



ABILENE HIGH FINE ARTS PRESENTS



BRIGHT STAR

MUSIC, BOOK & STORY

MUSIC, LYRICS & STORY

STEVE MARTIN

EDIE BRICKELL

\$10 ADMISSION

NOVEMBER 7-9 AT 7PM
NOVEMBER 10 AT 2PM

Bright Star School Edition is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036.
www.theatricalrights.com



Abilenehightheatre.com

The Cast and Crew of *Bright Star* wishes to thank the following groups and individuals

Significant support provided by the generosity of
The Dian Graves Owen Foundation

Additional support provided by

Abilene ISD School Board
Hardin-Simmons University Theatre
McMurry University Theatre
Abilene High School Custodial Staff
Dance Discovery Studios
Abilene Community Theatre
Parents of the Cast and Crew
Nicole Evans, Mann Middle School
Amber Barber, Craig Middle School
Ronalyne Sutphen

AISD Fine Arts Director
Clay Johnson

AISD Fine Arts Coordinator
Brady Sloane

AISD Fine Arts Secretary
Briana Hutchins

Abilene High School Administration
Principal
Emme Siburt

Associate Principal
Kelli Powell

Assistant Principals
Jordan Palacios
Tracy Parker
Zachary Sneed
Mandy Hunter

Stay tuned for the rest of our 2024-25 season!

UIL One Act Play Public Performance
Title TBA
March 18th at 7:00 pm

JV One Act Play Public Performance
Title TBA
April 29th at 7:00 pm

Senior Directed Plays
May 9th at 7:00 pm

Abilene High Theatre Booster Club Officers

President-Alana Jeter
Vice President-Kristen Richardson
Treasurer-Casey Westmoreland
Secretary-Amanda Martin

Thanks to our sponsors of
Abilene High Theatre!

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32 Degrees

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**ABILENE HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS
PRESENTS**



**Music, Book and Story by STEVE MARTIN
Music, Lyrics and Story by EDIE BRICKELL**

Abilene High School Fine Arts Department

Director of Bands.....Amber Moore
Assistant Band Director.....Alanna Curley
Assistant Director/Percussion Instructor.....Drew Young
Director of Choirs.....Wendy Weeks
Assistant Choir Director.....Remel Derrick
Director of Theatre.....Kyle Martin
Assistant Theatre Director.....Raegan Gonzales
Director of Orchestras.....Thomas Roberts

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Cast

ALICE MURPHY	Carrie Mercer
BILLY CANE	Syler Richardson
JIMMY RAY DOBBS	Jackson Liske
MARGO CRAWFORD	Grace Eason
DADDY CANE	Micah Mallet
MAMA MURPHY	Lauren McGrew
DADDY MURPHY	Brady Westmoreland
MAYOR JOSIAH DOBBS	Landon Schroeder
DARYL AMES	Zachary Gage [^] / Gray McFadden ^{^^}
LUCY GRANT	Parker Pacheco [~]
FLORENCE	Sami Bourn
EDNA	Amy Neal
MAX	Jasper Kennedy
STANFORD	Evan Chaney
DR. NORQUIST	Mason Reed
CLERK	Aubrey Palmer
WELL-DRESSED WOMAN	Zoe Jeter
STATIONMASTER	Blake Ware
SPIRITS	Merit Albright, Lily Lemmons, Morgan Anders, Zoe Jeter
DANCE ENSEMBLE	Morgan Anders, Sami Bourn, Joseph Castleman, Evan Chaney, Grace Eason, Zoe Jeter, Jasper Kennedy, Gabby Kraft, Jackson Liske, Micah Mallet, Olivia Martin, Parker Pacheco, Aubrey Palmer, Syler Richardson, Brady Westmoreland
TOWNSPEOPLE	Valentin Alvarez, Alexis Chavez, Julian Delarosa, Alessandra Mares, Gray McFadden, Bristol Musick, Avory Phillips, Kathryn Self, Abbey Spoor, Blake Ware

