

MUSICAL THEATRE DUNEDIN PRESENTS

LEGALLY BLONDE

The Musical



CLASS OF '23

Musical Theatre Dunedin Presents



season of

LEGALLY BLONDE

This book belongs to Elle Woods

Music and Lyrics by
LAURENCE O'KEEFE and NELL BENJAMIN

Book by
HEATHER HACH

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown
and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

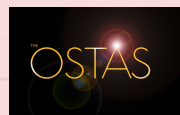
Original Production by Hal Luftig, Fox Theatricals, Dori Berinstein, James L. Nederlander, Independent Presenters Network, Roy Furman, Amanda Lipitz, Broadway Asia, Barbara Whitman, FWPM Group, Hendel/Wiesenfeld, Goldberg/Binder, Stern/Meyer, Lane/Comley, Bartner-Jenkins/Nocciolino and Warren Trepp; Produced in association with MGM Onstage, Darcie Denkert and Dean Stolber

Legally Blonde The Musical
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI

ANY VIDEO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY
PROHIBITED

17 - 26 August 2023
Mayfair Theatre, Dunedin





*This is the kind of girl Warner wants. Someone
serious, someone lawyerly, someone who wears black when
nobody's dead.*

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

In the year of the Barbie movie and an explosion of pink, I am ecstatic to bring *Legally Blonde: The Musical* to Ōtepoti. Our multi-talented cast will dazzle you as we explore what it means to find your strength and intelligence, all while being true to your sense of style.

I was a young girl when the original movie came out. At some stage I deemed pink to be too 'girly' and I decided to reject the modes of femininity that Elle Woods represents. However this story, and Elle herself, remind us that the most important thing to be is the authentic version of yourself, even in a world that will judge you for it.

I would like to highlight the wāhine that have brought this production to life. From the actors, production team, band members, and crew – none of this would be possible without all of your hard work and the many roles you navigate. I am inspired by each and everyone of you.

I hope that as you watch our show, you are reminded that there are so many ways to be a woman, to have a rich and meaningful life, and there is nothing wrong with doing it dressed in pink!

Beth Waite

**WHOEVER SAID
TANGERINE IS THE NEW
PINK WAS SERIOUSLY
DISTURBED**


MR. PRESIDENT

As president of Musical Theatre Dunedin I have the pleasure of welcoming you back to the Mayfair Theatre and back to the early 2000s for this production of *Legally Blonde: The Musical*.

Prepare to be captivated by the powerhouse performances of our incredibly talented local cast, who have poured their hearts and souls into bringing this iconic story to life. From toe-tapping musical numbers to touching moments of self-discovery, *Legally Blonde: The Musical* promises to take you on an unforgettable ride.

I extend my deepest gratitude to everyone involved in bringing this production to fruition – the exceptional performers, dedicated crew, and passionate creative team who have dedicated countless hours to this show. To our loyal supporters and sponsors, in particular our naming sponsor Click Property Management, your support has been a driving force behind this and many other productions. We are truly grateful for your commitment to the arts.

Finally to you, our patrons, thank you for your support and loyalty - especially over the last three years. Sit back, relax and let the magic of *Legally Blonde: The Musical* sweep you off your feet. Thank you all for being a part of this incredible experience with us. We hope you enjoy the show!

 *Alex Andreassend*

DIRECTOR



Beth Waite



Beth Waite trained in Musical Theatre Voice at University of Otago. She went on to receive Masters of Arts with Distinction in Theatre Studies focusing on revisionist feminist intervention adaptation theory with the creation and performance of a one-woman show about Wendy Darling from J. M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*.

She works as a senior teacher at the Voice Lab nz where she specialises in musical theatre repertoire selection. Alongside teaching, her work ranges from performance, directing and producing around Ōtepoti.

Performance credits include *The First Time*, *Chicago*, *I Love You - You're Perfect - Now Change*, and *Ovation*, for which she was nominated for an Otago Southland Theatre Award. She was selected as an Emerging Professional for Christchurch International Musical Theatre Summer School in 2014 and 2018 where she received instruction from robust international teaching staff including Andrea Burns and Jonathan Groff. Directing credits include *Women Like Us* (Little Scorpion), *Now. Here. This.* (Arcade Theatre Company) and *Footloose* (St. Hilda's Collegiate). She was also the Vocal Director for *The Highlights*, a celebration of musical theatre in collaboration with Musical Theatre Dunedin, Taieri Musical Society and Showbiz Dunedin.

Beth is looking forward to putting *Legally Blonde* on stage and cannot wait to share her love for all things 2000's-rom-com-nostalgia with the cast and audience members of Ōtepoti.



MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Samuel Leaper

Samuel, a local Dunedin musician, is delighted to have the opportunity to work with Musical Theatre Dunedin as Musical Director for *Legally Blonde*. Having been consistently involved with musical theatre since his high school days, this will be Samuel's second show in the role of musical director. He has just come off of a sold out run of shows in 2022, working with East Otago Musical Theatre to bring to life *Chicago*, in which he was nominated for Best Musical Director at the Otago Southland Theatre Awards.

Having many accolades to his name, Samuel has spent time with his band touring New Zealand, living in 660 Castle Street as an inaugural recipient of Six60's scholarship, and now works as a live sound engineer, mixing both local and touring bands as they perform throughout Dunedin. As well as this, he is completing a Bachelor of Music at University of Otago (although he enjoys part time study so he can fit everything else in).

Samuel has thoroughly enjoyed working with the talented members of the creative team, cast, crew and band to put one of his favourite shows together.

CHOREOGRAPHER

Cadyne Geary



Cadyne is delighted to be given the opportunity to choreograph *Legally Blonde*, a dream musical for her. She has trained primarily in Jazz, Hip Hop and Musical Theatre dance and *Legally Blonde* combines these styles flawlessly. As a secondary teacher at Te Kura o Hira Tapu (St Hilda's Collegiate) Cadyne works alongside young wāhine who inspire her, sharing a love of dance and physical education. She trained in Physical Education at University of Otago and holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Secondary Teaching.

