



CONEJO PLAYERS
THEATRE

A

ANASTASIA THE MUSICAL

Book by Terrence McNally

Music by Stephen Flaherty

Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Inspired by the Twentieth Century Fox Motion Pictures by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical
From the play by Marcelle Maurette as adapted by Guy Bolton

Mar 21 - Apr 13, 2025

Fri & Sat at 8:00pm • Sun at 2:00pm

Thu Mar 27 at 8:00pm • Sat Apr 5 at 2:00pm

ANASTASIA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

Welcome to **CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE**



I am thrilled to welcome you to the 67th season of the Conejo Players Theatre! As the only 100% volunteer-run community theater in Southern California, you have joined us in a truly special place. Our mission — “to share in providing the community with a year-round schedule of affordable live theatre produced to serve the cultural, educational, and entertainment needs of the community” — is deeply important to the wonderful people who give their time here.

As a lifelong theater lover, I have often felt the excitement of the shared live experience between performers and an audience. I have witnessed the power of great storytelling to touch, inform, (and even change) lives. Whether you are here to laugh, cry, or think (often all in one evening), we hope that this performance entertains as well as enlightens.

The theater is an amazing center of collaboration. Each production relies on directors, producers, performers, choreographers, designers, builders, crew members, ushers, and countless others. Working together creates a family of sorts. **We welcome anyone who would like to join our family of volunteers** - a truly generous and talented bunch. Try something new—we are happy to train! And as we are a non-profit organization, tax deductible donations are gratefully appreciated too. Feel free to contact me for more information and opportunities.

Thank you for joining us tonight, and enjoy the show!



Dana Marley-Kolb

Dana Marley-Kolb
President

Email: President@conejoplayers.org



Mission Statement

The mission of Conejo Players Theatre is to share in providing the community with a year-round schedule of affordable live theatre produced to serve the cultural, educational, and entertainment needs of the community; and to welcome and provide an avocational opportunity for all volunteers interested in the theatre arts to participate in the many activities of community theatre.

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Conejo Players Theatre • Thousand Oaks, CA

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The **CAST**

Maya Puterbaugh	Anya/Anastasia Romanov
Tony Cellucci	Dmitry
Benjamin Mitnick	Vladimir "Vlad" Popov
Kobe Burton	Gleb Vaganov
Amie Woolweber	Countess Lily Malevsky-Malevitch
Deidre Parmenter	Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna
Quinn Husband	Tsar Nicholas Romanov II/Sergei
Liz Richter	Tsarina Alexandra Romanov
Jordyn Crowley Watts	Olga Romanov/Cygnets (Swan Lake)
Makenna Bolton	Maria Romanov/Odette (Swan Lake)
Jillian Stern	Tatiana Romanov/Cygnets (Swan Lake)
Anissa Briggs	Teen Anastasia Romanov (Swan Lake)
Neve Richter	Little Anastasia Romanov/Young Dmitry
Jonas Ford	Alexei Romanov
Brendan Lynch	Count Ipolitov/Prince Siegfried (Swan Lake)
Chris Gutierrez	Baron Von Rothbart (Swan Lake)/Cadet
Aden Julian	Count Leopold
Rita Nobile	Marfa
Emmalee Villafana	Dunya
Jené Hernandez	Paulina
Ben Muley	Count Gregory
Lauren Bailor	Countess Gregory
Mark Lopez	Gorlinsky

Ensemble/Featured Dancers
**Aden Julian, Anissa Briggs, Ben Muley, Brendan Lynch,
 Chris Gutierrez, Emmalee Villafana, Jack Rogers, Jené Hernandez,
 Jillian Stern, Jordyn Crowley Watts, Lauren Bailor, Layla Ulrich,
 Liz Richter, Makenna Bolton, Mark Lopez, Quinn Husband, Rita Nobile**

