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Holland College Florence Simmons Performance Hall

Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

2023



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Anne & Gilbert Playbill

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Anne & Gilbert[™] *The Musical*

Director: Wade Lynch

Assistant Director / Choreographer: Mackenzie Cutcliffe

Music Director: Elaine Boulanger

Assistant Music Director: Laurie Forsyth

Technical Director: Pat Caron

Stage Manager: Susan Bruce

Production Manager: Beth Rogers

Assistant Stage Manager: Sarah Bruce

Company Manager: Gabrielle Roddy

Producers: Joe Byrne and Campbell Webster

Associate Producer: Wade Lynch

Publicity and Marketing: Campbell Webster and Matt Kinney

Florence Simmons Performance Hall General Manager: Gloria Hastie

Music: Bob Johnston & Nancy White

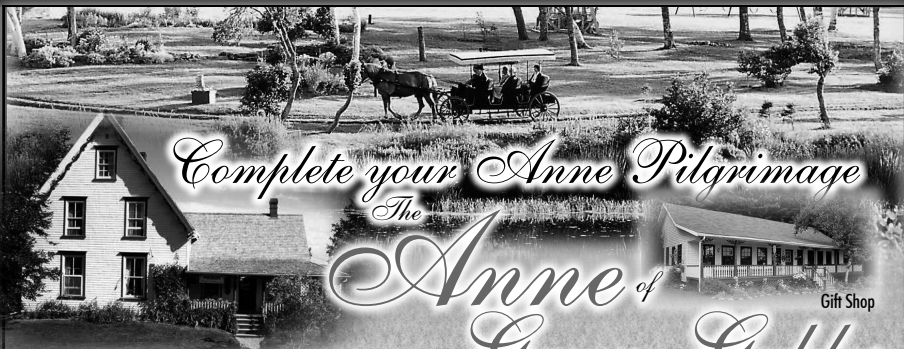
Book: Jeff Hochhauser

Lyrics: Nancy White, Bob Johnston & Jeff Hochhauser

Orchestrations: Tom Leighton & Bob Johnston

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Anne & Gilbert, A Musical By Nancy White, Robert Johnston and Jeffery Hochhauser, Is Based Upon The Novels Anne Of Avonlea and Anne Of The Island By L.M. Montgomery And Is Produced With The Permissions Of Ruth Macdonald and David Macdonald, Trustee.



Located in Park Corner, Rt. 20. Turn North where Rte. 6 meets Rte. 20 at the L.M. Montgomery Birthplace in New London. Follow this beautiful 8KM (5 mile) drive Lucy Maud Montgomery so often took to visit her Aunt Annie and Uncle John on the Campbell farm where she was married in 1911.

This Historic homestead has on display many artifacts, including **Anne's Enchanted Bookcase**, and treasures the author held dear.

While you are here experience one of **Matthew's horse-drawn carriage rides** along the scenic **Lake of Shining Waters**, or purchase a licensed Anne of Green Gables souvenir from our gift shop.

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From The Original Producers...

Anne & Gilbert is an unusual Canadian theatre story. Since its launch in 2005 it has become among the more successful and critically acclaimed musicals in Canada.

With rave reviews in *Variety*, *The Toronto Star*, *The Ottawa Citizen*, and productions around the world including Australia, Singapore, Detroit and Tennessee, *Anne & Gilbert* continues to delight audiences wherever it is performed.

Its popularity is owing to a small army of enthusiasts, none more important than the three gifted writers who started it all: Jeff Hochhauser, Bob Johnston, and Nancy White. Their stage adaptation of L.M. Montgomery's classic novels has been brought to life by many excellent performers, directors, and designers.

None of *Anne & Gilbert's* success would have happened without the original investors in the production: Fred Hyndman, Doug Hall, Peter MacDougald, and David Carmody. Their early support made *Anne & Gilbert* possible.

Thank you for being part of this unique Canadian theatre success story. In buying a ticket, you have made a contribution to an important development in Canadian cultural history.

Sincerely,
Campbell Webster & David Malahoff
Anne & Gilbert Inc.



David Malahoff

David Malahoff has co-produced previous PEI productions of **Anne & Gilbert** (2005-2009). He was the co-producer of the *NEW*, *New Potato Time Review* featuring Patrick Ledwell and Tanya Davis. Previously, he was Executive Producer of CBC Radio's top rated *Basic Black*. At CBC Radio, he created the popular *Hum Line* musical quiz show featuring Arthur Black, Shelagh Rogers, and Danny Marks. He also created and produced the music programs *Under the Covers* and *Duets*. Moving to

CBC Newsworld, he was Senior Producer for CBC Newsworld's *Big Life*. Malahoff was the creator and writer of the documentary series *Scars* on CBC-TV.