Cadyne has been a dance and performance educator for many years now working at Black + White Dance Studio as an Aerobics coach and contemporary dance teacher. She also teaches BodyStep at Les Mills Dunedin, combining her love of fitness and fun. Adding to her collection of roles, she is a contracted choreographer and tutor, with past projects including the Taieri Musical Holiday Programme, DKCM corporate entertainment gigs and most recently, choreographing *Moana Junior* for Taieri Musical Society for which she was nominated for an Otago Southland Theatre Award.

This musical theatre enthusiast finds a home on the stage and has performed in theatre shows such as *The Cabaret* (independently produced by Nic Laughton and Lauren Johnson), Taieri Musical's *Chicago*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Mary Poppins*, *Grease*, *Showbiz' The Highlights* and Musical Theatre Dunedin's *Phantom of the Opera*, and *Wicked*. Cadyne is thrilled to bring her absolute love of dance and performance onto the "pink" stage (which happens to be her favourite colour) with a talented, hard working cast and creative team.



PRODUCTION MANAGER

Alex Andreassend

Alex first got involved with Musical Theatre Dunedin (MTD) during *Wicked* in 2019 as a crew member. He has since performed in *The Highlights* (2020), *Les Misérables* (2021) and a few Theatre Restaurants.

He joined the MTD executive board in 2021 and is currently the President where he enjoys working with a dedicated team of people to bring shows like this to the stage. *Legally Blonde* has been a labour of love for Alex, who first started work on the Dunedin premiere of the cult classic in early 2022. After many months of looking after the marketing and then production managing this large project, he is thrilled to see it hit the stage - and not only with such a high calibre of talent, but also many new faces for MTD.





CAST



ELLE WOODS

Ariana Gepte

Ariana is ecstatic to join the cast of *Legally Blonde* in her Musical Theatre Dunedin stage debut as Elle Woods. Her passions have never strayed from performing arts and she is currently pursuing it at University of Otago studying for Bachelor of Performing Arts. Previously, Ariana has appeared in shows such as *Annie*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Highlights*, *The 128th Capping Show* and most recently, East Otago Musical Theatre's season of *Chicago* (Mona/Roxie Hart Understudy). This year she will be making her Choreographer debut as well as playing Doc in the *129th Capping Show - Back to the Flat*.



WARNER HUNTINGTON III

Jack Archibald

Jack is elated to be joining this company for his second Musical Theatre Dunedin show. He's studied classical singing with Mark Bobb and musical theatre with Arlie McCormick. He is currently working towards his Bachelor of Commerce at University of Otago. Previous credits include Musical Theatre Dunedin's *Jersey Boys* (Norman Waxman/ensemble), Taieri Musical's *Chicago* (Ensemble/Billy Flynn understudy), *127th Capping Show*, *Addams Family* (Gomez), *Into the Woods* (The Baker) and Jack is currently a member of the Otago Capping Sextet. Jack would like to thank his whānau for their support and guidance over the years.



EMMETT FORREST

George Keen

Legally Blonde is George's second show with Musical Theatre Dunedin. Having grown up in Palmerston performing in various productions for East Otago Music Theatre, he then studied for a year in Dunedin before moving up to Christchurch to complete a Bachelor of Performing Arts Degree at the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA). George has recently moved back to his hometown of Dunedin after five years away and is excited to get back into performing again.



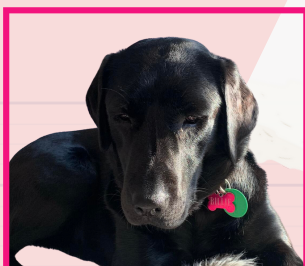
VIVIENNE KENSINGTON

Madi Dow

Madi is excited (and a little nervous) to be stepping into the role of Vivienne in *Legally Blonde*. This will be Madi's first production with Musical Theatre Dunedin, but she has previously performed with Opera Otago in *A Christmas Carol* (2016) and *The Pirates of Penzance* (2017). Madi has also performed for four years as part of the *Otago Capping Show*, singing in an all-female acapella group. She has been singing since age eight, studying under Gladys Hope and later, Judy Bellingham. She also wishes to thank Jill, Michael and Finn for their ongoing support.



BRUISER - CHARLI



RUFUS - BILLIE



GET INTO HARVARD



WIN WARNER BACK



HUGE WEDDING

PROFESSOR CALLAHAN

Peter Hocking

Peter is now mostly cast as middle-aged professionals and dads, which is a tragic example of art imitating life. Recent stage credits include *Jersey Boys* (Bob Crewe), *That Bloody Woman* (Walter/Kate's Uncle/Gang), Brecht's *A Respectable Wedding* (Husband), *Blood Brothers* (Mr Lyons), *Finding Murdoch* (Geoff) and *The Devil and Mr Mulcahy* (Paul Marshall). Other favourites from a thirty-year career in musical theatre in the United Kingdom and New Zealand include *The Sound of Music* (Captain von Trapp), *The Producers* (Leo Bloom), *Chicago* (Billy Flynn), *The Full Monty* (Harold) and *Guys and Dolls* (Nathan Detroit).



PAULETTE BONAFONTÉ

Jane Craigie-Read

Jane is thrilled to be back on stage with Musical Theatre Dunedin and playing the iconic role of Paulette. She is no stranger to local audiences, having performed in numerous productions over the last 20 or so years with her most recent credits including *Chicago* (Liz/Understudy Mama Morton), *That Bloody Woman* (Vicar/Gang), *Mary Poppins* (Katie Nanna) and *Mamma Mia!* Jane dedicates her performance to her 'home team' Darrel and Madeline and thanks them, as well as her extended family, friends and the village of babysitters for their never-ending love and support. Jane is a proud ambassador for the Voice Lab nz.



BROOKE WYNDHAM

Kelly Hocking

Kelly is an actor, vocalist, writer and voice coach who studied at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Los Angeles, California. Ōtepoti locals will recognize her from *Avenue Q* (Kate/Lucy), *Mary Poppins* (Winifred Banks), *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert* (Diva) and *Wicked* (Glinda/Galinda). Her two most recent solo shows were the award-nominated *Thief* and *Rags to Witches*, in which she publicly retired from musical theatre – oops! Kelly runs the Voice Lab nz which has a studio in Ōtepoti comprised of nine vocal coaches and a specialized voice care team who look after New Zealand's vocal athletes.



