BRIGHT STAR

Book by Steve Martin
Music by Steve Martin & Edie Brickell
Lyrics by Edie Brickell

UTA Department of Theatre Arts and Dance
Edward Jones

We are proud to support Theatre and Dance at UTA
Go Mavs!

Eric Holman, CFP®
Financial Advisor
2300 W. Park Row Drive
Suite B
Arlington, TX 76013
817-275-4411

Will Acton
Financial Advisor
4025 Woodland Park Blvd.
Suite 280
Arlington, TX 76013
817-458-0010

Jack D. Webb, CFP®
Financial Advisor
1521 N. Cooper St.
Suite 130
Arlington, TX 76011
817-408-5311

www.edwardjones.com

Member SIPC
UTA Department of Theatre Arts and Dance presents

BRIGHT STAR

Book By
STEVE MARTIN

Music By
STEVE MARTIN & EDIE BRICKELL

Lyrics By
EDIE BRICKELL

Scenic Design
DJ BADON

Costume Design
TABITHA THOMPSON

Lighting Design
JARED LAND & LAURIE LAND

Sound Design
BILL EICKENLOFF

Choreographer
SARAH FAGAN

Land Acknowledgement

UTA respectfully acknowledges the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes upon whose historical homelands this University is located. Their ancestors resided here for generations before being forcibly displaced by U.S. settlers and soldiers in the mid-1800s. We recognize the historical presence of the Caddo Nation and other Tribal Nations in the region; the ongoing presence and achievements of many people who moved to the area due to the Indian Relocation program of the 1950s and 1960s; and the vital presence and accomplishments of our Native students, faculty, and staff.

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

Bright Star is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.theatricalrights.com

This playbill is a production of PERFORMING ADS
Welcome to the Theatre!

We are delighted that you are here at UTA as we present *BRIGHT STAR*, a musical that takes us on a journey of discovery, young love, heartbreak, and redemption set upon the backdrop of North Carolina in the first half of the 20th century.

The show's themes of resilience and perseverance, along with a stunning (and award winning) score, was everything this director could hope for in a project. I hoped that the story could and would serve as a reminder that even in the darkest of times a light can appear to lead us forward.

The *BRIGHT STAR* creative team began work last April to devise a space appropriate for this unique storytelling opportunity. This is the first time that our department has reconfigured our mainstage theatre space as an intimate performance venue, and we are inspired by the new configuration used to tell this story. Our actors, crew, and musicians have been exploring this piece since August and hope that this show will resonate with you as much as it has touched all of us.

A special thanks to our team, cast, crew, and musicians who make the collaborative process of theatre a great joy. I am humbled with all that has been shared in the journey. We hope that you enjoy the show!

Anne Healy
October 2023

---

When *BRIGHT STAR* premiered in New York City on Thursday, March 10, 2016, reviewer Christopher Isherwood wrote: “Bluegrass on Broadway? Yes sirree. The warming sounds of banjos, fiddles and even an accordion are filling the Cort Theater, [ . . . ] bringing a fresh breeze from the South to the spring theater season.” The show's writers—folk rock singer Edie Brickell and actor/musician Steve Martin —are Texans, from Dallas and Waco, respectively. This is only one reason we are proud to include *BRIGHT STAR* in our season. We are also excited to showcase our BFA musical theatre majors’ performances, original BFA student designs in sets and costumes, and our BA Theatre Studies stage management team.

Our students shine due to the efforts of their instructors and faculty mentors, all of whom have worked joyfully on this intimate stage to bring you what Isherwood described as a thrilling story, “gracefully” told.

