# FOOTLISTS ILLUMINATING THE THEATRE COMMUNITY

# KENTWOOD PLAYERS PRESENTS



Music and Lyrics by Robert Lopez & Jeff Marx - Book by Jeff Whitty

Based on an Original Concept by Robert Lopez & Jeff Marx

Directed by Susan Goldman Weisbarth Produced by Gail Bernardi & Margie Bates

Musical Director Mike Walker Choreography by Alison Mattiza

## **WARNING: FOR MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY**

AVENUE Q is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI)

Westchester Playhouse • 8301 Hindry Ave. Los Angeles, CA. 90045 310-645-5156 | kentwoodplayers.org

# AVENUE Q

MUSIC AND LYRICS by ROBERT LOPEZ and JEFF MARX

Воок by JEFF WHITTY

BASED ON AN ORIGINAL CONCEPT by ROBERT LOPEZ and JEFF MARX

Orchestrations and Arrangements Stephen Oremus

# Director Susan Goldman Weisbarth

**Musical Director** Mike Walker

Choreographer Alison Mattiza

# **Producers** Gail Bernardi and Margie Bates

Set Design Jim Crawford

Lighting and Sound Design Costume Design and Technical Director

Daniel Kruger

**Bruce Starrett** 

Avenue Q has not been authorized or approved by the Jim Henson Company or Sesame Workshop, which have no responsibility for its content.

The world premiere of AVENUE Q was presented by the Vineyard Theatre and The New Group, New York City, February 2003. AVENUE Q premiered on Broadway at the Golden Theater on July 31, 2003 produced by Kevin McCollum, Robyn Goodman, Jeffrey Seller, Vineyard Theatre and The New Group.

### **AVENUE O**

is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.MTIShows.com

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

# Cast

(in order of appearance)

Princeton	Bryan Burrets		
Kate Monster	Rachel Berman		
Brian	Shawn Clifford		
Nicky	Brandon Gomez		
Rod	Bryan Burrets		
Christmas Eve	Angie Jho		
Gary Coleman	Megan Taylor Cormier		
Moving Boxes Kyle Whelihar			
Bad Idea Bear Girl	Maya Efrat		
Bad Idea Bear Boy	Brad Halvorsen		
Mrs. Thistletwat	Jacqueline Garell		
Trekkie Monster	Peter Miller		
Lucy the Slut	Rachel Berman		
Newcomer	Samuel Goldman		
Princeton/Rod understudy	Brandon Gomez		
Nicky understudy	Kyle Whelihan		
Musicians			
Conductor/Keyboard	Mike Walker		
Guitar	Miles Jensen		
Bass	Nashir Jay		
Percussion	Ben Sieke		

# **Synopsis of Scenes and Musical Numbers**

### **Act One**

Scene 1: Intro / Graduation / On the Avenue
The Avenue Q Theme
Scene 2: Nicky and Rod's Apartment If You Were Gay
Scene 3: Princeton's Apartment PurposePrinceton, Moving Boxes
Scene 4: On the Avenue Everyone's a Little Bit RacistPrinceton, Kate Monster, Gary Coleman, Brian, Christmas Eve
Scene 5: Kate's Apartment / On the Avenue The Internet Is for Porn Kate Monster, Trekkie Monster, Brian, Gary Coleman and Rod
Scene 6: On the Avenue
Scene 7: Kate's Apartment A Mix TapeKate Monster and Princeton
Scene 8: Around the Clock Café I'm Not Wearing Underwear Today Brian Special Lucy the Slut
Scene 9: Kate's Apartment / Entire Street Loud as The Hell You Want
Scene 10: Nicky and Rod's Apartment / Kate's Apartment Fantasies Come TrueRod, Nicky, Princeton, Kate Monster
Scene 11: Kate's Apartment
Scene 12: On the Avenue (The Wedding)  My Girlfriend, Who Lives in Canada

There will be a 15-minute intermission between Acts I and II. Decaf coffee will be served at the intermission, courtesy of Kentwood Players

# Act Two

Scene 1: Princeton's Apartment / New York There Is Life Outside Your Apartment Brian, Princeton, Christmas Eve,
Scene 2: On the Avenue The More You Ruv Someone Christmas Eve and Kate Monster
Scene 3: Kate's Apartment
Scene 4: Princeton's Apartment
Scene 5: The Avenue Schadenfreude
Scene 6: Empire State Building / Street Corner
Scene 7: The Hospital
Scene 8: On the Avenue
Scene 9: Empire State Building / A Corner / The Hospital I Wish I Could Go Back to College Kate Monster, Nicky, Princeton
Scene 10: On the Avenue Money SongNicky, Princeton, Brian, Christmas Eve and Ensemble
Scene 11: On the Avenue There's A Fine, Fine Line (Reprise) Princeton, Kate Monster For Now

