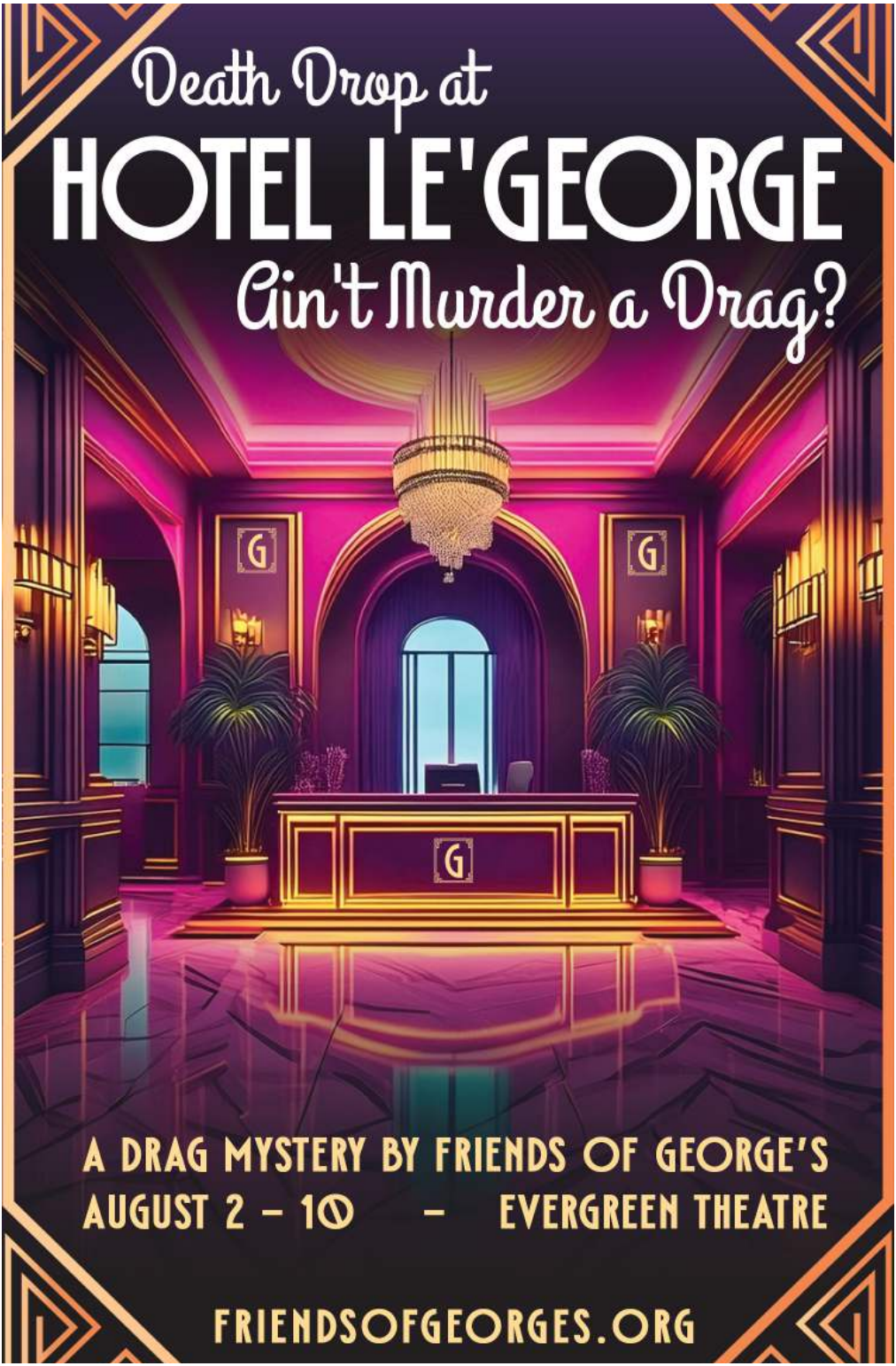
