



CONEJO PLAYERS
THEATRE

SWEENEY TODD

THE DEMON BARBER
OF FLEET STREET

A MUSICAL THRILLER

MUSIC & LYRICS BY
STEPHEN SONDHEIM

BOOK BY
HUGH WHEELER

FROM AN ADAPTATION BY
CHRISTOPHER BOND

ORIGINALLY DIRECTED ON BROADWAY BY HAROLD PRINCE

ORCHESTRATIONS BY JONATHAN TUNICK

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY RICHARD BARR, CHARLES WOODWARD, ROBERT FRYER,
MARY LEA JOHNSON, MARTIN RICHARDS, IN ASSOCIATION WITH DEAN AND JUDY MANOS

Welcome to CONEJO PLAYERS THEATRE



I want to welcome you to Conejo Players Theatre. This has been a very special place in my life for the past 32 years! I'll never forget receiving an audition notice for *Evita* when we first moved to Agoura Hills; I had no idea then how enriched our lives would be with our amazing CPT family.

I have learned so much from these special people who support our theatre in so many ways: producers, directors, choreographers, actors, technical crew, stage crew, orchestra members, staff, and the incredible volunteers who make this all possible.

We are truly blessed to have Conejo Players Theatre in our community. CPT not only brings the best of theatre to us, but each volunteer has also helped build an inspiring and magical place where everyone can take a journey that will enhance and change their lives forever. **Whatever your passion is — whether it be seeing a great show, building sets, costuming, performing, directing, producing, ushering, etc. — we invite you to take this journey with us and become a part of our family.**



Devery Holmes
President

Proud Member of

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OF COMMUNITY THEATRE



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

SWEENEY TODD

THE DEMON BARBER
OF FLEET STREET



Music and Lyrics by **STEPHEN SONDHEIM**
Book by **HUGH WHEELER** from an adaptation by **CHRISTOPHER BOND**

Originally directed on Broadway by **HAROLD PRINCE**
Orchestrations by **JONATHAN TUNICK**

Originally produced on Broadway by **RICHARD BARR, CHARLES WOODWARD, ROBERT FRYER,**
MARY LEA JOHNSON, MARTIN RICHARDS, in association with **DEAN AND JUDY MANOS**

Director

CELESTE RUSSI

Producer

PRISCILLA LOSEY

Choreographer

MONA KING

Music Directors

**JIM HOLMES, SHELLEY ROSS SAXER,
DAVID FRALEY & DIANN ALEXANDER**

Lighting Designer

JACK ALLAWAY

Stage Manager

DANIEL SHAUL

Sound Designer

LARRY LINDSAY

Set Designer

AARON VAN ETTEN

Costume Designers

MANUEL SILVA, TERI O'CONNER & LAUREL MARION

Conejo Players Theatre

March 1 - 24, 2019

Fri & Sat at 8:00 P.M. • Sun at 2:00 P.M.

(Thurs 3/7 at 8pm • Sat 3/16 & 3/23 at 2pm)

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NEXT ON THE BOARDS



April 6-14, 2019

Fri at 7:00pm / Sat & Sun at 2:00pm & 5:00pm
 (No 5:00pm show on Sun, April 14)



May 3-12, 2019

Fri & Sat at 8:00pm
 Sun at 2:00pm

From **THE DIRECTOR**

Like so many musical theatre fans who couldn't afford a Broadway ticket, I first encountered Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd* on PBS with the first national tour starring Angela Lansbury and George Hearn. I was a poor musical theatre college student at the time and was, and still am, struck by how this Victorian saga of personal and class injustice is still relevant. On the surface, it seems to be a simple horror story, but I connected with the very human tragedy - a saga of personal and class injustice, love, obsession, revenge, and survival in hard times.

And the show spoke to others too – it's become a classic of musical theatre, with two revivals on Broadway, four revivals on the West End, a 2007 film, and most recently a critically acclaimed production within a literal pie shop. I loved doing the research for this production and finding the original story, which was published in periodical form as "The String of Pearls" in 1846-1847. This was one of many "penny dreadfuls" – accessible, inexpensive, and sensational mass entertainment for a population with growing literacy and leisure time. Modern adaptations transformed a stereotypical villain into a complex character with a backstory and a reason for revenge that brings us along for the ride. Perhaps that's why this tale of damaged people, trapped within the class structure of their time and surviving as best they can, has remained popular for over 170 years. Or perhaps it's just a good story told well.

