

TULSA  PERA
I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT,
NOW CHANGE

Book & Lyrics: Joe DiPietro
Music: Jimmy Roberts

February 9th, 10th, & 11th
Lynn Riggs Theater



Originally produced in New York by

James Hammerstein

Bernie Kukoff

Jonathan Pollard

Original Direction by Joel Bishoff

Originally produced by the American Stage Company
James N. Vagias, Executive Producer

I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.
www.concordtheatricals.com

The 23-24 Season Continues!

TULSA OPERA
Raise Your Voice Tour

Frida Kahlo

and the Bravest Girl in the World

Composed by Joe Illick

Libretto by Mark Campbell



*This spring, Tulsa Opera presents **Frida Kahlo and the Bravest Girl in the World**, a children's opera that tells the story of Mariana, a young girl living in Mexico City. She is terrified at the thought of meeting Kahlo, the famous painter. However, when the two meet, Mariana's fears disappear, and through the magic of opera, a friendship blooms. This 45-minute, interactive children's opera is sung in both English and Spanish and is sure to have audiences singing and clapping along.*

Library performances free and open to the public.

Recommended for students grades K-3, but ALL are welcome!

Monday, March 18 @ 11am - Central Library

Thursday, March 21 @ 2pm - Hardesty Regional Library

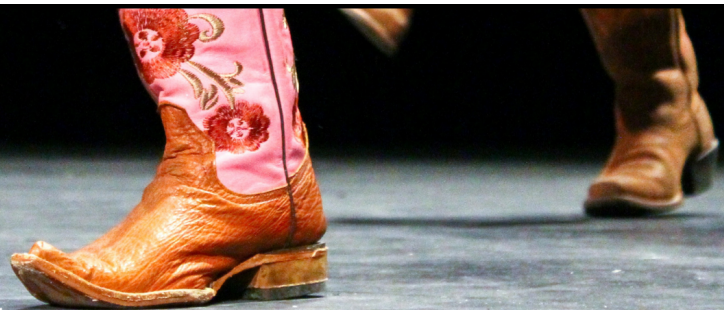
Friday, March 22 @ 11am - Martin Regional Library



Opera Fizz: A Bubbly Night of Music and Mixology

Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 7:30pm
Living Arts of Tulsa

Opera ROCKS the Country



Saturday, June 1st, 2024 at 6-9pm
THE Church STUDIO

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I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change

Book and Lyrics by Joe DiPietro

Music by Jimmy Roberts

run time: 2 hours and 10 minutes including one 20-minute intermission

CAST

Jennifer Natalie Grace Taylor*
Robert Sam Briggs^
Melissa Paige Dickey†
Jordan Andrew Barker

CREATIVE LEADS

Music Director & Principal Pianist Lyndon Meyer
Stage Director Jeremy Stevens*
Scenic Designer Benjamin Johnson
Costume Designer Randy Blair
Lighting Designer Nicholas Mueller
Hair & Makeup Designer Sable Brown
Production Stage Manager Susan Fenrich

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Cover Robert Powell Barca
Cover Melissa Maddie Breedlove^
Cover Jordan Robert Young

*denotes Tulsa Opera debut

^denotes member of the Tulsa Opera Filstrup Resident Artist Program

†denotes Laven Sowell Artist of the Tulsa Opera Filstrup Resident Artist Program

Stage and Wardrobe labor provided under agreement with IATSE local 354 and IATSE local 904.

I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE

ACT I

Scene 1: "Prologue"	
CANTATA FOR A FIRST DATE.....	The Company
Scene 2: "Not Tonight, I'm Busy, Busy, Busy"	
WE HAD IT ALL.....	Melissa, Jordan
Scene 3: "A Stud and a Babe"	
A STUD AND A BABE.....	Robert, Jennifer
Scene 4: "Men Who Talk and the Women Who Pretend They're Listening"	
SINGLE MAN DROUGHT.....	Jennifer, Melissa
WHY? 'CAUSE I'M A GUY.....	Robert, Jordan
Scene 5: "Tear Jerk"	
TEAR JERK.....	Jordan, Melissa
Scene 6: "The Lasagna Incident"	
I WILL BE LOVED TONIGHT.....	Jennifer
Scene 7: "And Now the Parents"	
HEY THERE, SINGLE GUY/GAL.....	Jordan, Jennifer
Scene 8: "Satisfaction Guaranteed"	
Scene 9: "I'll Call You Soon (Yeah, Right)"	
HE CALLED ME.....	Jennifer, Company
Scene 10: "Scared Straight"	
Scene 11: CANTATA REPRISE #1.....	Company
WEDDING VOWS.....	Company