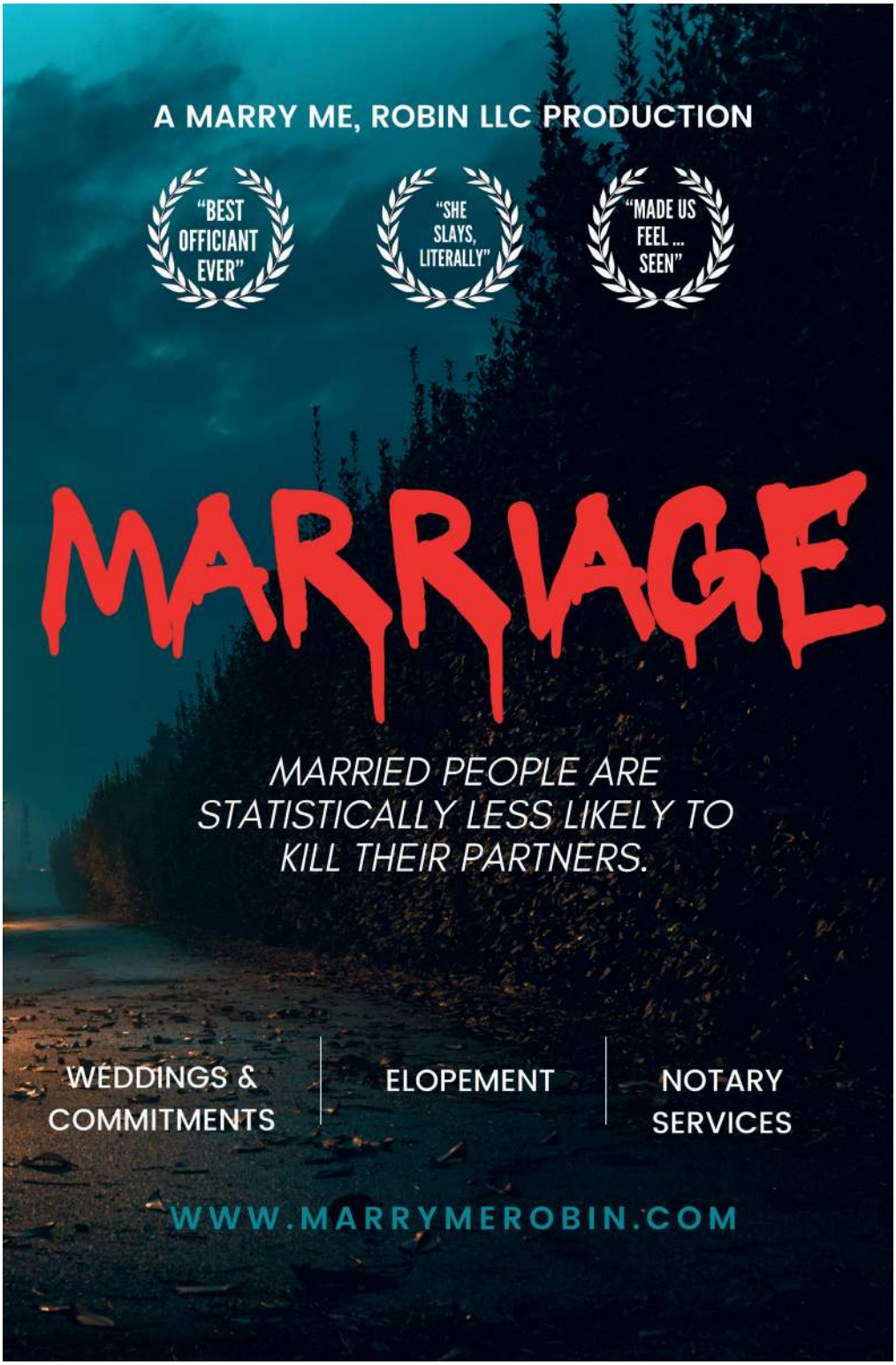

