

MARCH 29<sup>th</sup> - APRIL 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019



# Avenue Q

**MUSIC AND LYRICS**

**By**

**ROBERT LOPEZ and JEFF MARX**

**BOOK**

**By**

**JEFF WHITTY**

**BASED ON AN ORIGINAL CONCEPT**

**By**

**ROBERT LOPEZ and JEFF MARX**



**Beddington Theatre Arts Centre**  
**TICKETS** **FRONTROWCENTRE.CA**  
**403-246-8505**

**f** FrontRowCentrePlayers **t** @FrontRowCalgary **@** FrontRowCalgary

AVENUE Q is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

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Joey Sayer

## President's Message

Hello and welcome to *Avenue Q*, part of FRC's 30<sup>th</sup> celebratory season! We are excited to present this special show to you, a show that is somewhat notorious for having beat out *Wicked* for the Tony Award for Best Musical and hope that you enjoy its unique puppet antics!

## Our Committees 2018-2019

### MARKETING

Darren Stewart, Alexandra May, Gad Gijon

### INVENTORY

Steven Eastgaard-Ross, Jamie Eastgaard-Ross

### RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

Kat Carson, Darren Stewart, Joey Sayer, Jenn Lanciault

### EVENTS

Carl Bishop, Vikki-Marie Millitaire

## Our Vision

A community that has opportunities to engage in diverse artistic expression.

## Our Mission

Front Row Centre Players Society is a charitable, volunteer-driven arts organization that provides a supportive environment for anyone to participate in and learn all aspects of musical theatre and delivers memorable theatrical experiences.

## Our Values

Fun • Safety • Collaboration • Passion • Creativity  
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FRC's offices and production facilities are at the

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In addition to relying on the support of our many volunteers, FRC is a registered charitable organization and we would be honoured if you would consider contributing to our **\$30 for the 30<sup>th</sup>** campaign, and make a \$30 gift which will go a long way to help us with our mission of enriching the community with the wonder and thrill that is the world of musical theatre.

Thanks to all for your support and on with the show!

**Darren Stewart, President**

Calgary's Premier Community Musical Theatre Company

# Avenue

AVENUE Q

MUSIC AND LYRICS

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CONCEPT By

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ORCHESTRATIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS

By

STEPHEN OREMUS

The world premiere of AVENUE Q was presented by the Vineyard Theatre and The New Group, New York City, February 2003. AVENUE Q premiered on Broadway at the Golden Theater on July 31, 2003, produced by Kevin McCollum, Robyn Goodman, Jeffrey Seller, Vineyard Theatre and New Group

Video Elements in AVENUE Q © 2011 Zach Rosing Productions LLC; Indianapolis, IN  
[www.zachrosing.com](http://www.zachrosing.com)

Puppets by Swazzle inspired by the designs by RICK LYON

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☺ StoryBook Theatre

☺ Scorpio Theatre

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED IN ANY WAY WITH THIS PRODUCTION BUT WHOSE NAMES HAVE BEEN OMITTED.



## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

My job as director becomes an easy one when I'm able to assemble a team and cast a show with the perfect people. Seriously. Heck, with this cast, half the time there is no actual acting involved – they're simply being themselves using the words provided by the script.

I've been blessed with the show to have had an enormous number of people auditioning. It's been a bittersweet and heart-breaking decision-making process, but one which produced a cast I am so proud of and impressed with. I also had many people on the production side of things wanting to be a part of this show and whose dedication and love shine through on all aspects, from sets to choreography to our amazing musicians and musical director, from props to backstage crew to lighting and costumes, stage management, sound, projections – not to mention the invaluable mentorship from our master puppeteer, Michelle.

*Avenue Q* has become an iconic show, and has developed a cult following, particularly with young adults seeking their purpose; those who remember having been those selfsame young adults; and those who are not quite so young but who are still searching for a purpose of their own.

Over the last close to fifty years, a couple generations have been shaped and taught by *Sesame Street* and the many programs inspired by it. We learned the fundamentals of how to move through childhood and into young adulthood. *Avenue Q* takes the next step, teaching the graduates of children's television the art of adulting. Or tries to.

Yes, the quick elevator pitch for *Avenue Q* is "*Sesame Street* on the wrong side of the tracks." But it is also a show with a monumental amount of heart, and inevitably those who see it will find themselves reflected any number of times in these characters.

