JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP SPARKLING JUNIOR TALENT PAGEANT

PARK SQUARE THEATRE JUN 14-JUL 28, 2019
Here in Winona, we’ve got world-class art, professional theater, and breathtaking scenery. So join us, won’t you? There’s a lot of magic just down the river.

Call or click today to reserve your seats: grsf.org | 507.474.7900
Welcome to the world premiere of Jefferson Township Sparkling Junior Talent Pageant!

We are thrilled to present Keith Hovis’ musical comedy about one woman’s journey to find success in the world. Hitting rock bottom, her search lands her back in her small hometown in Minnesota where she is forced to reckon with her unfulfilled dreams — in tap shoes. Keith’s work reminds us, in the midst of laughter and song, of our fundamental need for friendship and family.

Jefferson Township is a part of a wonderful history at Park Square Theatre of developing and producing new work. Like this season’s hilarious and heartfelt Sometimes There’s Wine by Shanan Custer and Carolyn Pool, Keith’s work had its start as a hit at the Minnesota Fringe Festival. Since that beginning, Park Square has supported Keith and Jefferson Township with numerous readings and workshops for this production. Now we are adding another important part of the process: you!

You transform the American theatre when you help us commission world premieres like Eleemosynary by Lee Blessing and Nina Simone: Four Women by Christina Ham. Please consider joining our amazing club of Premiere Producers who bring new work to our stages. And come back next season to help introduce a new playwright to American theatre, John Kim, with the world premiere of his audacious and comical play about the making of the leader of North Korea — Un (the completely true story of the rise of Kim Jong Un).

Thank you for taking this journey with us and for supporting Keith’s unique voice along with other new plays at Park Square. We hope you enjoy the show and look forward to seeing you at many more to come!

Flordelino Lagundino
John W. Harris Family Artistic Director
651.767.8482 lagundino@parksquaretheatre.org
An irreverent and heartfelt musical comedy set in small-town Minnesota. Twenty years after Jefferson Township’s biggest tourist attraction, the Sparkling Junior Talent Pageant, was permanently cancelled after a contestant died onstage, four former classmates, now in their thirties, decide to stage a rematch and finally see who would’ve won.

At its core, Jefferson Township is about those moments in life when we feel stuck. It’s about finding your way when you’ve hit an age when you’re told you should already have a plan in place. It’s about the power of community, that moment when you realize success and happiness come in many forms, and about how sometimes you need to open yourself up to possibilities you never considered before.

It’s a show for anyone who has ever felt lost, and the people who help us find our way home.

**SONG LIST**

*Ode to Jefferson* – Townspeople  
*Moving Home* – Frannie and Townspeople  
*Rules* – Liam and Frannie  
*Sparkling Junior Champion* – Frannie and Liam  
*Shots Fired* – Val  
*Drive-by Town* – Travis, Liam, and Frannie  
*Sugar High* – Val  
*Psychological Warfare* – Val, Liam, and Frannie  
*Frannie’s Lament* – Frannie  
*Last Place Frannie* – Frannie  
*Lights On* – Full Cast  
*After Today* – Full Cast

(Intermission)  
*Pageant Theme* – Travis  
*Jefferson Township, 1931* – Frannie, Liam, and Val  
*Dear, Dead Grandma* – Val  
*Patriotic Medley* – Frannie  
*Liam’s One Man Musical* – Liam  
*Perfect* – Full Cast  
*Beautiful* – Travis and Frannie  
*Finale* – Full Cast

As a courtesy to our actors and those around you, please DEACTIVATE all PHONES and ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

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JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP SPARKLING JUNIOR TALENT PAGEANT