MARGOT

Zara Anthony-Whigham

Legally Blonde is Zara's fifth major production with Musical Theatre Dunedin, previously performing in *Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert* (2018), *Wicked* (2019) *The Highlights* (2020), and most recently *Jersey Boys* (2023). She has been dancing all her life, competing nationally in multiple different dance styles. Other memorable theatre performances include *My Fair Lady*, *Les Misérables* (Young Cosette), *Chicago* (Roxie Understudy/Dance Captain) and numerous theatre restaurants. During the day, Zara is a primary school teacher in Dunedin. Zara is excited to be involved in such an entertaining show and being cast in the role of Margot.





SERENA

Zoe Rothbaum

Zoe is a third-year Neuroscience student at the University of Otago and has been in love with the stage since she was little, be it dance shows, choir concerts, high school productions, or Shakespeare. Zoe has been dancing since she was three years old and has received training in jazz, ballet, contemporary, ballroom, commercial and musical theatre. She has competed in troupe competitions at both national and international levels. Zoe has previously been in *Spamalot*, and *Into the Woods*. She is thrilled to be joining Musical Theatre Dunedin for the first time in *Legally Blonde*.



PILAR

Bethany Cook

Bethany is a singer/songwriter and musical theatre enthusiast based in Dunedin. Originally from Auckland, she came to study at the University of Otago where she completed a Bachelor of Arts and Science (Theatre and Psychology). She holds a Trinity College ATCL diploma in Musical Theatre and gained acknowledgements from the University for music and theatre. Bethany's performance credits include *West Side Story* (Francisca), *Bring It On: The Musical* (Kylar), *Heathers* (Veronica), and *That Bloody Woman* (Gang Member). Currently she is working as a Voice Teacher for the Voice Lab nz and producing her upcoming debut EP.



ENID HOOPES

Olivia Leonard

Legally Blonde is Olivia's third show with Musical Theatre Dunedin, after performing in the ensemble of *Les Misérables* and *The Highlights*. She has also performed alongside the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra and with Sol3Mio and is currently doing her PGDip in Secondary Teaching after completing a Bachelor of Music in Classical Voice. Olivia gained her Level 1 TOSCA Certification (Levels I and II) certification in Somatic Voicework The LoVetri Method. She has Vocal Directed Trinity Catholic College's *Seussical*, Assistant Vocal Directed Taieri Musical's *Moana Jr*, and has her own business giving vocal lessons.



ELLE UNDERSTUDY

Jess Larkins

Jess has grown up learning many art forms including tap with Denise Henderson, and ballet and jazz with Bennett School. She's trained in classical, country, musical theatre and contemporary singing from a range of incredible vocal teachers, most recently Bridget Telfer-Milne. Jess currently works for the University of Otago. She is so grateful for the opportunity the creative team has given her as the understudy for Elle and she cannot wait to show off this incredible cast and crew for this production of *Legally Blonde*. She hopes you love this show as much as she does.



WARNER UNDERSTUDY

Finn Shaw

Finn is thrilled to be joining the cast of *Legally Blonde* as understudy Warner. This show holds a special place in his heart as both a musical theatre enthusiast and current law student at University of Otago. No stranger to the arts in Ōtepoti Dunedin, he has previously performed in *Heathers* (2021), *The Highlights* (2020), *Blood Brothers* (2019), *Wicked* (2019) and *Ovation!* (2018). Most recently, Finn has sung at the *Otago Capping Show* as the leading member of the Otago Capping Sextet, the six piece male a-cappella group famed for their risqué and topical parodies.

EMMETT UNDERSTUDY

James Yearlly Davern

James is thrilled to understudy for Emmett and feature in the ensemble. He's a regular at Musical Theatre Dunedin's open mic nights and is excited to be on stage for the first time since COVID-19 halted his more recent creative projects. James says performance is his passion and runs in the family – "I couldn't escape it if I tried and... I tried."



CALLAHAN UNDERSTUDY

Brent Caldwell

After 35 years in education in New Zealand, Australia and Britain, Brent finally switched full-time to his chosen career of acting in 2021. He is currently completing his Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (Theatre) at the University of Otago School of Performing Arts. He has previously worked in repertory in Otago, Southland and Western Australia and has written, directed, and produced numerous school productions. This year he was nominated for an Outstanding Performance award for his various roles across the Dunedin Fringe Festival. His first original play *Red Mist Descending* premiered at Allen Hall Theatre in April.



PAULETTE UNDERSTUDY

Sophie McCarlie

Sophie was born and raised in Nelson and is no stranger to the stage. Past credits include *Les Misérables* (Cosette), *Ghost* (Molly), *The Phantom of the Opera* (Christine) and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Ronette). Sophie has also had the opportunity to work with and learn from leading vocal and acting professionals at Singing School New Zealand and the Christchurch International Musical Theatre Singing School (CIMTSS). She is currently in her second year at University of Otago completing her Bachelor of Performing Arts. This will be Sophie's first show with Musical Theatre Dunedin and she cannot wait to bring this show to life with such an incredible cast.



VIVIENNE UNDERSTUDY

Lauren Reynoldson-Ross

Making her Musical Theatre Dunedin debut, Lauren is a final year dentistry student who has a passion for the stage. She has been vocally trained in classical, musical theatre and contemporary styles for 10 years – musical theatre has always been her favourite! Her previous involvement in theatre includes *Beauty and The Beast* (Mrs Potts), *Godspell* (Sonja), *The Wizard of Oz* (Glinda), *Les Misérables* (Eponine), *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* (Nina), *Legally Blonde* (Serena), *Seussical* and *Wicked*. Having moved over from Melbourne in 2019, Lauren is extremely excited to hit the New Zealand stage in this production of *Legally Blonde*.



BROOKE UNDERSTUDY

Libby Bloem

Libby discovered her passion for dancing and musical theatre after taking up ballet to help with her gymnastics technique. She quickly fell in love and never looked back, continuing on to train in ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary and musical theatre with Shona Bennett and Emma Donaldson. She also takes voice lessons with Ben Johnson at the Voice Lab nz, and in her spare time enjoys crochet and coaching aerobics. Libby's show credits include *Ovation!* (Taieri), *Wicked* (Musical Theatre Dunedin) and *The Highlights* (Musical Theatre Dunedin). Libby is very excited to add *Legally Blonde* to her list and hopes you enjoy the show.





