



CONEJO PLAYERS
THEATRE

Ken Ludwig's

LEND ME A TENOR



Jan 16 - Feb 7, 2026

Fri & Sat at 8:00pm • Sun at 2:00pm

Thu Jan 22 at 8:00pm • Sat Jan 31 & Feb 7 at 2:00pm

KEN LUDWIG'S LEND ME A TENOR
is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

Welcome to CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE



I am thrilled to welcome you to the 68th 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!

Conejo Players Theatre
is a Proud Member of

aact
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF COMMUNITY THEATRE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "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.

CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE

presents

Ken Ludwig's

LEND ME A TENOR

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with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

Conejo Players Theatre • Thousand Oaks, CA

Jan 16 - Feb 7, 2026

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The CAST

Lillianna Rose Villanueva	Maggie
Josh Medina	Max
Michael Thompson	Saunders
Joe Mulder	Tito
Brittani McNeal	Maria
Andrew Landecker	The Bellhop
Jordan Birgy-Krasnoff	Diana
Elena Mills	Julia

From THE DIRECTOR

Lend Me a Tenor is a tribute to the "screwball" comedies of the 1930's such as *Bringing Up Baby* and *It Happened One Night*. These movies were subtly farcical in that the situation dictated the humorous reactions of the people on screen. In other words, the characters themselves weren't funny, but their reactions were, which made it even funnier. This is what makes a farce work.

Although not a musical (there is a musical version, though) this show was a challenge for me because I've never had to incorporate music into the story this thoroughly. The music is practically another character in the story, so I had to direct it that way. The three in the cast who sing have rehearsed not only their dialogue but have worked tirelessly in order to sing their arias in a way that would make Pavarotti proud.

Enjoy the show!

- **John Eslick**, Director

Production **STAFF**

Director	John Eslick
Producer.....	Kristin Krause
Stage Manager.....	Belle Krause
Costume Designer	Beth Eslick, Elena Mills
Set Designer.....	John Eslick
Set Dressing	Dei Hobbs, Susan Weyant
Lighting Designer.....	Jim Diderrich
Sound Designers.....	John Eslick, Joe Krause
Prop Designers.....	Jaye Depew, Dona Pugh
Wig Designer	Haley Marie
Costume Assistants.....	Andrew (Argyle) Ceco, Betty Fuhmann, Karen Graham-Hanna, Deidre Hobbs, Susan Weyant
Dialect Coach	Dave Parmenter
Vocal Coach.....	Diann Alexander
Intimacy Coach.....	Hayley Silvers
Make-up Artist	Belle Krause
Make-up Assistant	Rylee Stafford
Sound/Mic Operator.....	Joe Krause
Light Operator	Arnulfo Carrillo
Script Secretary.....	Rita McCaffrey
Stage Crew.....	Lyra Eriksen, Rylee Stafford, Jaden Timms
Headshots	Refugio Lira
Publicity.....	Ritchie Filippi
Social Media Liaison.....	Rylee Stafford
Production Photos	Scott Quintard
Construction Crew	Jim Diderrich, Judy Diderrich, John Holroyd, Lee Marks, Max Honigsberg, Monica Steinberg, Rick Steinberg, Mike Watrobski
Audition Crew	Judy Diderrich, Julie Jensen, Belle Krause, Hunter Krause, Joe Krause, Haley Marie
Audition Pianists	Diann Alexander, Zach Spencer
Strike Crew.....	Jim Diderrich, Judy Diderrich, Beth Eslick, John Eslick, Belle Krause, Hunter Krause, Joe Krause, Kristin Krause, Elena Mills, Mike Mills, Rick Steinberg, Mark Suarez, Mike Watrobski
Paint Crew	Jim Bukowski, Lyra Eriksen, Beth Eslick, John Eslick, Ritchie Filippi, Vada Filippi, Belle Krause, Hunter Krause, Joe Krause, Kristin Krause, Luz Lira, Lyra Lira, Refugio Lira, Haley Marie, Rita McCaffrey, Brittani McNeal, Josh Medina, Elena Mills, Stacy Mills, Aiden Paolini, Ava Paolini, Brandy Paolini, Susan Weyant

Special Thanks

**Andrew (Argyle) Ceco, Beth Eslick,
Boys Team Charity, National Charities League**

The **SETTING**

An elegant suite in a first-class hotel in Cleveland, Ohio, September 1934



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.

