

THEATRE JACKSONVILLE PRESENTS

Barefoot

in the

Park

BY NEIL SIMON



Directed by
Tyler Leeps

*"A bubbling,
rib-tickling comedy"*

— The New York Times

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Barefoot
in the Park
BY NEIL SIMON

**PACKING UP
POLLY**
By Leslie Kimbell

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*Dear Jack,
Dear Louise*

Play ON!
BY RICK ABBOT

Sondheim
on Sondheim
Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim |
Conceived and directed on Broadway by
James Lapine

UP NEXT:

Packing Up Polly

By Leslie Kimbell

January 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25*,
29, 30, 31*, February 1*, 2026
Polly Porter, famous 1970s
gospel singer, has gone on
up to heaven. Her daughter,
Caroline, has come home to
Savannah to pack up Miss
Polly's house, but there is
just one little problem (or
two or three): Miss Polly was
an extreme hoarder of epic
proportions. Caroline's three
best friends from high school,
former co-cheerleaders, have
all shown up... unannounced!
The gospel music plays and
the margaritas pour as the
four ladies laugh, cry, scream
and come together with
humor, wit and vulnerability to
pack up Miss Polly's house.

*"Reminds you to go home and
straighten things up a bit!"*

– Atlanta Arts Scene

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Barefoot in the Park

BY NEIL SIMON

Directed by Tyler Leeps

CAST

CORIE BRATTER Rebekah Wood
PAUL BRATTER Jackson Vaughn
ETHEL BANKS Gloria Ware
VICTOR VELASCO Paul Neace
HARRY PEPPER Brent Mulberry
DELIVERY MAN Mark Hayes
MOVERS Lou Acosta, Eli Bruce Durham,
Aspen Krill, Squirrel Pitts, Joy Smith

PLACE: Top floor of a brownstone on
East 48th Street, New York City

TIME: February 1962

ACT ONE

Scene 1: The "apartment". About 5:30pm

Scene 2: Four days later. About 7:00pm

ACT TWO

Scene 3: Later that night. About 2:00 am

Scene 4: The following day. About 5:00pm

There will be a 15-minute intermission.

*Barefoot in the Park is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
on behalf of Samuel French Inc. (www.concordtheatricals.com)*

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Brad Trowbridge

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other pages reflect the period
Nov. 1, 2024–Nov. 1, 2025.*

COMPANY BIOS

MARK HAYES (Delivery Man/ASM) is delighted to make his Florida theatrical debut with this Theatre Jacksonville production, after a 37-year hiatus from the craft, distracted by such things as a career and raising a family. A veteran of community theatre throughout New Mexico, he made his stage debut at the age of 15 as Friedrich in *The Sound of Music* and became a regular both on stage and backstage at venues such as Albuquerque Little Theatre, Corrales Community Theatre and the Vortex. He performed in *Man of La Mancha*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *Lovers and Other Strangers*, *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*, *Hay Fever*, and *David Mamet's The Water Engine*. He would like to thank the cast and crew of *Barefoot in the Park* for helping him rekindle that theatre spark, and his girls for their unending love and support.

TYLER LEEPS (Director) first discovered his love for theatre in high school, when he was cast as Poet #3 in *Cyrano de Bergerac*. He currently runs the theatre program at Duval Charter at Baymeadows and teaches theatre appreciation at the University of North Florida. He received his master's degree in Theatre Studies from the University of Central Florida. One of his early introductions into community theatre was stage managing a production of Neil Simon's *Chapter Two* in 2010. He started working backstage at Theatre Jacksonville last season in various roles, most recently running sound for *Desperate Measures*. This is his fifth show at Theatre Jacksonville, and he is extremely thankful for the opportunity to direct and work with a stellar cast and crew.

BRENT MULBERRY (Harry Pepper) has been in the theatre and production world for over 25 years; whether he is on stage, backstage, in the booth, on camera, or in the director's chair, he is equally happy. He has been the sound designer for all the shows here at Theatre Jacksonville since the summer of 2024, but he is excited to be making his on stage debut at TJ with this production. He has previously been seen as Horace Vandergelder in *Hello Dolly!*, Mr. Beaver in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, Homer in *Troy: A Musical Farce*. When not at the theatre, Brent is a homeschool teacher and co-host/producer of the Bad Nerds Youtube channel and *Tales From Godric's Hollow* podcast. Brent thanks his wonderful family, especially his amazingly smoking hot wife, for all the support they have given to allow him to pursue his passion for entertaining and educating.