Carys Beddow

Legally Blonde is Carys' first show with Musical Theatre Dunedin. Carys has been dancing and singing since she was young and recently has been honing their theatre skills with university group MUSOC in Christchurch. Having returned to Dunedin after completing her study in Speech-Language Pathology, they're tickled pink to be part of the *Legally Blonde* cast.



Callum Fisher

Callum is excited to join the cast of *Legally Blonde*. He has trained with Pat Scally Richardson and Judy Bellingham and performed in many different areas in the Ōtepoti music and performing arts scene. Previous credits include the *Otago Capping Sextet* (2018-2022) and *Why Capone* (Bass). *Legally Blonde* is Callum's second major production with Musical Theatre Dunedin after *Phantom of the Opera* (2015). During the day he is completing his electrical apprenticeship.



Elli Gepte

Elli is beyond thrilled to be joining the cast of *Legally Blonde* - their first show with Musical Theatre Dunedin. Previously, Elli was seen in Taieri Musical Society's season of *Moana Jr* (Chief Tui) in 2021. Growing up watching classic Disney films and golden age musicals ignited their passion for the creative arts which set them on the path of performance. Elli is currently a Year 13 student at John McGlashan College where they study drama with Kimberly Fridd. Outside of school, Elli takes vocal lessons with Ben Johnson at the Voice Lab nz. In 2024, Elli plans to move to Wellington to pursue animation at Massey University.



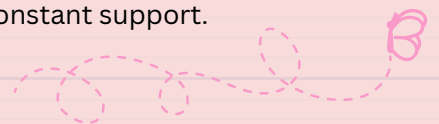
Jennifer Hughson

Jennifer has been dancing since age four and recently performed as Roxie in Taieri Musical's *Chicago*, with other performance highlights including *Cats* (Victoria the white cat), *Grease: The Arena Spectacular* (Frenchy), Globe Theatre's *Cinders* (Cinderella), and *Blood Brothers* (Linda). Costume Design credits include *Grease*, *Blood Brothers*, *That Bloody Woman*, and *Chicago* which saw her winning Best Wardrobe for 2022's Otago Southland Theatre Awards. Jen loves being mum to nine year old Alice and six year old Evelyn, whilst also working in her fashion design business Pansy Couture, specialising in bespoke bridal gowns.



Nicole Jenkins

Nicole is a graduate of the University of Otago with a Bachelor of Arts (Theatre, Dance and Tourism). Performing has been a life-long passion for her, beginning with musical theatre and tap dancing at age six with Denise Henderson. Nicole works as a children's entertainer with Rainbow Rosalind Parties, has performed with Dollhouse Theatre company, and used to run her own dance studio for eight years. *Legally Blonde* will be her second show with Musical Theatre Dunedin, following *The Highlights* in 2020. She would like to thank Anna, Kelly and Beth from the Voice Lab nz for her vocal coaching over the years, and her family and friends for their constant support.





Ben Johnson

Ben is over the moon to be a part of *Legally Blonde* as this show was on his bucket list. This will be his fourth show with Musical Theatre Dunedin after appearing in *Jersey Boys* (Joe Pesci), *Les Misérables*, and *Wicked*. Other credits include Taieri Musical's *Chicago* and Arcade Theatre Co's *Now. Here. This.* (Jeff). Currently Ben is also vocal directing *Frozen Jr* for Taieri Musical which will take to the stage at the end of September. By day, you can find him teaching singing at the Voice Lab nz where he works with clients across many genres of music.




Sam Kelly

Sam is a 17-year-old at Trinity Catholic College with a passion for stage performance. He's had 11 years of vocal training and 10 years of various dance training. Sam has been involved in many productions over the years, including Taieri Musical's *Chicago* and various school shows, and is now extremely excited to be a part of Musical Theatre Dunedin's *Legally Blonde*.




Clare Lewis

Clare is excited to join the *Legally Blonde* team after recently moving back to Dunedin. She is a primary school teacher and vocal teacher. Initially studying musical theatre at university, she has enjoyed focusing more on classical and jazz but is enjoying getting back into musicals. She has recently been a part of the Wellington Youth Choir, Arcade's production of *Now. Here. This.*, *Heathers* (Mrs Flemming), Musical Theatre Dunedin theatre restaurants and travelling with Dunedin Opera in *Opera a la Mozart - Goldilocks and the Three Bears* (Mama Bear).




Meko Ng

Meko is a recent graduate of University of Otago with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (Theatre Studies). Originally from Hong Kong, Meko has been singing and performing from a young age. Since her arrival in 2016, she has been actively involved in the arts, performing, designing, and directing in various school productions, Otago Gang Shows, Lunchtime Theatres and other projects. She is also a creative in local theatre company SBZ Productions. Meko was previously in Musical Theatre Dunedin's 2021 theatre restaurant *It's Showtime*. She's excited to be stepping back on stage after a couple years of directing and being behind the scenes.




Baylee Smith

Baylee is excited to be returning to the stage in *Legally Blonde*. This will be her third production with Musical Theatre Dunedin, previously appearing in two theatre restaurants. She has also performed with Tauranga Musical Theatre in *Heathers* (Heather McNamara). By day Baylee works as a library collections assistant and by night she teaches pole dance, a discipline she has competed and performed in extensively. Baylee is excited to bring this incredibly fun show - a personal favourite, to life with the rest of the fabulous cast, crew, and creative team.




Makensie Waddell

Makensie is from Invercargill but is currently studying towards a Bachelor of Performing Arts at University of Otago in Dunedin. She is heavily involved with the student lead Otago Dance Association where she is currently in the role of Vice President. Makensie has done many shows for Invercargill Musical Theatre, a highlight being *Wicked* (Shen Shen) and is delighted to be involved in another Musical Theatre Dunedin show especially after the amazing season of *Jersey Boys* earlier this year.