MUSIC, BOOK, AND LYRICS
BY KEITH HOVIS
ON THE BOSS THRUST STAGE

CREATIVE TEAM

Director ............................................................... Laura Leffler
Music Director ................................................... Brian Pekol
Choreographer .................................................... Antonia Perez
Scenic Designer ................................................... Ursula K. Bowden
Costume Designers ......................................... Rubble&Ash
Lighting Designer ................................................ Michael P. Kittel
Sound Designer .................................................... Jacob M. Davis
Properties Designer ........................................... Abbee Warmboe
Blood Effects Designers .................................... Tyler Olsen-Highness and Craig Kossen
Dramaturg ............................................................ Hannah K. Holman
Vocal Coach ........................................................ Foster Johns
Assistant Director ............................................... Sophie Peyton
Stage Manager .................................................... Laura Topham*
Assistant Stage Manager ................................. Jared Zeigler*

CAST

Frannie Foster Wallace ........................................ Kelly Houlehan
Liam Ackermann .................................................. Ryan London Levin
Travis Hernandez ................................................ Zach Garcia
Val Hutchinson ..................................................... Leslie Vincent

MUSICIANS

Piano .............................................................. Elise Santa+
Guitar/Bass ...................................................... Kyle Baker+
Drums ............................................................. Brian Pekol+

SETTING Jefferson Township, Minnesota, 2017

PERFORMANCE TIME The show will run approximately 2 hours, 30 minutes including a 20-minute intermission.

*Member of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States
+All of the music in this production is performed by career professional musicians who are members in good standing of the Twin Cities Musicians Union, Local 30-73, American Federation of Musicians.
Park Square Theatre is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, and a member of the Minnesota Theatre Alliance.
LAURA LEFFLER: That’s a very serious and scary place for a very joyful and funny show to come from. When I saw the Fringe version of the piece, I was so captivated by the energy of it all. The whole room felt like it was crackling with lightning. I love that feeling as an audience member where you can tell the performers are having fun and loving each other. That’s a special kind of magic. And there were also these holes in it, plot holes! The performers would look into the audience and say, okay, we’re gonna skip this part and jump ahead. That was the spark that ignited for me—oh, there’s more to find here!—and maybe Park Square could be a home to feed that fire.

KH: Haha! I think the best comedy is developed out of moments that challenge us. Even back to Shakespeare’s use of the fool, comedy has this innate way to expose the soul and open up a dialogue between people. It’s also so therapeutic and cathartic. The experience at the Fringe was such pure joy. I got to play in the room with my best friends and create (continued on next page)
something that we all believed in. I love seeing performers take ownership of new material and make it their own. It’s why I am so drawn to new work. There is endless possibility to explore. Then to receive the call from Park Square? Unreal. As a writer, I am constantly asking people to believe in my vision and to go on a journey and invest in me – whether that’s an investment of time, talent, funding, etc., so having the opportunity to expand the piece was outside my wildest dreams. I was so excited to have Laura sign on as director as well. I feel so lucky.

**KH:** Oh my gosh. The design team! This town has such incredible talent. Plus, being able to keep my original cast was truly a blessing. The show is written with and for them, and having that trust built into the process is invaluable. As I look back at early drafts, we have taken the show in so many different directions in order to arrive at the best way to tell the story. I honestly believe we’ve arrived at the version of the show it was always meant to be. Writing a new musical has so many moving parts. It’s a lot of work, but seeing it all come together is amazing.

**LL:** I was excited! I’ve been developing new work in the Twin Cities for over 13 years, but this one feels special. I’ve never developed a new musical on this scale before, so it’s been an exciting challenge in a lot of ways, and it’s been such an amazing blessing to have the support of so many amazing artists on the creative team. For example, how often do the designers get to be involved in the earliest workshops? It’s a gift.