ACT II

Scene 1: CANTATA REPRISE #2.....	Robert, Jennifer
ALWAYS A BRIDESMAID.....	Melissa
Scene 2: "Whatever Happened to Baby's Parents?"	
THE BABY SONG.....	Jordan
Scene 3: "Sex and the Married Couple"	
MARRIAGE TANGO.....	Robert, Melissa
Scene 4: "The Family that Drives Together..."	
ON THE HIGHWAY OF LOVE.....	Company
Scene 5: "Waiting"	
WAITING TRIO.....	Melissa, Robert, Jennifer
Scene 6: CANTATA REPRISE #3.....	Jordan, Jennifer
SHOULDN'T I BE LESS IN LOVE WITH YOU?.....	Robert
Scene 7: "The Very First Dating Video of Rose Ritz"	
Scene 8: "Funerals are for Dating"	
I CAN LIVE WITH THAT.....	Jordan, Melissa
Scene 9: "Epilogue"	
I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE (FINALE).....	Company



LORI DECTER WRIGHT
General Director & CEO

Lori Decter Wright is an unwavering champion of the arts and its profound ability to elevate and enrich individuals and communities. Her lifelong commitment revolves around pursuing artistic excellence, educating and engaging communities, and fostering equitable access for diverse populations. Her dedication to the company extended to leading the Fundraising Committee and serving on both the Board Development and Strategic Planning Committees. In October 2023, she was appointed by the Board of Directors as the General Director and CEO, a testament to her vision and leadership. As a multifaceted professional artist, educator, entrepreneur, and executive leader, Ms. Decter Wright envisions a world where the arts are accessible to all. She is committed to offering captivating classical vocal performances and innovative storytelling of the highest artistic caliber. An award-winning soprano, Ms. Decter Wright has graced the stages of world-class opera companies and symphonies across the United States and abroad. She holds a Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts Degree in Vocal Performance from San José State University, where she was mentored by Dr. David Rohrbaugh and late, great world-renowned mezzo-soprano, Miss Irene Dalis.



AARON BECK
Artistic Director

Aaron Beck joined the team at Tulsa Opera, the twelfth-oldest opera company in the United States, in 2010, and was appointed Artistic Director in 2022. As Artistic Director, Beck oversees the extensive artistic programs of the company, which include the annual mainstage productions, the Filstrup Resident Artist Program, the Tulsa Opera Orchestra, the Tulsa Opera Chorus, the Tulsa Opera Signature Chorale, and the Tulsa Youth Opera, and he collaborates on dozens of annual outreach performances. As a native of southwest Missouri and an adopted Tulsan, Beck affirms a revitalized commitment to both local and international artists, bringing the best of both worlds together in Tulsa's premiere performing arts organization. The son of music teachers, Beck feels a strong commitment to the education of those students who will create the future of music. Under his leadership, Tulsa Opera's education programs have grown to reach thousands of students and teachers annually across Oklahoma and the surrounding region. Beck is Music Director of Tulsa Youth Opera, Tulsa Opera's prestigious vocal music training program for students in grades 3-12. Over forty Tulsa-area students receive free training through this program. Under Beck's baton, Tulsa Youth Opera students have presented productions ranging from Menotti's *Amahl and the Night Visitors* to Dean Burry's *The Hobbit*. Additionally, in 2017-2018, Beck spearheaded the development of Tulsa Opera's Raise Your Voice program (now the Raise Your Voice Tour), bringing vocal music to disadvantaged schools throughout Oklahoma. Beck received his Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance from the Manhattan School of Music (with additional studies at the Eastman School of Music) and a Master of Music in Opera

Coaching from Florida State University. He lives in northeast Oklahoma with his wife and two children.