-Jeanmarie Higgins, Chair and Professor, Department of Theatre Arts and Dance

Sources
CAST

Alice Murphy.........................................................................................................................Allison Crabtree
Billy Cane............................................................................................................................Lane Benham
Daddy Cane.........................................................................................................................Caleb Fisher
Margo Crawford....................................................................................................................Jalyn Roberson
Max......................................................................................................................................Nick Harrison
Florence ................................................................................................................................Ambar Acosta
Edna......................................................................................................................................Nicole Giddens
Daryl Ames..........................................................................................................................Landon Blanton
Lucy Grant............................................................................................................................Jolie Lambert
Mama Murphy......................................................................................................................Jacqueline Castillo
Daddy Murphy......................................................................................................................Sean Solis
Mayor Josiah Dobbs..........................................................................................................Robert Twaddell
Jimmy Ray Dobbs..............................................................................................................Steven Rios
Stanford...............................................................................................................................Nathan Talamantez
Dr. Norquist .........................................................................................................................Caiden Garcia
Government Clerk.............................................................................................................Hannah Lovato-Swaim
Well-Dressed Woman........................................................................................................Allison Bradshaw

ENSEMBLE............................................................................................................................

Jimmy Ray Dobbs understudy: Ambar Acosta, Allison Bradshaw, Caiden Garcia, Nicole Giddens,
Nick Harrison, Lexi Lawrence, Hannah Lovato-Swaim, Nathan Talamantez.

UNDERSTUDIES

Alice: Hannah Lovato-Swaim, Billy: Nick Harrison,
Daddy Cane/Daddy Murphy/Mayor: Caiden Garcia,
Margo: Ambar Acosta, Lucy: Nicole Giddens,
Mama Murphy: Allison Bradshaw

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director ...............................................................................................................................Anne Healy
Asst. Director .....................................................................................................................Robert Twaddell
Stage Manager....................................................................................................................Harmony Conner
Asst. Stage Manager.........................................................................................................Laz Jarrell
Asst. Stage Manager.........................................................................................................Leah Rettig
Music Director ..................................................................................................................Vicky Nooe
Dance Choreographer........................................................................................................Sarah Fagan
Scenic Designer ....................................................................................................................DJ Badon
Asst. Scenic Designer........................................................................................................Gabrielle Malbrough
Properties Designer.........................................................................................................Phillip Schroeder
Lighting Designer ...............................................................................................................Jared Land
Lighting Designer...............................................................................................................Laurie Land
Sound Designer ................................................................................................................Bill Eickenloff
Costume Designer.............................................................................................................Tabitha Thompson
Costume Design Mentor.....................................................................................................Margaret Monostory
Production Manager/Technical Director...........................................................................DJ Badon
Producer .............................................................................................................................Jeanmarie Higgins
Light Board Op ....................................................................................................................Ash Wilson
Mic Tech..............................................................................................................................Aliyah Vialdores
Mic Tech..............................................................................................................................Ryan Terry
Wardrobe Crew (H).............................................................................................................Kierra Powers
Wardrobe Crew...................................................................................................................Toni Colbert
Backstage Crew (H).............................................................................................................Genesis Hill
Backstage Crew....................................................................................................................Jayla Greer, Madison Jackson, Malik Giles
Dance Captain.....................................................................................................................Lexi Lawrence
Vocal Coach........................................................................................................................Jocelyn Hansen
The Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina in 1945–46 with flashbacks to 1923.

**MUSICAL NUMBERS**

**ACT ONE**

- If You Knew My Story ................................................................................................. Alice and Ensemble
- She’s Gone .................................................................................................................. Daddy Cane and Billy
- Bright Star .................................................................................................................... Billy and Ensemble
- Way Back in the Day ..................................................................................................... Alice and Ensemble
- Firmer Hand/Do Right ................................................................................................. Daddy Murphy, Mama Murphy, Alice, and Ensemble
- A Man’s Gotta Do ........................................................................................................... Mayor Dobbs and Jimmy
- *Picnic Dance* .................................................................................................................. Stanford, Ensemble
- What Could Be Better .................................................................................................... Jimmy, Alice, and Ensemble
- I Can’t Wait .................................................................................................................... Alice, Jimmy, and Ensemble
- Please, Don’t Take Him ........ Mayor Dobbs, Alice, Daddy Murphy, Mama Murphy, Stanford Adams, and Ensemble
- A Man’s Gotta Do (Reprise) ........................................................................................... Mayor Dobbs and Ensemble