[^]Thursday 11/7

^{^^} Friday 11/8, Saturday 11/9 & Sunday 11/10

Staff



Remel Derrick (Music Director) Since 2015 Mr. Derrick has served as the Assistant Director of Choirs, as well as the AP Music Theory Teacher. Mr. Derrick is a graduate of Southwestern Christian College as well as Abilene Christian University, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music. Mr. Derrick owns a choral music publishing company called *Summit Music Publishing*, and he composes choral music of all types, particularly for schools and churches. He is fortunate enough to be married to his lovely wife Angela, and they have a wonderful daughter Caylie. *Bright Star* marks the tenth year and eleventh musical production for which Mr. Derrick has directed the vocals and orchestrations at Abilene High School.



Teri Wilkerson (Choreographer) received her Dance Masters Certification in 1985 and opened Dance Discovery Studios in Abilene that same year. Her love for the stage led to her involvement in musical theatre, and since 1992, she has choreographed and/or directed more than 200 musicals for ACU, McM, HSU, AHS, WHS, the Paramount Theatre and the metroplex area. Many of her students have gone on to professional careers in dance and performance.



Kyle Martin (Director/ Scenic Designer/ Producer) Mr. Martin began his teaching career in the Houston area before moving to Abilene in 2011. Prior to joining AHS as the head theatre director in 2017, he was the Assistant and Technical Director for Cooper High School Theatre for five years. Mr. Martin has directed over 30 productions at high schools and community theatres in Houston and Abilene including *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, *Hamlet*, *Oklahoma!*, *Matilda*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Chicago: The Musical*, *Godspell* and *Bubble Boy*, among others. Onstage he has appeared as the title character in the musical *Shrek* with the Big Country Performing Arts Company, *Falstaff* in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* with the Abilene Shakespeare Festival and *Orin Scrivello* in *Little Shop of Horrors* at the Abilene Community Theatre. Mr. Martin has a B.F.A. in Acting and Directing from Abilene Christian University and a M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Lamar University. Mr. Martin has been married for 22 years to Amanda Martin, a second grade teacher at Bonham Elementary. Their two daughters, Olivia and Penelope attend Abilene ISD schools and are actively involved in the fine arts.



Raegan Gonzales (Stage Manager/ Lighting Designer) Mrs. Gonzales teaches Theatre 1, JV Theatre Production, and Reading here at Abilene High School. She graduated from Hardin-Simmons University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Stage Management in 2023. At Hardin-Simmons University, she served as the Director for *Choices*; Production Stage Manager for *The Spitfire Grill*, [title of show], *Into the Woods* and *DirectFest 2020*; Lighting Designer for *Silent Sky*, *According to Plan*, *Blithe Spirit* and *Into the Woods*; Sound Operator for *Sweet Charity* and *The Secret Garden*; Sound Crew for *Little Shop of Horrors*; Dramaturg for *The Drowning Girls*; and Props Manager for *Working*. She has also stage managed *It's Only a Play* at The Historic Paramount Theatre. She has acted in *You Can't Take It With You*, *Drury Lane*, and *A Second of Pleasure* at HSU. Mrs. Gonzales would like to thank her husband, Adrian Gonzales, who has provided unending love and support. Soli Deo Gloria!

Landon Schroeder^ (Mayor)** is a senior at Abilene High School. He's been a part of the Abilene High Theater program since his sophomore year but was involved with the Abilene Performing Arts company since his 7th grade year. He's a varsity production member and has been in such shows as *The Musical Comedy of Murders of the 1940's*, *Dearly Departed*, *The Music Man*, and many more. Landon is also the captain of the Abilene High School Swim team and a part of Abilene High School's debate team.

Kathryn Self (Ensemble) is a freshman at Abilene High School.

Audrey Self* (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore at Abilene High School.

Liberty Smith (Run Crew) is a student at Abilene High School.

Abbey Spoor* (Ensemble) is a sophomore at Abilene High School. This is her third theatrical play/musical. Before *Bright Star*, she was in running crew in the famous Shakespeare tragedy, *Macbeth*, and the classic musical spectacular, *The Music Man*. She was also in the Craig Middle school production of the *Desperate Housewives of Shakespeare*. She would love to thank her family and friends, and the awesome Abilene High Eagle Band for being there for her, and being a great family.

