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Music by Alan Menken

Lyrics by Glenn Slater

Book by Cheri Steinkellner & Bill Steinkellner

Additional Book Material Douglas Carter Beane

Based on the Touchstone Pictures Motion Picture "Sister Act" written by Joseph Howard

Orchestrations by Doug Besterman

Vocal and Incidental Music Arrangements by Michael Kosarin

Dance Music Arrangements by Mark Hummel

Produced on Broadway by Whoopi Goldberg & Stage Entertainment in association with The Shubert Organization and Disney Theatrical Productions

Originally Production Developed in Association with Peter Schneider & Michael Reno and Produced by Stage Entertainment

SISTER ACT

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

Creative Team

Harold Kranick Director

Chelsea Kramer Herrema Vocal Director/Assistant Director

Joedy M. Annis Choreographer

Katlyn Kranick Stage Manager

Kerr Anderson Set Designer

Betsy Willis Set Dresser

Kathy Verstraete Costumer Designer

Nan Worthington/Bernadette Groppuso Props Lead

Bill Fishburn Lighting Designer

Karla Fishburn Sound Designer

Gary Bolton Production Manager

<u>Musical Numbers</u>

ACT I

Take Me to Heaven
Fabulous, Baby!
Here Within These Walls
It's Good to Be a Nun
When I Find My Baby
I Could Be That Guy
Here Within These Walls - Reprise
Raise Your Voice
Take Me to Heaven

ACT II

Sunday Morning Fever
Lady in the Long Black Dress
I Haven't Got a Prayer
Bless Our Show
The Life I Never Led
Fabulous Baby! - Reprise
Sister Act
When I Find My Baby - Reprise
The Life I Never Led - Reprise
Sister Act - Reprise
Spread The Love Around

<u>Orchestra</u>

Music Director/Conductor

Carol Purcell

Janelle Clouse Assistant Music Director
Paulette Parsons Keyboard I
Carol Man Lee Keyboard II
Roland Woodring Drums
Jerry Enders Percussion
Abi Umstead Bass
Scott Hawkins/Jeff Winkler Guitar
Peter Deneen/Lisa Dills Reed I
Susan Hoekstra/Steve Winkler Reed II
Connor Boyle Trumpet I
Mike Green/Rachel Leatherman Trumpet II
Mitchell Ronk Trombone

A Note from the Director...

Sister Act is a feel-good show that reminds us we're all a little messy, a little loud, and totally human—and that's okay! With a little faith, a lot of love, and maybe some gospel flair, we can grow, change, and find where we truly belong.

Being the director of such a great show has been an incredibly rewarding experience. Watching the cast and crew grow, collaborate, and bring this story to life with heart, humor, and dedication has been nothing short of inspiring. It's a privilege to guide such a talented group and to see our collective hard work culminate in a performance that truly resonates with audiences. I'm proud of every single person involved and grateful to be part of something so special.

So get ready to clap, laugh, and groove along with the fabulous cast of Sister Act!

Harold Kranick Director



OTP

CELEBRATING



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2025-2026 SEASON

MAINSTAGE



<u>Cast</u>

Deloris Van Cartier	. Savannah Beale-McConnell
Mother Superior	Cathy Louis
Sister Mary Robert	Lilianna Sosa Dunn
Sister Mary Patrick	Jerilyn Fortier
Sister Mary Lazarus	Nan Worthington
Sister Mary Martin-of-Tours	Kathleen Murdock
Sister Mary Theresa	Cindy Lyons Miller
Monsignor O'Hara	Michael Spry
Curtis	Jimmy Scollin
Eddie Souther	Hayden Northrup
עד	Jacob Diebold Pointon
Pablo	James Allen
Joey	Adam Schroer
Michelle	Tamara DePonio
Tina	Terésa Hirt Jones
Ernie	JP Lapp

EnsembleCandice Dunn, Cheryl Gallas, Robbin Flask, Kathie Johnson



James Allen



Savannah Beale-McConnell



Tamara DePonio



Candice Dunn



Robbin Flask



Cathy Louis



Cindy Lyons Miller



Kathleen Murdock



Hayden Northrup



Jacob Diebold Pointon

<u>Cast Biographies</u>

James Allen (Pablo) Occupation: USCG Helicopter Flight Mechanic. OTP Debut!