Thank you for sharing this journey with us. Welcome to *Avenue Q*!

Joey Sayer, Director



## Act One

1. The Avenue Q Theme
2. What do You do With a BA in English/It Sucks to be Me
3. If You Were Gay
4. Purpose
5. Everyone's a Little Bit Racist
6. The Internet is for Porn
7. A Mix Tape
8. I'm Not Wearing Underwear Today
9. Special
10. You Can be as Loud as the Hell You Want
11. Fantasies Come True
12. My Girlfriend, Who Lives in Canada
13. There's a Fine, Fine Line

## Act Two

14. There is Life Outside Your Apartment
15. The More You Ruv Someone
16. Schadenfreude
17. I Wish I Could Go Back to College
18. The Money Song
19. There's a Fine, Fine Line (Reprise)
20. For Now
21. Bows



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Princeton .....	Jason Bakaas
Kate Monster .....	Layne Labbe
Nicky .....	Joshua Groen
Rod .....	Matthew McPhail
Trekkie Monster .....	Riley Galarneau
Lucy .....	Mandee Marcil
Bad Idea Bear .....	Ellie Enderl, Logan Hockley
Brian .....	Carl Bishop
Christmas Eve .....	Rowena Romero
Gary Coleman .....	Jesse Beilman
Swing Puppeteer .....	Christine Baker

UNDERSTUDIES

Thank you to the following for taking on the extra efforts to be prepared in the case that someone is unable to perform in a show:

Puppets .....	Christine Baker
Brian .....	Logan Hockley
Gary .....	???
Christmas Eve .....	Aya Staley

Understudies will only appear after an announcement or program insert.

# ORCHESTRA

Reeds.....	Robert Seymour
Percussion.....	Graham Siddall
Percussion (Sub).....	Kathy Ma
Guitar.....	Ernie Ross
Guitar (Sub) .....	Gregor Schoenberg
Electric Bass .....	Kevin DeBacker
Keyboard 1/Conductor .....	Mike Jarzecki
Keyboard 2 .....	Ashley Verhappen

## FRONT OF HOUSE VOLUNTEERS

<b>Front of House Managers</b>	Don Kraft Joy Mamer Lorraine O'Neill Darrell Palagian Donna Pearson Rosalinda Platon Cristina Pop Alexia Sabau Joanne Smith Monti Tanner	Rhonda Gordon Sandy Lucas Joy Mamer Laura May Lauren Melathopolous Bruce Mottle Rhonda Mottle Darrell Palagian Kyle Pearson Jane Phillips Rosalinda Platon Christopher Pratt Rob Robostan Jessica Roney	Sherry West  <b>Bartenders</b> Donna Bibeau Kat Carson Bryce Christianson Kaaren Finlay Alan Hamaliuk Jocelyn Laing Phillip Liesemer Kelly Misko Serena Rayner Aretha Smith
<b>Ushers</b> Lisa Antichow Joan Blumer Aurora Felipe Rhonda Gordon Monica Goulet (Pete) Lucien Jemus	<b>Ticket Takers</b> TBD Lisa Antichow		





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### UPCOMING EVENTS

Princess Ida – Morpheus Theatre  
Friday April 26th, 2019 - Saturday May 11th, 2019

Charlotte's Web -- Nose Creek Players  
Thursday May 23rd, 2019 - Saturday May 25th, 2019

Moby Dick – Scorpio Theatre  
Friday May 31st, 2019 - Saturday June 8th, 2019

A Few Good Men Remount -- Simply Theatre  
Thursday June 6th, 2019 - Saturday June 8th, 2019

The poster for 'A Few Good Men' by Aaron Sorkin is set against a textured, light brown background. At the top, the 'SIMPLY THEATRE' logo is displayed, featuring the word 'SIMPLY' in a serif font and 'THEATRE' in a bold, sans-serif font, with a small icon of a hand holding a heart. Below the logo, the word 'PRESENTS' is written in a small, bold, sans-serif font. The title 'A FEW GOOD MEN' is prominently displayed in large, bold, blue, sans-serif capital letters. To the right of the title, 'BY AARON SORKIN' is written in a smaller, bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below the title, the dates 'JUNE 6-8, 2019' are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. To the left of the dates, the showtimes 'SHOWTIMES 7:30pm June 6, 7, 8 2:00pm June 8' are listed in a black, sans-serif font. To the right of the dates, the ticket information 'Tickets \$25 - Available at www.simplytheatre.ca or by calling 587-575-5656' is provided in a black, sans-serif font. At the bottom left, the venue 'Victor Mitchell Theatre' is listed, with the 'PUMPHOUSE THEATRE' logo below it. The logo consists of a stylized 'P' inside a circle. The background of the poster features a large, faint, circular seal of the United States Navy, with the words 'UNITED STATES NAVY' and 'SARVES THE PEOPLE' visible. In the foreground, a wooden gavel with a gold band that reads 'Unit. Corps. God. Country.' is shown resting on a wooden surface next to an open book.



