

1944-2013

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SCHOOL OF MUSIC AND
**ILLINI STUDENT
MUSICALS PRESENT**



LINCOLN HALL

THE WEDDING SINGER

BASED UPON THE NEW LINE CINEMA FILM WRITTEN BY TIM HERLIHY
BOOK BY CHAD BEGUELIN AND TIM HERLIHY IS PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI).
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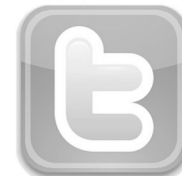
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**Illini Student Musicals and
The University of Illinois School of Music
Proudly Presents**

The Wedding Singer

Book By
Chad Beguelin &
Tim Herlihy

Music By
Matthew Skalar

Lyrics By
Chad Beguelin

Originally produced by

Margo Lion New Line Cinema The Araca Group
Roy Furman Douglas L. Meyer / James D. Stern
Rick Steiner / The Staton Bell Osher Mayerson Group JAM Theatricals
Original Broadway production directed by John Rando
Orchestrations by Irwin Fisch

Starring:

David Naber, Annie Keller, Sean Tierney, Mary Geraci, Brandon Saposnik,
Kat Spungen, Janjay Knowlden, Sara Costello, Ali Jones, Christopher Cayari,
Delaney Sterling, Jay Kim, John Lattanzi, Katie O'Shea, Nick Humbles,
Sarah Freedland, Sarah Sensenbrenner, Taylor Toms, Allison Wall, Ashley Scott,
Carly Graham, Deepa Suneel, Mindy Shore, Nisha Moorkoth, Jason Benjoya, and
Tucker Nevel

STAGE MANAGER
Audrey Thompson

LIGHTING DESIGNER
Ron Bowden

SOUND DESIGNER
Pia Muyot

COSTUME DESIGN
Laura Wilson

PROPERTIES COORDINATOR
Sophia Ege

SCENIC DESIGN
Derrick Pemberton

MUSIC DIRECTOR
Justin Brauer

CHOREOGRAPHER
Alexis DawTyne

FIGHT CHOREOGRAPHER
Ron Bowden

ASST. STAGE MANAGER
Karen Duke

ASST. DIRECTOR
Erin Berg

ASST. MUSIC DIRECTOR
Brian Smith

ASST. LIGHTING DESIGN
Austin Errera

PRODUCTION ASST.
Jillian Mosk

ASST. SCENIC DESIGN
Emilee McArdle

DIRECTOR
Ron Bowden

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Derrick Pemberton

PRODUCER
Michael Courtney

The Videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Welcome~

A Note from the Producer

On Behalf of the Board of Directors of Illini Student Musicals, I would like to welcome you to *The Wedding Singer* at Lincoln Hall Theatre. Welcome to our second season and our third production. There is a tremendous amount of talent that has been working incredibly hard for months to produce the show you are about to see. The dedication of our staff members, cast members, and volunteers is literally a marvel and this production would not have been possible without them.

Besides the hard work and dedication of our members, ISM could not exist without the generosity and support of our sponsors including the School of Music and J.P.Morgan Chase & Co. We are very grateful to gift they have afforded us.

This season has been trying, yet very rewarding. The cast and staff had a number of difficulties to face and overcome in order to bring you *The Wedding Singer*. The integrity and dedication they displayed, even when the task seemed impossible, is what makes this group of individuals great. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with such a fantastic team and am very proud of what we were able to accomplish. Theatre is truly a collaborative art and brings the best out of those who participate. ISM is a prime example of this as well as an organization whose whole is definitely greater than the sum of its parts. Congratulations to all who have worked so hard in this production.

Lastly, I would like to thank you, our supporters. We would not be where we are without the love and support that we have received from you. Thank you for believing in us. You have made it possible for us all to spend this semester doing what we love to do- theatre. I hope that you are now able to reward yourself in the dividends of the performance that you are about to see.

If you enjoy what you see, like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, or consider becoming a supporter or sponsor our next show. We need now, more than ever, the support of viewers like you to continue the tradition of excellence in student musical theatre with ISM. We are extremely proud of what we have created in this group and I thank you, and all of our members, for taking this leap with us.

Without further ado, I invite you to sit back, relax, and enjoy Illini Student Musical's production of *The Wedding Singer*.

Best,
Michael Courtney
Producer | ISM Treasurer

Who's Who in the Production?

efficient and always put on a great show. I love that we have such an accessible, easy-to-work-with organization on campus."

Lynn Burkhead (Oboe & English Horn): is a Junior in Oboe Performance and is thrilled to be playing in pit orchestra for "The Wedding Singer"! As a huge musical theatre nerd, she has really enjoyed being involved in this production - especially considering her last pit experience was a very rough high school production of "Phantom of the Opera"... Much love to fellow pit-mates and to Justin for being super awesome.

