

We would like to thank the Houghton College
Administration for its faithful support
of the Greatbatch School of Music.

Shirley A. Mullen, President

Jack Connell, Provost and Dean of the Faculty

Vincent Morris, Vice President for Finance

**Greatbatch School of Music Faculty, Staff
and Administration**

*As a courtesy to the performers and your fellow audience
members, please be certain that all cell phones, watch
alarms and pagers are either turned off or set for silent
operation. Flash photography can be very disconcerting
to performers and is not permitted during the
performance. Thank you for your cooperation!*

**HOUGHTON
COLLEGE**

GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

HOUGHTON COLLEGE LYRIC THEATRE

PRESENTS THE SPRING 2018 PRODUCTION OF

RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S

— PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH R&H THEATRICALS, WWW.RNH.COM —

OKLAHOMA!

*"Oh, what a
beautiful mornin'!"*



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

We are so pleased to welcome you to our 2018 Houghton College Lyric Theatre production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* We cannot wait to share this performance with each of you, our audience.

Each time I begin work with a new cast in our Lyric Theatre productions, I am reminded anew of the truly outstanding caliber of students we have here at Houghton College. This is the largest cast I have worked with thus far, and it has been my joy and privilege to direct each one of them. They are simply delightful people, and I am honored and excited to share them with you tonight. I know that you will find them to be as talented, engaging and committed to excellence as I have. These students are hard-working and diligent, kind and compassionate, positive and professional. Most importantly, they are dedicated to using the gifts God has given them to His glory and the furtherance of his kingdom. Beyond that, they are incredibly fun and energizing to work with!

Oklahoma! is one of the most well-known and popular musicals in the musical theatre repertoire. Rodgers & Hammerstein's first collaboration remains, in many ways, their most innovative, having set the standards and established the rules of musical theatre still being followed today. Based on the play "Green Grow the Lilacs" by Lynn Riggs, *Oklahoma!* is set in the Oklahoma territory just after the turn of the 20th century. The high-spirited rivalry between the local farmers and cowboys provides a colorful background against which Curly, a handsome cowboy, and Laurey, a winsome farm girl, play out their love story. Meanwhile, charismatic cowboy Will Parker attempts to woo and win his flirtatious on-again-off-again fiancée, Ado Annie. Throw in a charming peddler man named Ali Hakim, a cantankerous but loving Aunt Eller, and a thriving community of vibrant characters, and there is rarely a dull moment in this here territory! Although the road to true love never runs smooth, with these headstrong romantics holding the reins, love's journey is as bumpy as a surrey ride down a country road. That they will succeed in making a new life together we have no doubt, and that this new life will begin in a brand-new state provides the ultimate climax to the triumphant **OKLAHOMA!**

Amanda Cox, Director

HOUGHTON COLLEGE

GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

PROUDLY PRESENTS

OKLAHOMA!



SYNOPSIS OF SCENES:

ACT ONE

Scene 1: The Front of Laurey and Aunt Eller's Farmhouse

Scene 2: The Smoke House

Scene 3: The Front of Laurey and Aunt Eller's Farmhouse

**There will be a fifteen-minute intermission between acts*

ACT TWO

Scene 1: The Skidmore Ranch

Scene 2: The Skidmore Ranch

Scene 3: The Front of Laurey and Aunt Eller's Farmhouse

CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE):

Aunt Eller – Kaleigh Kenney (Th/Sat); Angela Matson (Fri)

Curly – Daniel Bussey

Laurey – Kingsley Kolek (Th/Sat); Michaela Aliperti (Fri)

Ike Skidmore – Seth Pearson

Slim – Aaron Moore

Fred – Evan Logee

Will Parker – Ethan Bast

Cord Elam – Stephen VanValkenburg

Joe – Christian Tomford

Sam – Ransom Poythress

Jud Fry – Derek Chase

Ado Annie Carnes – Lauren Grifoni (Th/Sat); Natalie Kyvik (Fri)

