

STAGE 62

# Forever Plaid



**MAY 15-16 & 22-23, 2021**

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# STAGE 62

PROUDLY PRESENTS

# Forever Plaid

Written and Originally Directed and Choreographed by  
STUART ROSS

Music and Lyrics by Various

Musical Continuity Supervision and Arrangements by  
JAMES RAITT

*Presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).*



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## CAST

Frankie.....RYAN HADBAVNY  
Jinx.....JEFF WAY  
Smudge.....JEREMY SPOLJARICK  
Sparky.....SHANE PUTOREK

## BAND

Piano.....JOY HESS  
Bass.....ALDO DIANNI  
Percussion.....KAMRAN MIAN

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....SETH LAIDLAW  
Music Director.....JOY HESS  
Choreographer.....CARA MCCLAINE  
Stage Manager.....LIZZ SCHNEIDER  
Producer.....JOYCE HINNEBUSCH  
Technical Director.....TUCKER TOPEL  
Sound Design.....SOUNDCOLOR PRODUCTIONS  
Costume Design.....MICHELLE NOWAKOWSKI  
Properties.....CHRIS MARTIN  
Voiceover.....ART DECONCILIIS  
Box Office Manager.....JULIE CHWAN  
House Manager.....AMY LASOTA  
Refreshment Manager.....DANÉ MARSHALL  
Graphic Design.....JOYCE HINNEBUSCH  
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## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

I have a confession – I was not born anywhere near the 1950s. When I first applied to direct *Forever Plaid*, I hesitated. How will I do it justice? What can I bring? It is a delicate process to care for a show full of references that evoke a deep sense of nostalgia. I started by doing my homework to ensure this would be a trip down memory lane for audience members. I hope to honor the diverse artists that are cleverly sprinkled throughout the show: Ames Brothers; Four Lads; Andrea Bocelli; Johnnie Ray; Tennessee Ernie Ford; Sam Cooke; Perry Como; Eddie Fisher; Harry Belafonte; Irving Louis Burgie; Four Acres; and others that you can't miss.

After my research, I focused on the humanity; the common threads to our stories that go beyond a particular era. To put it simply: *Forever Plaid* is a story about four friends whose plans were suddenly disrupted by an unthinkable tragedy. For one day, they get to come back and do the thing they love the most.

I mean – can't we all relate to that? This past year has been a series of disruptions to life as we know it. As you may recall, this production of *Forever Plaid* was to be produced a year ago at the Andrew Carnegie Free Library & Music Hall. The show was cast in February 2020, and the cast and production team have waited patiently for the opportunity to bring *Plaid* to the stage. Throughout our rehearsal process, we had to make adjustments to ease concerns about health and safety and to better reflect a more modern society. Our original plans may have been disrupted, but today we come back even more grateful for the opportunity to create live theater.

*Forever Plaid* is filled with humor and joy, and I know you will have so much fun falling in love with these characters and this music. I hope you laugh. I hope you remember. I hope you learn. But most of all, I hope you cherish this very moment. Because we never know what tomorrow holds.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeff Fisher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE CAST AND CREW OF  
**FOREVER PLAID**

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# MUSICAL NUMBERS

Deus ex Plaid  
Three Coins In The Fountain  
Gotta Be This Or That  
Undecided  
Moments To Remember  
Crazy 'Bout Ya Baby  
No Not Much  
Perfidia  
Cry  
Sixteen Tons/Chain Gang  
The Catering Drill/She Loves You  
The Golden Cardigan  
Catch A Falling Star  
Caribbean Plaid  
Heart and Soul  
Mercury  
Lady Of Spain  
Scotland The Brave  
Shangri-La/Rags To Riches  
Love Is A Many Splendored Thing

## DEDICATION

Forever Plaid is dedicated to the "good guys"; to the guys who wheeled the projector carts for the AV club; to the guys who saved their allowance to give their parents a special night on the town for their anniversary; to the guys who carried an extra handkerchief; to the guys who never went beyond first base, and if they did, they didn't tell anyone. We Salute You!