"From the mean streets of Baltimore, MD, I found myself a scorned and broken man, left tattered and torn. Now, emerging from the wreckage, like a phoenix rising from ashes, I've found myself meaning and purpose to this wretched life at the Old Town Playhouse, my new home. A star is born!"

Savannah Beale-McConnell she/her (Deloris Van Cartier)

Occupation: Bartender/Server, OTP Debut!

Savannah is ecstatic to make her Old Town Playhouse debut as Deloris Van Cartier-a dream role she's been belting in the shower since high school. Originally from both Traverse City and Cape Coral, Florida, Savannah was active in theatre and choir throughout high school before attending Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ. She extends heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported her musical journey and a special shoutout to her incredibly talented castmates-now new friends. This marks her first show in five years, and she couldn't be happier to be back on stage doing what she loves. Offstage, Savannah enjoys crafting cocktails, hiking, and spending time with her mini schnauzer, Keanu.

Tamara DePonio she/her (Ensemble) Occupation: Regional Branch Manager 4Front Credit Union. Previously at OTP: Chicago (Ensemble, Velma Understudy), Spamalot (Choreographer), Mary Poppins (Choreographer), Shrek (Ensemble)

Tamara's first exposure to the arts was ballet at age four at Story Book Nursery School in Detroit. By fourth grade, she was training seriously at Fuller's and later Ziggy Johnson's Schools of Dance. At 14, she attended a summer intensive with the Dance Theatre of Harlem. While at the University of Michigan, she spent much of her time with the School of Dance, performing alongside dance majors while also pursuing theatre. Since moving to Traverse City, Tamara has acted, danced, sung, choreographed, assistant directed, and competed in more than 20 Old Town Playhou'se productions. Most recently, she appeared in Chicago (2022) as part of the ensemble and understudy for Velma. She is thrilled to join the cast and crew of Sister Act.



Jerilyn Fortier



Cheryl Gallas



Terésa Hirt Jones



Kathie Johnson



JP Lapp



Adam Schroer



Jimmy Scollin



Lilianna Sosa Dunn



Michael Spry



Nan Worthington

Cast Biographies

Candice Dunn *she/her* (Ensemble) Occupation: Dialysis Technician. OTP Debut!

Candice Dunn is a mom who loves to spend her free time curled up with a good book. She was tricked into auditioning for Sister Act by her oldest child, Alex Dunn, after they were in *The Addams Family Musical* this past spring—but hasn't regretted a single second of it! She's thrilled to be part of this joyful production and grateful for the unexpected nudge onto the stage. "Hoping to make my family proud!"

Robbin Flask (Ensemble) Occupation: Children's Department Manager at Blue Vase Books. OTP Debut!

Robbin is a total musical theatre nut who has been kept away from performing for far too long. After she and her husband moved to Traverse City, she knew she had to get involved at OTP. When she is not rocking the convent, she is spending time with family, reading, and goofing off with her fabulous work family. Robbin is extremely thankful for her wonderful husband, Isaac for pushing her to get back into the things she loves. She hopes that her experience shows everyone that it's never too late to pursue your passions! P.S - Lucy June, Aunt Robbie hopes to see you up here with her one day!

Jerilyn Fortier (Sister Mary Patrick) Occupation: Registered Nurse. Previously at OTP: *The Christmas Schooner* (Storyteller), *Grease* (Ensemble) Jerilyn is a TC native, who has been singing and dancing for as long as she can remember, but mostly for herself! She did some musical theater in High School, then let family and career take center stage. She was a member of the award-winning Grand Traverse Show Chorus for 11 years, which is women's a capella barbershop. Jerilyn is so thrilled to be a part of this amazing show! She would like to thank her husband and son for their support and love.

Cheryl Gallas (Ensemble) Occupation: Retired Choral Music Teacher, Grand Haven Area Public Schools. Previously at OTP: *The Christmas Schooner* (Ensemble)

Cheryl's love of musical theatre began here at Old Town Playhouse back in 1976 working stage crew for 1776. She began assistant music directing under the tutoring of Tom Stokes in *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Kismet* (thanks, Tom). Life took Cheryl to the West Michigan area directing and acting in many productions from Muskegon to Holland. Cheryl says it's been great returning to her roots and is enjoying this production very much. She has two children Rusty and Claire and lives in TC with her loving and talented husband Russell.

