

# BUZZ EXTRA

# GREASE

is the word!

May 11-23  
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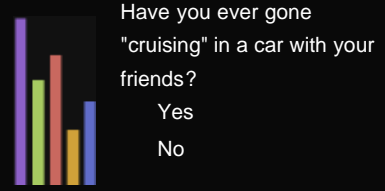
"We're great friends; we have a great chemistry."  
~Lauren

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## SPOTLIGHT

### HAVE YOU HEARD?



Photo by Joan Marcus: Scene From GREASE on Tour; Company

"GREASE is the word! It's got groove, it's got meaning." Find the time, the place and the motion at GREASE, presented as part of the KeyBank Broadway Series at PlayhouseSquare May 11-23.

Paul Hodgins of *The Orange County Register* sings praise to the "undeniable genius behind Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey's songs, among the most catchy faux-'50s tunes ever penned. For whatever reason, when I hanker for a silly, escapist musical, 'GREASE' is the one that I want (ooh, ooh, ooh, honey)."

"Get swept away by a lively 'GREASE'," hums Chuck Graham of *The Tuscon Citizen*.

Taylor Hicks, American Idol winner and star of GREASE declares, "this is such a

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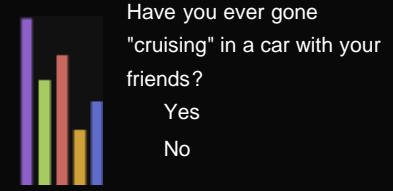
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## HAVE YOU HEARD?



Photo by Joan Marcus: *Greased Lightnin'*; Will Blum, Brian Crum, David Ruffin, Eric Schneider and Nick Verina

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Paul Hodgins of *The Orange County Register* sings praise to the "undeniable genius behind Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey's songs, among the most catchy faux-'50s tunes ever penned. For whatever reason, when I hanker for a silly, escapist musical, 'GREASE' is the one that I want (ooh, ooh, ooh, honey)."

"Get swept away by a lively 'GREASE'," hums Chuck Graham of *The Tuscon Citizen*.

**Taylor Hicks**, American Idol winner and star of GREASE declares, "this is such a great opportunity to visit old fans and new fans across the country while bringing them a great Broadway show!"

### Awards

GREASE (the original musical and the two revivals) has been nominated for a total of 12 Tony Awards. It received two Theatre World awards for the character of Rizzo, as well as two Drama Desk awards for outstanding choreography and most promising costume design.

In addition to playing all over the U.S., GREASE has been produced in London, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Singapore, Paris, Kuala Lumpur, South Africa, Seoul, Manila, Macau, Warsaw, Puerto Rico, Dubai, and India.



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According to *Time Magazine*, it is one of the most produced high school musicals ever.

Ben Brantley of *The New York Times* was right when he said, "*Danny and Sandy 4-Ever and Ever!*"

#### Synopsis

GREASE is the classic boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl story. Danny Zuko and Sandy Dumbrowski had a summer romance. Sandy was from Immacullatta High School and Danny attends Rydell High. Somehow Sandy transfers to Rydell and upon meeting Danny again, he is too cool for her, being the leader of the T-Birds. Sandy hooks up with the Pink Ladies who take her under their wing and help her to grow up.

Dance through high school with Eugene the nerd, Patty the cheerleader, Rizzo the wild child, Kenickie the greaser and a host of other lively characters to find out if Sandy and Danny will "always be together."

#### Did You Know...

Rydell High School has many famous alumni?

Celebrities who have appeared in GREASE include:

Richard Gere, the late Patrick Swayze, Peter Gallagher, John Travolta, Davy Jones, Chubby Checker, Jimmy Osmond, Al Jarreau, David Hasselhoff, Treat Williams, Barry Bostwick, Brooke Shields, Lucy Lawless, Marilu Henner, Adrienne Barbeau, Tracy Ullman, Debbie Gibson, Rosie O'Donnell, Megan Mullally, Sally Struthers, Linda Blair, Maureen McCormack, Jasmine Guy and Sally Struthers

For more information on the Broadway Show go to:

[www.greaseonbroadway.com](http://www.greaseonbroadway.com)

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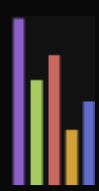
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Have you ever gone "cruising" in a car with your friends?

