

# PLAYBILL

FRIENDS  
UNIVERSITY  
FINE ARTS PRESENTS

# Footloose

the  
musical

February 1-3, 7:30 p.m.

Vima Church Theatre, 9112 E. Central, Wichita



# Footloose

the  
musical

Stage Adaptation by Dean Pitchford and Walter Bobbie

Based on the Original Screenplay by Dean Pitchford

Music by Tom Snow

Lyrics by Dea Pitchford

Additional Music by: Eric Carmen, Sammy Hagar,  
Kenny Loggins and Jim Steinman

**A Concord Theatricals Production**

**Director** - Joice Henry

**Music Director** - Rayvon T.J. Moore

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

*Footloose the Musical* cast and crew invite you to witness this remarkable representation of Friends University Fine Arts' vision through our performances of this energetic and riveting show. The artists are excited to share their talents in dance, voice, and dramatics, but most of all, they are thrilled to share their hearts.

Throughout Reverend Shaw Moore and Ren McCormack's grieving process, their fellow community members demonstrate integrity, civility and regard for others. As Ren is introduced to a new world, he uses dance as a manner of healing and celebrating life. The other characters around him demonstrate a spirit of inclusion, cooperation and equality as they welcome him into their midst. The empathy within the relationships throughout the character development in this show is conveyed through the trials and tribulations they endure and reflect how humans heal. In the end, inclusiveness and love help the characters prevail while they learn to walk in the light of their faith.

As these performers take the stage, please embrace their dedication to sharing an important message about mental health and healing with open arms. As we do so, may we remember the author's introductory note:

*"Footloose is actually the story of a man who's lost his son, a boy who's lost his father, and how those two help each other to heal."*

*"Every time you see [hear] the word 'dance,' substitute the word... 'forgive'.... a journey of forgiveness and redemption, a story of healing and uplift."*

It has been a pleasure working with this cast and crew to produce this magnificent production for you. Although our rehearsal process was brief, everyone involved worked diligently while leading with love in their hearts. The progress from one rehearsal to the next was astounding and a true example of a team effort. I think you will agree that the end product is fantastic. Saying that I am extremely proud is an understatement!

I hope this show will serve as a reminder to always follow in Christ's footsteps, demonstrating forgiveness and fellowship through service and kindness that uplifts others in our own lives.

Please enjoy our rendition of *Footloose the Musical*!

Joice Henry  
Visiting Instructor of Music Theatre

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

**Dr. Amy Bragg Carey, Dr. Ken Stoltzfus, Dr. Nathanael May,  
Leigh Barton-Green, Robyn Mabe, Vima Church Theatre,  
Jess Lada, Roxy's Downtown, Crown Arts Collaborative,  
Derby High School**

As the Riney Fine Arts Center is under construction, many accommodations have been made to produce this musical spectacular.

A special thank you goes out to  
Wichita Children's Theatre and Dance Center, and Monica Flynn for all they have done!

## **Designers**

**Set Design** - Lyle Valentine

**Set Construction** - Richard Shulz

**Costume Design** - Dora Arbuckle

**Lighting Design** - Dan Harmon

## **Crew**

**Director** - Joice Henry

**Stage Manager** - Rebecca Grosseling

**Assistant Stage Manager** - Taylor Athanasiou

**Sound Technician** - Bob Hett

## **Band**

**Music Director** - Rayvon T.J. Moore

**Keyboard 1** - Ryan Linares

**Rehearsal Pianist** - Ryan Linares

**Keyboard 2** - Adin Gilmore

**Winds** - Sorrel Jacobs

**Guitar 1** - David Sewell

**Guitar 2** - Alex Nordine

**Bass** - Devon Gassmann

**Drums** - Matt Tretto

**Percussion** - Jace Nelson

## **Stage Hands**

Davis Green, Alexandra Tchernaya

Mrs. Henry is ecstatic to be a part of Friends University's Fine Arts Department as the Visiting Instructor of Music Theatre. This production of *Foot/loose* marks her directorial debut at Friends. She has had a fabulous time creating with the amazing young artists in the Musical Theatre department. These performers have transformed the script from page to stage in twenty short rehearsals in this magnificent production.