Blake Ware* (Stationmaster/ Ensemble) is a Varsity Production student at Abilene High School. This is her 3rd musical production. She is a part of Student Council and NHS. She would like to thank her family for having dinner ready for her when she gets home.

Brady Westmoreland* (Daddy Murphy) is in his 2nd year in production theater and was also inducted into the International Thespian Society last year. He is also in Concert Choir and just recently made it into the Region Mixed Choir. Last year he was a supporting role in *The Music Man*. And last of all he wants to thank his good friends for sticking with him through thick and thin.

Kaitlynn Wood* (Run Crew) is a student at Abilene High School.

*denotes International Thespian Society (ITS) Member

^ denotes ITS Officer

Abilene High School is home to Troupe #1818, a chapter of the International Thespian Society. ITS is an honor society for theatre students that exists to provide resources for learning about theatre, scholarship opportunities for those wishing to study theatre in college, and better the community through service projects and arts education. To be inducted into ITS students must accumulate at least 10 points.

Points are earned by participating in theatre activities, either as an actor or in a behind-the-scenes capacity.



Production Staff

Director/ Scenic Design Kyle Martin
 Music Director/ Conductor Remel Derrick
 Stage Manager/ Lighting Design Raegan Gonzales
 Assistant Stage Managers.....Audrey Self, Bryson Podowski
 Choreographer Teri Wilkerson
 Dance Captain..... Carrie Mercer
 Technical Assistant.....Austin McMahon
 Costume Design..... Alana Jeter
 Costume Assistant.....Amber Barber
 Properties Master.....Nicole Evans
 Light Console Operator Ian Daugherty
 Sound Operator AJ Clever
 Spotlight Operators.....Alex Garza, Ciara Robinson
 Running CrewMelea Anderson, Austin McMahon, Jaiden
 McConn, Liberty Smith, Kaitlynn Wood

Set Construction.....Angel Albores, Carmen Alcantar, Zarshad Andar, Dylan Bardin, Marcus Berry, Bright Albert, Bryson Broyles, Isaiah Calderon, Maliha Campos, Jeremiah Carillo, Synclair Colbert, Jeremiah Collins, Malik Cooper, Grayzien Coward, Christian Daniel-Wilson, Bryan Davila, Madi Davis, Aidan Delacruz, Jayden Diaz, Mia Galvan, Lily Garza, Kaiah Guthrie, Clayton Hunter, Jasper Kennedy, Jami Kilpatrick, Julia Kovacs, Ian Lopez, Josue Martinez Quiroz, Austin McMahon, Wilhelm Meissner, Eric Mendoza, Karen Montoya, Christian Moreno, Anthony Munoz, Josiah Parham, Jose Sanchez, Audrey Self, Liberty Smith, John Sparks, George Stone, Avery Torres, Antonio Villanueva, Rose Webster, Kaitlynn Wood

The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited by law.

Flash photography and cell phone usage is a distraction to performers and other audience members. Please silence all electronic devices.

Orchestra

Conductor/ Piano

Remel Derrick

Fiddle

Alexxis Duarte

Mary Lowe

Drums

Drew Young

Viola

Daniel Cortinez

Hannah Bryant

Cello

Zoe Wilson

Bass

Trinity Bryant

Mandolin

Thomas Roberts

Guitar

Robert Colley

Bristol Musick (Ensemble) is in her freshman year of high school and is currently participating in her first theatrical performance as an Abilene High Eagle. Before attending Abilene High, she was in Craig Middle School's plays *Rotten Apples* as the Big Bad Wolf and *10 Ways to Survive the Zombie Apocalypse* as the Narrator. Bristol is also a member of Abilene High's treble choice. She would like to thank her mom for being her personal Uber and supporting all of her ambitions.

Amy Neal (Edna)** is a senior at ATEMS high school. This is her 4th musical with Abilene high. She was in *Matilda*, *SpongeBob*, and *The Music Man*. She has been doing theater since she was in 6th grade.

