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## ROCKY HORROR SHOW

### Book, Music and Lyrics by Richard O'Brien

#### THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW

is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals www.concordtheatricals.com

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A small-town city council meeting unravels into revelations in this dark comedy play.

**November 14 - 22** 

Tickets: OldTownPlayhouse.com 231.947.2210

### <u>Musical Numbers</u>

#### **ACT I**

Science Fiction Double Feature
Damn It Janet
Over At the Frankenstein Place
The Time Warp
Sweet Transvestite
The Sword of Damocles
I Can Make You A Man
Hot Patootie
I Can Make You A Man (continued)

#### <u>ACT II</u>

Touch-a Touch-a Touch Me
Once In A While
Eddie's Teddy
Planet Schmanet - Wise Up Janet Weiss
Floorshow / Rose Tint My World
I'm Going Home
Super Heroes
Science Fiction Double Feature (Reprise)

### <u>Orchestra</u>

Music Director/Conductor/Keys
Anthony Bero

Jeff Winkler Guitar
Lyndsay Hunter Saxophone / Synthesizer
Rochelle Currier Bass
Tom Myers Drums



### A Note from the Director...

My first memory of watching *Rocky* was a night in fifth grade, staying at the house of a girl I didn't know I had a crush on, and watching a movie she said she'd watched with her parents. I remember the pit in my stomach watching it for the first time, equal parts thrill and dread, attraction and fear. I remember being just like Brad and Janet, suddenly thrust into somewhere I knew nothing about and was terrified to be enjoying. I also remember confessing in guilt ridden tears the moment I went home that I had seen something I wasn't supposed to see.

Of course, like everything that you see too young, it became a lifelong obsession. In many ways, directing this show is a process of unlearning the guilt of my youth. Not only for watching it, but for liking it. For being queer and horny and strange. Like the often hokie sci-fi films, the show is parodying and like the campy queerness it embraces, *Rocky Horror* is a show that it would be easy to cringe at. But every full production, every shadow cast, and every time seeing it - from the first to the 50<sup>th</sup> - is a chance to unlearn some of the things the world tries to teach us. At *Rocky*, shame and guilt have no place, pleasure is king, and who you are is exactly who you are supposed to be.

Being queer and being strange are two parts of my identity that this show always told me were good, and right. It simply takes being willing to knock on the door in the dark and stormy night. As the world around us seems to get darker and stormier, I realize more and more these parts of me aren't just good, they are necessary. There is community to be found in the strange and unusual, and there's an incredible amount of love to be found heckling a midnight screening of a treasured film. So as Frank says, I ask you to give yourself over to absolute pleasure. Join our cast in dancing to The Time Warp (Again!) and become a wild and untamed thing. You only have this one horrifying and beautiful life. I beg you to spend it being strange and queer and free. I'll try and do the same  $\checkmark$ 

-Aria

## Production Team

Aria Davis Director
Delaney Leach Assistant Director
Leo Buzzell - Bevington Vocal Director
Melissa May / Samantha Fewins Choreographer
Rick Porter Stage Manager
Chuck Moeser Producer
Katie Clark / Mikayla Bosma Set Designer
Betsie Hammerberg Costumer Designer
Alex Warren Props Designer
Bill Fishburn Lighting Designer
Nik VanWagner Sound Designer

### Cast

Usherette	Mia Wallace
Brad	Josiah Starr
Janet	Veronica Diebold Pointon
Narrator	Sav Smith
Riff Raff	Kendall Kotcher
Magenta	Danielle Pelshaw
Columbia	Alex Dunn
Frank 'N' Furter	Ian Schwingendorf
Rocky	Tanner Presswood
Eddie	Cameron Stefanski
Dr. Scott	Jared Oosse

#### **Phantoms**

Mina Cotner, Joiya Fishburn, Camila Garbati, Thor Grebe, Sage Mitchell, Olivia Netzley-Yonan, Jessie Presswood, Stephanie Young



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Mina Cotner



Veronica Diebold Pointon



Alex Dunn



Joiya Fishburn



Camila Garbati



Thor Grebe



Kendall Kotcher



Sage Mitchell



Olivia Netzley-Yonan



Jared Oosse



Danielle Pelshaw



Jessie Presswood



Tanner Presswood



lan Schwingendorf



Sav Smith



Josiah Starr



Cam Stefanski



Mia Wallace



Stephanie Young



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Mina Cotner he/him (Phantom) Occupation: Food Service at Petosky Pretzel Company. Previously at OTP: A Christmas Carol (Tiny Tim), Cameron Mackintosh and Disney's Mary Poppins Jr. (Corry), Seussical Jr. (Thing), Disney's The Lion King Jr. (Zazu)

Like many, Mina has a long history with *Rocky*-having first watched *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* when he was 4 or 5 (all thanks to cultured parents) and subsequently rediscovering it as a teenager. With a passion for cult classics (see: "Phantom of the Paradise") he's thrilled to be part of a living cult tradition!