Mrs. Henry would like to personally thank her husband, parents, sister and William, Elza and Walter for all of their support throughout this and all of life's dramatic productions. Lastly, in this story of grief, emotions and passion that is life, remember: dancing is the best therapy - let's dance!

# THE DIRECTORS



**Mrs. Joice Henry** earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Dance Performance from the State University of New York at Buffalo and her Teachers' Education Training accreditation from Dance Masters of America. Her performance credits include *Swing*, *Steel Pier*, Walt Disney World, and *Singing in the Rain* to name a few. Mrs. Henry has had the pleasure of touring North America with *Sesame Street Live* as well as Broadway's *Evita*. She continues performing in the *Once Upon a Time* productions for Wichita Children's Theatre and

Dance Center where she has been growing as an educator while supporting the next generation of performers for over 15 years.

Mrs. Henry has had the pleasure of sharing her talents with young minds for most of her life while teaching dance, theatre, acrobatics and gymnastics. She has partnered with many national and local organizations such as Dance Masters of America, VIPDance, 5678 Showtime, Butler Community College, Arts Partners, Holy Cross School and USD259. She aided in sparking the musical theatre journey for many when she instated the dance program at Brooks Middle School. Mrs. Henry has shared her choreographic and directorial talents with Crown Arts Collaborative in productions such as *Rocky Horror Picture Show* and the *Crown Holiday Spectacular*.



Southern California native, **Rayvon T. J. Moore**, is a conductor, music educator and baritone. Moore serves as Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at Friends University where he conducts the internationally renowned Singing Quakers. Additionally, Dr. Moore serves as the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Wichita Chamber Chorale. His credits as a music director/conductor/chorusmaster include everything from musicals and operas to large scale choral-orchestral repertoire. Most recently Moore served as the music

director for Crown Arts Collaborative's production of *Dreamgirls* which won Best Ensemble for the 2023 BroadwayWorld Wichita Awards. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Choral Music from the University of Southern California, a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from California State University, Fullerton, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting from the Eastman School of Music.

[www.rayvontjmoore.com](http://www.rayvontjmoore.com)

# THE CAST



**Zachary Garraway - *Ren McCormack*.** Zach is currently a Junior pursuing a major in Music Theatre and is excited to be returning for another Friends University production. You last saw him as Frank Abagnale Jr. during Friends University's production of *Catch Me If You Can*, and you may have even heard him in Music Theatre Wichita's *Cats* as part of the Vocal Ensemble. Zach would like to thank his family for always believing in him and supporting him through his dreams.



**Reagan Heimgartner - *Ariel Moore*.** Reagan is a junior at Friends University who recently transferred from Butler Community College. She is pursuing a major in Music Education and minoring in Musical Theater and Christian Spiritual Formation. She is currently working as the Education Intern at Music Theater Wichita. Reagan is so grateful for all the people God has put in her life which have helped her become the person she is today.



**Ryan Smith - *Reverend Shaw Moore*.** Ryan M. Smith is excited to grace the stage in his second Friends University production. Some of Ryan's most notable roles being Crutchie in *CYT's Newsies*, Tevye in *CYT's Fiddler on the Roof*, and Vernon Hines in Butler Community College's *Pajama Game*. Ryan hopes to share the story of overcoming heart break and learning how to forgive and love those who don't share the same beliefs as you through the character of Reverend Shaw Moore.



**Leia Medina - *Vi Moore*.** Leia is a freshman here at Friends University. This is also her first major role in a show. She was born and raised here in Wichita. She is a member of the Singing Quakers group, and used to be presidents of multiple clubs such as NHS and Thespians.