"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



Josh Medina (Max) is thrilled to make his Conejo Players debut as Max in *Ken Ludwig's Lend Me a Tenor*. He has been seen around Los Angeles in short films, seasonal events, and stage productions, including Universal Studios Halloween Horror Nights (Scare Actor), *Will Power Shakespeare Hour* (Hamlet, Romeo), *Urinetown* with Conundrum Theatre Company (Senator Fipp), and *Rawr XD* with Ghouls Ofthenite (Jessie). Josh would like to thank his mom, his girlfriend Sydney, his friends from Country Day, and his friends Gavin and Riley for their unwavering support and impact on his life.



Lillianna Rose Villanueva (Maggie Saunders) is excited to be on the Conejo Players stage for the first time! Previously, she has worked on a variety of school and youth productions, including *Charlotte's Web*, *Freaky Friday*, *Melancholy Play*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Secret Garden*. She is very grateful for the privilege of acting in such a welcoming community for her first pure comedy performance. Cheers to new experiences! She hopes audiences will have a fun one watching.



Michael Thompson (Henry Saunders) is thrilled to be back on the Conejo Players Theatre stage as Henry Saunders in *Ken Ludwig's Lend Me a Tenor* having last been seen as Ralph Crane in *The Book of Will*. An alumnus of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts LA, he has been performing for over 30 years in the US and Europe. He has been known for his ability to bring a wide array of characters to life, as well as his skills directing over 25 productions, along with producing various thought-provoking shows on the East Coast. Special thanks to my beautiful bride, Susan, for your support and encouragement. Thank you, my loving Pixie!



Joe Mulder (Tito Merelli) is thrilled to be back on stage at Conejo Players where he was previously seen as Joe in *9 to 5* (2022) and very previously seen in the ensemble of *Spamalot* (2013). He has also appeared at High Street Arts Center in Moorpark as Brother Jeremiah in *Something Rotten!* (2023), Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast* (2024), and Sir Bedevere in *Spamalot* (2025). He enjoys cooking, spending time with his wonderful wife and daughters, and yelling at the Minnesota Vikings through the TV. Thank you to the amazing cast and behind-the-scenes crew of this crazy, hilarious show!.



Britanni McNeal (Maria) is thrilled to make her debut with Conejo Players Theatre as Maria, the fiery wife of Tito Merelli. A lifelong passion for acting led her to earn a B.S. in Communication with a minor in Theatre. After taking time away from the stage to pursue a career in film, Brittani is delighted to be returning to live theatre. Previous credits include *Lysistrata* in *Lysistrata* and Maria in *Lend Me a Tenor* at the ARTSpace Black Box Theatre, as well as Seamstress/Ensemble in *White Christmas* at the Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center and its reprise at the El Portal Theatre. Brittani would like to express her gratitude to her amazing family and friends for their unwavering support and love.



Andrew Landecker (The Bellhop) is an actor, singer, and musician. He is thrilled to join Conejo Players Theatre and the talented cast of *Lend Me a Tenor*. Andrew has performed from coast to coast. Some of his credits include: Sir Robin in *Spamalot*, Will Parker in *Oklahoma!*, Amos in *Chicago*, Motel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, LeFou in *Beauty and the Beast*, Tony Soprano in *The Streaming Verse of Madness*, Robin in *Something Rotten!*, Elf in *Cirque: Spirit of Christmas*, Adventure Andy in *Jurassic Quest National Tour*, Speed in *Sky High Remote Learning*, and Chester in *The Bully Problem*. Andrew would like to thank the *Lend Me a Tenor* creative team, for the opportunity, and his family, friends and mentors.



