

PLAYBILL®

Evolution Theatre Company
in association with
The Abbey Theater
Dublin, OH

FUN
HOME

The word 'FUN' is written in large, bold, textured letters. 'F' is red, 'U' is black, and 'N' is blue. The word 'HOME' is also in large, bold, textured letters. 'H' and 'E' are black, 'M' is red, and the 'O' is a blue oval containing a white silhouette of two figures, one standing and one sitting, against a blue background.

Evolution Theatre Company
in association with the Abbey Theater of Dublin

PRESENTS

FUN HOME

Based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel

Music by
Jeanine Tesori

Book & Lyrics by
Lisa Kron

Directed by
Joe Bishara

featuring

Tom Cardinal
Ava Rogers
Vivienne Bishara

Liz Wheeler *
Rachel Hertenstein **
Chandler Ritchey

Niko Carter
Ellie Haenick
Jack Van Winkle

Costume Designer
Alexa Rybinski

Sound Designer
Name

Lighting Designer
Name

Projection Design & Illustration
C. G. Ryan

Stage Manager
Lila Alix **

Musical Director
Brandon Ring

Choreographed by
Jamie Markovich McMahon

Musicians

Bass Guitar
Jenna Jaworski

Guitar
Luis Gonzales

Violinist
Nic Lacy

** Working under an AEA contract.
Courtesy of AEA

*Member of Actors' Equity
Association in good standing.

SONGS

Musical Numbers

It All Comes Back (Opening)	Small Alison, Bruce, Alison & Company
Welcome to Our House on Maple Avenue	Helen, Alison, Small Alison, Christian, John, Bruce & Roy
Medium Alison: Not Too Bad	Medium Alison
Come to the Fun Home	John, Christian & Small Alison
Helen, Bruce and Roy	Helen, Bruce, Roy & Kids
Tough Titty	Small Alison, Bruce & Medium Alison
Changing My Major	Medium Alison
Maps	Bruce, Alison
Raincoat of Love	Bobby Jeremy & Company
Pony Girl	Bruce
Ring of Keys	Small Alison
Days	Helen
Bruce At The Piano	Bruce
Telephone Wire	Alison & Bruce
Edges of the World	Bruce
Finale: Flying Away	Alison, Medium Alison & Small Alison

Originally Produced on Broadway by
Fox Theatricals Barbara Whitman
Carole Shorenstein Hays

Tom Casserly Paula Marie Black Latitude Link Terry Schnuck/Jane Lane The Forstalls
Nathan Vernon Mint Theatricals Elizabeth Armstrong Jam Theatricals Delman Whitney
and Kristin Caskey and Mike Isaacson

The world premiere production of FUN HOME was produced by The Public Theater
Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director Patrick Willingham, Executive Director
In New York City on October 22nd, 2013
FUN HOME was developed, in part,
at the 2012 Sundance Institute Theatre Lab at White Oak and the
2012 Sundance Institute Theatre
Lab at the Sundance Resort.

WHO'S WHO

Tom Cardinal

as Bruce Bechdel

A Columbus native, Tom returns to Evolution after appearing in MUSICAL OF MUSICALS and SILVER FOXES. An Otterbein grad, he has performed for 34 yrs at Shadowbox Live, where he's also CFO. Favorite shows include FORBIDDEN PLANET, SCROOGE, F#(K CANCER THE MUSICAL, VINYL and many at SBX's second theatre, 2Co's. Love always to Kirby, the kids, and everyone else on the journey

Liz Wheeler

as Helen Bechdel

Liz Wheeler is an award winning AEA actress from Columbus, Ohio. She holds a BFA in acting from Wright State and oversees the Theater program at Columbus School for Girls. Liz has performed for many theaters around the country including Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, CATCO, The Human Race, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and others. Liz is excited to share the stage with her daughter for the first time. She thanks her family and friends for their support and help during this show.

Niko Carter

as Roy, et al.