Parker Pacheco (Lucy)** is a senior at Abilene High. She has been a thespian member for 3 years as well as a thespian officer. She has been in varsity production for 2 years. She has been in *Matilda*, *The Music Man*, and *Macbeth*. She is also involved in the AHS Concert Choir.

Aubrey Palmer (Clerk)** is a senior at Abilene High School and this will be her 10th show with AHS Theatre. She has also done productions with The Paramount Theatre and BCPA. Along with theatre, Aubrey is also apart of Concert Choir and Abilene High Cheer. She would like to thank her mom and dad for the countless hours spent with AHT, and for their support in both academics and art.

Avory Phillips (Ensemble) is a first year freshman student at Abilene High School. She likes reading and writing, as well as dedicating her time for her extracurricular activities, such as theatre and AFJROTC.

Bryson Podowski (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman at Abilene High but a 2nd year in the Abilene ISD theater department. His first role in the theater department was Prince Charming in *Rotten Apples*. This is his first role backstage.

Mason Reed (Dr. Norquist) has been in theatre class since freshman year, he has been in two senior directs those being *10 Ways to Survive a Zombie Apocalypse* and *The Campaign* in the major role of Darkblade. He has also been in a couple of one act plays including *Nothing* and *Mrs Electricity*, however this is his first time in a main stage production. He would also like to thank Mr. Martin for convincing him to stick with theatre all those years ago. He is forever grateful.

Syler Richardson (Billy Cane)** is a junior at Abilene High School, he is part of Abilene high debate, concert choir, varsity tennis, and Theatre production. Before moving to Abilene in 2021, Syler lived in Waco where he had been doing theatre since the age of 5! This is his third musical, but ninth show overall at AHS. Syler and his duet partner Brady Westmoreland became ITF national qualifiers in duet acting. Syler would like to thank his parents, friends, and everyone who has come out to support him in this production.

Ciara Robinson (Spotlight Operator) is 9th grader. She's been doing theater since she was 9. She's been in *The Wizard of Oz*, *Alice and Wonderland*, and *The Boxcar Children*. This is her first show on tech. She wants to thank her mom and dad for always supporting her and pushing her to try everything even if she's scared. She also wants to thank her nana and grandma for always being at all her shows.

Micah Mallet (Daddy Cane) is a first year student in AHS Theatre but is not new to the world of theater. He started doing theatre in 2017 with his first musical being *Guys and Dolls Jr.* He continued doing theatre until 2020 where he had his first lead role. From his 8th grade year to his sophomore year he was in a variety of musicals at Abilene Christian Schools including: *The Curious Savage*, *The Boys Next Door*, *Anastasia*, and *Into the Woods*. Micah is also associated with Mrs. Zimmerman (Mrs. Z's Performing Arts Studio) and has been in *Tuck Everlasting* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. Through Mrs. Z's performing Arts Studio Micah has been to JTF (Junior Theater's Festival) He would like to thank his family for sticking with him through the thick and thin of his constantly changing and chaotic schedule that theatre has to offer and their support has been filled with nothing but love.

Alessandra Mares (Ensemble) is a sophomore who has recently moved to AHS school after being at TLCA for 8 years. This is her first musical. She's been in 2 plays prior to this musical and would like to thank her family, especially her mother, for always being there for support!

Olivia Martin (Dance Ensemble) is a freshman at Abilene High School.

Jaiden McConn* (Run Crew) is a senior at ATEMS High School. She has been working with tech since junior year and is now she is in her senior year. She would like to thank her friends and family.

Gray McFadden* (Daryl / Ensemble) is a year 10 ATEMS student with 5+ years of theater experience. She has performed in 2 shows with AHS Theater. She would like to thank her dad for believing in her and pushing her to follow what she believes is the proper path for her. She would also like to thank her stepmom for showing her how powerful women can be when they put their minds to it.