Campbell Webster

Campbell Webster has produced or licensed all productions of **Anne & Gilbert** since it first hit the stage at the Victoria Playhouse. In 1998, he founded Campbell Webster Entertainment which managed various artists including Lennie Gallant, Nancy White and John Southworth. As a Founding Director of the East Coast Music Association, an event he chaired for three years, he created many of its signature events including the 72-Hour Jam and Radio ECMA. His television production

career included two Gemini nominations, and credits as a Producer on the lifestyle series *My Messy Bedroom* and the animated CBC series *And Yet I Blame Hollywood*. His management company also runs the CW Foundation, a charitable foundation devoted to social justice in Atlantic Canada and Latin America. His more than a decade of writing columns for the PEI daily, *The Guardian*, resulted in a compilation of those columns, entitled *And Another Thing*.



Joe Byrne

Joe is ecstatic to return as producer on a show that he has enjoyed for more than a decade and a half. When he is not doing production tasks on **Anne & Gilbert** he is involved in his other passions of social justice and community development. He works on his communications skills through teaching driving to young people and newcomers to PEI.

Cast

BECCA GUILDERSON* Anne Shirley

HUGH RITCHIE* Gilbert Blythe

NICOLA LANNAN Diana Barry/Freshette #1

BETH ROGERS Marilla Cuthbert

GABRIELLE RODDY Rachel Lynde

ROSE MESSENGER Josie Pye/Freshette #3

NICK PRESTON* Moody Spurgeon MacPherson

ANIQUE MERCIER* Phillipa Gordon/Schoolgirl #2

GRAYSEN LAPOINTE Benji Sloan/Alec

MATT KINNEY Mr. Sloane/ Fred Wright/Professor/Headwaiter/Station Master

ORION GOKIERT Paul Irving/Alonzo

KADE McCLOUD Royal Gardner/Anthony Pye

ALLEGRA WRIGHT Mrs. Pye/Sophomore #2

HOLLY PERRY Schoolgirl #1/Sophomore #3

GRACE PROPHETA Annetta Bell/Freshette #2

REBEKAH BROWN Prillie Rogerson/Sophomore #1

DANTE TOCCACELLI Schoolboy/Freshman

CAMPBELL Homard

Understudies

ROSE MESSENGER Anne Shirley

ALLEGRA WRIGHT Marilla Cuthbert/Rachel Lynde

REBEKAH BROWN Josie Pye/Diana Barry/Phillipa Gordon

HOLLY PERRY Prillie Rogerson/Annetta Bell/Mrs. Pye/All Sophomores and Freshettes

GRACE PROPHETA Sophomore #3

KADE McCLOUD Gilbert Blythe

GRAYSEN LAPOINTE Royal Gardner

MATT KINNEY Moody Spurgeon MacPherson

DANTE TOCCACELLI Paul Irving/Alonzo/Anthony Pye/Alec/Mr. Sloane/Benji Sloan
Fred Wright/Professor/Headwaiter/Station Master

Creative Team

WADE LYNCH* Director/Associate Producer

MACKENZIE CUTCLIFFE Choreographer/Assistant Director/Swing

DANTE TOCCACELLI Dance Captain

ELAINE BOULANGER Music Director

LAURIE FORSYTH Assistant Music Director

SUSAN BRUCE Stage Manager/Head of Wardrobe

SARAH BRUCE Assistant Stage Manager/Head of Wigs/Head of Props

PAT CARON Audio Visual Designer

*The participation of these Artists are arranged by permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association under the provisions of the Dance Opera Theatre Policy (DOT).

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Band in the Barn

DON FRASER Associate Pianist

LAURIE FORSYTH Cello

JEFFREY BAZETT-JONES Violinist

Production Team

SUSAN BRUCE Stage Manager/Head of Wardrobe

SARAH BRUCE Assistant Stage Manager/Head of Wigs/Head of Props

BETH ROGERS Production Manager

GABRIELLE RODDY Company Manager

PAT CARON Technical Director

MARK SHERIDAN Head of Carpentry

PEGGY PINEAU Head Wardrobe Assistant/Dresser

SARAH BRUCE / MARY MORRISON Wardrobe Assistants

GREG ELLARD / HAILEE WHITE Backstage Crew

Writers

JEFF HOCHHAUSER, BOB JOHNSTON, NANCY WHITE

The Florence Simmons Performance Hall

GLORIA HASTIE Events and Operations Manager

PAT CARON Technical Director

JOSEPH TARDIF Assistant Technical Director

ORION GOKIERT Lighting Designer Assistant

JANE FOLLWELL Lead

Technical Services Provided by Acting Badly Inc.