# STAGE 62

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## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

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**[WWW.STAGE62.ORG/SONGS-FROM-THE-STEPS](http://WWW.STAGE62.ORG/SONGS-FROM-THE-STEPS)**



## BIOGRAPHIES

**SETH LAIDLAW** (*Director*) is a Pittsburgh-based artist, arts administrator, educator, director, and producer. He currently serves as Senior Arts Education Program Manager at the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust and as President of Stage 62. Seth holds a Master of Arts Management from Carnegie Mellon University. He is passionate about audience and community engagement, and finding ways to connect with others through storytelling. Most of all, Seth is thrilled to be making theater again with this amazing cast and crew!

**JOY HESS** (*Music Director*) is always happy to be in black in the pit with her fellow musicians, who help bring the show to life. This is Joy's first production with Stage 62 and she can't wait to do it again! Some recent directing and acting ventures have been at Comtra Theatre, The Strand Theater, and Split Stage Productions. Favorite credits include: *Next to Normal*, *Side Show*, *Les Miserables*, *Children of Eden*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and *A Christmas Story: The Musical*. To fulfill her love of choral music, she sings with Voces Solis as often as she can. Joy is the owner of Outside the Lines Travel, a travel consulting and design agency that specializes in international travel. There is something special about every show, and the highlight of this production has been working in the great outdoors (thank you, Crafton Park!) with a terrific cast (who learned some difficult music in record time), and with Seth, Joyce, Cara, Lizz, and Jay. Thank you for welcoming me to the Stage 62 family and for being so great to work with. Love to the fam and pups!

**CARA MCCLAIN** (*Choreographer*) has been involved with Stage 62 for over 20 years! From stage crew to performing, styling wigs to running spotlight, directing to choreographing, Cara enjoys spending her time with Stage 62 in many capacities. Her favorite shows as a choreographer are: *Annie*, *Company*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Dora the Explorer LIVE!*, and *Dogfight*. Cara works as a hairstylist and makeup artist at Denham and Co. She would like to thank her pup, Rosie, and her husband, Seth, for being supportive while she was spending time working on this production.



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# BIOGRAPHIES

**LIZZ SCHNEIDER** (*Stage Manager*) has been with Stage 62 for the past year and a half doing stage crew, stage management, and sometimes helping with set construction. She grew up coming to Stage 62 shows to see numerous family members performing in productions. Lizz doesn't perform now, but she made her first appearance on the Stage 62 stage when she was 2 years old in a production of *Hansel and Gretel*. She took dance and theater classes when she was younger, but now Lizz has fun doing the behind-the-scenes "stuff." She has really enjoyed her time with Stage 62 over this past year, has made many friends, and enjoys everyone she gets to work with. Lizz hopes to be around the stage for many more years to come, as it now feels like her second home.

**JOYCE HINNEBUSCH** (*Producer*) is thrilled to be helping create live theater once again! This is her first time in the role of producer, and she's certainly learned a lot while testing out a wide variety of skills including budgeting, Taco Bell delivery, and of course, gardening. Joyce has served as Marketing Chair for Stage 62 for the past 5 years, and loves to participate onstage, having appeared in Stage 62's *Hairspray* (Prudy Pingleton), *Guys and Dolls* (General Cartwright), and more over the past 10 years (time flies!). Thank you to this fabulous cast and crew, especially to Seth for showing me the ropes of producing and to Jeff, for keeping Rudy's claws busy, and thank YOU for coming to watch our return to the stage!

**RYAN HADBAVNY** (*Frankie*) is on cloud nine to be back onstage creating theatre magic with this remarkable team! He was last seen at Stage 62 in *Guys & Dolls* (Sky Masterson) and in *Dogfight* (Ralphie Boland). Ryan has been performing on the stages of Westmoreland County for the past 20 years, appearing in shows at Split Stage Productions, Apple Hill Playhouse, and Greensburg Civic Theatre. His last two regional appearances were in *Titanic* (J. Bruce Ismay) and *Bonnie & Clyde* (Ted Hinton) at the Lamp Theatre in his hometown of Irwin, PA. He is the Communications Chair for Stage 62 and hosts the Stage 62 Podcast, spotlighting all the behind-the-scenes activity at 62! (Available on Spotify, Apple, and Soundcloud.) Ryan lives in Regent Square with his wife Autumn and two rescued miniature schnauzers, Chita and Armando. He'd like to thank his family and friends for their faithful support, this production team for giving their full Heart & Soul, and Autumn for her limitless love and inspiration.