LYNDON MEYER
Music Director
Principal Pianist

Lyndon Meyer is a Tulsa-based pianist and conductor. He has served as chorus director, assistant conductor, principal pianist, and vocal coach for the Tulsa Opera since 2014. As a vocal coach, Mr. Meyer has held positions at the University of Oklahoma, Michigan State University, and the Eastman School of Music, as well as at the Florida Grand Opera, the OK Mozart International Festival, and in Urbana, Italy. In February 2019, he made his professional conducting debut for Heartland Opera's production of *La bohème*. In the world of music theatre, he has directed numerous productions around the country and has served as staff accompanist for the annual Lotte Lenya competition since 2009. Mr. Meyer also appears frequently as a recitalist and chamber musician throughout the region. In Tulsa, he holds the post of Director of Music at the Church of Saint Mary and appears as a guest choral conductor and clinician, in addition to maintaining an active coaching studio. Mr. Meyer is a graduate of the University of Arkansas (BM) and the Eastman School (MM).



JEREMY STEVENS
Stage Director

Jeremy Stevens is currently the Director of Community Engagement at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center after serving 10 years as a public-school choral educator for Union Public Schools and Broken Arrow Public Schools. Jeremy has a Voice and Piano performance and Theatre Arts degree from Arkansas Tech University. He recently appeared on stage as Mayor Shinn in Theatre Tulsa's January 2022 production of *The Music Man* and served as director for *The Chinese Lady* with World Stage Theatre Co. A strong advocate for the arts, Jeremy has worked as either a director or a performer for most of his life and values the educational process that it develops in all participants. His mission at the Tulsa PAC is to continue to make the arts accessible to all and to remove obstacles that once prohibited complete participation in the arts in all communities. Jeremy lives in Broken Arrow with his husband Alan and their Shetland sheepdog, Hallie.



NATALIE GRACE TAYLOR
Jennifer

Natalie Grace Taylor has been performing her entire life. You may have recently seen her in Theatre Tulsa's *Annie* as Star to Be, *Kinky Boots* as Pat, or Overture Musical Theatre Training's *Ruthless!* as Lita Encore. Natalie is a Vocal Performance graduate from Oklahoma City University. She is delighted to return to Tulsa Opera after appearing in the Tulsa Opera Chorus in last February's production of *Aida*. She is so excited to join this talented cast and crew.

**SAM BRIGGS****Robert**

Tulsa Native, Sam Briggs, is ecstatic to return to the Tulsa Opera stage after an exciting turn as Jack in *Into the Woods* last spring. He has performed alongside the incredibly talented Kelli O'Hara with the OKC Philharmonic, headlined concerts with the Signature Symphony at TCC, "dazzled" crowds singing with the St. Luke's Broadway Orchestra and was one of the last cowboys to grace the stage at Discoveryland! in the company's closing season. A frequent cabaret artist, Sam wrote, directed, and starred in sell-out shows of *A Knight of Musical Theatre* and *It Takes Two*. He won top prize in Tulsa SINGS! with the Signature Symphony in 2019 and was honored with a TATE (Tulsa Award for Theatre Excellence) for his work in Theatre Tulsa's *Amadeus*. Sam was a semifinalist in the 2024 John Alexander National Vocal Competition with Opera Mississippi. As a producer, Sam spearheaded the Oklahoma premieres of Paul Gordon & John Caird's *Daddy Long Legs* and StarKid's *The Trail to Oregon!* As a member of the Tulsa Opera Filstrup Resident Artist Program Sam has sung across NE Oklahoma and has worked with wonderful artists such as Leona Mitchell, Lucia Lucas, and Barbara McAlister. Selected credits: George (*Sunday in the Park...*), Jervis (*Daddy Long Legs*), Anthony (*Sweeney Todd*), Curly (*Oklahoma!*), Marius (*Les Mis*), and Jamie (*My Fair Lady*) directed by THE Tony Walton. Film/TV: *Heaven's Date*, *The Story Behind the Story*, *Centuries Collide*. B.M. from the University of Oklahoma. I Love You, You're Perfect, NEVER change to Robert, Dot, the Fam, the Cast and Crew! @sambriggs_vfinal

**PAIGE DICKEY****Melissa**

Paige Grilliot Dickey holds a Bachelor of Music in Education from the University of Arkansas and a Master of Music in Opera Performance from Oklahoma City University. Paige has been a longtime member of the Tulsa Opera Chorus where she also performs frequently as an Outreach Artist through the Filstrup Resident Artist Program. Paige was a young artist performer with both the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival and the Castleton Music Festival. An equal lover of musical theatre, Paige has enjoyed performing with local theatre companies, appearing most recently as Ghost of Christmas Past in ATC's *A Christmas Carol*. As a highly respected educator, Paige has worked as a high school music teacher and choir director, a collegiate instructor of voice, and, currently, as the elementary music teacher at Mayo Demonstration Elementary of TPS, a position she is thrilled to hold. Paige is so thankful for the support of her husband, Andy, their precious baby boy, Marty, and their perfect dogs, Luna and Mulligan.