Terésa Hirt Jones she/her (Tina/Ensemble) Occupation: Special Education Assistant, TCAPS. Previously at OTP: A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Lady Eugenia), Waitress (Ensemble/Norma Understudy), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Mrs. Potts), The Christmas Schooner (Martha)

Terésa is thrilled to be back on the OTP stage! The community here has been incredibly welcoming and supportive since her first show in the spring of 2023. It has become that "third place" we all need in our lives. Along with acting in MainStage shows, Terésa has had the opportunity to work as a music director for Young Company on shows like Finding Nemo, Jr. and Frozen Kids, which have been consistent highlights for her. When not on stage or working with exceptional children, Terésa is an avid tatter. She never leaves home without her shuttle and thread in her pocket!

Cast Biographies

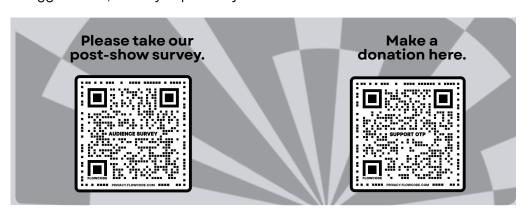
Kathie Johnson (Ensemble) Occupation: Costume and Theatrical special effect prop and puppet design and builder. OTP Debut! New to Traverse City, but not new to the stage, Kathie has been seen in numerous musical theater and ballet productions in Grand Rapids and Chicago. You might have also caught a glimpse of her on Chicago Fire, Chicago PD and Chicago MED. But her favorite thing to is build larger than life puppetry for the stage. She builds Dragons and more.

JP Lapp (Ernie) Occupation: Coach, Traverse City Fencing Club. OTP Debut! John-Paul serves as a coach at Traverse City Fencing Club and is thrilled to make his acting debut with this production. As a newcomer to the theater community, he's excited to contribute to an amazing show that brings joy and positivity to audiences. When he's not teaching the art of swordplay, John-Paul is discovering that the discipline and precision he brings to fencing translates beautifully to the stage.

Cathy Louis she/her (Mother Superior) Occupation: Retired boutique manager. Previously at OTP: The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon (Holly), The Christmas Schooner (Oskar), Radium Girls (Dr. Flynn), Something Rotten! (Lord Clapton, Master of Justice) and lots of backstage roles in between!

Cindy Lyons Miller (Sister Mary Theresa) Occupation: Retired. Previously at OTP: Lend Me A Soprano (Bellhop/Beverly), The Savannah Sipping Society (Randa Covington), Elf (Mrs. Claus/Ensemble), A Christmas Carol (Ensemble) This is Cindy's sixth main stage show with OTP. Some of Cindy's favorite roles include Randa Covington in Savanah Sipping Society and Mrs. Bumbrake in Peter and the Starcatcher here at OTP, Miss Hannigan in Annie and Rose in Gypsy with the Lansing Civic Players, and with the Central Park Players in Grand Haven, Marilla Cuthburt in Anne of Green Gables. When she's not on stage, Cindy enjoys outdoor activities, especially pickleball. A special thanks goes to her loving husband, Mike, for all his support.

Kathleen Murdock (Sister Mary Martin-of-Tours) Previously at OTP: *The Addams Family* (Ancestor /Ensemble), *Radium Girls* (Sob Sister) Kathleen has been trying to be an actress since she was born. Her first rejection was as a baby for a commercial, where she and her mom got kicked out of the hotel where the tryouts were happening for her mom taking those little bars of soap off the housekeeping carts to shut her up. More recently, she was featured in the movie *Love*, *Weddings*, *and other Disasters* starring Maggie Grace, which you probably haven't seen because it was terrible.



<u>Cast Biographies</u>

Hayden Northup he/him (Eddie Souther) Occupation: Tech Guy. Previously at OTP: The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon (Sven), The Wedding Singer (George), Something Rotten! (Francis Flute), Chicago (Énsemble) Hayden first began singing by mimicking chiptune music from a Gameboy. "Look at me now mom and dad; all those video games were good for something."

Jacob Diebold Pointon he/him (TJ) Occupation: Marine Technician. Previously at OTP: The Prince of Egypt (Spotlight Operator), The Addams Family (Assistant Manager), The Wedding Singer (Assistant Director), Something Rotten!