Matthew Renne (Trumpet): is happy to be returning to the ISM stage, though this time as a member of the pit band. It was his trumpet that lead him to the stage in high school and his first production of *The Wedding Singer* that solidified his love of musical theatre. He is thrilled to be back at his roots for ISM's production of *The Wedding Singer*. His recent credits include *Cabaret*, *The Drowsy Chaperone* and *Hairspray*. For Tate.

Sean McQuinn (Keyboard): is a sophomore in Music Education and Piano Performance and your best friend ever. Sean has already had many years of experience accompanying and playing for musicals and is excited to join *The Wedding Singer*'s cast and crew.

Chad Beguelin (Book, Lyrics): Chad Beguelin is the Tony Award Nominated bookwriter and lyricist of "The Wedding Singer", which premiered on Broadway at the Al Hirschfeld Theater. He wrote the lyrics for the Broadway musical "Elf", which also premiered at the Al Hirschfeld Theater. Along with his writing partner Matthew Sklar, Chad has also written "The Rhythm Club" (Signature Theater Company), "Wicked City" (American Stage Com-

pany, Mason Street Warehouse) and various projects for Disney.

Chad has been the recipient of The Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation Award, The Edward Kleban Award for Outstanding Lyric Writing and the Gilman & Gonzalez-Falla Musical Theater Award. He was also nominated for a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Lyrics, as well as a Tony Award for Best Original Score and Best Book of a Musical for "The Wedding Singer". He currently lives in New York with his partner Tom and their Yorkshire Terrier Bailey.

Matthew Sklar (Music): Matthew Sklar received a Tony Award® nomination (Best Original Score) and a Drama Desk nomination (Outstanding Music) for his work on *The Wedding Singer*. He co-produced the show's original Broadway cast recording for Sony/BMG Masterworks Broadway. Matthew is a recipient of the ASCAP Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award, the Gilman & Gonzalez-Falla Musical Theatre Award, and the Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation Award. In addition to his work as a composer, Matthew has been a pianist, conductor and/or arranger for more than a dozen Broadway productions including *Shrek*; *Caroline, or Change*; *Nine*; *42nd Street*; *Titanic*; *Miss Saigon*; and *Les Misérables*. He has also contributed original music to the hit Nickelodeon television series *Wonder Pets*.

Tim Herlihy (Book): is an American screen actor, film producer, screenwriter, and Broadway show author. Herlihy was born in Brooklyn, New York. He graduated from New York University Stern School of Business in 1988 and New York University School of Law in 1992.

Thank you!

Aaron Kaplan	Louis and Virginia Costello
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Bill Kingman, Direct Impressions	Matt Bleck
Champaign Urbana Symphony Orchestra	Michael Courtney
Christian Thompson	Pearl Kane
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Excellence - A Note from the Director

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Illini Student Musical's Fall production of *The Wedding Singer*. On behalf of the cast, staff, and crew, we are all very excited to share with you this amazing story of love, loss, and new love.

We set out, in this production, to tell this story in its truest form and we played a lot on the subtleties in the relationship of the characters. When I met with the design teams, putting my ideas for this show into words was not always easy and at times was rather difficult. I believe that as a team we have all worked extremely hard to put everything in place to keep things both simple and artful at the same time; telling the story and letting the story live through us.

From the very first rehearsal, I told the cast that we would be doing things differently than they may have been used to in the past. I told them that with the talent and drive of everyone in the room we could exceed a good production and would strive to be excellent.

Webster's Dictionary defines excellent as: very good; extremely good; superior. When you want something to be excellent it takes 100% commitment from everyone involved, from the weakest to the strongest, from the most shy to the most outgoing. The only way to get to place of excellence is to help each other. In the cast, we played games that brought out the competitiveness in everyone while simultaneously teaching the value of the team. After a while, different teams began to focus on helping each other succeed instead of competing. It was then that I knew they were ready to begin to move towards excellence. Since then, I have not let them forget what excellence is and how we got there.

This cast has worked harder than any cast I have directed to help us all get to a place of excellence. Because of them, I believe that we have succeeded in our goal and as I watch these performances I look on as a proud father looks at his son or daughter when they have succeed.

I brought a tradition to ISM from my high school where we would say a phrase together at the beginning and ending of rehearsals or performances. The purpose of this was to get everyone focused and in the same frame of mind at the beginning of the day and make sure that everyone left feeling united at the end. As you sit in your chair and enjoy tonight's performance. I want you to think about what these words mean to you.