Death Drop at
HOTEL LE'GEORGE
Ain't Murder a Drag?
A DRAG MYSTERY BY FRIENDS OF GEORGE'S
AUGUST 2 – 10 – EVERGREEN THEATRE
FRIENDSOFGEORGES.ORG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## Friends of George's Presents

# Death Drop at HOTEL LE'GEORGE
## Ain't Murder a Drag?

August 2,3,4 & 8,9,10, 2024
Evergreen Theatre

*starring*

Allysun Wunderland  Burton Bridges  Alexandra Carpenter
Brenda Newport  Sandy Kozik  Fantasia Bordeaux
Camille Collins  David Winter-Gutierrez
Chad Engelbert  Greg Hammond  Dustin Perry
Will Ryder  Papa Chubb  Jane Parks  Amy Rush

*costumes/wigs*
Mark Campbell

*lighting design*
Dylan Allemang

*scenic design*
Andrew Glenn

*sound design*
Ty Phillips

*props*
Jane Parks

*choreography*
Laquentus "Q" Jones

*video*
Ty Phillips

*stage management*
Jennifer Murry-Rodley
J-Lavender

*production manager*
Vanessa Rodley

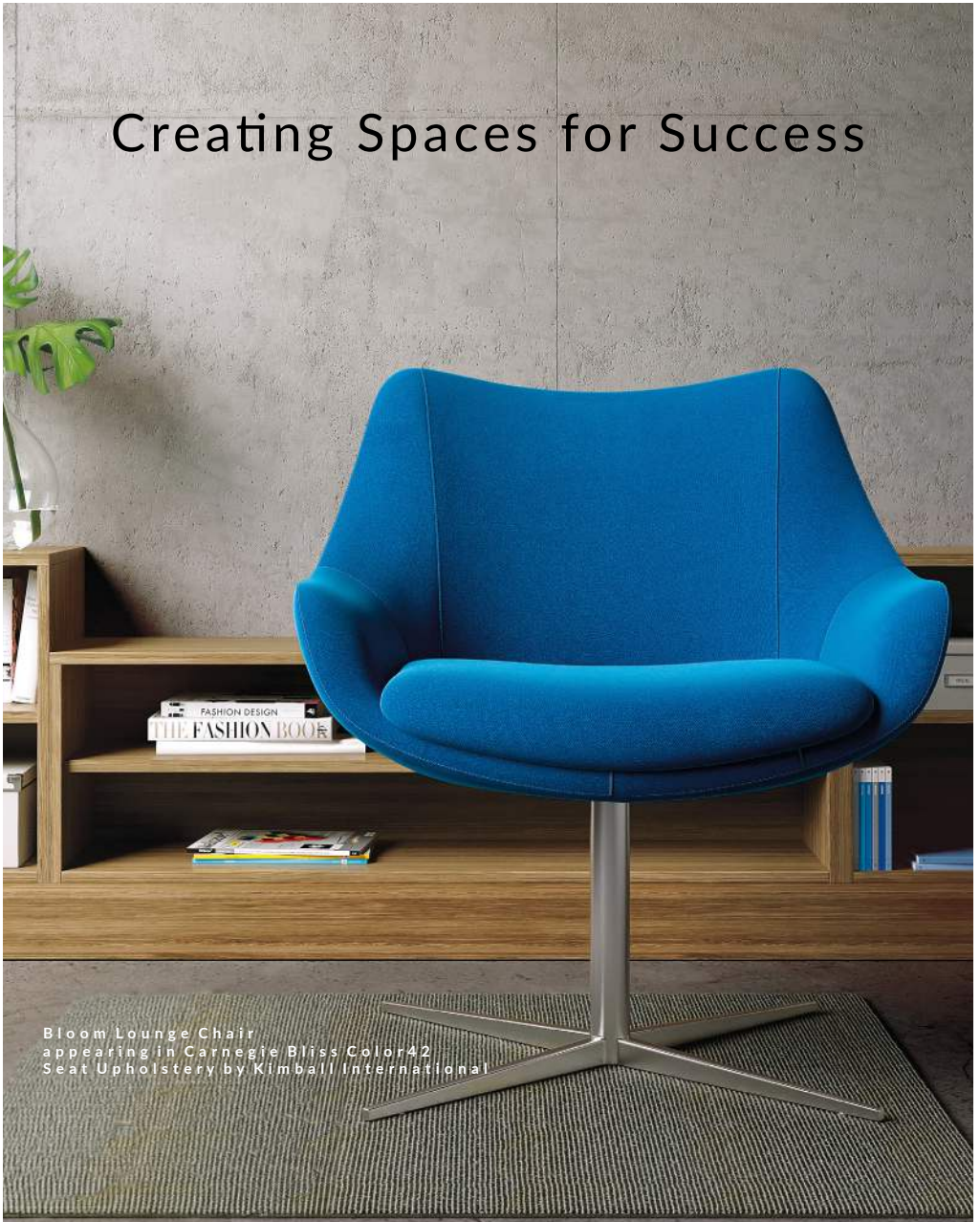
*written by*
Jane Parks, Burton Bridges, Ty Phillips, Rick Bartl,
Alexandra Carpenter, Sandy Kozik

***Directed By***
**Ann Marie Hall**

*benefiting*
Theatreworks At The Evergreen

There will be a 15 minute intermission.
Please silence your phones.