**Natalie Hale - *Ethel McCormack*.** Natalie is a freshman at Friends University, and is a Spanish major with an Musical Theatre minor. She's been performing since she was ten. Some of her favorite roles include Miss Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, Miss Hannigan in *Annie*, and Antigone in *Antigone*. She teaches dance at Foundations Youth Theatre and Christian Performance Theatre. Ella espera que disfrutes el espectáculo!

# THE CAST



**Joshua Kelley - Willard Hewitt.** Josh is a Senior at Friends and is studying Music Theater. You may recognize him from last year's *Catch Me if You Can* as Carl Hannratty, or his solo delivery in the 2021 production of *Working as Freddy Rodriguez*, as well as many other productions at Friends. Josh has also worked with Music Theater Wichita and their production of *CATS*. Josh has enjoyed working on *Footloose* and is thankful to Cast, Crew, Orchestra, and Directing team.



**Rachel Mullen - Rusty.** Rachel is a Junior here at Friends University and is majoring in musical theatre. You may have seen her most recently on stage as Johanna at the Forum Theatre's production of *Sweeney Todd*, or as Paula in last year's production of *Catch Me If You Can*. Rachel would like to thank her family for all of the support they continue to give as she pursues her passion for the stage!



**Naomi Terrell - Urleen.** Naomi Terrell is a freshman and her major is Music Theater. One of her favorite things to do in her spare time is playing guitar. Naomi is so excited and thankful to be in her first college production.



**Adelynn Hobbes - Wendy Jo.** Adelynn is a junior majoring in Music with a minor in Music Theatre. She is excited to be playing Wendy Jo, as well as the understudy for Rusty. Prior to this role in *Footloose*, you may have seen Adelynn in Friends University's '*Catch Me If You Can*' and '*The Tender Land*' as well as her work originating the role of 'Sally Olmstead' in the staged reading of *Sure As The Sun*.



**Nicholas Wetta - Chuck Cranston.** Nick is a junior Musical Theatre major/ Dance minor at Friends. You may have previously seen him here in the community as Tom Sawyer in *Big River* at Roxy's Downtown or in *Dreamgirls* and the *Rocky Horror Show* at the Crown Uptown! He would like to thank Drew Starlin (Broadway cast of *Footloose*) for helping to develop his character! Nick's next project is *Cabaret* at Roxy's Downtown!

# THE CAST



**Braden Sweet - Lyle, Dance Captain.** Braden is a senior majoring in Music Theatre with a minor in Dance. He is excited to be playing Lyle, as well as understudying Ren, and being co dance captain. You might recognize Braden from Crown Arts Collaborative's productions of *Rent* or *Rocky Horror*, or originating the role of Louis in the staged reading of *Sure As The Sun*.



**Josiah Watney - Travis.** Josiah is a sophomore at Friends University double majoring in Politics and Finance. He is in Singing Quakers and most recently played the role of Agent Dollar in Friends University's 2023 musical, *Catch Me if You Can*. Josiah has been involved in over 16 stage productions throughout his life, some of which include *The Gondoliers* at Friends University, *All Is Calm* with the Wichita Grand Opera and *Mama Mia* with the Sterling Community Theatre Troupe.



**Mia Krebs - Lulu Warnicker, Non-Equity Deputy.** Mia is pursuing a BA in Music and minor in Music Theatre. They were most recently seen in *A Christmas Cabaret* at Roxy's Downtown. Credits include *Dani Girl* and *Catch Me If You Can* at Friends University, and *Newsies* at Stagelights Theatre Company. Mia also loves playwriting, composing and teaching youth theatre in her spare time.



**Aidan Oswald-Harris - Wes Warnicker.** Aidan is making his musical theatre debut at Friends University in *Footloose!* A freshman Music Theatre major, he is playing Wes Warnicker in the show, a challenging role he is excited to be playing! He can't wait for you to lose your blues and cut footloose when you see Friends' production of *Footloose!*



**Isabelle Loucks - Eleanor Dunbar.** Isabelle is a sophomore Music Education major. She's had the opportunity to be a part of many shows. Some of the roles she has played include Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Mrs. Banks in *Mary Poppins*, and Anya/Anastasia in *Anastasia*. She is thrilled to be involved in Friends University's *Footloose* and feels blessed to be surrounded by such amazing individuals and faculty.