"Live the moment, Seize the day, Love every minute, Because there's only One today"

Thank you and enjoy *The Wedding Singer*
Ron Bowden Jr, Director

CAST

Robbie.....David Naber
 Julia.....Annie Keller
 Sammy.....Sean Tierney
 Holly.....Mary Geraci
 George.....Brandon Saposnik
 Rosie.....Kat Spungen
 Glen.....Janjay Knowlden
 Linda.....Sara Costello
 Dance Captains.....Jason Benjoya & Allison Wall

Ensemble:

Ali Jonesi, Christopher Cayari, Delaney Sterling, Jay Kim, John Lattanzi, Katie O'Shea, Nick Humbles, Sarah Freedland, Sarah Sensenbrenner, Taylor Toms, Allison Wall, Ashley Scott, Carly Graham, Deepa Suneel, Mindy Shore, Nisha Moorkoth, Jason Benjoya, and Tucker Nevel

About: *The Wedding Singer*

The Wedding Singer takes us back to a time when hair was big, greed was good, collars were up, and a wedding singer might just be the coolest guy in the room. It's 1985 and rock-star wannabe Robbie Hart is New Jersey's favorite wedding singer. He's the life of the party, until his own fiancée leaves him at the altar. Shot through the heart, Robbie makes every wedding as disastrous as his own. Enter Julia, a winsome waitress who wins his affection. As luck would have it, Julia is about to be married to a Wall Street shark, and unless Robbie can pull off the performance of a decade, the girl of his dreams will be gone forever.

The Wedding Singer is presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019.
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This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

In Loving Memory of Gary Gardner

Thank you to those who donated in loving memory of Gary Gardner for the 2013-2014 season. We would especially like to thank Pearl L. Kane.

Thank You:

Pearl Kane
 Matt Bleck
 Michael Courtney

Tom & Debby Brauer
 Kenneth Miller
 Peter Rasey



Gary Gardner
 March 24, 1944– June 15, 2013

ISM

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Illini Student Musicals (ISM) is a 501(c)3 student organization at the University of Illinois. ISM is dedicated to the production of large-scale, high quality musical theatre as well as maintains a private charity committed to giving back to Champaign-Urbana.

We are in need of your support! ISM is completely self sustaining and relies on contributions from patrons like you. As a 501(c)3, all donations made to ISM are eligible for deduction on your federal income tax under section 170 of the federal tax code.

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Thank You!

Who's Who in the Staff and Orchestra?

involved in productions with Lake Forest High School, IUB, Lake Forest Dance Academy, and CenterStage in Lake Forest. He'd like to thank Michael Courtney, Kirsten Vold, and Justice Janowski for being the awesome people they are. Matt has enjoyed working with the cast and staff of The Wedding Singer and hopes you all enjoy the show.

Pia Muyot (Sound Designer): is currently a senior, and she is excited to be working as Sound Designer for ISM. Her previous credits include "Little Shop of Horrors", "My Fair Lady", and "Anything Goes". Outside of theatre, Pia is actively involved with the Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers. Break a leg to everyone!

Michael Courtney (Producer, Treasurer): is very excited to be returning as the Producer for Illini Student Musicals and The Wedding Singer. In the past, Michael has served as Technical Director (Little Shop of Horrors) and was a founding member of ISM as the Treasurer. Michael is a senior studying consumer economics and finance in the college of ACES with a minor in Organizational Leadership. He is very excited for this production and is very proud of everyone's hard work especially Ron Bowden. He would like to thank Matt Bleck, and Aaron Kaplan for their support on this production and their great friendship. Congratulations to all who have worked so hard this semester, your efforts are obvious in this show.

Sophia Ege (Properties Coordinator): is pursuing a rhetoric major and minoring in political science and communication. She has a strong appreciation for performance art, but prefers to work behind the scenes, where her hands can be put to use. Constructing three-dimensional art has always been a hobby of hers. She hopes to incor-

porate this hobby into her life wherever she can whilst maintaining a relationship with theater productions.

Ron Bowden Jr. (Director, Lighting Designer, Fight Choreographer): is completing his Acting training at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he was seen in Moonchildren, A History of the American Film, Caberet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, and Macbeth. He also directed Songs for a New World and both directed and acted in Reefer Madness at the Armory Free Theatre. He has also been apart of the Illini Union Board Musical where he has been an actor (Chicago, West Side Story, Jekyl and Hyde) and the lighting designer (The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Seussical, Guys & Dolls). He recently finished working productions of Peter Pan and Go! Dog, Go. He is a proud member of ISM and happy to be working on his second show. Ron could not be excited to have had the opportunity to work with this amazing cast, staff, and crew on mounting this production.

Eric Wood (Bass): The Wedding Singer is Eric Wood's first production with Illini Student Musicals. Eric is a freshman at U of I studying Mechanical Engineering. He has played Bass for many other musicals, including: The Sound of Music, Swing!, Kiss Me Kate, and 42nd Street. Eric is extremely excited about this performance and hopes that the audience enjoys the show!