# Creating Spaces for Success

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# CAST

| | |
|---|---|
| *Winston* | David Winter Gutierrez |
| *Dr. Tuckitt* | Chad Engelbert |
| *Oomah* | Brenda Newport |
| *Andrew* | Greg Hammond |
| *Mary Kay* | Allysun Wunderland |
| *Kerry May* | Fantasia Bordeaux |
| *Senator Butch McConnell* | Dustin Perry |
| *Chip Twinkerton* | Will Ryder |
| *Delta Fawcett* | Camille Collins |
| *Gillette* | Papa Chubb |
| *Suzanne* | Alexandra Carpenter |
| *Dawn* | Jane Parks |
| *Dragatha Christie* | Burton Bridges |
| *Detective L'Combs* | Sandy Kozik |
| *Velma* | Amy Rush |

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Dearest Friend,

You're likely aware of the recent decision from the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals reversing the trial court's decision which found the Tennessee Adult Entertainment Act to be unconstitutional (we'll just call it the anti-drag law). The Sixth Circuit determined that we did not have standing as an organization to bring this action and dismissed our case. What does this mean? In laymen's terms, it means that we had not suffered a harm to be able to sue.

While we disagree with the Court's decision, we will follow the law. Out of an abundance of caution, our shows will be 18+ at this moment because we emphasize and celebrate the art of drag. Now, does that mean that we are giving up? No way, honey! It just means that we will do what our community has done for years…we will pick ourselves up, put on our heels, and produce our best show yet while we appeal this decision. We can only do that with your support!

From our hearts, thank you for attending this show, for being our cheerleaders, for showing your love, and for advocating on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community. We can't do this without *you*.

This is going to be a challenging time for us, and we welcome any support you can provide – whether it's by volunteering, sharing our story, or making a donation, we are deeply grateful.

In sequins and solidarity,

Friends of George's Board of Directors

---

info@friendsofgeorges.org

www.friendsofgeorges.org

## CREW

| | |
|---|---|
| Director | Ann Marie Hall |
| Stage Managers | Jennifer Murry-Rodley |
| | J-Lavender |
| Set Design | Andrew Glenn |
| Lighting Design | Dylan Allemang |
| Lighting Operator | J-Lavender |
| Spotlight Operator | Richard Mancell |
| Sound Design | Ty Phillips |
| Choreography | Laquentus “Q” Jones |
| Wig & Costume Design | Mark Campbell |
| Props | Jane Parks |
| Set Construction | Andrew Glenn |
| | Robert Packwood |
| Music Editing | Jacob Allen |
| Spot Operator | Richard Mancell |
| Stagehand | Robert Packwood |
| Dresser | Scott Haynes |
| Backstage | Ellen Phillips |
| Production House Manager | Vanessa Rodley |
| Production Team | Rick Bartl, Burton Bridges, |
| | Vanessa Rodley |
| Video | Ty Phillips |
| Graphic Design/Media | New Urban Media |
| Show Photographer | Kevin Reed |
| Promotional Photography | Focus Media Group |
| Program Sales | Diane Thornton |
| Original Writers | Rick Bartl |
| | Burton Bridges |
| | Alex Carpenter |
| | Jane Parks |
| | Ty Phillips |
| | Sandy Kozik |

## SPECIAL THANK YOU

Savannah Bearden, Heather Belton,Trevor Birchett, Kym Clark,
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Mar Newell, Robert Packwood,Playhouse on the Square,
Jamie Roberts, Tim Sellers,Steve Speed,Melissa Stewart
TheatreWorks, Bill Townsend, Daniel Valdez, The Mail Center,
A-Z Office Resource

