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Violet the Musical (2021)

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Spring 4-30-2021

## Violet the Musical Playbill

Providence College

*Providence College*

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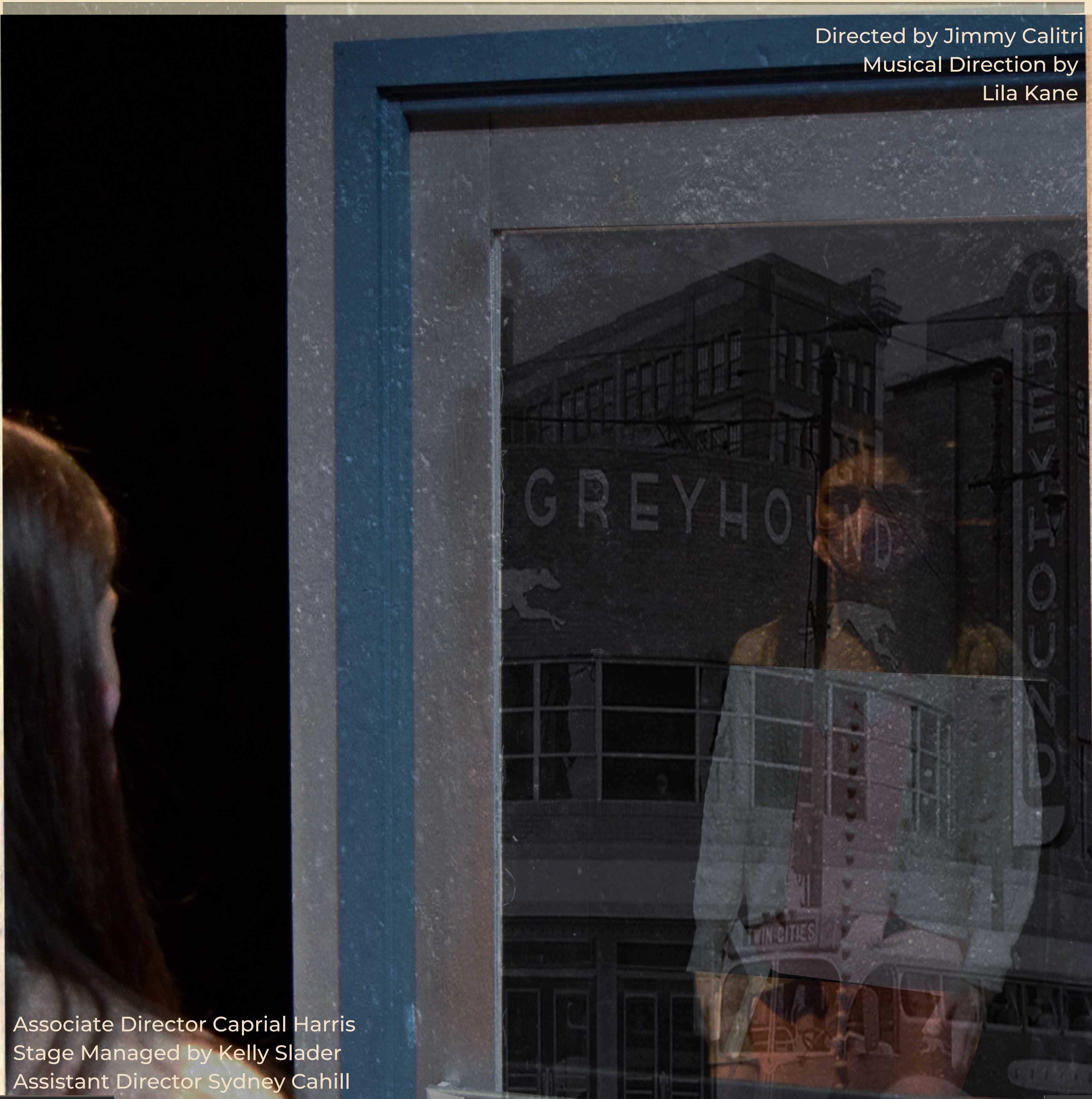


# Violet

## The Musical

A Virtual Event Premiering  
April 30th at 7:30 pm EST

Directed by Jimmy Calitri  
Musical Direction by  
Lila Kane



Associate Director Caprial Harris  
Stage Managed by Kelly Slader  
Assistant Director Sydney Cahill

