



THE WIZ



Book by
WILLIAM F. BROWN

From the story
"The Wonderful Wizard of Oz"
by L. FRANK BAUM

Music and Lyrics by
CHARLIE SMALLS

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FEATURED GUESTS



2024 Grammy Nominee

STANLEY BROWN - MUSIC DIRECTOR

Stanley Brown is a legendary and award winning musical renaissance man. With an illustrious career spanning over 30 years, he has left an indelible mark on the world of music. Hailing from Brooklyn, New York, Brown's musical journey has taken him from music creative to music executive. Working with acts like Run-DMC, LL Cool J, Bell Biv Devoe, Dru Hill, Israel Houghton, Donnie McClurkin, Karen Clark Sheard, TD Jakes, and John P Kee among many others. Brown was the co-founder and musical director of Hezekiah Walker's Grammy award winning Love Fellowship Crusade Choir. He has also served as MD for artist like Melanie Fiona, Michelle Williams (of Destiny's Child), Bebe Winans, and BET's reality show Sunday Best. In 2000 Stanley launched his own company Timeless Music Group (TMG). With a commitment to pushing artistic boundaries and a sincere dedication to the transformative power of music, Brown continues to enrich the world with his sound. In every note played and every melody woven, Stanley Brown radiates a profound sense of purpose and unwavering faith. His music is more than just a composition; it's a vessel that carries the many emotions of the human experience.



HARLAN PENN - SCENIC DESIGNER

Harlan D. Penn is a proud graduate of Florida A&M University and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. The South Florida native has designed for Off-Broadway, Off-Off Broadway, cable television, regional theatre, and educational theatre. In addition, Penn has served as an Art Director and Assistant Art Director for film and television productions for NETLIX, HULU, ABC/DISNEY, NBC, HALLMARK MOVIE CHANNEL, CBS and TURNER BROADCASTING. Mr. Penn has served as assistant scenic designer to Scenic Designer Felix E. Cochren on productions at The McCarter Theatre, Geva Theatre, Syracuse Stage, The Goodman Theatre, Virginia Stage Company, and The Cleveland Playhouse. Mr. Penn is also a proud member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and IASTE/United Scenic Artist Local 829 in the scenic design and Scenic Art category. In addition, Harlan made his operatic design debut with the Lyric Opera of Chicago's world premiere production of FACTOTUM (hip-hop opera) in January 2023. Mr. Penn is currently an Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at York College in Jamaica, Queens, New York.



PATRICK SHORTS & LU PRAISE - CHOIR

LU Praise is a group of dynamic musicians dedicated to glorifying God through testimony, song, and worship. Members come to Liberty University from across the United States and other nations as a community of worshipers dedicated to spreading the Gospel through music. LU Praise is a multi-ethnic gospel choir devoted to leading God's people in genuine, heartfelt worship. The team uses ethnic and musical diversity to proclaim the Gospel through song, the Word of God, testimony, and service.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer	Linda Cooper
Program Director of Production	Andy Geffken
Production Manager	Dana White, Jr.
Promotions & Theater Manager	Kelli Doby
Resident Designer	Mark Howieson
Technical Director - Scenic	Michael Perkins
Asst. Technical Director - Scenic	Matt Phillips
Asst. Technical Director - Properties Manager	Nathan Klein
Scene Shop Supervisor	Michael Wrape
Master Fabricator/Designer	Daniel Hayden
Technical Director - Lights & Sound	April McWilliams
Asst. Technical Director - Lights	Zane Cooper
Scenic Charge	Sarah Augustin
Sound Designer & Engineer	Greg Vinson
Technical Director - Costumes	Lynne Forth
Asst. Technical Director - Costumes	Tatiana Parada
Costume Shop Manager & Asst. Costume Designer	Salem Watson
Director of Administrative Operations	Jill Acosta
Administrative Assistant	Robyn Austin
Media Specialist & Graphic Designer	Matt Owen
Department Accompanist	Micah Pick

