

Who's Who in the Company



Scott Spence (Artistic Director/Director)

Scott is excited to enter into his 20th season at the Beck Center. He hopes that as always you are enjoying the great diversity Beck Center offers. In his tenure as Artistic Director and Associate AD, Scott has produced well over 200 productions, directing over 50 himself. The list of favorites grows every season, and includes *Altar Boyz*, *Parade*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Hair*, *The Secret Garden*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Greater Tuna*, *Reefer Madness*, *The Fix*, *Zombie Prom*, *Tommy*, *Urinetown the Musical*, and so many more, including last season's *The Farnsworth Invention* and *Evil Dead The Musical*. He is very proud of the awards and acclamations Beck has received over the past several years, and is especially grateful for having won the *Northern Ohio Live Award for Achievement in Theatre* in 2006. Outside of Beck's walls, Scott's directorial assignments have included *Das Barbecü* at Opera Cleveland and *Noises Off* at both *Weatherlane* in Akron and *Berea Summer Theatre*. Occasionally on the other side of the footlights, Scott has appeared in *Dick Deadeye* (Berea Summer Theatre), *Man of La Mancha* (Jewish Community Center), *The Secret Rapture* (Dobama) and closer to home at Beck in *Big River*, *The Boys Next Door* and *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*. He also recently had the privilege of joining the cast of *Passion*, directed by Victoria Bussert, in his first onstage stint in the Studio Theater. Scott holds an M.F.A. in Directing from Western Illinois

University and is a trained stage fight choreographer, having studied extensively with the SAFD. As always, he dedicates his work to the two leading ladies in his life – Rachel and Carleigh.



Larry Goodpaster (Musical Director)

Putnam County Spelling Bee marks Larry's 51st production at the Beck Center. An award-winning pianist while in high school, Larry

followed quite a different path and obtained degrees in biology, chemistry, veterinary medicine, and business over the next 20 years. Upon receiving his MBA in 1997, Larry decided to pursue musical theater in his recreational time. What started as an avocation quickly became an obsession. Thanks to the thoughtful tutelage and support provided by Beck Artistic Director, Scott Spence, he is now able to fill his evenings 12 months a year musically directing shows at multiple venues in the Cleveland area. Since January 2008, Larry has spent his days at the Beck Center as a volunteer business consultant. This past fall, he was hired as the Director of Business Operations at the Beck. As he begins his 12th year, he fondly remembers some of his favorite productions – Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Parade*, *Eating Raoul*, *Zombie Prom*, *Urinetown The Musical*, and *A Man of No Importance*. And as always, he congratulates our faithful patrons and loyal donors for keeping theater alive and vibrant in Cleveland – especially during these tough times. These charitable contributions not only support our professional theater, but also allow us to instill confidence and self-esteem in the children, youth and adults in our arts education classes. Thank you!



Diana D'Alessandro (Stage Manager) Diana is happy to be involved with this fabulous, talented cast and as always, a dedicated crew and production staff. She can frequently be found

backstage performing various technical elements required for stage productions at various theaters in Northeast Ohio. Stage management credits at Beck Center include *The Farnsworth Invention*, *Peter Pan*, *My Favorite Year*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Porgy & Bess*, *The Full Monty*, and *By Jeeves*. Other favorites at Beck Center include *The Fix*, *Urinetown The Musical*, and *Miss Saigon*. By day Diana is an I.S. specialist at MetroHealth. Love to Patrick, Mom and Dad, whose support makes it all possible! Enjoy the trip down memory lane to your favorite Bee.



Libby Burchmore (Assistant Stage Manager) Libby has been working behind the scenes at the Beck Center for over ten years. Most recently, she has not been seen in Beck Center's

Is He Dead?, *Peter Pan*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. She has enjoyed the chance to be onstage as an audience participant during rehearsal and can be counted on to consistently misspell words. As always, it has been a pleasure working with Diana and a great group of actors and crew.



***Tricia Bestic (Rona Lisa Perretti)** Tricia is a proud member of Equity. She is thrilled to be back at the Beck Center where she performed in *Eating Raoul* (Dominatrix) and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Janet). At

Playhouse Square she was in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, *Respect: A Musical Journey*, and *Forbidden Broadway: Special Victims Unit*. She has performed locally at The Cleveland Playhouse, Porthouse, Actors' Summit, Dobama, and Pickwick and Frolic. Commercial work includes the PBS miniseries *The War That Made America*, and national voiceovers for Kleenex, WalMart, Dannon, and Nestle. Tricia would like to thank the Kent State Theatre Department and Scott Spence for giving her the opportunity to be in this fantastic show. She is currently a graduate student at Kent State where she is teaching and getting her MFA. Love to all my boys! For more info, google me.



