Scott Spence (Artistic Director/Director) This marks Scott’s 24th season at Beck Center! Since 1990, he has produced well over 200 productions, directing over 75 himself. The list of favorites grows every season, and includes Parade, A Man of No Importance, Sweeney Todd, Hair, Picasso at the Lapin Agile, The Farnsworth Invention, Reefer Madness, The Fix, Zombie Prom, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, Evil Dead The Musical, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, and the box office smash hits The Producers and Altar Boyz. Last season Scott added to those favorites with productions of Annie and the very, very silly Monty Python’s SPAMALOT. He is very proud of the awards and acclamations Beck Center has received over the past decade, and is especially grateful for having won the Northern Ohio Live Award for Achievement in Theatre in 2006. Outside of these walls, Scott’s directorial assignments have included a remounting of Beck Center’s hit production of Altar Boyz at PlayhouseSquare’s beautiful Hanna Theatre, Das Barbecü at Opera Cleveland, The Last Night of Ballyhoo at Case Western Reserve University’s Eldred Theatre, Oh Dad Poor Dad...at Cleveland University Summer Stages and Noises Off at both Weathervane Playhouse in Akron and Berea Summer Theatre. An adjunct faculty member at Cleveland State University, Scott has also had the privilege to direct Satre’s No Exit and Strindberg’s Miss Julie. 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 Center in Big River, The Boys Next Door and Laughter on the 23rd Floor. He also had the privilege of joining the cast of Passion, directed by Victoria Bussert, in his only onstage stint in the Studio Theater. Scott holds an MFA in Directing from Western Illinois University and is a trained stage fight choreographer, having studied extensively with the SAFD. As always, he dedicates all the work he does to his two extraordinarily talented leading ladies, Rachel and Carleigh. You both amaze me every day.

Larry Goodpaster (Musical Director) is pleased to be musically directing She Loves Me this fall. She Loves Me is Larry’s 65th production and his 15th year at Beck Center. An award-winning pianist 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 return to musical theater in his recreational time. Larry’s love and passion for the arts soon became an obsession. Beginning in January 2008, he spent his days at Beck Center as a volunteer business consultant with Cindy Einhouse, President and CEO. In the fall 2009, Larry was hired as the director of business operations. Last year, he became the Director of Finance and Administration at Beck Center. Sharing both his artistic talent and business acumen with Beck Center has finally allowed his circuitous career path to come together. Larry would like to thank our audiences and donors for supporting our theater and education programming so generously.

**Martín Céspedes (Choreographer)** most recently staged Monty Python’s SPAMALOT at Beck Center, and Much Ado About Nothing for Great Lakes Theater and Idaho Shakespeare Festival, directed by Sharon Ott. Previous Beck Center choreography credits include Hairspray, Annie, and Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson. Performance credits include Broadway National Tours of Man of La Mancha with Jack Jones and Ron Holgate; The King and I with Hayley Mills, Marie Osmond, Maureen McGovern and Faith Prince; South Pacific with Robert Goulet; West Side Story with Bebe Neuworth, and the lavish PBS production of Le Cid with Placido Domingo and the Washington National Opera, broadcast live from Kennedy Center. An alumnus of the Jacque d’Amboise National Dance Institute, Martin has won numerous awards and was
nominated for the prestigious Zelda Fichandler Award, which recognizes an outstanding director or choreographer who is making a unique and exceptional contribution through his or her work in regional theatre. Martin looks forward to returning to Beck Center for the Arts’ upcoming production of Annie. Love to mi familia and Marion for their continued support, and to the late John Kenley. Support the Arts, any Arts.

Libby Burchmore (Stage Manager) is excited to be a part of yet another fantastic Beck Center production. She has been a part of Beck Center’s Professional Theater program for over 12 years and the 2013-2014 season marks her fourth as stage manager. When she’s not corollating actors and keeping things under control, she’s spending her time helping preschoolers learn to communicate as a speech/language pathologist for North Ridgeville City Schools. As always, a big thank you to the amazing cast, crew and production staff that makes each show a unique and fabulous experience. She would also like to thank her family, friends, and especially Chris for all the support, love and patience.