Justin Peters (Drum Set/Per percussion): is currently a junior studying percussion performance at the University of Illinois. He has played a number of musicals on and off campus, including The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Evil Dead: The Musical, and Little Shop of Horrors. Justin is excited to be working with ISM again. "The staff, crew, and performers are all remarkably

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Director.....	Ron Bowden
Technical Director.....	Derrick Pemberton
Music Director.....	Justin Brauer
Choreographer.....	Alexis DawTyne
Fight Choreographer.....	Ron Bowden
Stage Manager.....	Audrey Thompson
Properties Coordinator.....	Sophia Ege
Lighting Designer.....	Ron Bowden
Sound Designer.....	Pia Muyot
Costume Designer.....	Laura Wilson
Scenic Designer.....	Derrick Pemberton
Scenic Charge Artist.....	Sean Tierney
Asst. Director.....	Erin Berg
Asst. Music Director.....	Brian Smith
Asst. Scenic Designer.....	Emilee McArdle
Asst. Lighting Designer.....	Austin Errera
Asst. Stage Manager.....	Karen Duke
Production Assistant.....	Jillian Mosk
Producer.....	Michael Courtney
Faculty Advisor.....	Dawn Harris

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Illini Student Musicals (ISM) Mission Statement:

ISM is an organization dedicated to the performance of musical theater on campus. Students will be able to gain experience in the administrative, technical, creative, and performance aspects of putting a musical together. By putting on a show once a semester, students will be able to get first-hand experience in the collaborative process and in all elements of musical theater. ISM will strive to put on performances of works that showcase our members' talent, enthusiasm, creativity, and passion. With each show, we aim to challenge ourselves as artists as well as our audiences with performances of the highest artistic and professional caliber.



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Illini Student Musical Shout Outs

To my dearest IUBabies

(MC, Ashley, Nick V, JB, Neal, Eric, and Victoria),

Thank you for dragging me along on this wild ride. Without IUB Musicals and ISM, I would not be who I am today. You guys are the ones who started it all for me and broke me out of my shell. The memories I've spent with you and the rest of ISM will be with me wherever I go!

For those of you in the show, break a leg and congratulations on another thrilling performance! For those of you not in the show, thank you so much for being amazing friends and for your continued support!

Way to go, Sara! We're so proud to see your hair-whipping performance in *the Wedding Singer!* Love, Mom & Dad

Congratulations to everyone involved in this great production! You all should be very proud of your fine work! -

 The Costello's

Who's Who in the Staff?

and crew for being so welcoming and supportive! Enjoy the show!

Justin Brauer (Music Director, Keyboard 1 and 3, President): is currently a senior in Choral Music Education, and is in the process of applying for graduate school in Musicology. Most recently, he served as Music Director for the Urbana Park District's production of *The Music Man*, and spent two weeks in the Chicago area playing reeds for the Fremont Street Theatre Company's *The Drowsy Chaperone*. JustinMBrauer.com

Karen Duke (Asst. Stage Manager): This is Karen's second show with Illini Student Musicals and she is very excited to be working with this incredibly talented group of performers. She is currently undecided but is transferring into a psycholo-

gy major. She is so proud of the cast and is thankful for the friends she has made during this time spent together. Karen wants to wish the cast a wonderful weekend of performances and hopes that you enjoy the show!

Laura Wilson (Costume Designer): is a first year Library and Information Science graduate student and plans to become a children's librarian in the future. She was the assistant costumer for the Illini Union Board's production of *"Hairspray"* last spring. This is her first production with ISM.

Matt Bleck (Vice-President): is a junior studying Civil Engineering at the University of Illinois. He is excited to be working on his third production with Illini Student Musicals. Outside of ISM, Matt has been

Who's Who in the Staff?

Audrey Thompson (Stage Manager): is a senior in political science with minors in history and French. This is Audrey's second show as the stage manager for Illini Student Musicals. Her previous experience includes Seussical: The Musical, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Chicago, and The Little Shop of Horrors. She would like to thank her stage crew and assistant stage manager, Karen Duke. And also her parents. (That one was obligatory, but no less sincere).

Austin Errera (Asst. Lighting Designer): is a freshmen here studying ACE from Schaumburg II. He has been a part of dozens of plays and musicals in his high school, but this is his first show here at the University of Illinois. Hope you enjoy the show.

