

Manatee Players and Producing Artistic Director Rick Kerby

Present



Book by
Steven Levenson

Music and Lyrics by
Benj Pasek & Justin Paul

Orchestrations & Additional Arrangements by
Alex Lacamoire

Vocal Arrangements and Additional Arrangements by
Justin Paul

Originally Produced on Broadway by **Stacy Mindich**
Originally presented by Arena Stage — July 9, 2015 to August 23, 2015
New York premiere at Second Stage — March 26, 2016 to May 29, 2016

Director/Choreographer
Rick Kerby

Music Director
Paul Smith

Set Designer
In House

Projection Designer
Nick Jones

Costume Designer
Caren Brady

Lighting Designer
Nick Jones

Stage Manager
Kristin Ribble

October 22 - November 1, 2026
Stone Hall at Manatee Performing Arts Center

Theater Information

Each audience member must occupy a seat and have a ticket. Although there are no age restrictions, parents should use discretion regarding appropriateness of some offerings. Information on shows, including recommended ages, is available at our Box Office.

LATECOMERS

Tickets are valid only if presented for admission before the start of the date and time of the show listed. Patrons arriving late are not guaranteed admission, but may be seated on an “as available” basis at the sole discretion of management.

SMOKING/VAPING

Smoking or use of e-cigarettes is strictly prohibited within the facility.

ELECTRONIC & RECORDING DEVICES

Due to copyright restrictions, audio and video recording is strictly prohibited during performances. Please turn off all electronic devices.

EMERGENCY EXITS

Please familiarize yourself with nearest exit sign.

ACCESSIBILITY

We strive to make our performances and facilities accessible to everyone and adheres to all regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations.

BOOSTER SEATS

Booster seats are available by request for those who need them. Please see a team member at the information desk located in the lobby.

NOISE REDUCTION EAR PROTECTION

We have both adult and child-sized hearing protection for those with sound sensitivity. Stop by the information desk to secure a set to better enjoy the live entertainment.

BOX OFFICE INFORMATION

Hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm and 1 hour prior to a show.

Phone: 941-748-5875

Online: ManateePerformingArtsCenter.com

STONE HALL



BRADENTON KIWANIS THEATER



Dear Evan Hansen - Cast

Evan Hansen.....	Luke Magro
Heidi Hansen.....	Sarah Yonko
Connor Murphy.....	Carter Hasbrouck
Zoe Murphy.....	Bailey Sheridan
Cynthia Murphy.....	Shannon Wright
Larry Murphy.....	Gabe Flores
Jared Kleinman.....	Kyle Johnson
Alana Beck.....	Lena Wigfall

Dear Evan Hansen - Crew

Production Manager.....	Kristin Ribble
Assistant Technical Director.....	Larry Crouse
Master Electrician.....	Tom Sparks, Thomas Anderson
Stage Manager/Light Board.....	Kristin Ribble
Sound Board.....	Becky Ruark, Dave Springer
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Cori Rigney
Running Crew.....	Ben Rigney, Dan Yonko
Follow Spots.....	Marilyn Andreini, Mark Heuberger, Diane Rabbu
Swing Crew.....	Neal Addison, Cherilyn Ashlock, Olivia Hilliard
Scenic Artist.....	Ralph Nurmela
Sound Cue Design.....	Cory Boyas
Props.....	Rick Kerby
Set Construction.....	Thomas Anderson, Phil Croome Larry Crouse, Mike Harris Steve Leggett, Ralph Nurmela Jim Uberti, Bill Watts
Set Painting.....	Thomas Anderson, Mike Harris Larry Crouse, Steve Leggett Ralph Nurmela, Jim Uberti, Bill Watts
Technical Consultants.....	John Michael Andzulis, Joe Carpenter Brian Freeman, Bill Johnson Deke Short, Ken Strom
Costume Construction.....	Caren Brady, Gwen Certo Barbara Duncan, Kristen Garruto, Gail Hargaden Arda Letson, Kelly, Rauch, Karen Roach Cheryl Voltolina, Wayne Waletich, Dina White
Special Thanks.....	Diane Broda, McKiethen Growers Venice Theatre