ACT ONE

Omigod You Guys
Serious
Daughter of Delta Nu
What You Want
The Harvard Variations
Blood in the Water
Positive
Ireland
Serious
Chip on My Shoulder
So Much Better



ACT TWO

Whipped Into Shape
Take It Like A Man
Bend and Snap
There! Right There!
Legally Blonde
Legally Blonde Remix
Scene of the Crime
Find My Way/Finale



*I have turned my whole world upside down, trying
not to let you go. Watching you walk away is like a
fatal blow...*





FULL CAST



Elle Woods - Ariana Gepte
Warner Huntington III - Jack Archibald
Emmett Forrest - George Keen
Vivienne Kensington - Madi Dow
Professor Callahan - Peter Hocking
Paulette Bonafonté - Jane Craigie-Read
Brooke Wyndham - Kelly Hocking
Elle Understudy - Jess Larkins
Warner Understudy - Finn Shaw
Emmett Understudy - James Yearly-Davern
Vivienne Understudy - Lauren Reynoldson-Ross
Callahan Understudy - Brent Caldwell
Paulette Understudy - Sophie McCarlie
Brooke Understudy - Libby Bloem
Margot - Zara Anthony-Whigham
Serena - Zoe Rothbaum
Pilar - Bethany Cook
Enid Hoopes - Olivia Leonard
Gaelen - Carys Beddow
Kate - Baylee Smith
Leilani - Makensie Waddell
Delta Nus - Libby Bloem, Madi Dow, Jennifer Hughson, Jess Larkins, Olivia Leonard, Clare Lewis, Sophie McCarlie, Lauren Reynoldson-Ross
Frat boys - Elli Gepte, Ben Johnson, Finn Shaw, James Yearly-Davern
Courtney - Nicole Jenkins
Manager - Meko Ng
Waiter - Brent Caldwell
Elle's Dad - Callum Fisher
Elle's Mum - Jennifer Hughson
Grandmaster Chad - Sam Kelly
Winthrop - Callum Fisher
Lowell - Meko Ng
Pforzheimer - Clare Lewis
Cheerleaders - Carys Beddow, Libby Bloem, Elli Gepte, Jennifer Hughson, Nicole Jenkins, Ben Johnson, Sam Kelly, Jess Larkins, Finn Shaw, Makensie Waddell, James Yearly-Davern
Jet Blue Pilot - Brent Caldwell

Sandeep Padanadan - Elli Gepte
Aaron Schultz - Ben Johnson
Whitney - Nicole Jenkins
Harvard students - Brent Caldwell, Sam Kelly, Clare Lewis, Sophie McCarlie, Meko Ng, Lauren Reynoldson-Ross, Finn Shaw, Baylee Smith, James Yearly-Davern,
Greek Chorus - Carys Beddow, Libby Bloem, Jennifer Hughson, Jess Larkins, Makensie Waddell
Dewey - Callum Fisher
Video people - Carys Beddow, Libby Bloem, Jennifer Hughson, Ben Johnson, Sam Kelly, Jess Larkins, Makensie Waddell
Inmates - Zara Anthony-Whigham, Carys Beddow, Libby Bloem, Bethany Cook, Jennifer Hughson, Nicole Jenkins, Jess Larkins, Zoe Rothbaum, Makensie Waddell
Guard - Baylee Smith
H&H Sales Girl - Baylee Smith
Perfume salesperson - Clare Lewis
Sales People - Brent Caldwell, Sophie McCarlie, Meko Ng, Lauren Reynoldson-Ross, Finn Shaw, James Yearly-Davern
Kyle - Ben Johnson
Salon folks - Libby Bloem, Carys Beddow, Jennifer Hughson, Jess Larkins, Makensie Waddell
TV Reporter - Meko Ng
Nikos - Elli Gepte
Carlos - Sam Kelly
D.A. Joyce Riley - Nicole Jenkins
Judge - Clare Lewis
Court Stenographer - Baylee Smith
Courtroom members - Libby Bloem, Carys Beddow, Brent Caldwell, Jennifer Hughson, Jess Larkins, Sophie McCarlie, Meko Ng, Lauren Reynoldson-Ross, Finn Shaw, Makensie Waddell, James Yearly-Davern
Chutney - Meko Ng
Bruiser - Charli
Rufus - Billie





ACT ONE

The show opens with UCLA's Delta Nu sorority who are celebrating the anticipated engagement of president Elle Woods and boyfriend Warner Huntington III. Elle's friends Margot, Serena and Pilar along with the rest of the Delta Nu girls rush to help Elle find the perfect engagement outfit. Elle goes on a dinner date with Warner but instead of proposing, he calls it quits on the relationship. Warner claims he needs someone more serious to help him achieve his dream of getting a seat in the Senate.

A heartbroken Elle locks herself in her bedroom for twelve days but after some new found inspiration she decides to win Warner back by proving her "seriousness" and getting into Harvard Law School. With help from Delta Nu sister Kate, Elle studies for the LSATS and achieves top marks. In true Elle Woods style, she forgoes the personal essay and bursts into the Harvard Admissions office with a song and dance routine - ultimately gaining admission to Law School.

Elle arrives at Harvard only to find her high-achieving classmates disapprove of her attire and personality. For the first time, Elle is experiencing being an outsider. Law-teaching assistant Emmett Forrest takes her under his wing. It's not long before Professor Callahan kicks the under-prepared Elle out of class at the suggestion of her classmate Vivienne Kensington. Elle soon discovers that Vivienne is also Warner's new girlfriend. This "tragedy" summons the Delta Nu sisters who appear as a Greek Chorus in Elle's mind, cheering her on.

After deliberations Elle, now believing that being blonde is the problem, decides to become a brunette. She heads to the Hair Affair salon where she quickly befriends hairdresser Paulette, who convinces her not to change who she is. Paulette talks to Elle about her dreams of meeting a handsome Irishman. Vivienne unexpectedly gives Elle an invitation to a party, telling her it is a costume party.

Dressed as a Playboy Bunny, Elle walks into the party to find she was tricked by Vivienne. No one

else is wearing a costume. She still seeks out Warner in an effort to win him back, but he remains unimpressed.

Elle runs from the party only to bump into Emmett, who has Elle assess her priorities. She realises it is her obsession with Warner that keeps her from earning his respect. The realisation helps her to clear her mind and focus on her studies. She then beats Warner at a debate and goes on to help Paulette get her dog back from her ex-boyfriend. She begins to not only understand law, but like it too.

Elle gains a prestigious spot on Professor Callahan's internship along with Enid Hoopes, Warner and Vivienne. Warner proposes to Vivienne on the spot right in front of Elle and she accepts with a kiss. Elle realises that she does not need Warner's ring to be accepted in the world. She celebrates, disses Warner, calls her mother to tell her the news of her internship.