Hayley Baran (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to be participating once again in another production here at Beck Center. Over the past several years she has been found backstage or up on the catwalk during many of Beck Center’s shows. Some of her favorites include: Monty Python’s SPAMALOT, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Altar Boyz, and Parade. Thanks to both the She Loves Me cast and crew for making this such an enjoyable experience.

Brian Altman (Steven Kodaly) is elated to be back on the Mackey Main Stage for the second time this summer. He was last seen taunting and galloping through Beck’s smash hit Monty Python’s SPAMALOT as the homicidally brave Sir Lancelot. Some recent theater credits include: Grand Night for Singing at Lakeland Civic Theatre, and Legally Blonde at Beck Center. Other favorite credits include: Forever Plaid (Smudge) at Pickwick and Frolic, Bat Boy: The Musical (Dr. Parker) at the Roadhouse Theater in Erie, and Ragtime (Tateh) at Rabbit Run Theater in Madison. Brian still loves his job as a Senior Line Designer of Kids product for American Greetings WHQ. Shout out AG peeps! Many thanks to Scott, Larry, Martin, and this charming cast. Love and thanks to his family, friends and Brendan.

Ashley Bossard (Female Ensemble) is enjoying her first experience at Beck Center. She recently finished Applause (Eve) at Western Reserve Playhouse. Some of her favorite credits include Servant of Two Masters (Smeraldina) and War is F**ing Awesome (Grace) in collaboration with Vampire Cowboy Theatre Company. She graduated from Ohio University with her BFA in theatre performance, and is over the moon about working with such a talented cast and crew. She is so thankful for this opportunity. Enjoy the Show!

Brett Harmon Castro (Arpad) is excited to be making his Beck Center debut. Previous credits include: Company (Paul) and Godspell (Lamar) at Stagedoor Manor, How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying (J. Pierrepont Finch) and Into The Woods (Jack) at Solon Summer Stock, Children of Eden (Abel) at Near West Theater, Thoroughly Modern Millie (Jimmy) and Les Misérables: School Edition (Enjolras) at Solon High School, and Pippin (Lewis) and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Asher) at Heights Youth Theatre. He has studied theater at Stagedoor Manor, Broadway Artists Alliance, and the Fairmount Performing Arts Conservatory. Brett is a currently a junior at Solon High School. He would like to thank Scott Spence and Larry Goodpaster for giving him this great opportunity, and he sends love to his parents and Sam for their unending support.
Amiee Collier (Ilona Ritter) feels honored to be a part of such a wonderful cast. This marks Amiee’s 15th show at Beck Center for the Arts and she’s expecting her Crystal Anniversary gift soon! She was most recently seen as Diana in Next to Normal at Lakeland Civic Theatre. Favorite roles include: Cheryl (Evil Dead: The Musical), The Beggar Woman (Sweeney Todd), Dot/Marie (Sunday in the Park with George), Lucy (Jekyll and Hyde), The Baker’s Wife (Into the Woods) and Cathy (The Last Five Years). This Christmas, you can “aw” when Amiee’s fluffy child Buckley reprises his role as Sandy in Annie at Beck Center for the Arts. Thanks to Scott, Larry, Martin, and Libby. Love to Russ.

Barb Dragony (Female Ensemble) is thrilled to be back on stage at Beck Center! A veteran of many shows, some of her favorites include, Nunsense (Mother Superior), A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum (Domina), the area premier of Whodunit…the Musical (Carrie Innes), Smokey Joe’s Café (Company), Lucky Stiff (Rita), The Cardigans & Taffeta’s (Peggy) and A Chorus Line (Bebe/Judy). She was most recently seen in Flanagan’s Wake (Fiona) at the Kennedy Theater in Playhouse Square, a role she will be reprising for a 5th year this January. Barb is a designer/illustrator with several published children’s books. Thanks to Scott, Larry and Martin for the opportunity. And as always…Mr. B.

Richie Gagen (Male Ensemble / Busboy) is so excited to be returning to Beck Center, after having last appeared in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Swing) in 2011. Richie is a senior Theatre major at Cleveland State University, where he was most recently in A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Flute/Thisby). Some previous theater credits include: Camelot (Tom of Warwick), A Midsummer Night’s Dream (Bottom/Pyramus), The Oz Project (Kain), and The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Chip Tolentino) at Gannon University. Richie would like to thank Scott for giving him this opportunity and his parents for all their unending love and support.