**ACT I
 Saint Petersburg, 1906, 1917 & 1927**

Prologue: "Once Upon a December"	Dowager Empress, Little Anastasia
"The Last Dance of the Romanovs"	Ensemble
"A Rumor in St. Petersburg"	Dmitry, Vlad, Ensemble
"In My Dreams"	Anya
The Rumors Never End"	Gleb, Ensemble
"Learn to Do It"	Vlad, Anya, Dmitry
"The Neva Flows"	Gleb, Anya
"The Neva Flows" (Reprise)	Drunkards
"My Petersburg"	Dmitry, Anya
"Once Upon a December"	Anya, Ensemble
"A Secret She Kept"	Anya
"Stay, I Pray You"	Count Ipolitov, Anya, Dmitry, Vlad, Ensemble
"We'll Go From There"	Vlad, Anya, Dmitry, Ensemble
"Traveling Sequence"	Gleb, Gorlinsky, Anya, Dmitry, Vlad
"Still"	Gleb
"Journey to the Past"	Anya

**ACT II
 Paris, 1927**

"Paris Holds the Key (To Your Heart)"	Vlad, Dmitry, Anya, Ensemble
"Close the Door"	Dowager Empress
"Land of Yesterday"	Countess Lily, Ensemble
"The Countess and the Common Man"	Vlad, Countess Lily
"Land of Yesterday" (Reprise).....	Gleb
"A Nightmare"	The Romanov Family
"In a Crowd of Thousands"	Dmitry, Anya
"Meant to Be"	Vlad
"Quartet at the Ballet"	Anya, Dmitry, Dowager Empress, Gleb, Ensemble
"Everything to Win"	Dmitry
"Once Upon a December" (Reprise).....	Anya, Dowager Empress
"The Press Conference"	Countess Lily, Vlad, Ensemble
"Everything to Win" (Reprise).....	Anya
"Still"/"The Neva Flows" (Reprise).....	Gleb, Anya, Ensemble
Finale.....	Company

Production **STAFF**

Director	Erin Fagundes
Producer	Jen Isaacs
Choreographers	Wendy Babb, Imani White
Fight Choreographer	Rachel Borbas
Music Directors	John Gaston, Michael Robinson
Stage Manager	Carolyn Luu
Lighting Designer	Jack Allaway
Light Operator	Moe Bongiovi
Spot Operator	Nancy Solomons Barker
Set Designers	Brian Peterson
Head of Construction	Rick Steinberg
Construction Crew	John Holroyd, Max Honigsberg, Rick Steinberg
Costume Designer	Austin Peterson
Costume Assistants	Kathleen Carter, Deidre Hobbs, Gina Lorenz, Dana Marley-Kolb, Betty Fuhrmann, Rosemary Tobin
Sound Designer	Joe Krause
Sound Operators	John Gaston, Joe Krause, Kristin Krause
Sound Effect Designer	Kirk Longhofer
Projection Coordinator	Paul Babb
Projector Operator	Chris Ford
Propmaster	Patrick Rogers
Props Assistant	Nancy Barker
Hair/Wig Designers	Lauren Bailor, Jené Hernandez
Creative Consultant	Courtney Potter
Production Assistant	Dana Marley-Kolb
Script Supervisor	John Barker
Audition Pianist	Kyle de Tarnowsky
Staff Photographer	Scott Quintard
Lobby Board	Paul Babb
Backstage Crew	Andy Ames, Belle Krause, Haley Marie, Rylee Stafford, Jaden Timms
Strike Crew	Wendy Babb, Kobe Burton, Tony Cellucci, Mark Cooper, Erin Fagundes, Chris Ford, Jonas Ford, Chris Gutierrez, Jené Hernandez, Lillybelle Hernandez, Nick Hernandez, Max Honigsberg, Carolyn Luu, Dana Marley-Kolb, Benjamin Mitnik, Eli Mitnik, Ben Muley, Austin Peterson, Brian Peterson, Oren Peterson, Courtney Potter, Beckett Ritcher, Jeremy Ritcher, Liz Ritcher, Neve Ritcher, Vanessa Sandoval, Rick Steinberg, Jillian Stern, Emmalee Villafana, Imani White, Amie Woolweber



From **THE DIRECTOR**

It is an honor and privilege to get to direct this beautiful show written by one of my all time favorite teams, Flaherty and Ahrens. In addition to the gorgeous score, the show includes universal themes of home, love, family, and self-discovery. Our past only defines one small part of who we are; regardless of where we start, we have the power to navigate our own journey to fulfill who we are meant to be.