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Director .....	Joey Sayer
Musical Director .....	Mike Jarzecki
Choreographer.....	Gad Ittay Gijon
Producer .....	Darren Stewart
Stage Manager .....	Daisy Pond
Lighting Design.....	Ryan Siverson
Projection Design.....	David Valentin Zapien Mercado
Set Design .....	Bryan Smith, Danielle Renton
Scenic Artist.....	Alexandra May
Master Carpenter .....	Harlan Sterner
Costume Design.....	Shannon Beshara
Prop Design.....	Meghan Skeet
Sound Design.....	Andrea Katz
Hair & Makeup Design.....	Britta Siemens
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Henry Falls, Alex Lyall
Lighting Board Operator .....	Ian McClellan
Follow Spot Operator .....	Ross Wilson, Tracy Smith, Aretha Smith
Sound Operator .....	Rahim Manji
Set Painting .....	Allen Crowley, Diana Frost, Noah Spencer, Lauren Melathopolous
Effect Consultant (Puppet Master).....	Michelle Warkentin
Dance Captain .....	Layne Labbe
Rehearsal SM Relief .....	Jason Johnson
Additional Move-in Crew.....	Samantha Bellamy-Smith, James Tonkin, Corey Melenchuk, Terry Beshara, Patrick Lynn
Voice Captain.....	Mandee Marcil
Assistant (Apprentice Director).....	Aya Staley

Extra special thanks to the cast and crew for the long hours of move-in.



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# MEET THE CAST



## JASON BAKAAS (PRINCETON)

It has taken a few years for Jason to find his own purpose in life, but he's finally found it (hopefully) with the help of theatre. He is excited to be back with Front Row Centre for the second time. Jason's previous credits include *Rent*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (StoryBook Theatre), *Beauty and the Beast*, *One Bad Apple* (Morpheus Theatre), *Heathers: The Musical* (Cappuccino Theatre), and *Footloose* (Front Row Centre). Jason would like to give a special thank you to the team of *Avenue Q* for trusting him with this role, and of course a HUGE thank you to his family and friends who offer their undying support.



## CHRISTINE BAKER (SWING PUPPETEER)

Christine is absolutely thrilled to be performing in Front Row Centre's, *Avenue Q*. Christine did her BFA in Drama at the University of Calgary, followed up with three years at the Canadian College of Performing Arts. Select credits include: *Evita* (FRC), *Persuasion* (Workshop Theatre), *Star Warz: A Galactic Rock Comedy* (Jubilations Dinner Theatre), and *Young Frankenstein the Musical* (CCPA). Christine is delighted to be Trekkie's "right-hand man" and share this hilarious show with you! She is also grateful to have had the experience of working with this amazing cast and crew! Please enjoy the show!



## JESSE BEILMAN (GARY COLEMAN)

Coming up to bat for his third show with FRC, Jesse is living a dream by playing Gary Coleman in *Avenue Q*! A theatre kid since Jr. High, Jesse has always loved the message of this show and really, any excuse to burst out into song and dance. When not performing on the FRC stage, you can find Jesse around other stages in Calgary performing as drag queen, Felicia Bonée, a career spanning 7+ years and a natural evolution from his performance background. Jesse would like to thank his family and friends for their support and wishes you all a little bit of Schadenfreude!



## CARL BISHOP (BRIAN)

Carl hasn't been seen onstage in a musical in 7 or 8 years. In fact he doesn't get on stage very often these days due to extensive masked crime fighting. He is currently the president of Scorpio Theatre, and was last seen on stage in their production of George Orwell's *1984*. He can often be found behind the scenes in the director's chair where his credits include, *Legally Blonde* (FRC), *Heathers* (Cappuccino Players), *The Hobbit* (StoryBook Theatre), *The Odd Couple* (Morpheus Theatre), and *It Came From Mars* (Scorpio Theatre). Much love to Colleen, Lily, and Scarlet.