WIZ CREATIVE TEAM

Director	Andy Geffken
Choreographer	Aubri Siebert
Music Director	Stanley Brown
Associate Music Director	Dr. Zachary Bruno
Choir Director	Patrick Shorts
Scenic Designer	Harlan Penn
Lighting Designer	Barry Gawinski
Costume Designer	Lynne Forth
Technical Director	Michael Perkins
Sound Designer	Greg Vinson

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CREW

Production Stage Manager	Brooke Spencer
Assistant Stage Manager	Becky Ernst
Assistant Stage Manager	John Wuest
Props Assistant	Jooye Kim
Props Assistant	Bethany Duff
Wardrobe Manager	Keighley Yarboro
Wardrobe Assistant	Daniel Arce
Wardrobe Assistant	Kathryn Keefe
Wardrobe Assistant	Monica Leon-York
Hair Stylist	Kimberly Brown
Hair Assistant	Chloe Terry
Makeup Artist	Olivia Reese
Deck Chief	Ben Wall
Programmer	Paige Wilson
Lightboard and Lighting Design Apprentice	Gianna Gould
Sound Assistant	Melody Wimberly
Running Crew	Jacob Hodges
Running Crew	Jesse Wilkerson
Rigging	Tatum Mahon
Spot Operator	Grace Eason
Spot Operator	Brenna Kay
Scenic Artist	Megan Kolegue
Scenic Paint Assist	Rachel Thompson
Scenic Paint Assist	Callie Hubing
Dog Wrangler	Angel Göbel

ORCHESTRA

Conductor	Dr. Zachary Bruno
Violin	Miriam Thompson, Hannah O'Berry
Cello	Jonathan Blake
Woodwinds	Kenna Provence, Cole Johnson, Aliza Nogueras, Caroline Harper, Zach Kneeland
Trumpet	Joseph Taylor, Zak Bonham, Emily Carroll
Horn	David Toothman
Trombone	Arica Poorman, Thomas Roder
Keyboards	Chris Tirado, Patrick Shorts
Drums	Nate Gilmore
Bass	Eric Hollandsworth
Guitar	Matthew Petralia
Percussion	Xavier Garland, Joshua Davis
Rehearsal Pianist	Micah Pick

CHOIR

Isabella Botero	Jairus Mullen
Eriance Couamin	Monti Nash
Aunalyse Darby	Amarachi Nnandozie
Tamara Dhaity	Levi Penrod
Savanna Geiger	Charnay Sampson
Jaydon Hanna	Jada Smith
Lexi Hart	Faith Stepney
Jalin James	Chris Tshiteya
Destinee Lee	Madi Vargo
Martia McDaniel	Joshua Ward

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

Overture	Orchestra
The Feeling We Once Had	Aunt Em
Tornado	Tornado Dancers
He's the Wiz	Addaperle, Munchkins
Soon as I Get Home	Dorothy
Born on the Day Before Yesterday	Scarecrow, Crows, Yellow Brick Road
Ease on Down the Road #1	Dorothy, Scarecrow, Yellow Brick Road
Slide Some Oil to Me	Tin Man
Ease on Down the Road #2	Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Yellow Brick Road
Mean Ole Lion	Lion
Ease on Down the Road #3	Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, Yellow Brick Road
Kalidah Battle	Friends, Kalidah, Yellow Brick Road
Be a Lion	Dorothy, Lion
Poppies	Poppies, Lion
Emerald City Dance	Friends, Citizens
Meet the Wizard	The Wiz
What Would I Do if I Could Feel	Tin Man

There will be a 15-minute intermission

ACT 2

Entr'acte	Orchestra
Don't Nobody Bring Me No Bad News	Evillene, Winkies
Funky Monkey	Winged Monkeys, Friends
Everybody Rejoice	Friends, Winkies
Who Do You Think You Are	Friends
Believe In Yourself	The Wiz
Y'all Got It	The Wiz, Citizens, Friends
A Rested Body	Glinda
Believe In Yourself (Reprise)	Glinda
Finale (Home)	Dorothy