(Assistant Stage Manager)

Jacob has been backstage at the OTP for the past five years and is now thrilled to step into the spotlight in Sister Act! Returning to the stage for the first time since middle school, he's had an incredible time singing, dancing, and sharing the experience with friends, old and new. Outside of OTP, Jacob stays busy helping with dance recitals, working in the woodshop, or out on the water sailing. He's grateful to OTP for the opportunity and the supportive, creative community it offers. Next up, Jacob is excited to be Co-Directing The Drowsy Chaperone - auditions February!

Adam Schroer he/him (Joey) Occupation: Semi-retired construction worker. OTP Debut!

Adam is a proud dad of three awesome humans. His musical influence is rooted by an early childhood in church as the son of a preacher man. He was diagnosed with brain cancer in 2011. Although the battle continues, Adam feels beyond blessed to be in good health day by day. This production of Sister Act is his debut introduction to musical theater. Adam's passion to explore new adventures in life has led him to this thrilling chapter in his story. Adam is incredibly grateful to all those at OTP for supporting this new experience with open arms.

Jimmy Scollin he/him (Curtis) Occupation: Inside Sales at Preston Feather Building Centers. Previously at OTP: No Exit (Bellboy), Stage Directions (Fredrich)

Jimmy is passionate about the arts! "From theater, to music, to film, dance, and poetry, the arts are at the core of the human experience. One finds peace in creative expression. I am grateful to have found a space with Old Town Playhouse where I can share this passion amongst like-minded folks. Thank you for supporting this community and enjoy the show!"

Liliana Sosa Dunn she/they (Sister Mary Robert) Occupation: Student. Previously at OTP: Beetlejuice Jr. (Ensemble), A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Woman #1), Ride the Cyclone (Jane Doe), Young Company's 2024

Holiday Cabaret (Soloist)

Liliana's love for theatre began at 12 years old, when they starred as Scuttle in The Little Mermaid Jr. in middle school. Since then, she has dedicated her time to her school's musicals and choirs before graduating from Traverse City Central in 2025. Liliana has only been performing at the Old Town Playhouse for two years, but she's loved the community and every show she's done here. They're currently a student at NMC, where they keep the arts in their life as a music major and chamber singer.

Cast Biographies

Michael Spry (Monsignor O'Hara) Occupation: Retired electrical engineer. Previously at OTP: *The Addams Family* (Ancestor/Ensemble), *Waitress* (Ensemble), *Radium Girls* (various roles), *The Christmas Schooner* (Gustav Stossel)

After getting his start with theatre arts at Michigan State University, this is Michael's 11th production as an actor on the OTP main stage (1976-79 and 2020-present) with additional credits in readers theatre, stage management, set construction, backstage work, and sound & video design. In between theatrical assignments, Michael busies himself with voice, guitar, & drums, and has self-published five books and two novellas (available through Amazon).

Nan Worthington (Sister Mary Lazarus) Occupation: Retired Neonatal Intensive Care Nurse. Previously at OTP: *The Addams Family* (Grandma), *Lend Me A Soprano* (Elena Firenzi), *Ripcord* (Marilyn), *Waitress* (Props) "Life is a wonderful journey. I am thankful for my new sisters and the joy they bring."

<u>Creative Team Biographies</u>

Harold Kranick (Director) Harold is thrilled to bring you a show brimming with laughter, imagination, and heart." It's truly an honor to work alongside such incredibly talented individuals. I can't wait for you to join us and share in the joy as we present Sister Act. Having been part of over 90 productions, I can honestly say this one stands out as a favorite. From the moment you enter the auditorium to the moment you leave, your spirits will be lifted, your heart lightened, and laughter will flow freely. This show is a celebration of joy, and we're so excited to share it with you!"

Chelsea Krammer Herrema (Vocal Director / Assistant Director) Chelsea Kramer Herrema was born and raised in Traverse City and is grateful to have returned to her hometown after living away for twenty years. She is a lifelong performer and has been involved in over fifty stage shows in a variety of roles vocal director, music director, director, assistant director, properties designer, and performer. Chelsea wishes to thank OTP, Wes, and the production team for this exciting and "fabulous" opportunity; voice teachers and choir directors for their gifts and guidance; Dad, Mom, and Sibs for their continued support; Rob for his light and love.

