



KANIADU

by Jeff Lynne and John Farrar

The Musical

APRIL 14-30, 2023

ABET

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The Musical

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APRIL 14-30, 2023



ABET is sponsored in part by the City of Jacksonville and the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville through the Cultural Service Grant Program.

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THE CAST

Amanda Jackson	Ensemble, Siren, Young Danny, Evil Dancer
Amy Farmer	Melpomene, Medusa
Gary Baker	Calliope, Aphrodite
Greg Dorsey	Danny
Helena Helms	Ensemble, Siren, Evil Dancer
Jacob Pickering	Thalia, Tubes, Cyclops, Evil Dancer
Jennifer O'Brien	Euterpe, Siren, Tubes, Thetis
Jessica Alexander	Erato, Andrews Sister, Eros, Hera
Jimmy Alexander	Zeus, Tubes, Evil Dancer
Jonathan Spencer	Terpsicore, Andrews Sister, Contour
Julie Harrington	Clio/Kira
Mack Moore	Ensemble, Siren, Young Woman, Evil Dancer
Phedre Delinois	Ensemble, Hermes, Tubes, Evil Dancer
Ross Frontz	Sonny
Janisha Ocana	Roller Skater
Belle Shanesy	Roller Skater

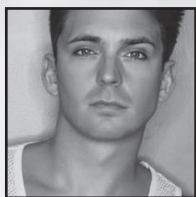
PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Blake Osner
Choreographer	Jocelyn Geronimo
Dance Captain	Amanda Jackson
Musical Director	Christian Nyman
Stage Manager	Susan Roche
Assistant Stage Manager	Ashley Buckley
Skate Instructor/Captain	Sutherland Schneider
Co-Skate Instructor	Otto Herrera
Lighting Design	Ben Sparenberg
Spotlight Operators	David Voss, Jeanie Lijoi
Costumes & Wigs	Lee Hamby
Costume Seamstress	Amy Hancock
Costume Assistant	Jeanie Lijoi
Theatrical Knitter	Laura Peden
Sound Design	The Golden Group
Sound Board Operator	Joey Koepke, Riley Holder
Lighting Board Operator	Aaron Bell , Ashley Buckley
Backstage Crew	Katie Cress, Jean Lijoi, David Voss
Props	Lee Hamby
Xanadu Sign Prop	Brian Barnett
Track Editing	Susan Roche
Set Build Team	Tom Barr, George Kruer, Brian Johnson
Set Painting- CK Painting	Chris Kryceski
House Manager	Susan Roche
Volunteer Coordinator	Maureen Johnson
Publicity Design & Photography	Jonathan Scherf
Production Photography	Jonathan Scherf

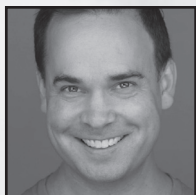
ABOUT THE CAST & CREW



Julie Harrington (Clio/Kira) is thrilled to be performing with this cast in her first show with ABET. Most recently she (almost) appeared as Evelyn Nesbit in *Ragtime*. Her other past credits include Philia in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, Cordelia in *Falsettos*, April in *Company*, Kate Monster in *Avenue Q*, Nancy D in *A New Brain*, and Linoleum in *The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical*. Julie is a Physician Associate at Park Avenue Dermatology. She would like to thank her husband Jeremiah, sons Cole and Grey, and her work family for their love and support.



Ross Frontz (Sonny) After nearly a decade of traveling the world and performing on board Carnival Cruise Ships, Ross is thrilled to make his way back to a Jacksonville stage. You may have seen him in Jacksonville productions of *Rocky Horror* (Brad Majors), *Rent* (Mark Cohen) or more recently in *Bright Star* (Jimmy Ray). Although he will always be passionate about the arts, Ross has recently discovered a new passion of sharing his love for Jacksonville by becoming a REALTOR with Berkshire Hathaway. Please feel free to reach out to him if you are looking to buy, sell, or just have questions regarding the Jacksonville market.



Gary Baker (Calliope) is a local actor, writer, producer, director, and theatre instructor. He is very excited to be a part of *Xanadu* and has been wanting to do this dumb show for a very long time. Gary loves dumb shows, Whether it's playing the size fourteen skin wearing Buffalo Bill in *Silence: The Musical*, or being possessed by Kandarian Demons in *Evil Dead: The Musical*, or trying to help his gay puppet friend find love in *Avenue Q*, Gary will go out of his way to embarrass himself in front of his parents. Speaking of parents, Gary would like to thank them for his sense of humor and letting him watch *the Muppets* and *Hocus Pocus* multiple times as a child.



Amy Farmer (Melpomene) is pleased to be returning to the stage after an almost 3-year hiatus. Some of her most notable and favorite performances include Big Edie/Little Edie in *Grey Gardens* at Theater Jax, Joanne in *Company* with The 5 & Dime, the Beggar Woman in *Sweeney Todd* at PBTS, Trenna in *Ring of Fire* at the Limelight, The Witch from *Into the Woods* at PBTS, and Miss Mona in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* at the Limelight. Amy is so thrilled to be sharing the stage with such a fantastic collection of performers and friends. Big thanks to Rick, Charlotte, Audrey, Julie, Mom, Dad, Matt, Andy, and Kristen for always supporting her and being her biggest cheerleaders!