Lydia Hall (Female Ensemble) is happy to be back at Beck Center at long last! Lydia has performed with the Wesley Balk Institute in St. Paul, the American Singers’ Opera Project in NYC, Boston Opera Collaborative, and with OperaWorks! in Los Angeles. Locally, Ms. Hall has appeared onstage at The Cleveland Public Theatre, Tri-C West, Opera Cleveland, Cain Park, and with Opera Per Tutti, Opera Circle, The Cleveland Orchestra and Blossom Festival Choruses. Recent productions include Jerry Springer: The Opera at Beck Center and Company and A Little Night Music with Fairmount Performing Arts Conservatory’s Professional Wing. Lydia holds a B. Mus. from Grand Valley State University and an M. Mus. from The Boston Conservatory. She is currently pursuing an M. A. in Education from Ursuline College. Thanks to Scott and Martin, to the whole creative team, company, cast and crew, and to Chad and Cleo.

Gareth Harris (Male Ensemble) comes to Northeast Ohio via the UK and New Zealand. Quite a journey! Being thousands of miles away from his family was tough, until he discovered that theater communities in two different countries welcomed him with open arms. Gareth suddenly wasn’t as homesick anymore. So far he has been involved in differing capacities with shows such as Rent, The Full Monty, Man of La Mancha, and Monty Python’s SPAMALOT. As a fan of Monty Python, Gareth was definitely in his element helping out backstage this past summer at Beck Center. He is very excited to be onstage this time to play a part in this very charming musical. Huge thanks to Emily for her love and support.
Paul Hoffman (Male Ensemble) is thrilled to be back at Beck Center after appearing in this past summer’s blockbuster Monty Python’s SPAMALOT. He has been seen in Nite Club Confidential (Mitch Dupré) at Porthouse Theater, The Secret Garden (Ben Weatherstaff) at Cain Park, My Way (Buddy Malone/Man 1) at Weathervane Theater and Youngstown Playhouse, Annie (Rooster) Brecksville Theater on the Square, and many more. Most recently he has been performing his own Cabaret Shows for which he was nominated Outstanding New York City Male Cabaret Debut 2012. Thanks to Scott, Larry, and Martin, for giving me the chance to get back on stage in the theater.

Matthew Kenneth (Male Ensemble) is making his Beck Center debut with She Loves Me on the Mackey Main Stage. He recently returned to Ohio from NYC, where he was studying at AMDA. Recently, Matt has appeared in Les Misérables (Feuilly) and Chicago (Aaron/Harrison) at The Renaissance Theatre. One of his favorite credits was Oliver! (Mr. Sowerberry) at The Mansfield Playhouse. He is so happy to be performing at Beck Center with such amazing and professional people; it has been a wonderful experience. As always he would like to thank his family for being so supportive and understanding, with a special thanks to his grandmother for always believing in him. Enjoy the show!

Evie Koh (Female Ensemble) is excited to be making her Beck Center debut. She has performed in a variety of roles at Lake Performing Arts, Ohio Wesleyan University, Chagrin Valley Little Theater, Willoughby Fine Arts Association, and Rabbit Run Theater. Previous roles include: The Sound of Music (Baroness Elsa Schraeder); A Grand Night for Singing (Leading Lady); God of Carnage (Annette Raleigh); The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Miss Florence Gill); The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby (Kate Nickleby/ Miss Bravassa); Oliver! (Nancy); Enchanted April (Lady Caroline Bramble); Lend Me a Tenor (Diana); Doubt, a Parable (Sister James); Carousel (Julie Jordan), and many more. Evie has sung with the Cleveland Orchestra Chorus, the Blossom Festival Chorus, and the Ohio Wesleyan Choral Art Society and Women’s Ensemble. She would like to thank her family for their continued support, and the audience for supporting the arts.