Music by Jeanine Tesori lyrics and Book by Brian Crawley  
Based on "The Ugliest Pilgrim" by Doris Betts

VIOLET is presented through special arrangement  
with Music Theatre International (MTI)  
All Authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

To watch the performance, visit:  
[theatre.providence.edu/current-season](http://theatre.providence.edu/current-season)





## STATEMENT OF DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION

The directors of theatre productions that will be presented this year by the Department of Theatre, Dance & Film at Providence College have committed to opening up space in the theatre season to tell Black centered stories and highlight Black voices in order to diversify our exploration of the human condition. We believe that the arts, and theatre in particular, should reflect and respond to the current activism and racial reckoning in our country. As we move forward artistically and pedagogically, we are conscious of our responsibility to ensure that there will be a place for artists of color to be seen and heard in the theatre created at Providence College.

The Department of Theatre, Dance, and Film is committed to creating art that explores the entirety of the human experience. We are committed to building our department to “reflect the diversity of the human family” (PC Mission Statement). Our efforts to create an equitable environment in which all artists are valued will be complex and change of this magnitude does not happen quickly. Nevertheless, we commit ourselves to consciously creating space where diverse voices and experiences are seen, heard, and validated. We commit ourselves to proactively recruiting faculty, staff, and students so that our department may more closely reflect the true diversity of the human condition. We commit ourselves to using our positions as leaders and teachers to amplify diverse voices. We hope that these actions, and more, will help us create an environment in which all feel welcome and valued, regardless of race, biological sex, religion, age, socioeconomic class, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, neurological or physical ability, or legal status.

## COVID STATEMENT

In an abundance of caution, and due to ongoing safety restrictions and physical distancing limitations as we navigate forward to a very different academic year up ahead, we want to share with you all that our 2020-2021 Theatre, Dance & Film season of productions will be focused on our student’s educational and creative experience. To our loyal general public patrons, we invite you to please continue visiting this website for the most up-to-date information on our season, including ways to access select live streams, video recordings, and other virtual opportunities in lieu of in-person experiences.

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Adapted from Doris Betts' short story *The Ugliest Pilgrim*, first published in 1973, *Violet: The Musical* has a book and lyrics by Brian Crawley and music by Jeanine Tesori. Set in 1964, the story follows the strong-willed, disfigured protagonist (Violet) who embarks on a journey of self-healing and self-discovery by bus from her mountain home farm deep in Spruce Pine, North Carolina to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where she hopes a televangelist preacher will heal the scar she's had on her face since she was 13 given to her accidentally by her father. Now in her 20's, alone, and on the bus trip, she meets Monty and Flick, one white and one black soldier, respectively. Along the way, she is haunted and guided by the memories of her 13- and 16-year-old younger selves as well as the strong unresolved memories of her deceased father. *Violet* explores themes of heated racial relations in the United States during the Vietnam War era in the deep south, how childhood trauma can significantly contribute to adult life, and relatable feelings of rejection, loneliness, and unworthiness.

In our production, Violet's scar is apparent but not seen. Our audience will discover it through song lyrics and the reaction of those repelled by it. However, those who look beyond the scar can see only Violet's indomitable spirit, a keen sense of moral integrity, and her drive and determination to fight for a sense of equality between people no matter their differences. Our students have been champions mounting this production during the uneven times we are currently living in. Keeping each other safe and representing our department's action and diversity statements have been the student's priority. I am extremely proud to be leading our production team and students to Violet's completion.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Tom Senter, Thom Warren, and Theatre by the Sea  
Paula McGlasson, David T. Howard, and the URI Theater Department



# CAST



KALEIGH  
LIEBLER  
*VIOLET*

Kaleigh Liebler, a senior biology major and theatre minor, is so excited to be a part of Violet the Musical. You've also seen Kaleigh on the TDF stage in Something Rotten and Bat Boy. Kaleigh is President of A Cappella Club and a proud member of Providence College's co-ed a cappella group, Strictly Speaking. She is so grateful for Jimmy Calitri, the entire production team, and the cast for the countless hours poured into making this production so special. Massive thanks to Mom, Dad, Alissa, Jimmy, and her housemates for keeping her grounded and always encouraging her to pursue her dreams. Go Friars!



DANIEL JAMESON  
*MONTY*

Daniel Jameson is a senior double major in Theatre and History. Some of Dan's past shows at PC include Beasts, Something Rotten, Lord of the Flies, and Bat Boy. Cheers to the cast and production crew for putting this whole thing together. Peace and Love.