TRINITY WOOD // DOROTHY GALE

Orlando, FL
Credit: A Christmas Story: The Musical, Writes of Spring, EAT! It's Not About Food, Tales of a 4th Grade Nothing (Orlando Repertory Theatre); The Music Man (Alluvion Stage Company) Film Credit: Mother Goose Club
BFA in Acting, Liberty University, Currently Enrolled



JOSH THOMAS // SCARECROW

Sterling, VA
Credits: A Christmas Carol, Fiddler on the Roof, The Music Man (Alluvion Stage Company)
BFA in Musical Theatre, Liberty University, Currently Enrolled



ARMON DAVIS // TIN MAN & DANCE CAPTAIN

Suffolk, VA
Credits: Fiddler on the Roof, A Christmas Carol (Alluvion Stage Company); Matilda (Virginia Stage Company)
BFA in Acting, Liberty University, Currently Enrolled



JUSTIN JACKSON // LION

Addis, LA
Credits: The Music Man (Alluvion Stage Company)
BFA in Musical Theatre, Liberty University, Currently Enrolled



JOEL ASHUR // THE WIZ

Washington, DC
Credits: Sister Act, Little Mermaid (Alluvion Stage Company), Samson (Sight and Sound), Sister Act (North Carolina Theatre)



NIRVA READY // GLINDA & AUNT EM

Lynchburg, VA
Professional Debut
B.A., Fisk University; M.Ed. Liberty University



LIBBY JEFFERSON // ADDAPERLE

Forest, VA

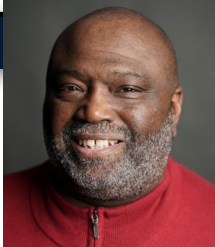
Credit: Ain't Misbehavin, Ragtime (Academy Center of the Arts), Nunsense (Commerce Street Theatre), Buried Deep, Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story (Endstation Theatre Company), Candle Light Tours (Old City Cemetery)
B.A. in Drama and African & African American Studies, University of Virginia



TEMIKA YOUNGER // EVILLENE

Lynchburg, VA

Credits: Seussical the Musical (University of Lynchburg), Sunday Morning the Stage Play (Daniel Barksdale Productions), Seven Guitars (Charlottesville Players Guild), Sister Act (Renaissance Theater), Color Me Beautiful, An American Odyssey (Building Bridges Productions)
MSN, Nurse Educator, University of Lynchburg



DARYL DUFF // LEAD MONKEY & ENSEMBLE

Lynchburg, VA

Credits: Chief Musician U.S. Navy Band Sea Chanters (Ret) 1990-2013, Fiddler on the Roof (Alluvion Stage Company)
B.M.Ed. Vocal Music, University of Central Missouri; M.A. in Music and Worship-Commercial Music Performance, Liberty University; PhD. Christian Worship (ABD)



DELBERT JONES // UNCLE HENRY & ENSEMBLE

Washington, DC

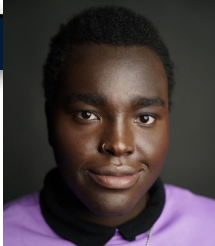
Credits: The Streets Can't Have My Son (Touring Cast), Mama, I Want to Sing (Off-Broadway), Final Departure (Broadway) Film Credits: Snoop's, Homicide NBC
B.A. in Theatre, Liberty University



STEPHEN SHELTER // GATEKEEPER & MESSENGER & ENSEMBLE

Lynchburg, VA

Credits: Rock of Ages, Jekyll & Hyde, Clue: On Stage, Xanadu, Young Frankenstein (Wolfbane Productions)
B.A. in Theatre Performance, Liberty University



LUCAS DISHONG // LORD HIGH UNDERLING & ENSEMBLE

Virginia Beach, VA

Professional Debut

B.M. in Commercial Music, Liberty University (Currently Enrolled)



KEELAN BURNS // FIRST MOUSE & ENSEMBLE

Lynchburg, VA
Credit: Buried Deep (Endstaion Theatre Company), Puffs (InTuition Group)
B.A. in Digital Media and Graphic Design



TY DAVIS // ENSEMBLE

Hampton, VA
Professional Debut
B.S. in Youth Ministry, Liberty University (Currently Enrolled)



