

Broadway's Next Hit Musical

Apr 22 / Pasant Theatre

Cast

Deb Rabbai
Rob Schiffmann
Heidi Gleichauf
Pat Swearingen

George Luton, Music Director
Greg Triggs, Emcee

Co-Artistic Directors

Deb Rabbai
Rob Schiffmann

Co-Producers

Ralph Buckley
Deb Rabbai
Rob Schiffmann
Greg Triggs

The performance will run approximately 85 minutes,
with one 20-minute intermission.

Media Partner: Michigan Public

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complete information or visit
program.whartoncenter.com



Improv, Stand-up Comedy, & Live Music made up **ON THE SPOT!**

Every song is fresh. Every scene is new. Every night is different. It's all improvised and it's all funny.

The hysterical *Broadway's Next Hit Musical* is the only unscripted theatrical awards show. Master improvisers gather made up, hit song suggestions from the audience, and create a spontaneous evening of music, humor, and laughter. The audience votes for their favorite song and watches as the cast turns it into a full-blown improvised musical - complete with memorable characters, witty dialogue, and plot twists galore. BNHM has been seen recently at The Triad, Tribeca Film Festival, and at the New York Musical Theater Festival, among many others.

DIRECTORS NOTE

The lights go down. The overture begins. Pretty much your typical musical theater experience so far, yes? No! Tonight will be different! Why, you ask? *Because this musical has never been seen before!* In fact, it has not even been conceived, written or rehearsed! And yet it will appear, complete with script, music, lyrics, and choreography, before your eyes this evening. This is the exciting process at the heart of *Broadway's Next Hit Musical*. We will step onstage free of any pre-performance ideas and allow ourselves to be inspired by what you, our audience, write on a small piece of paper—

a story to unfold as we perform it. We are empowered by the notion of creating a memorable song, complete with melody and lyrics. We dance to choreography invented as it is executed. *Broadway's Next Hit Musical*, improvisation at its best, will amaze and delight you and leave you with the experience of seeing what has never before been seen and what will never be seen again. *Broadway's Next Hit Musical* can only be described as *magic!*

Visit ***broadwaysnexthitmusical.com*** to like us on *Facebook* or follow us on *Twitter*

Facebook & Instagram: @BroadwaysNextHitMusical

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#PhonyAwards

CAST & CREATIVE



HEIDI GLEICHAUF, *performer*, has toured nationwide with *Broadway's Next Hit Musical* since 2020. 22 states and counting! She has worked as an improviser and interactive performer for companies like CAMP, Strategic Entertainment, Sterling Renaissance Faire, and "Bloom" with HERO NYC. You can also see her as a vocalist on Top View Tours' "Tea Around Town" in NYC. You may recognize Heidi's voice from video content she created and performed for "TBTV Toy Adventures" and Dreamworks TV on YouTube, with her top performing video at nine million views! Her most buoyant gig has been sailing the European seas as "The Artist" with Virgin Voyages. When she's not onstage, you can find her saving sidewalk worms and finding four-leaf clovers. BFA Hofstra. IG @heidsg



GEORGE LUTON, *Music Director*, is an internationally regarded musical theatre composer, conductor, and accompanist. Their original musicals have been launched Off-Broadway through the York Theatre's GenYork concert series, at Lincoln Center through the NYPL Across a Crowded Room program, and at the Tank NYC. George also serves as a music director and arranger for shows in development at

Off the Lane, Theatre Now, Columbia University School of the Arts, Prospect Theatre Company, and more. They are a member of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop, and they appreciate every chance to perform with *Broadway's Next Hit Musical!* Learn more on Instagram [@GeorgeLuton.music](https://www.instagram.com/GeorgeLuton.music) and www.GeorgeLuton.com



DEB RABBAI, *Co-Artistic Director, Co-Producer, Performer*, is an original member and co-creator of *Broadway's Next Hit Musical*. A native New Yorker, Deb has worked as an actor, improviser, singer, and voiceover artist for the last twenty-five years. Deb became the Co-Artistic Director of BNHM in 2009 and has proudly witnessed its progress into the hilarious hit it is today. A graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts in NYC, Deb spent ten years performing and teaching improvisation with Freestyle Repertory Theatre (TheatreSports New York), five years performing with ComedySportz NY, and seven years with the Chicago City Limits national touring company. Deb is a highly experienced teacher of improvisation and acting, having worked at NYU, Marymount Manhattan College, The American Comedy Institute, NY Film Academy, and American Musical and Dramatic Academy in NYC. Deb successfully created programs that teach curriculum through improvisation. These programs have been integrated into public schools

in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Deb has appeared on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and in national commercials for MasterCard, Wendy's, and Zyrtec. Deb has done countless voiceovers, ranging from radio and TV advertisements to video games and anime films. For more information, please visit www.DebRabbai.com



ROB SCHIFFMANN, *Co-Artistic Director, Co-Producer, Performer*, has worked and toured as a professional actor, improviser, and musician for just over thirty years. As a two-time MAC (Manhattan Association of Cabarets and Clubs) Award winner, and the recipient of the 2011 INNY (Improvisation News) Award for Best Improv Coach, Rob's musical, improv, and teaching talents are known across the country and around the world. Rob was recently featured on *The Today Show*, where he sang his original song "Ready to 30 Rock." When Rob is not making national and international audiences laugh hysterically with BNHM, he can be found emceeing corporate events, and designing and leading workshops for other improvisational companies, as well as major corporations such as Bank of America, Microsoft, Cartier, Pfizer, and many others, including numerous Fortune 500 companies. *The New York Times* called Rob "fabulously perfect," and *The New York Post* says, "I don't know whether he's more of a genius as a comedic performer or

a comic writer!” Rob has also showcased his skills on *The Daily Download* and *The CBS Early Show*. Rob has also released two albums of original songs with his song-writing partner for their acoustic-pop band, [The Hillary Step](#), for which he is the main writer, lead singer, guitarist, bass player, keyboardist, and Music Director. For more information, please visit www.robschiffmann.com.



PAT SWEARINGEN, *Performer*, has been in countless shows from *As You Like It* to *How To Succeed in Business*. Pat Swearingen is a classically trained actor who honed his comedy chops at the renowned Peoples Improv Theater in New York City where he still performs and teaches regularly. Check out [Pat Swearingen Comedy Acting Reel 2024](#) on YouTube and hire him for all the things!



GREG TRIGGS, *Emcee, Co-Producer*, Performance: Disney's Comedy Warehouse, the Brave New Workshop, and Chicago City Limits. Writer/director: Disney, the NFL, the Tribeca Film Festival, the World Science Festival, Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas, and the Scholastic Harry Potter series. TV: BBC, ABC, TLC, Oxygen, the Discovery Channel, and Nickelodeon. Greg's radio show, *Travels with Triggs* can be heard on Catskills

Public Radio or as a podcast, available on all platforms. He also appears with and co-produces Yarnslingers, a writer's group performing memoir essays. Greg's novels *The Next Happiest Place on Earth* and *That Which Makes Us Stronger* are available at www.Amazon.com. Blog entries, and more at www.GregTriggs.com and www.StrategicEntertainmentNYC.com.



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