DANIEL  
STROTHER  
*FLICK*

Danny is a junior Music-Education major with a concentration in voice. This is Danny's second time acting in a Providence College TDF production. In 2020, he played several roles in Echoes: Voices from the Void. He has also played several roles in the Providence College Music Department Opera and Musical Theatre Workshop in the 2018, 2019, and 2020 productions. Danny is thrilled to be playing the role of Flick in the college's production of Violet.



CAITLYN  
MITCHELL  
*TEEN VIOLET*

Caitlyn Mitchell is thrilled to be playing the role of Teen Vi in her first production at Providence College! Currently, she is a freshman double majoring in theatre and psychology. She would like to thank the cast and crew for collaborating to put on such a wonderful show!



# CAST



CLARE KRUG  
*YOUNG VIOLET*

Clare Krug (Young Vi) is very excited to be a part of her first production at Providence College! She is a freshman majoring in music technology and production, and planning to minor in both business and film. She would like to thank the cast and crew for welcoming her right into the TDF family, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



ALEX CANNON  
*FATHER*

Alex is a theatre artist who has been involved with many previous productions at Providence College. Some of his favorites include acting in Something Rotten! (Minstrel), Bat Boy (Ron Taylor), and Echoes (ensemble); and stage managing The Maids, Nat Turner In Jerusalem, and Writer's Summit (a collection of new works one of which he is also the playwright of: ACT-ivism). He is extremely excited to play Father in this production.



HALLE PRATT  
*OLD LADY*

Halle Pratt, a Junior Musical Theatre major, is honored and thrilled to be making her return to the TDF stage! Some of her favorite past credits include, Newsies, Something Rotten, Moon Over Buffalo, and Bat Boy: A Rock Musical. Thanks to Jimmy, the production team, and the cast for making this unique experience so rewarding and special, to my Jojo, my best pal, and to my family for their endless love and support! 143!



NICK BULLOCK  
*VIRGIL*

Nicholas Bullock is a junior Management and Musical Theatre Double Major at Providence College. He has previously been seen performing in Rhode Island in the Department of Theatre Dance and Film's production of Something Rotten!, Summer Stage at Bishop Hendricken's productions of The Wizard of Oz, and Godspell, and in Providence College's Co-ed A Cappella group, Strictly Speaking. Nick is extremely grateful to the entire cast and crew for making this such an incredible first production since the beginning of the pandemic. He also wishes the seniors the happiest of trails and the best of luck upon their graduation this spring.



# CAST



MICHAEL  
HENSHAW  
*PREACHER*

This is Michael's second TDF production at PC and he could not be more thrilled to be a part such an amazing cast and crew. Michael is a current sophomore studying Marketing with a minor in theatre. He would like to thank Jimmy, Lila, Emily, Caprial for putting such dedication into putting on this production and all the backstage/production crew who has dedicated hours into making sure this show is a success. We would be no where without all of you! Lastly, he would like to thank his parents, Arleen and Tom, for supporting and helping him during this past semester. He hopes you enjoy the show!



DINAH BECKFORD  
*LULA*  
*BUFFINGTON*

Dinah Beckford is delighted to have done her first and last musical at Providence College in the role of Lula. She has always had a passion for theatre and was the light board coordinator in high school, so being in this musical is her dream fulfilled. She is a senior majoring in Psychology and Business Management and hope to continue to support the arts after graduation.



ANALISA PISANO  
*ENSEMBLE*

Analisa Pisano is so excited to be a part of the wonderful cast that contributes to this production! She is currently a sophomore musical theatre and theology double major. She is so thankful to be able to continue to do what she loves even when it may seem impossible!



CAROLYN  
BRADLEY  
*ENSEMBLE*

Carolyn is a current sophomore musical theatre major at Providence College. She has done performances like Beasts, Newsies, Peter and the Starcatcher, and more. She appreciates the hard work and dedication of all cast and crew members in making this production possible during this pandemic. She is looking forward to creating more memories both on and off the stage.



# CAST



MADELYN RICH  
*ENSEMBLE*

Maddie is thrilled to be performing in Violet as her first musical at Providence College! Some of her favorite past performances include The Music Man (Marian Paroo), Suite Surrender (Claudia McFadden), and Beauty and the Beast (Belle). Maddie would like to thank the entire cast, crew, and creative team for making this such a memorable experience and persevering through a global pandemic to create this art!