ACT TWO

Fitness instructor Brooke Wyndham's workout video opens up Act II. As it plays, Callahan tells the legal team that Brooke is accused of murdering her wealthy husband. The team arrives at the Boston Women's Correctional Facility where Brooke will not give up her alibi. Upon learning that they were both Delta Nu sisters, Brooke then privately tells Elle her alibi and makes Elle promise not to tell anyone. Elle, and consequently Emmett, are shunned by the group. Elle decides to give Emmett a makeover to cheer him up - and early signs of love between the pair start to show.

At the salon, Elle is getting a manicure when hunky UPS courier Kyle arrives to deliver a package to Paulette. Paulette is in awe of Kyle, but her low self-confidence prevents her from making a move. After he leaves Pilar, Serena, and Margot are summoned and the sorority girls teach Paulette the bend and snap. When Kyle returns, Paulette tries out her new moves - unfortunately it fails and she breaks Kyle's nose.

At the trial, pool boy Nikos claims to have been having an affair with Brooke - giving a motive for murdering her husband. Elle suspects Nikos may be gay and tries out her famous bend and snap. When he does not respond, she pitches her theory to the group. Callahan and her teammates are not convinced. Her colleagues posit that his perceived flamboyance might just be a cultural difference as Nikos is European. Emmett successfully trips Nikos up and he states that his boyfriend's name is Carlos.

After a successful day in court the interns celebrate Elle's win in Callahan's office. Warner finds problems with calling a finely tuned awareness of homosexuality a legal victory. Callahan sends Warner out of the room to fetch a coffee and then dismisses Emmett and the other interns, requesting Elle to remain behind. Callahan forcibly kisses Elle, who retaliates. He then fires her. Warner and Vivienne both witness the kiss. Warner leaves in anger and Vivienne is the only one to see Elle slap Callahan. A defeated Elle prepares to go home, despite Emmett asking her to stay, finally realizing that he is in love with her.

Elle heads to the salon to say goodbye to Paulette but Vivienne and Enid convince her to stay. They meet Kyle on the way, who has grown fond of Paulette and reveals himself to be Irish. Back at the trial, Brooke fires Callahan and hires Elle. Brooke's stepdaughter Chutney takes the witness stand stating she got out of the shower saw Brooke covered in her father's blood. After Chutney says she received a perm the day of the murder, Elle realises a flaw in her alibi and suggests the entire court should be moved to the scene of the crime—the bathroom, where the murder took place. As a demonstration, Elle has Paulette give Enid a perm and asks Enid to step into the shower. Relying on her knowledge of hair maintenance, Elle's demonstration is successful as Enid walks out of the shower with completely flattened hair—revealing that Chutney could not have possibly showered immediately after getting a perm because hers was still intact. Chutney confesses that she intended to kill Brooke but accidentally shot her father instead.

Warner proposes to Elle, having been dumped by Vivienne. Elle gently refuses, claiming to have been changed by the experience.

Three years later, Elle is the valedictorian of her class. Paulette tells the audience that Elle is not one to brag about her valedictorian status, so she decided to allow Paulette to play "Where Are They Now" during her speech. At the end of the graduation, Elle proposes to Emmett, who happily accepts.

**YOU ARE A STRONG
INDEPENDENT WOMAN, AND YOU
MUST BE REUNITED WITH YOUR
DOG**



CREW



STAGE MANAGER

Nicki Templeton

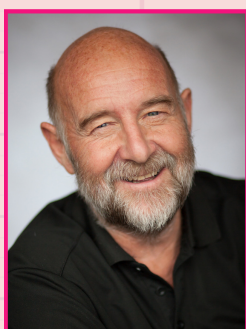
Nicki's first official backstage role in *Annie* (1982) was 41 years ago. Since then, she has worked most available roles in the backstage family. The role of stage manager will be making sure that everything and everyone is in place and ready to go at the right time to produce a seamless production for your enjoyment. Nicki is really looking forward to working again with many familiar faces, and getting to know the new ones. She is very grateful for the opportunity to stretch her wings with the Stage Manager role.



SHOW CALLER

Ian McCabe

Ian first became involved in musical theatre as a teenager in Invercargill playing trombone in the pit for *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Barnam*. After several years playing bass for a number of theatre restaurants, Ian moved backstage in 2010 to work on *Miss Saigon*. He has worked the stage or called shows at the side of the stage for MTD ever since. Ian is very excited to be back after a short break for health reasons, this time side of stage calling the show.



TECHNICAL MANAGER

Garry Gibson

Garry has been involved with Musical Theatre Dunedin for over 42 years. In those years he has worked most crew roles. His role as technical manager is to ensure everything with the set works the way it is meant to while keeping the cast and crew safe. The role involves plenty of liaising with contractors who supply services for the production. Garry would like to acknowledge the support from his family, and the kindness from his work which allows him to achieve his work alongside Musical Theatre Dunedin.



PROPERTIES MANAGER

Anne Gillison

Anne has been involved with Musical Theatre Dunedin for more than 19 years. Over these years she has worked in the props area and behind the bar for all MTD shows and many Taieri Musical shows. Her role as Properties Manager is to make sure that all props are in working condition and in the right place at the right time so the cast can access them quickly on their way through to the stage. She is looking forward to working with the fabulous *Legally Blonde* cast and crew.



WARDROBE MANAGER

June Driver

June first became involved with shows in 1989. She is a current Musical Theatre Dunedin board member and Wardrobe Manager. She has enjoyed the bright colours and iconic Y2K fashion of *Legally Blonde* and dressing a diverse and talented cast for this production. June would like to thank her amazing dressers for their time and passion with the show, many of whom she is thrilled to be doing yet another show with.

MARKETING MANAGER

Alex Andreassend

After being Marketing Assistant for *Jersey Boys*, Alex has taken on the role of Marketing Manager for *Legally Blonde*. The show has been a labour of love for Alex, who first started work on the Dunedin premiere of the cult classic in early 2022. After many months of looking after the marketing and then production managing this large project, he is thrilled to see it hit not only the backs of buses, but also the Mayfair stage.