Musical Numbers

Act 1

Mr. Blythe	Josie and the Girls of Avonlea
Gilbert Loves Anne of Green Gables.....	Mrs. Lynde and Ensemble
Averil's Ideal	Anne
Carried Away by Love.....	Gilbert, Anne and Ensemble
You're Island Through and Through	Gilbert, Anne and Ensemble
Polishing Silver	Anne and Diana
Saturday Morning.....	Gilbert
Hello Gilbert!	Gilbert and Josie
All You Can Do Is Wait.....	Gilbert
A Jonah Day	Anne and Ensemble
Our Duty	Marilla and Mrs. Lynde
Averil's Ideal Reprise	Diana
Someone Handed Me the Moon Today	Anne
Blessed Be The Avonlea Bride	Ensemble
Carried Away By Love Reprise	Anne and Gilbert

Act 2

The Days Ahead	Anne, Gilbert, Philippa and Ensemble
Seesaw Girl	Philippa, Anne, Alec and Alonzo
When He Was My Beau	Marilla
May I Offer My Umbrella?	Roy and Anne
Gilbert Would Never Compose a Sonnet To My Eyes.....	Diana and Anne
You're Never Safe From Surprises 'Til You're Dead	Mrs. Lynde
Hot House Flowers	Gilbert and the Redmond Co-Eds
Just When I'd Given Up Hope	Roy, Josie, Gilbert and Ensemble
You're Island Through and Through Reprise	Ensemble
That Little Fiddle Player	Philippa, Alec and Alonzo
Forever In my Life	Anne
Gilbert Loves Anne of Green Gables Finale	Ensemble

This list is accurate at time of publication.

Message from The Director



I am embarrassed to say that when I was a young boy, I avoided reading L.M. Montgomery's "Anne" stories because I believed they were "just for girls" and there was certain social peril in being caught dead reading them. But when I saw the 1985 television series, starring Megan Follows, I realized the value of this brave and engaging character, and the caliber of Montgomery's writing. I sought out the novels, read them all and was utterly enchanted. Imagine my delight then, after joining the Charlottetown Festival company in 1992, to find myself in the proximity of Anne for over 20 years as an actor and director.

I was always frustrated, however, that most peoples' experience with the character of Anne Shirley, and her stories, was often limited to the first *Anne of Green Gables* book. When I learned that the team of Hochhauser, Johnston and White were bringing two more books to the musical stage in the form of *Anne & Gilbert*, I could not have been more delighted. I have been a fan of the show since I first experienced it over twenty years ago. I am equally delighted to be part of the team that will be bringing it to life this summer at the beautiful Florence Simmons Hall.

Message from The President

Summer 2023



Greetings,

As President of Holland College, I am delighted to welcome local residents and visiting guests to the Florence Simmons Performance Hall this summer for the heartwarming performance of *Anne & Gilbert, The Musical*.

The Florence Simmons Performance Hall is located in the Charlottetown Centre on Holland College's Prince of Wales Campus. The Performance Hall has been extensively renovated for larger productions while including the many historical elements that once existed. Honoring the integrity of the building's 1932 art deco beginnings while incorporating state-of-the-art technology, the Hall provides audiences with the ultimate, intimate performance experience.

The Prince of Wales Campus, and our Performance Hall is also the home of the School of Performing Arts (SoPA). SoPA brings together students from PEI, the Maritimes, and across the world. They specialize in a number of different genres, including R&B, Pop, Jazz, Latin, and Improv!

We are pleased to host you on our campus, and we know that you will enjoy this exciting feature!

Best Regards,

Dr. Alexander (Sandy) MacDonald, *Cert. Psych.*

President



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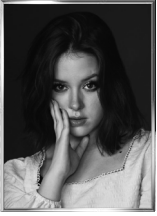
***Anne & Gilbert would like to thank the following for
their volunteer efforts and wardrobe donations:***

*Peggy Pineau, Mary Morrison, Hannah Klein,
Beth Rogers, Gabrielle Roddy,
Queen Square Centre*

Anne and Gilbert Inc. extends a special thanks to the City of Charlottetown and the Province of Prince Edward Island

Anne and Gilbert Inc. acknowledges the generous support of Canadian Actors Equity Association and its Artists.

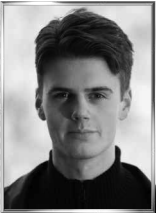
Cast



Rebekah Brown (she/her)

Prillie Rogerson/Sophomore #1

Based in Charlottetown PE, Rebekah is thrilled to join this talented cast and be performing her fourth season with *Anne & Gilbert*. Rebekah is a recent graduate of Three Oaks Senior High with theatre credits including *Heathers* (Heather Chandler), *Anne & Gilbert* (Ensemble, Josie Pye u/s, Phillipa Gordon u/s), *Little Women* (Jo u/s, swing), *The Outsiders* (Cherry Valance), *Into The Woods* (Lucinda) as well as being a part of an Island funk band, Lefunk. You can also see Rebekah this summer at the Confederation Center of the Arts Outdoor Amphitheatre performing in *Munschables!* She is thankful for this experience and hopes everyone enjoys their time in Avonlea!