I could not BE more excited. From the incredible array of talent we had to choose from at auditions to the caliber of our production team, I am living the Director's dream.

I think our version is special because it's among the first times the show will be performed in the area, offering exciting opportunities to both audiences and performers. Additionally, each cast and team member brings unique talents to the production that add to the heart and creative elements of the show. The amount of hours all have put in to bring this show to life is staggering and so appreciated.

- **Erin Fagundes**, Director





Be part of the CPT family!

Volunteering at Conejo Players Theatre

At the heart of Conejo Players Theatre is its volunteer members. Our theatre is unique in the Conejo Valley, as it's operated on a solely volunteer basis since its inception in 1958; the theatre's board members, actors, production staff, and technical crew do not receive any monetary compensation for their services. But the rewards of volunteering with our theatre are many -- we provide a medium for creative self-expression, with opportunities to get involved both onstage and behind-the-scenes ... acting, directing, producing, stage managing, scenic design and construction, theatrical lighting and sound, costuming, and the list goes on.

We're proud of the dedication of our volunteers, and the services they provide are invaluable to our success. It's our volunteers -- both adults and children -- that have allowed Conejo Players to thrive since its humble beginnings. In return, our volunteers gain invaluable creative experiences while enjoying the fun and friendships that come with working in the ever-evolving atmosphere of live theatre. We invite you to join us in our efforts to support the cultural, educational, and entertainment needs of the community through the arts!

These are some of the volunteer opportunities available:

**Usher/Ticket Taker/Snack Bar • Costumes • Props • Set Builders
Sound Board Operator • Light Board Operator • Outreach Committee**
Email us at info@conejoplayers.org for these and other volunteer options.

We are often asked, "Why should I spend \$1 to become a Conejo Players Theatre Member?"

There are 4 reasons that we share:

1. By becoming a member, you are part of our CPT family for life. You are on our rosters and members can follow up with you to let you know what is going on at CPT.
2. When you fill out the form, you can opt in to receive our weekly newsletters and let us know what you are interested in doing, whether it be on stage or off stage. We can share with the Directors and Producers, Front of House Coordinators, Stage Crew team etc. what you are interested in doing.
3. By becoming a member and an active member, it gives you the opportunity to be a part of the direction of the theatre. You have a vote to make a difference on the direction the board takes. You can become a part of the board. You have decided you care about the theatre and want to make your voice heard.
4. You will receive invitations to exclusive Member Only Events!

We hope you do choose to become a member and join our family. We will work to find the best opportunities that match your interests!

Meet THE CAST



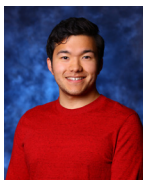
Maya Puterbaugh (Anya/Anastasia) is incredibly excited to make her debut at Conejo Players in her dream role and would like to thank the show's directorial team for giving her this amazing opportunity. She'd also like to thank her friends and family for coming from all over the country to support her as her dream of playing Anya comes true, with special thanks to Alana, without whom she never would have made it to auditions. Enjoy as we take you on a journey to the past!



Tony Cellucci (Dmitry) is over the moon to make his debut at Conejo Players Theatre. He received his BFA in Musical Theatre at AMDA Los Angeles and has enjoyed performing since he was 10 years old. Some favorite credits include Princeton/Rod in *Avenue Q*, Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Patsy in *Monty Python's Spamalot*. Tony would like to thank his friends and family for supporting him in his endeavors!



Benjamin Mitnick (Vladimir "Vlad" Popov) is excited to return to the stage after a 21-year hiatus, making his Conejo Players debut! Between editing VFX for television, he was recently seen playing Mr. Stahlbaum in EDC's *The Nutcracker*. His musical theatre credits include *Brigadoon*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *South Pacific*, *Singin' in the Rain*, and more. He thanks his wife and children for their unwavering support and encouraging him to get back on stage.



