

UNC Charlotte College of Arts + Architecture & The Department of Theatre, The Department of Dance, & The Department of Music present

LEGALLY BLONDE

Music & Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe and Nell Benjamin

Book by Heather Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

DIRECTOR Laura London Waringer CHOREOGRAPHER

Tod A. Kubo

MUSICAL DIRECTOR Randy Price

COSTUME DESIGN

Ketti Shum

LIGHTING DESIGN Gordon W. Olson

Benjamin G. Stickels

SCENIC DESIGN

Adriana Pinkerton

SOUND DESIGN

STAGE MANAGER

Rexy Brundige

LEGALLY BLONDE

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

Original Production by Hal Luftig, Fox Theatricals, Dori Berinstein, James L. Nederlander, Independent Presenters Network, Roy Furman, Amanda Lipitz, Broadway Asia, Barbara Whitman, FWPM Group, Hendel/Wiesenfeld, Goldberg/Binder, Stern/Meyer, Lane/Comley, Bartner-Jenkins/Nocciolino and Warren Trepp; Produced in association with MGM Onstage, Darcie Denkert and Dean Stolber.

> Anne R. Belk Theater Robinson Hall for the Performing Arts Thu Apr 18- Sat Apr 20, 2024 | 7:30 pm Sat Apr 20 & Sun Apr 21, 2024 | 2 pm coaa.charlotte.edu

Director's Note

As we welcome you into the vibrant, effervescent world of *Legally Blonde* on our stage in 2024, we're not just reviving a beloved story; we're recontextualizing it for a moment in time where the discourse around women's rights, femininity, and empowerment is more pivotal than ever. At first glance, Elle Woods' journey from sorority house to Harvard Law School, shrouded in a cloud of pink, might seem little more than a fluffy fable. However, this production is a testament to the depth, resilience, and complexity of women, making a powerful feminist statement that resonates deeply in today's climate.

In a year where icons like Barbie, Taylor Swift, and Beyoncé celebrate femininity and female empowerment on global stages, we're also witnessing significant societal pushbacks. These contrasting dynamics set the stage for a profound examination of women's place in society—celebrated, yes, but also challenged.

Choosing to set *Legally Blonde* firmly in 2024, rather than its original early 2000s setting, highlights how the landscape for women has evolved over the last two decades in America. The post-#MeToo era has ushered in a wave of reckoning and reflection, as stories of sexism, abuse, and misogyny are brought to light, demanding justice and change. Elle Woods' narrative, then, becomes not just a tale of personal triumph but a mirror to the societal shifts and the ongoing struggles faced by women in professional spaces and beyond.

Elle's journey is a powerful reminder of the stereotypes and obstacles that women continue to navigate. Her character shatters the superficial judgments placed upon her, demonstrating that ambition, intelligence, and kindness are not mutually exclusive with femininity and style. Elle Woods becomes a symbol of resilience, challenging the misconception that to be taken seriously, a woman must forsake her true self. Our production is imbued with a message of empowerment. It's a celebration of being unapologetically oneself, of pursuing one's dreams with tenacity, and of changing the world without changing who you are.

In *Legally Blonde* we find laughter, joy, and pink—a lot of pink. But more importantly, we find a staunch feminist statement, a call to action, and a reminder of the unstoppable force of women who dare to dream big and refuse to be underestimated despite centuries of obstacles. As we present this story, we hope to inspire, to challenge, and to celebrate the indomitable spirit of women everywhere.

Join us as we revisit Elle Woods' inspiring journey, not just through the halls of Harvard, but through a world that's still learning to appreciate the strength, intelligence, and vibrancy of women in all their forms. Here's to the women who lead the charge, in heels or sneakers, in courtrooms or on stages, making the world a brighter, fairer, and more fabulous place for all.

Elle Woods has a lot to teach us, if only we're ready to listen.

