

LUCKY \$TIFF

A MUSICAL COMEDY

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February 2026



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ART CENTER OF CITRUS COUNTY

Art Center Theatre

PRESENTS

LUCKY \$TIFF

A MUSICAL COMEDY

Book and Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens Music by Stephen Flaherty

Based on the book by Michael Butterworth

The Man Who Broke The Bank At Monte Carlo

MTISHOWS.COM

Director/Music Director Danielle Flury-Downey

Co-Director Sandy Mosley

ARTCENTERTHEATRE.ORG

501c3 organization, Solicitation CH9779

2644 N ANNAPOLIS AVE HERNANDO FL 34442

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Book & lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, Music by Stephen Flaherty
Comedy Mystery, Rated PG. MTI Production. 2 acts

CAST

Harry Witherspoon - Juno Payne-Umbehant

Annabel Glick - Eleni Gort

Vincent Di Ruzzio - John J. Weil

Rita La Porta - Beth Evans

Luigi Gaudi - Richard Flury

Body of Tony Hendon - Patrick Erhardt

Ensemble #1 - Faith Rutherford

Ensemble #2 - William Downey

Ensemble #3 - Anastacia Vinson

Ensemble #4 - Red Red

Synopsis

It's been called the "Weekend at Bernie's" of musicals. Lucky Stiff is a madcap, hilarious romp of a musical that follows Harry Witherspoon's journey from England to Monte Carlo...with a rather unusual traveling companion. Based on Michael Butterworth's novel, The Man Who Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo, Harry receives the unexpected news that he has inherited a fortune from his late Uncle Anthony, on the condition that he takes Anthony's dead body on a special trip to Monte Carlo. If Harry fails, the money will go to the Universal Dog Home of Brooklyn. However, also hot on the tail of Uncle Anthony's money is Rita, Anthony's lover with whom he embezzled \$6 million behind her husband's back. And hot on Rita's trail is her brother Vinnie, who has been blamed for the crime! With mistaken identities, love interests, disguises, farcical chases, and an omnipresent corpse, Lucky Stiff is an offbeat murder mystery with a difference.

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PRODUCTION TEAM

A MUSICAL COMEDY

Director/Music Director	Danielle Flury-Downey
Co-Director	Sandy Mosley
Stage Manager	Doreen Fontanez
Assistant Stage Manager	Emily van Sickle
Choreographer	Arlena Broadbent
Synthesizer	Donna Tripp
Set Design	Richard Flury, Doreen Fontanez
Construction Lead	Richard Flury
Set Construction	Chris Peters, Kim Lott, Ron Shaw, Joe Singh
Set Mural Painting	Doug, Dianna & Hannah Haynes
Set Painting	Cast
Costumes	Danielle Flury-Downey
Props	Miguel Machado
Lighting Tech	Jessica Aube
Spotlight Tech	MaryBeth van Sickle
Sound Tech	Scott van Sickle, Cindy Redman
House/Usher Manager	Karen Vona MacDonald, Jaret Lubowiecki
Concession Coordinator	Frank & Carol Hayes
Playbill	Doug & Dianna Haynes
Marketing/Advertising	Mel Rustom
Box Office Volunteers	Carolyn Moss, Steve Moran



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A MUSICAL COMEDY



Danielle Flury-Downey
Piano



Donna Tripp
Synthesizer



Cindy Redman
Sound Tech



Jessica Aube
Light Tech

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MUSICAL SYNOPSIS

A MUSICAL COMEDY

ACT ONE

1. **Something Funny's Going On - Company**
2. **Mr. Witherspoon's Friday Night - Harry, Landlady, Spinster, Lorry Driver, Punk**
3. **Rita's Confession - Rita and Vinnie**
4. **Good To Be Alive - Harry, Luigi and Company**
5. **Lucky - Harry**
6. **Dogs Versus You - Annabel and Harry**
7. **The Phone Call - Vinnie**
8. **Monte Carlo - Emcee**
9. **Speaking French - Dominique du Monaco, Harry and Company**
10. **Times Like This - Annabel**
11. **Monte Carlo (Reprise) - Emcee**
12. **Fancy Meeting You Here - Rita and Company**
13. **Act I Finale: Good To Be Alive - Harry and Company**

Intermission

ACT TWO

14. **Something Funny's Going On (Reprise) - Company**
15. **Him, Them, It, Her? - Company**
16. **Nice - Annabel and Harry**
17. **Welcome Back, Mr. Witherspoon - Company**
18. **A Woman In My Bathroom - Harry**
19. **Nice (Reprise) - Harry and Annabel**
20. **Confession #2 - Tony, Rita, Harry, Annabel and Company**
21. **Act II Finale: Good To Be Alive - Harry, Annabel and Company**

DIRECTORIAL TEAM



Director/Music Director, Danielle Flury-Downey graduated with honors from Saint Leo University, with a B.A. in 18th Century British Literature. She is a published poet and editor for the ECCB. She is an accomplished musician, playing with the Redlands Twelve Piano Orchestra, and various Universities, High Schools, and Churches. She has music directed and accompanied shows such as *Cabaret*, *Chicago*, *Kismet*, and many more. Most recently she directed *Into The Woods* and *Assisted Living The Home for the Holidays* on the Art Center Stage and Music Directed the youth show, *A Fairy Tale Christmas Carol*.