### **About the Cast**



Rachel Berman (Kate Monster / Lucy the Slut) – Rachel is excited to be performing again with Kentwood Players after an amazing experience playing Aldonza in the 2015 production of *Man of La Mancha*. Born and raised in Hawaii, she began her musical theatre training at a young age and continued her studies at USC. She has enjoyed playing a variety of roles such as Eponine in *Les Misérables*, Kim MacAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie*, and Hope in *Anything Goes*. Recently she was a contestant in LA's Next Great Stage Star. She is a member of

the improvisation group "Aces of Improv" and can be seen performing all over Los Angeles. Big thanks to Mom and Dad, Wendy, Susan, Mike and the entire cast and crew of  $Avenue\ Q!$ 



Bryan Burrets (Princeton / Rod) – is delighted to be making his Los Angeles debut after moving from Austin, Texas. He has been performing on stage since he was six and most recently served as the co-founder and artistic director of The Brazos Valley Players, a community theater in central Texas. Favorite past acting credits include: *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Jimmy), *The SantaLand Diaries* (Crumpet), *Guys and Dolls* (Nathan Detroit), *Footloose* (Ren McCormak), *Jekyl and Hyde* (Dr. Jekyl/Mr. Hyde). Bryan would like

to thank Susan and the rest of the cast and crew for the amazing opportunity to play one of his dream roles. Most importantly, he would like to thank his beautiful wife Molly for all her love and support .... Fantasies DO come true.



**Shawn Clifford** (Brian) – Shawn is thrilled to be making his debut performance as Brian with Kentwood Players. *Avenue Q* marks his return to the stage after recently moving to LA to pursue a career in the film and television industry. Since relocating to LA, Shawn has appeared in the Netflix show *13 Reasons Why*, NBC's *This Is Us*, CBS' *Criminal Minds*, and a Marc Cherry Pilot where he worked alongside Reba McEntire. When not on stage or the screen, Shawn is an avid history buff and Boston sports fan. Clifford wishes to thank his family

for loving him, supporting him, and allowing him to chase his dream. He hopes you enjoy your time on Avenue Q.



**Megan Taylor Cormier** (Gary Coleman) – is excited to be joining Kentwood Players in *Avenue Q*. Some of her favorite credits include Motormouth Maybelle in *Hairspray*, Sour Kangaroo in *Seussical* and Fantine understudy in *Les Misérables*. She has a BFA in musical theater AMDA. When she's not performing she is usually out playing golf, at Disneyland, or playing insanely long board games with her friends. She is super stoked to have you all here and hopes you enjoy the show!



Maya Efrat (Bad Idea Bear Girl / Moving Box) – Maya is thrilled to be making her debut performance with Kentwood Players in such a fun filled production that was totally worth all the long drives and traffic! Previous credits include *Diary of Anne Frank* (Anne), *Cabaret* (Helga), *The Little Mermaid* (Adella), and *Les Misérables* (Madame Thenardier) where she was awarded "Best Supporting Actress" by the National Youth Arts Association. She would like to thank her wonderful friends and family for their constant support and hopes you enjoy the show!



**Jacqueline Garell** (Mrs T/ Moving Box) – Jacqueline is excited to return to the stage in this production of *Avenue Q*, her debut with Kentwood Players! A graduate of USC (B.A. Dramatic Arts & Communication), and now a full time working stiff at Universal Pictures, she is excited to be performing in her free time again. Her favorite productions include: *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), *The Wizard of Oz* (Dorothy), *Spring Awakening* (Ensemble) and *Les Mis* (Ensemble). Special thanks to the cast and crew, as well as, Eric, her friends, family (especially A&K for their coaching and inspiration), and her

boss for their support in helping her get back into the musical theater world. She's taking advantage while she can! After all, "everything in life is only for now." Enjoy the show!



**Samuel Goldman** (Newcomer / Moving Box) – Samuel was last seen with Kentwood Players in *Big Fish*. He has also worked with other theater groups throughout Los Angeles County and Orange County. Samuel works as an extra, and he has appeared in numerous TV shows, films, and web series, including *Drunk History*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, *The Fosters*, *Parks and Recreation*, *Glee*, and *Foursome*. He also had a featured role as the Ventriloquist Counselor on Netflix's *Wet Hot American Summer: First Day of Camp*. Samuel would like to thank

the cast and crew, and his family and friends for their support.