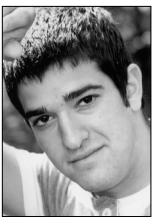
Jonathan Kronenberger (Vice Principal Douglas Panch) Jonathan is excited and scared to make his onstage Beck debut, where by day (and often night) he serves as associate

director of Theater Education. He is a graduate of both Miami University and Ohio University and an associate member of the Dramatists Guild. Beck directing credits include *A Christmas Twist* back in 1994 (!) and more recently the Youth Theater productions of *Cinderella*, *The Lion*, *the Witch and the Wardrobe* and *Twelve Angry Jurors*. He has also directed locally at Clague Playhouse, Western Reserve Playhouse and The Cleveland Play House as well as various productions in New York City. Recent performance credits include *1776* (Dickinson) at Cuyahoga Community College Western Campus and *The Odd Couple* (Vinnie) at Cassidy Theatre. Thanks to Scott, Larry, Robin, the talented cast, and the incredible production staff for putting up with and allowing him this opportunity.



***Kyle Primous (Mitch Mahoney, Comfort Counselor)** Kyle is a graduate of Kenyon College, and has danced and/or taught with Canton Ballet, Cleveland School of Dance, Oberlin

College, The University of Akron, Ohio Dance Theatre (ODT), Pittsburgh's Dance Alloy, Footpath Dance Co., at Jacob's Pillow, on the Drew Carey Show and is presently on faculty at Lorain County Community College. He has directed and/or choreographed: *River's Edge* (RRHS Show Choir), *The Wiz*, *The Sound of Music*, *Trees of Hope*, *Once on this Island*, LCCC's *Serendipity III*, Centerfest's *Sneak Peak*, the world premiere of *Full Moon*, *Steelbound*, *The Odyssey*, *The Little Tommy Parker Celebrated Colored Minstrel Show*, *Treemonisha* and *Famous Orpheus*. A member of Actors' Equity Association, Kyle's regional credits include: *I Love You Because* (NYC Man), *Peaches, Plums and Pontifications* (Ensemble), *The Hostage* (Princess Grace), *I Could Stop on a Dime and get Ten Cents Change* (Ensemble); other stage credits include: *Yellowman* (Eugene), *The Wiz* (Uncle Henry/The Wiz), *Dreamgirls* (Curtis), *Wonderland* (Lead vocalist), *Ragtime* (Coalhouse), *Five Guys Named Moe* (No Max), ODT's *Journey*, *Parade* (Jim Conley), *Full Moon* (Mercer), *Truth* (Dance), and *Mule Bone* (Dave Carter). Kyle's three-octave range has been heard at PlayhouseSquare, Progressive Field, Cleveland Opera, Tri-C Jazz Fest, throughout the Caribbean and, currently, he fronts the band Redline.



Jude McCormick (Chip Tolentino) Jude is excited to make his debut performance at the Beck Center. He attends Baldwin-Wallace College Conservatory of Music as a fresh-

man in the music theatre program. Some of his favorite shows include *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour), *Music Man* (Harold Hill), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Tevye) and *Oklahoma!* (Curly). He would like to thank his family and friends for their never-ending love and support.



Kelly Smith (Logainne Schwartzandgrubeniére) Kelly is thrilled to be a part of the wonderful Spelling Bee cast! She is not a stranger to the Beck

Center stage, having performed in *Peter Pan* (Wendy) for the past two holiday seasons and in the final year of *Beauty and the Beast* (Silly Girl). Other credits include: *Les Miserables: School Edition* (Eponine), *Romeo & Juliet* (Juliet), the title role in *Antigone*, and *Little Women: the Musical* (Amy). Kelly will be attending college next year to study acting or musical theater.



