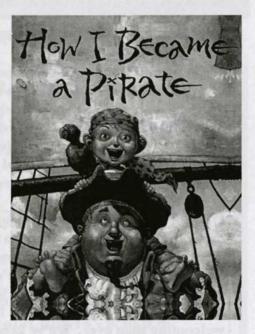
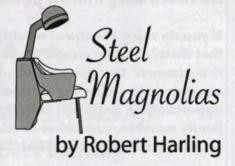
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June 22 - July 14, 2012 W.M. Turner Auditorium



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## A Letter from the Producing Artistic Director

Thank you for making your escape with us.

We hope you'll agree that a summer show is not only a "cool escape" from the heat, but also a friendly, relaxed and fun escape from the everyday. Whether you're voyaging out to experience the pirate life with young Jeremy Jacob or making an equally magical trip just across the Louisiana border to get a hairstyle touched up and a heartstring touched, please settle back and relax.

We want you to feel free to come as you are. Those that enjoy the festivity of dressing up for a night out at the theatre are welcome to do so, but you're also welcome to come in shorts and a t-shirt, or whatever's comfortable.

We've spruced the place up and hope you find it more welcoming than ever. We've kept our ticket prices as affordable as we can, so for less than \$25 a couple can have a laugh (and maybe shed a tear) together, or a family of four can rollick along with our pirate crew.

If you do enjoy the show, would you help us spread the word that there's a "cool escape" to be had in Turner Auditorium this summer? Our posters and ads and announcements compete with a dizzying array of products and opportunities, so there's nothing like having a neighbor or family member, co-worker or friend say, "Have you heard about summer theatre at SFA? You've just got to see it!"

We'd be grateful for your help. And again, we appreciate you joining us and hope you love the show as much as we love seeing you here.

Scott Shattuck Director, SFA School of Theatre

# SFA SCHOOL OF THEATRE and the COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS present

June 22 - July 14, 2012 W. M. Turner Auditorium

# **HOW I BECAME A PIRATE**

Book, Music and Lyrics by Janet Yates Vogt & Mark Friedman June 22, 23, 30 and July 14 - 6:30 p.m.

July 1, 3 - 2:00 p.m. July 12, 13 - 10:00 a.m.

\* \* \*

# STEEL MAGNOLIAS

By Robert Harling

June 28, 29 and July 6, 7, 10 - 7:30 p.m. July 5, 8 - 2:00 p.m.

## **HOW I BECAME A PIRATE**

# by Janet Yates Vogt and Mark Friedman

#### CAST

JEREMY JACOBS MAI LÊ\*

BRAID BEARD KURT BILANOSKI

SHARKTOOTH JONATHAN GARCIA\*

SWILL JENNIFER SUTER\*

PIERRE VANESSA HENDRICKS

MAX NICK PINELLI

SEYMOUR BRAUNSCHWAGGER NNAMDI NWANKWO

SCURVY DOG ANA'LEESE PROVAU

#### **PIRATE CHORUS:**

HEATHER ABBOTT, JENNIFER BRAND, AUSTIN DAVIS, CHRISTOPHER DAWSON, MOLLY DYER, CADIE HORNE, DANIEL MILLER

Based on the book <u>How I Became a Pirate</u> written by Melinda Long and Illustrations by David Shannon.

Performed by arrangement with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt and The Sandra Dijkstra Literary Agency.

"How I Became a Pirate" received its world premiere at First Stage Children's Theatre, Milwaukee, WI.

## **Special Thanks:**

Nicholas Bacarisse for bringing the book to the director's attention; Juanita Finkenburg, Nita Hudson, Benny Jo May, the American Academy of Dramatic Arts.

# STEEL MAGNOLIAS by Robert Harling

CAST in order of appearance

TRUVY JENNIFER BUSH

ANNELLE COURTNEY COLE

CLAIREE VALARIE McLECKIE

SHELBY KATY RUTHERFORD

M'LYNN CORINNE SHADY

OUSIER LINDSAY LOVE\*

Act One takes place in the Spring and Winter of 1983. Act Two takes place in the Summer and Fall of 1985.