Lauren McGrew* (Mama Murphy) is a sophomore at Abilene High. This is her fourth show with AHS theatre. Her other roles include 'Hecate' from *Macbeth* and 'Mrs. Paroo' from *The Music Man*. Last May, she was awarded an All-Star Cast award at the JV One-Act Play Competition for her acting in the show *Dearly Departed*. She is also a singer in the AHS Concert Choir and Pure Gold. She would like to thank her friends for supporting her in theatre.

Austin McMahan (Dance Ensemble) is a senior at Abilene High. He has been on tech crew for 3 different shows at Abilene High and is enrolled in the TSTC welding program. He likes to build and listen to lots of music. He would like to thank Mr. Martin for giving him the push he needed to be better.

Carrie Mercer*^ (Alice / Dance Captain) is a senior and has been a part of every Abilene High Theatre main stage show. She has been in 19 shows total, but some of her favorites are SpongeBob SquarePants in the *SpongeBob Musical*, one of the witches in *Macbeth*, and of course, Lavender Glottlestop in *Matilda*. Carrie is also involved in marching band as the "featured dancer", concert choir, various AP classes, Dance Discovery Studios, and voice lessons with Paige Sproles. Carrie would like to thank her dad for being her ultimate support system and cheerleader in this scary time of college applications/auditions. Carrie's future plans are attending one of the 20 major universities that she applied to, and studying musical theatre. Carrie will make it to Broadway.

Musical Numbers

Act 1

If You Knew My Story	Alice, Company
She's Gone	Daddy Cane, Billy
Bright Star	Billy, Company
Way Back In The Day	Alice, Dance Ensemble, Company
Whoa Mama	Jimmy Ray, Alice, Company
Firmer Hand/ Do Right.....	Daddy Murphy, Mama Murphy, Alice, Company
A Man's Gotta Do	Mayor, Jimmy Ray
Asheville.....	Margo, Company
Picnic Dance.....	Stanford, Dance Ensemble
What Could Be Better.....	Alice, Dance Ensemble
I Can't Wait	Alice, Spirits, Jimmy Ray
Please Don't Take Him.....	Alice, Mayor, Mama Murphy, Daddy Murphy, Stanford
A Man's Gotta Do (Reprise).....	Mayor, Spirits

15 Minute Intermission

Act 2

Sun's Gonna Shine	Alice, Mama Murphy, Company
Heartbreaker	Jimmy Ray
The Shiny Penny.....	Dance Ensemble
Another Round	Lucy, Dance Ensemble, Company
I Had A Vision.....	Alice, Jimmy Ray, Company
Always Will.....	Margo, Billy
Sun's Gonna Shine (Reprise).....	Mama Murphy
I Can't Wait To See You (Reprise).....	Spirits
So Familiar/ At Long Last	Alice, Company
Finale.....	Alice, Jimmy Ray, Margo, Billy, Company

The Cast and Crew

Merit Albright (Spirit) is a junior at AHS. This is her 3rd musical! In the past she has performed in *SpongeBob SquarePants: The Musical* and *The Music Man*, as well as various plays at Abilene High. Merit is involved in Pure Gold, Concert Choir, and Varsity Theatre Production. She would like to thank her family and friends for their ongoing support throughout her involvement in the fine arts.

Valentin Alvarez (Ensemble) is a freshman at AHS. This is his first production at Abilene High School.

Morgan Anders (Spirit) is a senior at AHS. This is her first musical and show overall. She is involved in Pure Gold and Concert Choir. She is also a member of HOSA.

Melea Anderson (Run Crew) is a student at AHS.

Sami Bourn* (Florence) is a junior at AHS and this is her second musical ever. She was a backstage crew member during *Macbeth* and she played an ensemble member in the *Music Man*. She has been in many smaller productions and is elated to be a part of Abilene High School's production of *Bright Star*.

Joseph Castleman (Dance Ensemble) is a freshman at AHS in his second year of production theatre. This is his third play and first musical. He is a saxophone in marching band and an aspiring video game designer. He would like to thank his parents and best friends Terrence, Albert, and Kathryn.