Graysen LaPointe

Benji Sloane/Alec

Graysen LaPointe of Fredericton, New Brunswick, has been singing and performing for many years. He performs in a variety of musical styles, including musical theatre, pop, classical, and jazz. Some of Graysen's past roles include Magnus the Escapologist and the Doctor in *Matilda: the Musical* (Impulse Productions); the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz* (Theatre New Brunswick); Davey Jacobs in *Newsies* (St. Thomas University), Sam Carmichael in *Mamma Mia!*, Marius Pontmercy in *Les Misérables*, and Danny Zuko in *Grease* (FHS). In *Broadway by the Sea's* inaugural show in 2022, Graysen was part of an ensemble of New Brunswick artists singing alongside Broadway performers in St. Andrews, NB. This summer, as part of the *Broadway by the Sea* festival, he was also in *Sweet Dreams: The Air Supply Musical*. Graysen is looking forward to joining the incredible cast of *Anne & Gilbert*.



Holly Perry

Schoolgirl #1/Sophomore #3

Holly is a native of Tignish, PEI, and is proud to call herself Island through and through! She is currently enrolled in the Music Performance Program at Holland College with the ultimate goal of a career in musical theatre. She is thrilled to be making her professional debut in *Anne & Gilbert* on Island soil! She has been involved in several community theatre productions from a young age; singing, dancing and acting throughout her growing years. Most recent credits include *Fandango on Broadway*, *The Singing Christmas Tree*, and *Acadiennes D'Hier & D'Aujourd'hui*. Enjoy the show!



Orion Gokiart (they/he)

Paul Irving/Alonzo

Orion is going into their fourth year pursuing a BA in Drama at Bishop's University in Quebec. Having primarily done technical theatre and backstage work until now, they are very excited that *Anne & Gilbert* will be their first professional performance. Even though they are studying to be a lighting designer, they love performing and singing and are beyond pleased to be working with this fantastic cast and crew. A big thank you to everyone who made this show possible. Previous works include *Godspell* (Jesus 1), *The Children's Hour* (lighting design), *Heathers* (lighting design), and *She Kills Monsters* (Farrah, ensemble, fight captain, assistant lighting design).

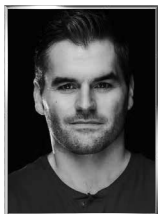


Becca Guilderson (she/her)

Anne Shirley

Becca is a multi-disciplinary artist based in Halifax, NS. She studied Voice at Mount Allison University and participated in the MTFP at Neptune Theatre. She's incredibly excited to be returning to PEI this summer to embody her favorite red-headed heroine! Previous Credits: *Into The Woods* (The Guild); *Anne & Gilbert*, *A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline* (Island Theatre Festival); *Peter Pan*, *Cinderella* (Neptune); 9

to 5 (Whalesong); *Hastings!* (Tweed & Co.); *Sleeping Beauty*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (SBTS); *The Marvellous Wonderettes* (Chester Playhouse); *Sweeney Todd*, *Spring Awakening*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Side-By-Side); *Anne & Gilbert*, *Children Of Eden* (Stage Prophets); *Into The Woods*, *The Music Man*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Legally Blonde* (QAAW).



Matt Kinney (he/him)

Mr. Sloane /Fred Wright/Station Master/Professor/Head Waiter

Excited to make his island debut, coming over from the mainland in New Brunswick! Credits include: *Oliver!*, *Mary Poppins*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Sound of Music* (Capitol Theatre); *Grease*, *Forever Plaid* (Hazy Grape); *Kiss the Moon*, *Kiss the Sun* (Hairy Tease Productions); *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Hubcity Theatre); and *Last 5 Years* (1890 Junction Theatre Co.). Matt is so grateful to be part of this special show in this special place and thankful for everyone who has

supported him along the way! Also, a special thanks to this welcoming Island cast and crew. Give him a follow on Instagram @maknny



Nicola Lannan (she/her)

Diana Barry

Hailing from Nova Scotia, Nicola grew up performing on many stages in the picturesque Annapolis Valley. She thanks Stage Prophets, QAAW, and The Fezziwig Society for helping grow and shape her into the performer that she is today. Nicola has spent some time away from theatre over recent years and her heart is soaring to be back on stage, and stepping into a character she loves so dearly. Nicola spent most childhood summers on beautiful PEI and is absolutely thrilled to

now call it home – a dream come true!

