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THE BOYS NEXT DOOR

BY *TOM GRIFFIN*



DIRECTED BY
MATT KING

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THE BOYS NEXT DOOR



BY **TOM GRIFFIN**

SUPPORTED BY THE **ESTATE OF BRAD TROWBRIDGE**

DIRECTED BY
Matt King

CAST

ARNOLD WIGGINS RON SHREVE
LUCIEN P. SMITH ELI BRUCE DURHAM
JACK PALMER ISAIAH FIEDLER
NORMAN BULANSKY MICHAEL SKAFF
BARRY KLEMPER ZACHARY JONES
SHEILA GAYLA S. BUSH
MR. HEDGES/MR. CORBIN/
SENATOR CLARKE RICHIE ROSADO
MRS. FREMUS/MRS. WARREN/
CLARA AMANDA KELLY
MR. KLEMPER GREG HEWITT

TIME/PLACE: Summer of 1986 in New England

There will be a 15-minute intermission.

Dedicated in Memory of Brad Trowbridge.

THE BOYS NEXT DOOR is presented by special arrangement with
Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing Dramatist Play Service collection.
(www.dramatists.com)

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In Memory of
Brad Trowbridge

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DIRECTOR'S NOTES

When I learned Theatre Jacksonville was producing a show centered around the lives of those with intellectual disabilities, I knew I wanted to be a part of it. When Sarah Boone gave me the opportunity to direct it, I thought I might collapse under the sheer magnitude of presenting this story in a way that would celebrate a wonderful yet under-represented community.

Over the past year, I had to do what directors often have to do: find the similarities in characters and stories and make them relatable to an audience. Have you ever had a crush on someone? Have you ever been burnt out from a job? Do you have a favorite food that often you overindulge? Maybe you've had big feelings you weren't quite sure how to express. Or perhaps someone saw you as slower than the rest of the group. These are experiences we've all had. These are ways we connect with not only our personal communities but all communities.

I want to thank you for buying a ticket to a show you've probably not seen or heard of. Maybe you've seen the 1995 movie adaptation with Nathan Lane. Maybe you thought this was a stage version of the 1985 thriller under the same title starring Charlie Sheen. No matter how you ended up here, thank you. Your support of the theater community as well as the community represented in tonight's show will bring a sometimes-divided world a little closer.

— Matt King, Director

TECHNICAL PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Matt King
Production Manager	Michelle Kindy
Set/Lighting Design.....	Johnny Pettegrew
Sound Design	Brent Mulberry
Costume Design	Classic Costumes
Graphic Design.....	Green Onion Creative, LLC
Choreographer	Theresa Pazanowski
Stage Manager	Squirrel Pitts
Assistant Stage Manager	Lily Zawatsky
Fight Coordinator	Richie Rosado
Light Board Operator.....	Mark Rubens
Sound Board Operator.....	Lily Zawatsky
Set Construction.....	Katie Allen, Daniel Locke, Curtis Svenson, and Cate Lynch
Running Crew	Lourdes “Lo” Acosta and Cate Lynch

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*Donations listed on this and
other pages reflect the period
Feb. 28, 2024–Feb 28, 2025.*

COMPANY BIOS

GAYLA S. BUSH (Sheila) is excited to appear in her first production with Theatre Jacksonville in *The Boys Next Door*. As an eighth grade English language arts teacher, she enjoys inspiring young minds through literature and storytelling. She thanks her mother for her unwavering support and encouraging her to follow her dreams.

ELI BRUCE DURHAM (Lucien P. Smith) is a student at Coastal Carolina University. Born in Jacksonville, he has been back in Jacksonville since September 2024. Most recently, he was onstage here at Theatre Jacksonville for *Stories on Stage: Let's Eat!* where he presented his original script, *Sandwich Semantics: an absurdist recipe* with Pharyl Wilson. Eli thanks his family, his cat Ivy, friends, and the company of *The Boys Next Door*. He is grateful to you for supporting live theatre in Jacksonville.

ISIAH FIEDLER (Jack Palmer) is deeply grateful to Mrs. Schmitt, his seventh-grade teacher, who first pushed him into theater. After a Tuesday choir class, she said, "Isaiah, you'd make a great Gavroche! I've already talked to the director Gary B. Lukes and he's eager to meet you." Was he nervous? Absolutely. But stepping onto that stage in *Les Miserables* in 2012 was his first taste of something transformative—and it was exhilarating. Now, at twenty-six, eight productions later, he still carry that same excitement. His background in dance, which began at five, gave him a deep connection to storytelling through movement. Theater feels like returning home—a place where life is reflected, whether you're center stage or watching from the audience. For Jack Palmer in *The Boys Next Door*, he had to sit with the character, exploring Jack's warmth and the emotional stakes of his story. It's been a rewarding challenge to embody his world, and he honored to bring Jack's journey to life. Theater, like life, is an ongoing lesson, and Isaiah is grateful to continue learning with every performance.