**KEITH HOVIS** is a Twin Cities based composer and playwright making his Park Square debut. Other full-length musicals include the horror satire *Teenage Misery*, and *Pioneer Suite*, which was commissioned by Freshwater Theatre and featured at the 2014 Ivey Awards. As a composer, he has worked on *The Skriker* with Fortune’s Fool Theater and *Two Mile Hollow* with Theater Mu/Mixed Blood. Other work includes the play *Public Exposure* with Market Garden Theater and *A Morbid History of Sons and Daughters*, a devised musical he co-created for the 2018 Twin Cities Horror Festival. The original, one-hour version of *Jefferson Township* premiered in the Minnesota Fringe Festival in 2017 and was honored by the Minnesota Theater Awards as an Exceptional New Work. He is a proud alum of the Nautilus Composer-Librettist Studio. **Upcoming:** *Edith Gets High*, a new musical, at the 2019 Minnesota Fringe Festival, and *Immortal* with Trademark Theater. Thank you to the cast and crew for going on this journey with me; and thank you to my family and friends for their support.
ZACH GARCIA  
Travis Hernandez  
Park Square: The Pirates of Penzance, The Palabras Project (Other Tiger Productions)  
Representative Theatre

LESLIE VINCENT  
Val Hutchinson  
Park Square: The Diary of Anne Frank  
Representative Theatre

KELLY HOULEHAN  
Frannie Foster Wallace  
Park Square: Debut  
Representative Theatre

LAURA LEFFLER  
Director  
Park Square: Directing debut; Antigone (Actor)  
Representative Theatre

RYAN LONDON LEVIN  
Liam Ackermann  
Park Square: The Diary of Anne Frank  
Representative Theatre

URSULA K. BOWDEN  
Scenic Designer  
Park Square: The Pirates of Penzance  
Representative Theatre

Creative Team

Theatre Latté Da: Man of La Mancha; Children’s Theatre Company: Cinderella; Frank Theatre: The Threepenny Opera; Guthrie Theater: The Primrose Path; Daleko Arts: Godspell; Theatre Elision: Of Art and Artists; Walking Shadow Theatre Company: The Whole, Marie Antoinette, A Midwinter Nights Revel; Artistry: Fiddler on the Roof, Carousel, Guys and Dolls, Proof Training B.A., Theatre and Music, Lawrence University; Black Box Acting Studio (Chicago, IL); Actor’s Workout, Guthrie Theater

Wait Until Dark, Into the Woods; Seasons Dinner Theatre: Why Do Fools Fall in Love; Freshwater Theatre: Pioneer Suite; History Theatre: River Road Boogie Training B.F.A., Theatre Arts, Nebraska Wesleyan University; Pursuing an M.B.A. at the University of St. Thomas

Bobby Vee Story, Dirty Business; Trademark Theatre: The Boy and Robin Hood; Artistry: The Last Five Years, Awake and Sing, She Loves Me; Bitter Boy Productions: Silence: The Musical; Minneapolis Musical Theater: Gilligan’s Island the Musical

Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story; Sidekick Theatre: The Marvelous Wonderettes; Twin Cities Horror Fest: A Morbid History of Sons & Daughters; Umbrella Collective: June Training B.M., Musical Theatre, Catholic University

Half of the jazz duo The Champagne Drops

Upcoming Projects Bryant-Lake Bowl: A Very Die Hard Christmas

Theatre (Kansas): As You Like It; As Assistant Director – Theatre de la Jeune Lune: Fishtank; The Moving Company: Come Hell and High Water; Frank Theatre: By the Bog of Cats; Guthrie Theater: The Legend of Georgia McBride Training M.A., Theatre, University of Kansas; B.A., English and Theatre, Baker University

Accolades City Pages Best Director, 2018

Upcoming Projects Park Square Theatre: Pride and Prejudice (Dramaturg)

Recognized by American Theatre magazine

Cast
(January 2014) with a photo spread for the set design of An Outopia for Pigeons (Swandive Theatre); Ivey Award (as part of a team) for Inventive Reinterpretation (Theatre Unbound: Julius Caesar)

JACOB M. DAVIS  Sound Designer
Park Square  The Pirates of Penzance, Cardboard Piano, Henry and Alice: Into the Wild, Amy’s View, Nina Simone: Four Women, Flower Drum Song (co-production with Theater Mu)
Representative Theatre  Theatre Pro Rata: My Sister in this House; Nimbus Theatre: Elmer McCurdy; Theater Latté Da: Sweeney Todd; Old Log Theatre: Ghost: The Musical; Mixed Blood Theatre: Safe at Home; Walker Art Center: Public Love Training M.F.A., Sound Design, California Institute of the Arts; B.F.A., Theatre, University of Minnesota Duluth Accolades/Other Member: Theatrical Sound Designers and Composers Association; Member: Theatre Pro Rata Artistic Company