# WHO'S WHO

Amy Rush (Velma) (sher/her) moved to Memphis from Prague in 2020 and she quickly discovered that the Memphis theater community is full of warm, talented and capable artists. She earned an M.A. in Puppet Arts at University of Connecticut. Amy was a resident puppeteer at the Center for Puppetry Arts and studied improv at Dad's Garage in Atlanta, performed in many puppet projects while living in New York, and performed in plays and improv groups while living in Prague. She is proud to be on the board of LoneTree Live, a TheatreWorks resident company, and is on its producing team for "The 24 Hour Plays: Memphis." Notable local acting credits: Theatre Memphis' "The Play That Goes Wrong" (Ostrander Award for Best Supporting Actress); Circuit Playhouse's "POTUS" and New Moon Theatre's "Shockheaded Peter," "Art," and "Small Mouth Sounds." She's so glad to be on stage with Friends of George's for this wild mystery and encourages you to see as much live theater as you are able!

Chad Engelbert (Dr. Tuckitt)(he/him) Although this is Chad's first show with FOG, you may have seen him around the Memphis theater community in such productions as A Raisin in the Sun, or Paul Oakley Stoval's Immediate Family. You may have also seen him around town in another role performing sleight of hand magic under the name That's Wonderful, Chad! When not performing, you will find Chad, with his wife Lisa, cultivating joy and love in their garden.

Dustin Perry (Senator) (he/him)Dustin is joining Friends of George's on stage for the first time. A long time fan, he is excited to get back on stage and flex his comedic muscles. Dustin did improv for 8 years and has done a bit of community theater, he now uses those skills teaching high school math. This role should be …to die for.

Fantasia Bordeaux (Kerry May)(sher/her) is a graduate of Christian Brothers University. She is an LGBTQ+ Advocate and has been a Memphis entertainer for over 25yrs. She is a former Miss Black Continental and Miss Gay Memphis. She believes in giving back to her community, supporting and uplifting her LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters in their journey through life, being a positive role model, and a voice for change.

Jane Parks (Dawn) (she/her)It is with great excitement that Jane joins this lovely cast in this latest production, Death Drop at Hotel Le'George. The feeling of belonging she gets as she has immersed herself into Friends of George's, is truly a gift. As a newly appointed member of the company's board of directors, Jane is thrilled to be playing a more behind the scenes role while still being a part of the team.

Allysun Wunderland (Mary Kay) (she/her)Allysun Wunderland holds the record for starring in every Friends of George's show since the company's inception. Having reigned as Queen Pegasus XVI, this generous champion of charitable causes doesn't know the word "no," as she's always lending her talent to worthy nonprofits in our community. She's thrilled to reprise her iconic role as "Mary Kay" in this new satire.

Brenda Newport (Oomah) (she/her) is the addiction you just can't quit! With a cackle that can be heard from miles away, she draws you into her world of mesmerizing enchantment. Once you've experienced the magic of Brenda Newport, you'll find it impossible to resist her charms. She's so happy to be back for another Friends of George's production! So get ready to surrender to your favorite addiction and embrace the unforgettable journey that awaits in her glamorous world!

Papa Chubb(Gillette) (he/him) is a Memphis-made entertainer who loves to channel the Music of the Spheres! A local burlesque performer since 2017, you can catch him bringin' the funk and swingin' his junk all over this gritty River City! He wears his heart on his sleeve, and not much else. He also wears many hats - performer, producer, host - and recently released his first album "Void Voyager" on Spotify, Apple Music, and all other streaming platforms!

Sandy Kozik (Cher La Combs) (he/him)is a retired circus clown who toured with a three ring tent circus in the 70's and 80's. Though retired from non-profit arts education, he keeps busy as a member of the board of Friends of George's; as a judge for the Orpheum High School Musical Theatre Awards; playing atmospheric characters; and still decorates homes for Christmas (get on the list now). He loves playing dress up with this crazy bunch of wonderful kids and hopes that you enjoy watching.

Greg Hammond (Andrew) (he/him) can't believe he has sacrificed his summer evenings for your entertainment. If it all was worth it only you can be the judge. He is excited to return to the stage with his Friends of George's cast mates old as well as new. This will be Greg's eighth production with Friends of George's. Greg would like to thank the Friends of Georges members for their support and encouragement, and you our audience members who make this all worthwhile.

