

The Barn Players Present...

# FIRST DATE

Adaptation written by Austin Winsberg

Music and Lyrics by Alan Zachary and Michael Weiner

**August 19-28, 2022**

The Black Box Theatre at The Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center, Overland Park, KS

**Directed by Jason Coats**

**Musical Direction by Todd Gregory-Gibbs**

**Stage Manager**  
**Stephanie Laaker**

**Choreographer**  
**Heather Foose**

**Properties Designer**  
**Jessica Johnson**

**Lighting Designer**  
**Zach Dulny**

**Sound Designer**  
**Sean Leistico**

**Set Design**  
**Grant Martin**

**Costume Designer**  
**Sarah Jeter**

## **Orchestra:**

**Keyboard 1 – Todd Gregory-Gibbs**

**Reeds – Kaytee Dietrich**

**Keyboard 2 – Deana Wagoner**

**Bass – Paige Ely**

**Guitar 1 – Jay Kennel**

**Drums – John Gilmore**

**Guitar 2 – Bill Wood**

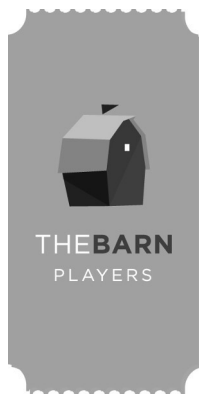
## **Special Thanks:**

**Bill Wright, JCCC Theatre Department, Chase Reeves,  
Miles Cohen, Louisa Mills, Elaine Gaste, Jared Smith,  
Michelle McIntire, Matthew Bergland, Joshua Finch,  
Rylan Marincovich**

*First Date*

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# ARTS

Additional rehearsal facilities provided by **Prairie Baptist Church, 75<sup>th</sup> and Roe.**

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## Musical Numbers

The One.....	Company
First Impressions.....	Aaron and Casey
Bailout Song #1.....	Reggie
The Girl for You.....	Company
The Awkward Pause.....	Company
Allison's Theme #1.....	Allison
The World Wide Web Is Forever.....	Company
Can't Help But Love Me (Slow Jam).....	Bad Boys
Bailout Song #2.....	Reggie
Safer.....	Casey
I'd Order Love.....	Waiter
Allison's Theme #2.....	Aaron
The Things I Never Said.....	Aaron and Aaron's Mother
Bailout Song #3.....	Reggie
In Love With You.....	Aaron
The Check!.....	Company
Something That Will Last.....	Casey, Aaron and Company
First Impressions (Reprise).....	Waiter and Reggie
Something That Will Last.....	Casey, Aaron and Company

## CAST

MAN 1 - Carson Tate

WOMAN 1 - Nancy Kruse

MAN 2 - Trevor Thoelke

WOMAN 2 - Miranda Brand

WAITER/MAN 3 - Scott Kruse

AARON - Sean Carder

CASEY - Ashton Botts

# About The Authors



**Alan Zachary** co-wrote songs for Broadway's romantic comedy musical *First Date*, which opened at the Longacre Theatre on Broadway after selling out its run at Seattle's 5th Ave/ACT Theatres. Zachary (with co-writer Michael Weiner) recently also wrote songs based on material by J.K. Rowling for Celestina Warbeck & the Banshees, a musical show at the Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal Studios in Orlando. Currently, he is co-writing the score for an upcoming Broadway musical adaptation of the film *Secondhand Lions* (Book: Rupert Holmes / Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures), which had its world premiere at Seattle's 5th Ave Theatre. As a frequent songwriter for Disney, Zachary co-authored book, music and lyrics for the hit original stage musical *Twice Charmed* (soundtrack on Walt Disney Records) and has written songs and developed

projects for Disney Animation, Disney Channel and theme parks around the globe. Other credits include: music and lyrics for DreamWorks' *The Time Machine*, the Folger's Coffee hit viral commercial Happy Morning, and projects for ABC, Amazon Studios, Paramount, Universal, VH1, Hanna-Barbera and 20th Century Fox. Zachary is a graduate of Amherst College and is the recipient of the 2012 ASCAP Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award. [www.zacharyandweiner.com](http://www.zacharyandweiner.com)



**Michael Weiner** co-wrote music and lyrics for the Broadway musical *First Date*, which ran at the Longacre Theatre in New York starring Zachary Levi (Disney's *Tangled*, TV's *Chuck*) after a sold-out run at Seattle's 5th Avenue/ACT Theatres. The romantic comedy musical has now been produced in over 50 cities around the world including: Tokyo, Buenos Aires, Mexico City, Melbourne, Jerusalem, Rome and more. Michael co-wrote the score for a Broadway musical adaptation of the film *Secondhand Lions* (book by Rupert Holmes/produced by Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures) which premiered at the 5th Avenue Theatre. Liberty Smith, for which Michael composed the music, enjoyed a successful run at historic Ford's Theatre in Washington D.C. Recently, Michael wrote original songs for the hottest musical act in the Wizarding World of Harry Potter, Celestina Warbeck & the Banshees, based on a character by J.K. Rowling. He has developed TV projects for ABC, FOX, Disney Channel and

Nickelodeon and has created shows and songs for Disney Animation, Disney Cruise Line, and Disney Parks around the globe. Upcoming stage musicals include: an adaptation of the hit film *17 Again* (directed by Adam Shankman/Warner Bros. Theatre Ventures), *Galileo* (book by Emmy-Winning writer Danny Strong) and *13 Going on 30* (directed by Andy Fickman). Michael is the 2012 recipient of the ASCAP Richard Rodgers New Horizons Award.