Brian Smith (Asst. Music Director): is having a blast as assistant music director in his second production with ISM! Brian is a junior studying music education with plans to marry rich. He is also a member of the Marching Illini, University of Illinois Chorale, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

Derrick Pemberton (Scenic Designer, Technical Director, Director of Marketing): is a senior Engineering and Theatrical Design student at the U of I. His other credits with Illini Student Musicals include Little Shop of Horrors and The Drowsy Chaperone. Credits at the U of I include assistant scenic designer for Clybourne Park and show carpenter for The Tempest. Elsewhere, Derrick has worked at several regional theaters. Credits include scenic designer for The Station Theatre's Chess and carpentry intern for Barrington Stage Company's 2013 season including On The Town, The Chosen, Much Ado About Nothing, Clybourne Park, Southern Comfort, The Little Mermaid Jr., Muckrakers, and Scott and Hem in the Garden of Allah.

Emilee McArdle (Asst. Scenic Designer): is thrilled to be a part of her second production of the Wedding Singer! This is Emilee's first show with ISM. She has enjoyed all her weekends spent at the warehouse building the set with all the cast and crew. She is so thankful to have been given the opportunity to work with the production staff as well as the entire cast. She has enjoyed all the time she has spent with the cast and crew and wishes everyone a wonderful run!

Erin Berg (Asst. Director): can't believe this is her last show with Illini Student Musicals, and couldn't be happier to be assistant directing this show! Erin has always wanted to be involved in a production of The Wedding Singer, and has always wanted experience in directing a show. Now she is living the dream this semester doing both! Erin would like to thank her family for supporting her in everything she does. Additionally, Erin thanks the entire cast, crew, and staff for making this semester worthwhile and giving her the motivation to get through each day. Erin would like to give a special thank you to the exec board of ISM. Without their hard work, we never would've gotten off the ground and become the leading RSO for musical theatre on campus! Break a leg everyone!

Jillian Mosk (Production Assistant): is so excited to be involved in ISM for the first time this semester. She has enjoyed spending time getting to know the cast and crew and working hands-on to produce a wonderful show! Jillian is an active member of Sigma Delta Tau and was highly involved in her theatre department at Highland Park High School. Her recent favorite works include On Stars Not Falling, The Sparrow, A Streetcar Named Desire, Rent, and Jekyll and Hyde. Thank you to the cast

ORCHESTRA

Conductor and Keyboard 1.....Justin Brauer
 Keyboard 2.....Sean McQuinn
 Drums.....Justin Peters
 Bass.....Eric Wood
 Guitar 1.....Jonah Brooks
 Guitar 2.....Noah Gehrmann
 Trumpet.....Matt Renne
 Alto Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute.....Tim He
 Oboe, English Horn.....Lynn Burkhead

Music orchestrated by Irwin Fisch

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

It's Your Wedding Day.....Robbie and Company
 Someday.....Julia and Company
 Awesome.....Robbie and Julia
 Someday (Robbie's Reprise).....Robbie
 A Note From Linda.....Linda
 It's Your Wedding Day (Reprise).....Robbie
 Pop!.....Holly, Julia, Glen and Company
 Somebody Kill Me.....Robbie
 A Note From Grandma.....Grandma Rosie
 Casualty of Love.....Robbie, Losers and Company
 Come Out of the Dumpster.....Julia and Robbie
 Today You Are a Man.....Sammy, George, and Robbie
 George's Prayer.....George
 Not That Kind of Thing.....Robbie, Julia, and, Company
 Saturday Night in the City.....Holly, Robbie, Julia, Glen, Band

Act II

Entr'acte.....Orchestra
 All About the Green.....Glen, Robbie and Suits
 Someday (Julia's Reprise).....Julia
 Right in Front of Your Eyes.....Holly, Sammy
 All About the Green (Reprise).....Robbie, Ricky and Bum
 Single.....Sammy, George, Ricky, Bum, Robbie and Company
 If I Told You.....Robbie and Julia
 Let Me Come Home.....Linda
 If I Told You (Reprise).....Robbie and Julia
 Move That Thang.....Grandma Rosie, George and Company
 Grow Old With You.....Robbie and Julia
 It's Your Wedding Day.....Full Company



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ISM

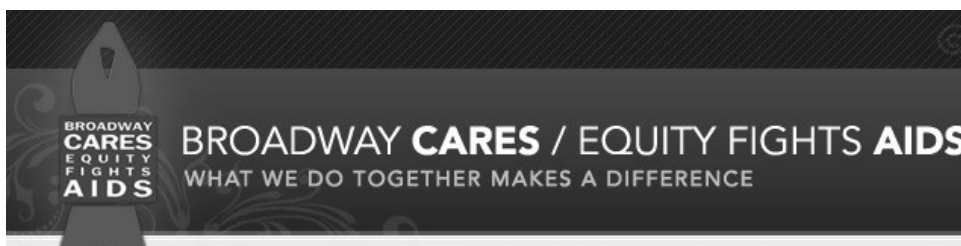
Illini Student Musicals Outreach Programs

Illini Student Musicals is excited to have the opportunity to work with and give back to the community that has given so much to us. Over the past year, ISM and its members have worked in Champaign-Urbana nursing homes, community elementary, middle and high schools, as well as the University of Illinois Laboratory high school. We are excited to commit volunteer hours to these worthy causes.