**Brandon Gomez** (Nicky) – Brandon has been doing shows for over twenty years. Some of his favorite roles include Nikki/Trekkie Monster in *Avenue Q*, Edna in *Hairspray*, Javert in *Les Mis*, and Audrey II in *Little Shop of Horrors*. Brandon spent 4 years of his life working at the happiest place on earth as a parade performer and character. Brandon is a father of two beautiful girls and thanks his family for their love and support.



**Brad Halvorsen** (Bad Idea Bear / Moving Box) – Brad is thrilled to be returning to Kentwood Players! This is Brad's second production with the Kentwood Players, the first being *Into the Woods* (Jack). Other roles include *The Crucible* (Danforth, Mira Costa High School 2013) and *Peter Pan* (Smee, MCHS 2014). Brad is very grateful to Susan Weisbarth and Mike Walker for inviting him on this adventure, but most importantly, he thanks you, the audience, for coming! With all of the conflict going on in the world today, Brad hopes that this show brings

you some much needed relief, joy and side-splitting laughter. Have a wonderful evening!



Angie Jho (Christmas Eve) – This is Angie's first show for Kentwood Players and she couldn't be more thrilled! She has had the privilege of shooting a short film, "Love's Consequences," this past summer for the 48 Hour Film Project. Past theatre productions include *A Piece of My Heart*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and Shakespeare's *As You Like It* with El Camino College; she has also participated in student productions (musicals) at UCLA's Korean Culture Night for 2 years. Special thanks to her boyfriend, Patrick, for his constant encouragements; and a big thank

you to all her family and friends for all their love and support.



**Peter Miller** (Trekkie Monster) – This is Peter's second time in *Avenue Q* having previously played Brian. Peter's last appearance here was as Inspector Kemp in *The New Mel Brooks Musical: Young Frankenstein* (don't laugh, that's the official title). Some of Peter's other favorite roles include the Lecturer in *Reefer Madness* and the Padre in *Man of La Mancha*. Peter is also a voice actor having performed in several audio books and web cartoons!



**Kyle Whelihan** (Monster Kyle / Moving Box) – A 23-year-old recent college graduate just looking for his purpose, Kyle Whelihan drove from South Hadley, MA to LA this past August (3,162 miles!) to pursue a career in the entertainment industry. While studying psychology and music at Harvard, he enjoyed such stage roles as Prior Walter in *Angels in America*, Enoch Snow in *Carousel*, and Yvan in *Art*. He was also a proud two-year cast member of the Hasty Pudding Theatricals. He's immensely grateful to the Kentwood Players and specifically to his

Avenue Q family for welcoming this newcomer with open arms, and hopes you love watching the show as much as he's loved bringing it to life.

### **About the Staff**

Susan Goldman Weisbarth (Director) – Susan is thrilled to be working with the talented cast and crew of Avenue Q. As a member of Kentwood for many years, Susan has also served as a member of the board including as past president. Favorite onstage roles include Follies (Sally), Scream Queens (Alexis) and Lend Me A Tenor (Julia). She has directed many award-winning productions including Gypsy (Marcom Award for Best Director) Annie, Ragtime (Marcom Award for Best Director) and most recently Man of La Mancha which was awarded Season Subscriber Favorite. Susan thanks everyone involved in this production for all of their hard work and dedication most especially Mike, Alison, Jim, Scot and her producers Gail and Margie. Love to Jessica, Andrew, Jordan, Connor and Evi!

Mike Walker (Musical Director) – Mike has enjoyed a long career in the entertainment field. He has worked as a singer, pianist, actor and vocal coach in the United States and in Europe since 1984. Mike's credits as Musical Director include: Hairspray, Sister Act, Urinetown, Man Of La Mancha, Assassins, The Drowsy Chaperone, The Addams Family, Spring Awakening, Fiddler On The Roof, A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum, and many others. Directorial credits include Once On This Island, Gilbert & Sullivan's The Mikado, Hairspray, Willy Wonka, Oliver!, Les Misérables, Children Of Eden, Elton John & Tim Rice's Aida, and Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella. Upcoming projects include Sister Act (here at Kentwood), American Idiot and The Addams Family. Mike is thrilled to once again be teaming up with Susan Weisbarth to bring you the absolute greatest in Community Theatre. Enjoy the show!

Alison Mattiza (Choreographer) – Alison is honored to get to work with Susan on this super fun production! Alison directed and choreographed last year's *Young Frankenstein* and has choreographed many shows at Kentwood and other theaters including, *Big Fish, Something's Afoot, Anything Goes, Annie Get Your Gun, Music Man, Godspell,* and *Into The Woods*. Alison has been a proud member of Kentwood for over 20 years and has enjoyed performing, producing, working backstage as well as being on the board. Thank you to Jack for being the most awesome son a mom could wish for and to West for his constant partnership and support.