Carol Purcell (Music Director) Carol attended the University of Michigan as an undergrad and received her Bachelors in Oboe Performance. She left Michigan to study with John Mack in Cleveland and ended up getting her Masters in Oboe Performance there because, why get just one impractical degree when you can have two? Carol grew up in a family that was always singing and started taking piano lessons at age 7, and no don't ask how long ago that was. She's studied classical and jazz piano and voice and is old enough not to remember all the stuff she's sung and played in. She is the Music Director at Unity of Traverse City and has been the Choir accompanist for the Kingsley Schools for the past 19 years. Happily, she was introduced (read pushed into) Musical Theater by her husband, drummer Roland Woodring. Now she is hopelessly hooked.

Joedy M. Annis (Choreographer) Joedy is a dancer, choreographer, registered nurse, mom and wife. She has been married to the best man in the world for 28 years with a great son and daughter. "I love them for supporting my love for dance and movement. I praise God for them!"

<u>Creative Team Biographies</u>

Alan Menken (Composer). Theater: God Bless You Mr Rosewater, Little Shop Of Horrors, Real Life Funnies, Atina: Evil Queen Of The Galaxy, Kicks, The Apprenticeship Of Duddy Kravitz, Beauty And The Beast, A Christmas Carol, Weird Romance, King David, Der Glöckner Von Notre Dame, The Little Mermaid, Sister Act, Leap Of Faith, Aladdin and Newsies. Film: Little Shop Of Horrors, The Little Mermaid, Beauty And The Beast, Newsies, Aladdin, Pocahontas, The Hunchback Of Notre Dame, Hercules, Life With Mikey, Lincoln, Home On The Range, Noel, Enchanted, Shaggy Dog, Tangled and Mirror Mirror. Songs: Rocky V, Home Alone 2 and Captain America. Awards: 8 Oscars (19 nominations), 11 Grammys (including Song of the Year), 7 Golden Globes, Tony® (plus 4 nominations), Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, New York Drama Critics, Olivier and London's Evening Standard Award, Drama League. Honors: Songwriter's Hall of Fame, Doctorates from New York University and University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Glenn Slater (Lyrics) co-created Disney's 2010 worldwide smash Tangled (2011 Grammy Winner, 2010 Oscar and Golden Globe nominee), as well as the Broadway and international hit musicals Sister Act (2011 Tony nominee - Best Score) and The Little Mermaid (2008 Tony nominee - Best Score, Grammy nominee - Best Cast Album), and, most recently School of Rock (2015). With longtime collaborator Alan Menken, he is Executive Producer and Lyricist for the ABC-TV musical comedy series Galavant, and has also written songs for the Disney animated film *Home On The Range* (2004) and the Broadway musical Léap of Faith (Tony nominee - Best Musical, 2012). In the West End, Glenn provided both book and lyrics for Andrew Lloyd Webber's Love Never Dies (2010 Olivier nominee - Best Musical), the sequel to Phantom of the Opera. Other work includes an Emmy-nominated song for the ABC-TV comedy The Neighbors (2013), and the stage revue Newyorkers at The Manhattan Theatre Club (Lucille Lortel, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle nominations). Glenn is the recipient of the prestigious Kleban Award for Lyrics, the ASCAP/Richard Rogers New Horizons Award, and the Jonathan Larson Award. He is an alumnus of the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop, and a member of both ASCAP and the Dramatists' Guild.

Cheri Steinkellner (Book) has won four Emmy Awards, two Golden Globes, The People's Choice, BAFTA, Writers Guild Award, Parents Choice and TV-Land Legend Awards, for writing and producing Cheers (recently named one of the Top 10 Best Written Comedies in TV history), and The Jeffersons, Facts of Life, Family Ties and Who's The Boss, and for creating the acclaimed Disney animated Saturday morning TV series and feature film, Teacher's Pet. A 2011 Tony-nominee for Sister Act (with husband Bill Steinkellner, Alan Menken and Glenn Slater); Cheri has also written Princesses (with Bill, David Zippel and Matthew Wilder); and book and lyrics for Mosaic (with Georgia Stitt), and Jailbirds on Broadway (with Bill and Jeff Rizzo). Other stage includes Our Place, and Instaplay - L.A. s original - and longest-running - improvised musical-comedy. An Indy Award winner and Ovation nominee for Hello! My Baby, Cheri currently teaches writing at Stanford and UCSB and directs youth theatre in beautiful Santa Barbara, where she and Bill raised their three favorite children/writers/ artists: Kit, Teddy, and Emma.