In the past year, ISM has:

- Performed for the elderly at area nursing homes
- Audition Preparation for students and directors workshops
- Vocal and Dance Rehearsals Workshops
- Technical Workshops for Staff and Students

For more information or questions on how to get involved, email us at:
Outreach@IlliniStudentMusicals.org



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WHAT WE DO TOGETHER MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Who's Who in the Cast and Staff?

er!" She is a junior pursuing her BFA in Acting. Her roles on campus have included playing the Master of Ceremonies in, "Chicago," Mrs. Tottendale in Illini Student Musica's very first musical, "The Drowsy Chaperone," and Martha in the Krannert Center's, "Spring Awakening." She is also a member of The Titanic Players long-form improv team. She would like to thank Team Direction, this wonderful cast and crew, and her parents for just being primo!

Sara Freedland (Ensemble, U/S Julia): Is thrilled to be a part of her first ISM production. She is currently a freshman Acting major. Her most recent role was as Philia in Champaign Urbana Theatre Company's *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. She would like to thank the cast and crew for making this a fantastic experience and welcoming her in as family.

Sarah Sensenbrenner (Ensemble): is very excited to be in her second ISM show, *The Wedding Singer*! She is a sophomore studying elementary education, and plans to be a middle school math teacher. Since high school, she had loved being involved in musicals; her favorite role being the lead in *Cinderella*. After having such a great experience in last season's *Little Shop of Horrors*, she is very grateful to be a part of ISM once again. Sarah would like to thank her family and friends for their encouragement, and her ISM family for making every day in this process fun! She hopes that you all sit back and enjoy the show!

Sean Tierney (Sammy, Scenic Charge Artist): is psyched to be playing Sammy in his 3rd ISM production! Before *Little Shop of Horrors* (Ensemble) and *Drowsy Chaperone* (Gangster #1), he had his first college theatre experience playing Sgt. Fogharty and Jury in IUB's 2012 produc-

tion of Chicago. Sean is a senior art student majoring in Sculpture, and his work often involves performance. He would like to thank his family for their love and support, and congratulate his sister Shannon and soon-to-be brother-in-law Marty on their upcoming wedding! It's going to be AWESOME!

Taylor Toms (Ensemble): is a junior in the BFA Acting program. This is her first ISM show and she couldn't be more thrilled. Prior to *The Wedding Singer*, she has also been in *Troilus and Cressida* (Helen), *The Play of Antichrist* (Gentillitas/Enoch), *The Wiz* (Glinda), and *Working* (Waitress). Taylor is also a member of Cutting Edge Show Choir, Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority, and one of the Vice Presidents for Illini Dance Marathon. Enjoy the show!

Tucker Nevel (Ensemble): is a freshman studying psychology and this is his first musical in college and is really excited to be participating! He has been in musicals before but has never been in a show completely run by students, which he thinks is pretty awesome. He also wants you to enjoy the show.

Alexis DawTyane (Choreographer): is a Junior studying Acting here at the University of Illinois. This is her third show with Illini Student Musicals and she is delighted to be on staff of this RSO. Outside of ISM Alexis is involved with the campus ministry Cru. Most recent theatre credits include: IUB's production of *Hairspray*, Illini Student Musicals productions of *Little Shop of Horrors* and *The Drowsy Chaperone*, the Armory Free Theatre's *Reefer Madness* and *Timberlake Playhouse's* *Guys and Dolls*, *Footloose* and *Cabaret*. Enjoy. 1 Corinthians 10:31

Who's Who in the Cast?

now he is looking forward to bringing his talents to the college sphere as he furthers his studies.

Katarina G. Spungen (Rosie): is so thrilled to finally be a part of ISM! A junior in the acting program, she has been seen around campus in Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson (Rachel), A Dream Play (She/Wife/Mother/Dean of Philosophy), and Reefer Madness (Mae). She was born and raised near New York City, and performed in many school and community theatres as well as in a limited Off-Broadway Run of The Me Nobody Knows (Catherine).

Katie O'Shea (Ensemble, U/S Holly): is thrilled to be in her third ISM production, after appearing in The Drowsy Chaperone and Little Shop of Horrors last year. Katie is currently an English major and active member/PR Chair of Chi Omega sorority, and loves that ISM allows her to keep up with her love of theatre. She would like to thank the entire cast and staff, her family and friends, her wonderful Chi O sisters (especially Jocelyn and Bridgette for being the best roommates to come home to after a long night of rehearsal), and Jeri, Rachel, and Mindy for being her theatre support system. Enjoy the show!