- Laura London Waringer

LEGALLY BLONDE

Cast

ELLE WOODS Izzy Oyler EMMETT FORREST Ezra DeVane WARNER HUNTINGTON III Logan Pavia PAULETTE BONAFONTÉ Ansleigh Reid VIVIENNE KENSINGTON Trinity Turner PROF. CALLAHAN Guy Olivieri# **BROOKE WYNDHAM / DELTA NU** Reem Nour MARGOT Jade Tate SERENA Natalia Rohena **PILAR** Charity Williams ENID HOOPS Ryn Johnson AARON SCHULTZ Braden Kneeshaw SUNDEEP PADAMADAN / NIKOS Julio Hernandez KATE / ETC. Abigail Roscoe CHUTNEY WYNDHAM / BOOKISH SALON CLIENT / WHITNEY / SALESWOMAN / ETC. **Kiana Vazquetelles** STORE MANAGER / DA JOYCE RILEY / STUDENT / ETC. Jylian Taylor JUDGE / GAELEN / ETC. **Deity Brinson** DELTA NU / SALON CASHIER / ETC. Jasmyn Schettino DELTA NU / SALON CLIENT / STUDENT / ETC. Josie Perdue LEILANI / SALON CLIENT / STUDENT / ETC. Hannah Blair Montgomery+ DELTA NU/ SALON CLIENT / STUDENT / ETC. Ray Couch DELTA NU / STUDENT/ ETC. Shelby Murphy+ DELTA NU / STUDENT / ETC. Hannah Frederick CARLOS / GRANDMASTER CHAD / HARVARD STUDENT / ETC. Cristopher Strock KYLE B. O'BOYLE / PFORZHEIMER / ETC. Christian Souza DEWEY / FRAT BOY / HARVARD STUDENT / ETC. Jack Richardson LOWELL / FRAT BOY / HARVARD STUDENT / ETC. Seth LaMay WINTHROP / HARVARD STUDENT / ETC. Nick Matherly ELLE'S MOM Rachel Swenson Watkins[^] Matthew B. Fraiser^ ELLE'S DAD ELLE WOODS STANDBY (OFFSTAGE) Caitlin O'Hagan **BRUISER WOODS** Hartley RUFUS BONAFONTÉ Tessa

Understudies

ELLE WOODS EMMETT FORREST WARNER HUNTINGTON III PAULETTE BONAFONTE VIVIENNE KENSINGTON PROF. CALLAHAN BROOKE WYNDHAM / DELTA NU MARGOT SERENA PILAR ENID HOOPS AARON SCHULTZ SUNDEEP PADAMADAN / NIKOS Reem Nour Logan Pavia Seth LaMay Kiana Vazquetelles Jylian Taylor Nick Matherly Deity Brinson Abigail Roscoe Abigail Roscoe Deity Brinson Jylian Taylor Jack Richardson Cristopher Strock

+Dance Captain ^Design & Production Faculty #Guest Artist

Orchestra

Musical Director Keyboard 1 Keyboard 2 Reed 1 Reed 2 Trumpet 1 Trumpet 2 Guitar 1 Guitar 2 Bass Percussion Drums

Dr. Randy Price Xinshuang Jin, D.M. Charlene Miranda Thomas, B.M., M.A. Jack Murray Keven Ramirez Guevara* Ryan Raven, M.M. William Wiand* Matty Montes Collin Wrightson Harley Tea Conner Oglesby*, Ava Weaver* Paul Fisher

*current student

Special Thanks

Jill Bloede, Sequina DuBose, Carlene Gogolin, ThriftPony (thriftpony.com)

SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

ACTI		
SCENE I		
UCLA DELTA NU SORORITY HOUSE / MALL / ELLE'S DOOR		
Omigod You GuysMargot, Serena, Pilar, Delta Nus, Elle,		
Saleswoman, Store Manager		
SCENE 2		
RESTAURANT		
SeriousWarner, Elle		
SCENE 3		
DELTA NU SORORITY HOUSE / GOLF COURSE /		
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL ADMISSIONS OFFICE		
Daughter of Delta NuMargot, Pilar, Serena, and Delta Nus		
What You Want (Part 1)Elle, Margot, Serena, Pilar, Kate, Delta Nus,		
Dad, Mom, Grandmaster Chad		
What You Want (Part 2)Elle, Winthrop. Lowell, Pforzheimer, Delta Nus		
and the Company		
SCENE 4		
HARVARD YARD		
The Harvard VariationsEmmett, Aaron, Vlad, Enid and Harvard Students		
SCENE 5		
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CALLAHAN'S CLASSROOM		
Blood In The WaterCallahan and Students		
SCENE 6		
HARVARD YARD		
PositiveElle, Serena, Margot, Pilar and Greek Chorus		
SCENE 7		
THE HAIR AFFAIR		
IrelandPaulette		
Ireland (Reprise)Paulette		
SCENE 8		
HARVARD PARTY / ELLE'S DORM ROOM / CALLAHAN'S CLASSROOM		
Serious (Reprise)Warner, Elle		
Chip On My Shoulder (Part 1)Emmett, Elle and Greek Chorus		
Chip On My Shoulder (Part 2)Emmett, Elle, Aaron, Enid, Warner,		
Vivienne and Greek Chorus		
SCENE 9		
DEWEY'S TRAILER		
Run Rufus Run! / Elle ReflectsElle		
SCENE TO		
HARVARD HALLWAY		
So Much BetterElle, Greek Chorus, and the Company		