Ali Hakim – Juwan Moore

Gertie Cummings – Hannah Messerschmidt

Judge Andrew Carnes – Ethan Carr

Ellen – Jenna Munro

Faye – Elizabeth Best

Virginia – Rachel Schaarschmidt

Vivienne – Mikayla LaForte

Kate – Bethany Overbaugh

Aggie – Jessica Mejia

Rebecca – Sarah Glick

Pearl – Naomi Tripp

Beatrice – Carolynne Waddington

Beth – Hannah Ferland

Susan – Tess Schilke

ORCHESTRA

Conductor – Armenio Suzano

Pianist & Rehearsal Accompanist – Elizabeth Liddick

Flute (doubling piccolo) – Alyssa Pyne

Oboe (double English Horn) – Marissa Perez

Clarinet 1 – Autumn Stone

Clarinet 2 (doubling bass clarinet) – Teresa Soley

Horn 1 – Jeffrey Hansen

Horn 2 – Jessica Gottschall

Trumpet 1 – Dakota Hirsch

Trumpet 2 – Eric Bernardin

Trombone 1 – Nathaniel Libby

Trombone 2 – Nathaniel Parks

Harp – Lillian Blakeslee

Percussion – Ian Riley

Violin 1 – Cassie Harrison, Madelyn Kruth, Elise Pereira, Sarah Madden

Violin 2 – Dillon Hirsch, Charissa Maleachi, Patricia Mele, Claudia Klink

Viola – Kira Browning, David Clem

Violoncello – Silas Philbrick, Micah McClatchey

Contrabass – Daniel Zambrano

PRODUCTION CREW

Director – Amanda Cox
Choreographer – Rebekah Brennan
Stage Manager – Liv Dobmeier
Assistant Stage Manager – Amy Nickelsen
Stage Crew – Corral Mrozik
Costume Mistress – Casey Conklin
Assistant in All Things – Lisbeth Poythress
Lighting Design – Hendrik de Smidt
Lighting Technician – Shelby Snow
Sound Technician – Anita Glenister
Assistant Sound Technician – Aubrey Wilkins
Set Design and Construction – Daryl Stevenson
Set Builders & Painters – Peter Mollenkof, James Rice, Tom Miner, Steven Anderson, David Kralt, Erin Lawrence
Set Movers – Bill Doezeema, Jon Arensen, Than Mehlenbacher, Jonathan Doezeema
Graduate Assistant, Tickets – Alessia Paolini
Production Assistant – Kierstyn Woody

PUBLICITY AND MATERIALS

Houghton College Marketing and Communication:
Jeff Babbitt, Meredith Guffey, Michelle Hillman, Amy Tetta, Chris Tetta

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Houghton Academy
Town Theatre of Short Tract
Houghton College Community Relations

CAST BIOS



MICHAELLA ALIPERTI (Laurey) is a junior Music Education and Spanish double major from Shoreham, New York. She has always had a passion for performing, but this will be her first time taking the stage for a musical theater production in three years! Some of her favorite roles include the Lady of the Lake in Monty Python's *Spamalot!* and Carrie Pipperidge in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel*. She is extremely excited and thankful for this opportunity to play Laurey Williams in *Oklahoma!* alongside some of her best friends, and she hopes you enjoy the show!



ETHAN BAST (Will Parker) is a freshman here at Houghton, majoring in music education. He comes from a small town called Belleville, where he lives with his father and mother and two of his three brothers. While this is Ethan's first production here at Houghton, he is no stranger to musical theatre. He has played a handful of roles over the years. His more major roles include The Minstrel in *Once Upon a Mattress*, Elliot in *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, Bert in *Mary Poppins*, Connor in *Working*, and Troy Bolton in *High School Musical*.