Jamie Koeth (Georg) has been a professional actor, teacher, director and musician for over 20 years and is a proud member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA. At Stagecrafters Theatre he directed Les Misérables, Sweeney Todd, Urinetown, Bat Boy, RENT and The Who’s Tommy among others. Favorite acting credits include Legally Blonde (Emmett) at Beck Center, Godspell (Jesus) at Porthouse Theatre, The Spoon River Anthology at Actor’s Summit, I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change at Playhouse Square Center and the National Tour of Jekyll & Hyde. Jamie teaches acting and guitar at his private studio in Orange. He’ll be completing Kent State University’s MFA Acting program this spring. Big thanks to all of his professors at KSU and to the Beck Family: Scott, Larry, Martin, Rebecca, the design team, cast and crew. Love to Wendy & Liam!

Jonathan Kronenberger (Ladislav Sipos) is delighted to return to Beck Center’s Main Stage after last being seen as Vice Principal Douglas Panch in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee. He extends a special thanks to Scott, Larry, Martin, this talented cast and the incredible production staff for putting up with and allowing him this opportunity.
Robert Pierce (Male Ensemble) is pleased to return to Beck Center for the Arts after past appearances in Jerry Springer: The Opera (Chucky/Adam) and Monty Python’s SPAMALOT (Male Ensemble). He is experienced in both opera and musical theatre. Opera: The Barber of Seville (Fiorello) at Opera Western Reserve, Street Scene (Harry Easter) at Nightingale Opera Theatre, Madame Butterfly (Commissioner) at Solon Center for the Arts, The Apothecary (title role) at Cleveland Institute of Music. Musical theatre: Kiss Me, Kate (Gremio/Ralph) at Solon Center for the Arts, and Camelot (Mordred) at Straw Hat Theatre. He also regularly sings on “The Mighty Wurlitzer Radio Hour,” hosted by Robert Conrad. Robert holds degrees in vocal performance from Otterbein University and Cleveland Institute of Music. He can next be seen in La bohème (Benoit/Alcindoro) at Opera Western Reserve.

*Rebecca Pitcher (Amalia) is thrilled to be returning home to Ohio and to Beck Center for this amazing production of She Loves Me. She is best known for her portrayal of Christine Daaé in the Lloyd-Webber production of The Phantom of the Opera were she performed over 3000 performances including Broadway, the US National Tour, and Singapore. Rebecca recently performed and recorded the roles of Lydia in Mardi Gras and Dusty in The Last Word at the York Theatre in New York. Other favorite roles include Grace Farrell in Annie, Christine Daaé in the Yeston-Kopit version of Phantom, Johanna in Sweeney Todd, Rose in Street Scene, Louella Parsons in Saving Aimee, Rapunzel in Into the Woods, and The Queen of the Night in Mozart’s The Magic Flute. Rebecca has also performed with the Pittsburgh Opera, Cleveland Opera, the Towson University Orchestra, and was a winner of the Columbus Opera competition. She is also a Bikram Yoga certified instructor. Rebecca wishes to thank her friends and family for their support and love. namaste

Derrick Winger (Maitre’D / Male Ensemble) is thrilled to be making his debut at Beck Center with such a talented cast and crew. He has worked at several area theaters including Coach House Theatre, Weathervane Playhouse, and the Ohio Shakespeare Festival in Akron as well as many more in Western Pennsylvania and New York. He most recently performed in Working at Blank Canvas Theatre. Some other favorite musical theatre credits include Guys and Dolls (Sky Masterson), The Wiz (Lion), Les Misérables: School Edition (Val Jean), Children of Eden (God), The Fantasticks (Matt), Of Thee I Sing (Wintergreen), and Pirates of Penzance (Pirate King). He would like to thank this incredible cast for their constant support and inspiration and his wife, Justine, for being ok with the whole “never-being-home” thing. Enjoy the show!

*Matthew Wright (Maraczek) is back!!!! He’s happy to return to the family that permitted him to create roles in Jerry Springer: The Opera, My Favorite Year, Urinetown, A Man of No Importance, Equus, Reefer Madness, The Imaginary Invalid, and The Fix. He’s been busy elsewhere, too, performing at Great Lakes Theater, Cleveland Play House, Cleveland Public Theatre, Fairmount Performing Arts, and five seasons as a company member of Oberlin Summer Theater Festival. Prior to moving to the Cleveland area, Matthew appeared in regional theaters all over the country. He directs, too (Holy Ghosts at Beck, Iphigenia 2.0 at Cleveland Public Theater, currently preparing Ghosts at Oberlin College). He’s taught acting in colleges around the country for 23 years and is the Chair of Theater at Oberlin College. He’s happy to be celebrating his 25th anniversary as a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association.