15-minute intermission

ACT II

SCENE 1
CONFERENCE ROOM OF FOX, ZYSKOWSKI, & CALLAHAN / WOMEN'S PRISON
Whipped Into ShapeBrooke, Callahan and Inmates
Delta Nu Nu NuElle, Brooke
SCENE 2
HANSEN-HARKNESS DEPARTMENT STORE
Take It Like A ManElle, Emmett and The Company
SCENE 3
THE HAIR AFFAIR
Bend And SnapElle, Serena, Margot, Pilar, Paulette and The Company
SCENE 4
COURTROOM
There! Right There!Elle, Callahan, Emmett, Brooke, Vivienne, Warner,
Enid, Judge, Nikos, Carlos and The Company
SCENE 5
CALLAHAN'S OFFICE / ELLE'S DORM ROOM
Legally BlondeElle, Emmett
SCENE 6
THE HAIR AFFAIR
Legally Blonde RemixVivienne, Enid, Elle, Mom, Dad, Delta Nus and The Company
SCENE 7
COURTROOM
Scene Of The CrimeMargot, Serena, Pilar, Judge and The Company
SCENE 8
HARVARD LAW GRADUATION
Find My Way/FinaleElle, Paulette and The Company

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

About the Department of Theatre

Our Mission

The Department of Theatre provides a student-focused liberal arts education that develops theatre artists, scholars and teachers to investigate current best practices and emerging entrepreneurial methods in theatre and other kinds of professional performance. Aligning with the university's commitment to open-access education, we integrate the values of equity and inclusion to drive vibrant intellectual inquiry, ethical and informed community engagement, and innovative creative research practices.

For more information about our mission and vision, please visit our website available via the QR code below:



Support the Department of Theatre

The Theatre Department Fund supports student welfare, class supplies, scholarship assistance, recruiting, lecture series, school-wide events, promotion, and related needs. To make a gift and impact our students, please scan the QR Code below. Thank you!



Department of Theatre Faculty and Staff

David Janowiak, Chair Tyisha Stafford, Office Manager Bruce Auerbach, Professor of Scenic and Lighting Design Tom Burch, Associate Professor of Scenic Design, Associate Chair Rob Conkie, Robinson Distinguished Professor of Shakespeare Lynne Conner, Professor of Theatre CarlosAlexis Cruz, Associate Professor of Physical Theatre, Director of the Master of Fine Arts Program David Fillmore, Jr., Professor of Lighting Design Margarette Joyner, Visiting Assistant Professor of Costume Design Ron McClelland, Visiting Assistant Professor of Acting Jay Morong, Senior Lecturer in Theatre (LBST and Film Studies) Beth Murray, Associate Professor of Theatre Education Mark Pizzato, Professor of Theatre and Film Laura Waringer, Assistant Professor of Musical Theatre Robin Witt, Professor of Directing Jessica Bilgrad, Adjunct Professor of Theatre Jill Bloede, Part-time Lecturer in Theatre (Acting, LBST Studies) Marla Brown, Part-time Lecturer in Theatre (Acting, Dramaturgy)