## ELLIE ENDERL (BAD IDEA BEAR)

Being typecast as a Bad Idea Bear has been one of the best times of Ellie's life. She's so thankful and lucky to be in such amazing company in this cast and crew, and hopes you all laugh your butts off during this dumb show.



## RILEY GALARNEAU (TREKKIE MONSTER)

Riley is thrilled to be working on yet another show with FRC. This is his second time working with puppets and would like to note that this puppet is much less of a diva than Audrey II was and he is very thankful for that. When he's not in the theatre, you can find Riley rehearsing for other shows about to move into the theatre. He hopes you enjoy *The Wedding Sing- Er-Avenue Q*! Select Credits include: *Grease*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (FRC), *To Dream Again*, *Wizard of Oz* (StoryBook Theatre), *She Kills Monsters* (Simply Theatre)



## JOSHUA GROEN (NICKY)

Joshua Groen is joining the FRC crew for his first musical production as a real adult. This is his first musical since he was 13 and puberty hit hard, leading to the unfortunate voice crack incident of 2002. Josh got his sea legs back 3 years ago and began performing with the Calgary Improv Guild in their production of *Psycho* and *The Terminator*. After 17 years of vocal rest Josh is making his post-pubescent singing debut as Nicky. Josh would like to thank his wife Esther Groen for being so supportive, Alex May for being so encouraging, and Susan and Alan William's for being so loving.

# MEET THE CAST



## LOGAN HOCKLEY (BAD IDEA BEAR)

Logan is very excited to be doing his third show with Front Row Centre. Logan is your go-to right-hand man, and will always be there if you need a hand. Previous shows include *Spamalot*, *Dogfight (FRC Players)*, *Legally Blonde (CAST)*, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* (Saint Francis). Some of his hobbies include cooking, hanging out with friends, feeding his dog, and not putting deodorant on for the next show when Josh steps on his foot.



## LAYNE LABBE (KATE MONSTER)

This is Layne's third FRC show! Layne has taken part in countless shows, such as: *Into the Woods* (SSIP), *Dogfight* (FRC), *Monty Python Spamalot* (FRC), *Legally Blonde* (CAST), *Midsummer's Night Dream* (St. Francis), *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (St. Francis), and many others. When not performing on the stage you can catch Layne watching movies with her friends, getting a Salted Caramel Truffle blizzard from DQ and holding soup cans over her head to mentally prepare to hold a puppet for 2 hours and 20 minutes.



## MANDEE MARCIL (LUCY)

Unable to figure out how to keep her away, Mandee is appearing for her sixth time with FRC. She is known by many descriptors; "Vivacious," "unapologetically forceful," "what is that noise?" Select credits include: Della (*The Laws of Thermodynamics*, Scorpio Theatre), Yitzhak (*Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, Laughing Monkey Productions), Martha (*Heathers The Musical*, CMT), Lin (*The Great American Trailer Park Musical*, CMT), Rusty (*Footloose*, FRC). When not onstage, Mandee can be found under or around the Queensboro bridge, providing hands-on services to various clientele.



## MATTHEW MCPHAIL (ROD)

Matt is incredibly excited to be a part of *Avenue Q*! His fantasies have come true playing such a fun character, and his Canadian girlfriend agrees (he's obviously not gay). It doesn't suck to be him! Past shows with FRC include *Evita*, *The Pajama Game*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and *Jekyll and Hyde*. When not acting, Matt has the privilege of teaching High School English (that's what you do, Princeton). Hope you enjoy the show, and remember, the internet is for \*WORD LIMIT EXCEEDED\*



## ROWENA ROMERO (CHRISTMAS EVE)

Row is ecstatic that FRC is allowing her to be in a second show. She previously performed the role of Bloody Mary in *South Pacific*. Row sends hugs to her friends, fellow Toastmasters, and family for their support, especially Rick and Jerrin. Extra thanks to Elaine and Emma for the Japanese words! Row's performance is dedicated to her late husband (ironically named Brian) who passed away from cancer. Brian was a huge fan of *Avenue Q* and Row hopes you will RUV it as much as he did.

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# MEET THE ORCHESTRA



## ROBERT SEYMOUR (REEDS)

It is Robert's pleasure to be part of the small band for this clever and very entertaining show. For the first time- rehearsals have had the added inspiration with a canine companion and mascot 'Yukon' – a young working dog in training.

