

Wilkes University

PRESENTS
CHICAGO

Darte Performing
Arts Center Auditorium

Saturday, April 9, 2022
8:00PM

G21

WILKES
UNIVERSITY
THEATRE

2022

The background of the poster features a dark, moody scene with silhouettes of dancers in various poses, set against a backdrop of vertical red bars, suggesting a prison or a cage. The overall color palette is dark with a prominent red accent.

CHICAGO

THE MUSICAL

***MUSIC BY JOHN KANDER,
LYRICS BY FRED EBB,
& BOOK BY FRED EBB
AND BOB FOSSE***

Darte Center for the Performing Arts

April 7, 8, 9 at 8PM

April 9 and 10 at 2PM

As a courtesy to our performers and those around you,
we ask that you kindly turn off all noise-making and
illuminating devices during the performance.
And for your safety, and the safety of those around
you, face masks are recommended.
This show contains adult themes and language.

Runtime is 140 minutes including a ten-
minute intermission. Enjoy the show!



CHICAGO

Book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse

Music by John Kander

Lyrics by Fred Ebb

Based on the play by Maurine Dallas Watkins

Script adaptation by David Thompson

CHICAGO is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals.

www.concordtheatricals.com

Creative Team

Director

Joseph C. Dawson

Scenic Designer

Joseph Harris

Lighting Designer, Technical Director

Alex Barnhart

Costume Designer

Joseph C. Dawson

Musical Director

Ken McGraw

Choreographer

Lynne Esgro

Master Electrician, Sound

Terry D. Moore

Stage Manager

Melodi Wheeler

Dance Captain, (Assistant DC)

Olivia Schanbacher (Kasey Karoll)

Prop Masters

Kayla Bevacqua, Kayleigh Evans

Cast

Roxie Hart.....Olivia Scarborough
 Velma Kelly.....Olivia Schanbacher
 Amos Hart.....Jahel Duran-Diaz
 Mary Sunshine.....Kayla Bevacqua
 Billy Flynn.....Jack Flynn
 Matron "Mama" Morton.....Kayleigh Evans
 Fred Casely, Aaron, Harry, Ensemble...Carlos Candelario
 Fogerty, Ensemble..Aariyana Gould
 Annie, Martin Harrison, EnsembleRaven Wesley
 Liz/EnsembleRylee Gaskill
 Mona, Go To Hell Kitty, EnsembleKasey Karoll
 June, EnsembleJay'na Johnson
 Hunyak, EnsembleRachel Kern
 Ensemble.....Amanda Merrick-Tompkins, Justine
 Buczynski, Morgan Johnson

The Band

Ken McGraw.....Conductor/Piano
 Mike Bertha.....Banjo
 Bob D'Aversa.....Drums
 Nick Driscoll.....Woodwinds
 Dale Houck.....Woodwinds
 Dale Houck JrBass and Tuba
 Mike Pryor.....Woodwinds
 Chuck Smith.....Trombone

Production Team

Director
Scenic Design
Musical Director
Costume Designer
Light Design, Technical Director
Choreographer
Sound, Master Electrician
Stage Manager
Light Board Op
Sound Engineer
A2 Mics.
Dance Captain
Assistant Dance Captain
Production Manager
Prop Master/Run
Prop Master/Run
Administrative Coordinator
Run Crew

Sets/Paint Crew

Raven Wesley
 Samantha Ugla
 Emily Agentovich
 Jahel Duran-Diaz
 Caleb Gething
 Olivia Schanbacher
 Melodi Wheeler
 Rachel Kern
 Mya Banegas

Props /Sets

Kayleigh Evans
 Kayla Bevacqua

Spot Operator

Donya Rowland
 Mya Banegas

Joseph C. Dawson
 Joseph Harris
 Ken McGraw
 Joseph C. Dawson
 Alex Barnhart
 Lynne Esgro
 Terry D. Moore
 Melodi Wheeler
 Caleb Gething
 Emily Agentovich
 Samantha Ugla
 Olivia Schanbacher
 Kasey Karoll
 Jon Liebetrau
 Kayla Bevacqua
 Kayleigh Evans
 Maryellen Sloat
 Samatha Ugla

Lighting Crew

Rylee Gaskill
 Olivia Scarborough
 Jack Flynn
 Emily Agentovich
 Caleb Gething
 Kasey Karoll