Mary Geraci (Holly): is a Junior here at the University of Illinois studying Psychology. She transferred from Harper College and loves the new atmosphere. This is Mary's first production with Illini Student Musicals. She is having a fantastic time and is so happy that everyone here is so supportive and friendly. She would like to thank everyone who has helped her with this new journey!

Mindy Shore (Ensemble): is thrilled to return to the ISM stage after having performed in The Drowsy Chaperone

(Gangster) & Little Shop of Horrors (featured soloist) last year. Mindy is currently a sophomore working towards a BFA in acting. She is also a proud member of the UIUC Black Chorus. Stevenson H.S credits: The Tempest (Stephana), Sweeney Todd (Beggar Woman) West Side Story (Francesca), Les Miserables (Claquesous), Aida (Ensemble). Big Deal Productions: Annie (Sophie) The Wedding Singer (Ensemble), Little Shop of Horrors (Mrs. Bernstein). Mindy would like to thank the incredible cast, staff and crew for being so fabulous and such a joy to work with. Enjoy the show!

Nick Humbles (Ensemble, U/S George): is thrilled to be performing in the ensemble of Illini Student Musical's production of The Wedding Singer. He is a sophomore studying Computer Science and has been involved in ISM since his freshman year. You may have seen Nick in past ISM shows as The Drowsy Chaperone and Little Shop of Horrors. Nick Humbles would like to thank his fellow cast members, directors, and staff for staying dedicated and determined during every part of the rehearsal process. He would also like to thank his parents, among other family and friends who came to see the show. Nick Humbles would like you to have fun and enjoy the show!

Nisha Moorkoth (Ensemble): is a junior studying Interdisciplinary Health Sciences. This is her first show with ISM and she is incredibly excited to be a part of this group. She has had a great time getting to know the cast members and creating this show. Nisha is so thankful for her friends and family who have supported her throughout this. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

Sara Costello (Linda): feels right at home with the cast of "The Wedding Sing-

Presented in Loving Memory of Gary Gardner: 2013-2014

This season, Illini Student Musicals will be remembering an University of Illinois great, Gary Gardner, who passed away peacefully of natural causes in his home on Saturday, June 15, 2013 at the age of 69.



Gary was born on March 24, 1944. He was raised in Danville, Illinois and later graduated from Danville High School. Gardner continued his education by earning a B.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois and, in between, an M.F.A. in playwriting at UCLA's College of Fine Arts.

As a student at the University of Illinois, Gary directed a number of student run musical productions including The Music Man, featuring a breath-taking musical finale which incorporated the Champaign High School marching band. As a student at UCLA, he won the Samuel Goldwyn Writing Award for his

play, "August and Ice Cream." The play was produced in Los Angeles and garnered two Drama-Logue Awards.

Gary had an infectious personality who touched the lives of everyone he met. At UCLA, Gary was voted the #1 Professor, best known for his class, the History of the American Musical Theatre. At the University of Illinois Gary pushed the boundaries of success with every production he was a part of. Gary inspired thousands of students and pupils to joys of musical theatre.

Gary Gardner embodies the spirit of Student Musical Theatre, and it is for that reason that Illini Student Musicals is proud to present its 2013-2014 season in loving memory of Gary Gardner.

This season, several patrons have donated in loving memory of Gary and in support of Illini Student Musicals. See the donations page for a complete list of those who have given in memory of Mr. Gardner.

Who's Who in the Cast?

Ali Jonesi (Ensemble): Ali is ecstatic to be working again with Illini Student Musicals! Recent credits include ISM's Little Shop of Horrors and Stevenson High School's Sweeney Todd. Outside of ISM, she's a sophomore history major who is an active member of Sigma Delta Tau and Epsilon Delta. She has loved working with this brilliant group of people and wishes to thank her family, friends, and ISM for their love, support, and for believing in her!

Allison Wall (Ensemble, Dance Captain): Allison is a senior pursuing an English degree with a minor in Communications. This is her first show with Illini Student Musicals. In the past, she has been in productions including Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and Fiddler on the Roof. She has also participated in show choir on campus. Allison would like to thank Alexis and the girls for always being there, and her family for their continued love and support.

Annie Keller (Julia): Annie Keller is thrilled to be performing in her first production with Illini Student Musicals. This year, she is a freshman studying Advertising in the College of Media. She performed all through high school, most notably playing Catherine in Stevenson H.S.'s production of Pippin and Anita in Big Deal Production's West Side Story. Annie is so fortunate that the entire cast, staff, and crew has welcomed her into the ISM family with open arms!