The location is Chinquapin Parish, Louisiana.

There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.

Originally produced by the W.P.A. Theatre, New York City, 1987. (Kyle Renick, Artistic Director)

Hair coloring by Shine Salon.

#### **Special Thanks:**

Barbara Bailey (tournatchitocheswithbarbara.com); Wayne and Jean Doss; Robert Harling, Sr; Joyce Magner/ Kilgore College Longview Campus Cosmetology Department; Brad Maule (Voice of KPPD); Kelly Morris; Brenda Morris; Vicky and Ed Womack; Steel Magnolia Beauty Salon of Livingston, TX

# 2012 Summer Repertory Company

Heather Abbott Kurt Bilanoski **Ashley Black** Jennifer Brand **Ronda Burnette Iennifer Bush Brian Butler\* Courtney Cole Austin Davis Christopher Dawson** Tony DiBernardo Molly Dyer **Tory Kay Fields** Jonathan Garcia\* Kenneth Hall William Haynes Vanessa Hendricks

Cadie Horne Nicole Kapalski Mai Lê\* **Lindsay Love\*** Valarie McLeckie Daniel Miller **Darius Michael Moore** Nnamdi Nwankwo Carolynn Ohlenburger Nick Pinelli Ana'Leese Provau **Katy Rutherford** Melissa Santana Corinne Shady Jennifer Sims\* **Jessica Smith Jennifer Suter\*** Amanda Warren

## ED & GWEN COLE LEADERSHIP APPRENTICES: Tory Kay Fields, Jonathan Garcia, Mai Lê, Jennifer Suter

### SUMMER REPERTORY STAFF AND CREW

Producing Artistic Director	Scott Shattuck
Technical Director	
Assistant Technical Director	Steve Bacarisse
Production Stage Manager	Jennifer Sims*
Costume Shop Supervisor	
Properties Coordinator	
Administrative Assistant	
Vocal and Dialect Coach	Toni Smith
Assistant Scenic Designer	Ashley Black
Assistant Scenic Designer	Tony DiBernardo
Scenic Artists	Ashley Black, Tony DiBernardo,
	ole Kapalski, Ana'Leese Provau

Special Thanks to Jason Monmaney

# 2012 Summer Repertory Production Staff

## HOW I BECAME A PIRATE

Director / Choreographer	Angela Bacarisse
Musical Director	
Scenic Designer	
Costume Deisgner	
Lighting and Sound Designer	
Stage Manager	
Assistant Stage Manager	
Assistant Costume Designer	
Properties Master / Light Board Operator	
Fly Rail Operator	
Follow Spot OperatorWilliam H	
Sound Board Operator	
Sound Engineer	
Floor Run CrewNicole Kapalski,	
Wardrobe Master	Courtney Cole
Wardrobe CrewRonda B	
	enburger, Jessica Smith

## STEEL MAGNOLIAS

Director	Jason Davids Scott
Scenic Designer	
Costume Designer	
Lighting and Sound Designer	
Assistant Director	
Stage Manager	
Assistant Stage Manager	
Assistant Costume Designer	
Properties Master	
Wardrobe Master	
Wig Stylist and Hair Consultant	
Wig / Hair Master	
Light Board Operator	
Sound Board Operator	
Wardrobe CrewHeather Abbott, Ro	
	Molly Dyer, Cadie Horne
Properties CrewAustin Davis, Danie	el Miller, Nnamdi Nwankwo

HEATHER ABBOTT is a sophomore theatre major from Garland. She has previously worked backstage in many capacities on *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Three Sisters* and the 2012 Festival of New American Plays. She was also assistant stage manager for The (New) Original Cast and the student-directed *Medusa's Tale*, and worked on crew for *Bright Ideas* and *The Saga of Cuchulain*.