Niko Carter is an actor and director based out of Central Ohio. They have a BFA in Acting/Directing with a focus in Stage Combat. They would like to thank their friends and family for always being their biggest supporters and the cast for the amazing work on this production! BLM. Trans Rights are Human Rights. (they/he)Facebook: Niko Carter Instagram: @KneeCoCarts

Ava Rogers

as Joan

Ava Rogers is thrilled to be a part of her second Evolution Theatre production. Some of her favorite stage credits include GREASE (Jan), AMERICAN IDIOT (Alysha) and ALICE BY HEART (Nigel/Dormouse). FUN HOME is her second professional Central Ohio production as an actor. Much love to my family, friends, and everyone involved with the show.

Rachel Hertenstein

as Alison Bechdel

Rachel is stoked to be making her Evolution debut narrating the incredible journey of Alison Bechdel's life. A 2015 graduate from AMDA's musical theatre conservatory in NYC, Rachel is now a Columbus local. Favorite roles include Next to Normal (Diana), The Wild Party (Madeline True), Urinetown (Hope), Rock of Ages (Regina), and The Rocky Horror Show (Janet).

WHO'S WHO

Ellie Haenick

as Medium Alison

Ellie Haenick is thrilled to be a part of "Fun Home"! Previous favorite roles include Cheryl in "Evil Dead the Musical" (Madlab) and Amy March in "Little Women of Orchard House" (Aethereal Jest Arts Council). By day, Ellie is a student at Ohio State University studying computer science. She would like to thank everyone involved in "Fun Home", and hopes you enjoy the show!

Vivienne Bishara

as Small Alison

Vivie Bishara is excited to be performing in her second Evolution show. Previous credits include Gretel in *The Sound of Music* and children's chorus in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Vivie thanks her family and friends for their support!

Chandler Ritchey

as John Bechdel

Chandler is a 6th grader at Hastings Middle School in Upper Arlington. This is his first show with Evolution Theatre and he is very excited to be a part of the Fun Home production. Chandler has been doing theater for 3 years; some roles include Newsies "Les" at Hastings Middle School, Disney's Descendants "Carlos" with the Dublin Abbey Theater, Matilda "Bruce" Dublin Abbey theater. He wants to thank his friends and family that support him and this adventure! Enjoy the show!

Jack Van Winkle

as Christian Bechdel

Jack is a 7th grader from Worthington. He is excited to be a part of his first show with Evolution Theatre. Some of his favorite recent roles have been Jack Kelly in Newsies Jr, Young Will in Big Fish & Damian in Mean Girls Jr. He would like to thank the production team for this opportunity, his vocal coach Logan and his family & friends for their support!

Joe Bishara

Director

Joe Bishara (Director) has worked on over 300 theatrical productions across the United States as an award-winning Actor, Director, Educator, and Producer. Joe is honored to collaborate on his 15th ETC production alongside his wife (Liz) & his daughter (Vivie). A big "THANK YOU!" to Mark, and the FUN HOME team for sharing your time and talents on this production.

WHO'S WHO

Brandon Ring

Musical Director

Brandon is excited to work with the talented artists at Evolution Theater again. He attended The University of Dayton for a Bachelor of Arts in Music, The Ohio State University for a Master of Music in Vocal Performance, and The University of Southern Mississippi for the Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting. Brandon has toured nationally and internationally as a countertenor soloist, conductor, instructor, and clinician. Brandon musically directed *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Forbidden Broadway* for Evolution the past two seasons.

Jamie Markovich McMahon

Choreographer

Jamie Markovich McMahon is an award winning director and choreographer having worked on dozens of regional and international shows. She was a musical theater performer based out of New York City for 13 years. Jamie was a casting associate, on site producer and choreographer for RWS Entertainment Group in NYC.

Lila Alix

Stage Manager

Lila is thrilled to return to the Abbey Theatre after a year at Ohio University. She is studying Language Arts Education and is a member of Friday's Live, a multi camera sketch comedy group on campus. Favorite credits include American Idiot (Stage Manager), Dracula (Stage Manager), and McQueen (Production Assistant). Much love to the production team, her family, and her friends back in Athens.

C. G. Ryan

Production Designer & Illustrations

C.G. [Christine Guillot] RYAN is a media artist and performance designer who works with video collage, animation, and sound to create surreal transportive experiences for live performance, installation, and theater. C.G.'s work has been recognized by Broadway World, the Ohio Art Council, Artehouse in NYC, and is currently the Fuse Factory's 2025 Artist-in-Residence.