CoA+A Performing Arts Services

Dean Adams, Senior Associate Dean for Performing Arts Hali Hutchison-Houk, Production Manager Liz Paradis, Audience Services Manager Beth Rucker, Business Services Coordinator Liz Wooley, Performing Arts Operations Manager Meena Carr, Assistant Technical Director Rachel Engstrom, Lecturer, Costume Lab Supervisor / Designer Matthew B. Fraiser, Lecturer, Technical Director Rick Moll, Senior Lecturer, Production Electrician Gordon W. Olson, Senior Lecturer, Lighting Designer Benjamin G. Stickels, Senior Lecturer, Audio Engineer, Asst. Production Manager Rachel Swenson Watkins, Senior Lecturer, Stage Management Rebekah Briles, Hazel Doherty, & Noah Tepper, Music Stage Managers Tammy McNamara, Performing Arts House Manager Sydney Moore, Performing Arts House Management Supervisor Dan Mulder, Technology Engineer

Patron Services Representatives Will Loyd, Alex Lozier, Avery Pack, Justin Spencer

Production Team

PRODUCTION MANAGER Hali Hutchison-Houk TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Matthew B. Fraiser ASST. TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Meena Carr AUDIO ENGINEER Benjamin G. Stickels PRODUCTION ELECTRICIAN **Rick Moll** COSTUME LAB SUPERVISOR **Rachel Engstrom** STAGE MANAGEMENT MENTOR Rachel Swenson Watkins LEAD ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER Thea Bowers ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS Mallory Morton, Nilaja Williams ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER-PROJECTIONS Naomi Diaz ASSISTANT DIRECTOR Irene K. Nash ASSISTANT SCENIC DESIGNER Katelyn Fennell ASSISTANT SOUND DESIGNER Amy Chen ASSISTANT LIGHTING DESIGNER Sol Delgado LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR **Bri Flowers** SOUND BOARD OPERATORS Ja'Shaun Evans FOLLOW SPOT OPERATORS Reagan DeCaro, Morgan Thornton PROJECTIONS ENGINEER Dan Mulder Adrian Ewens PROJECTIONS OPERATOR PAINT/PROPS ARTISAN **Becca Nipper** PROPS ARTISAN Maxwell Martin DECK CREW Emma Baker, Elijah Hensley, Zach Mahon, Helen Tran WARDROBE SUPERVISOR Melanie Rushing WARDROBE CREW Mari Archie, Abbey Collins, Tia Griggs, Mika Hoang, D'ascia Muir, Astrid Reed-Kennedy CUTTER/DRAPER Beth Killion COSTUME LAB TECHNICIANS Maxwell Martin, Ellie McCutchen, Astrid Reed-Kennedy, Adriana Tavira-Garibay

COSTUME LAB CREW	Anisah Alahmed, Rexy Brundige,
	Justin Dominguez-Zamarripa,
	Queen Salaam, Holly Shuford,
	Lauren Simendinger
LIGHTING LAB TECHNICIANS	Naomi Diaz, Kat Fletcher,
	Madison King
LIGHTING LAB CREW	Amy Chen, Sol Delgado, Bri Flowers,
	Kailey Kamerdiener, A'mya Moore,
	Emma Wheeler, Kylie Wooden
SCENIC CARPENTERS	Sarah Barbour, Macey Biddinger,
	Katelyn Fennell, Sandro Galvan,
	Talha Khan, Muhammad Waheed
SCENIC PRACTICUM	Von Alberto, Gina Hull,
	Chaundra Spilman
ROBINSON HALL TECHNICIANS	Caleb Basham, Lucy Burch,
	Kayhe Duerson, Alex McLellan,
	Nick Mendlik, Christian Souza,
	Renee Szeghy

College of Arts + Architecture Upcoming Events

APRIL

Jazz Ensemble: Uptown Sinatra	Tue Apr 23 7:30 pm Booth Playhouse, Uptown Charlotte
Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band	Wed Apr 24 7:30 pm Anne R. Belk Theater
Orchestra	Thu Apr 25 7:30 pm Anne R. Belk Theater
Men's & Women's Choirs Fr	ri Apr 26 7:30 pm (W) & 8:30 pm (M) Anne R. Belk Theater
University Chorale	Sat Apr 27 7:30 pm Anne R. Belk Theater
Percussion Ensemble	Mon Apr 29 7:30 pm Anne R. Belk Theater