Robert is in his 8<sup>th</sup> season with FRC and you will hear him throughout the show adding the sounds of one or all of his 3 wind instruments (Flute, Clarinet, Sax) in nearly every tune. Enjoy!



## GRAHAM SIDDALL (PERCUSSION)

Graham is a freelance percussionist who enjoys the arts in all forms and media. This appreciation has found him drumming for dance classes, collaborating with different rock groups, volunteering at festivals, and hosting a radio show on CJSW. Graham has even come out of the orchestra pit and onto the stage, most recently to play Donkey in the upcoming HUC production of *Shrek: The Musical*.



## KATHY MA (PERCUSSION (SUB))

ANIMAL!



## ERNIE ROSS (GUITAR)

Ernie has been heavily involved in music since he was young and has performed on several instruments with several bands in the Calgary area for over a decade. He has also acted in various theatre productions such as *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Music Man*, and *12 Angry Men*. Last year, a dream came true when he was asked to cover bass guitar duties for FRC's final two shows of *Spamalot*. Ernie looks forward to flexing his guitar muscles again with this exciting run of *Avenue Q*!



## GREGOR SCHOENBERG (GUITAR (SUB))

What a clever and witty production! It's a real treat to play guitar for this show. Previous shows include *Grease* and *Evita* (for FRC this season) and *Romeo and Juliet* (Calgary Opera chorus)...it's been a busy year! Love and thanks to Heather, who graciously puts up with the time commitments.



## KEVIN DEBACKER (ELECTRIC BASS)

Kevin DeBacker is a Calgary based bassist, guitarist and singer. Kevin attended Grant MacEwan university where he studied performance and composition. A veteran of the Alberta music scene, Kevin has performed a wide range of music across western Canada. *Avenue Q* is Kevin's first production with FRC.



## MIKE JARZECKI (KEYBOARD/ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR/MUSICAL DIRECTOR)

Mike is beyond thrilled to be a part of this production of *Avenue Q*, and to be putting on the musical director hat for the first time. Mike would like to thank everyone at FRC who gave him the opportunity to bring his musical vision (vision for your...ears) to life, the production team for all of the support, and last but not least, the cast and musicians! It's their combination of immense talent and hard work over the past few months that brings these characters to life, and changes the experience from a mere story-telling, to being on the *Avenue* with them! So, enjoy your time here! Relax, sit, make a friend?



# MEET THE ORCHESTRA



## ASHLEY VERHAPPEN (KEYBOARD)

Ashley is excited to be back at FRC after some time away having other adventures, like playing rugby and getting married. She is joined by her Pacific Assistance Dog in training, Yukon, who is a very good boy. Ashley would like to thank you all for coming, hopes you enjoy the show, and reminds you that the internet CAN be used for something other than porn....

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# MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



## ROBERT LOPEZ (MUSIC AND LYRICS)

HEADSHOT & BIO: [MTISHOWS.COM](http://MTISHOWS.COM)

Robert Lopez's Broadway credits include co-creator/writer of *The Book of Mormon* and co-creator/songwriter of *Avenue Q*. Other theatrical works include: *Frozen* (Denver Center), *Up Here* (La Jolla Playhouse), *1001 Nights* (Atlantic Theater). Film: Pixar's *COCO* and Disney's *FROZEN*. Upcoming projects include Disney's *FROZEN 2*. One of 12 artists to win Emmy®, Grammy®, Oscar, and Tony Awards (EGOT). Yale University grad, BMI Workshop, Dramatists Guild council. A NYC native, he lives in Brooklyn with Kristen and their two daughters.



## JEFF MARX (MUSIC AND LYRICS)

HEADSHOT & BIO: [MTISHOWS.COM](http://MTISHOWS.COM)

Jeff Marx met Robert Lopez at the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop. It was there that *Avenue Q* was born. Originally from Hollywood, FL, Jeff attended the workshop as a young lawyer, looking for clients, and ended up leaving law and becoming a songwriter. Forever grateful to the BMI Workshop, he has worked on such projects as NBC's *SCRUBS* and Disney's *BEAR IN THE BIG BLUE HOUSE*.