NOLAN DONATO  
*ENSEMBLE*

This is Nolan's third time acting in a Providence College Production. In 2019, he played Schroeder in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown. In 2020, he portrayed Nigel in Something Rotten. Nolan is very excited to be a featured ensemble member in the college's production of Violet.



CHRISTOPHER  
SCHETTINO  
*ENSEMBLE*

Christopher always loves performing on the Providence College stage. A sophomore, he has been Shylock and an ensemble member in Something Rotten and was cast as Ted in Peter and the Starcatcher. He is extremely excited to perform and finally be on stage since the pandemic started



ISABELLA  
QUINSON  
*ENSEMBLE*

Isabella is excited to be a part of the ensemble for Violet and perform in her first musical at Providence College. Some of her favorite past shows include Matilda (Miss Honey) and Phantom of the Opera (Madame Girya). Isabella would like to thank the production team, cast, and crew for all of their hard work.



# CAST



AIDAN BENJAMIN  
*ENSEMBLE*

Aidan is a sophomore, currently studying both management and music. He has been in a part of previous PCTDF productions such as Something Rotten (Lord Clapham) and Peter and the Star Catcher (Smee). He wants to thank all PCTDF staff, the cast, and the crew for working tirelessly to bring this show to light!



STEPHEN SCULLY  
*ENSEMBLE*

Scully is a rising junior and marketing major/theater minor in the class of 2023. This is his second show at Providence College, following Something Rotten along with the attempted production of Peter and the Starcatcher. He enjoys Piña Coladas and getting caught in the rain, and is very proud to have been a part of this production. He'd like to thank Jimmy, Lila, Kelly, and all the other amazing people who made this production possible. Grab your M&M's and enjoy the show!



KARI ELISA  
ROBLES  
*ENSEMBLE*

Kari Elisa Robles is so excited to be a part of the wonderful cast that contributes to this production!



STUDENT PRODUCTION

Kelly Slader.....Stage Manager  
Abbie Joy.....Asst. Stage Manager  
Gabriela Esposito.....Asst. Stage Manager  
Joseph Pekar.....Asst. Stage Manager  
Abdelnasser Zadieyh.....Asst. Stage Manager  
Sydney Cahill.....Asst. Director  
Katelyn Salvato.....Asst. Choreographer  
Katie Vennard.....Asst. Costume Designer

HEALTH & SAFETY

Joseph Pekar.....Covid Monitor  
Abdelnasser Zadieyh.....Covid Monitor

MARKETING & ARTWORK

Paula Oronoz.....Marketing/Program Design  
Gabriela Esposito.....Production Office Liason  
Alison Strelchun.....Artwork Designer

ORCHESTRA

Lila Kane.....Conductor/Piano  
Emily Turtle.....Keyboard  
Clay Nordhill.....Guitar 1  
Chris Vaillcourt.....Guitar 2  
Amy Bedard.....Violin  
Brent Selby.....Cello  
Brian Grochowski.....Bass  
Dan Hann.....Percussion



## CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

### **Jimmy Calitri** (Director/Managing Director of Theatre, Dance & Film)

Jimmy holds an A.D. in Studio Art and Design, a B.A. in Musical Theater and Performance, a B.A. in Art History and Design, and an M.F.A. in Theatre for Social Change & Performance in Society from Rhode Island College. Jimmy holds the position of Managing Director of Theater & Associate Professor of Theater at Providence College. Recently at Providence College Jimmy directed *Bat Boy: A Rock Musical*, and the National college premiere of *Something Rotten: A Very New Musical*. Jimmy has served as a director and teacher of theatre arts at The Dreamland Center for Film and Performing Arts where he directed *Beauty and the Beast*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Dreams of a New Year Cabaret*, *Shrek*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Jimmy was hired by Ten31 Productions to direct and write a musical touring adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland* (which was revived in August of 2016, January of 2017, and will be revived again post-pandemic). Jimmy currently serves as Creative Director at The White Heron Theatre of Nantucket where he has directed *The Tempest*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Twelfth Night*, and a series of musical theatre masterclasses geared toward college preparation for teenagers. This summer at The White Heron Jimmy will direct *Carrie: The Musical*. *Violet* is one of Jimmy's favorite musicals, and he is honored to work on this production in conjunction with the Theatre, Dance & Film department's Action Statement to support Black voices.