KURT BILANOSKI graduated from Jersey Village High School in Houston and is a theatre major entering his senior year at SFA. He appeared previously on the SFA Mainstage in A Midsummer Night's Dream, She Stoops to Conquer and Almost, Maine; in the 2012 Festival of New American Plays (Take Me to the River and Brilliants); and in the student-directed Stop Kiss and Bad Boy Nietszche. He also performed in Amadeus, Titus Andronicus, Fiddler on the Roof, Tartuffe and Little Shop of Horrors, and he has directed Much Ado about Nothing and co-directed Arsenic and Old Lace.

**ASHLEY BLACK** is a senior majoring in theatre with an emphasis in scenic design who graduated from Clear Creek High School in League City. She previously served on the crew for the productions *Woyzeck, Twelfth Night* and *Frenzy for Two or More.* 

**JENNIFER BRAND** grew up in Houston, and is a senior at SFA majoring in dance. Her dance credits include appearing in *Maccabi Games* with the Steven Boyd Dance Ensemble and Plant Funk Slam Squad. She has also performed with SFA's Choral Union.

RONDA BURNETTE is a senior theatre major at SFA who graduated from Kirbyville High School and also attended Angelina College. This is her first assignment at SFA.

**JENNIFER BUSH** is a sophomore theatre major who graduated from Edgewood High School. Last year, she appeared in *Three Sisters* and performed with The (New) Original Cast. She was previously seen in the student-directed production of *Oh Dad, Poor Dad, Mamma's Hung You in the Closet and I'm Feelin' So Sad.* Her high school credits include roles in *Crimes of the Heart, Love is a Hot Fudge Sundae* and *The Girl in the Mirror.* 

BRIAN BUTLER\* is a senior theatre major who graduated from Wylie High School. At SFA, he has served as assistant costume designer for the opera La Traviata; costume designer for Bright Ideas and The Love Talker; and costume construction for Three Sisters and A Midsummer Night's Dream. He previously served as costume designer for Rent at Collin College and assistant costume designer for Back at Leipzig and Boeing, Boeing at Circle Theatre in Fort Worth.

**COURTNEY COLE** is a sophomore theatre major who graduated from Kennard High School and also attended Angelina College. She previously served on the wardrobe crew for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and was assistant stage manager for the plays *Brilliants* and *Hate Mail* for the 2012 Festival of New American Plays.

AUSTIN DAVIS is a sophomore theatre major who graduated from Keller Central High School. Last year, he performed in the 2012 Festival of New American Plays (Take me to the River), with The (New) Original Cast in Purple Haze, and in the student directed The Concorde Fallacy, The Game and The Goblin's Plot to Murder God. He has also appeared in Beauty and the Beast JR. at Theatre Arlington, and his high school credits include 13: The Musical and The Children's Hour.

CHRISTOPHER DAWSON is a junior theatre major who graduated from Marshall High School and also attended Kilgore College. At SFA, he starred in the student-directed Medusa's Tale. At Kilgore College, his credits include Dearly Departed, To Kill a Mockingbird, Sylvia and One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest.

TONY DIBERNARDO is a sophomore theatre major who graduated from North Mesquite High School. His credits at SFA include assistant set designer for the opera La Traviata, set designer for Medusa's Tale, and assistant set designer for One for the Road and Bright Ideas. He also appeared onstage in The Lifeboat is Sinking.

MOLLY DYER is a sophomore theatre major who graduated from Copperas Cove High School. Last year, she appeared in the student-directed productions *Medusa's Tale* and *The Goblin's Plot to Murder God*.

TORY KAY FIELDS is a senior theatre major with an emphasis in design/tech. She graduated from Rowlett High School. She was the hair/makeup designer for A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Uninvited and The Breasts of Tiresias; sound designer for Bright Ideas; and costume designer for Art. Last summer, she performed in the production of Schoolhouse Rock Live! For her internship, she will focus on costuming in children's theatre.