Kobe Burton (Gleb Vaganov) is a Ventura County native who recently completed Bachelor of Music degrees in both Vocal Performance and Music Composition (New Media) as well as a Minor in Biblical and Theological Studies from Biola University. He has performed in numerous productions across musical theatre and opera. Some of his recent roles include The Baker (*Into the Woods*, Biola Conservatory of Music), Guglielmo (*Così fan tutte*, LAH-SOW), and Mars (Orpheus in *The Underworld*, Hawaii Performing Arts Festival). He hopes to pursue performance, composition, conducting, or all of the above in a professional capacity in the near future. Soli Deo Gloria!



Amie Woolweber (Countess Lily Malevsky-Malevitch) Having grown up watching the 1997 Animated film of *Anastasia*, Amie fell in love with the story and music and always dreamed it would become a stage production. Now that it has, she's thrilled to have this opportunity to bring the loyal and fun-loving Countess Lily to life. You last saw Amie in 2023 as Carol Strong in CPT's production of *Catch Me If You Can*. Before that she lent her talents to CPT's production of *Young Frankenstein* where she both choreographed and covered the role of Elizabeth for one weekend. Other recent production involvement has been choreographing at High Street Arts Center on productions including *The Sound of Music* and *Matilda* (both 2022). Others include *Singin' in the Rain*, *Beauty and the Beast* (co-choreographed with Tami Keaton), and *The Addams Family*. Giant "Thank You's" to Erin, Wendy, Imani, John, and Michael for all your time, direction, and encouragement. Big thanks to Carolyn, Austin and the rest of the amazing crew for all the dedication and hard work. Of course - a huge thank you to this incredible Cast – it's truly been a pleasure telling this story with all of you. And finally, I hope you all enjoy coming with me to the Land of Yesterday!! Enjoy the show!!



Deidre Parmenter (Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna) is an honorary life member at Conejo Players Theatre and has been active in the theatre community both on and off stage for over 20 years. She most recently directed *Calendar Girls*, was a dresser for *A Gentleman's Guide...* and produced *9 to 5*. She is thrilled to be back on stage with this amazing cast, staff and crew. FAAE.



Quinn Husband (Tsar Nicholas II/Russian Citizen/Government Worker/Parisian/Sergei) has been doing community theater since 2019, having played Race in *Newsies*, Peter Quince in *Something Rotten!*, The Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Mark Cohen in *Rent*. He is a student at California State University, Northridge, graduating this semester with a degree in Linguistics. He is thrilled to be apart of this amazing cast, both as an actor and impromptu dialect coach. Наслаждайтесь шоу!



Liz Richter (Tsarina Alexandra/Russian Citizen/Parisian/Neva Club Attendee) is a West Virginia native from Wheeling, where she and her husband co-founded the Independent Theatre Collective. After nearly a decade away from the stage, she recently made her California stage debut as Brenda in *The Pajama Game*. During her hiatus, Liz embraced her roles as the ultimate audience member, stage mom, and team mom, wholeheartedly supporting the activities of her children and bonus kids. Some of her favorite past performances include *The Last Five Years* (Cathy), *Shrek* (Fiona), and *Spring Awakening* (Ilse Neumann). Liz holds a bachelor's degree in Independent Studies with a focus on music and theatre

from West Liberty University and a master's degree in Higher Education Administration from West Virginia University. By day, she serves as the Manager of Administrative Services at Seaver College, Pepperdine University. However, her most cherished roles are "Mom" to Beckett and Neve, "Liz/Wiz" to Faith, Wilson, and Emaline, and wife to Jeremy. Onward & Upward!



Jordyn Crowley Watts (Olga Romanov/Russian Citizen/Neva Club Attendee/Cygnets) joined CPT last fall as Babe in *The Pajama Game*. Her favorite roles include Sophie (*Mamma Mia!*), Belle (*Beauty and the Beast*), Cinderella (*Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*), and Lily St. Regis (*Annie*). She is a high school and collegiate national ballroom dance champion and her proudest artistic achievement is directing and choreographing two musical theater showcases in Pasadena to help the community come together and develop new talents. Jordyn grew up in Fallon, NV and attended Brigham Young University.