Yes  
No

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## YOU KNOW IT'S THE 50s WHEN...



Photo by Joan Marcus: Scene From GREASE on Tour; Company

GREASE takes place in the 1950s, a unique time of fashions and fads. It had its own lingo and its own style, some of which are still around today. Life also was a lot cheaper back in the 1950s.

Decide which of the following are still in use today and which are just a memory of a time gone by.

### IMAGINE...

Average Annual Salary: \$3210 (\$268 a month)

### COSTS...

- Dodge Automobile: \$1611
- Gas: 18¢ Gallon
- Milk: 18¢ Gallon
- Postage Stamp: 03¢
- Loaf Of Bread: 14¢
- Sirloin Steak: 77¢ a pound
- TV: \$199
- House: \$8450
- Eggs: 73¢ a dozen

### FASHION...

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#### Poodle Skirts

Saddle shoes and bobby socks

Leather Biker Jackets

Jeans, called Dungarees, rolled up above the ankle

Cat eyeglasses

Bowling Shirts

Teased hair and Pony Tails for girls

Flat Tops and Crew Cuts for boys

Capri pants (called "pedal pushers")

#### SLANG...

Greaser: guy with a lot of grease in his hair

Submarine races: Lover's Lane

Make out: kissing session

Passion pit: drive in movie theater

Cruising for a bruising: looking for trouble

Cool: extraordinary

Hit Parades: cigarettes

Nerd: someone who is square

Don't have a cow: don't get excited

#### MOVIE STARS...

Sandra Dee

Tuesday Weld

Connie Francis

James Dean

Tab Hunter

Troy Donahue

Sal Mineo

Marilyn Monroe

Elizabeth Taylor

#### TOYS...

Mr. Potato Head

Slinky

Silly Putty

Hula Hoop

Barbie

Propeller Beanie

Transistor Radios

Frisbee

Play-Doh

Scrabble

#### NEWS & INVENTIONS...

First Credit Card: Diner's Club Card

Hydrogen Bomb

Video Tape & Recorder

Satellite

Nuclear Power

Rosa Parks

Smokey the Bear

Otis Elevator

Alaska and Hawaii became the 49th and 50th states to join the USA

#### MUSIC...

Bobby Rydell

Elvis Presley

Jerry Lee Lewis

Buddy Holly

Ritchie Valens

Big Bopper

Alan Freed

Bill Haley

Fabian Forte

#### TV SHOWS...

*The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet*

*The Honeymooners*

*I Love Lucy*

*The Ed Sullivan Show*  
*Father Knows Best*  
*Leave it to Beaver*  
*Dragnet*  
*Lassie*  
*Guiding Light* (soap opera)

**TEENAGE MOVIES...**

*Singing in the Rain*  
*Gidget*  
*War of the Worlds*  
*Rebel without a Cause*  
*A Summer Place*  
*The Wild One*  
*I was a Teenage Werewolf*  
*The Blob*

**NEW FOODS...**

Kraft Deluxe Process Cheese Slices  
Chicken Ramen  
Mrs. Paul's Fish Sticks  
Kelloggs' Sugar Frosted Flakes  
M & M's Peanut  
Eggo Frozen Waffles  
Certs, the first candy breath mint  
Jif Peanut Butter  
Kraft Cheese Whiz

**NEW RESTAURANTS...**

Denny's  
McDonald's  
Taco Bell  
Dunkin' Donuts  
Kentucky Fried Chicken  
Jack-in-the-Box  
Pizza Hut  
International House of Pancakes  
Burger King

For more 1950s information, visit:  
[www.fiftiesweb.com/pop/1956.htm](http://www.fiftiesweb.com/pop/1956.htm)



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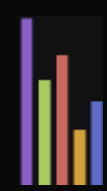
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## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW GREASE?

GREASE opened on Broadway 38 years ago and has been around on Broadway, on tour, and in community theaters, high schools and Hollywood ever since.