**ANDREW BARKER****Jordan**

Andrew is an actor and singer who has performed on Tulsa stages for 10 years. After graduating with a degree in Journalism from Oklahoma Baptist University, he auditioned for the Tulsa Opera Chorus on a whim and accidentally fell in love with the stage. He received classical voice training after college but learned most of what he knows from watching Judy Garland videos on YouTube. Recent roles include Gerry in *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, Charlie in *Kinky Boots*, and Jesus in *Godspell*. He has performed in numerous productions with Tulsa Opera and is excited to be a part of this incredibly talented cast!

**SUSAN FENRICH****Stage Management**

Susan Fenrich was born and raised in NE Oklahoma. She is an award-winning stage manager in Tulsa and graduated with a BA in Theatre from NSU. Notable past works include *The Little Mermaid Jr.* (Theatre Tulsa), *Sid the Serpent Who Wanted to Sing* (Tulsa Opera), *The Trail to Oregon!*, *The Revolutionists* (World Stage Theatre Co.), *Sunday in the Park with George* (ATC), and *Intoxication* (Heller Theatre Co. Double Feature 2022). She currently serves as the Production Manager for Heller's Second Sunday Serials. She would like to thank the local theatre community for all their support and constant love, her family and friends for their support and patience, and YOU for supporting local art and artists.

**RANDY BLAIR****Costume Designer**

Randy Blair has been designing costumes for 55 years. He recently designed *Into the Woods* for Tulsa Opera last spring. He served 15 years as the costumer and instructor for the Tulsa Community College Theatre Department where his designs ranged from classic works to major musicals. Locally he has worked with Tulsa Little Theatre/Theatre Tulsa, American Theatre Company, the University of Tulsa, and Shakespeare in the Park. Regionally he has worked at Coconut Grove Playhouse, Alley Theatre, Westport Country Playhouse and Broadway. Randy is a member of IATSE Local 904.

**NICHOLAS MUELLER****Lighting Designer**

Nicholas Mueller is very excited to be a part of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* with Tulsa Opera, his Tulsa and regional debut as a lighting designer. He has previously worked with Tulsa Opera on *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, *The Medium* and *Into the Woods* as Head of Props. Nicholas is a graduate of The University of Tulsa where he received his BA in Musical Theatre and Arts Management. He wants to thank his girlfriend Prudence, his parents John and Kristina, and his sister Maddie for always supporting him.

DONOR RECOGNITION

President's Council

Founded by R. Thomas Seymour, President's Council provides Tulsa Opera financial strength to promote artistic excellence. It convenes three times annually for elegant evenings, featuring intimate performances of opera stars.

For information on enrollment send an email to development@tulsaopera.com. Special thanks to all our 2023-2024 members.

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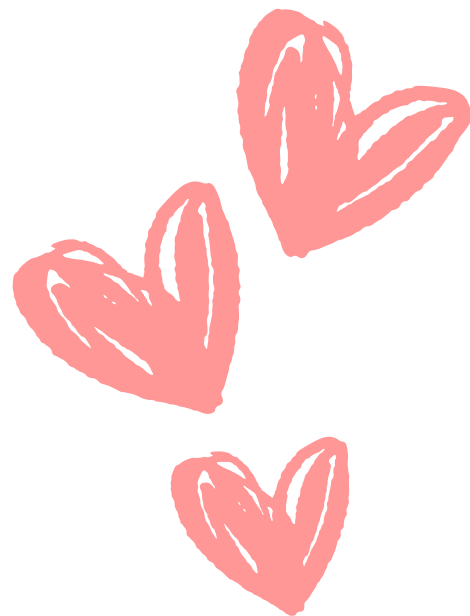
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Mrs. Dave Sylvan (Barbara)*
Ms. Barbara McAlister
Ms. Ann Barker Ong
Mrs. Amanda McCollough
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Mrs. Kate Davis & Mr. Mike McCue



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