I am grateful for and humbled by the team that has brought such passion to this very challenging production. Many of the cast, staff, crew have told me "I've always wanted to do this show," and their hard work has pushed me harder to create the best show we can. Every member of the team has stepped up to the musical, technical, and acting challenges of this huge show. I love working with an ensemble, and I love this ensemble – every ingredient, every slice of this pie is delicious. My hope is that I have given back to this company of talent to make the show worthy of their contributions and of the audience's time and attention.

"But the work waits and I'm full of joy!"

- **Celeste Russi**, Director

ORCHESTRA

David Fraley	Conductor/Piano
Mark Grisez	Keyboard
Matt Germaine	Clarinet/Flute
Margaret Joyce	Clarinet/Flute
Pamela De Almeida	Cello
Whitney Raleigh	Cello
Phyllis Rautenberg	French Horn
Jennifer Bliman Carmichael	French Horn
Clay McCarter	Trombone

Production **STAFF**

Celeste Russi	Director
Priscilla Losey	Producer
Jim Holmes	Music Director
Shelley Ross Saxer	Music Director
David Fraley	Music Director/Conductor
Diann Alexander	Music Director/Vocal Consultant
Mona King	Choreographer
Aaron Van Etten	Set Designer/Assistant Director
Jack Allaway	Lighting Designer
Larry Lindsay	Sound Designer/Sound Board Operator
Manuel Silva	Co-Costume Designer
Teri O'Conner	Co-Costume Designer
Laurel Marion	Co-Costume Designer
Nick Bemrose	Scenic Designer
Ainsley Shapiro	Co-Prop Mistress/Assistant Stage Manager/Set Dresser
Rita McCaffrey	Co-Prop Mistress
Jessica Mills	Wig Designer
Nic Reid	Make-up Designer
John Holroyd	Co-Construction Head
Rick Steinberg	Co-Construction Head
David Gilchrist	Dialect Coach
Dominick Riches	Assistant Lighting Designer
Daniel Shaul	Stage Manager
Chelsea Naselow	Light Board Operator
Julie Hague, Emmett Vanderwier	Backstage Crew
Alex Choate, Max Honigsberg, Dick Johnson, Lee Marks, Shawn McCabe, Grace Perez	Construction Crew
Tricia Barr, Karen Washburn	Costume Crew
Aaron Kirsch	Photographer
John Losey	Photographer
Candace Gray	Lobby Board Designer
Sarah Ely, Erin Schumaier, Robin Russell	Audition Staff
John Holroyd, Rick Steinberg, Jack Allaway, Max Honigsberg, Kelly Green, Celeste Russi, Aaron Van Etten, Priscilla Losey, Emmett Vanderwier, Julie Hague, Eve Kiefer, Dominick Riches, John Eslick, Beth Eslick, Margaret Le Fleur, Larry Lindsay, Vince Perez, Mark Suarez, Lauri Kamiel, Grace Perez, Austin Russell, Sarah Kline, John Wallis, Dana Kolb, Joanna Bert, Gary Saxer, Paige Loter, Ainsley Shapiro	Strike Crew

Special Thanks

Jana Giboney, Barbara Mazeika, Paige Loter,
John Eslick, Beth Eslick, Donna Holroyd



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

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Last year's 60th Anniversary Fundraising Gala was a tremendous success — one that allowed for the recent remodel of our restroom facilities! We thank our kind Gala sponsors and attendees for their overwhelming generosity and support.