Makenna Bolton (Maria Romanov/Russian Citizen/Parisian/Neva Club Attendee/Odette) graduated from AMDA in Dance Theatre, has choreographed numerous musicals in WI including but not limited to: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Legally Blonde*, *Shrek the Musical*. She has continued her passion for performing and creating out here in Los Angeles, most recently performing in *Little Women Ballet* and *Newsies!* Thank you to the beautiful cast and crew for their talent and dedication, and thank you to family and friends for their unconditional love and support for her artistry.



Jillian Stern (Tatiana Romanov/Russian Citizen/Parisian/Neva Club Attendee/Cygnets) is so excited to be returning to Conejo Players Theatre, previously appearing as Virginia in *The Pajama Game* and as a Jet Set Girl in *Catch Me If You Can!* Recent credits include: *Legally Blonde* (Gaelen/Serena u/s), *Urinetown* (Mrs. Millennium/Ensemble), and *Rent* (Mark's Mom/Ensemble). Huge thank you to the amazing people in her life for their unwavering support and love! Check her out at jilliansstern.com or on insta @jillianstern2 and enjoy the journey!



Anissa Briggs (Teen Anastasia/Ensemble) Is thrilled to be in her first production at Conejo Players Theatre! Recent credits include *Crazy For You* (High Street Arts Center), *42nd Street* (Moonlight Amphitheater), and *The Polar Express* (Rail Events Productions). Anissa has also dance captained several musicals, as well as performed at theme parks such as Knott's Berry Farm and Six Flags. When not performing, she teaches Transitional Kindergarten and spends time with her adorable kitty, Buffy. A huge thank you to her mom, dad, and boyfriend, Cody, for their never-ending support!



Neve Richter (Little Anastasia/Traveler) (8) is the youngest of the five Richter children and is beyond excited to make her stage debut as Little Anastasia with Conejo Players. Previously, she proudly served as the honorary cast mascot for *The Pajama Game*, where she cheered from the wings and mirrored all of the choreography. Neve is a dedicated member of the Triple Threat Theatre program at Thrive Dance Center and a full-time awesome kid!



Jonas Ford (Alexei Romanov, Young Dmitri) is thrilled to be in his first show with Conejo Players Theatre in this production of *Anastasia*. His other credits include: *Finding Nemo Jr.* (Bruce, Ensemble), *Annie Jr.* (Drake), *The Wizard of Oz Jr.* (Mayor of Munchkin City), *Shrek Jr.* (Ensemble), *Frozen Kids* (Olaf), *Christmas Magic* (Youth Ensemble), and *Cinderella Jr.* (Footman) Shoutout to Jonas's whole family for supporting him in his passion for musical theater!



Brendan Lynch (Count Ipolitov) is excited to be in his sixth show onstage with Conejo. You may have previously seen him as Christopher in *Curious Incident...Night-time*, Sid in *The Pajama Game*, or Frank Jr. in *Catch Me if You Can*. Elsewhere, he has appeared in such roles as Gabe in *Next to Normal*, Moritz in *Spring Awakening*, and Tobias in *Sweeney Todd*. Brendan would like to thank all of his family and friends for supporting him, and especially his wife Zayna for loving him through it all.



Chris Gutierrez (Baron Von Rothbart/Dmitry (u/s)/Cadet/Black Marketeer/Drunk/Policeman/Parisian/Neva Club Attendee/Swan Lake Rothbart/Press Reporter) is excited to make his Conejo Players debut! He would like to thank God, his family, and his friends for the endless support and encouragement they show him. He has recently made his return to theatre and is looking forward to what's ahead. He would also like to thank you all for coming to the show!



Aden Julian (Count Leopold/Russian Citizen/Train Announcer) is a freshman in college who has always enjoyed musical theater and music. This is his second show at Conejo Players after playing Eddie in the ensemble of *The Pajama Game*. Aden has also been in a couple shows with roles such as Richie from *13* and The Police Chief from the play *Clue*. Most of all Aden is excited to be in the ensemble and perform with his fellow cast mates and hopes you enjoy *Anastasia*!