### **Lila Kane** (Musical Director)

Lila, Originally from New York City, has been a professional accompanist and music director in Rhode Island for over thirty-five years. She has worked in regional theatre, summer stock, and many local theatres including Ocean State Theatre Company, Theatre-By-The-Sea, Newport Playhouse, City Nights Dinner Theatre, Fantasy Works, Academy Players of East Greenwich, the Community Players of Pawtucket, and the Barker Playhouse, and most recently as the Music Director for *Assassins* at the Gamm. At Providence College Lila is a member of the adjunct faculty in the department of TDF, as well as Music Director for the Mainstage musical. At URI, as a Guest Artist, she teaches a musical theatre class and is Music Director for the Mainstage Musical. She is a Staff Accompanist at RIC, where she teaches musical theatre classes as well as studio piano lessons. Lila freelances as an accompanist and maintains a private piano studio.

### **David Cabral** (Costume Designer)

David received his BA in Theatre from Rhode Island College, and his MFA in Theatrical Design from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. He joined Providence College in the fall of 1984 and is currently a Tenured, Full Professor. In recent seasons at Providence College he has been responsible for Costume Designs for *Caste*, *The Moors*, *Into the Woods*, *The Laramie Project*, *The Addams Family*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Funny Girl*, *Little Women*, *Amadeus*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Charley's Aunt*, *A Flea in Her Ear* and *Macbeth*. Last season at Salve Regina University he designed *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *Gypsy*. David continues to work professionally at such venues as Theatre By The Sea in Matunuck, RI (*Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Annie*, *The Sound of Music*, *West Side Story*, *The Buddy Holly Story*, *How to Succeed in Business...*), Ocean State Theatre Company, formerly in Warwick, RI (*The King and I*), North Shore Music Theatre in Beverly, Massachusetts (*Grease* and *West Side Story*), The Lyrics Stage of Boston (*Noises Off*, *A Little Night Music*, *Souvenir*, *Adrift in Macao*). Quite regularly he is the costume designer at The Boston Conservatory @ Berklee, in Boston Mass. Among his recent Boco/Berklee Shows are: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Carousel*, *Side Show* (twice), *Red Noses*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Oklahoma*, *The Way of the World*, *Follies* (twice), *Kismet*, *The Three Sisters*, *Showboat*, *The Reimers of Eldritch*, *Curtains*, *42nd Street*, *The Three Penny Opera* and *Spring Awakening*.



## CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

### Megan Chang (Speech & Dialect Coach)

Megan is Assistant Professor of Voice & Speech at Providence College and the Core Curriculum Faculty Fellow for Oral Communication. Previously, she served as vocal coach for *Something Rotten!* (Regional Premiere), *Moon Over Buffalo*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Hamlet*, *The Laramie Project*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Playhouse Creatures*, and *The Addams Family* at Providence College. Megan also serves as the communication coach for Providence College's Big East Start Up Challenge team. She also teaches a variety of workshops on campus and with local professionals, most recently working as a Communications Consultant for Brown University's EMSTL program. She also teaches workshops in conjunction with Breakthrough Providence and PC's Friar Foundation. She received her MFA in Vocal Pedagogy from Virginia Commonwealth University. Previous coaching credits include: *Awake and Sing* (Rhode Island College); *The 39 Steps*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Dial M for Murder* (Triad Stage, North Carolina); *The Winter's Tale*, *Serjeant Musgrave's Dance*, *Deadly Sins: A Sword Play*, *Hoodoo Love*, *The Blood Knot*, *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!* (University of North Carolina School of the Arts); *Cabaret*, *Dracula*, *Psycho Beach Party* (Virginia Commonwealth University).

### Caprial Harris (Associate Director & Choreographer)

Caprial Harris graduated from Providence College in May of 2019, with a Bachelor's degree in Musical Theatre. After graduating, Caprial served as the Associate Director of the National College Premiere of 'Something Rotten: A Very New Musical at Providence College. Recently, she served as the Associate Director and Choreographer for *Violet* at Providence College. Other directing credits include, *A Conversation*, Providence College Creative Writers Festival, and *Camera Obscura*. Caprial is also a dance and theatre teacher at In Sync Center for the Arts in Quincy, MA. Caprial also holds a Master's degree in Education and is a proud third grade teacher.