The **SETTING**

Mid-Nineteenth Century London, England

The **CAST**

John David Wallis	Sweeney Todd
Dana Kolb	Mrs. Lovett
Vincent Perez	Anthony Hope
Joanna Bert	Johanna/Young Lucy
	(3/1, 3/3, 3/7, 3/9, 3/16 8pm, 3/17, 3/22, 3/23 2pm)
Allison Martinez	Johanna/Young Lucy
	(3/2, 3/8, 3/10, 3/15, 3/16 2pm, 3/23 8pm, 3/24)
Kelly Green	Judge Turpin
Gabriel Gentile	The Beadle
Austin Russell	Tobias Ragg
Sarah Kline	Beggar Woman/Ensemble
	(3/2, 3/3, 3/7, 3/8 2pm, 3/16 8pm, 3/22, 3/23 2pm, 3/24)
Jennifer Beall-Sorensen	Beggar Woman/Ensemble
	(3/1, 3/9 8pm, 3/10, 3/15, 3/16 2pm, 3/17, 3/23 8pm)
Alex Greene	Adolfo Pirelli
Stephen Juhl	Jonas Fogg/Ensemble
Lauri Kamiel	Ensemble
Eve Kiefer	Ensemble
Sahai Lara	Ensemble
Margaret Le Fleur	Ensemble
Steve Perrin	Ensemble
Gary Saxer	Ensemble
Ed Smart	Ensemble
Mark Suarez	Ensemble

Song **BREAKDOWN**

Act One

The Ballad of Sweeney Todd
No Place Like London
The Worst Pies in London
Poor Thing
My Friends
Green Finch and Linnet Bird
Ah, Miss
Joanna (Anthony)
Pirelli's Miracle Elixir
The Contest
Johanna (Judge Turpin)
Wait
Kiss Me (Part I)
Ladies in Their Sensitivities
Kiss Me (Part II)
Pretty Women
Epiphany
A Little Priest

Act Two

God, That's Good!
Johanna (Todd)
By the Sea
The Letter
Not While I'm Around
Parlor Songs
City on Fire!
Searching
Searching (Part II) (Beggar Woman)
The Judge's Return
Final Scene
The Ballad of Sweeney Todd

Meet THE CAST



Jennifer Beall-Sorensen (*Beggar Woman/Ensemble*) has grown up performing in theaters across Ventura County. She's honored to be working with such a talented cast and crew, including Gary and Shelley Saxer. "Love you Mom and Dad!" Her favorite roles include Luisa in *The Fantasticks*, Rosa Bud in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and Laurie in *Oklahoma!* She has been teaching in the Oak Park School District for 23 years and is a founder of their TK program. She's excited to be back on the CPT stage and gives a big shout out to ROS, RAS, JKS, husband Erik, and daughters, Kari and Raedyn.



Gabriel Gentile (*The Beadle*) This is Gabriel's second time playing the role of Beadle Bamford, but his first time acting with the Conejo Players Theatre, which just goes to show, that the third audition is the charm. He resides in Ventura where he pursues a professional voice-over career. He has lent his voice to commercials, video games, and animation, but theatre shall always hold a special place in his heart. As always, he dedicates his performance to the memory of his mentor, Macario Gaxiola; "Toujours dans la lumière et la beauté, doux esprit. Hasta que nos encontremos de nuevo."



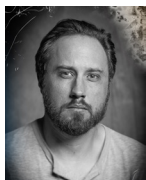
Joanna Bert (Johanna/Young Lucy) is excited to appear in her first musical on the CPT stage, and in a Sondheim role that shares her namesake! Most recently she was seen as Philia in *Forum* (High Street Arts Center), and Lina Lamont in *Singin' in the Rain* (HSAC, Four Star Award Winner). Last time she was on the CPT stage she was in the comedic farce *Noises Off* as Brooke. When not on stage, Joanna is the proud owner of Smile and a Song Princess Parties, a company that provides singing characters for children's events. (www.SmileandaSong.com). She would like to thank the cast and crew, and especially her family for enduring many years of soprano vocal practice in the household. And yes, the song "Johanna" has been sung to her many many times.



Kelly Green (*Judge Turpin*) From Shakespeare in the Park to Improv in a Bar, Kelly has been acting, teaching and directing for over 40 years. Kelly thanks his wife and family for their constant love and support, and this cast and crew for putting up with him. With national tours, local stage productions, film, movie and commercial credits, his favorite role is always the one he is doing at the moment.



Alex Greene (*Adolfo Pirelli*) returns to the world of *Sweeney Todd* after a junior-college production a decade ago. This marks his fourth time on the CPT stage and his largest principal role to date, following featured appearances at High Street Arts Center as Feuilly (*Les Misérables*) and Lurch (*The Addams Family*). He is grateful to the creative team that gave him the chance to play a ridiculous, pseudo-operatic Italian in this dark, twisted musical, and to his family, friends and castmates who encouraged him to do so.