JORDAN MOSER // ENSEMBLE

Lynchburg, VA
Professional Debut
B.A. in Communication, George Mason University



AMENA BROWN // ENSEMBLE & DANCE CAPTAIN

Martinsburg, WV
Professional Debut
BFA in Musical Theatre, Liberty University (Currently Enrolled)



DANIE ETIENNE // ENSEMBLE

Lynchburg, VA
Professional Debut
B.A. in Dance, University of Florida; B.S. in Psychology, University of Florida; MFA in Choreography and Performance (Dance), Florida State University



SHANIA THORPE // ENSEMBLE

Lynchburg, VA
Credits: In the Heights, The Little Mermaid, Hairspray (Masterworx), Tarzan (Academy Center of the Arts)
B.S. in Strategic Communications, Liberty University; MBA with a Concentration in Leadership, Averett University



SHALIAH PEEPLES // ENSEMBLE

Youngstown, OH

Credits: Nutcracker, Spring Gala, The Wizard of Oz, Sleeping Beauty (Ballet Western Reserve)

B.S. in Family and Child Development, Liberty University (Currently Enrolled)



MELE THOMPSON // ENSEMBLE

Lynchburg, VA

Professional Debut



MAIA ANDERSON // ENSEMBLE

Hayward, CA

Credits: Parade (Alluvion Stage Company)

B.A. in Theatre Performance, Liberty University



BECKY TILLMAN // ENSEMBLE

Waldorf, MD

Credits: Fiddler n the Roof, The Music Man (Alluvion Stage Company)

BFA in Acting, Liberty University (Currently Enrolled)



NYEMAH WEST // ENSEMBLE

Middletown, CT

Professional Debut

B.S. in Psychology, Liberty University (Currently Enrolled)



TEQUILA // TOTO

Lynchburg, VA

Professional Debut

BFD (Bachelor's in Fine DOGS), 2024

THE TOWER CLUB

Thank you to our Tower Club families who joined us for a wonderful inaugural year. The opportunity to join this mission for the 2024-2025 Theatre Season is now open.

The mission of The Tower Club is to develop scholarships to assist any Christ-following young artist who wants to study theatre at Liberty University. Many thanks for your continued support! We are looking for donors to join us in our second year to continue to train champions for Christ in the world of the arts. As a supporter of the Tower Club, you will not only impact our students with their education at Liberty, but we trust this will have an effect for years to come. Scan the QR code to see benefits and additional details.

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“Our Tower Club membership has been one of the most satisfying elements of our time on Liberty Mountain. The Lord has a way of attracting the highest caliber of student talent to this campus, and Tower Club members play a significant role in helping these students live God’s dream for their lives. We love the opportunity to watch these professional-level performers glorify God on stage, but the added joy of providing resources to equip them for their craft is a priceless benefit we would not want to miss.”

-Dondi & Vickey Costin
President and First Lady, Liberty University



“It’s a privilege to encourage the next generation of Christian storytellers. We should pray for Christ followers to be sent into the world of entertainment, and the Tower Club is a great way to support these rising stage performers as they follow God’s calling on their lives!”

-Timmy Williamson
2014 Theatre Arts Department Alumnus



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Over the last 15 years Liberty's Theatre Arts Department has welcomed close to a thousand high school students to its Theatre Uncut summer camp program. This camp experience has introduced our department to wonderful talent from across the nation and has led many young people to choose Liberty as their university of choice. The three campers highlighted represent a small sample of a much larger impact that the camps have had on our department and university. If you know of a high school student looking for a challenging and Christ-centered theatre, dance, or film camp experience, please join us this summer.



Lauren Kost
BFA in Acting

"Uncut allowed me the wonderful opportunity of becoming familiar with the Liberty Theatre Department before attending school here."



Scotty Sharpe
BFA in Acting

"During my time at camp, I dove deeper into the world of theatre arts more than I ever had before, all the while surrounded by fellow Christians."



Ben Wall
BFA in Acting

"Theatre Uncut was an extremely beneficial nine days where master performers nurtured my performance, real Liberty professors connected with me, and lifelong friends were made."

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