Gail Bernardi (Producer) – After directing last year's production of *Good People*, Gail is having a great time producing *Avenue Q*, along with her co-producer, Margie Bates. This is a delightful musical with the clever and inventive direction of Susan Goldman Weisbarth and a talented and dedicated cast. It is so exciting to see the author's words and music come alive and we sincerely hope that you enjoy this heartwarming musical whose theme we can all relate to as part of the "growing up" and into life's responsibilities. We appreciate your patronage and hope that you will continue to join us as we continue to bring you the thrill of "live theatre".

**Bruce Starrett** (Lighting and Sound Design) – I know there's life outside this theater but in here I've found my purpose. For now, it doesn't suck to be me. Recent credits include *The Gingerbread Lady* and *Wait Until Dark* for Kentwood Players, and *Flat Stanley* at the Morgan-Wixson. Bruce has been a Kentwood member since 2009 and is currently serving as the theater's Technical Manager. It's been a pleasure working with Susan and Gail again! Thanks to the cast for their talent and hard work. Enjoy the show!

**Daniel Kruger** (Costume Design / Properties) —is excited to return to Kentwood Players as costume designer for *Avenue Q*. His first outing was for last year's production of *Young Frankenstein*. He recently costumed Morgan-Wixson Theatre's *Harold and Maude*. Daniel was one of the original costumers for Universal Studios Hollywood Halloween Horror Nights. He also won a Drama-Logue Award for Best Costume Design for the South Bay CLO's Production of *Cabaret*. It really doesn't suck to be him.

# **Production Staff**

Stage Manager	Roy Okida
Script Supervisor	
Stage Crew	Fiona Okida
Booth Crew	Mel Miller, Jerilynn Kacena
Set Decoration Design/Scenic Design	1Scot Renfro
Original Graphic Design	West Maatita
Lobby Design	West Mattita
Master Builder	Jim Crawford
Set ConstructionI	Doug Carlson, George Kondrick,
Myron Klafter,	Terry Delegeane, Brian Burrets
Set Painting	Scot Renfro
Special Artwork	
Costume Assistance	
Wigs	Jon Sparks
Properties	Daniel Kruger
Publicity Photos	
Audition Assistance	
Hospitality Coordinator	
Box Office	April Kacena

# Strike Crew and Work Sunday

Miriam Amster, Samantha Barrios, Eric Bass, Margie Bates,
Lisa Bennett, Rachel Berman, Gail Bernardi, Barbara Brophey,
Bryan Burrets, Doug Carlson, Sheldon Cohen, Sheridan Cole,
Megan Taylor Cormier, Jim Crawford, Jacqueline Garell,
Samuel Goldman, Michael Grinde, Brad Halvorsen, Katherine Harfouch,
Glen Kacena, Myron Klafter, George Kondreck, Daniel Kruger,
Melvin Miller, Peter Miller, Colleen Okida, Fiona Okida, Roy Okida,
Bruce Starrett, Susan Weisbarth, Kyle Whelihan

# **Special Thanks**

Colleen Okida, Meredith Xcelerated Marketing

# **Rentals**

Video	Zac Rosing Productions, LLC
Puppets	Swazzle Inc.

### Kentwood Players' Board of Directors 2017-2018

President	Lynn Gutstadt
Vice President / Membership Chairperson	Kathryn Dershimer
Secretary	
Treasurer	
Box Office Chairperson	
Bulletin Chairperson	
Group Sales Chairperson	
House Manager	
Production Manager	
Programs and Postcards Chairperson	Tom Brophey
Publicity Chairperson	
Season Ticket Chairperson	
Technical Manager	Bruce Starrett
Workshop and Scheduling Chairperson	
Plays Committee Chairperson	
Plays Committee Member	

During the performance please turn your pagers to silent, and turn off your cell phones and alarms on your digital watches. There is no louder sound in a theatre than the rattle of cellophane. *Please unwrap your candy or cough drops before the play begins*.

Kentwood Players is a Member of the LAX COASTAL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

You are invited to meet and greet cast members after the performance in the Lobby.

For up to date info about Kentwood Players visit our website www.kentwoodplayers.org

# Special Theatre Parties

If you plan to attend a performance with a group of at least ten friends, family members, or co-workers, special group rates apply if you book your tickets in advance. For more information please call (310) 216-9094.

## **Reservations are Necessary**

Please call (310) 645-5156 between 4:00pm – 7:00pm WEDNESDAY – SATURDAY Tickets MUST be paid for by cash, check or VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER at the time reservations are made.