**FOH/SPONSORSHIP MANAGER**

Dean Driver

Dean is the newly elected Treasurer of Musical Theatre Dunedin and looks after the sponsorships, grants and funding. He has been a member of the organisation for many years. Dean has been seen onstage in the ever-popular and iconic Theatre Restaurants and played Bob the outback mechanic in the 2018 production of *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. He is ably assisted in the Front of House, by the fantastic team of programme sellers. Dean is looking forward to this season of *Legally Blonde* and MTD's return to The Mayfair after many years away.

**HAIR MANAGER**

Marlise Sparks

Marlise has been involved with the theatre, either on stage or behind the scenes, for most her life. As a former hairdresser and makeup artist Marlise has worked on stage shows, Miss Otago and Miss New Zealand photo shoots, movies and fashion shows. In recent times she can be found doing her children's hair and makeup when they take to the stage. Marlise is excited to be working with Musical Theatre Dunedin and bringing her skills to *Legally Blonde*.

**MAKEUP MANAGER**

Christal Attpress-Jenkins

Christal has been a freelance makeup artist for the last 14 years. Her first involvement with theatre makeup was Musical Theatre Dunedin's *Phantom of the Opera* (2015). Since then Christal and her fabulous makeup team have worked on recent productions *The Highlights*, *Wicked* and *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. Her team received the Otago Southland Theatre Awards "Best Makeup" for the two latter shows. The team is thrilled to be back working with the dedicated cast and crew for *Legally Blonde* and bringing the characters to life through makeup.



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Otago Daily Times

CREW CONTINUED

Producer – Musical Theatre
Dunedin

Production Manager – Alex
Andreassend

Director – Beth Waite

Musical Director – Samuel
Leaper

Choreographer – Cadyne Geary

Grants Manager – Dean Driver

Stage Manager – Nicki Templeton

Technical Manager – Garry
Gibson

Marketing Manager – Alex
Andreassend

Costume Design - Kirsten Fisher,
Act Three Productions

Wardrobe Manager – June Driver

Set Design - Jen Lambert, Act
Three Productions

Prop Design - Jeff Paewai, Act
Three Productions

Lighting Design - Tom Acklin,
Gravity Events

Sound Design - Tom Acklin and
Mike Pickering, Gravity Events

Lighting Operator - Matthew
Gray

Sound Operator - Mike Pickering,
Gravity Events

Properties Manager – Anne
Gilkison

Hair Manager – Marlise Sparks

Makeup Manager – Christal
Allpress- Jenkins

Front of House Manager – Dean
Driver

Programme Manager – Chelsea
McRae

Photographers – Lara MacGregor
(Headshots), Chris Sullivan - Seen
in Dunedin (Programme images)

Backstage Assistants – Murray
Wright

Pack-in crew – Garry Gibson,
John Finlayson, Nicki Templeton,
Dave Templeton, Alex

Andreassend

Walkers - Makensie Waddell,
Ariana Gepte, Kerry Davey

Followspot operators – Dave
Templeton, Anne Gilkison

Microphones - Olivia Larkins, Max
Beal, Alex Andreassend, Beth
Waite, Dean Driver, June Driver

Front of House Team - Sandra
Nixon, Mary-Jane Jarvis, Karen
Scammell, Sandra Christie, Charlie
Campbell, Amelia Kate Keogh,
Kathleen Wallace, Kerry Popham,
Julie Williams

Props Assistants – Kate
Falkingham, Jess Smith

Wardrobe Assistants/Dressers –
June Driver, Kerry Davey, Sheree
Howie, Jodie Spedding, Cyn Wong,
Kyla Mullen, Sharon Wassel

Makeup Assistants – Jane Booth,
Sarah Kennelly, Jessica Smith,
Jessica Williamson and Sandy
Wright

Hair Assistants – Carol Holt, Janet
Collie, Tash Trainor

Cast Advocate – Brent Caldwell

Dance Captain - Zara Anthony-
Whigham

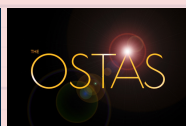


SPECIAL THANKS

The cast, crew and wider team at Musical Theatre Dunedin would like to thank our friends, whānau and audiences for their ongoing support. Countless hours are poured into projects such as this one and without the mahi (work), aroha (love) and wairua (spirit) of our team both on and off-stage, we could not do what we love doing. Ngā mihi nui ki a koe (thank you immensely).

A special thank you to St Hilda's Collegiate School, Mornington School and St Kilda Brass Band.

We apologise if, due to programme deadlines, we were unable to include any acknowledgements. We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has contributed to the success of this production.





BAND



- KEYS 1** SAMUEL LEAPER
- KEYS 2** TOBIAS DEVEREUX
- KEYS 3** PAXTON HALL
- VIOLIN** LEON HOOK
- GUITAR** HAMISH PHILLIPS
- BASS** JAKIRA BROPHY
- DRUMS** SCOTT KE
- PERCUSSION** MADDY PARKINS-CRAIG
- TRUMPET 1** BRADLEY TAYLOR
- TRUMPET 2** MIKE GACHES
- TROMBONE** BEN WALKER
- REEDS 1** SAM MEIKLE
- REEDS 2** JIM MACKAY



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- Executive Board Members** - June Driver, Ted Pheloung, Kerry Davey, Jodie Spedding, Olivia Larkins, Marlise Sparks
- Almoner** - Charles Campbell
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- Financial Reviewer** - Peter Hocking

Life Members

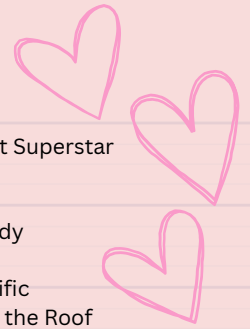
B.R. Bishop*, C.E. Campbell* (QSM), J.C. Collier*, J.W. Finlayson, G. Gibson, M.C. Gibson, L.A. Goatham*, S.G. Graham, M.B. Hoffman, G.V. Hope* (QSM), J.T.A. Jackson*, J. Johnstone, R.F. Johnstone, S. J. Keen*, D.E. Lovett*, E.L. Lovett*, M. Maker, A. Martyn, L. Moodie, C.E. Pheloung, J. Pheloung*, G.A. Reid, A. Simon*, H. Spiers, P. Turner, N.L. Walsh, M. Williamson, L.M. Wright-Sear*

(*Recipients of Musical Theatre New Zealand Merit Awards)