Timothy Allen (Leaf Coneybear) Timothy is once again delighted to perform on the Beck Center stage as yet another skinny underdog—a plot element of musical theater that makes

this institution so great. At the Beck Center, Tim has recently been seen in *Peter Pan*, the '08 and '09 productions (Murphy/Alf Mason, Pirates), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Motel), and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour). He has also performed in *Microscopes and Megaphones* (Michelle) at Cleveland Public Theatre's BIG Box, and *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble) and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Jack Worthing) at Lakeland Civic Theatre. Tim has also performed at various community theaters across the region in *Cabaret* (Emcee) and *Romeo & Juliet*

(Mercutio) at Stage Left; and *West Side Story* (Bernardo), *Fools* (Leon), and *Godspell* (Jesus) at Huntington Playhouse. He is eternally grateful for all the opportunities he has had working with some of the most amazing directors, actors and designers across Northeast Ohio and is rejuvenated with each performance. Tim currently teaches English, Drama, and Shakespeare at Midpark High School. He hopes to obtain his MFA in acting in the near future.



Patrick Ciamacco (William Barfee) Patrick returns to the Beck Center after *Evil Dead The Musical* (Jake). Professionally, he has been seen in PlayhouseSquare's *We Gotta Bingo* (Bucky Fuller), a musical version of *The Nutcracker* at The Cleveland Play House and was part of PlayhouseSquare's 2 ½ year run of *Tony & Tina's Wedding*. Favorite performances include *Children of Eden* (God the Father), *The Baker's Wife* (The Baker), *Chess* (Freddie), *The Music Man* (Harold Hill), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Eddie), *Art* (Marc), *Of Mice and Men* (Lennie) and *The Full Monty* (Dave). Patrick also co-founded, directs, performs and writes for The Laughter League, a Cleveland-based sketch comedy group. Patrick sends thanks to his Mom, Frank, his brothers, Joe Kenderes, Jenn Hayek, Sneezy, Jacqi, his friends in NYC and everyone at Bricco and Near West Theatre. He dedicates this performance to the person sitting in the 3rd row, 5th seat from the left.



***Robin Lee Gallo (Marcy Park/Choreographer)** Robin is thrilled to be returning to the Beck Center. At the Beck: *Miss Saigon* (Kim). Broadway: *The 25th Annual Putnam*

County Spelling Bee. National Tour: *Miss Saigon*. Off-Broadway/New York: *Kahn & Kant* (Michelle Kwan), *The Yellow Wood*, *Making Tracks*, *The Wedding Banquet*, *Make Cake Not War* (Charlie), *Banjo Boys*, *Happily Ever After* (Ella). Regional: *Spelling Bee* (Theatre Aspen, Florida Studio Theatre), *Tomfoolery*, *Children of Eden*, *A Chorus Line* (Connie), *Titanic*. Robin has also appeared on *Law & Order: SVU* and in numerous commercial print ads. Proud member, Actors' Equity Association. BFA: NYU/Tisch.



Devon Meddock (Olive Ostrovsky) Devon is thrilled to be playing the role of Olive, whom she has dreamed of playing for years. She is currently a freshman Music Theatre major at Baldwin-Wallace College. Some of her favorite roles include *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Millie), and *Flight of the Lawnchair Man* (Amelia Earhart) at the historic Struthers Library Theatre. She would like to thank her wonderful parents and the people of her hometown for their love and support, as well as the Check family for giving her the courage to pursue her dreams.



Kyra Kelley (Marcy/Rona U/S) Kyra is so excited about her first project with the Beck Center. She is currently a musical theatre major at Kent State University where she appeared in their fall production of *14* (Leslie). Other favorite shows include *Loves Labours Lost* (Maria) and *Nun-crackers* (Sister Amnesia). Love and thanks to her family for their constant support.



Neely Gevaart (Olive/Logainne U/S) Neely is brand new to Ohio theater. Originally from Fort Wayne, IN, she was last seen there at the Civic Theater's midwest premiere of *Frankenstein: A New Musical* (Justine). Neely has a Bachelor of Music from Millikin University in Decatur, IL. She is very excited to be a part of *Spelling Bee!* She would like to thank Mom, Dad, Goodrich, and Brenton for all their support!



Ryan Thompson (Leaf/Chip U/S) After working four years behind the chair as a stylist both locally (Ichiban Salon) and nationally, Ryan is excited to return to the stage in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Stage credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* (Joseph), *Into the Woods* (Jack), *Babes in Toyland* (Tom-Tom) and *Dear Gabby* (Austin). Vocal Training: West Side Vocal Academy and Frank Bianchi. Dance experience: Trained in tap, jazz and ballet; competed nationally from 1993-2001. Training: Lee Dobies and Tony Raw. It's a crazy ride this life of mine. I owe all the love and thanks in the world to my family and friends for their love and continued support.