HANNAH K. HOLMAN  Dramaturg
Park Square  Antigone  Representative Theatre Umbrella Collective: June; Jungle Theater: Hamlet; Independent: Persephone; Pillsbury House + Theater: Chicago Avenue Project Training B.A., Music and Theatre, Concordia College Accolades/Other 2018 Performing Arts Administrator of the Year; Umbrella Collective: Producing Artistic Director; Department of Public Transformation: Board Member & Collaborator Upcoming Projects Springboard for the Arts: Rural Arts & Culture Summit; Umbrella Collective: A Squid Has Three Hearts

FOSTER JOHNS  Vocal Coach
Park Square  Marjorie Prime, Cardboard Piano, Dot, Behind the Eye  Representative Theatre Guthrie Theatre, Illusion Theater, Old Log Theatre, Playwrights’ Center, University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater B.F.A.  Actor Training Program Training M.F.A., Voice Studies, Royal Central School of Speech and Drama; B.A., Theater and English, Boston College Other  Member of of VASTA (Voice and Speech Trainers Association); Company Member of Umbrella Collective; www.fosterjohns.com Upcoming Projects

Park Square Theatre: The Rocky Horror Show; Yellow Tree Theatre: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time; Guthrie Theater: A Christmas Carol

MICHAEL P. KITTEL  Lighting Designer
Park Square  Over 150 productions (as Resident Lighting Designer) including The Color Purple, Red, Ragtime, Grey Gardens, Democracy, To Kill a Mockingbird, Rock ‘n’ Roll Representative Theatre Ordway, Frank Theatre, Stages Theatre Company, Steppingstone Theatre, Mu Performing Arts, Bloomington Civic Theatre TV/Film TPT: The St. Olaf Christmas Festival Training University of Wisconsin-River Falls Accolades Ivey Award for The Pillowman (Frank Theatre); Lavender Magazine Best Lighting Design 2008 & 2009

TYLER OLSEN-HIGHNESS & CRAIG KOSSEN  Blood Effects Designers
Park Square  Cardboard Piano  Representative Theatre Dangerous Productions, Walking Shadow Theatre Company, Haunted Basement Accolades City Pages 10 best productions of 2015 Upcoming Projects The Haunted Basement, Frankenstein (Dangerous Productions)

BRIAN PEKOL  Music Director
Park Square  Debut  Representative Theatre History Theatre: Teen Idol: The Bobby Vee Story, Sweetland; Sidekick Theatre: From Ava to Eternity, Unsung, Radio Gals; Old Log Theatre: Life Could Be a Dream, Almost Maine Upcoming Projects History Theatre: Runestone; Sidekick Theatre: Cinderella

ANTONIA PEREZ  Choreographer
Park Square  Debut as Choreographer; As Actor – Antigone  Representative Theatre Umbrella Collective: Velvet Swing, The Ravagers; Theater Latté Da: Once; Artistry: Legally Blonde; Theatre Coup d’Etat: Moby Dick Training B.A., Theatre, Minnesota State University-Mankato Other Antonia is a dance instructor at Rhythm and Shoes Dance Studio and Ashland Productions Upcoming Projects Trademark Theater: The Hollow
SOPHIE PEYTON  Assistant Director
Park Square  Antigone, The Pirates of Penzance, Might as Well Be Dead  Representative Theatre
Accolades/Other  Sophie Peyton has worked on staff at McCarter Theatre Center, Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center, Wilma Theater, and PlayPenn: New Play Development Conference. She is a recipient of Park Square Theatre’s 2019 Directing Fellowship