## JEFF WHITTY (BOOK)

BIO: [MTISHOWS.COM](http://MTISHOWS.COM); HEADSHOT: [BROADWAYWORLD.COM](http://BROADWAYWORLD.COM)

Jeff Whitty won the 2004 Tony Award for Best Book of a Musical for *Avenue Q*. Plays include *The Further Adventures of Hedda Gabler*, *The Hiding Place*, *The Plank Project*, *Suicide Weather*, and *Balls*. Theatres presenting his work include the Atlantic Theater Company, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, South Coast Repertory, and the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. Whitty wrote the libretto for *Bring It On: The Musical* with music by Tom Kitt, Amanda Green, and Lin-Manuel Miranda. TV credits include "Bad Fairy". Whitty was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay for *Can You Ever Forgive Me?*



## JOEY SAYER (DIRECTOR)

After spending 15 years as FRC's Artistic Director, Joey is happy to be able to focus on just the actual directing part again! He's directed a bunch of shows for FRC, *Scorpio*, *Cappuccino*, and others - most recently 2016's *South Pacific*. There's no place he'd rather be than in a theatre with people he loves. Much love to Valentin, as always.



## AYA STALEY (APPRENTICE DIRECTOR)

Aya is thrilled to be the Apprentice Director for *Avenue Q*. She developed her love for theatre as a performer and hopes to one day direct a musical. She is a graduate of Company of Rogues. Her recent credits include *Pocahontas* and *Princess Jasmine* in *Disenchanted* by Cappuccino Musical Theatre and Dr. Vaideswaran in *JAAN* by Scorpio Theatre. She would like to thank Joey Sayer and Front Row Centre Players for the opportunity to learn and be part of this fantastic show. A very special thank you to her family for all their never ending support.



## GAD ITTAY GIJON (CHOREOGRAPHER)

Originally from Mexico City, his regional credits include: *A Chorus Line*, *Wonderland*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. In Canada with FRC: *Evita*, *Spamalot*, and *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (Jimmy). With Morpheus Theatre: *Ruddigore*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Iolanthe*, *HMS Pinafore*, and *One bad apple* (Choreographer and Chorus). With St. Peters Players: *Mary Poppins* (Choreographer and Ensemble). Gad studied ballet at UNAM, holds a B.A. in Communication Sciences, and a Diploma in Acting with major in Dubbing. Founder and artistic director of the Theatrical Company Gato Encerrado in Mexico.



## DARREN STEWART (PRODUCER)

Darren is extremely grateful to the entire team for creating a great experience for everyone on *Avenue Q*. He has been producing shows with FRC for unspecified but rather long time and is very happy to have been able to fill that role on this fun show. You can be as loud as the hell you want when you're cheering for this cast & team!

# MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



## DAISY POND (STAGE MANAGER)

This marks Daisy's sixth show with Front Row Centre Players, dating back to the previous version of *Grease* in 2009. Outside of FRC productions, she has been known to stage manage shows with Morpheus Theatre, including *Shakespeare in Love*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, and *Noises Off!* among others. She can also frequently be found as the Executive Producer at Scorpio Theatre - which just means she makes sure there are always peanut butter pretzels.



## RYAN SIVERSON (LIGHTING DESIGN)

Ryan is a young theatre artist who focuses on the art of set and lighting design. *Avenue Q* is his first show with FRC but he is looking forward to many more in the future! Find out more about Ryan's past work by visiting his Facebook page @ryansiversondesign. Enjoy the show, and remember "it's only for now."



## DAVID VALENTIN ZAPIEN MERCADO (PROJECTION DESIGN)

Valentin can usually be found on stage performing, but he also has some video and graphic mad skills. He has done graphic design for FRC, Scorpio Theatre, and CMC; but lately he has ventured on designing projections for theatre performances such as Scorpio's *1984* and *Women Playing Hamlet*, and now for FRC's *Avenue Q*.



## BRYAN SMITH (SET DESIGN)

Bryan is thrilled to give the residents of *Avenue Q* their homes! Bryan has an extensive background in theatre from Producing to Acting and everything in between! Select shows in various capacities: *Frankenstein: A New Musical*, *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (Cappuccino); *Dogfight*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*, *Catch Me If You Can* (FRC); *A Few Good Men*, *12 Angry Men* (Simply Theatre). Much love to Sam and Bastien.