**ACT TWO**

- Entr’acte ......................................................................................................................... Orchestra
- Sun’s Gonna Shine ......................................................................................................... Alice, Mama Murphy, Margo, Daddy Cane, Edna, Florence, and Ensemble
- Heartbreaker ................................................................................................................... Jimmy
- *Another Round* ............................................................................................................. Lucy, Darryl, Billy, and Ensemble
- I Had a Vision .................................................................................................................. Alice and Jimmy
- Always Will ..................................................................................................................... Billy, Margo, and Ensemble
- I Can’t Wait (Reprise) ...................................................................................................... Ensemble
- So Familiar ...................................................................................................................... Alice and Ensemble
- At Long Last ................................................................................................................... Alice and Ensemble
- Finale ............................................................................................................................... Ensemble
AMBAR ACOSTA
Ambar Acosta is a senior studying musical theatre at UTA. You may have seen her previously in UTA’s production of Sweeney Todd. Ambar would like to thank her friends and family, especially her mom, for all of their support!

LANE BENHAM
Lane Benham is a BFA Musical Theatre junior at UTA. He was last seen in Sweeney Todd on the mainstage. He is very excited to do Bright Star with so many friends.

LANDON BLANTON
Landon Blanton is a Junior BFA musical theatre Major at UTA, he was last seen in Sweeney Todd at UTA and Cabaret at UTA.

ALLISON BRADSHAW
Allison Bradshaw is a BFA Musical Theater sophomore at UTA. She was previously seen in Sweeney Todd (ensemble) here at UTA and the Broadway Concert Series (Eponine, Velma Kelly) with Wagner Iovanna Studio Productions. She would like to thank her family for all their love and support!

JACQUELINE CASTILLO
Jacqueline Castillo is a BFA Musical Theatre student at UTA. Jacqueline was last seen in Boy on Billboard with Wilson/Apple, Sweeney Todd at UTA, Midsummer’s Night Dream at Genesis Children’s Theatre, and In The Heights at NTPA-Rep.

ALLI CRABTREE
Alli Crabtree is thrilled to be a part of Bright Star! Alli is a senior Musical Theatre major and Dance minor. Previous UTA credits include 9 to 5 and Cabaret. She would like to thank Team Star, her family, friends, professors, and God for their constant love and support.

CALEB FISHER
Caleb Fisher is a sophomore BFA Musical Theater student. Caleb was last seen in the UTA production of Sweeney Todd and The Stars and The Moon Cabaret at Theatre Arlington. He’s excited to perform another show and would like to thank his friends and family for all their support.

CAIDEN GARCIA
Caiden Garcia is thrilled to be making his Mainstage debut. Recently graduating from Dallas College, Caiden is pursuing a BFA of Musical Theatre at UTA. He was last seen this summer as Enjolras in Les Miserables.

NICOLE GIDDENS
Nicole Giddens a BFA Musical Theatre sophomore at UTA. This will be her second mainstage show at UTA after last being in Sweeney Todd. She is so excited for everyone to come and see this wonderful show!

NICHOLAS HARRISON
Nicholas Harrison is a junior pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre and a Minor in Dance. Nick was last seen in UTA’s Production of Sweeney Todd as Anthony. He would like to dedicate this performance to his brother Lucas Harrison.

JOLIE LAMBERT
Jolie Lambert is a BFA Musical Theatre junior at UTA. She is excited to make her Mainstage debut after transferring here! Jolie was last seen in Music Man at Garland Summer Musicals (teen ensemble). She would like to thank everyone who has impacted her journey in some way.

LEXI LAWRENCE
Lexi Lawrence is a BFA Musical Theater Sophomore at UTA. Lexi was last seen in Sweeney Todd at UTA. Lexi is thrilled to have worked on this show with two of her roommates, Jolie and Nicole. From the music to the choreography, every aspect of this show is breathtaking.