**Austin Winsberg** is the book writer of the Broadway musical *First Date*, which enjoyed a sold-out run at Seattle's 5th Ave/ACT Theatres in 2012, prior to opening at the Longacre Theatre on Broadway in August 2013. Austin is primarily a writer/producer for film and television. He recently adapted the live *The Sound of Music* television event, starring Carrie Underwood, for NBC. His other television credits include *Gossip Girl*, *Jake in Progress* (Creator/Executive Producer and youngest showrunner in ABC history), *Wedding Album*, *Still Standing* and *Glory Days*. Winsberg has written numerous television pilots for ABC, NBC, CBS, Fox, Showtime and ABC Family. He has also written movies for New Line, Dreamworks Animation and Warner Bros. Winsberg graduated with a Theater Arts degree from Brown University. He continues to work in theater, directing and mentoring plays for the Blank Theater Company's Annual Young Playwright's Festival in Los Angeles.



**Ashton Botts (Casey)** is honored to make her Barn performance debut with *FIRST DATE!* Ashton directed *THE LARAMIE PROJECT* with The Barn in 2021, for which she received a Best Director Award from Broadway World. She also directed *THE CURIOUS SAVAGE* at OCTA in June. Favorite past performances include *BRIGHT STAR* (Alice Murphy), *THE DROWSY CHAPERONE* (Janet Van de Graaf), and *ANYTHING GOES* (Hope Harcourt). You can

see her on stage this fall in *SEX WITH STRANGERS* (Smet Theatrics) and *IS THERE LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?* (The Chestnut). Thanks to the cast and crew, and to Austin for his support.



**Miranda Brand (Allison/Woman 2)** is so excited to finally get to be a part of one of her all time favorite shows! This is her 3rd show with the Barn Players; you may have last seen her in *Putting it Together* as Woman 2, or as April in *Company*. In her free time she hosts a paranormal podcast with her sister called I'll Tell You What... A Spooky Podcast. Miranda wants to thank her loving Boyfriend Josh & Her Family for always being so supportive of her. Find her @MirandaBrand on social media!



**Sean Carder (Aaron)** is excited to return to the stage for the first time in three years. He is simply amazed at the talent of every actor he is working with and takes so much pride in getting the privilege of working with them. Sean would like to thank everyone who supports his musical endeavors and wishes for many more wonderful opportunities in the future!



**Nancy Kruse (Lauren/Woman 1)** is delighted to be back on stage with the Barn. She spends her days as a Readiness Project Manager at Dealer.com. Most recently seen as Eve/Mama Noah in *Children of Eden* at OCTA, favorite theatre credits include Charity in *Sweet Charity*, Baroness in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, and Caroline in *Titanic the Musical*. Nancy would like to thank her family and husband Scott, for their love and support! Also, a big thank you to Jason, Todd, and the whole *First Date* production team for this

great experience. Hope you enjoy the show!



**Scott Kruse (Waiter/Man 3)** is extremely excited to be back on the Barn stage! IT professional by day, he was most recently seen as Sweeney Todd in STG's production of *Sweeney Todd* and will be back at the Barn in the upcoming production of *Next to Normal* as Dr. Madden/Dr.Fine. Scott would like to thank his family and wonderful wife, Nancy (Woman 1), for their constant love and support. He would also like to thank this wonderful cast and creative team for making this such an amazing experience. Welcome back to

live theatre and enjoy the show!



**Carson Tate (Gabe/Man 1)** is thrilled to be returning for his third show at The Barn Players! He has been in several shows around the Kansas City area and is always excited to meet new people. Previous acting credits include *Something Rotten* (Nick Bottom) and *Curtains* (Aaron Fox) with TTIP, *Carousel* (Ensemble) with Musical Theatre Heritage, and *The Spongebob Musical* (Cover) with The Coterie. Carson would like to thank his friends and family for their continued support and encouragement.



**Trevor Thoele (Reggie/Man 2)** has been involved in musical theatre since 2001, when he was only 4 years old. During his high school career, he portrayed Sky Masterson in *Guys & Dolls*, Motel Kamzoil in *Fiddler On the Roof*, and Seymour Krelborn in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Trevor portrayed the role of The Baker in *Into The Woods* at KCKCC in 2019. Trevor's previous show was in 2020, portraying the role of Frederick Fleet in *Titanic: The Musical* with The Barn Players.

After a two year break, he is thrilled to be in *First Date* as his first show back in the community.

# The Orchestra



Left to Right:

Paige Ely (Bass)  
Jay Kennel (Guitar)  
Kaytee Dietrich (Reeds)  
Bill Wood (Guitar)  
John Gilmore (Drums)  
Deana Wagoner (Keyboard)  
Todd Gregory-Gibbs (Keyboard, Conductor)

Not Pictured:

Ron Mundt (Reeds, second weekend)

COMING IN OCTOBER  
FROM THE BARN PLAYERS



# Next to Normal

DIRECTED BY  
**Tiffany Schweigert**

MUSICAL DIRECTION BY  
**Delano Mendoza**

RATED PG-13

MUSIC BY TOM KATT

LYRICS & BOOK BY BRIAN YORKEY

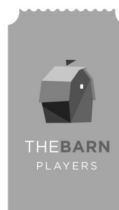
WEEK 1: FRIDAY, SATURDAY & MONDAY @7:30PM / SUNDAY @2PM  
WEEK 2: THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY @7:30PM / SUNDAY @2PM

**October  
21-30**

THE BLACK BOX THEATRE  
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8788 Metcalf Ave. Overland Park, KS

  [thebarnplayers.org](http://thebarnplayers.org)

General Admission - \$20  
Seniors (65+) - \$18  
Students (with ID) - \$15  
Groups (10+) - \$15



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