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Janet Perry

PAUL NEACE (Victor Velasco) couldn't be more thrilled and grateful to be a part of this incredible production with such a fabulous cast, crew, and staff. This marks his 10th Neil Simon show and almost 100 plays in 8 different states. After 45 years of performing, producing and working nearly every tech task — including founding and running a theatre company in Huntington, WV — his favorite roles include those in *The Foreigner*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Annie*, *Noises Off*, *Godspell*, *It's A Wonderful Life*, and the one man show *Damien* based on the real life story of the leper priest of Moloka'i. He owes whatever measure of theatrical success to the late Dr. Elaine Novak. Love to his whole fam damily!

JACKSON VAUGHN (Paul Bratter) is thrilled to lace up his shoes (and promptly take them off) for his first production with Theatre Jacksonville! Previous roles include Evan Goldman (*13*), Don Lockwood (*Singin' in the Rain*), the Scarecrow (*The Wizard of Oz*), and Chuck Cranston (*Footloose*). When not on stage, Jackson enjoys reading, exploring the outdoors, and pretending to have his life together. He proudly serves in the military and cherishes theater for its sense of community, the joy it brings to audiences, and the satisfaction of putting on a good show.

GLORIA WARE (Ethel Banks) is a seasoned actor on stage, film, and radio. She spent several years in NYC working on stage with Hudson Theatre, Oasis Theatre Company, Belfry Theatre Company, The Heights Players, East Manhattan Theatre Company, Lakota Theatre Company and Broadway Tomorrow. Although she's been seen in many shows including *Hilda's Yard*, *Steel Magnolias*, *I Hate Hamlet*, *Four Weddings and an Elvis*, *Alabama Story*, *Memphis*, *All the Way*, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Absence*, and *The Clean House*, this show is special. During the 80's and 90's, Gloria befriended Mildred Natwick who portrayed Ethel Banks in the movie *Barefoot in the Park*. They had great laughs and long conversations over those years. Gloria has also directed *A Doll's House* and *12 Angry Men* at Theatre Jacksonville, *Dashing Through the Snow* at ABET, among others. Gloria serves as a member of the education staff at Theatre Jacksonville, where she provides coaching to adults seeking to advance their stage performance skills and at PossAbilities Plus, where she teaches theatre to individuals who need courage and communication skills. Thank you, Honey, and Barney for your continued support!

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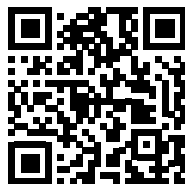
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REBEKAH WOOD (Corie Bratter) is thrilled to make her Theatre Jacksonville debut! She has appeared in numerous productions at Oral Roberts University, including *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Cecily Cardew), *Bright Star* (Dance Ensemble), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Lucy), *Ugly* (The Ugly Duckling), *Rumors* (Cassie Cooper), and *As You Like It* (Phoebe). A lifelong lover of theatre, she has also choreographed and taught at Clark Youth Theatre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, bringing movement to productions such as *The Lightning Thief*, *Newsies*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *High School Musical*. She is grateful to Theatre Jacksonville for the opportunity to join this wonderfully lively production.

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TECHNICAL PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Tyler Leeps
Production Manager Michelle Kindy
Lighting Design Johnny Pettegrew
Sound Design Brent Mulberry
Costume Design Classic Costumes
Graphic Design Green Onion Creative LLC
Intimacy Coordinator Roxanna Lewis
Stage Manager Squirrel Pitts
Assistant Stage Manager Mark Hayes
Sound Board Operator Eli Bruce Durham
Light Board Operator Mark Rubens
Set Construction/Running Crew Lou Acosta,
Eli Bruce Durham, Aspen Krill, Daniel Locke,
Kaitlyn Sweeney

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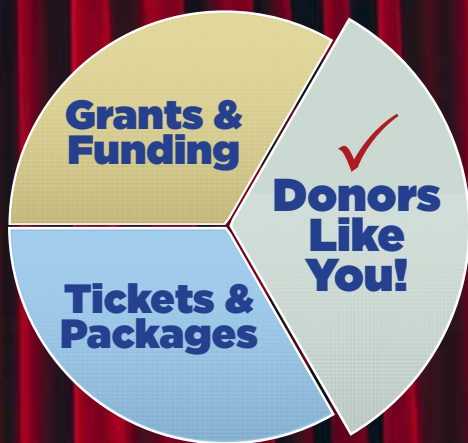
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Additional Supporters: \$50-\$249

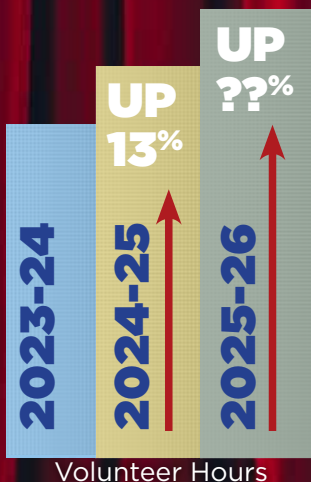
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