# THE CAST



**Michael Jabara** - *Coach Roger Dunbar*. Michael is a Vocal Performance major at Friends University. He has had roles in *La Boheme*, *The Pajama Game*, *The Tender Land*, and performs with the Friends Jazz Vocal Ensemble as well as The Singing Quakers.



**Erick Perales** - *Principal Harry Clark*. In my short time at Friends University I have been in *The Gondoliers*, *The Tender Land*, as well as *Catch Me if You Can*. So far *Footloose* has been the most enjoyable production I have been a part of, despite the challenges we have faced. I want to thank my peers, along with Dr. Rayvon Moore and Ms. Joice Henry, for making this production of *Footloose* a very enjoyable one.



**Alexander Miller** - *Bickle, Garvin*. Alexander is a Jr at Friends, double majoring in Business and Spanish. He has been acting since the age of 6. Some of his favorite roles have been Jesse Tuck in "*Tuck Everlasting*" (Hesston College) and Simon Gascoyne in "*The Real Inspector Hound*" (Stage9). He is excited for his first musical theatre production with Friends.



**Elias Pino** - *Jeter*. This will be my third production I have participated in at Friends University, the prior shows were *Catch Me If You Can* and *The Tender Land* opera. I want to thank Professor Henry and Doc. Moore for trusting me and giving me the opportunity to be a part of this production. Also thank you to my dad for supporting me with my journey in fine arts.



**Dimanté McLeod** - *Cowboy Bob, Cop*. Dimanté McLeod is a sophomore at Friends from Washington DC. He has played roles at Friends in *Catch Me If You Can*, *The Gondoliers* and *The Tender Land*.

# THE CAST



**Niomi Ndirangu**  
*Ensemble, Betty Blast*



**Ali Kells**  
*Ensemble, Cowgirl*



**Gretchen Otter**  
*Ensemble, Dance Captain*



**Abigail Powers**  
*Ensemble*



**Abigail Kreis**  
*Ensemble*



**Lilly Busatti**  
*Ensemble*



**Gemma Watts**  
*Ensemble*



**Anna Wolgast**  
*Ensemble*



**Olivia Hill**  
*Ensemble*



**Alayana Duffield**  
*Ensemble*



**Jarod Daniel**  
*Ensemble*

# SHOW ORDER

## Act I

Footloose  
On Any Sunday  
The Girl Gets Around  
I Can't Stand Still  
Somebody's Eyes  
Learning To Be Silent  
Holding Out For A Hero  
Somebody's Eyes  
Heaven Help Me  
I'm Free/Heaven Help Me

## Act II

Still Rockin'  
Let's Hear It For The Boy  
Can You Find It In Your Heart?  
Dancing Is Not A Crime  
Mama Says  
Almost Paradise  
Heaven Help Me- Reprise  
Can You Find It In Your Heart? - Reprise  
Footloose Finale  
Footloose - Megamix

THANKS  
FOR COMING!

JOIN US AT ANOTHER EVENT!

## FEBRUARY

Footloose - Spring Musical | Feb. 1-3, 7:30 p.m. | Vima Church Theatre\*

Sing It! Vocal Festival | Feb. 8, 7:30 p.m. | University Friends Church\*

String Fiesta | Feb. 10, 3:30 - 4 p.m. | Alumni Auditorium

Band Concert | Feb. 12, 7 p.m. | Andover Central High School\*

## MARCH

Dance Showcase | March 2, 7:30 p.m. | Litwin Theatre, Wichita State University\*

\* location off campus

TICKETS AND FULL CALENDAR AT  
*friends.edu/fineartstickets*

## RINEY FINE ARTS CENTER CONSTRUCTION

As a result of the exciting renovations taking place at the Riney Fine Arts Center, the date and location for performances may be subject to change. Please check online and our social media pages for updates and ticket information.



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