RUBBLE&ASH  Costume Designers
Park Square  Debut as Rubble&Ash; Andrea M Gross: Flower Drum Song (co-production with Theater Mu), Romeo and Juliet, 33 Variations, Good People, Red, Ragtime; Barb Portinga: Romeo and Juliet, How the Other Half Loves  Representative Theatre
As Rubble&Ash – Nimbus Theatre: The Pathetic Life and Remarkable Afterlife of Elmer McCurdy, the Worst Robber in the West; Andrea M. Gross – St. Olaf College and Carleton College: The Northfield Experience; Theatre Novi Most: Dancing on the Edge; Walking Shadow Theatre Company: Hatchet Lady, Carrie Nation Angel of Destruction; Barb Portinga – Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company: Church and State; Gilbert & Sullivan Very Light Opera Company: 2014-present; Artistry: Tinker to Evers to Chance  Training
Andrea M. Gross – B.A., Theatre and German, Santa Clara University; M.F.A., Theatre Design, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Barb Portinga – B.A., English, Augsburg College

LAURA TOPHAM*  Stage Manager
Park Square  Over 20 productions including A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Baskerville, A Raisin in the Sun, The Diary of Anne Frank, Hamlet, The Realistic Jonses  Representative Theatre
Theater Latté Da: Candide, Beautiful Thing; Artistry: Follies  Training B.A., Theatre Arts, University of Minnesota  Upcoming Projects
Park Square Theatre: Aubergine

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ABBEE WARMBOE  Properties Designer
Park Square The Agitators, Marie and Rosetta, The Realistic Joneses, Flower Drum Song (co-production with Theater Mu), Idiot’s Delight, Calendar Girls Representative Theatre Theater Latté Da: Hedwig and the Angry Inch; Ten Thousand Things Theater: The Sins of Sor Juana; Penumbra Theatre/Th...
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Contributors</th>
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<td>$5,000-9,999</td>
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<td>AARP, Greystone Foundation, Poehler/Stremel Charitable Trust, Standard Heating &amp; Air Conditioning</td>
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<td>$1,000-2,499</td>
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<td>Mairs and Powers, National Checking Company, Nicholson Family Foundation, Onebeacon Charitable Trust, Pohlad Family Foundation</td>
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For more information about planned gifts and their potential tax advantages, please visit parksquaretheatre.org/legacy

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1:00-3:00pm for 2:00 matinee performances
*Hold times may be longer due to in-person customer service before performances

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AUBERGINE  SEPT 20–OCT 20, 2019
By Julia Cho / Directed by Flordelino Lagundino

THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW  SEPT 27–NOV 2, 2019
By Richard O’Brien (music, lyrics and book)
Directed by Ilana Ransom Toepplitz / Music Directed by Andrew Fleser

PAIGE IN FULL A B-Girl’s Visual Mixtape OCT 25–27, 2019
Paige Hernandez, Writer and Performer

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE  NOV 15–DEC 22, 2019
By Kate Hamill, Adapted from Jane Austen / Directed by Lisa Channer

A RAISIN IN THE SUN  DEC 6–8, 2019 1 weekend only!
By Lorraine Hansberry / Directed by Warren C. Bowles

EVITA  JAN 17–MAR 1, 2020
By Tim Rice (book and lyrics) and Andrew Lloyd Webber (music) / Directed by Mark Valdez / Music Directed by Denise Prosek

UN (the completely true story of the rise of Kim Jong Un)  FEB 7–MAR 1, 2020
By John Kim / Directed by Flordelino Lagundino

FACE TO FACE: OUR HMONG COMMUNITY  MAR 5–15, 2020
Ping Chong + Company

MISS YOU LIKE HELL  APR 17–MAY 17, 2020
By Quiara Alegría Hudes (book and lyrics) and Erin McKeown (music and lyrics)
Directed by Marcela Lorca / Music Directed by Jason Hansen

HOLMES AND WATSON  JUN 12–JUL 26, 2020
By Jeffrey Hatcher / Directed by Michael Evan Haney

THE REVOLUTIONISTS  JUN 19–JUL 19, 2020
By Lauren Gunderson / Directed by Madeline Sayet

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