Rita Nobile (Servant/Marfa/Traveler/Neva Club Attendee/Ballet Patron/Press/Reporter) is so excited to be a part of her seventh show here at Conejo Players Theatre; her first, playing Young Dee Dee in *Follies*, and her latest, ensemble in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. She has also performed in the ensemble for *Young Frankenstein*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Light in the Piazza*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Pippin*, and *In the Heights*. Rita would like to thank the cast and crew, her family and friends, and her cats for all of their support and encouragement!



Emmalee Villafaña (Dunya/Ensemble) (she/her) is incredibly honored to be in her first production at Conejo Players Theatre. She has a BA in Theatre with a minor in Dance from California Lutheran University. She has had a long love of theatre and the arts and is honored to share her talents with children through her work as an after-school teacher. She would like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her dreams.



Jené Hernandez (Paulina/Lily (u/s)/Parisian/Neva Club Attendee, Ballet Patron/Russian Citizen/Cygnets) is honored to be on this journey with this cast here on the Conejo Players stage! You may have seen her most recently in *MacBitches* and *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* here at CPT. Some of her favorite past roles have included Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* and Sister James in *Doubt*. Jené wants to thank her friends and family for their love and support, and wants to especially thank her husband Nick and her daughter Lillybelle: the lights of her life.



Ben Muley (Ensemble) makes his debut as a Conejo Player. He is thrilled to be in this production, and would like to thank his family for always encouraging him in the arts. As far as gossip about his talent goes, the rumors never end. So he would like to say "Spaceba za sluhi! And enjoy the show!"



Lauren Bailor (Russian Citizen/Government Worker/Traveler/Countess Gregory/Press/Reporter) is honored to be able to participate both on and off stage in this production as a member of the ensemble and by designing hair. She has immensely enjoyed working with such a talented group of people in her fifth production with the Conejo Players, the most recent being *The Pajama Game* this past winter. She hopes you enjoy the show, and would like to thank her family and friends for their continued support.



Mark Lopez (Gorlinsky/Ensemble) was nominated for BroadwayWorld's 2024 Best Supporting Actor in a musical for his portrayal of Carl Hanratty in *Catch Me if You Can*. Mark also appeared in *The Secret Garden*, *9 to 5* and *Baby*. Mark studied acting at Yale University's summer school intensive program and was the only actor from California selected in 2005. Mark was the original Sorcerer Slurm in *Super Sidekick the Musical* by Greg Crafts and Michael Gordon Shapiro.



Jack Rogers (Ensemble) is overjoyed to be performing for the first time on the Conejo Players stage. Jack has previously appeared in *Beauty and the Beast* (Ensemble), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Jesus), and *Something Rotten!* (Francis Flute) recently. Jack would like to extend an enormous thank you to the cast and crew that work tirelessly to put together a production such as this, the effort that goes in cannot be understated. Jack also would like to thank the audience for taking this journey to the past, спасибо за слух!



Layla Ulrich (Ensemble) is so excited to be part of their first show here at Conejo Players Theatre. They have been active in the community theatre community around the area having recently been seen in *White Christmas* at Actors Repertory Theatre of Simi (ensemble), and at *High Street Arts Center* in shows such as *Young Frankenstein* (Ensemble), *Something Rotten!* (Tom Snout), and *Newsies* (Specs).

Meet THE STAFF

Erin Fagundes (Director) would like to thank the Theatre Gods for the tremendous gift of this cast and production team, who have made bringing this production to life a dream come true. She has been performing, directing, and producing theatre throughout Ventura county for over 30 years. Some of her favorite directing credits include: *9 to 5 the Musical*, Neil Simon's "Eugene" trilogy (*Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Biloxi Blues*, and *Broadway Bound*), *Damn Yankees*, *Peter, Pan*, *Beau Jest*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *I Love You, You're Perfect Now Change* (twice!) *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Seussical*. Some of her favorite onstage roles include Sue in *Snapshots*, Marietta Shingle in *A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder*, Scuttle in *The Little Mermaid* (HSAC), Rona in *The 25th Annual... Spelling Bee* (4 Star Award/Elite Theatre), Percy Talbot in *The Spitfire Grill* (4 Star Award/Skyway Playhouse), Eve/Mama Noah in *Children of Eden* (Elite Theatre) and Queen Aggravain in *Once Upon A Mattress* (CPT). Erin first began working with the Conejo Players in 1991 and has since served on the Board, acts as the Donations Coordinator, and has become an Honorary Lifetime Member. Outside of the theatre, Erin is a Clinical Trial Manager, working on exciting and groundbreaking research. Thank you to every person who has contributed to our beautiful show.