**Veronica Diebold Pointon** she/her (Janet) Occupation: Dance Teacher and Medical Coder. Previously at OTP: The Prince of Egypt (Yocheved / Choreographer), The Wedding Singer (Choreographer), Something Rotten! (Ensemble), Chicago (Velma Kelly)

Veronica is so thrilled to be a part of this amazing cast. Thank you to Aria and the production team for this awesome experience! "The Rocky Horror Show is a celebration of theatre and our community. 'There's a light' at the OTP for you, no matter what or who you are!"

**Alex Dunn** (Columbia) *he/they* (Columbia) Occupation: Retail Associate at The Grand Traverse Resort. Previously at OTP: *The Addams Family* (Wednesday)

Alex's love for theater sparked at a young age but only got to thrive once he got into middle school theater and choir. Partaking in any school acting activity he could get involved in he worked behind the scenes and performed in Central High Schools productions from 2021-2024. "I'm just a young individual with a passion for storytelling through music!"

Joiya Fishburn they/she (Phantom) Occupation: Retail Optician. Previously at OTP: A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Quick Change Wardrobe Crew), The Addams Family (Wednesday Addams), No Exit (Costume Designer), Waitress (Ensemble/ "Sugar, Butter, Flour" soloist)
Joiya could not be more excited to do The Time Warp with such a fantastic group of weirdos. They've loved this show since the first time they saw The Rocky Horror Picture Show, and have found ways to go see as many versions of the show as possible-including an all-night trip down to Ann Arbor to see a shadow cast on the night of the Michigan vs State game, fighting traffic out of the city afterwards, and making a pit stop to take a nap in a mall parking lot before finishing the drive back to Traverse City. To say they're over the moon to be onstage with this crew would be an understatement. She hopes you love this experience as much as she has and enjoy this wild ride!

Camila Garbati (Phantom) Occupation: Architectural Designer. OTP Debut! Camila Garbati was born and raised in Caracas, Venezuela. She began her musical training as a singer and musician at the age of 5 at her school, The Educational Unit Emil Friedman School, and her dance training at Impetu. Later, Camila joined Tempo Ballet School to continue her ballet education. She moved to the USA in 2021 and joined the theater community in 2023. Since then, she has participated in community theater productions of Welcome to Wonderland and Color Theory. She has also performed in The Commedia Pinocchio, Musical Mayhem, and Bastien und Bastienne at MGCCC, and performed in bigger productions such as The Nutcracker Ballet, Disney's Beauty and the Beast, in which she performed and choreographed; and Newsies. She also co-wrote and directed her first play, The Future in Your Eyes.

Thor Grebe (Phantom) Occupation: Deli Worker. Previously at OTP: The Lion King, Jr (Timon), The Jungle Book (Colonel Hathi), Winne the Pooh (Eeyore),

Disney's Aladdin Jr. (Abu)

Thor has lived in Traverse City his whole life. He has been involved with OTP's Young Company since he was little. However he took a break from theater for a couple years, and is now glad to be back. Thor currently works at a deli and in the future he aspires to be a model. He feels very connected to *The Rocky* Horror Show since he enjoys doing drag and performing on stage.

Kendall Kotcher she/her (Riff Raff) Occupation: Marketing Manager for the National Writers Series. Previously at OTP: The Addams Family (Pugsley), Waitress (Director), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Madame de la Grande

Bouche), Something Rotten! (Peter Quince)

Kendall Kotcher hails from Clarkston, Michigan, and is a proud Spartan-she earned her BFA in Acting from Michigan State and has spent the past nine years working as a professional actor and fight director across the Midwest. "My take on Riff Raff? Picture Squidward meets Pugsley!" Kendall's passion for storytelling and media brought her to Traverse City for the Film Festival, where she found her community in Up North Pride and local arts nonprofits. Fittingly, her first date with her fiancée was at The Rocky Horror Picture Show, where she hosted the Virgin Ceremony. Kendall extends her laser beam of love to her fiancée and chosen family who continue to support her through all the shows she works on. Ken-nect with her @kendallkotcher.