Stephen Juhl (*Jonas Fogg/Ensemble*) is an LA-based actor with a BA in Theatre from Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. Recent LA credits include the musicals *On The Twentieth Century* and *Gilbert and Sullivan's Ruddigore* (Proof Doubt Closer Theatre Company), and the world premiere murder mystery *Murder, Murder, Murder...* (SkyPilot Theatre Company). In addition, he has also directed many projects, including this past year for the Edinburgh and Hollywood Fringe Festivals.



Lauri Kamiel (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to have this as her debut performance with the Conejo Players. Most recently, Lauri performed in *Annie Get Your Gun* as Ma in the Hidden Hills Charity Musical. She has also performed with the Ventura County Gilbert and Sullivan Repertoire Company and with Temple Choirs. Lauri thanks the Fountainview community for their many years of support. For Grace and Milo, all my love.



Eve Kiefer (*Ensemble*) While Eve has spent most of her time at Conejo Players running lights or sound, she is thrilled to be back onstage once again. She was just recently seen as the trombone "playing" Martha in CPT's production of *Guys & Dolls*. Some of Eve's favorite productions that she has been blessed to be a part of are *Fiddler On The Roof* (HSAC), *Damn Yankees* (CPT), *Oliver* and *Working* (TACIT) and *The Pajama Game* (Levels). Eve thanks Celeste and the rest of the production staff for giving her such the great opportunity to work with them and such a talented group of actors. She thanks her family, blood related and not, for being so supportive.



Sarah Kline (*Beggar Woman/Ensemble*) is a recent graduate from Cal State Northridge where she earned a BA in Theatre Arts with a minor in Musical Theatre. She is also an alumna of Stella Adler's Art of Acting Studio in Los Angeles. Some of her favorite roles have been Reno Sweeney (*Anything Goes*), Mrs. Lovett (*Sweeney Todd*), Baker's Wife (*Into the Woods*), Old Ma Strong (*Urinetown*) and Emma Goldman (*Assassins*), for which she earned an Irene Ryan Nomination. Sarah is thrilled to be joining this amazing team and to be returning to one of her favorite shows. "Special thanks to Mom, Dad, and Eric for all your love."



Dana Kolb (*Mrs. Lovett*) is always thrilled to return to CPT where she reappeared on stage after a 15-year hiatus to play Rose in *Gypsy*, Muzzy in ...*Millie*, Phyllis in *Follies*, and Barbara in *Social Security*. Favorite roles from other theaters include Morticia in *The Addams Family* at High Street, Anita in *West Side Story*, Viola in *Twelfth Night*, and Lola in *Damn Yankees*. She has performed in a variety of contemporary and classical pieces and especially loves directing. She thanks Sweeney Todd's great production team, and her wonderfully supportive family, especially her amazing kids, Dylan & Miranda.



Margaret Le Fleur (*Lindsay Margaret Flores*) (*Ensemble*) is delighted to be performing in her second show with Conejo Players. Recent/Favorite credits include *Into the Woods Jr.* (*Witch*), *Cabaret* (Emcee) with CCYT, and *Madagascar: A Musical Adventure Jr.* (Marty) with YAE. She is a student at AMDA College and Conservatory of the performing arts as a music theatre major.



Sahai Lara (*Ensemble*) is 18-years-old and is currently a marketing student at California State University, Los Angeles. Sahai also recently moved to California from Norwalk, Connecticut. She has been performing in musicals and plays since she was in middle school. She has performed in many productions such as *Spring Awakening*, *Hairspray*, and *Legally Blonde*. Her most recent show was Crescenta Valley High School's production of *Oliver! The Musical*, where she played the role of Mrs. Sowerberry. Sahai is so very excited to start this new journey with this absolutely amazing cast of performers! A big thanks and much love to Mom, Dad, and Mira!



Allison Martinez (*Johanna/Young Lucy*) is thrilled to be back at CPT after her performance as Rosalia in *West Side Story* this past summer! Other favorite roles include Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Mitchie in *Camp Rock* (National Youth Arts Award), Amy in *Little Women*, Catherine in *Pippin* and Lola Stover in *Parade*. Allison is a senior at Newbury Park High School and will be pursuing her passion for broadcast journalism in the fall. She would like to give a huge thank you to the entire cast and crew, Diann, Ginny, Marilyn, Sam, and her parents. Enjoy the show!