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

** Member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers
Trad A Burns (Scenic & Lighting Designer) is a lighting and scenic designer based once again in Cleveland, Ohio. Designing over 500 productions during the last two decades, his varied work has been seen around the world. His extensive credits include designs for North Shore Music Theatre (Boston), 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, Beck Center for the Arts, Boston Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Atlanta Ballet, Houston Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Ballet British Columbia, Washington Ballet, Spectrum Dance, Verb Ballets, Inlet Dance Theatre, Cedar Point, Knott’s Berry Farm, Kings Island, Walt Disney World, Disneyland, Disneyland Japan, Disney Sea, Woodstock Ice Productions, and The Family of Charles M. Schulz. Recent designs include: The Nutcracker for Cincinnati Ballet and Ballet Hawaii, the World Premier of The Center of the Earth for Inlet Dance Theatre, Next to Normal at Lakeland Civic Theatre, and Monty Python’s SPAMALOT at Beck Center for the Arts.

Joseph Carmola (Technical Director) is in his seventh year as Technical Director at Beck Center. In the past Joe has served as Technical Director for the Canton Players Guild, Magical Theatre Company and Paul Green’s Trumpet in the Land. His freelance credits include lighting design and scenic artist, as well as a set design for Les Misérables: School Edition, which has been seen in many student programs throughout Northeast Ohio. He is the proud father of Clayton.

Benjamin Gantose (Associate Scenic & Lighting Designer) is in his sixth season at Beck Center having worked on the designs for Monty Python’s SPAMALOT, Annie, Xanadu, Legally Blonde The Musical, The Marvelous Wonderettes, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Producers, The Diary of Anne Frank, Miss Saigon, The Seagull, Hamlet, and Jekyll & Hyde, to name a few. He has designed at Cleveland State University, Dobama Theatre, and most other area theaters. Benjamin is currently resident designer at both Cleveland Public Theatre and for the Opera Stage at Cleveland Institute of Music where her most recent productions were Mozart’s La Finta Giardiniera, and Massenet’s Cendrillon.

Alison Garrigan (Costume Designer) Alison’s design work has been seen on Beck Center’s stage for many years—aside from She Loves Me, her work may be remembered from such productions as Xanadu, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Producers, The Diary of Anne Frank, Miss Saigon, The Seagull, Hamlet, and Jekyll & Hyde, to name a few. She has designed at Cleveland State University, Dobama Theatre, and most other area theaters. Alison is currently resident designer at both Cleveland Public Theatre and for the Opera Stage at Cleveland Institute of Music where her most recent productions were Mozart’s La Finta Giardiniera, and Massenet’s Cendrillon.

Richard B. Ingraham (Sound Designer) is happy to return for his 11th season of work with Beck Center. Favorite previous Sound Designs at Beck Center include: Xanadu, Wings, Evil Dead: The Musical, The Farnsworth Invention, The History Boys, Equus, Beauty and the Beast, The Diary of Anne Frank, and Of Mice and Men. Richard is a freelance sound designer based in the Cleveland Ohio area. He has worked at numerous theatres, schools and attractions in the Cleveland area and throughout the US including: Ashland University, Baldwin-Wallace University, Cain Park, Chagrin Falls Performing Arts Academy, Cleveland Play House, Cleveland Public Theatre, Cleveland State University, Dobama Theatre, University of Evansville, Great Lakes Theater, Hope Summer Repertory Theatre, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Jewish Community Center of Cleveland, Lincoln Amphitheatre, Lincoln Library and Museum, Oberlin College, Playhouse Square Center, and Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Richard has taught Sound Design and other related course work at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh and at The University of Evansville in Indiana. He has also worked as a consultant to award winning software companies that create products for live event production including Stage Research and Richmond Sound Design.