AXEL PATINO
Axel Patino is a BFA Musical Theatre major at UTA. He is part of the cast of Bright Star as one of two swings. This is his first ever production with UTA, and he is very excited to take part in this show.
CAST

STEVEN RIOS
Steven Rios is a First-Year transfer student at UTA majoring in Musical Theatre, and is excited to be making his Mainstage debut. He was last seen in The Fantasticks (Matt). Steven has worked with various theatres around the DFW area and is set to make his debut at WaterTower theatre later this year.

JAYLN ROBERSON
Jalyn Roberson is a junior BFA Musical Theatre major at UTA. She was last seen in Sweeney Todd last spring. She would like to thank her family, her friends, her cast mates, and God.

SYLVIA SCHULTE
Sylvia Schulte is a sophomore Musical Theatre major with a Dance minor at UTA. She was previously in Sweeney Todd at UTA, and she is a member of RISE A Cappella. She thanks you for attending and hopes you enjoy the show!

SEAN SOLIS
Sean Solis is a BFA Musical Theatre Senior at UTA. When he’s not onstage, he’s backstage working crew. Some of his credits onstage include Sweeney Todd, A Muddle Of Mask, and Pirates of Penzance. Crew credits include Ragtime, Cabaret, and Dance in Flux. He can’t wait to see what’s next.

HANNAH LOVATO-SWAIM
Hannah Lovato-Swaim is a BFA Musical Theatre junior at UTA. Hannah was last seen in Sweeney Todd at UTA and has since participated in the MusikTheatre Bavaria summer intensive in Oberaudorf, Germany. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their support.

NATHAN TALAMANTEZ
Nathan Talamantez is a BFA musical theater major at UTA. This will be his Mainstage debut. He is currently a sophomore transfer from Lubbock Texas and is beyond excited to make memories with his new family!

ROBERT TWADDELL
Robert Twadell is a BFA Musical Theatre focus at UTA. Robert was last seen in Cabaret (Herr Schultz) and Sweeney Todd (Judge Turpin). Outside of school he teaches voice and acting in Granbury, Cleburne, and Arlington with his partner, Haley.

PRODUCTION TEAM

DR. ANNE HEALY - Director
Dr. Anne Healy comes to the Dallas/Fort Worth area from New York City where she worked for many years as a professional actress and musical theatre performer. Anne holds a Ph.D. in Humanities- Aesthetic Studies - Musical Theatre/Theatre from The University of Texas at Dallas, an M.F.A. in Musical Theatre, and is an Associate Professor of Academics in the Department of Theatre Arts at UTA. As a member of Actors Equity Association (AEA), Anne has worked both Off-Broadway and in regional theatres across the country, with local performances at Casa Manana and Amphibian Productions in Fort Worth. Anne is an associate member of the Stage Directors & Choreographers Union (SDC) and was in their 2017-2018 observership class. Regional directing credits include serving as the Assistant Director for A Raisin in the Sun at the Tony Award-winning Dallas Theater Center, as well as joining Tony Award-winning director and choreographer Kathleen Marshall at Goodspeed Musicals in Connecticut as her directing observer. Currently, Anne is a resident director at Priscilla Beach Theatre in MA and a teaching artist for American Musical Theatre Live, Paris. At UTA, Anne has directed The Heidi Chronicles, Dead Man Walking, The Robber Bridegroom, Fiddler on the Roof, As It Is In Heaven, West Side Story, Ragtime, The Music Man, Sweeney Todd, the regional premier of The Theory of Relativity, and the world premiere of Troupers: A Musical Vaudeville, to name a few. Anne’s research in the areas of vaudeville, musical theatre, and directing has led to multiple papers and panel discussions nationally and internationally regarding inter-disciplinary collaboration processes in the arts, as well as several creative works. Anne’s recent book chapter on directing in musical theatre appeared in the Routledge Companion to Musical Theatre in December 2022.
PRODUCTION TEAM

DJ BADON - Scenic Designer/Technical Director/Production Manager
DJ joined the department in June of 2008. He has served as Technical Director since 2015 and became the Production Manager in 2018. He received Associate degrees in Construction and Design Drafting as well as a Bachelor’s degree in Theatre from Southeastern Louisiana University. He then attended Western Illinois University where he received an MFA in Scenic Design. As a scenic designer, his previous credits include THE MISER, THE CLEAN HOUSE, THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE, PRINCESS MIA, SEE WHAT I WANNA SEE, and most recently, NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD.