Vincent Perez (*Anthony Hope*) This is Vincent's second time playing Anthony in *Sweeney Todd* and he's excited to join this wonderful cast and crew to bring Fleet Street to life. Vincent's other theatre credits include *Assassins* (Charles Guiteau), *Pippin* (Pippin), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Snoopy), *Chicago The Musical* (Mary Sunshine), *The Full Monty* (Keno), *Hairspray* (Corny Collins), *Steel Pier* (Happy McGregor), *Working* (Roberto), *35mm: A Musical Exhibition*, and *And the World Goes 'Round*. "Thank you, Conejo Players Theatre for the opportunity to play one of my favorite roles again and thanks to all my friends and family for their amazing support."



Steven Perren (*Ensemble*) has performed at virtually all of the County's musical theater venues - with an occasional visit to Santa Barbara Opera. He is happy to have finally made it to Conejo Players; and in Sondeheim's master work no less. It is a privilege to work with this wonderful cast and production team. He is grateful for Diane's tolerance and for Linda Ottsen's vocal lessons. A caution, our meat pies taste of ham. You be the judge.



Austin Russell (*Tobias Ragg*) is proud to make his California theatrical debut with Conejo Players Theatre. Hailing from Greenwood, Indiana, Austin has enjoyed acting since he was 8 and has been in local productions of *Godspell*, *Xanadu*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, and has appeared as a background extra in *The Old Man and the Gun* with Robert Redford. In his spare time, Austin enjoys reading and collecting comic books and writing short stories. He would like to thank his mother, his friends, and his acting mentor, Peter Spellos, for believing in him and pushing him towards an amazing experience.



Gary Saxer (*Ensemble*) has been performing in the Conejo Valley for over 40 years. At Conejo Players recently he's been Molokov in *Chess*, JB Bigley in *How to Succeed...*, and Chauvelin in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. He is an Honorary Life Member. He has also appeared in Cabrillo Music Theatre (now 5-Star) productions such as *Ragtime*, *The Music Man*, and *1776*. At the Hillcrest Center he's appeared in most of the Ventura County Gilbert & Sullivan Repertoire Company's productions singing

patter songs. He's delighted to be on stage with his daughter Jennifer again. The first time that happened was 36 years ago in *The Music Man* when he met Shelley. Gary likes all kinds of pies!



Ed Smart (*Ensemble*) is making his debut with Conejo Players Theatre. Ed is an award-winning composer for television and film, having composed themes and scores for series on Discovery, HBO, CBS, A&E, TLC, Velocity, Nickelodeon and OWN, among others. He has composed the score to the Oscar-nominated documentary *Hank Aaron: Chasing The Dream*, executive produced by Denzel Washington, and the off-Broadway play *Hit-Lit*, written by Robert Wuhl. As a multi-instrumentalist and orchestrator, Ed has worked with many award-winning artists, including Beyonce, Jewel, Amy Grant, Jennifer Hudson, Michael W. Smith, Kirk Franklin, and Pat Boone. Ed and his family live in Thousand Oaks, where he serves on the board of the Arts Council of the Conejo Valley.



Mark Joseph Suarez (*Ensemble*) has worked with Conejo Players, on and off, for a decade. When not contributing to productions in Ventura County, Mark produces his own work on Theatre Row in Hollywood. His most recent endeavors include portraying Martin in *Candide* and stage managing *The Phantom Tollbooth, Jr.* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. His own works include *No Need for Words*, *Chaste*, and *The Imp & the Troll*.



John David Wallis (*Sweeney Todd*) is a certified massage therapist and graduate of UC Santa Barbara with a BFA in Theatre. He was last seen at Conejo Players Theatre as Sir Galahad in *Monty Python's Spamalot*. His favorite roles include Frederick Frankenstein in *Young Frankenstein* at DOMA Theatre Co., and Sky Masterson in *Guys & Dolls* at West Valley Playhouse. John played Steven Kodaly in *She Loves Me*, and Harry Witherspoon in *Lucky Stiff*, with Panic! Productions at the Hillcrest Center for the Arts. He has performed at Glendale Centre Theatre as Max in *The Andrews Brothers*, Charlie Davenport in *Annie Get Your Gun*, and Lord Evelyn Oakleigh in *Anything Goes*. *Sweeney* is a dream role of his. "Thanks to all involved!"