**Actor appears courtesy of the Actors' Equity Association (AEA), the union of actors and stage managers.*

Trad A Burns (Scenic Designer) Trad's career has spanned theater, dance, amusement parks, as well as architectural and retail lighting. Designing over 400 productions during the last two decades, his varied work has been seen around the world. His extensive credits include designs for

Cincinnati Ballet, New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Houston Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Ballet British Columbia, Washington Ballet, Spectrum Dance, Verb Ballets, New York Theatre Workshop (NYC), La Mama ETC (NYC), HERE (NYC), Classic Stage Company (NYC), The Public Theatre (NYC), The Cleveland Play House, Cleveland Public Theatre, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Cedar Point, ValleyFair, Knott's Berry Farm, Kings Island, Walt Disney World, Disneyland, Disneyland Japan, Disney Sea, Disney Cruise Lines, Carnival Cruise Lines, Universal Studios Florida & Japan, Woodstock Ice Productions, and The Family of Charles M. Schulz. His recent theater designs include: *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Altar Boyz*, *The Farnsworth Invention*, *Urinetown The Musical*, *Song & Dance*, *The History Boys*, among others for the Beck Center for the Arts. *Inherit the Wind* and *Doubt*, directed by Associate Artistic Director Seth Gordon, for The Cleveland Play House, *Death of a Salesman* and *Sweeney Todd* at Lakeland Civic Theatre. As resident designer for Cleveland Public Theatre, Mr. Burns has designed *The Alice Seed*, *Goldstar Ohio*, *Our Town*, *Sleep Deprivation Chamber*, *Fefu and Her Friends*, *The Secretaries*, *Venus*, *Stone Cold Dead Serious*, *Bright Room Called Day*, *Nickel and Dimed*, *Dojoji*, *The Confessions of Punch & Judy*, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, *Discordia*, *Blue Sky Transmission: A Tibetan Book of the Dead*, *Summer and Smoke*, *The Fugitive Pieces*, and *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*.

Jennifer Sparano (Costume Designer) Jennifer is happy to return to the Beck Center, where she spent last summer up to her elbows in blood, guts and integrity as the costume designer for the record-breaking *Evil Dead The Musical*. In addition to the

Beck Center, where she has designed 32 shows including *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Mrs. Warren's Profession* and *Floyd Collins*, her work has been seen at Cleveland Public Theatre in *Why Torture Is Wrong and the People Who Love Them*, at Clague Playhouse in *Fallen Angels*, at convergence-continuum in *Buried Child*, at The Bang & The Clatter in *Blasted*, at Ensemble Theatre, Weathervane Playhouse, and in Pickwick & Frolic's popular Martini Show. She is proud to co-produce and design the annual musical production to benefit AIDS/HIV agencies in Cuyahoga and Summit counties. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Mount Holyoke College, she also studied in Paris and is employed by KeyBank.

Joseph Carmola (Lighting Designer/ Technical Director) Joe enters his fourth season as Technical Director at the Beck Center. Hailing from Canton, in the past he has served as Technical Director/ Lighting Designer at the Canton Players Guild, The Magical Theatre Company, as well as Paul Green's *Trumpet in the Land*, and numerous freelance credits as well as design for *Les Miserables Jr.* which has been seen in many student programs throughout Northeast Ohio. He is also the proud father of Clayton and Lily who have always brought light to his life.

Richard B. Ingraham (Sound Designer) Richard is happy to return for his seventh season of work with Beck Center. Previous sound designs at Beck Center include: Peter Pan 2008 and 2009, *Evil Dead: The Musical*, *The Farnsworth Invention*, *The History Boys*, *Equus*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Diary of Anne Frank*, *Agnes of God*, and *Of Mice and Men*. Richard is a freelance sound designer and has worked at numerous theater companies and schools in the Cleveland area and around the U.S., including: Ashland University, The Cleveland Jewish Community Center, The Cleveland Play House, Cleveland Public Theatre, Cleveland State University, Dobama Theatre, Great Lakes Theater Festival, Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Oberlin College, Shakespeare and Company, The University of Evansville, and The Willoughby Fine Arts Association. Richard also works for Stage Research Inc., an award-winning software company based in Cleveland that creates software tools designed for the performing arts and has also worked as a show control programmer and installer for clients such as Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, Dialog in The Dark in Kansas City, The Lincoln Library and Museum in Springfield IL, and Stone Mountain Park in Georgia.