It was written by **Jim Jacobs** and **Warren Casey**. Jacobs has said that the show was **based on the kids** in Chicago that he "went to high school with, mainly the greasers and their girlfriends, back in the golden days of rock 'n' roll. Harking back to a lifestyle that seemed centered on hairstyles (oily, gooey coiffs), the food (cheap, fatty hamburgers and soggy fries) and cool custom cars (more gunk and sludge) or any and all things 'greasy' - I suggested we call it GREASE."

GREASE has been produced on Broadway three times for a total of 5447 performances. **The original GREASE played 1972-1980.** The **first revival played 1994-1998.** The **second revival was 2007-2009,** with the current national tour coming out of that show. **GREASE the movie** opened in 1978.



Take this quiz to determine how familiar you are with GREASE the musical and/or GREASE the movie.

### Answer True or False.

1. Marty in the musical is in love with a Marine and sings "Freddy, My Love" at a pajama party.
2. Marty in the movie has a crush on a teacher at the dance.
3. This character's name was changed from Roger in the musical to Putzie in the movie.
4. The boy gang was originally called the Burger Palace Boys in the musical, but changed to T-Birds in the second revival in honor of the movie.
5. The song "Alma Mater" was in the movie.
6. Danny sings "Alone at a Drive-In Movie" in the original musical and first revival, but not in the second revival or the movie.
7. "Alone at a Drive-In Movie" was replaced in the second revival with "Sandy," a song from the movie.
8. Patty Simcox has a larger role in the musical than she does in the movie and sings the Rydell Fight song.
9. In the stage version, the "mooning" scene is different than the movie version. In



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the film, Sonny moons the dance audience viewers on TV. In the stage version, Roger sings a duet with Jan about "mooning."

10. The song "Those Magic Changes" features all of the T-Birds and Doody singing in school, when Doody is just learning to play the guitar.
11. Several musical numbers appear in the film as jukebox tunes or band numbers at the high school dance. These songs include: "Freddy, My Love," "Those Magic Changes," and "It's Raining on Prom Night."
12. The following songs were not originally in the musical: "Sandy," "You're The One That I Want," "Hopelessly Devoted to You," and "Grease."
13. In the first revival, Sandy sings the classic Skyliners' song, "Since I Don't Have You."
14. Rizzo's first name is Betty.
15. Eugene's last name is Florczyk.
16. Cha Cha's (Danny's dancing partner at the dance) last name is Di Gregorio.
17. Sonny's (a T-Bird) last name is Latierra.
18. Sandy's last name is Dumbrowski.
19. Danny's last name is Zuko.
20. GREASE was voted "The number 1 Greatest Musical of all time" in December 2003 by "100 Greatest Musicals" – Channel 4 in London.

**All answers are true...except for number 5. The song "Alma Mater" was in the original show and the first revival only.**

*Photo by Larry Busacca: Teen Angel; Taylor Hicks*

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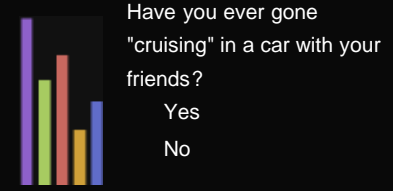
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## TALKING WITH JOSH FRANKLIN... also known as DANNY

Buzz Extra spoke with **Josh Franklin** who portrays Danny in the National Tour. Josh has been seen in Broadway musicals: *Jersey Boys*; *Legally Blonde, the Musical*; *All Shook Up*; *Disney's On the Record* and...GREASE, as well as regional theater and opera. Mr. Franklin plays piano, trombone, guitar and is a singer/songwriter who believes that art is a necessary and important part of humanity that continues to fuel his drive and purpose in everyday life.



EXTRA: I understand you've been in Cleveland before in Disney's *On the Record*.

FRANKLIN: Yes, we opened in Cleveland, and it was a lot of fun.

EXTRA: What brought you to the theater?