Jordan Birgy-Krasnoff (Diana) is a singer, actor, and voice teacher based in Los Angeles and is very grateful to be playing Diana in CPT's production of *Lend Me a Tenor*. She graduated with a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from California State University (Fullerton) where she expanded her experience in art song and operatic performance and has since returned to her musical theatre roots with recent performances as Cheryl Ann in *Catch Me if You Can* and Sibella in *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. She has also taken part in staged readings presented by CPT's Readers Theatre including *macbitches* and *The Last Man Standing Club*.



Elena Mills (Julia) is elated to join the cast of *Lend Me a Tenor*. She is currently serving the Board of CPT as Vice President, dedicating her free time to the theatre she loves so much. Long ago she started to work as a set painter, and since then has enjoyed doing costumes for many shows, working at the box office and serving as a House Managers coordinator. Elena loves to produce, direct and perform, but will do anything to help Conejo Players thrive. She would like to thank the amazingly talented cast, hardworking and flawless crew and wonderful production team for creating such a warm and friendly atmosphere, for their support and help. And a big thanks to her family for letting her do what she loves best! Enjoy the show and hope to see you at CPT again and again!

Meet THE STAFF

John Eslick (Director/Set Designer) This is the fifth production John has directed at Conejo; the first being Agatha Christie's *A Murder is Announced*, followed by *Don't Dress for Dinner*, the online version of *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [REVISED]*, and *Don't Drink the Water*. He has also directed several productions for the Elite Theatre Company. John acts as well, most notably as Elwood P. Dowd in High Street Art Center's production of *Harvey*, which won him a Four-Star Theater Award; he reprised his role as Elwood in Conejo Players' version. He feels blessed with this exceptional cast, some of whom he has had the pleasure of working with before. When not at the theatre, John works as a professional modelmaker and graphic designer. John thanks the board for this stellar opportunity, as well as his tireless crew; and of course, Beth for making the cast look fantastic and being a constant source of sunshine.

Kristin Krause (Producer) has found a family here at Conejo Players Theatre. This is her 4th time being a producer. She loves being involved with all aspects of the theater. She thanks her family for all their support and love.

Beth Eslick (Costume Designer) has enjoyed costuming these amazing actors! She is an Honorary Life Member of the Conejo Players Theatre, is the proud owner of a coveted Golden Sweatshirt, and has been the costume custodian for CPT since 2007. In real life, Beth is a costume designer and the wardrobe supervisor at Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum in Topanga. "Hugs and kisses to my incredible, ever-so-patient Sunshine." Bethdressed.com

Belle Krause (Stage Manager/Make-up Artist) has become a regular around the Conejo Players Theatre jumping in wherever she is needed, from on stage to backstage. This show marks her debut as stage manager. The theatre is her happy place, and she is excited to share it with all of you.

Jim Diderrich (Lighting Designer) has been a lighting designer for 28 CPT productions during the last ten years. He also directed several shows over the years including CPT's *The Mousetrap* in 2023, co-directed several radio dramas for Every Now and Then Theatre since 2016, and appeared on-stage in many CPT productions since 2000 and other Ventura County productions since 1988.

Joe Krause (Sound Designer/Operator) loves to lend his talents and time helping with productions at Conejo Players Theatre. He is multi-talented and jumps-in wherever needed. From construction to chauffeur. He loves being able to support the theater and his daughter in her acting journey.

Diann Alexander (Vocal Coach/Audition Pianist) first collaborated with CPT as music director for the innovative production of Stephen Sondheim's *Follies* back in 1993. Since then, there have been many successful musical collaborations. Most recently was as voice coach for the creative production of *The Book of Will* directed by CPT president, Dana Marley-Kolb. An award winning voice teacher and music director for over 60 years (Pepperdine, CLU, Healthy Singing Studio), Diann is the proud teacher for decades of many CPT performers. She was delighted when

director John Eslick requested her expertise at auditions and individual vocal coaching on this hilarious production of *Lend Me a Tenor*. Max (Joshua Medina), Tito (Joe Mulder), Bellhop (Andrew Landecker) have poured their hearts, souls, voices, and wonderful musical comedy talents into this production. Diann's wish for you, the audience, is to feel so inspired that you proclaim in your best Italian accent: "Bravi tutti!" (Congratulations, all!) at the curtain call.