Dear Evan Hansen - Songs

ACT ONE

Anybody Have a Map.....	Heidi, Cynthia
Waving Through A Window.....	Evan, Company
Waving Through a Window (Reprise 1).....	Evan
Waving Through a Window (Reprise 2).....	Alana
For Forever.....	Evan
Sincerely, Me.....	Connor, Evan, Jared
Requiem.....	Zoe, Cynthia, Larry
If I Could Tell Her.....	Evan, Zoe
Disappear.....	Connor, Evan, Alana, Jared Larry, Cynthia, Zoe
You Will Be Found.....	Evan, Alana, Jared, Zoe Company, Virtual Community

There will be a 15 Minute Intermission

ACT TWO

Sincerely, Me (Reprise).....	Connor, Jared
To Break In a Glove.....	Larry, Evan
Only Us.....	Zoe, Evan
Good For You.....	Heidi, Alana, Jared, Evan
For Forever (Reprise).....	Connor
You Will Be Found (Reprise).....	Alana, Jared Virtual Community
Words Fail.....	Evan
So Big / So Small.....	Heidi
Finale.....	Evan, Company

***The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this
production is strictly prohibited.***

Dear Evan Hansen - Cast Bios



Gabe Flores

(*Larry Murphy*) Gabe is thrilled to join the MPAC stage once again in *Dear Evan Hansen*. Most recently seen in *Bright Star* (Jimmy) and *Parade* (Britt Craig). Many thanks to his friends and family. For Penelope.



Carter Hasbrouck

(*Connor Murphy*) Carter is extremely excited to be playing the role of Connor Murphy. His past roles include *Hadestown* (Hades), *A Chorus Line* (Al DeLuca), *The Addams Family* (Mal Beineke), *Drowsy Chaperone* (George), *Anastasia* (Vlad Popov). He would like to thank this wonderful cast and crew for bringing this show to life.



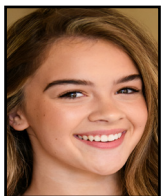
Kyle Johnson

(*Jared Kleinman*) Kyle is excited to return to the stage as Jared. An actor, filmmaker, writer, and director, Kyle has always had a passion for storytelling. He is currently developing new film projects through his new production company, NorthWoods Entertainment, and hopes to continue creating stories both on stage and screen.



Luke Magro 🎭

(*Evan Hansen*) Luke is a 17-year-old Musical Theater performer and is a Musical Theater Major at PCCA. He's so excited to make his Manatee Performing Arts Debut as Evan in *Dear Evan Hansen*! Luke would like to thank his family, friends, and the teachers that have supported him!



Bailey Sheridan 🎭

(*Zoe Murphy*) Bailey is a 16-year-old musical theatre performer and Musical Theatre major at PCCA. She is excited to play Zoe in *Dear Evan Hansen* at Manatee Performing Arts Center. Bailey is incredibly grateful for her friends, family, and teachers who always support her! Enjoy the show!



Lena Wigfall 🎭

(*Alana Beck*) Lena is an actress from Tampa, Florida who grew up being heavily involved in the arts. Her dream is to one day be on Broadway, and continue to explore her love for directing, writing, and music. She is beyond excited to be a part of *Dear Evan Hansen*.

Cast Bios Continued



Shannon Wright

(*Cynthia Murphy*) Shannon is excited to be back on the MPAC stage in one of her favorite shows. She was last seen as Amalia Balash in *She Loves Me*. Other favorites include Marian in *The Music Man*, April in *Company* and Mrs Banks in *Mary Poppins*. "Much love to Jaz and Simone!"



Sarah Yonko

(*Heidi Hansen*) Sarah is grateful to be a part of this area premier! Appearances last season include *Prince of Egypt*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Frozen* (Elsa) and *Big Fish*. Love always to husband Dan and daughter Addison. Thank you for supporting live theatre! "You are not alone".