Co-Director, Sandy has been volunteering at the ACT for the past 15 years. She has volunteered over the years as director, assistant director, music director, children's program director, actress, play reading committee member and is director of our newly formed Art Center Singers. Whether on stage or backstage, she enjoys the thrill of bringing a story to life. Sandy has enjoyed collaborating with Danielle and Doreen—two incredibly hard working women, as well as this amazing cast.



Stage Manager, Doreen Fontanez is delighted to be stage managing *Lucky Stiff* alongside Danielle and Sandy. A firm believer that the real magic happens just out of sight, she feels most at home calling cues, solving problems, and quietly managing the chaos from the wings. Her recent stage management credits include *White Christmas*, *Ring of Fire*, and *Blame It on the Movies*, among others. When not in the theater (a rare and mysterious occurrence), Doreen can usually be found spending time with her immediate family or her extended theater family. Endless thanks to her family for their patience, encouragement, and unwavering support through late rehearsals, long show weeks, and the occasional post-show adrenaline monologue.



Assistant Stage Manager, Emily has been doing plays since she was five years old. She has performed on stage at the Art Center in over 10 plays but recently has shown an interest in learning the backstage and technical aspects of the theater. She has learned to program lights and was lighting technician on two plays so far. This is her third time working in a stage manager capacity and she is looking forward to learning more under the tutelage of Doreen.

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Director's Notes

The Tony Award winning writing team, Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, who have brought us shows like *Ragtime*, *Anastasia*, and *Seussical*, marked their debut collaboration with the show, *Lucky Stiff*, which premiered Off-Broadway in 1988 at Playwrights Horizons. Based on the English Novel, *The Man Who Broke The Bank At Monte Carlo*, by Michael Butterworth, Lynn Ahrens came across the story in a public library, under "books no one takes out anymore", and she bought it for a dollar. From there her and Stephen Flaherty came up with a musical farce idea, one of the most difficult for them, since a "farce never slows down". Their goal, with writing *Lucky Stiff*, was to create a fun, lighthearted experience and "make audiences forget their troubles, focusing on fun rather than a heavy message." Well, it worked. *Lucky Stiff* became an instant Off-Broadway hit, having its run extended three times, winning the Richard Rodgers Award for Excellence, and the Helen Hayes Award for Best Musical and Best Actor in a Musical. *Lucky Stiff* has become a favorite production among regional, collegiate and community theatres due to its comedic, fast paced nature featuring a "corpse in a wheelchair."

This has been an incredible show to direct, with an equally incredible cast and crew. Aside from their dedication and talent, the amount of camaraderie with this cast and crew has been amazing. They have all gone above and beyond to help bring this show to life, whether it has been putting in extra rehearsal time for characterization and vocals, coming in to paint set pieces and make props, setting lights and sound, or helping with set dressing and costumes. Everyone has given so much of themselves to this production, and we have done it with laughter and love, enjoying every minute of bringing this story to life.

To our cast and crew, you are the heart of this show, and we couldn't be more proud of each and every one of you. Thank you for sharing in this journey with us. Bravo!

To our audience, we hope you laugh a lot and then laugh some more. We hope this show tugs at your heart a bit and leaves you feeling as if you have escaped to a fun filled world that is "sublimely silly", where the sky's the limit and anything can happen if we let it, in Monte Carlo.

CALL TO AUDITION FOR THE SUMMER MUSICAL IN JULY



Art Center Theatre 2644 N Annapolis Ave. Hernando, FL 34442 | <https://artcenterofcitruscounty.org>

AGE REQUIREMENTS: Ages 8 and older

ACTING AND VOCAL AUDITIONS

Sunday, March 29, 2026
2–3 pm (Ages 8–13)
3–5 pm (Ages 14 and older)

Monday, March 30, 2026

6–7 pm (Ages 8–13)
7–9 pm (Ages 14 and older)



SCAN CODE WITH PHONE
CAMERA TO VIEW ONLINE



DANCE AUDITIONS: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 @ 6 pm

If auditioning for Bert, Mary Poppins, Jane, Michael, or featured dancing ensemble roles, attendance is required.

Bring appropriate dance and or character shoes.

The Art Center Theatre of Citrus County invites you to step into a world where anything can happen if you let it.

Directed By: Doreen Fontanez

Musical Direction By: Danielle Flury-Downey

Choreography By: Arlena Broadbent

Grab your kite, polish your chimney sweep cap, and prepare for a jolly holiday onstage as we bring Mary Poppins to life in a production that promises to be practically perfect in every way.

REHEARSALS will run April through July. A comprehensive schedule will be shared after casting announcements.