Sage Mitchell he/they (Phantom) Occupation: Teacher. Previously at OTP: Marian: The True Tale of Robinhood (Sheriff / Friar Tuck) Sage is excited to return to the Old Town Playhouse stage to be part of one of his bucket list musicals. Prior to his time at OTP, Sage was involved in several productions in Metro Detroit. When not performing, Sage is (slowly) working on a fantasy novel. He's grateful for another opportunity to avoid doing the thing he said he was going to do. Sage would like to thank his amazing spouse, Tory, for all their support.

Olivia Netzley-Yonan she/her (Phantom) Occupation: Marketing, OTP Debut!

Olivia put off being in the theater long enough! Besides some very intense Baptist Christmas musicals in her childhood, this is her first foray on to the stage. She is a self-taught plunker of the banjo and loves hanging out near rivers and gay bars with her beautiful wife. She is following the brave tradition of her older brother and father who are also involved in community theater.

Jared Oosse he/him (Dr. Scott / Phantom) Occupation: Gardener. Previously at OTP: The Addams Family (Gomez), The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors (Paper / Peach), Radium Girls (Arthur Roeder)

Jared is a gardener for a local company in the Grand Traverse area. Born in Traverse City, Jared didn't begin his OTP career until after graduating from WMU and returning home. Now, Jared is super excited to have become a part of the community, now in his third MainStage production! He would like to give a special thanks to his mom and dad for their constant support in all things theater and to his cat, Cerberus, who teaches him patience every day...

Danielle Pelshaw she/her (Magenta) Occupation: Dental Front Desk. Previously at OTP: The Addams Family (Morticia), Waitress (Jenna's Mom / Ensemble), Radium Girls (Irene / Katherine Wiley), Ripcord (Susan) "'I'm gonna give you some terrible thrills...' and I'm feeling all the thrills being a part of this cast! I played Janet in a live production of this show 10 years ago, so I'm over-the-moon to be living in my Magenta era and experiencing this show from a new, alien lens." This show will forever hold a weird and special place in Danielle's heart. In her free time, if not doing theater, she enjoys time with her little nephew besties, the entire season of fall, and underwater basket weaving. "Say hi to me after the show and tell me about your favorite dinosaur!"

**Jessie Presswood** *she/her* (Phantom) Occupation: Proficiency Testing Specialist. Previously at OTP: *Waitress* (Ensemble / Jenna Understudy), *Black & White Gala* (2005, 2006, 2007)

Jessie grew up in Traverse City and was heavily involved at Old Town Playhouse as a kid/teenager. After taking almost a decade off from performing, she returned to the stage last Fall in the OTP production of Waitress. Jessie graduated from GVSU with a degree in Vocal Performance, and before her hiatus, some of her favorite past roles include Eve in Children of Eden, Maria in The Sound of Music and Amber in Hairspray. She is so happy to have returned "home" to OTP, especially now that she gets to perform with her favorite person, her husband Tanner, who is also in this show!

**Tanner Presswood** he/him (Rocky) Occupation: Video Editor. Previously at OTP: The Prince of Egypt (Moses), Waitress (Ensemble / Dr. Pomatter Understudy)

Tanner is thrilled to be joining this cast and bringing *The Rocky Horror Show* to the Old Town Playhouse stage! This is his third production at the Playhouse, and he can't help but notice that every show he's been in so far has been based on a movie; which makes sense, because he is an avid movie buff. This also feels like a full circle moment for him. When he was nine years old, his first part in a school play was playing one of Cinderella's evil stepsisters, which involved cross dressing. Here he is, back in heels and a corset, and he couldn't be happier! Most of all, Tanner is excited to be doing this show with his amazing and talented wife Jessie.

lan Schwingendorf he/him (Dr. Frank-N-Furter) Occupation: Ophthalmic Technician. Previously at OTP: Chicago (Mary Sunshine) This is a dream role for lan, and he is ecstatic to share his rendition of Frank with Traverse City. Ian dedicates his performance to his sister Tessa, who is his constant inspiration and motivation, who loved him unconditionally... before he even learned to love himself unconditionally, especially in the darkest moments of his life. To Tessa and all who patronize OTP, Ian would like to say, don't dream it, be it.

**Sav Smith** he/they (Narrator) Occupation: Video Editor. OTP Debut! Sav has been doing theater on and off since he was in middle school. With musicians as parents, performing has always been a big part of their life. In addition to theater, they sing and play guitar in a band called "sister/sibling". While they have been in a few plays over the years, this is Sav's first musical in eight years.