Meet THE STAFF

Celeste Russi (*Director*) discovered CPT in 1996 when she played Emma Goldman in *Assassins*. Celeste is an Honorary Lifetime Member and has worked offstage and on. She last appeared on this stage in 2014 as Maria Callas in *Master Class* and for the last 8 years has been the pre-show voice that welcomes you and reminds you to shut off your phones. She was recently on stage as Mother Superior in *Agnes of God* for Elite Theatre and Mama in *Bye-Bye Birdie* for Cabrillo Music Theatre. Her director credits include CPT's *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*, *She Loves Me*, and *I Love My Wife*, and Panic! Productions' *Lucky Stiff*. She's performed in the NY, Philly, and SF productions of *Tony n' Tina's Wedding* and award-winning original works in SF, 90s movies, TV, and commercials. Her best production is her beautiful daughter! She is so grateful to her husband, and wonderful cast, staff, designers, crew, musicians and can't thank them enough for all their commitment, talent and hard work!

Priscilla Losey (*Producer*) is an Honorary Life Member of Conejo Players Theatre, and most recently produced *Guys & Dolls*. She also produced *Chess*, *Amadeus* (Four Star Theater Alliance award) and co-produced *How To Succeed ...* (Four Star Theater Alliance award). She has produced, assistant choreographed, made costumes, designed props, painted sets, ushered, designed lobby boards, sold concessions, and occasionally performed on stage. Some of her favorites include *Miss Saigon*, *The Women*, *Joseph ... Dreamcoat*, *Children of Eden*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Cabaret*. By day, Priscilla is an event planner and makes custom cakes and cookies. But the most meaningful and rewarding role she holds is that of wife and mommy. Much love and thanks to Bear, Cubby and to the One who makes all things possible.

Jim Holmes (*Music Director*) is thrilled to be back at CPT, working this time as co-musical director. Jim is a life time member of the Conejo Players and can't remember a time when the theater wasn't an important part of his life. Jim is a Four-Star Alliance award winner for musical direction at CPT, and has appeared on stage in countless shows including *Teahouse of the August Moon*, *Me and My Girl*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Big, Evita*, *Carnival*, *Camelot*, *The Glass Menagerie*, and *Once Upon a Mattress*. Jim lives in Agoura with his wife Devery. "Thanks to friends and family for your support and to our wonderful audiences for coming to see this fantastic production!"

Shelley Ross Saxer (*Music Director*) has been a part of local community theatre for more than 35 years. She has performed with Conejo Players, Cabrillo Theater, the Moorpark Melodrama, and Horizon Players. She has been the musical director for several Conejo Players productions, including *Carnival*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Gypsy*, *Wizard of Oz*, *Chess*, and *West Side Story*. Shelley has also performed as a guest artist with the Pacific Festival Ballet as Aunt Topsy in *The Nutcracker* and *The Bird Woman* in *Mary Poppins* at the Civic Arts Plaza. Shelley is proud of her performing family (Gary, Jennifer and Erik Sorensen and their daughters, Kari and Raedyn, Robyn, Randi and Tanner Redman, and Jonalyn). Gary and Jennifer perform in this production of *Sweeney Todd*. Robyn performs regularly in the San Luis Obispo area with her band, *The Zen Mountain Poets*. Randi just finished a run at High Street as *Mary Poppins*. And Jonalyn performs on Broadway in *Mean Girls*. Shelley swore she would never do a Sondheim show – not because his shows are not wonderful, but because they are beyond her musical abilities. However, who could say no to Celeste? With great appreciation for the wonderful cast, crew, and musical talents of those who have helped make this production possible!

Diann Alexander (*Music Director/Vocal Consultant*) loves to help singers find that wonderful balance between technique and artistry. With two Master of Music degrees and years on the music faculties of Pepperdine and California Lutheran Universities, Diann is a veteran music director and conductor for several local theatres, most notably, Cabrillo (now 5 Star Theatricals), Conejo Players Theatre, and the CVAC's Young Artist Ensemble. Currently she teaches private voice and vocal performance workshops in Newbury Park. She is exceptionally inspired by the impressive level of brilliance, artistry and skill of our extraordinary cast and creative team. "Celeste...this one's for you!"