Jessica Alexander (Erato) Is grateful to be sharing the stage with her best friends & husband. Some of her most recent productions include *Jerry's Girls* at Limelight Theatre (lead), *Rocky Horror Show Live* at 1904 Music Hall (Janet), *American Idiot* at PBTS (Extraordinary Girl), *Oklahoma* at Limelight Theatre (Ado Annie), and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Miss Rosa Bud). Originally from New York, Jessica studied Musical Theatre at Jacksonville University, where she met her husband, & they now run a dental practice called Alexander Dental in Saint Augustine. You may see them onstage next as the mom & dad (Sheryl & Richard Hoover) in *Little Miss Sunshine* at Limelight Theatre. In Jessica's free time, she enjoys working out, nature, spending time with her 3 children & 2 dogs, & traveling.



Greg Dorsey (Danny) is thrilled to dance, sing, skate and perform *Xanadu* with ABET and this amazing cast. Greg recently played Stopnik in *Caroline or Change* at PBTS and Dr. Norquist in ABET's *Bright Star*. After earning his bachelor's in Journalism from the University of Florida, Greg began a career producing and directing award-winning short films and documentaries. He has travelled the world documenting life stories. Greg founded Astoryo Video Creations producing brand stories and films. Greg is beyond grateful to his family for their deep love and support.



Jennifer O'Brien (Euterpe) is thrilled to be onstage at ABET for the first time! She holds an A.S. degree in musical theatre from Florida School of the Arts. She has previously been seen in *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (OPCT), *Silence! the Musical* (The 5 & Dime), *The Laramie Project* (The 5 & Dime,) *Company* (The 5 & Dime,) *Avenue Q* (Amelia Community Theatre,) and *Bye Bye Birdie* (OPCT). She wishes to thank the entire cast, crew, and creative team of this show for this wonderful experience! Thanks and love to my biggest supporters - James, Aaron, and Jordan!



Jacob Pickering (Thalia) is thrilled to return to ABET as the Greek Muse Thalia in one of the most funny, exciting and feel-good musicals of all-time, *Xanadu!* Performance credits include Linus in *SNOOPY! the Musical* (ABET) Grasshopper in *James and the Giant Peach the Musical* (ABET) and Phil D'Armano in *Andrew Lippa's The Wild Party* (Players by the Sea). Jacob encourages everyone to support the performing arts in our community as often as possible. "In loving memory of my Aunt Nancy."



Jonathan Spencer (Terpiscore) is coming out of retirement with his last documented show dating back to 2019 B.C.XIX. So much has happened since then but who cares about that! He's just thrilled to be almost 40 and still be able to roller skate. He's equally as thrilled to join this amazing cast, some of whom he has performed along side with in his prime! He wants to thank his friends and family, especially his husband and children for loving him just as he is. That's why they are all here right, to see him twirl around on this stage in skates in a show about...



Jim Alexander (Ensemble) is very grateful to be back on the ABET stage. He couldn't have wished for a better cast and creative team. Past shows include *Parade* (Old Soldier/various), *A Funny Thing Happened... (Miles)*, *American Idiot* (St. Jimmy), *Rocky Horror* (Rocky/Riff), *Mystery of Edwin Drood* (John Jasper), *Rent* (Ensemble/Collins). In his free time he loves to travel the world, fly planes, scuba, bungee, ride motorcycles, and pretty much anything else that can get you killed. Shout out to Blake for his vision and leadership and his amazing family: it's never boring!



Phedre Delinois (Ensemble) has accomplished many different achievements in the arts, however, this is his first foray into theater. Born in Sunrise, FL raised in the River City, Phedre's warm personality and talent are meant to delight all who interact with him. An artist by trade, Phedre enjoys painting, singing, writing, and all things creative and expressive. If you want to see more, please follow on Instagram @hephocused06



Helena Helms (Ensemble) is a native of Jacksonville Beach, FL. She grew up performing in several summer shows for Y-BAG (Youth of the Beaches Arts Guild) including *Oklahoma* (Gertie), *Music Man*, and *Barnum* (Jenny Lind). She holds a degree in music from Florida State University where she performed in *Madame Butterfly* and *Don Giovanni*. While in Tallahassee, she participated in the Thomasville community theater performance of *Once Upon a Mattress* (Princess Winifred). This is Helena's debut with ABET. Special thanks to Karen Bruce Coughlin who encouraged her to and through the audition.



Amanda Jackson (Young Danny/Ensemble) is happy to be back on stage with ABET again. Her last ABET performance was *James and the Giant Peach*. Most recently she was seen in the PBTS production of *Mary Poppins*. Other local credits include PBTS's *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* as Tintinabula, PBTS's *Pontypool* as Sidney Briar, and Theatre Jax's *Something Rotten*. Amanda has been staying quite busy with work, graduate school, and theatre. She would like to thank Matt, her handsome boyfriend with the Magnum P.I. stache, for all his love and support.