GABRIELLE MALBROUGH - Assistant Scenic Designer
Gabrielle is a BFA Theatrical Design junior. Making her Scenic Design debut, Gabrielle was last seen working as the Assistant Properties Designer for Night of the living Dead (Lori Allen Ohm) and Sweeny Todd (Stephen Sondheim) here at UTA and has since worked as a Charge Artists at Beaumont Community players in Beaumont, TX.

SARAH FAGAN - Choreographer
Sara Fagan is a performer, choreographer, and dance educator. She is happy to join the UTA Dept. of Theatre Arts and Dance and create with the team of Bright Star! While based in New York she was on faculty at Molloy University/CAP21, taught and choreographed at Mile Square Theatre, and performed in numerous theater productions. Performance highlights include Irving Berlin’s White Christmas (National Tour, Rhoda/u.s. Judy), 42nd Street (National Tour, u.s. Annie), The Will Rogers Follies (Goodspeed Musicals), Irving Berlin’s Holiday Inn (Goodspeed Musicals World Premiere Swing/MUNY, Ensemble), Crazy For You (Riverside Theatre), Anything Goes (North Shore Music Theatre), and Singin’ In The Rain (Music Theatre of Wichita, Woman in Green.) She is a member of AEA and earned a B.A. in Dance Performance from OKCU.

JARED LAND - Lighting Designer
Jared is an Associate Professor of Practice teaches courses in lighting and sound design at UTA's Department of Theatre Arts and Dance. He also serves as the resident lighting and sound designer for the program. In addition to his work at UTA, Jared is a freelance lighting designer in Dallas/Fort Worth area. His work has been seen throughout the DFW area, including: Stage West Theatre, Shakespeare Dallas, Water Tower Theatre, and Theatre Three.

LAURIE LAND - Lighting Designer
Laurie is an Assistant Professor of Practice at UTA, and received her MFA in Theatrical Design with emphasis in Costume and Lighting Design from the University of Memphis. In addition to her work at UTA, Laurie is a freelance costume designer and makeup artist in Dallas. Her work has been seen at various DFW theatres including: StageWest, The Dallas Children's Theater (Mainstage Series, Teen Series and National Tours), Shakespeare Dallas, WaterTower Theatre, and Pegasus Theatre, where she has designed the “Red Dress” for their Living Black and White Series (since 2012). Outside of Dallas, Laurie has designed with Voices of the South and Hangar Theatre’s Mainstage, National Tour and Lab Company.

BILL EICKENLOFF - Sound Designer
Bill is the resident Sound Designer for Lyric Stage in Dallas and an adjunct professor here at UTA in the Theatre Dept.. He has sound designed and/or mixed over 100 productions over twenty years for Theatre TCU, Yale Rep, DTC, Casa Mañana, Jubilee Theatre, DBU, Mainstage Irving Las Colinas, Theatre Arlington, Brick Road Theatre, Wishing Star Productions, Prism Theatrics and the Trinity Shakespeare Festival. He is a proud graduate of Texas A&M University.