## DANIELLE RENTON (SET DESIGN)

Danielle is thrilled to be involved with her lucky 10<sup>th</sup> show with FRC. The show journey of bringing the show world and its characters to life are why she loves being involved in the theatre. It has been fantastic having the opportunity to work on the set design and to help create *Avenue Q*, the world these wonderful characters inhabit.



## SHANNON BESHARA (COSTUME DESIGN)

Shannon loves this crazy show and all those who are making it come to life! Previous costuming by Shannon was seen in FRC's *Grease* and *Evita*, and any other ones that will let her start up her sewing machines and get to work. Many thanks go to her family for their support and love and to Joey and the team for giving her the chance to go it on her own. All praise to Magz Ross for her love, mentoring and hard work on a certain wedding dress.



## MEGHAN SKEET (PROP DESIGN)

This is Meghan's 12<sup>th</sup> show with FRC. Her favourite shows to work on were *Spamalot*, *Reefer Madness*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and this one!

Interesting fact: Her favourite Sesame Street character is the original Snuffleupagus from 1971 and her favourite non Sesame Street puppet character is Gritty, the mascot for the Philadelphia Flyers.

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## ANDREA KATZ (SOUND DESIGN)

Andrea is extremely excited to be doing her first sound design with FRC in over a decade. Past credits include *Forbidden Broadway*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Chicago*. More recently she has been a sound operator on *Tommy* and *Reefer Madness*.



## BRITTA SIEMENS (HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN)

Britta may be new to FRC but she is not new to community theatre in Calgary. She has been hair and makeup designer at Morpheus for the last year, being a part of *HMS Pinafore*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *One Bad Apple*, and the upcoming *Princess Ida*. Britta is excited to be joining the cast and crew of *Avenue Q* for her first production with FRC. Britta is lead hair instructor at NIWE Academy, molding the future hair stylists and designers. Britta would like to thank everyone at FRC for the opportunity to work with them. Her favourite sandwich is a clubhouse.



## HENRY FALLS (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

This is Henry's 4<sup>th</sup> FRC show with one more on the way. Horrified of puppets when he was younger due to an incident where a puppet bear mauled his mother and had sex with his father, he was slightly intoxicated when he accepted this position, but he is excited none the less. If you see him on stage something terrible has happened so just keep that in mind. Enjoy the show and don't get shot.



## ALEX LYALL (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER)

This is Alex's 8<sup>th</sup> show with FRC. She has had an absolute blast working with this cast and production team. Alex wishes to thank Freda for putting up with her schedule, Myra for being an inspiration to stay strong, the parental units for always leaving food, and Mini and Darwin for always waiting at the door after a long day.



## IAN MCCLELLAN (LIGHTING BOARD OPERATOR)

FRC Debut. Elsewhere: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (2018), *The Little Mermaid* (2018), *Treasure Island* (2017), Events around Central Memorial High School through their Tech Theatre Program: CMHS PVA; Technical Director (2015-2017): Langevin School; Volunteer (since 2018): Loose Moose Theatre Company. Ian is thrilled to take part in his first community theatre production. He will also be the Lighting Designer for *Oliver!* in May, and for *The Wedding Singer* in June. He is ecstatic to do more work with companies such as FRC and StoryBook in the near future.



## ROSS WILSON (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

FOR FRC: *Evita* ELSEWHERE: Select Credits Include: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Into The Woods*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Crazy For You*, *High School Musical*, *The Little Mermaid* (CMHS Theatre Arts), *Goosebumps* (StoryBook). Ross has worked extensively with the PVA Theatre Arts program at Central Memorial High School and is excited to bring his experience to the team. He is thrilled to be working with FRC again and looks forward to working with them and StoryBook more in the future!



## TRACY SMITH (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

Tracy is excited to be working with this amazing cast and crew for her 18<sup>th</sup> production with *Avenue Q*! Often found onstage, she has been enjoying spending this season operating the follow spot. Favourite credits include *Jekyll and Hyde* (FRC), *Iolanthe* (Morpheus), *Into the Woods* (St Peter's Players), and *Sweeney Todd* (FRC).

# MEET THE DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM



## ARETHA SMITH (FOLLOW SPOT OPERATOR)

Aretha has been Sound Operator for a few FRC shows including *Priscilla*, *City of Angels*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Even Trying*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Urinetown*, *25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Footloose*, and Spot Operator for 9 to 5. Other: Sound Operator for StoryBook Theatre shows: *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Paper Bag Princess*, *A New Brain*, *Grease*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *Goodnight Moon*, *Lord of the Flies*, and many others. She has in the past been on stage, Stage Manager, ASM, backstage crew, props, and lights.