JONATHAN GARCIA\* is a senior theatre major who graduated from Weslaco East High School. He has been a member of the Original Cast since 2009, and his SFA Mainstage credits include Hate Mail and Take Me to the River; A Midsusummer Night's Dream; Woyzeck; How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; The Breasts of Tiresias; The Adventures of Homer McGundy, Revised; and Almost, Maine. He appeared in the student-directed Bad Boy Nietszche, and directed The Philadelphia, Tom and Jerry, and The Saga of Cuchalain.

**KENNETH HALL** is a sophomore theatre major specializing in design/tech who graduated from Plano East Senior High School. Last semester he served as the set designer for the student-directed *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*.

WILLIAM HAYNES is a senior majoring in kinesiology and minoring in theatre. He graduated from Lamar High School in Houston and also attended Houston Community College. He previously served on the crew for the mainstage production *Three Sisters*.

Credits marked with an asterisk (\*) indicate that the student is a member of the Beta Phi cast of Alpha Psi Omega, the national dramatics honors society.

VANESSA HENDRICKS is a junior theatre major who graduated from Rains High School in Emory. She appeared in *Brilliants* in the 2012 Festival of New American Plays; *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*; and in the student-directed *Women and Wallace*, *Gray Matter* and *Lives of Great Waitresses*. This past year, she also directed *The Tarantino Variation* and assistant directed *Medusa's Tale* and *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls*.

**CADIE HORNE** is a junior theatre major who graduated from Huntsville High School, where her on-stage credits included *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Dracula* and *Pure as the Driven Snow*.

NICOLE KAPALSKI is a junior theatre major at SFA who graduated from Dayton High School. She was the makeup designer for *The Saga of Cuchulain* and also acted in the student films *Nova Stellarum*, *Hollywood Ending*, 204, *Hungry for Love* and *Jean*. In high school, she stage managed *Daddy's Dyin'...Who's Got the Will?* and performed in *Snappy Happy Half Hour* and *You've Been Foiled*.

MAI Lê\* is a senior theatre major who graduated from North Mesquite High School. At SFA, her credits include performing in The Breasts of Tiresias, The Uninvited, Bad Boy Nietzsche, A Young Lady of Property, Naomi in the Living Room, The Philadelphia, Degas C'est Moi and The Bathroom Door. She directed Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread and Medusa's Tale; served as makeup designer for The Saga of Cuchulain; and assistant directed The Love Talker and Art.

LINSDAY LOVE\* graduated from White Oak High School and is a senior theatre major at SFA who also attended Kilgore College. Her SFA credits include Rabbit Hole, and roles in the student-directed productions of For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls, Stop Kiss, Tongues/Savage Love and The Other Son. Next year, she will attend Rose Bruford College in London, studying European Theatre Arts.

VALARIE McLECKIE is a sophomore theatre major who graduated from Longview High School. Her SFA credits include performing in *Three Sisters*; designing costumes for *Hate Mail* (2012 Festival of New American Plays) and The (New) Original Cast Christmas Show; and working on wardrobe crew for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

**DANIEL MILLER** is a sophomore theatre major who is a graduate of Kempner High School in Sugar Land. He made his SFA debut last semester in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and subsequently appeared in *Three Sisters* and The (New) Original Cast production *Purple Haze*.

**DARIUS MICHAEL MOORE** is a junior theatre major at SFA who graduated from Mansfield Legacy High School. His credits here include *She Stoops to Conquer, Tongues/Savage Love, The Tarantino Variation* and *The Wedding Story*. He is also a proud member of the Student Activities Association on campus.

NNAMDI NWANKWO is a sophomore at SFA majoring in biology and theatre. He graduated from Glenda Dawson High School in Pearland, where he appeared in *Dawson High School Presents: Cabaret*. At SFA last year, he was seen in the student-directed *There Shall Be No Bottom*.

CAROLYNN OHLENBURGER is a junior theatre major with an emphasis in design/tech and a graduate of Conroe High School who also attended Lone Star Community College. At SFA, she served on the wardrobe crew for Three Sisters, She Stoops to Conquer, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying and Almost, Maine; and was on the floor run crew for the 2011 Summer Rep season.