To all who have kept my dreams alive with me, especially my family – I feel it, I thank you, and I love you!



Kade McCloud (he/him)

Royal Gardner/Anthony Pye

Kade is thrilled to be a part of this beautiful production! Originally from Newfoundland, Kade has spent the past 5 years performing in Phoenix, Arizona, where he moved in 2018 to pursue his M.M. in Music Theatre at Arizona State University. In Arizona, Kade performed in nearly a dozen professional roles at theatres including The Phoenix Theatre Company and Hale Centre Theatre. Recent favourite credits include *The Rocky Horror Show* (Brad Majors), *The Little Mermaid* (Prince Eric), *Newsies* (Jack Kelly), *Daddy Long Legs* (Jervis Pendleton), and *The Last Five Years* (Jamie u/s).

Huge thanks to the entire team for making Kade's first production back in Canada an unforgettable experience.

**Anique Mercier** (she/her)*Philippa Gordon/Schoolgirl #2*

After seeing *Anne and Gilbert* in 2005, Anique said that she would, one day, perform in this show, and she is over the moon to have had this declaration come true!! Alongside having her BFA in theatre from NYU, MFA in Musical Theatre, and MM in Vocal Pedagogy from the Boston Conservatory, Anique has been lucky to perform on stages across the USA and Canada. Select credits: *Matilda*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Elephant and Piggie's We Are In a Play*, *Willy Wonka*, *Heathers*, *Journey to Oz*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Anique also teaches voice privately and is an instructor at Sheridan College. Enjoy that show!

**Rose Messenger** (she/her)*Josie Pye/Freshette #3*

Originally from Fredericton, NB, Rose is a recent graduate from The University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) where she received a B.F.A in Musical Theatre. Last summer, Rose made her professional debut as Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd* at Black Rock Theatre (Fairfield, CT). Rose has performed as a soloist alongside The New York Pops at the French Woods Festival of Performing Arts, and recently participated in the *30 Years of Stephen Flaherty* concert at CCM with the iconic composer himself. Other recent credits include Bea Bottom in *Something Rotten* (CCM), Nurse/Mrs. in *Sunday in The Park With George* (CCM), Jen in *John and Jen* (CCM), and Princess Fiona in *Shrek The Musical* (TNB).

**Nick Preston** (he/him)*Moody Spurgeon MacPherson*

Nick is thrilled to spend a summer in PEI! He resides on Canada's unceded west coast (Vancouver). Favourite theatrical productions include *The 39 Steps* (RCTC, Vancouver), *The Sound of Music* (Chemainus), *Souvenir* (Kelowna Actor's Studio), *Prairie Nurse* (Station Arts Centre, SK) and *It's a Wonderful Life* (Gateway Theatre). Since Covid began, he's worked extensively in Film and TV, and can be found in *Upload* (Amazon), *Peter Pan and Wendy* (Disney+), *Firefly Lane*, *Space Force*, & *Maid* (Netflix) and in numerous films with Lifetime and Hallmark. As a creator, he wrote the original musical *The Great Canadian Porno: The Musical* which premiered on stage in 2019 and will be released as a feature film in 2024.

**Grace Propheta***Annetta Bell/Freshette #2*

Grace Propheta is an actor, writer, and musician from Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. After spending time in Halifax, Berlin, and Montréal, Grace is thrilled to be back home making her professional musical theatre debut in *Anne & Gilbert, The Musical*. When she's not roaming the streets of Avonlea, Grace enjoys collecting superhero comics, reading the classics, and exploring old graveyards with her dog, and she is currently in the process of writing her first novel. Grace is grateful beyond words for the continued love and support of her friends and family, and she would like to extend particular thanks to Mom (Janice), Dad (Sean), Ella, Levi, and Oscar (woof!).

**Hugh Ritchie** (he/him)*Gilbert Blythe*

Hugh is an actor and singer from Toronto, Ontario and now lives in Halifax, NS. He has a BFA in Acting from Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson Theatre School). Select credits: *Into the Woods* (The Guild), *Leo Bloom* in *The Producers*, *Seymour* in *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Tony* in *West Side Story*, *Sergeant Trotter* in *The Mousetrap* (Lower Ossington

Theatre), 25th/Spelling Bee, Into the Woods (Hart House), Twelfth Night (Classical Theatre Project), Cabaret, Assassins (StageWorks Toronto), Macbeth, Caesar (Wolf Manor Theatre Collective). Film: Reign (CW). He is thrilled and grateful to return to PEI for his 3rd adventure in Avonlea!