**Josiah Starr** he/him (Brad) Occupation: Cook / Bartender. Previously at OTP: The Prince of Egypt (Ensemble), A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Ensemble)

Josiah is thrilled to be playing Brad, his biggest role yet, after performing in his first two OTP shows earlier this year, as well as many previous shows in middle and high school. He is an avid film, music and television fan and has loved *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* since he was 14. He also recently became an uncle for the first time. When not doing theater, he enjoys hiking, swimming, and long walks on the beach.

Cameron Stefanski he/him (Eddie / Phantom) Occupation: Independent Business Owner / Marketing Strategist. Previously at OTP: The Prince of Egypt (Choreographer), Waitress (Assistant Director / Choreographer), The Wedding Singer (Stage Crew), Radium Girls (Stage Crew), Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Ensemble)

Cameron Stefanski is a creative strategist, choreographer, and entrepreneur based in Michigan. He is the founder of 989 Creative Group, where he helps mission-driven brands and nonprofits strengthen their digital presence with authentic, socially conscious marketing. Beyond agency work, Cameron is a passionate advocate for LGBTQ+ inclusion and equity in the creative and business worlds, working to inspire brands and communities to move beyond surface-level allyship. Deeply rooted in the performing arts, he has choreographed and performed in productions across Northern Lower and Southeastern Michigan, New York, Los Angeles, and internationally – blending his love of storytelling on stage with his commitment to building inclusive communities offstage. Whether through marketing, theater, or advocacy, Cameron's work centers on creativity, impact, and connection. Connect with Cam @camstefanski

**Mia Wallace** she/her (Usherette / Ensemble) Occupation: Educator. Previously at OTP: Into the Woods (Cinderella's Mother / Granny), The Full Monty (Vocal Director), Cabaret (Vocal Director), and The Rocky Horror Show [2006] (Vocal Director).

Mia is honored to return to OTP after 15 years overseas in the same show that first inspired her passion for community theatre and activism. She is deeply grateful to this cast for their inclusivity, compassion, and generous spirit throughout the rehearsal process. "Returning to the stage in such a meaningful production has been a grounding and joyful part of my transition back to life in the U.S." Sara extends heartfelt thanks to her friends and family for their unwavering support during this time of change and reconnection.

**Stephanie Young** she/her (Phantom) Occupation: Bank Teller. Previously at OTP: The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon (Joy), Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure (Madge), As Is (Ensemble), Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Suzanne)

Stephanie has been performing her whole life, in many different capacities. Her love for *The Rocky Horror Show* began at a young age and has only grown in adulthood. "It is a dream come true to bring this story to life!" Stephanie's favorite pastime is hanging out with her 10-year-old daughter, with whom she plans to share her love for *Rocky...* when she's a little bit older.

### Creative Team Biographies

**Aria Davis** she/her (Director) Aria serves as the Volunteer Coordinator at the Cherryland Humane Society and is also an avid lover of theater, queerness, and mad science. This is her first MainStage musical, but she loves directing for OTP, and hopes to do it for a long time. She's incredibly grateful for her cast, crew and you, the audience, for joining her on this strange journey. She first saw *Rocky* in the 5th grade and that really explains everything.

**Delaney Leach** she/her (Assistant Director) Delaney is delighted to be a part of this production of *The Rocky Horror Show!* "It has been such a joy to see it come to life!" In her free time (when she's not at the Playhouse) she enjoys reading, crafting, and drinking too much coffee. She'd like to extend her deepest gratitude to Aria for allowing her to be a part of the production. Big thanks to the cast and crew for their amazing work! "It has long been a dream of Rick the Stage Manager to be a part of his show. It's been a thrill to see his dreams come true."

**Leo Buzzell-Bevington** they/them (Vocal Director) Leo is excited to return to the Playhouse with a freshly hyphenated last name! In addition to their work in marketing, Leo is a theater educator through OTP's Young Company and beyond. They had the pleasure of directing the 4-week *Pirates of Penzance Jr.* camp this summer, and they are currently directing the YC production of *The Hobbit* (going up in January!). Beyond their work and volunteering at the Playhouse, Leo is an avid Shakespeare fan, an overly excitable TTRPG player, and a doting spouse to their husband Max! "I have eternal gratitude to the Playhouse for being a space of gathering, community, joy, and music."