WHO'S WHO

Alexa Rybinski

Costumer Designer

Alexa is excited to be costuming with the Abbey Theater this season! She has previously costumed with Imagine, HAC, CCT, SNS, and LTOB. She has been seen onstage and in the pit for many productions around Columbus. This is her first year as the drama director at Hilliard Bradley HS, and she teaches voice and violin lessons to many wonderful students!

Sound Design

Jenna Jaworski

Bass Guitar

Jenna Jaworski is excited to be a member of the band for Evolution Theatre's Fun Home. She has previously played bass for CCT's Next to Normal and Diary of a Wimpy Kid, SNS's Rent and Sondheim on Sondheim, CTO's 9 to 5, and LTOB's Little Shop of Horrors. She would like to thank her family for all of their love and support throughout her journeys in music and theater.

Luis Gonzales

Guitar

Luis Gonzales is a music instructor and freelance guitarist and bassist in the Central Ohio area. Luis is thrilled to be a part of Evolution Theatre Company's production of Fun Home!

Nic Lacy

Violinist

Nic Lacy is a classical violinist that hails from Columbus, Ohio. They graduated from The Ohio State University and plays for multiple symphony orchestras in the state of Ohio.

Mark Phillips Schwamberger

*Producer / Executive Director / Artistic
Director*

Mark's theatrical career spans over forty years. His passion for theatre began during his undergraduate studies at The University of Louisville and continues to this day. Besides working and performing in New York and Michigan, he has also been in various musicals, comedies and dramas in Kentucky, Florida and Ohio. He is the Founder and Executive / Artistic Director of Evolution Theatre Company, an Actors' Equity Association Small Professional Theatre Company and the only professional LGBTQ+ Theatre Company in Central Ohio. He received his B.A. in Theatre for The Ohio State University. Mark is also an award-winning playwright. He is a member of Actors' Equity Association, the Dramatist Guild and the recipient of the 2024 Harold Award.



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our 2025
Season!

MAY

**FUN
HOME**

A
**Real
Boy**
by Jeff Downing

JUNE/JULY

SEPTEMBER

the
**Shakespeare
Conspiracy**
spies, deception, murder...

DRACULA
A COMEDY OF TERRORS

OCTOBER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Evolution Theatre Company
extends a very special
THANK YOU
to



Lisa Kron

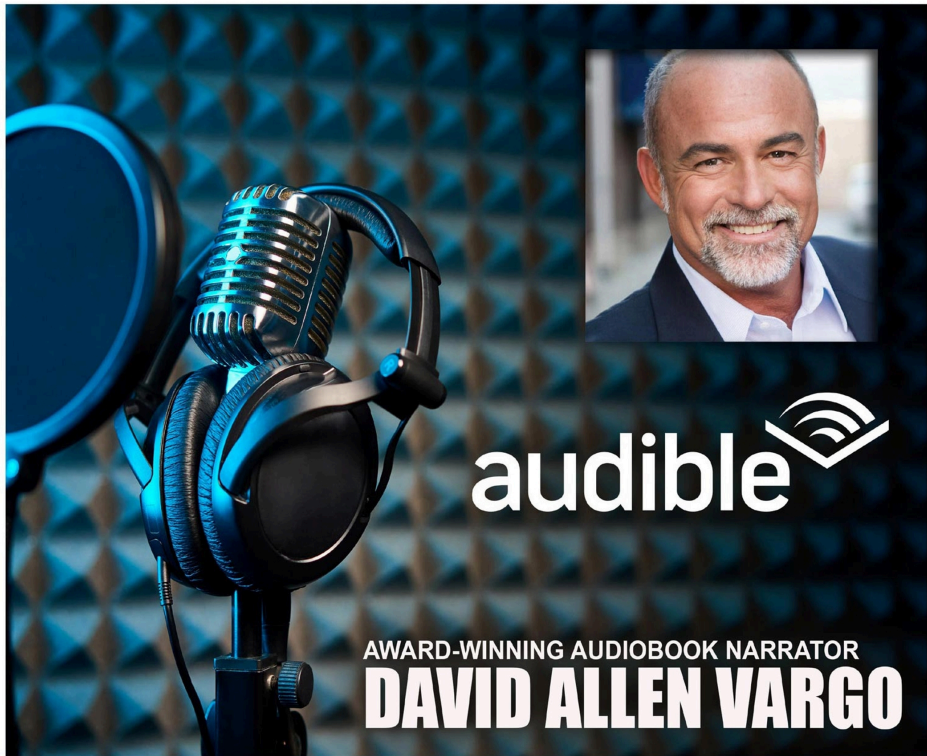
Lisa Kron is a writer and performer whose work has been widely produced in New York, regionally, and internationally. Her plays include *Well*, *2.5 Minute Ride* and *The Ver**zon Play*. She wrote the book and lyrics for the musical *Fun Home* (with music by composer Jeanine Tesori), winner of five 2015 Tony Awards including Best Musical. Lisa and Jeanine were the first all-woman team to ever receive a Tony for best score. As an actor, Lisa was most recently seen as Mrs. Mi-Tzu and Mrs. Yang in the Foundry Theater's acclaimed production of *Good Person of Szechuan* (Lortel Award, Outstanding Featured Actress). Honors include a Guggenheim fellowship, a Doris Duke Performing Artists Award, and the Cal Arts/Alpert Award. She is a proud founding member of the OBIE- and Bessie-Award-winning collaborative theater company The Five Lesbian Brothers. Lisa currently serves as Secretary of the Dramatists Guild Council and on the boards of the McDowell Colony and the Lilly Awards.