Gabrielle Roddy (she/her)

Rachel Lynde

Gabrielle began her performance career in musical theatre with such roles as Snoopy in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* and Peggy in *Godspell*. After Ryerson Theatre School she was the voice of YTV, a villainous spider in the animated *The Lady of Names*, lead singer in her band Brass Bikini and other projects such as the award winning *Dinostory*. Film work includes a 'Gong Show' contestant in the movie *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind* and Lavern in *Bingo Road*. Recently she twice starred in Lorne Elliott's *Mom Runs Amok* and played the grandmother in Deidre Kessler's *Lobster in my Pocket*. She returns to *Anne & Gilbert* to reprise her role as Rachel Lynde.



Beth Rogers (she/her)

Marilla Cuthbert

With over 40 years of stage experience, Beth Rogers is well known for her artistic integrity, nuance of expression, and her innate ability to emotionally engage with her audiences. As well as performing the roles of Trina in *Falsettos*, Melpomene in *Xanadu*, and Mrs. Johnstone in *Blood Brothers*, two of her favourite memories (so far) are performing in a concert version of *Smokey Joe's Café* with most of the original Broadway cast and singing on the main stage at the Stan Rogers Folk Festival. Beth is looking forward to reprising her role as Marilla this summer and is eternally grateful for the continued love and support she receives from Fenn, Roger, and Daisy Do Dog.



Dante Toccacelli (he/him)

Dance Captain/Swing/Schoolboy/Freshman

This born-and-raised Torontonion is a recent graduate of St. Lawrence College 2023 class of the Musical Theatre Performance program. A few of Dante's past credits include *Rocky Horror* in *The Rocky Horror Show* (St. Lawrence College), The Procrastination Fairy in *Back & Forth* at The Factory Theatre, during the Fringe Festival in Toronto (Nightjan Productions), Munkustrap in *CATS* (St. Lawrence College), Lewis in *Pippin* (St. Lawrence College), John/Chase in the film *King of the Night* (Microphone Productions), & Syd in *The Tragedy of the Clanks* at TIFF in 2019 (Directed by William McIntosh). Dante has no representation but loves the work and loves meeting people in any facet of the performing arts.



Allegra Wright (she/her)

Mrs. Pye/Sophomore #2

Allegra is an actor, singer, musician and teaching artist from Vancouver, BC. She has theatre training from Douglas College (New Westminster, BC) and Circle in the Square Theatre School (NYC). Allegra moved to Charlottetown last Fall and is excited to experience her first summer here as part of the long-standing tradition of *Anne*. She is currently attending Holland College's SoPA program and working towards her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance at Berklee College of Music. She most notably starred as Sarah in the world premiere of *This Is Now: The Musical*, written by Kate MacColl, and has been involved in the writing and development of the sequel.

IG: @allegra_wright | allegrawright.ca

Creative Team



Wade Lynch (he/him)

Director/Associate Producer

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change (Director, Segal Centre), *Two Monkeys, One Grape* workshop (Centaur), *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Mrs. Parliament's Night Out*, *Annie* (Neptune, Halifax), 25 seasons with the Charlottetown Festival (Actor, Director, Associate Artistic Director), *Man of La Mancha*, *Hairspray*, *Shear Madness*, *A Closer Walk Patsy Cline*, *The Music Man*, *The Last Resort* (Drayton), *The Sound of Music*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *A Christmas Carol* (Director, Confederation Centre), *Seven Stories*,

Clue, *Speech & Debate*, *On The Road With Dutch Mason* (Director, Bishop's University). Wade is a proud faculty member of the new musical theatre concentration at Bishop's University.



Mackenzie Cutcliffe (she/her)

Assistant Director/Choreographer/Swing

Mackenzie is thrilled to be back in Avonlea after performing in/serving as Assistant Choreographer to Chad McNamara in A&G 2022! Mackenzie grew up here on Epekwitk/PEI before moving to New York City where she spent 6 years performing in venues across the USA. Favourite theatre credits include: *White Christmas*, *Legally Blonde*, *Mary Poppins*, *Annie*, *Reefer Madness*, and *Twelfth Night*. She performed as an original cast member in: *Time Step* - a tap dance revue, *The Unseen* - an immersive dance/theatre

production, and *Song & Dance Men* - a comedy/tap dance cabaret. Choreography credits include: *Reefer Madness*, *Legally Blonde*, and *Bagels from Benny* (NBC New York's list of must-see holiday shows).