Evan Chaney (Stanford/ Dance Ensemble) is a freshman at ATEMS who is also enrolled in classes at AHS. He is involved in band and tennis. He loves theater and loves the people in theater. While in middle school he was in *The Wizard of Oz* and *10 Ways to Survive The Zombie Apocalypse*. He got All Star cast In One Act 2023.

Alexis Chavez (Ensemble) is a freshman at Abilene High School. This is her second musical ever but she has been in numerous plays. Before high school, Alexis starred as Ensemble in plays like *A Wrinkle In Time* and *The Boxcar Children*. She also has stage managed *Peter And The Starcatcher*.

AJ Clever* (Sound Designer/ Operator) is a senior at Abilene High School.

Ian Daugherty* (Light Board Operator) is a sophomore at ATEMS, and has been doing tech since middle school. His first production was *A Little Princess*. He also is in DECA with the ATEMS Culinary club. He would like to thank Molly Daugherty and Graciela Gain for their support.

Julian Delarosa (Ensemble) is a freshman at ATEMS High School.

Grace Eason*^ (Margo) is a Junior at Abilene High and has been in production all three years, Varsity production for 2. She has been in the past two musicals, *SpongeBob SquarePants the Musical* and *The Music Man*. She is an Honor Thespian and a Thespian Officer, she has won Best Performer and All-Star Cast. Some of her other shows include *The 39 Steps*, *Macbeth*, *Dark Road*, and *Anne of Green Gables*.

Zachary Gage* (Daryl) is a sophomore at Abilene High School. He has been acting in shows since first grade. He has acted in shows such as *Peter Pan*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Newsies Jr.*, *Finding Nemo Jr.*, *Shrek Jr.*, *Into The Woods Jr.*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang Jr.*, *Godspell*, and many more. He is also a part of the Abilene High Marching Band where he plays trumpet. He would like thank Bette Midler, Dolly Parton, Meryl Streep, and his entire family, And his favorite cousin Meredith. He is thrilled to be a part of the Abilene High theatre family!

Alex Garza (Spotlight Operator) is a freshman at Abilene High School.

Zoe Jeter*^ (Spirit/ Dance Ensemble) is in her third year of Theatre Production at Abilene High. She is also a theatre officer and has been performing locally since she was 6. Additionally, this is Zoe's third year of Gold Rush and she is a proud member of the 34th line. She has also been a member of the AHS choir for three years, and is in her second year of concert choir. Outside of AHS, Zoe has been in numerous local productions and currently dances at Dance Discovery - her second home. Zoe would like to thank God for very opportunity she has been given and is incredibly grateful of His kindness towards her. She would like to dedicate her performances to her family and friends, whom she loves dearly. She is beyond proud of this production and her talented friends and cast mates.

Jasper Kennedy* (Max/ Dance Ensemble) is a junior at Abilene High School, has been a part of theatre production classes ever since his seventh grade year, and is also an Honored Thespian member. In total he has been a part of fifteen shows, some examples being AHS's *The Music Man* as Winthrop Paroo, ACU's *Love Labour's Lost* as a spotlight operator, and AHS's *The 39 Steps* as a light operator. Along with acting, he is also in Advanced Technical Theatre, and has helped build the *Bright Star* set, along with *Macbeth*, *Spongebob*, and *The Music Man*. He would like to thank Mr. Martin and his theatre friends for making theatre an amazing experience, and his family for always believing in him.

Gabby Kraft* (Dance Ensemble) is a sophomore at ATEMS High School. She has also been in performances from Abilene High such as "The Music Man" and "Dearly Departed". She would like to thank her father for letting her have these rehearsals for this amazing show and the cast for being such great people

Lily Lemmons* (Spirit) is a sophomore at Abilene High School. She is performing in her second musical class with AHT. She has been in multiple performances including *Macbeth* and *Music Man*. She is also a part of the Varsity Theatre class. She would like to thank her sister, Zara, her parents, and all her friends. Without them, she wouldn't be able to do any of this.

Jackson Liske (Jimmy Ray) is a junior at Abilene High and is performing in his second musical. He also performed in last years' production of *The Music Man* as a quartet member. Outside of musical Jackson is also involved in drum-line and choir, as well as Pure Gold.