FRANKLIN: I enjoyed singing in church. Then, when I was 14, I did a show called *Runaways* about homeless kids on the streets of New York City. It allowed me to explore different emotions that 14-year-olds have to go through but in a very outward way, rather than keeping everything in. There was something about that show that I really connected to. That was the beginning of my theatrical journey. That production changed my life. It taught me the basics of exploring and developing a character. It was intriguing to me as a 14-year-old.

EXTRA: Tell us about your training.

FRANKLIN: I went to the **Colorado Springs Conservatory** in my home town and **Webster Conservatory** in St. Louis, getting all of that great Shakespeare training, Chekhov, Ibsen, all of the rich acting training that I needed. And from there I have been working, thankfully.

EXTRA: Did you have to audition for GREASE?

FRANKLIN: That's a funny question because I actually did the show on Broadway. I left GREASE to do *Legally Blonde*. Then I toured for a year and a half with *Jersey Boys*. I didn't want to tour any more and I just sat on my couch. But I got a call from the Associate Director of GREASE who said they needed a Danny and asked if I was

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interested. I said yes, had three days of rehearsal and have been touring ever since.

EXTRA: When did you first meet your Sandy, Lauren Ashley Zakrin?

FRANKLIN: I met her when I had those three days of rehearsal. The next thing you know is that we are on stage falling in love eight times a week. She's a joy, she has a lot of energy and is really great to work with.

EXTRA: Which GREASE character were you in high school?

FRANKLIN: I think I have traits of Danny in there, but I definitely was a good student. I didn't ditch class and I got good grades. So maybe between Danny and Eugene. Not that those two characters should ever mix, but if they did, they would have been me in high school.

EXTRA: Which group did you belong to in high school?

FRANKLIN: I was in student council with the popular kids, if you can call them that, but I was also in dance. And I was the drum major, you know the guy in the marching band with the big stick conducting the group? I was the leader of the band nerds. So, I sort of crossed different clicks. I was friends with everybody.

EXTRA: Was cruising a big thing when you were in high school?

FRANKLIN: I was really focused in high school. I knew what I wanted to do with my life. I saw the world for what it was and knew I had to get my stuff together if I wanted to be anybody.

EXTRA: Were you into driving?

FRANKLIN: I was 16 when I got my license. My friend's father gave me my first car, a stick shift Subaru and I got in an accident the very first week I had my license. Haven't been in one since but that was a rude awakening. I loved driving my car. I don't own a car now, because no one in New York City really needs a car. But I loved it.

EXTRA: What about your favorite 50s fashion statement?

FRANKLIN: It's all about the hair. That **James Dean hair**. The **pompadour**. It's my own hair in the show. I sit in the chair for about 20 minutes while it's pulled and sprayed and blow-dried. The title GREASE says it all.

EXTRA: What do you do before you go onstage?

FRANKLIN: Warming up physically is a huge priority because there are a lot of knee slides, jumping off of cars and stairs, and throwing girls around. Get my knee-pads on and yoga is really important to get the mind and body focused.

EXTRA: What else does Cleveland need to know about the show?

FRANKLIN: This is an extraordinary cast. This version is worth seeing and it is not just campy. It really explores the feelings of these high school kids and what they're going through. If you love the movie and you love musicals, this is the show to see.

For more information on Josh Franklin, vist:

[www.joshfranklin.net/Welcome.html](http://www.joshfranklin.net/Welcome.html)

[www.myspace.com/joshfranklinmusic](http://www.myspace.com/joshfranklinmusic)

*Photo by Daniel A. Swalec: Grease Promotional Photos; Josh Franklin in Grease.*



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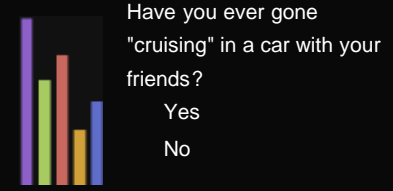
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## TALKING WITH LAUREN ASHLEY ZAKRIN... also known as SANDY

Buzz Extra spoke with Lauren Ashley Zakrin who portrays Sandy in the National Tour of GREASE. Lauren attended [Western Michigan University](#). She also portrayed another famous blonde when she was discovered by MTV for the show [Legally Blonde the Musical: The Search for Elle Woods](#).