NICK PINELLI graduated from The Woodlands College Park High School in 2011 and is beginning his sophomore year as an SFA theatre major. He has appeared at SFA in Rabbit Hole and A Midsummer Night's Dream on the Mainstage, and in the 2012 New American Plays Festival productions Love/Sick and Brilliants. His high school credits include Eurydice, Dearly Departed, Starmites, The Cripple of Inishmaan, Jerry Finnegan's Sister, Bye Bye Birdie, The Not-So-True Tale of Robin Hood and The Music Man.

ANA'LEESE PROVAU is a senior at SFA and a graduate of Crandall High School who also attended Trinity Valley Community College. At SFA, her backstage credits include serving as stage manager for the student-directed *The Sure Thing*. At TVCC, she performed in *The Beauty Queen of Leenane, Eurydice, Fiddler on the Roof* and *Anybody for Tea*, and assistant directed *A Tuna Christmas*.

KATY RUTHERFORD is a sophomore theatre education major from Foster High School in Richmond, who performed last year in *Three Sisters* and in the radio play adaptation of *The Gift of the Magi*. Her previous credits include roles in *Alice in Wonderland, The Mariner, Equus* and *Cinderella*.

MELISSA SANTANA is a junior theatre major at SFA, who graduated from Plano East High School and attended Collin College. She served as assistant stage manager for the Mainstage production of *Three Sisters*, and as stage manager for the student productions *For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls, The Love Talker* and *SFA Theatre Cares: A Musical Revue.* She was the technical director for the Downstage Theatre for 2011-12.

**CORINNE SHADY** is a senior at SFA majoring in theatre and psychology and a graduate of Mansfield High School. She has performed for two years with The Original Cast and appeared in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. Her high school credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

JENNIFER SIMS\* is a junior majoring in stage management and a graduate of Naaman Forest High School in Garland. She was production manager for the 2012 Festival of New American Plays; stage manager for The (New) Original Cast and the student-directed Bright Ideas and The Saga of Cuchulain; and assistant stage manager for A Midsummer Night's Dream and She Stoops to Conquer and the student-directed Stop Kiss. She is also a member of the Student Production Advisory Committee.

JESSICA SMITH is a senior theatre education major at SFA who graduated from Hallsville High School and also attended Kilgore college. In addition to being in charge of the "prop caves" since 2011, Jessica was properties master for Three Sisters and For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls; scenic crew for How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying; stage manager for There Shall Be No Bottom; and run crew for Stop Kiss. At Kilgore College, her credits included stage managing A Christmas Carol, Steel Magnolias, A Few Good Men and A Midsummer Night's Dream; and she also has interned as a stage manager at ArtsView Children's Theatre for Mulan JR.., The Big Bad Musical and Beauty and the Beast JR.

JENNIFER SUTER\* is a senior theatre major at SFA who graduated from Bishop Dunne High School in Dallas. Her previous credits include <code>Love/Sick</code> (2012 Festival of New American Plays), <code>A Midsummer Night's Dream</code>, <code>How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying</code>, <code>The Saga of Cuchulain</code>, <code>The Catechism of Patty Reed</code> and <code>The Hardy Boys and the Mystery of Where Babies Come From</code>. Jennifer was a member of The (New) Original Cast and served as dramaturg for <code>Three Sisters</code>. This is her last production at SFA, as she will be attending the Rose Bruford College in London for her senior practicum.

**AMANDA WARREN** is a sophomore theatre major at SFA who graduated from Central Heights High School in Nacogdoches. At SFA, in addition to serving on the Turner Auditorium crew, she worked on the crew for *La Traviata* and *Rabbit Hole* and served as light board operator for the 2012 Festival of New American Plays.

## BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR OUR 2012-13 MAINSTAGE SEASON

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS - THE MUSICAL OCTOBER 9 - 13, 2012

THE MADWOMAN OF CHAILLOT - by JEAN GIRADOUX NOVEMBER 13 - 17, 2012

STAGE DOOR - by GEORGE S. KAUFMAN and EDNA FERBER FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 2, 2013

BOBRAUSCHENBURGAMERICA - by CHARLES L. MEE APRIL 23 - 27, 2013

www.theatre.sfasu.edu \* www.finearts.sfasu.edu/tickets

## About the Production Team

ANGELA BACARISSE is an associate professor of theatre at SFA who received her M.F.A. in theatre from the University of Memphis. She spent eight years as a dancer in NJ, PA, DE and Stuttgart, Germany. She was a soloist with the Delaware Dance Company in *The Nutcracker* for two years. She has also performed twice in the musical *Anything Goes* and the role of Maxine in Tommy Tune's *Stepping Out*. Her other directing and choreography credits include *Sweet Charity* and *The Fantasticks*. Her theatre work at SFA has mostly been seen in the area of costume design, and her recent credits include *Three Sisters, A Midsummer Night's Dream* and last summer's *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* 

CC CONN holds an M.F.A. from Indiana University. Her most recent credits at SFA include the 2012 Festival of New American Plays, Three Sisters, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Breasts of Tiresias, She Stoops to Conquer, A Raisin in the Sun, Twelfth Night, Woyzeck, "Master Harold"...and the boys, Picnic, Schoolhouse Rock Live! Too, The Heidi Chronicles, The Elephant Man and Almost, Maine.

BARRY DOSS is a native of East Texas who graduated from Central High School in 1987. He also attended the SFA Summer Theatre Workshop his senior year before moving to Fort Worth where he pursued a B.A. in Theatre with a minor in fashion design from TCU, graduating with honors in 1991. He then became resident costume designer for the Indianapolis-based modern dance company, Dance Kaleidoscope, where he worked for over five years. After a European Tour of the musical Hair as a performer, he moved to NYC where he has been working ever since. In the past 15 years, he has worked in costume shops for TV pilots and independent films, as well as Broadway shows. Notable wardrobe jobs include Phantom of the Opera, 1776, Finian's Rainbow, Jane Eyre the Musical, Chinglish, The Scottsboro Boys, The Vertical Hour starring Julianne Moore and Three Days of Rain starring Julia Roberts. For over five years he worked as a stitcher maintaining the Tony Award-winning costumes for the hit musical Wicked. More recently, he has been working as associate costume designer on Broadway, earning his official union membership with United Scenic Artists Local 829 on such shows as The Seafarer, Hamlet (starring Jude Law), La Bete, Red, Exit the King (starring Susan Sarandon and Tony Award-winner Geoffrey Rush), and most recently the current revival of Evita (starring Ricky Martin). Barry is thrilled to be back home working with SFA where he began his journey in theatre so many years ago. He would like to dedicate this work to his mother, Vicky -- one of the last of the great Steel Magnolias. Love you, Mom and thanks for all those hair cuts!

# About the Production Team

RICHARD ELLIS has worked in New York City, throughout the United States and internationally for over three decades. He returns to SFA after previously designing the Mainstage shows Woyzeck and Schoolhouse Rock Live! and "Master Harold"...and the boys for Summer Rep. and will serve as Visiting Assistant Professor for the 2012-13 school year. Ellis has served as resident set designer for The Alley Theatre, American Theatre Co., the Westport Playhouse, Stamford Theatre Works and the Ogunquit Playhouse. He has also designed for Tennessee Rep., Maine State Music Theatre, Stages St. Louis, Memphis' Playhouse on the Square, Bridgeport's Downtown Cabaret and Playhouse on the Green, Coconut Grove Playhouse, Seacoast Rep. and the Helen Hayes Theatre. His work in industrials/theme parks include Showtime. Miller Beer, American Brands, Pizza Hut, Opryland, Silver Dollar City and Dollywood, where he designed shows for eight years. He has taught at Lehman College, Queens College and the University of Tulsa. Richard has also designed national tours of Dreamgirls, The Peking Circus and several years of traveling old fashioned "melodramers." He is a graduate of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts design program and the University of Tulsa theatre program, and is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829.