Jen Isaacs (Producer) has been a proud member of Conejo Players Theatre since 1992. Over the years, she has taken on a variety of roles both onstage and behind the scenes in productions such as *Bye Bye Birdie* (Penelope Ann), *Tartuffe*, *Stop the World – I Want to Get Off* (Ensemble), *Big River* (Ensemble), *Into the Woods* (Sleeping Beauty), *Beau Jest* (Sarah), *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Ensemble), *Biloxi Blues* (Producer), *Over the River and Through the Woods* (Caitlin), *Guys and Dolls* (Ensemble), and many more. She would like to thank her husband Pete for his continuing support, and especially Erin, who started her on her theatrical journey so many years ago. Offstage, you can catch her producing special events with her husband for their company, PJ Events. IG: @pjevntsla

Courtney Potter (Co-Producer/Creative Consultant) wanted to be a part of *Anastasia* so badly that she made up a job for herself -- and she's indebted to Erin and team for being so obliging! Most recently, Courtney produced and assistant directed Conejo Players' hit production of Jonathan Larson's *Rent*. Primarily a performer, local/regional credits include Bea in *Something Rotten!* and Winifred in *Mary Poppins* at High Street Arts Center; Mrs. Cratchit (et al) in CPT's Readers Theatre performance of *A Christmas Carol* and Elizabeth in CPT's *Young Frankenstein*; Woman 2 in *I Love You ... Now Change* at the Elite Theatre Company (Four Star Award); and Ms. Jensen in *110 in the Shade* at Actors Co-Op Hollywood (Ovation Award, Best Musical – Intimate Theatre). Love and thanks to this incredible cast and staff, and to friends and family. IG: @divaliving

Wendy Babb (Co-Choreographer) is thrilled to be bringing *Anastasia* to life alongside the incredible Imani White. She firmly believes that in times like these—when the world is shifting faster than a quick costume change—the arts remain a constant source of joy, escape, and very necessary jazz hands. Big thanks to Erin for leading this journey, to John and Michael for making the cast sound so lush they could summon the spirit of the Romanovs, and to the performers for their energy, talent, and ability to dance with style and grace. Support the arts, tip your servers, and may all your grand jetés be injury-free!

Imani White (Co-Choreographer) received her dance training at Moorpark Community College, where she choreographed and danced in various Moorpark Dance Concerts. She received her B.A. in dance, from UCI. Imani has participated in the community theatre scene of Ventura County, between performing in various shows, helping to choreograph youth production numbers, and co-choreographing a show. Imani is excited to have the opportunity to choreograph again and to work alongside an incredible production team and cast.

John Gaston (Musical Director) With several Four Star Awards for outstanding musical direction to his credit, John musically directed many of our most successful productions including *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *The King and I*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Hairspray*, *Singin' in the Rain*, and, most recently, *Catch Me If You Can*. An accomplished singer/actor in his own right, he has played several leading roles here at CPT including Archibald Craven in our 2023 production of *The Secret Garden* and Percy in *The Scarlet Pimpernel* among others. He thanks Michael Robinson for his partnership on this production and especially his wife, Lissa, for her constant love and support for his musical theatre obsession.

Michael S. Robinson (Co-Music Director) holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Colorado Mesa University. Recent performance credits include *Snapshots: A Musical Scrapbook* and *First Date* at Jeannette Airen Studio, and *Crazy for You* at High Street Arts Center. Usually a performer, Anastasia marks his first ever step into the world of music direction—and it has been a demanding and exhausting, yet ultimately fulfilling and altogether wonderful experience. He thanks Erin and John for the opportunity, and the entire production team, cast, and crew for their incredible collaboration. He hopes you enjoy the show—and please shop at Vuori for all your athleisure-wear needs.