All rehearsals and performances will take place at: Art Center A&E Building and Theatre 2644 N. Annapolis Ave. Hernando, FL 34442

PERFORMANCES July 17, 18, 19 July 24, 25, 26

Please be available for a possible third weekend: July 31, August 1 and 2.

Because in every job that must be done, there is an element of fun... and a full house waiting to applaud.

Please prepare 32 bars from the show that fits your character of choice or ensemble selection

(song selections available artcenterofcitruscounty.org).

You will read from the script and will be asked to show your best Cockney sparkle or polished British proper.

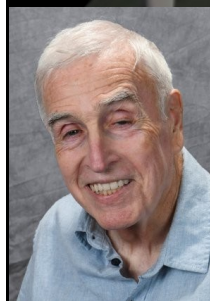
Whether you are ready to sweep across the rooftops, run the bank with precision and order, or declare yourself supercalifragilisticexpialidocious, come prepared to shine.

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A MUSICAL MEET THE CAST



William Downey (Ensemble #2) was last seen in *White Christmas* and *Into The Woods*. William made his stage debut at 5 years old, in *Oklahoma!*, and then later appeared in *The Music Man*. William is currently in the 6th grade. He plays the piano and sings, loves to read, and loves gaming. William is extremely excited to be a part of this production and sends out lots of love and thanks to the cast, and to his family.



Patrick Erhardt (Body of Tony Hendon) Pat has over 40 years of theatrical experience as an actor, singer, director and playwright. He was last seen as Zeek Foster in *White Christmas*. In September 2025 he held a play writing workshop that became the basis for *Happy Holidays Citrus County* on stage here in November 2025. He is a co-founder of the Valerie Players in Inverness. This play is great fun!



Beth Evans (Rita La Porta) is delighted to return to The Art Center for her third season and sixth production. Audiences may remember her as Jack's Mother in *Into the Woods*, or most recently in *Blame It on the Movies*. She is thrilled to step into the shoes of Rita LaPorta, fully embracing the character's zany spirit—think leopard prints, neon colors, towering '80s hair, and madcap misadventures. It's a glamorous and hilarious departure from Beth's day job as a mild-mannered school guidance counselor. Sit back, relax, and enjoy this unforgettable trip to Monte Carlo like you've never seen it before!

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Richard Flury (Luigi Gaudi) began his singing and musical training at the early age of six. His first live television performance was at the age of seven and first lead acting and singing performance, in a musical, was at age thirteen. Richard has continued with music, singing and acting, and has won several awards for each. Although he is retired from the Amusement Business, Music Directing and teaching Drama and Musical Theater, he still remains active, designing sets and set construction, directing and performing here at the Art Center. However, if it were not for the love and understanding of his wife and family, he could not continue doing what he loves. Enjoy the show!



Eleni Gort (Annabel Glick) Eleni is so excited to be playing Annabel Glick in this production. Some past shows she's done include *The Merry Widow* and *Beatrice et Bénédict*. This is Eleni's first show at The Art Center, which feels especially meaningful since she's from the area and has always hoped to join this theater. She's had such a wonderful time working with this talented, welcoming, wonderful group of people.



Juno Payne-Umbahant (Harry Witherspoon) Originally from Habersham County, Georgia, Juno moved to Citrus County in 2022 and, shortly after, tried acting on stage for the first time. Since then, Juno has been involved in at least four productions a year. Whether it's onstage, backstage, or in the audience, Juno loves community theatre and is thankful for all of the experiences and people it has brought them.

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Faith Rutherford (Ensemble #1) Faith is an 18 year old attending SEU. This is her third show and first musical. She was in *Drinking habits* (2023), and *Psych* (2025). When not in theater she loves to sing and cuddle with her cat.



Red (Ensemble #4) Red is excited to work with the directors, cast and crew for Lucky Stiff. She thinks it's a great show and hopes you do, too. She thanks her family and friends for supporting her.



Anastacia 'Ace' Vinson (Ensemble #3) Ace is so excited to be part of Lucky Stiff! Past community theater roles include Rhoda in *White Christmas*, Sally in *Drinking Habits*, and Brigitte in *Girls Night Out*. Favorite shows have definitely been *Girls Night Out* and *Drinking Habits* because chaos is fun. When not onstage, Ace can be found reading or hanging out with friends. Huge thanks to family and friends for all the love, support, and loud cheering.



John Weil (Vincent Di Ruzzio) John Weil is currently performing in his fifth production at the Art Center Theater. He has been Prince Dauntless in *Once Upon a Mattress*, Dr. Frederick Frankenstein in *Young Frankenstein*, the Wolf in *Into the Woods*, and most recently Ralph Sheldrake in *White Christmas*. He has been a waterfront director, college professor, lawyer, and his current adventure is teaching International Baccalaureate classes at Lecanto High School, along with classes at the College of Central Florida. He enjoys all kinds of sports and outdoor activities. He has two beautiful daughters, Julia and Kathleen. With this as his latest adventure, he hopes you enjoy the show.