Ashley Scott (Ensemble, Corporate Relations Officer, Marketing Committee Chair): Ashley Scott is a Senior in the Department of Anthropology focusing her studies in Archaeology. She is thrilled to have started off her senior year being involved in her third ISM production. She has previously been in Little Shop of Horrors, The Drowsy Chaperone, Seussical:

The Musical and Singin' in the Rain.

Brandon Saposnik (George): is a junior in chemical engineering at the University of Illinois. He is thrilled to be a part of his second ISM production in his first major role! Past credits include Little Shop of Horrors (Ensemble), West Side Story (Big Deal), and Les Miserables (Bishop of Digne/Army Officer/Student). Brandon wants to thank the cast for making the rehearsal process such a blast and hopes everyone enjoys the show. Fifty Years! Fifty Years!

Carly Graham (Ensemble, U/S Rosie, Grant Writing Committee): is a junior studying Psychology and Philosophy. This is her third ISM show, having previously appeared in Little Shop of Horrors and The Drowsy Chaperone. Carly's other previous credits include: The Odd Couple Female Edition (Olive Madison), Lucky Stiff (Rita) and All Shook Up (Sylvia). Carly also belongs to a professional chemistry fraternity, Alpha Chi Sigma, and does psychology research in the Visual Cognition Lab on campus. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Christopher Cayari (Ensemble, Community Outreach Officer): is excited to perform in his sophomore ISM production. His favorite past roles include Audrey II (Little Shop), Collins (Rent), and Barfee (Spelling Bee). He holds the office of Community Outreach for the ISM board. He is currently working on his Ph.D. in music education and would like to say thank you to his TNTS. A special note to the cast, crew, and production team: "Thank you for refusing to give up on me!"

David Naber (Robbie): is a sophomore double-majoring in Computer Science and Cinema Studies, so suffice it to say he has had a busy semester. Regardless, he is

Who's Who in the Cast?

absolutely thrilled to be appearing once again alongside another of ISM's extremely talented casts. His favorite roles include Orin the Sadistic Dentist in ISM's most recent production of Little Shop of Horrors, Pippin in Pippin, Peter in The Diary of Anne Frank, the Frenchman in South Pacific, and El Gallo in The Fantasticks, for which he won the Monroe Actors Stage Company Award for Best Actor in a Leading Role. Many thanks to Nick Humbles, Chris Cayari, and Jason Benjoya for whipping his non-guitar playing fingers into shape and providing other musical expertise!

Deepa Suneel (Ensemble, U/S Linda): is a junior studying speech and hearing science here at the University of Illinois. She is so excited to be involved with the production of The Wedding Singer! This is her second show with Illini Student Musicals. Outside of ISM, Deepa is involved with the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association (NSSLHA), Pi Beta Phi sorority, and Illini Student Admissions representatives (tour guide). She would like to thank her friends and family for being the most supportive. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Delaney Sterling (Ensemble): is a freshman in the School of Music, and is so excited to be a part of this fantastic production. Previous roles include Little Red in Into the Woods, Nancy in Oliver!, and Drood in The Mystery of Edwin Drood. She would like to thank Jeanann Power, Janet Rourke, and Kevin Bellie for inspiring her to pursue her passion for music after high school, and especially her parents for their endless support.

Jay Kim (Ensemble, U/S Sammy, U/S Glen): The end is nigh! Now more than halfway into his last semester with ISM, Jay is in a glass case of emotion. The com-

bination of school, multiple applications for exchange program, grad school, job, internship along with writing newspaper columns, touring the nation with Chai-Town, the semester certainly has had its ups and downs, ultimately culminating in this remake of a classic. Jay would like to first thank the staff and cast of the production; ever the beasts, as well as the lovely crowd that have gathered tonight, our patrons, for your continued supports. Hope you enjoy our production of The Wedding Singer, because this one's has somehow melted all of Jay's problems away.

Janjay Knowlden (Glen): Recently playing Gabe from Next to Normal, Officer Lockstock from Urinetown, and the Baker from Into the Woods, Janjay Knowlden makes his debut into college theatre. It has been an absolute thrill to work with a new group of people. He is very thankful for anyone and everyone involved. Thank you and, please, enjoy the show.

Jason Benjoya (Ensemble, Dance Captain): Although only lightly involved in theatre prior to this production, music and performance have always been passions of Jason's. This is Jason's first production with Illini Student Musicals, and at the University of Illinois. He is immensely excited to be a part of such a unique and talented group of people who share his interests. He thanks the entire cast, crew, and production staff for helping him improve his singing, acting, and dancing abilities through this show. He also thanks his parents for always being behind him in all of his endeavors.

John Lattanzi (Ensemble): is a freshman here at the University of Illinois majoring in Industrial Engineering and this is his first production in his college experience. In high school, he was active in theatre all four years along with dance and choir and