friends and pets! She would like to thank the creative team and everyone who made this show possible as well as her parents for their support. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Liberty Godwin- Angie Dickinson

Liberty is a senior this year and she plays Angie. This is her 6th show with The Venue, and her 9th overall! She loves theater so much and is so happy she got to work with The Venue Theatre in her high school years. She is so excited to be apart of this show and would like to thank her cast, crew, and family for making this the best show! It's time to dance!



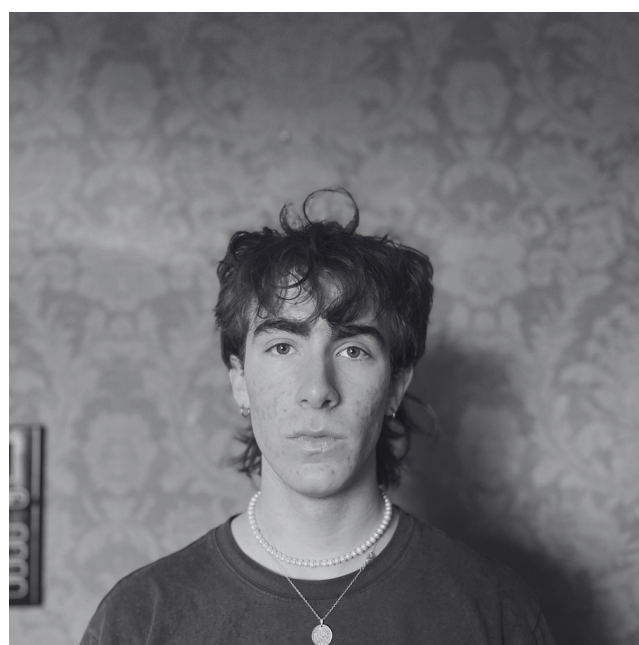
Hallie Hannum- Jerusha/Ensemble

Hallie is a Venue Alumni, having previously done 8 shows, including Newsies, Haunting of Hannibal House, and performing as Matilda. The Prom will be her first musical since her senior show, Fiddler on the Roof, in 2021. She is now studying English, Creative Writing, at CU Boulder for her Bachelor's Degree!



Greg Hertz- Barry Glickman

Greg is a senior at Jefferson County Open School, and has been working with The Venue Theater since 2018. Greg has portrayed a variety of roles in his career, including Uncle Fester in The Addams Family, Chuck Cranston in Footloose, and Prince Topher in Cinderella. Greg hopes to pursue a career and education in acting after high school.



Fiona Matschullat- Dee Dee Allen

Fiona Matschullat has been taking voice lessons for 12 years and plays Dee Dee Allen in The Prom. She thoroughly enjoyed diving into this hilarious character, and is thankful to everyone that has supported her. She loves her amazing parents und ungläubliche Schwester!



Meet the Cast



Mila Murphy- Ensemble

Mila is a Senior at Conifer High School. She enjoys dancing, art, and above all theater! This will be Mila's twelfth show at The Venue. She would like to thank all the wonderful staff who have had a hand in developing her love of theater.



Keira Payne- Alyssa Greene

Keira is a senior at Conifer High School and plays Alyssa. She has been with The Venue since it's inaugural season and this is her 15th show! Outside of theatre she dances at Peak Academy. She is sad this is her last year at The Venue but she is so grateful to have been a part of such a wonderful place for so many years. She would like to thank everyone that made this show possible and hopes you enjoy!



Chloe Plow- Ensemble

Chloe is a freshman at Conifer high school. This is her first show at Venue. In fact, it's her first time ever being in a show! She loves trying new things and The Prom is no exception. She would like to thank everyone involved for making the show possible.



Jay Susak- Ensemble

Jay is a freshman at Conifer High School. This is her first show at the Venue and second show ever. She hopes you enjoy the show, and would like to thank everyone who's put so much hard work into The Prom.



Joey Tharel- Ensemble

Joey Tharel is a senior at JRLP who has been with The Venue Theatre since 2013. She hopes you enjoy the show!



Ronnie Van Beek- Nick/ Ensemble

Ronnie has been involved in 38 shows. Her favorite roles (and some you may recognize) were Jackie Noelle in Disaster, Lila Dixon in Holiday Inn, and Chava in Fiddler on the Roof. She also works as a scare actor at Anderson Farms. When she isn't acting, she is hanging out with friends and family. Enjoy the show!

Meet the Cast



Micah VonFeldt- Kevin

Micah is a freshman at Mountain Vista High School, and this is his first show at The Venue. Micah has been in over 20 productions since he started acting at five years old. His favorite role so far has been playing Cliff Bradshaw in Cabaret. He is very grateful for the opportunity and hopes you enjoy The Prom.



Ari Wageman- Emma Nolan

Ari is a sophomore at Conifer High School. This is her 1st show at Venue and 13th show overall. Ari wants to thank her supporters, the creative team, and her parents for helping make her dreams come true. Thank you for coming, and enjoy the show!



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