Carolyn Luu (Stage Manager) is elated to be stepping back into the role of Stage Manager, one she knows fairly well. Last summer, she made her return to Conejo Players Theatre with stage managing *Rent*. She also is no stranger to the stage, having been seen across the Ventura County community theater scene since 2013. Favorite roles include Marcy (*The 25th...Spelling Bee*, *The Elite*) and Grandma Tzeitel (*Fiddler On The Roof*, High Street Arts Center) and working behind the scenes stage managing *Yankee Dawg You Die* and producing *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, both at *The Elite*. She would like to thank her wonderful family and friends for their constant support. She would also like to extend the biggest THANK YOU to Erin, Wendy, Imani, John, and Michael. "Thank you all for making this experience so special, I could have not asked for a better team to work with. Love to you all." Please enjoy the show!

Brian Peterson (Set Design and Construction) merges traditional stagecraft with digital innovation. His recent work includes stage construction and rigging for *Shrek*, and *Seussical*, where he also appeared as Mr. Mayor. He actively volunteers at his hometown's Fillmore Town Theatre's restoration project. Known for creative problem-solving, his stage designs combine precision drafting and 3D modeling, while his prop work integrates 3D printing techniques. He is happily married to the costumer, Austin!

Rick Steinberg (Co-Set Designer/Head of Construction Team) has been involved with the Conejo Players in one way or another since his first adventure in *Pipe Dream*, way back in 1981. He has been seen on stage in a variety of shows. He has won awards in both Directing and Set Design. He is an honorary lifetime member and multiple Harlequin Award recipient.

Austin Peterson (Costume Designer) is delighted to be joining the wonderful team of Anastasia at the Conejo Players Theatre. She began as a costume assistant, creating several dresses for *Shrek the Musical Jr.* at the Fillmore Town Theatre. Most recently she was lead costume designer for *Seussical the Musical*, where she also performed as Mrs. Mayor alongside her husband and two children. Austin's enjoyment of sewing her own clothing and creating numerous costumes for her children over the years has led her into the world of theatre.

Joe Krause (Sound Designer/Operator) Anastasia marks Joe's sixth production that he has lent his many talents to. He is multi-talented and jumps in wherever needed, from construction to sound guru. He loves being able to support the theater and his daughter in her acting journey.

Kirk Longhofer (Sound Effects Designer) is a Wichita, Kansas based theatrical sound designer, editor, producer, and live sound engineer who has been playing with sounds and sound systems since age 12. His theatrical designs are heard virtually weekly in educational, community, and professional theaters around the world. Recent theatrical work includes designs for *Tree of Life* (world premiere at The White Theatre at the J), *Travesties*, *Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson*, *Apt.2B*, *Witness for the Prosecution* (Wichita Repertory Theatre), *Proof* (Olathe Civic Theatre Association), and *Blithe Spirit* (Guild Hall Players). www.technopraxis.org

Haley Marie (Backstage Crew) This is Haley's eighth show at Conejo players. She enjoys working backstage and watching the shows come to life.

Dana Marley-Kolb (Production Assistant) is excited to be part of this lovely piece on this wonderful stage. At CPT she has performed as Rose in *Gypsy*, (Four Star Award), Muzzy in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Phyllis in *Follies*, Barbara in *Social Security*, Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd* (Four Star Award), Arlene in *Baby*, Violet in *9 to 5*, and Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie*. Offstage at CPT she served as dramaturg for *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [REVISED]* and *Romeo & Juliet*, staged two Car Park Theaters, produced *25th...Spelling Bee*, *Romeo & Juliet*, and *A Gentleman's Guide....Murder* and directed *Daddy Long Legs* and *The Secret Garden*. Her next project is directing *The Book of Will*. Thank you all, and special thanks to her family, and the wonderful production team, designers, crew and cast. You have been a joy! She is currently serving as Conejo Players Theatre's President.



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