GREG HEWITT (Mr. Klemper) is excited to appear for the second time this season at Theatre Jacksonville following his performance as George Jones in *The Women of Lockerbie*. Greg has appeared on the Theatre Jacksonville stage the past two seasons; first as Bryce Cannon in *Four Weddings and an Elvis* and last year as Sagot in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Greg discovered his passion for acting while studying at Florida State



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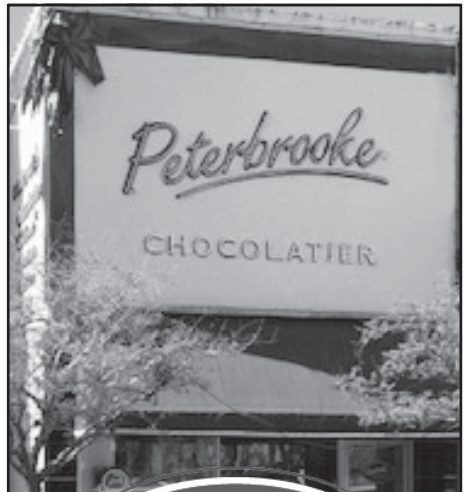
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University, earning a minor in Theater Arts alongside his BA in Humanities. From 2015 to 2020, Greg studied and performed comedy improvisation on stage with the Unified Scene Theatre in Washington, DC. Greg is also very active and has performed for the past three summers with the Westmoreland Players Theatre in the Northern Neck of Virginia, where he has performed *Moonlight and Magnolias*, *Lost in Yonkers*, *Matilda the Musical*, and *Run for Your Wife*. Greg, his husband Gerry, and their dog Moreland split their time between Hague, Virginia, and Jacksonville, Florida.

ZACHARY JONES (Barry Klemper) made his first appearance at Theatre Jacksonville playing the very beloved Charles Schmendiman in *Picasso at The Lapin Agile*. The audience and crew were just so amazing that he felt an urge to get back on this stage! You may have seen him portraying Christopher Wren in *The Mousetrap* or, as of recently, making short films for local festivals. Zachary would like to thank Tyler and Muriel for always supporting his acting and coming to every show.

AMANDA KELLY (Mrs. Warren, Clara) is making her Theatre Jacksonville debut. A Jacksonville resident of six years, Amanda works in digital marketing and enjoys attending shows at Theatre Jacksonville with her husband. While she performed in high school productions like *Jane Eyre*, these days she's usually busy keeping up with her two young children. She's delighted to join this talented cast.

MATT KING (Director) is a Jacksonville performing artist making his directorial day-boooo (IFKYK). He's been credited as Peter in *Something Rotten*, Brophy in *Arsenic & Old Lace*, Trevor Graydon in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, and Johnathan in *The Play That Goes Wrong*. Thank you to the cast/crew of *The Boys Next Door* for such an amazing experience! A special thanks to my Theresa. Instagram: @matolemue

THERESA PAZANOWSKI (Choreographer) You may recognize her and her work from various productions around Jacksonville, including *Funny Girl & Mary Poppins* at PBTS, *Parade* at The Limelight, and most recently at Theatre Jacksonville, *Pippin & Beehive*. Lots of love to her favorite Matt and director extraordinaire - thank you for the constant love and support and being a part of this journey with me!

RICHIE ROSADO (Mr. Hedges, Mr. Corgin, Senator Clarke) is a graduate of the University of Florida with a

bachelor's in fine arts degree. A few of his local credits include Giuseppe Zangara in *Assassins*, Professor Plum in *Clue*, Ted in *Bonnie and Clyde*, and Rodney in *Small Mouth Sounds*. He would like to thank his friends and family for their support and wishes many broken legs to the cast of *The Boys Next Door!* @richieonstage

RON SHREVE (Arnold Wiggins) is no stranger to the stage, but is often found behind the scenes, helping create the magic with props, scenery and set dressing. Most recently you saw him onstage as *Pippin*. As the Director of Education, he takes this performance opportunity to practice what he teaches and he is thrilled to be directing *The SpongeBob Musical* for our Jr. Mainstage, which opens May 3, 4 & 5! Love and thanks to all the support of his family, friends and D for being the secret ingredient in this recipe of life.

MICHAEL SKAFF (Norman Bulansky) is thrilled to be back onstage after his last appearance in *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Originally from Sioux City, Iowa, Michael has been involved in the theatre, both onstage and backstage, for over 40 years. Besides theatre, Mike is interested in reading, the movies – both oldies and new ones, and exploring the country in the teardrop camper his husband built.

**2025 started with a drip...
a very big drip that became MANY big drips!**

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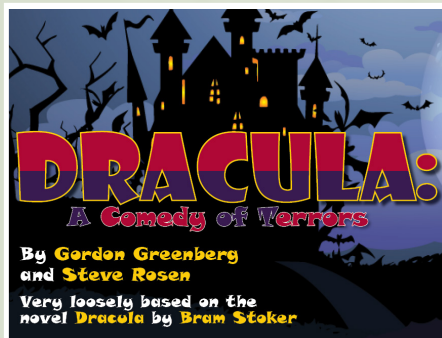
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