**RANDON POOL** returns for her third summer at SFA as the designer for *How I Became a Pirate*. "Randy" has been the costume designer at the American Academy of Dramatic Art in Los Angeles for eight years, where she designs and builds costumes for approximately 50 shows per year. She also works as a freelance designer in the Los Angeles area, builds custom corsets and is an avid knitter and reader.

JASON DAVIDS SCOTT is an assistant professor of theatre who has also taught at UC Santa Barbara, Arizona State University and the Michael Howard Studios in New York. Last year, he directed three original productions with the (New) Original Cast. Other directing credits include the plays Spontaneous Combustion and Hop for the UCSB New Plays Festival; Euripides' Helen (staged reading at Center Stage Theatre, Santa Barbara); and several appearances by the San Francisco-based improvisation troupe Revolving Madness. He appeared on stage in Three Sisters at SFA; other acting credits include A View from the Bridge (UCSB) and the Shakespeare Santa Barbara productions Much Ado about Nothing and A Comedy of Errors.

**TYLER STAMPE** is a graduate student in the School of Music from Jefferson, Iowa who is pursuing his master's degree in composition. Tyler graduated with a bachelor's degree in music education from Simpson College in 2011. He was involved in many opera productions as an undergraduate, and is currently working on an opera for children based on the novel *The Gift of the Magi* by O. Henry, which will be performed in the fall.

## From the Directors

When Professor Shattuck asked me to think about taking on a summer directing project, I started looking at possible plays. I have loved the book How I Became a Pirate and the sequel Pirates Don't Change Diapers, both by Melinda Long and David Shannon, since my son first read them a few years ago. How can you go wrong with pirates? Imagine my excitement when I discovered it wasn't just a play, but a musical! A story of adventure and finding one's own heart - Jeremy Jacob is digging on the beach when Captain Braid Beard asks him to join the crew. With his parent's permission - as long as he returns in time for soccer practice - Jeremy learns to talk and act like a pirate and realizes that the simple things like a kiss and tucking in at night are among those that are most important in life.

- Angela Bacarisse

As hard as it is to believe, Steel Magnolias is now 25 years old; the 1987 play and the 1989 film adaptation have now been giving audiences "laughter through tears" for a generation. As a result, productions such as ours now have to look at the play as a "time capsule" that reflects not only the deeply felt emotions and heartfelt humor of Robert Harling's expertly drawn ensemble of characters, but also the look, feel and tone of the era. As we see through the evocative designs of Richard Ellis (set) and Barry Doss (costumes) and their teams, the mid-80s was very much an era of transition. Though the characters are still flush from the optimism of the Reagan years, bedecked in fashions equally inspired by "Dynasty," MTV and Princess Di, there's also a sense that a more complex and challenging world lies just beyond the horizon. The six characters at the beginning of the play (1983) probably can't imagine the world of 1986 that will bring Chernobyl, the Challenger explosion, the Iran-Contra affair and national AIDS crisis. Neither can they imagine the ways in which the personal fate of beautiful and generous Shelby Eatonton will challenge each and every one of them to see their own potential for love, growth and survival. At the beginning of the play, these women delight in layering any truth, no matter how difficult, with beauty. As the story develops, they begin to recognize the unique and powerful beauty that can only be found in life's painful truth.

- Jason Davids Scott

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Dr. Alan C. Nielsen

Professor Emeritus

Mr. Allen Oster

Professor Emeritus

Dr. Richard Jones

Professor

Ms. Angela Bacarisse

Associate Professor

Ms. Carolyn Conn
Assistant Professor

Dr. Jason Davids Scott

Assistant Professor

Mr. Jack Heifner

Playwright-in-Residence

Ms. Jackie Rosenfeld

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Mr. Brad Maule

Lecturer

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Ms. Juanita Finkenburg

Adjunct Faculty

Mr. David Raine

Adjunct Faculty

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Technical Director

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