- Denotes Manatee Players Debut

Creative Team



Rick Kerby

(*Director/Choreographer*) - Prior to his move to Bradenton, Rick was the Entertainment Director for the USO of Metropolitan New York and the organizer of the Miss USO Contest. His USO troupe was featured on the Today Show, Good Morning America, Fox News, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and on The Miss America Pageant. The same USO troupe performed as part of the USO Celebrity Tours in the Middle East, Europe, and the

Baltic. Other directorial credits include numerous shows at SurfFlight Theatre in New Jersey, Theatre by the Sea in Rhode Island, The Arundel Playhouse in Maine, Wolford House Dinner Theatre in Virginia, New London Barn Playhouse in New Hampshire, Stage Door Canteen Theatre at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, Westbank and Duplex Theaters in New York City, and on many cruise ships. He has served on the faculties of Wagner College on Staten Island and Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts in New York City. Rick is the past President of the Florida Theatre Conference, Past President of the Florida Association of Community Theaters, and is the past President of the board for the American Association of Community Theatres. Rick was honored as a recipient of the Fellows Award from AACT. Rick most recently directed MPAC's productions of *Big Fish*, *Frozen*, *Prince of Egypt*, *Evita*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Anything Goes*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Oklahoma*, *Something Rotten*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Company*, *Gypsy*, *How to Succeed*, *Titanic*, *Chaplin*, *Mamma Mia*, *Pippin*, *I Do, I Do*, *Winter Wonderettes*, *Matilda*, *West Side Story*, *Barnum*, *Mary Poppins*, *Cabaret*, *Newsies*, *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *A Little Night Music*, *The Producers*, *Boynnton Beach Club*, *Assassins*, *42nd Street*, *Chess*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Secret Garden*, and *Into the Woods*.

Creative Team



Paul Smith

(*Musical Director*) – A recent transplant from the OTHER bay area, San Francisco, Paul Smith is splitting his time between both coasts. He recently served as Music Director for *Carrie the Musical*, *Fame*, *Big Fish*, *Bright Star*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *Frozen*, *Hello Dolly*, and *Gutenberg!* Although known primarily as a classical pianist, performing both solo recitals and concertos on the West Coast and Europe, and the founder and

director of Contemporary Opera *Marin*, an opera company presenting chamber operas of the last one hundred years, as well as rediscovered gems of past centuries, he maintains an active schedule as musical director for musicals and operettas. Paul was music director for *The Sound of Music* and *The Fantasticks* and has recently returned from a highly successful production of three Viennese Cabaret Operas in California and other piano concerts in London. In addition to his involvement with many of the productions here at Manatee, Paul will be performing solo piano recitals in California and London next spring.



Nick Jones

(*Lighting & Projection Designer*) – Nick is excited to be returning to Manatee Performing Arts Center once again after recently light and projection designing *Big Fish* and *Frozen*. He has also been lighting designer for *Bright Star*, *Prince of Egypt*, *Evita*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Anything Goes*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Nunsense*, *Winter Wonderettes*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Doubt*, and *Goat Song Revel*. Having designed in

Sarasota and New York, credits span numerous companies and projects such as Asolo Rep, Dog Days Theatre Company, and Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe. Additionally, he serves as a Lighting Assistant on the New Year's Eve Times Square Celebration. For a full list of works, visit his website at standbylx.net.



Caren Brady

(*Costume Designer*) – Caren Brady is celebrating 38 years as a Fairy Godmother for all things costume. A graduate of Bluffton College, Caren started her career at Stagecraft Theatrical in Cincinnati Ohio and eventually opened her dream business, Cincinnati Costume Company. This shop costumed productions throughout Ohio and the nation. Eventually, Caren

joined Cincinnati Landmark Productions as their Costume Shop Manager, Costume Designer, and Props Mistress and served there for over 12 years. Caren is pleased to be on staff here at Manatee Performing Arts Center. She is happy to be working with this cast and production team. Much love to family and friends far and near who always support the crazy costume lady!