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# BIOGRAPHIES

**SHANE PUTOREK** (*Sparky*) is thrilled to return to the stage with this talented cast. He has also played Leaf Coneybear in Stage 62's *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* in 2019. A native of Johnstown, Shane got his start performing at age 10 with country music legend Kenny Rogers as part of his Christmas from the Heart tour in 1995. When Shane is not on stage, he can be found playing PSL softball, Stonewall bocce, or on one of the many trails of Frick Park. Shane lives in the East End of Pittsburgh with his 6-year-old chiweenie, Lilly. He would like to dedicate his performance in this show to Teddy, Lillian, Lewis, Mary, Frank, Sophie, Josephine, John, and Ron. Hopefully they are all singing somewhere in a cherry red 1954 Mercury convertible. Thanks to the cast, crew, and volunteers who have made this event possible. Thanks to my friends and family for all their encouragement and support. Thanks to nurses, doctors, medical professionals, scientists, first responders, and everyone who has worked so hard over the past year to allow us to return to the stage.

**JEREMY SPOLJARICK** (*Smudge*) is excited to be back with Stage 62 in *Forever Plaid!* This is his second show with the group, having played Lancelot in *Spamalot*. Recent credits include: Roger in *A New Brain* (Front Porch Theatricals), Fred/Petruchio in *Kiss Me, Kate*, Julian in *42nd Street*, The Boatman/Charles in *Sunday in the Park with George* (Pittsburgh Playhouse), Chad in *All Shook Up*, Chuck in *Footloose* (Lamp Players), and Jesus in *Godspell* (Stage Right). Jeremy is a 2019 graduate of Point Park University with a BFA in Musical Theatre.

**JEFF WAY** (*Jinx*) is beyond excited to be back on stage after an involuntary hiatus, especially with Stage 62 and this excellent cast and crew! Previous Stage 62 performances include *Guys and Dolls* (Nicely Nicely Johnson), *Dogfight* (Lounge Singer), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Jesus), and more! Other recent performances include *A Little Night Music* (Fredrik), *American Idiot* (Johnny), and *Urinetown* (Bobby Strong). Special thanks to everyone involved in the creation of this production: my fellow Plaids, Crafton Borough, and the production team, including producer/roommate/co-cat-parent Joyce. This performance is dedicated to my loving family, to everyone who took the necessary precautions that enabled us all to enjoy live theatre again, and to all of those who are unfortunately unable to be with us today. We miss you, Nina!

# Proud to Support Stage 62 Theatre Company's Return to the Stage



Available for download at [stage62.org](http://stage62.org)!

## Take Home Tales

written by Becki Toth

music & lyrics by Cynthia Dougherty



May 15-23

## Forever Plaid

directed by Seth Laidlaw



June 20, July 18, August 15

## Songs from the Steps

directed by Rob James & Cara McClaine



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## 9 to 5

directed by Rob James

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## **VENUE INFORMATION**

Restrooms are located around the side of the building to your left when facing the stage. We ask that you take care to throw away all trash and concessions so that the park is clean for Crafton residents to use.

For the continued safety of guests attending the production, all patrons are required to wear face masks while moving about the designated outdoor auditorium area. Masks may be removed while you are seated and consuming food and beverage. If you are fully vaccinated, masks may be removed while you are seated and socially distanced from other guests.



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*In honor of Wanda Clay for the time she donated and enthusiasm she had for Stage 62.*

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Anthony Covelli ♦ Peter Greenberg ♦ Tasha Matthews ♦ Sharon A. McGrath

George Popichak

*In memory of Wanda Forsythe Clay.*

Rick & Cathy Speicher

*In memory of Mary Josephine Brown.*

Laura Watkins

*In loving memory of Mary Brown. You knew how to light up a room and will be greatly missed.*

---

## FRIEND

\$25-\$49

Sarah Hamilton ♦ Rob James ♦ Caroline Lascek ♦ Dennis Roddy

Lindsay Kovach

*In loving memory of Mary Brown, from her son's colleagues and friends.*

Nancy D. Zionts

*In honor of Leon Zionts and our love of Stage 62 Family.*

If your name has been omitted or misprinted, please accept our apologies and notify us at [info@stage62.org](mailto:info@stage62.org).



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