Elaine Boulanger

Music Director

A theatre lover, music director, adjudicator, collaborative pianist, church music liturgist and voice/piano instructor from Saint John, NB. With over 30 years of experience, Elaine has worked extensively with solo artists, instrumentalists, ensembles and choirs. Thrilled to return to the Island Theatre Festival as Music Director for *Anne and Gilbert* and equally thrilled to be spending the summer alongside her son Zachary who is in this beautiful cast of *Anne & Gilbert*. Elaine runs *Music from the*

Heart in NB, which is home to music students young, and young at heart!

www.musicfromtheheartsj.ca



Pat Caron (he/him)

Technical Director/Lighting Designer

Pat and his team are thrilled to be back with *Anne & Gilbert* for the second year in a row. Pat has been working in theatre on Prince Edward Island since 2012 in roles such as technical director, set carpenter and sound and lighting designer. In 2021 he opened *Acting Badly*, a theatre, film and event production company aimed at bringing professional services to a wide variety of clientele both big and small. His work includes lighting and creative design for the Canada Games, technical coordination for

the Confederation Centre's *Live at the Centre*; sound and lighting design for theatres such as the Watermark Theatre and Victoria Playhouse, and numerous community productions including ACT's *Noises Off*.

Musicians



Laurie Forsyth (she/her)

Assistant Music Director/Cello

Laurie is an active member of the PEI music community as a cellist and bassist with several orchestras and performance groups. With over 20 years of professional experience, she frequently collaborates with local contemporary and classical ensembles. She also performs as a freelance artist with a broad range of instruments, including; cello, bass, piano, violin, viola and ukulele. Laurie is a passionate educator, teaching full time at Long & McQuade as well as offering private lessons. She is delighted to be back

with Anne & Gilbert for her 14th season!



Don Fraser

Associate Pianist

Don is delighted to be playing for the remainder of the season. He was involved with the Charlottetown Festival for 30 years, was Associate Music Director and then Music Director of the Festival for 10 years. He conducted tours of Anne of Green Gables, the musical, to Japan in 1991, to New Haven, CT, playing the historic Schubert Theatre and to Toronto (the Elgin). For 32 years Don was Director of the Choral Music Programme at the Confederation Centre where he conducted large scale choral works with the Confederation Singers, orchestra and soloists and toured extensively with the Centre's Youth Chorus to France, Belgium, Italy, New York City, Washington, D.C., Orlando, Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa. Also a freelance orchestrator, his orchestrations have been featured in concerts with Tommy Makem, Evans and Doherty, Vishten, Bette MacDonald, Matt Mays, and the Barra MacNeils with Symphony Nova Scotia and the Winnipeg Symphony. He is Director of music for Trinity United Church, Charlottetown.



Jeffrey Bazett-Jones (he/him)

Violinist

Jeffrey Bazett-Jones is a freelance violist and violinist living in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. A member of the Atlantic String Machine and the PEI Symphony, Jeffrey is grateful to pursue his love of music on this beautiful island.

Stage Management



Susan Bruce

Stage Manager/Head of Wardrobe

Susan is happy to be returning to Anne & Gilbert the Musical. This is her debut as Stage Manager and she is returning as Head of Wardrobe. She is an established: Director, Choreographer, Head of Wardrobe, Dance teacher and Playwright in PEI. She has worked at The Confederation Centre, The Guild, Kings Playhouse and Don't Ye Know Theatre. She has a fond interest in theatre design and costuming construction. Susan was a classical dancer and trained at many of the top dance schools in Canada including the National Ballet School of Canada and the Banff School of Fine Arts. Susan now teaches ballet, pointe and character at Dance Virtuosa in Charlottetown. She looks forward to a wonderful season this year.



Sarah Bruce

Assistant Stage Manager/Head of Wigs/Head of Props/Wardrobe Assistant

Sarah is excited to be back with Anne & Gilbert the Musical. Like Gilbert, she is wearing numerous hats this season! She has been involved in many aspects of theatre and enjoys the challenges in each area. She has performed, designed and created in many of the Island Theatres. Sarah has designed, created sets and props for Kings Playhouse 2017 summer season productions of *For The Love of The Island* and *The Tomorrow Box* and helped design Anne & Gilbert the Musical's 2022 set. Sarah is a former graduate of Holland College's Carpentry, SOPA and Fundamental Arts Programs. She has also trained with Talent Inc. and ETC lightning training at Confederation Centre. Enjoy the Show!