VICKY NOOE - Music Director
Vicky is a sought-after music director in the DFW area and currently a Lecturer at University of Texas Arlington. She has worked with Dallas Theatre Center, Theatre Arlington, Lyric Stage, and more in the area. She previously taught at Dallas Baptist University (Department of Music) as an Adjunct Professor. She is a sought-after musical theatre pianist and music director in the DFW area. She has worked with talented young singers as a vocal coach at Boston University’s Tanglewood Institute. She has also worked at Southern Methodist University, Boston Conservatory, Texas Christian University, Hebrew College, and the Upper Valley Music Center. She is a member of the American Federation of Musicians, Pi Kappa Lambda, Music Theatre Educators’ Alliance, and the College Music Society.
ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS AND DANCE

BA in Theatre Arts or BFA in Theatre Arts

with Performance, Design and Technology, or Musical Theatre Focus

Minors in Theatre Arts and Dance

The University of Texas at Arlington Department of Theatre Arts and Dance provides students with an extensive education in the theatrical profession. It is through broad practical experience and an equally extensive theoretical application of the art and craft of the stage that students learn the primary components that comprise the theatrical event. The application of these components, in a series of classroom and public performances, ensures a challenging educational environment for the theatre arts student.

If you would like more information about The University of Texas at Arlington’s Department of Theatre Arts and Dance, please feel free to email our Academic Advisor, Miranda Marin at miranda.marin@uta.edu.
PLEASE...

- Be sure to turn off all cellular phones or similar electronics prior to the show beginning.
- Avoid the temptation to send text messages during the performance!
- If your child becomes restless, please step into the lobby to avoid disrupting the performance.
- For your and the performers’ safety, we ask that you remain in your seats and keep all personal items out of the aisles.
- No photography or recording of the performance is permitted.
- Please do not bring food or drinks into the theatre.

THANK YOU AND ENJOY THE SHOW!

BENEFACTORS

We would like to thank the following donors for their extremely generous donations to the UT Arlington Department of Theatre Arts:

Dr. Charles S. Proctor Endowment
JoAnne Harris Endowed Scholarship for the Theatre Arts
Professors Emeritus Richard Slaughter/ Nita Scheble Cox Endowed Scholarship for Theatre Arts
Archibald Foundation Scholarship
Jeff Johnson

CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS & DANCE FOR THEIR CULTURAL TRIP TO THE NYC THEATRE DISTRICT
ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHTS

STEVE MARTIN - Book, Music
Stephen Martin is one of the most well-known and pervasive talents in entertainment. His work has earned him an Academy Award, five Grammy Awards (two for comedy, three for music), an Emmy, the Mark Twain Award and the Kennedy Center Honor. As an author, Martin’s work includes the plays Picasso at the Lapin Agile, The Underpants, and Meteor Shower. Also an accomplished banjoist, Martin created the Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Banjo and Bluegrass, an award established to reward artistry and bring greater visibility to bluegrass performers.

EDIE BRICKELL - Music, Lyrics
Edie Brickell released the debut multiplatinum album SHOOTING RUBBER BANDS AT THE STARS with New Bohemians in 1988. Her recent works include a 13-track collaboration with Steve Martin titled LOVE HAS COME FOR YOU. The album won a Grammy for Best American Roots Song and inspired the musical Bright Star. Their second album, SO FAMILIAR, is out now.
COLONIAL

BANKING Simplified

Serving Dallas-Fort Worth Since 1952!

Personal Banking
- No-Fee Checking Accounts
- Interest Checking Accounts
- Savings Accounts
- Personal Loans
- Safe Deposit Boxes
- Credit Cards
- And More

Business Banking
- Business Checking Accounts
- Commercial Loans
- Merchant Services
- Business Loans
- Business Credit Cards
- And More

Stop By One Of Our 6 DFW Locations!

1605 S Bowen Rd
Arlington, TX 76013
(817) 860-7331

4900 Colleyville Blvd
Colleyville, TX 76034
(817) 282-9281

2600 West Freeway
Fort Worth, TX 76102
(817) 390-2380

7317 Oakmont Blvd
Fort Worth, TX 76132
(817) 294-2771

10860 N Beach St
Fort Worth, TX 76244
(817) 380-7100

217 South Stemmons
Lewisville, TX 75067
(972) 221-2571

Colonial Savings, F.A., NMLS 401285.