Rick Steinberg (Head of Construction) 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.

Ritchie Filippi (Video Producer/Publicity Photos) is a media, commercial, and film producer/director. He is thrilled to be working with John and this amazing cast on the video portions of the show. He has previously produced videos for NBC Sports, Sony Pictures, Nintendo, Discovery, and *Sesame Street*, to name a few. He is also the current Media Director for CPT. Enjoy the show, it will make you want to sing!

Arnulfo Carrillo (Light Operator) is thrilled to be part of the tech crew for *Lend Me a Tenor*. This marks his 2nd production with Conejo Players Theatre, but first production working in tech. He is so grateful for getting the opportunity to learn what it's like to work off the stage and on the tech team. He recently took part in *Descendants: The Musical* with Conejo Players during their 2025 season. If you caught him in the show, he was the role of Carlos, the son of Cruella. He hopes everyone coming out to see this show enjoys themselves, as well as good luck to the cast of the show. Enjoy!

Rylee Stafford (Stage Crew/Make-up Artist) has become a familiar backstage presence at Conejo Players Theatre. She enjoys the fast-paced environment and is excited to help bring productions to life. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Lyra Eriksen (Stage Crew) is excited to be part of this all-girl stage crew. Whether she is part of the cast, crew or helping with hair and makeup, Lyra loves the theater. Lyra would like to thank all the cast and crew at Conejo Players for all the support and fun! She would also like to thank her family and her biggest fans, her sisters Chloe and Posey.



Board of **DIRECTORS** and Theatre **MANAGEMENT**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President **Dana Marley-Kolb**
Vice President **Elena Mills**
Secretary **Eve Kiefer**
Business Director **Toni Thompson**
Facilities Director **Joe Krause**
Media Director **Ritchie Filippi**
Treasurer **Deidre Parmenter**

THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Box Office Manager **Sarah Ely**
Box Office Assistant **Jess Filippi**,
..... **Michele Waggoner**
House Mgr. Coordinator **Elena Mills**
House Managers **Ken Endress**,
..... **Dona Pugh**, **Erin Fagundes**,
..... **Penny Krevenas**, **Dana Marley-Kolb**,
..... **Jess Filippi**, **Christine Evangelista**,
..... **Mike Mills**, **Danielle Romo**,
..... **Bridget Van Gelder**, **Elena Mills**,
..... **Michele Waggoner**, **Jeremy Richter**,
..... **Deidre Parmenter**, **Beth Eslick**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Exec. Director **Rick Steinberg**
Exec. Producer **Beth Eslick**
Exec. Tech. Director **Jim Diderrich**



Director Emeritus.....**Dick Johnson**

Front-of-House Coordinator. **Eve Kiefer**
Snack Bar Coordinator **Jim Bukowski**
Legal Advisor **Jason Kirkpatrick**
Costume Custodian **Beth Eslick**
Furniture Custodian **Rick Steinberg**
Sound Maintenance Master .. **Joe Krause**
Props Custodian..... **John Eslick**
Graphic Designer **John Eslick**
Pre-Show VO..... **John Eslick**
Archivist..... **Lucien Jervis**
Wig Custodian **Haley Marie**
Key Master **Jim Diderrich**
Theatre Ghost **Albert**

NEXT ON THE BOARDS

YES AND
improv.
conejo improv players

Feb 21, 2026
8:00pm

CONEJO PLAYERS
THEATRE

LEGALLY
BLONDE
The Musical

MUSIC & LYRICS BY
LAURENCE O'KEEFE & NELL BENJAMIN

BOOK BY
HEATHER HACH

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY AMANDA BROWN
AND THE METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER MOTION PICTURE

Mar 27 - Apr 19, 2026
Fri & Sat at 8:00pm • Sun at 2:00pm
Thu Apr 2 at 8:00pm • Sat Apr 11 & 18 at 2:00pm
(no show Easter Sunday)

LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com