Creative Team



Kristin Ribble

(Stage manager) – Kristin has been a part of the Manatee Players since she was twelve years old in a variety of capacities and has been the Production Manager for nearly seventeen years. Kristin's most recent stage management credits include *Big Fish*, *Bright Star*, *Frozen*, *Prince of Egypt*, *Evita*, *The Sound of Music*, *Merrily We Roll Along*, *Anything Goes*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Oklahoma*, *Gypsy*, *Titanic*, *Chaplin*, *Mamma*

Mia, *Matilda*, *Mary Poppins*, *Cabaret*, *Newsies*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *A Little Night Music*, and *The Producers*. Other favorite stage management credits include *Assassins*, *42nd Street*, *Chess*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Secret Garden*, *Into the Woods*, *Tarzan*, *Les Miserables*, *Miss Saigon*, *My One and Only*, *Shrek*, *Whorehouse*, *The Boynton Beach Club*, and the award-winning productions of *Sweeney Todd* and *Sunday in the Park with George*. She also was co-stage manager for *Something Rotten*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Company*, *How to Succeed*, *Pippin*, *I Do, I Do*, *Nunsense*, *Winter Wonderettes*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, *West Side Story*, and *Barnum*. Kristin has also co-directed/choreographed MPAC's productions of *The Will Rogers Follies* and *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. She has served as Set Designer for *The Music Man* and *Cinderella*, Projection Designer for *The Sound of Music*, and Lighting Designer for several Kiwanis Studio Theatre Productions, most recently *Steel Magnolias*. Kristin has enjoyed being a part of the crew working sound for several productions. Kristin graduated with Honors from the University of Florida with a degree in psychology and a minor in sociology. She worked for several years with at-risk youth in Manatee County. "Thank you for supporting live theatre!"

COSTUME RENTALS

Looking for the perfect Halloween costume?

Don't ghost around the big box stores- our Costume Shop has you covered! From creepy to



classic, our collection is packed with costumes and character pieces that are sure to make your Halloween unforgettable. Why settle for ordinary when you can step into something extraordinary?

Don't wait until the last minute! Our costumes fly off the racks faster than the blood hits the floor!

Call 941-748-5875 to book your appointment!

Author Bios



Steven Levenson

(Author) – Steven Levenson is a Tony Award-winning playwright, screenwriter, and television writer and producer, whose plays include *If I Forget*, *Core Values*, *Seven Minutes in Heaven*, and *The Language of Trees*. He wrote the book for the musical, *Dear Evan Hansen*, which won six Tony Awards, including Best Book and Best Musical, as well as the Olivier Award for Best New Musical. He received nominations for the Writers Guild

Award and the Humanitas Prize for his screenplay of *Tick, Tick...BOOM!*, which won an AFI Award as one of the top ten Movies of the Year, and was nominated for Golden Globe, Critics Choice Association, and Producers Guild Awards. He co-created and executive produced the Hulu original musical series, *Up Here*, and co-created and executive produced the FX limited series *Fosse/Verdon*, which was nominated for seventeen Emmy Awards, including Best Limited Series and Best Writing for a Limited Series, and the Golden Globe Award for Best Miniseries, in addition to winning the WGA Award and an AFI Award for Outstanding Series. Other honors include the OBIE Award, two Outer Critics Circle Awards, and the John Gassner Memorial Playwriting Award. An anthology of his work has been published by TCG. He is a graduate of Brown University and a member of the Dramatists Guild and Writers Guild of America.



Benj Pasek

(Music / Lyrics) – Benj Pasek and Justin Paul are Oscar, Grammy, Tony, Emmy, and Olivier Award-winning songwriters and producers. They are best known for their work on *La La Land*, *The Greatest Showman* and *Dear Evan Hansen*, each of which spawned albums that landed in the Top 10 on the Billboard 200, including multiple weeks at #1 for *The Greatest Showman*, which in 2018 was the world's best-selling album.