### Emily Turtle (Associate Musical Director)

Emily Turtle is a recent graduate of the University of Rhode Island where she received a B.F.A. in Acting and Theatre Management, and a Music Minor in Vocal Performance. She is a professional singer, actress, and voice actress, a music minister, director, and educator, and a teaching artist for the Providence Performing Arts Center Disney Musicals in Schools Program. As Music Director her most recent productions include, *Violet* (Providence College), *Carrie the Musical* (Academy Players of RI) and *The Rocky Horror Show* (OUT LOUD Theatre - RI Motif Theatre Award Winner - Best Musical Direction 2019). In her spare time Emily enjoys composing music and spending time with her family, friends, and Golden Retriever Cody. Other Theatre: The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre: *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* in association with The Public's Radio (Announcer/Zuzu), *Assassins* (Associate Music Director/Pianist/Ensemble), *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (Announcer/Zuzu), *Encore Opera Company: The Magic Flute* (Queen of the Night), *Marley Bridges Theatre Company: Newport Murder Mystery* (Company Member), *TEN31 Productions: Company Member*, *OUT LOUD Theatre: The Rocky Horror Show* (Musical Director) University of Rhode Island: *Mary Poppins* (Mary Poppins), *Lady Windermere's Fan* (Lady Windermere), *A Little Night Music* (Anne), *The Trojan Women*.



## CREATIVE TEAM BIOS

### **Trevor Elliott** (Technical Director, Visual Editor)

Trevor joined the production staff of PC in the spring of 2017. Before that, he was a freelance set designer/builder for local theaters including 2nd Story Theatre in Warren and New Bedford Festival Theatre at the Zeiterion. Trevor was the technical director at Roger Williams University from 2004 to 2011. Trevor is a graduate from Rhode Island School of Design with a degree in illustration. Previous designs at PC include *Bat Boy*, *Hamlet*, *Into the Woods*, *Playhouse Creatures*, and *The Addams Family*.

### **Gabriel Luxton** (Asst. Technical Director, Sound Editor)

Gabriel joined the production team at the ABT in the fall of 2019. Before coming onboard officially he served as Sound Designer for several of PC's recent musicals including *Something Rotten*, *Bat Boy* and *Spelling Bee*. He has worked locally at ATR Treehouse and Trinity Repertory Company as a production and audio technician, in addition to freelance sound design work at various regional theaters. Gabe is a graduate of Eastern Connecticut State University with a degree in Theatre and History.

### **Maxine Wheelock** (Costume Supervisor)

Maxine has worked at Providence College since 2005. She has extensive experience in dressmaking, including work with Wood and Poplyk Costume Design, Costume World, Inc., Worcester Forum Theatre, and the Worcester Foothills Theatre. She was the principal dressmaker for *Showboat*, produced by Papermill Playhouse in New Jersey, then filmed for PBS for their "Great Performances" series, which led to an Emmy nomination for costume design. More recently, she ran her own business, Maxine's Custom Dressmaking, in Uxbridge, MA, where she specialized in wedding gowns, bridal parties, and theatre costumes.



# TDF FACULTY

## Full-Time Faculty

**Wendy Oliver**, Ed. D., Professor of Dance  
*Dept. Chair of Theatre, Dance & Film*

**David Costa-Cabral**, MFA, Professor  
*Theatre*

**Jimmy Calitri**, MFA, Assoc. Professor  
*Managing Director of Theatre*

**Megan Chang**, MFA, Assist. Professor  
*Voice and Speech*

**John Garrity**, MFA, Assoc. Professor  
*Theatre*

**Rev. Kenneth Gumbert**, O.P., MFA, Professor  
*Film*

**Erin Joy Schmidt**, MFA, Assist. Professor  
*Theatre*

## Staff

**Ali Boyd**, Academic Administrative Coordinator

**Trevor Elliott**, Technical Director

**Gabe Luxton**, Asst. Technical Director

**Allison Crews**, Production Administrative  
Coordinator

**Maxine Wheelock**, Costume Shop Supervisor

## Adjunct Faculty

**Alan Hawkrige**, Graduate of LAMDA  
*Theater*

**Robin James**, MA  
*Oral Communications*

**Kate Lohman**, MFA  
*Oral Communication*

**Jennifer Madden**, Ph. D.  
*Theatre*

**Kathleen Nasti**, MBA & MFA  
*Dance*

**Kevin Olson**, MFA  
*Public Speaking*

**Patrick Mark Saunders**, MFA  
*Theatre*

**Linda Sutherland**, MA  
*Theatre*

**Ben Sweeney**, MFA  
*Film*