Mack Moore (Ensemble) is so honored to be a part of *Xanadu*! This is their first show at ABET and they couldn't have asked for a more "magical" cast and crew! Mack is currently a senior in musical theatre at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts. You may have seen them recently in *Chicago* (Mona), *A Chorus Line* (Kristine), *Charlotte's Web* (Goose), and *Little Women* (Beth). They hope you enjoy the show!



Otto Herrera (Co-Skate Instructor) A professional Roller Skater and Instructor. Born in Jacksonville Florida, Otto was introduced to skating by his mother and has been roller skating since age 4. Currently Otto provides structured and unstructured lessons at Mandarin Skate Station in Jacksonville Florida. Otto's skill sets include; Basic fundamentals, Speed Skate, Jam Skate, Floor work (Break Dance on Skates), Roller Dance, Stationary Skate Dance, Soul and JB, Artistic, House, Rhythm, Freestyle Dance, and Instruction for all.



Christian Nyman (Musical Director) is a Jacksonville native and currently teaches chorus at Westside High School. He is an alumnus of The Florida State University and holds a degree in Choral Music Education. Christian Nyman is excited to make his debut as the Music Director for ABET. Christian has music directed many shows around Jacksonville including most recently *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* at Christ Episcopal Church and Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* at Summer Musical Theater Experience at FSCJ.



Janisha Ocana (Skater) Janisha was born and raised here in Jacksonville Florida. She's a graphic designer and illustrator by trade but when she's not in design mode, you can catch her out and about skating the night away!



Blake Michael Osner (Director) Blake is a well-recognized singer, actor, director and producer having performed with various organizations in the area. This production of *Xanadu* marks his 10th stage production and second show to direct for ABET. You may remember Blake on stage in the productions of *Bright Star*, *Bonnie & Clyde* or *Always, Patsy Cline*. Other favorites from past seasons include *Cotton Patch Gospel* (Limelight), *Sylvia* (Players by the Sea), *Something Rotten* (Theatre Jacksonville) and *Love, Valor, Compassion!* (The 5 & Dime). Enjoy the Magic of *Xanadu*!



Susan Roche (Stage Manager) has been volunteering at ABET for the last 15 years as an actor, singer, musician, photographer, videographer, board member, tech and stage manager. Most recently you've seen her here at ABET as the theatre's house manager and stage manager for *Bright Star*. Her favorite acting roles include Joanne (*Company*, OPCT), Sister Mary Lazarus (*Sister Act*, TJ), Marge (*Bridges of Madison County*, PBTS), Officer Randy (*Superior Donuts*, PBTS), Robert Anne (*Nunsense*, ABET), and Hannah (*Spitfire Grill*, Limelight). Welcome to *Xanadu*! Let's skate!



Jocelyn Geronimo (Choreographer) has been involved in numerous productions around town including *Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson* (Musical Director), *Avenue Q* (Christmas Eve), *Chicago* (Mona), *Grease* (Jan), *American Idiot* (Director/choreographer), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Director), *Company* (Jenny) and *Next to Normal* (Diana). Jocelyn teaches American Musical Theatre Dance II at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts and is the owner/director of SET Studios. Jocelyn would like to thank her family for their continuous love and support. www.setstudiosjax.com



Ashley Buckley (Assistant Stage Manager) Ashley is excited to be behind the scenes for *Xanadu* as assistant stage manager. Previous shows include: *Suor Angelica* at Shorter College; *The Mikado*, and *Beauty and the Beast* at JSU; *Junie B. Jones the Musical*, *Annie Get your Gun*, *Jerry's Girls*, and *Little Women* at Limelight Theatre; *City Of Angels* and *Sweeney Todd* at Players by the Sea; *Bright Star* with ABET; and *Nunsense* at Blue Fire Theatre. Many thanks to her family and friends for all their support!



Sutherland Schneider (Co-Skate Instructor/Skate Captain) is a certified roller skating instructor with nearly two decades of experience. She offers lessons, camps, and workshops to all ages and levels both in person and virtually. She is the co-founder of River City Rolling Crew and also manages the Jacksonville chapter of Community in Bowls, which helps roller skaters learn to skate at skate parks. To learn about upcoming roller skating events and follow her 8-wheeled journey, follow @SutherlandSkates on social media.



Bella Shanesy (Skater) is currently a full-time college student at FSCJ studying to become a teacher. For the last 5 years, she has worked at a summer camp and learning center that was voted Jacksonville's best summer camp. She has been roller skating for 8+ years and started her journey of dancing on wheels in the last 2 years. She attended Barbara Thompson's School of Dance for 2 years doing ballet, tap, jazz, and lyrical. She has traveled extensively throughout the eastern United States. One of her dreams is to skate in all 50 states!

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for hosting our entire 2022-23 Season.





ABOUT ABET

OUR MISSION

is to bring the excitement of live theatre to diverse audiences. An emphasis is placed on new and original plays, neglected classics, and on developing new talent.

ABET is a not-for-profit theatre registered with the state of Florida, the City of Jacksonville through the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, The Tom Nehl Fund of the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida, and other private foundations and individual donations.

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ABET Founder: **Carson Merry Baillie**

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