Costume Crew

Mya Banegas
 Jay'na Johnson
 Savannah Evanski
 Aariyana Gould

Wardrobe

Savannah Evanski

HISTORICAL NOTE:

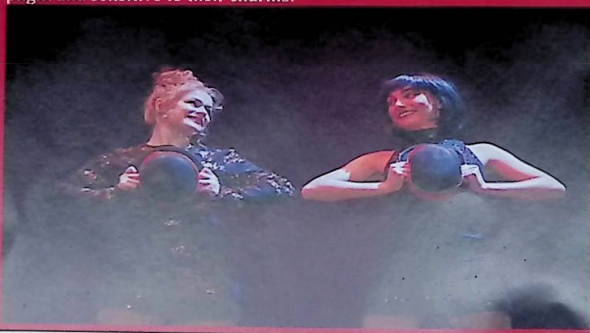
On June 3rd 1975, a new show opened on Broadway. Called CHICAGO: A MUSICAL VAUDEVILLE, it received mixed reviews and closed after two years and 936 performances. Directed and choreographed by the legendary Bob Fosse, it was, in many ways, ahead of its time with its themes of exploitation, manipulation and celebrity.

Bob Fosse and his then wife, Gwen Verdon (who starred as Roxie Hart in the 1975 show), had tried for some time to acquire the rights to create a musical version of CHICAGO, a play by sensational former Chicago Tribune columnist Maurine Dallas Watkins. In 1924, Watkins had covered the trials of two women, both of whom were accused of killing their lovers whilst under the influence of drink and jazz. Belva Gaertner became Velma Kelly and Beulah Annan became Roxie Hart.

As Velma Kelly would later do in CHICAGO, Gaertner denied the murder of her lover, married car salesman Walter Law, claiming that she had no memory of what had actually happened. Found at her apartment with blood soaked clothes on the floor, Gaertner admitted that she owned the gun that had been used to shoot Law, but as to what happened, she said, *"I don't know, I was drunk."*

A few weeks later, Annan was arrested for killing her lover, Harry Kalstedt. Her story changed over the weeks leading up to her trial, even including her announcement that she was pregnant, the day after another woman was given a life sentence for murdering her lover. The baby became her justification for shooting Kalstedt. She told him that she was pregnant - she said, there was a struggle and they both grappled for the gun.

Maurine Dallas Watkins, the Mary Sunshine of the Chicago Tribune, described the two *"jazz babies"* at the time as the *"most stylish"* and *"prettiest"* women on Murderesses' Row respectively. They were certainly able to play on the media attention that they received, and both became infamous - if not the celebrities of their time. Both, incidentally, were acquitted - by all male juries, sympathetic to their plight and sensitive to their charms!



Musical Numbers

Act I

"And All That Jazz" – Velma & Company

"Funny Honey" – Roxie

"Cell Block Tango" – The Merry Murderesses

"When You're Good to Mama" – Matron Mama Morton

"All I Care About is Love" – Billy & Ensemble Girls

"A Little Bit of Good" – Mary Sunshine

"We Both Reached For the Gun" – Billy, Roxie & Company

"Roxie" – Roxie & Ensemble Men

"I Can't Do It Alone" – Velma

"I Can't Do It Alone: Tag" – Velma

"My Own Best Friend" – Roxie & Velma

"First Act Curtain" – Velma

Act II

"I Know a Girl" – Velma

"Me and My Baby" – Roxie & Ensemble

"Mister Cellophane" – Amos

"When Velma Takes the Stand" – Velma & Ensemble Men

"Velma Takes the Stand: Exit" – Ensemble Men

"Razzle Dazzle" – Billy & Ensemble

"Class" – Velma & Matron

"Nowadays" – Roxie & Velma

"Finale" – Ensemble

WILKES UNIVERSITY THEATRE

WILKES
UNIVERSITY
THEATRE

Offering:
BA in Theatre Arts
BFA in Musical Theatre
BA in Theatre Design and Tech



Congratulations to our graduating seniors Kayla Bevacqua and Kayleigh Evans! Today's show features their capstone project performances. We wish them great success in their artistic careers!

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Special thanks to:

Wilkes University Facilities, Tony Esgro
Brad Berry, Gabrielle D'Amico,
Cory Burrell, Patty Deviva, Carrie Marko
Daniel Schlenski, Mitch Adams