PAST PRODUCTIONS



| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 1929 Our Miss Gibbs | 1983 My Fair Lady | 1981 Jesus Christ Superstar |
| 1930 A Runaway Girl | 1984 Grease | Oklahoma! |
| 1931 A Country Girl | 1985 South Pacific | 1982 Annie |
| The Belle of New York | 1986 Fiddler on the Roof | 1983 My Fair Lady |
| 1932 The Arcadians | Chicago | 1984 Grease |
| The Boy | 1987 Barnum | 1985 South Pacific |
| 1933 Miss Hook of Holland | 1988 Kiss Me Kate | 1986 Fiddler on the Roof |
| Les Cloches de Corneville | 1991 Evita | Chicago |
| 1934 Sally | 1992 Me and My Girl | 1987 Barnum |
| No, No, Nanette | 1993 Anything Goes | 1988 Kiss Me Kate |
| 1935 The Girl in the Taxi | 1994 Les Misérables | 1991 Evita |
| The Geisha | 1995 The Merry Widow (with Opera Otago) | 1992 Me and My Girl |
| 1936 The Maid of the Mountains | 1996 Singin' in the Rain | 1993 Anything Goes |
| 1937 The Wildflower | 1998 Rush! (World Premiere) | 1994 Les Misérables |
| 1938 The Vagabond King | 1999 West Side Story | 1995 The Merry Widow (with Opera Otago) |
| 1939 The New Moon | 2000 42nd Street | 1996 Singin' in the Rain |
| 1940 Sunny | 2001 Les Misérables | 1998 Rush! (World Premiere) |
| 1941 A Country Girl | 2003 Fiddler on the Roof | 1999 West Side Story |
| 1944 The Belle of New York | 2004 Encore | 2000 42nd Street |
| 1945 Sally | 1964 Showboat | 2001 Les Misérables |
| 1946 Firefly | 1965 Annie Get Your Gun | 2003 Fiddler on the Roof |
| 1947 Our Miss Gibbs | 1966 Call Me Madam | 2004 Encore |
| 1948 Wild Violets | Hi Jinks Revue | 2005 Cabaret |
| 1949 A Country Girl | 1967 Calamity Jane | 2006 Beauty and The Beast |
| 1950 Bless the Bride | 1968 The Pajama Game | 2007 Chicago |
| 1951 No, No, Nanette | 1969 The Sound of Music | 2008 Cats |
| 1952 Bitter Sweet | 1970 Oklahoma! | 2009 The Producers |
| 1953 Carissima | 1971 The Student Prince | 2010 Dusty (New Zealand Premiere) |
| 1954 Perchance to Dream | 1972 West Side Story | Miss Saigon |
| 1955 Curtain Up | 1973 The Boyfriend | 2012 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor |
| Bob's Your Uncle | 1974 Oliver! | Dreamcoat |
| 1956 Take your Seats | 1975 Fiddler on the Roof | 2013 Hairspray |
| 1957 The Belle of New York | Puss in Boots (with Fortune Theatre) | 2015 The Phantom of the Opera |
| 1958 Wedding in Paris | 1976 Guys and Dolls | 2016 Spamalot |
| 1959 The Maid of the Mountains | 1977 Cindy | 2018 Priscilla, Queen of the Desert |
| 1960 Zip Goes a Million | 1978 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor | 2019 Wicked |
| 1961 Carousel | Dreamcoat | 2020 The Highlights (as Showbiz Dunedin |
| 1962 Where's Charley? | White Horse Inn (with Opera Otago) | in conjunction with DKCM and Taieri |
| 1963 South Pacific | 1979 The Desert Song | Musical Society) |
| Oklahoma! | 1980 Half A Sixpence | 2021 Les Misérables |
| 1982 Annie | | 2023 Jersey Boys |



THEATRE RESTAURANTS



| | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| 1989 The War Era | 2001 Nuncrackers | Boomers Behaving Badly (Independent |
| The Roaring Twenties | 2002 A Little of What You Fancy | Production) |
| 1990 Variety | Mystery on the Orient Express | 2012 Some Enchanted Evening |
| Songs From Broadway | 2003 'Allo 'Allo | All I Want for Christmas |
| 1991 Spirit of Vaudeville | World in Union | 2013 The 25th Annual Putnam County |
| ANZAC | 2004 It Gives Me Great Pleasure (Old Time | Spelling Bee |
| 1992 Magic of the Movies | Music Hall) | 2014 Stiff |
| 1993 Old Time Music Hall | Dad's Army | Lights on Broadway 2 |
| Around the World in 80 Songs | 2005 That's Entertainment | We Need a Little Christmas |
| 1994 Music of the War Years | Life as We Know It | 2015 We'll Meet Again |
| 1995 Just One of Those Songs | 2006 Footrot Flats | We Need a Little Christmas 2 |
| 1996 A Wee Drop of Scotch | 2007 Jerry's Girls | 2017 'Allo, 'Allo |
| Nonsense (Supper Theatre) | Ma Baker's Tonic | West End to Broadway |
| 1997 Back 2 Broadway | 2008 Hooray for Hollywood | 2018 Naughty and Nice Christmas Cabaret |
| Make 'em Laugh | Dad's Army II | 2019 Future Stars: A Musical Revival |
| 1998 Nonsense II | 2009 Lights on Broadway | Stage and Screen |
| A Highland Fling | Nonsense | 2020 What's on the Goggle-Box? |
| 1999 Viva America! | 2010 An Evening with the Stars | 2021 It's Showtime! |
| Life Upon the Wicked Stage | 2011 Music of the Knight | |
| 2000 Robin the Hood | 'Allo, 'Allo | |

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AND DIRECTED BY CHRIS BUCK AND JENNIFER LEE

Disney
THE LION KING JR.

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ELTON JOHN & TIM RICE

ADDITIONAL MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
LEBO M, MARK MANCINA, JAY RIFKIN
AND HANS ZIMMER

BOOK BY ROGER ALLERS & IRENE MECCHI

BASED ON THE BROADWAY PRODUCTION DIRECTED BY
JULIE TAYMOR

MUSIC ADAPTED & ARRANGED AND ADDITIONAL MUSIC & LYRICS AND
"LUAU HAWAIIAN TREAT" WRITTEN BY WILL VAN DYKE

"IT'S A SMALL WORLD" WRITTEN BY RICHARD M. SHERMAN AND ROBERT B. SHERMAN

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