EXTRA: What made you decide to go into theater?

ZAKRIN: It is something that came upon me in high school. I got the fever for it. It's what I love and what I want to do. I grew up in high school doing theater and shows. Then I went to Western Michigan University for a year to study musical theater performance. Then I got the [Legally Blonde](#) tour. I've been pretty lucky so far.

EXTRA: I understand that you were on MTV.

ZAKRIN: Yes, I was 18 and on the MTV show [The Search for Elle Woods](#). I was terrified at the time. I had no knowledge of the business and no experience whatsoever. It made me grow up very quickly before stepping into the real world. It was a great learning tool, a great learning prospect. If I hadn't done it, I wouldn't be where I am now.

EXTRA: You did the national tour of [Legally Blonde](#) right before joining GREASE?

ZAKRIN: Yes, I went straight from [Legally Blonde](#) to GREASE. I had four days off.

EXTRA: Did you have to audition for GREASE, or did they know of your work in [Legally Blonde](#)?

ZAKRIN: I had to audition for GREASE. I went in and did a couple of things, including singing "Hopelessly Devoted to You." I met Jim Jacobs and the casting director. Then they asked me for my final call back to audition with the actor they hired for Danny a year ago, and then that was it, they offered me the role.

EXTRA: This was for the national tour? How long have you been on the road?

ZAKRIN: I have been on the road for about 25 months.

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EXTRA: How do you feel about being on the road so long?

ZAKRIN: I like it. I'm young and this is the best time in my life to do it. I get to see the country and see a bunch of different cities and travel. It's exhausting living out of a suitcase, but it's worth it.

EXTRA: Where have you been?

ZAKRIN: I've been just about everywhere, all the major cities. I'm in Philly now. LA, Chicago, Boston, Washington DC. It's funny because I've already been to these cities with *Legally Blonde*, so I come back and say, 'oh I recognize the city and the theater. It's pretty cool.'

EXTRA: Did you know your current Danny, who was also in *Legally Blonde*?

ZAKRIN: No, I did the National Tour and Josh (Franklin) did it on Broadway. He just came into our company a couple of weeks ago and we hit it off. We're great friends; we have a great chemistry. He's the third Danny I've worked with so far.

EXTRA: Which GREASE group did you belong to in high school?

ZAKRIN: I think I was a drifter because I was a cheerleader and into sports but I also did theater and musicals and was a hard-core choir girl. I never did just one thing.

EXTRA: What was your GREASE moment in high school?

ZAKRIN: Hanging out at the Starbucks. You go to Starbucks and meet everyone in your high school there. I grew up in the suburbs in Michigan

EXTRA: If you had to pick a character from GREASE who you were in high school, who would that be?

ZAKRIN: I would actually say Sandy. I started off very naive and very innocent and new to this world. And in the past two and a half years, I moved out of my house to New York and was on national television. I had to adjust a lot quicker than I ever expected and grow up...morph into a new person, like Sandy does at the end. I've become comfortable with myself and the business, so I kind of think I am Sandy in a way.

EXTRA: What is your favorite 50s fashion?

ZAKRIN: The leather jackets that are still in style today.

EXTRA: What do you do right before you go on?

ZAKRIN: Pop in a cinnamon Listerine strip as my safety blanket.

EXTRA: Anything else Cleveland should know?

ZAKRIN: It is my 21st birthday May 16 in Cleveland, so come out to see GREASE if you're looking for a good time!

*Photo by Daniel A. Swalec: Grease Promotional Photos; Lauren Zakrin in Grease.*

# BUZZ EXTRA

# GREASE

is the word!



May 11-23  
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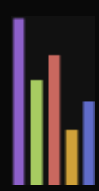
"We're great friends; we have a great chemistry."  
-Lauren

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Have you ever gone "cruising" in a car with your friends?

Yes

No

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## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Q: What do actors worry about most when performing?

