

Merely Players
Presents

GUYS AND DOLLS

A Musical Fable of Broadway

Based on a Story and Characters of Damon Runyan
Music and Lyrics by
Frank Loesser
Book by
Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows

Directed by
Mona Wood-Patterson+

Note: Center each of these within themselves.

Music Director
Tom Kyser+

Choreographers
Zachary Chiero+
Dallas Padoven+

Tech Director/Scenic Designer
Charles Ford+

Costume Designer
Jennie Albert+

Stage Manager
Katy Hutchinson+

April 25, 26, 27, May 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 2025
Merely Underground

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Durango Friends of the Arts, Bank of Colorado, Train

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GUYS AND DOLLS

The Cast

Adelaide	Mandy Irons+
Nathan Detroit	Matt Bodo+
Sky Masterson	Conor Sheehan+
Sarah Brown	Melissa Mossinghoff+
Nicely Nicely Johnson	Geoff Johnson+
Arvide Abernathy	Paul Laakso+
Benny Southstreet	Stephen Bowers+
Rusty Charlie	Bray Helfrich+
Big Jule	Ethan Vlchek
General Matilda Cartwright	Lori Fisher+
Lt. Brannigan, Joey Biltmore,	
Hot Box Emcee, Havana Waiter	Ian Thomas+

The Ensemble

The Hot Box Dancers

Mimi	Beth Miller+
Lulu	Mohriah James+
Pepper	Silvia Fleitz
Candy	Siena Widen

The Mission Band

Faith	Kaitlyn Bosveil
Martha	Emilie Kershaw
Agatha	Jeni Hartmann
Calvin	Michael Chapman+
Luke	Daniel Clark

The Crapshooters

Harry the Horse	Riki Tsethlikai+
The Greek	Evan Dion
Angie the Ox	Daniel Clark
Parlay Pat	Lori Fisher+
Brandy Bottle Bates	Siena Widen
Scranton Slim	Beth Miller+
Society Max	Mohriah James+
Two-Time Tex	Silvia Fleitz

The Havana Dancers

Beth Miller+	Riki Tsethlikai+
Mohriah James+	Evan Dion
Siena Widen	Ethan Vlchek
Bray Helfrich+	

The Production Team

Asst. Stage Manager	Kelsea Anderson
Asst. Costume Designer	Jane Gould
Ticket Manager	Greta Richter +
Box Office Manager	Diane Panelli+

The Crew

Soundtrack Technician	Mick Souder+
Mic Technician	Heather Rasmussen Thomas+
Light Technician	Selena M. Trujillo+
Props Lead	Diane Panelli+
Wardrobe/Props/Production Asst.	Mary Lynn Clark+
Costume Manager	Grace Dendy+
Stagehands	Natalie Cohn+
	Jeff Widen
Props Assistant	Jamie Pickering+
Wardrobe Consultant	JoAnn Nevils+
Key Scenic Carpenters	Charles Ford+
	Matt Bodo+
	Michael Lee+
	Mark Russell
	Randy Hertzman
	Jay Hecker

Set/Scenery/Props Creation Crew

Matt Bodo+
Stephen Bowers+
Hallie Bullock+
Michael Chapman+
Zachary Chiero+
Brin DeVore+
Margie Dudley+
Andrew Hampshire
Heather Howe+
Mohriah James+
Joy Kilpatrick+
Abby Kubicek+
Paul Laakso+
Cindy Laudadio-Hill+
Jenny Mason+

Grace Morledge
Jim Ottman
Diane Panelli+
Margaret Patterson
Jamie Pickering+
Mick Souder

Photographer Kara Cavalca+

Poster Design Charles Ford+

Rehearsal Pianist Kathy Kolbe

+ Merely Players Artistic Company

This show is dedicated to JoAnn Nevils (March 1, 1947 - March 24, 2025), who brought joy to thousands of people in Durango through her stunning costume artistry for over three decades. We will always miss her and be grateful that she was in our lives.

There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts. Concessions from Gabe's Goodies will be on sale.

Please silence or turn off your cell phones; they don't work that well down here anyway.

We welcome you to take photos/video in the theatre before and after, but not during, the performance. If you post photos of the stage, please be sure to credit and tag Merely Players. @merely_players_durango

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<https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists>*

We know that, for many of you, taking performance photos or video of your loved ones is a huge temptation. Please respect this rule of theatre etiquette and resist. Phone use during a show is distracting to actors and audience members, violates our contract, and is disrespectful of our creative property. Live theatre is meant to be temporal – let it be just that. Thank you!