In 2024, they won their first Emmy Award as songwriters of *Only Murders in the Building* and, as a result, achieved EGOT status, joining a rarified list of artists who have won all four major showbiz prizes. Additional film and television credits include Apple's *Spirited*, Sony's *Lyle, Lyle Crocodile*, Disney's live-action *Aladdin* and *Snow White*, Dreamworks Animation's *Trolls*, Amazon's *Harlem*, Apple's *Dear Edward*, NBC's *Smash*, The CW's *The Flash*, Amazon's *Pink: All I Know So Far* (Grammy nomination), and FX's *Welcome to Wrexham*. Amongst their varied stage credits, they made their Broadway debut with the musical *A Christmas Story* (Tony nomination), further adapted into a live telecast for Fox (Emmy nomination); and won their second Tonys for co-producing Best Musical winner *A Strange Loop*. Pasek & Paul also co-founded Ampersand, a media production company through which they produce theatrical, immersive, film, television, and digital content, including the two-time Webby award-winning digital show *Celebrity Substitute*. Among their countless honors, they became the youngest winners ever of the Jonathan Larson Award and the first writers for stage or screen to be honored with the ASCAP Vanguard Award.

Author Bios Continued



Justin Paul

(*Music / Lyrics*) – Justin Paul and Benj Pasek are Oscar, Grammy, Tony, Emmy, and Olivier Award-winning songwriters and producers. They are best known for their work on *La La Land*, *The Greatest Showman* and *Dear Evan Hansen*, each of which spawned albums that landed in the Top 10 on the Billboard 200, including multiple weeks at #1 for *The Greatest Showman*, which in 2018 was the world's best-selling album.

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MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these musicals to provide official scripts, musical materials and dynamic theatrical resources to over 100,000 professional, community and school theatres in the US and in over 150 countries worldwide.

MTI is particularly dedicated to educational theatre, and has created special collections to meet the needs of various types of performers and audiences. MTI's Broadway Junior® shows are 30- and 60-minute musicals for performance by elementary and middle school-aged performers, while MTI's School Editions are musicals annotated for performance by high school students. Launched in May 2025, MTI's Broadway Senior™ musicals are geared and adapted for adult performers 55 and over.

MTI maintains its global headquarters in New York City with additional offices in London (MTI Europe) and Melbourne (MTI Australasia).

Dear Evan Hansen

Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.com

Director's Notes

Dear Evan Hansen,

It has been my pleasure to work closely with you over the past few months. You are a complex, deep, charming, yet flawed character.

When you expressed the metaphor of “Waving Through a Window”, I thought how that expression has changed through the years.

My grandparents would actually crack the curtains of their farmhouse and with a smile, say hello to neighbors with a gesture. I grew up chatting with my friends in the kitchen on an old aqua rotary telephone. Today kids live with a device in their pockets that can connect them to anyone, anywhere in the entire world. This device comes as a double edge sword. It can bring us connectivity and joy, but can also be a place where people can hide to spew hate. The most accessible tool on our planet can also make us feel the loneliest.

You have shown me the hardship of grief, the social pressures of peers, the difficulty of living up to expectations and how anxiety can affect the human mind.

Thank you, Evan, for teaching me empathy.

Sincerely,
Rick Kerby



Rick Kerby

UPCOMING SHOWS & CONCERTS



Almighty Queen: A Tribute to Queen

October 27, 2026 (2pm & 7pm)

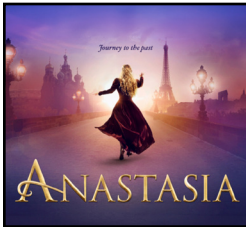
Experience the ultimate Queen tribute—soaring vocals, spectacular musicianship, and iconic rock energy collide onstage.



Old Time Sailors

November 27, 2026 (2pm & 7pm)

Experience centuries-old sea shanties like never before—sing, dance, and celebrate with Old Time Sailors!



Anastasia

December 3 - 13, 2026

Journey to the past with Anastasia—an enchanting musical of mystery, romance, adventure, and discovery.



Madagascar KIDS

December 12, 2026

Wild adventure, hilarious characters, upbeat music, and unforgettable fun make Madagascar KIDS a must-see experience!



The Nutcracker

December 22, 2026

Celebrate the season with The Nutcracker—stunning dancers, breathtaking music, and unforgettable holiday magic await.



The Da Vinci Code

January 14 - 24, 2027

Crack the clues, uncover secrets, and experience The Da Vinci Code's thrilling mystery live onstage.