# **Kentwood Players Coming Attractions**

The Crucible Sister Act, a Musical
A Drama by Arthur Miller Music by Alan Menken
January 12 – February 17, 2018 Lyrics by Glenn Slater

Director: George L. Rametta Book by Cheri Steinkellner and Bill Steinkellner

March 16 – April 21, 2018 Director: Ben Lupejkis

Match Daddy's Dyin' Who's Got the Will

A Drama by Stephen Belber A Comedy by Del Shores
May 11 – June 16, 2018 July 13 – August 18, 2018
Director: Bruce Starrett Director: Kirk Larson

Dangerous Obsession A Drama by N.J. Crisp

September 7 – October 13, 2018 Director: Kathy Dershimer

### Benefits of Being a Season Subscriber

Subscribe today and receive:

- Friday night guest passes
- · Admission to Subscriber Saturday receptions
- Eligibility to vote for you Subscriber Favorite production
- An "OPENING NIGHT" DVD with 2 or more new subscriptions

# Season Ticket Order Form

Season Subscriptions are good for SIX (6) CONSECUTIVE productions, and you may start your subscriptions with the show of your choice.

Please allow 4 weeks for processing of your order.

Circ		

Circle Offe.					
Jan/Feb	Mar/Apr	May/Jun	Jul/Aug	Sep/Oct	Nov/Dec
Please send me subscriptions at \$80.00 each. Total					
Name					
Address			Apt		
City & Zip	Code				

Phone Number

Make check or money order payable to Kentwood Players Mail to: Kentwood Players Attn: Season Tickets, 8301 Hindry Ave., Westchester, CA 90045

Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope

If you would prefer to pay with a credit card, please call the box office for assistance. 310/645-5156

### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR KENTWOOD CONTRIBUTORS FOUNDERSCIRCLE FRIENDS(cont.)

(\$2,500-above)

Stuart and Lillie Scudder Faye & Curtis Flatland

### KENTWOODANGELS

(\$1,000-\$2,499)

Isaac & Arleen Hirano Westchester Woman's Club

### ENCOREPATRONS

(\$500 - \$999)

David & Elizabeth Friedman Joyce Harris Bruce & Judy Schroffel for The Pritzker Family Foundation

### SPOTLIGHTSUPPORTERS

(\$250 - \$499)

Greg & Shelley Bay
Pamela Briggs & William McDonald
Julie Case
Richard & Eileen Garson
Greg & Cindy Lander
John & Anna Lee Martin
Jean Mattson
M. McNamee & R. Porter
Sally Rosloff & Cooper Zale
Dr. Sanford & I. Morris
Earl & Louise Ung
Bruce & Robin Winston

### FRIENDS

Joseph & Myrna Barth
Irene Bauske
Bonnie Brass
Larry & Marie Brown
Anna Burleigh
Bob & Lori Caldwell
Robert & Anna Cody
Phil Colin & Kathi Cervi
Greg & Marie Chambers
Larry Cosgrove
Judy Dattels

Joe & Gina Earnest Barbara Eichorn Lori Erlendsson Christina Essex Phil & Jeni Feldman Suzanne Fishman Fave & Curtis Flatland Diane & Richard Friend Sandy Gunn Bob & Carol Haas Tom & Lvn Hamilton Catherine Hardy & Matt Goelz Edward & Jean Hayes Michael Heffernan Kristi Hutchinson Joan Hyra Mary Ann James Maureen & Peter Jay Nancy Joujon-Roche Amelia Kacena Esther Kamm Jacob Kazanjian & Marta Thornburg Kathy & Gary Klein Thomas Laskey Marianne Lindsay Robert & Ana Mackenzie Louise Malov Frank & Alicia Marshall Gerald R. McDonald & Ann Mattick Ms. Janeice McConnell B.I. Milliron Denise Moore Stuart & Francine Moore Rebecca Nasori Ianet O'Donnell Judy O'Donnell Frances Pearson Kent & Linda Pearson Michael Poizner & Joanne Wolf Mildred H. Pullman Brenda Ross Shelley Salk Alan P. Schreibman Brenda Shope Elliott & Irma Silverstein Phyllis J. Siudy Les & Adele Sklamberg Frances Sharma-Stoeckle Barbara Stone Daphne Sturrock Wayne Sult Bruce and Anne Timmer Ron Treadway Parker & M'Lissa Waechter Lester & Virginia Wagner Martha Weber Stan & Sheila Weinberg Gloria Whitmoyer

Susanne & Craig Wilson

Joanne Wolf & Michael Poizner

Al & Shelly Zirkes