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE:

Runyonland	<i>Ensemble</i>
Fugue for Tinhorns	<i>Nicely, Benny, Rusty</i>
Follow the Fold	<i>Mission Band</i>
The Oldest Established	<i>Crapshooters</i>
I'll Know	<i>Sarah and Sky</i>
A Bushel and a Peck	<i>Adelaide and the Hot Box Dancers</i>
Adelaide's Lament	<i>Adelaide</i>
Guys and Dolls	<i>Nicely and Benny</i>
Havana	<i>Sky, Sarah, Havana Dancers</i>

If I Were a Bell	<i>Sarah</i>
My Time of Day	<i>Sky</i>
I've Never Been in Love Before	<i>Sky and Sarah</i>

ACT TWO:

Take Back Your Mink	<i>Adelaide and the Hot Box Dancers</i>
Adelaide's Second Lament	<i>Adelaide</i>
More I Cannot Wish You	<i>Arvide</i>
The Crapshooters Dance	<i>Crapshooters</i>
Luck Be a Lady	<i>Sky and Crapshooters</i>
Sue Me	<i>Adelaide and Nathan</i>
Sit Down, You're Rocking the Boat	<i>Nicely, Ensemble</i>
Marry the Man Today	<i>Adelaide and Sarah</i>
The Happy Ending	<i>Ensemble</i>

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We offer our sincere gratitude to those who helped us with this show. Many hands and kind hearts help us to do our work:

Abby Kubicek
 Andrew Hampshire
 Brin DeVore
 Cindy Laudadio-Hill - she would like a ticket for final dress
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 Mandy Irons
 Margaret Patterson
 Margy Dudley
 Mark Russell
 Mary Lynn Clark
 Matt Bodo
 Melissa Mossinghoff

Michael Chapman
Michael Lee
Mick Souder
Mohriah James
Nancy Carr
Paul Laakso
Peppi Sanders
Randy Hertzman
Stephen Bowers
Susan Hillmeyer
Ted Carr

Families/Friends/Significant Others for providing support and love to those on our team

WHO'S WHO

We've made an online version of this program as well. On that version, you can see the bios of everyone involved, so head on over to www.merelyplayers.org or scan this QR code to get better acquainted with our fantastic team.

Insert QR code here

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Mere words cannot describe how honoured we are by your support. We encourage our audience members to solicit these businesses and to tell the individuals that they are grand!

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MERELY PLAYERS began work in 1994, was officially founded in 1997, and has been bringing theatre to our community ever since. Our vision is to consistently provide quality theatre in this region, while broadening the range of types of experiences available to local theatergoers through relevant, exciting productions. Merely Players is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, and we assure you that any money donated will go toward making quality theatre in Durango both now and in the future.

COMING SOON: The announcement of our 2025-2026 MERELY PLAYERS THEATRE SEASON and upcoming auditions. Get our on mailing list and follow our social media so that you can stay in the loop!

Season Subscriber Brochures will be mailed this July. Season Subscribers get discount prices and exclusive ticket windows. Sign up for our mailing list at www.merelyplayers.org

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For more information on Merely Players, to buy tickets, to get involved, or to be added to our mailing list:

Website: <http://www.merelyplayers.org/>

Telephone: 970.749.8585

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GABE – PUT QR CODES IN

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A Note from the Director

When it opened on Broadway on Nov. 24, 1950, *Guys and Dolls* received what might be "the most unanimously ecstatic set of reviews in Broadway history," according to theatre scholar Steven Suskin. Critic John Chapman decreed it "... a perfect musical comedy." John McClain agreed: "It is the best and most exciting thing of its kind." The musical ran for 1200 performances on Broadway, garnering 8 Tony Awards, including Best Musical. In 1955, the motion picture was made, featuring two of the original cast members (Adelaide and Nicely), and including several new songs. Since then, this beloved musical has been performed all over the world. A Broadway revival starring an all-Black cast came on the scene in 1976, followed by another smash revival in 1992 starring Nathan Lane and Faith Prince in 1992. It was recently revived on the London's West End, receiving even more rave reviews.

The musical is based on the short stories and characters of Pueblo, Colorado native Damon Runyon. He began writing in the late 1920s for several New York magazines, and his menagerie of Broadway characters were well-loved by New Yorkers. The romance between Sky and Sarah is taken primarily from his short story "The Idyll of Miss Sarah Brown," but scriptwriters Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows also incorporated many other Runyonesque characters, story lines, and the signature Runyon speech patterns.

The lively score, irrepressible characters, and engaging story line have long contributed to *Guys and Dolls* being one of the most highly praised shows from the Golden Era of the musical theatre, and it is a joy to bring it to Durango with this fabulous Merely team. Although, just for the record, we do not advise marrying the man today with the hope of changing his ways tomorrow. ☺

-Mona Wood-Patterson, director

Logo

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players." – William Shakespeare