Bill Steinkellner (Book) Award-winning television and screen writer: *Cheers* and Disney's *Teacher's Pet* (Emmys, Golden Globes, BAFTAS, Writers Guild and People's Choice Awards). Book writer (with wife, Cherri): *Sister Act* the Musical (London Palladium, Hamburg, Broadway 2011), *Princesses* (Goodspeed, 5th Avenue). Writer/director (with Paul Reubens): the original *Pee-wee Herman Show* (Groundlings, Roxy Theatre, HBO). Creator/director: *Instaplay*, L.A.'s first all-improvised musical-comedy. Author: the L.A. Times bestseller *Postcards From the Moon*.

<u>Production Team</u>

Set Construction/Painting: Nancy Albrecht, John Baylor, Bob Coltman, Steve Gaines, Annie Moeser, Chuck Moeser, Arnie Taddia, Clare Shipstead, Jill Bert, Colin Bohash, Barbara Disborough, Judy Heffron

Costumes: Diane Hubert, Vicki Green, Carrie Walker, Kathie Johnson, Beth Stewart

Backstage Dressers: Alex Dunn, Hannah Gordon, Erin Pardo, Joiya Fishburn

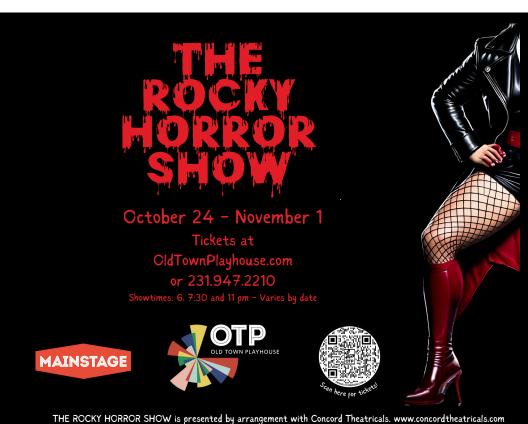
Props: Kathy Stephens, Geri Burden

Sound: Chloe Flatley

Lighting Team: AJ Fewins, Colleen Hill-Rakunas, Chelsea Kaye, Stephanie Wesley, Ian McGurn, Addison McGurn, Ben Diebold, Kate Wibby, Rico Bastian, Ava Demorow, Audrey Demorow

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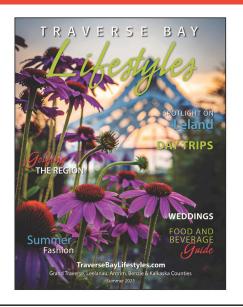
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November 22 | Tree Lighting & Light Parade

November 22-December 24 | Santa's House

November 28-29 | Black Friday & Small Business Saturday

December 4 | Ladies' Night

December 11 | Men's Night

December 18 | Wrap It Up Shopping Night



Hosted by: Downtown Traverse City Association

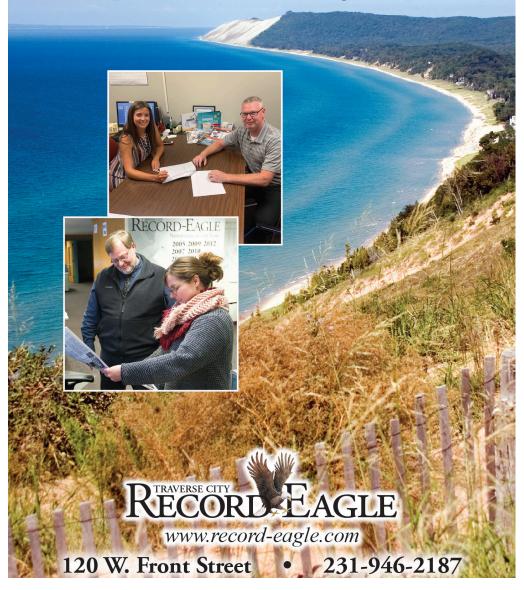




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Katelyn Wilson (25-28)
Deb Jackson (OTP Executive Director)
Wes Curry (OTP Artistic Director)

Staff

Deb Jackson, Executive Director
Wes Curry, Artistic Director
Gary Bolton, Production Resource Manager
Katie Clark, Business Manager
Melissa May, Education Program Manager
Jim Muratzki, Box Office Manager
Phil Murphy, Graphics & Marketing Support
Jena Van Wagner, Marketing Manager
Aaron Wineman, Building Resources





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