## RAHIM MANJI (SOUND OPERATOR)

An avid fan of theatre, Rahim has watched many FRC productions in the past, but this is his fifth season working with FRC. He is excited to be a part of the production team for *Avenue Q*. In his spare time, Rahim can be found hanging out with his 4 year old son, his 5.5 year old cat, his 30 year old car, or his forever 21 wife.



## ALEXANDRA MAY (SET PAINTING)

Alex has had a ton of fun with all the fluff-heads on this show. Being part of this community is one of the greatest joys of her life. Big love to the Bellamy-Smiths, and a special shout-out to Josh: so proud of you, Big Guy. One for you too, Esther. You've also worked kind of hard? Love Musical Theatre.



## MICHELLE WARKENTIN (PUPPET MASTER)

A professional puppeteer for over 20 years, Michelle has written and performed puppet musicals to thousands of elementary students. Michelle is the Artistic Director of her own theatre company, Life Stages Theatre and is currently touring her one woman puppet musical, *Mii Other Woman*, which is one woman's story of her struggle with memory loss and discovering herself through the power of puppets. Michelle has really enjoyed bringing her passion for puppets to such an amazing talented cast and has loved seeing each character become alive. Michelle is sure the audience will fall in love with *Avenue Q*.



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# 30 YEARS OF FRC

## 1988-1989

Jesus Christ Superstar

## 1989-1990

Tunes and Ticks  
Damn Yankees

## 1990-1991

Tunes and Ticks Too  
How to Succeed in Business Without Really  
Trying

## 1991-1992

Tunes and Ticks Three  
Weather Report  
The Fantasticks

## 1992-1993

Broadway on the Move  
You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown  
Chicago

## 1993-1994

Tunes and Ticks IV  
Oliver!

## 1994-1995

Tunes and Ticks V: A Look Back  
Annie Get Your Gun

## 1995-1996

The Butler Did it Singing  
Annie

## 1996-1997

Godspell  
Guys and Dolls

## 1997-1998

The Sound of Music  
Fiddler on the Roof

## 1998-1999

Sugar  
Music Man

## 1999-2000

Bye Bye Birdie  
Bells are Ringing

## 2000-2001

The Rocky Horror Show  
The Rocky Horror Show  
A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the  
Forum

## 2001-2002

Cabaret  
Gypsy  
South Pacific

## 2002-2003

Eating Raoul  
How to Succeed in Business Without Really  
Trying  
My Fair Lady

## 2003-2004

Company  
Jesus Christ Superstar  
Kiss Me Kate

## 2004-2005

A New Brain  
Man of La Mancha  
Pippin

## 2005-2006

Leader of the Pack  
Evita  
Hair

## 2006-2007

Oklahoma  
Chicago  
Little Shop of Horrors

## 2007-2008

Nine  
Camelot  
Wizard of Oz

## 2008-2009

Godspell  
Fiddler on the Roof  
Grease

## 2009-2010

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet  
Street  
Hello Dolly!  
Forbidden Broadway's Greatest Hits  
Nunsense the Mega Musical

## 2010-2011

Chess  
The Producers  
Putting it Together  
Brigadoon

## 2011-2012

The Rocky Horror Show  
Assassins  
Front Row Centre at the Movies  
Gypsy

## 2012-2013

Singin' in the Rain  
Monty Python's Spamalot  
YESTERDAY • TODAY • TOMORROW  
Legally Blonde

## 2013-2014

My Fair Lady  
Footloose  
Coming Attractions  
Young Frankenstein  
The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

## 2014-2015

9 to 5: The Musical  
Urinetown

Jesus Christ Superstar  
Flights of Fancy  
Anything Goes

## 2015-2016

The Mystery of Edwin Drood  
The Who's Tommy  
It's Good to be Bad  
Catch Me If You Can  
South Pacific  
Opera in the Village Iconic Broadway

## 2016-2017

Jekyll & Hyde  
Reefer Madness  
Through the Decades  
How to Succeed in Business Without Really  
Trying  
Little Shop of Horrors

## 2017-2018

The Pajama Game  
City of Angels  
Pearls of Wisdom  
Dogfight  
Priscilla Queen of the Desert

## 2018-2019

Monty Python's Spamalot  
Evita  
Grease



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