**Anthony Bero** (Music Director / Piano) Anthony is a music educator, choir director, and co-founder of Mashup Rock & Roll Musical. This is his third time music directing and playing *The Rocky Horror Show*, though this is his first time performing it at Old Town Playhouse. Anthony is no stranger to OTP. His first production was *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Keyboard III). He's been music director, vocal director and played keyboard, guitar, bass, or ushered for many shows. While all of his OTP shows are special to him, *Little Shop of Horrors, Young Frankenstein, RENT*, and *[title of show]* top his list of favorites. Anthony is profoundly grateful for all the bandmates and friendships he's made here at OTP, but nothing beats the friend he found in his wife, Lesley Tye. "Together, we co-founded Mashup Rock & Roll Musical, which has produced a whole bunch of wonderfully weird art and recently launched a new performance space called The MATCH (Music, Art, and Theater Community Home) in Cherryland Center. This re-purposed former retail space is available to artists and arts organizations that need an affordable place to meet, rehearse, and perform." Contact Anthony through mashuprockandrollmusical.com to learn more.

**Melissa May** she/her (Lead Choreographer) A lifelong performer, Melissa used the theatrical education she received from OTP as a child to work professionally as a young adult. She returned to OTP in 2009 performing in Cats. Her most recent work includes service as Director and Choreographer for 2025's Black and White Gala and The Addams Family, as well as performing in Waitress as Becky. Melissa is also a founding troupe member of Mash Up Rock and Roll. She is very proud of her work over the last five years as Old Town Playhouse's Educational Director, sharing her love of theatre with over 700 Young Company students. She would like to thank her family and friends for their enduring support for this theatrical life she is so fortunate to lead.

### **Production Team**

**Set Construction/Painting / Set Dressing:** Kerr Anderson, Jeff Kroeger, Annie Moeser, Doug Bosma, Bob Coltman, John Herbst, Michael Spry, Arnie Taddia, Dale Wentzloff, Nancy Albrecht, Jill Bert, Colin Bohash, Judy Heffron, Clare Shipstead, Janet Stone

**Backstage Run Crew**: Rio Lopez-Wild (Assistant Stage Manager), Nicole Damveld, Cameron Behl

**Costumes:** Zoe Jackson, Erin Pardo, Cathy Louis, Hannah Gordon, Carolyn Greenman, Kathy Verstraete, Nan Worthington, Meg Pointon, Carrie Walker, Diane Hubert, Remus Throop, Mia Wallace

Hair and Makeup: Chrissine Cairns, Hayley Bowker

Sound: Chloe Flatley (Assistant Sound Designer)

**Lighting Team:** Allison Goldsmith, Colleen Hill-Rakunas, Chelsea Kaye, Jimmy Scollin, Jacob Pointon, Julia Fegan, Kate Cosentino





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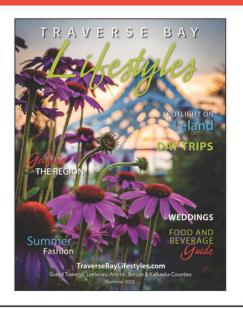
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November 15-December 21 | Jingle Bell Shop

November 22 | Tree Lighting & Light Parade

November 22-December 24 | Santa's House

November 28-29 | Black Friday & Small Business Saturday

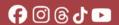
December 4 | Ladies' Night

December 11 | Men's Night

December 18 | Wrap It Up Shopping Night



Hosted by: Downtown Traverse City Association

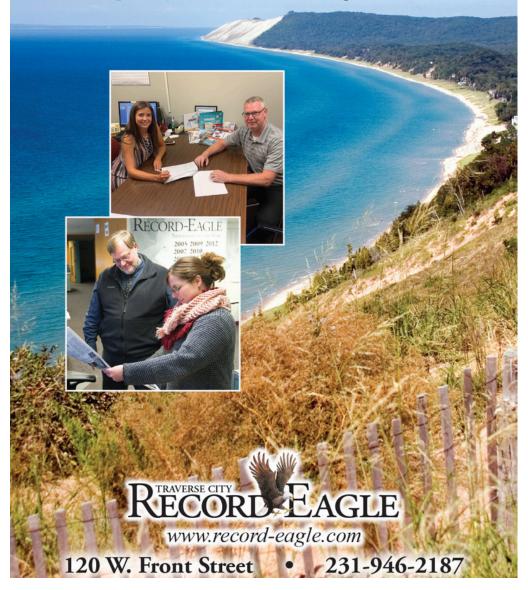




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