Jeanine Tesori

Jeanine Tesori has written a diverse catalog for Broadway, opera, film and television. Her Broadway musicals include: *Fun Home* (2015 Tony Award Winner, Pulitzer finalist); *Violet; Caroline, or Change; Shrek the Musical; Thoroughly Modern Millie; Twelfth Night* (LCT); John Guare's *A Free Man of Color*. Delacorte: *Mother Courage* (starring Meryl Streep). She has received five Tony nominations, three Obie Awards and three Drama Desk Awards. The hallmarks of her work have been described as "close-to-the-surface emotion, structural rigor and rhythmic drive." Her operas include: *The Lion, the Unicorn and Me* and *Blizzard on Marblehead Neck* (MET/LCT Opera/Theater and Glimmerglass Opera commission); her upcoming collaboration with Tazewell Thompson, *Blue*, was commissioned for Glimmerglass Opera company and will premiere there next season. She wrote the musical featured in the 2016 revival of *Gilmore Girls* and has also written special material for artists such as *The Girl in 14G* for Kristin Chenoweth and has been featured in the documentaries *Show Business* and *Theater of War*. Jeanine Tesori became the founding Artistic Director of a new concert series at New York City Center called Encores! Off-Center. After producing four seasons of Off-Center concerts, she took one of those concerts, *Sunday in the Park with George* (starring Jake Gyllenhaal) to Broadway where she produced the 2017 revival, with ATG and Riva Marker. A lecturer in music at Yale and on faculty at Columbia University, Tesori has spoken and taught at universities and programs all over the country. She is the founding Creative Director of the non-profit A BroaderWay, an arts empowerment program for young women. She was given the Einhorn Mentorship Award by Primary Stages for her exceptional work with young artists.

Alison Bechdel

Alison Bechdel is an American cartoonist. Originally known for the long-running comic strip *Dykes to Watch Out For*, she came to critical and commercial success in 2006 with her graphic memoir *Fun Home*. *Fun Home* was subsequently adapted as a musical that won a Tony Award for Best Musical in 2015. Bechdel was born in Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. She is the daughter of Helen Augusta and Bruce Allen Bechdel. Her family was Roman Catholic. Her father was an army veteran and was also a high school English teacher, working full-time and operating a funeral home part-time. Her mother was an actress and teacher. Both of her parents contributed to her career as a cartoonist. She has two brothers: Bruce "Christian" Bechdel II and John Bechdel, a keyboard player who has worked with many bands. Bechdel left high school a year early and earned her A.A. in 1979 from Bard College at Simon's Rock. She graduated with a degree in studio arts and art history in 1981 from Oberlin College. After her father died in 1980, her mother sold the family house in Beech Creek, Pennsylvania, the small town where Bechdel grew up, and moved to Bellefonte, a less provincial small town near State College with her long-time partner Robert Fenichel.



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