DANIEL BUSSEY (Curly) is a sophomore vocal performance major from England. He moved to Kenya when he was a year old and has lived there since. Dan is from a family of five boys, all of whom are soccer fanatics. He and his brother Andy play for the Houghton College Men's Soccer Team. Dan loves musical theatre and participated in several shows during high school. During his senior year, Dan had the opportunity to play Jean Valjean in *Les Misérables*. This is Dan's third production with Houghton College Lyric Theatre.



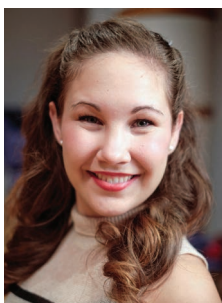
DEREK CHASE (Jud Fry) is a junior Music Performance major in Saxophone. While this is his first musical production in college, he has also played the Pirate King in *Pirates of Penzance* and Shrek in *Shrek the Musical*. He loves playing the villain and hopes you all leave just the right amount of frightened. He asks that peanut butter be thrown in lieu of roses. If you haven't had enough sass, follow his Instagram at @derkus77.



LAUREN GRIFONI (Ado Annie) is a junior double-majoring in Music and Equestrian Studies from West Newbury, Massachusetts. She has been riding her whole life and comes from a very musical family. Theater is one of Lauren's absolute favorite things, and she has a variety of musical theater experience including *Fiddler on the Roof*; *Aida*; *Godspell*; *Little Women the Musical*; *Phantom of the Opera*; *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*; and *The Telephone*. This is Lauren's fourth show at Houghton, and she is so excited to share this wonderful classic with you!



KALEIGH KENNEY (Aunt Eller) is a graduate student majoring in vocal performance from Hornell, New York. She got her B.M. in vocal performance from Cedarville University. Kaleigh has had a lifelong passion for music, dance and theatre. *Oklahoma!* is Kaleigh's sixteenth production overall and her first production with Houghton College Lyric Theater. Her recent performances include *The Music Man*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Così Fan Tutte*, and *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. She is ecstatic to have the opportunity to play Aunt Eller, and she hopes that *Oklahoma!* gives you all a good laugh!



KINGSLEY KOLEK (Laurey Williams) is a senior majoring in Music and Theology with a concentration in Youth Ministry from Springville, New York. Kingsley's most recent production roles include Lucy in Menotti's *The Telephone* and Whatsername in Green Day's *American Idiot the Musical*. Kingsley will be continuing her education at Houghton College in the fall where she will be pursuing her Masters in Vocal Performance. She is so excited to launch her career as performer, director and teacher. Enjoy *Oklahoma!*



NATALIE KYVIK (Ado Annie) is a sophomore Environmental Biology major from Monroe, New York. She has been involved in many musical theatre productions since elementary school, some of her favorites including *Pippin* and *Legally Blonde the Musical*, but this is her first time playing a lead role, which is very exciting for her. While music has always been one of her greatest passions in life, Natalie also has an incredible love for animals and the environment. After she graduates from Houghton, she hopes to advance her studies and eventually pursue a career in wildlife conservation.



ANGELA MATSON (Aunt Eller) is a Senior Music Education major from the little town of Berlin, New York. Angela has been in a few different musical productions including *Beauty and the Beast* as Mrs. Potts and *Phantom of the Opera* as a Ballet Girl. She is really excited to be Aunt Eller in Friday's production and hopes you enjoy the show!



JUWAN MOORE (Ali Hakim) is a sophomore Music Industry major from New Jersey. He enjoys making music, singing, rapping and making people laugh. Juwan has been in three musicals, *Oklahoma!* being his third. He fell into musicals by accident his junior year of high school. He was informed that they were having auditions for *Shrek The Musical* on the very last day. His teacher gave him a packet to practice for a couple hours, and then he auditioned for Donkey and got the part. He's loved musicals ever since. He also played Danny Zuko in *Grease* his senior year of high school. There's a slim chance you'll find him *not* bursting into song or dancing in public, because the joy of the Lord is his strength, and he strives to share it with everyone.