Jeff Hochhauser *Book/Lyricist*

With Bob Johnston, Jeff wrote the off-Broadway musical *My Vaudeville Man!* (www.myvaudevilleman.com) which was nominated for two Drama Desks and two Lucille Lortel awards, including Best Musical. The original cast recording was released on the Ghostlight Sh-Ka-Boom label. It then played at the Millbrook Playhouse in Pennsylvania. Under the title *Mud Donahue & Son*, it appeared in the New York Musical Theatre Festival (NYMF). Jeff also wrote (again with Bob Johnston) the musical *Theda Bara & The Frontier Rabbi* which after premiering at the Cohoes Music Hall, played off-Broadway as well as in Chicago and Hollywood FL. and was revived at the York Theatre as part of their Musicals in Muffi series. For that series he also contributed a new book for *Harold Arlen, Yip Harburg, Fred Saisy's musical, Jamaica*. With director Lynne Taylor-Corbett he wrote the patter for *Shine On*, a benefit help at the New York City Center celebrating the 125th anniversary of *Good Housekeeping* magazine, which featured among others, Meryl Streep, Aretha Franklin and Miss Piggy. With writer Erik Haagensen, he wrote the York Theatre's tribute to infamous Broadway producer David Merrick. In a real labour of love, in 2012 he contributed the patter for the York Theatre's Oscar Hammerstein award ceremony at which the special recipient was living legend Barbara Cook. He studied at Bensalem College, the Pratt Institute and with Lehman Engel. For many years now he has had the pleasure of teaching musical theatre history at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in his hometown New York City.

Bob Johnston *Composer/Co-Lyricist*

Bob is pleased that *Anne & Gilbert* is returning to PEI this summer. Theda Bara and the Frontier Rabi, which he wrote with Jeff Hochhauser has most recently been produced at the York Theatre in New York as part of its 2005/2006 Muffi series. It has had productions Off-Broadway in Chicago, Hollywood, Florida and in Cohoes, N.Y. Johnston and Hochhauser's York Theatre production of *My Vaudeville Man!*, was nominated for two Drama Desk Awards and two Lucille Lortel Awards, including "Outstanding Musical", for the 2008 Off Broadway season in New York. Bob earned his MFA in musical theatre writing at NYU and participated in the Dramatist Guild Workshops and the ASCAP Musical Theatre Workshops in New York. Bob has produced several Nancy White CDs and has been her musical director. He recently retired from teaching music at Wexford Collegiate School of the Arts in Scarborough, Ontario.

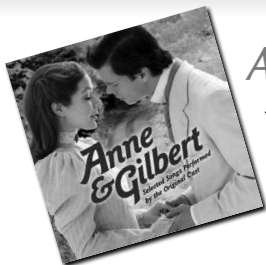
Nancy White *Composer/Lyricist*

NANCY WHITE, who wrote about half the songs in the show, is delighted that "*Anne & Gilbert*" is being performed in the concert hall of a school she -- and Lucy Maud, and Anne & Gilbert - attended. Nancy is the Islander on the writing team, although she now lives in uber-folksy Toronto, Ontario. She's probably best known for CD's like "*Momnipotent: Songs for Weary Parents*", "*Gaelic Envy*" and "*Stickers on Fruit*", and the fifteen years she spent writing hundreds of topical songs for the CBC radio show "*Sunday Morning*". Nancy's had a pretty good kick at the can as a performer not-quite-in -the -mainstream (folk festivals, symphony pops concerts, clubs) and along the way acquired three ACTRA awards, an honorary LLD from Dal (no, really!!) and the Rooted to the Island award from Music PEI. Then there was her 14-and-under freestyle award from the Alberton Swim Meet. That was the most astonishing. Working with Bob and Jeff on "*Anne & Gilbert*" has been her most satisfying and often hilarious experience ever. Special thanks to her one time manager Campbell Webster for producing "*A&G*", gettin' 'er goin' and, dammit, keepin' 'er goin'!!!

On sale in the lobby...

Anne & Gilbert™

The Musical

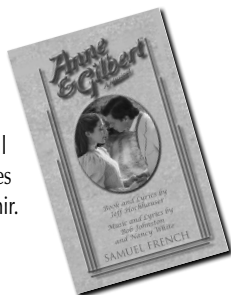


Anne & Gilbert CD

The *Anne & Gilbert* original cast recording, winner of an East Coast Music Award, features selected songs from the musical. Enjoy popular favourites like the show-stopping "You're Island Through and Through" and the gorgeous ballads "All You Can Do Is Wait" and "When He Was My Beau."

Anne & Gilbert Script Book

Here's the complete *Anne & Gilbert* script in book form. It contains all the dialogue and lyrics to the hit musical. Revisit your favourite scenes as often as you like with this unique souvenir.



Believing in Anne CD

In honour of the 100th anniversary of the *Anne of Green Gables* novel, five East Coast performers wrote new songs inspired by the story of Anne. Each also performs a well-loved song from the stage musicals *Anne & Gilbert* and *Anne of Green Gables*. The CD features PEI fiddling sensation Richard Wood, rising

East Coast star Jenn Grant, country singer Jolee Patkai, multi-talented Mark Haines and Nancy White, co-writer of *Anne & Gilbert*.

www.anneandgilbert.com



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