Mona King's (*Choreographer*) wide experience spans over 25 years as a singer, dancer, actress and choreographer. Shows include Off Broadway in leading and supporting roles with the NY Gilbert & Sullivan Players, Lead Vocalist in *Jubilee* at Bally's Las Vegas, Soloist for LV Lyric Opera, Headliner for Princess Cruises, cabaret shows, staged concerts, as well as many shows throughout California including: *Jekyll and Hyde* (Ovation Award), *Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Ragtime*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Nonsense*, *Will Rogers Follies*, *Sweet Charity*, *Cinderella*, *Drowsy Chaperone*, *Working*, *USS Pinafore* (Saturn Award), and many more. She is a regular on *Expressing Motherhood*, (Pod Cast on iTunes) and often performs her One Woman show, *December Songs*, a song cycle which is available on iTunes and Amazon. However, her greatest adventure has been raising her three kids, and living life as a "survivor". Life and Art, what a blessing!

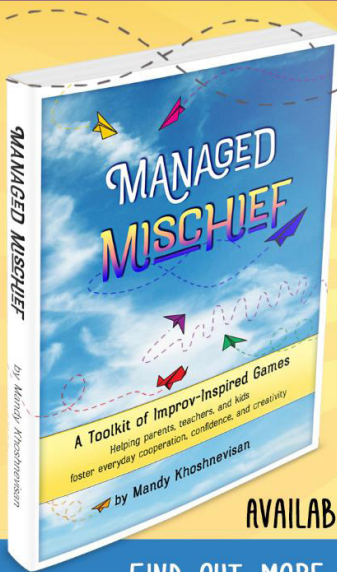
David Fraley (*Music Director/Conductor/Piano*) is a local pianist finishing his Music and Math degrees at Pepperdine University. He has been music director of Pepperdine's musical theatre ensemble Contempo for three years, and has played piano for the last three fall musicals, including a role as piano-conductor (*Big Fish*, 2017). David is pursuing music directing and piano in musical theatre and other collaborative arts.

Aaron Van Etten (*Assistant Director/Set Designer*) has produced several shows and last appeared on this stage in *Twelve Angry Men* (Juror #8), *She Loves Me* (Sipos), and *My Emperor's New Clothes* (Emperor). He met his wife, Celeste, during *Assassins* and appeared on stage with her in *Crazy for You* (the Fodors). Glad to be partnering with her yet again, and with an outstanding staff, crew, and cast. "Shout-out to John and the amazingly patient construction crew!"

Larry Lindsay (*Sound Designer/Sound Board Operator*) first began in the theatre when he was in college, appearing in musicals such as *Oklahoma*, *Cabaret*, *South Pacific*, *Camelot*, *Carousel*, and *Brigadoon*. After college he appeared in *Sound Of Music*, *West Side Story*, *Man Of La Mancha*, *Fiddler On The Roof*. Other productions include *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Death Of A Salesman*, *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *Arsenic And Old Lace*. He has appeared in several movies, TV movies, and commercials. Larry has also been a musical director, orchestra conductor, and sound engineer for bands, concerts, plays, musicals, and churches. He is happy to be back in the theater after a long hiatus.

Daniel Shaul (*Stage Manager*) is a senior at Newbury Park High School, acting as Head Stage Manager at NPHS Theatre. He has worked backstage since he was fifteen and is honored to be able to act as Stage Manager for this production of *Sweeney Todd*. He would like to thank his director, Celeste Russi, his producer, Priscilla Losey, and the rest of the crew and staff for working so hard to bring this wondrous yet grim tale to life.

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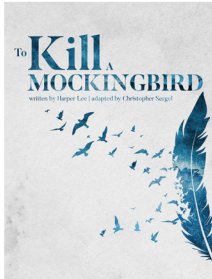
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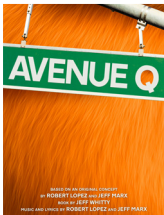
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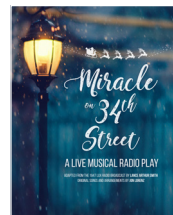
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