Mark Campbell (Delta Fawcett)(he/him)/Camille Collins(she her) : When a female impersonator was needed to play the role of a glamorous, conniving, and delusional diva, Camille Collins answered the call. (Well, it took three attempts as she assumed it was spam - but she's back!) This storied Memphis entertainer and creator of the George's Truckstop characters is thrilled to reprise the role of Delta Fawcett that she originated. One could say she heard Delta beckoning her back to the limelight. She thanks her fur babies, Lulu and Dexter for their constant love and support throughout the creative process.

Alexandra Carpenter (Suzanne) (she/her) has been an active member of the Memphis Queer community for 15+ years, making her debut as drag king Macc Onner at Dru's Place in 2011. A proud representative of the Coxxx family, Macc had the *Onner* of serving as Mr. Misster Memphis 2015 and Mister Mid-South Pride 2016. She joined Friends of George's and Cazateatro Bilingual Theatre Group, performing at Evergreen Theatre, TheatreWorks on the Square, and other venues throughout our artful city. She's excited to join the fabulous family cast for another Friends of George's production!

David  Winter (Winston) (he/him)is so thrilled to be joining FOG for his 8th show. If you have fun watching the show, just imagine the fun spent backstage! There's lots of joy to go around :)

Will Ryder (Chip) (he/him), also known as The King of the Castle, holds the second-place record for appearing in the most Friends of George's productions just behind Allysun Wunderland. Will has been performing for 16 years and is the host of the all king show "The Dynasty," the second longest running drag show in town after Friends of George's. This year, he was honored as one of Mid-South Pride's Grand Marshals. While Will loves being on stage, his favorite part is the bonds forged backstage with fellow performers. He's had a blast originating the sassy Chip Twinkerton in this show!

Burton Bridges (Dragatha Christie)  (he/him) is thrilled to appear in his eighth Friends of George's show, this time as Dragatha Christie. Burton serves as a board member of Friends of George's, where he's also known as BeBe. He had a blast bringing this story to life as part of the writing team. Additionally, he serves on the board of OUT Memphis and also performs in theatres around the city. When in doubt, "keep it happy, keep it snappy, keep it gay!"

Dylan Allemang is a lighting designer with nine years of experience specializing in events, concert, and theater lighting. Throughout his career, Dylan has had the opportunity to work with notable artists such as Sugar Ray, Wayne Brady, and Styx. Originally from California, Dylan moved to Memphis in 2013, bringing his West Coast flair to the local entertainment scene. His hobbies include traveling, surfing, skateboarding, and attending music festivals. In 2024, Dylan and his wife, Ellen, founded Sublime Light, an entertainment company named after his favorite band, Sublime. Together, they aim to create unforgettable party experiences in Memphis.

Vanessa Rodley (House Manager), Vanessa's journey with Friends of George (FOG) began in 2010, inspired by her mother-in-law and founding member, Angel Murry. Within a year, she transitioned from an avid supporter to a dedicated board member, and since then has played every role but lighting and sound! Beyond FOG, Vanessa serves on multiple boards and advisory committees. She is particularly celebrated for her significant contributions to Mid-South Pride, where her efforts have made a lasting impact. Vanessa's commitment to fostering inclusivity and community spirit showcases her dedication to making a difference.

Laquentus "Q" Jones is a native Memphian. He has been a professional line dance instructor for 2 years now. He teaches private and public classes across the city.  He has a line dance class every Tuesday at Dru's Bar at 6 pm. One of his slogans are "if you have 2 left feet, he can make one of them right."

J-Lavender is proud to once again be apart of a Friends of George's production

Jennifer is ecstatic to return to her beloved role as stage manager for this production. While she misses her time on stage, she is proud to support her cast from stage right. She has been a dedicated board member of Friends of George's for 8 years and is thrilled to continue to support Theater for a Cause. She says that her work with FOG is a creative outlet and she hopes to continue to fight for the right for everyone to be able to express that creativity freely.

Ann Marie Hall (Director) (she/her) is delighted to work with Friends of Georges again. She has kept busy directing about town with such productions as "Evil Dead, The Musical", "Reefer Madness" and the most recent "Potus". For the coming months she will be mounting "Parrell Lives", "Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolf" and "Rumors". Many thanks to Friends of Georges for Making Drag Great Again!

*Please join us after the show!*

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