A: In talking with actors during master classes, at Post-Show Chats after the Thursday night performances, and at opening night receptions, actors always describe their greatest fear. It is not remembering lines but keeping a performance fresh, always playing in the "now" giving the "illusion of the first time." Acting requires intense concentration and focus. The freshness and rawness in *August: Osage County* was riveting. Estelle Parson's mesmerizing performance was a hallmark of Method Acting, always being in the raw edge of "Now."

Enjoy your theater journeys,  
Joe Garry

Hand in your questions at the Broadway Buzz Pre-Show Talks, or email them to [artseducation@playhousesquare.org](mailto:artseducation@playhousesquare.org).

q & a  
with Joe Garry  
**BROADWAY BUZZ**



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You Know It's the 50s When...  
.....

How Well Do You Know Grease?  
.....

Talking with Josh Franklin (Danny)  
.....

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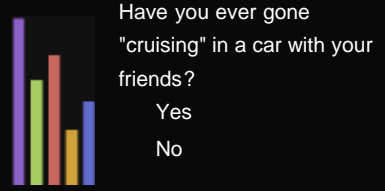
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## ENRICH YOUR EXPERIENCE

Want to find out even more about the show? Come get "buzzed" with host Joe Garry at the Broadway Buzz Pre-Show Talk! Join us one hour before the curtain of each performance of GREASE in the Idea Center® at PlayhouseSquare.



The Idea Center is located just two doors west of the Allen Theatre at 1375 Euclid Avenue. You can enter the Idea Center quickly from the PlayhouseSquare parking garage by taking the elevator or stairs to Level 1. Exit through the red doors and cross at the crosswalk which will lead you directly into the rear entrance of the building. You also may enter the Idea Center from Euclid Avenue.

Catch our Post-Show Chats with the Cast following Thursday evening performances (13th and 20th).

There is no charge for admission to Broadway Buzz events.

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- [Fiddler on the Roof \(June 15-27, 2010\)](#)
- [Grease \(May 11-23, 2010\)](#)
- [August: Osage County \(April 13-25, 2010\)](#)
- [Xanadu \(March 2-14, 2010\)](#)
- [In The Heights: A New Musical \(February 9-21, 2010\)](#)
- [Chicago \(January 12-24, 2010\)](#)
- [Young Frankenstein \(October 13-25, 2009\)](#)
- [Mary Poppins \(July 17-August 9, 2009\)](#)
- [An Evening With Patti LuPone & Mandy Patinkin \(May 5-17, 2009\)](#)
- [Spring Awakening \(March 3-15, 2009\)](#)
- [Frost/Nixon \(January 13-25, 2009\)](#)
- [Radio City Christmas Spectacular \(December 4-28, 2008\)](#)
- [Legally Blonde \(November 11-23, 2008\)](#)
- [A Chorus Line. The Best Musical. Ever. \(October 14-26, 2008\)](#)
- [Jersey Boys: The Story of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons \(June 17-July 20, 2008\)](#)
- [The 25th annual Putnam County Spelling Bee \( May 6 - May 18, 2008\)](#)
- [Color Purple \(March 26 - April 13, 2008\)](#)
- [Wicked \( Feb. 6 - March 9, 2008\)](#)
- [Avenue Q \(January 15 - 27, 2008\)](#)
- [Twelve Angry Men \(November 27-December 9, 2007\)](#)
- [The Drowsy Chaperone \(October 16-28, 2007\)](#)
- [Dirty Rotten Scoundrels \(June 12-24, 2007\)](#)
- [All Shook Up \(April 10-22, 2007\)](#)
- [Legends! \(March 20-April 1, 2007\)](#)
- [Chita Rivera \(February 13-25, 2007\)](#)
- [The Nutcracker \(December 6-10, 2006\)](#)
- [Spamalot \(October 3-15, 2006\)](#)
- [Wicked \(June 21-July 9, 2006\)](#)
- [Little Women \(May 9-21, 2006\)](#)
- [Dr. Dolittle \(April 18-30, 2006\)](#)
- [Bombay Dreams \(March 21-April 2, 2006\)](#)
- [Evita \(January 10-22, 2006\)](#)
- [Little Shop of Horrors \(Nov. 8-20, 2005\)](#)

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