



**WHEELOCK FAMILY THEATRE  
ANNOUNCEMENT: *THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL*  
PRESS RELEASE**

**Press Release**

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Press Performances available upon request.**

**Email or call Jenna Corcoran for press tickets, images, interviews, and more information.**

### **WHAT:**

Wheelock Family Theatre at Boston University (WFT) proudly announces *The SpongeBob Musical*!

### **ABOUT:**

WFT is thrilled to launch its 2024/25 season with television's most beloved sea *creature* – *The SpongeBob Musical*. Prepare to embrace the unusual and experience the magic at WFT this season. Dive into the whimsical world of Bikini Bottom as the beloved undersea adventure, *SpongeBob the Musical* comes to life this fall! Based on the hit Nickelodeon animated series, this vibrant, critically acclaimed production promises to bring joy to audiences of all ages with its dazzling set design, infectious music, and heartwarming story.

This fall, audience members will be transformed into the lives of the world's kookiest characters. Experience a wave of joy and laughter at *The SpongeBob Musical*—a fantastical underwater adventure that promises to delight audiences of all ages with vibrant performances and catchy tunes! “*The SpongeBob Musical* is the perfect story to launch our season-long message of celebrating the power of friendship”, says Director & WFT Executive Director, Nick Vargas. The award-winning musical adaptation brings the popular cartoon characters to life in an exciting and heartwarming adventure to "stop the end of the world." Audiences of all ages, familiar and not familiar with the cartoon, will find something to love about SpongeBob! Our production features a stellar intergenerational cast of 18 performers playing over 40 different characters! 11 performers will be making their Wheelock Family Theatre debut”.

In addition to the creative visual story-telling, this production will bring incredible music from a variety of beloved artists, including songs written by Aerosmith, Cydni Lauper, Panic! At the Disco, John Legend, Sara Bareilles, David Bowie and many more. Max Connor (SpongeBob Squarepants) is most excited for sitzprobe where the orchestra joins the cast for the first time.

Cleveland ‘Mac’ Nicoll (Perch Perkins) is excited to fulfill his “eight-year-old dream of going to Bikini Bottom!” Transcend to the beautifully crafted and brightly colored stage of Bikini Bottom with scenic design by Saskia Martinez. “Audiences will be immersed in the world of Bikini Bottom (SpongeBob & friends hometown) through our colorful, nautically-inspired, design. Imagine a dock in Gloucester (lobster traps, buoys, nets), mix in a Taylor Swift concert (colorful lights, fabulous costumes and choreography) and the most beautiful coral reef - that's what you'll see on our stage!” says Director, Nick Vargas.

WFT is looking forward to bringing audiences of all ages under the sea. Adults will reminisce over their fond memories of SpongeBob and his friends and fall in love with their new adventures, while young audience members will be mesmerized to see their favorite characters come to life for the first time. Lisa Kate Joyce (Karen the Computer) is thrilled to be, “Living out [her] childhood nostalgia in one of [her] favorite shows to watch growing up! [She] remembers when the first episode aired and thought it was so silly and hysterical. [She] hopes [the cast] can entertain folks the same way with [their] production!”

This show is a celebration of imagination, friendship, and fun, capturing the heart of what makes the SpongeBob series so beloved. “SpongeBob the Musical is for everyone - yes - even you! While the cartoon is geared towards elementary aged students, the musical is smart, creative, and tackles important issues such as overcoming adversity, the harm our biases & prejudice can cause, building confidence and trusting oneself and much more”, says Director, Nick Vargas.

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

Directed by WFT Executive Director Nick Vargas. *The SpongeBob Musical* follows the citizens of Bikini Bottom as they discover that a volcano will soon erupt and destroy their humble home. SpongeBob and his friends (Patrick Star and Sandy Cheeks) must come together to save the fate of their undersea world. With lives hanging in the balance and all hope lost, a most unexpected hero rises up. The power of optimism really can save the world! The critically acclaimed musical (Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Musical) features all our favorite characters from the popular cartoon series, now in its 25th season, and proves that anything is possible when you have true friends at your side. This production is recommended for audiences ages 6+.

*The SpongeBob Musical* is based on the beloved animated series created by Stephen Hillenburg and features a book by Kyle Jarrow, with original songs by Yolanda Adams, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry of Aerosmith, Sara Bareilles, Jonathan Coulton, Alexander Ebert of Edward Sharpe & The Magnetic Zeros, The Flaming Lips, Lady A, Cyndi Lauper, John Legend, Panic! At the Disco, Plain White T's, They Might Be Giants and T.I., and songs by David Bowie, Tom Kenny and Andy Paley. Additional lyrics are by Jonathan Coulton, with additional music by Tom Kitt. The musical production was conceived by Tina Landau.

#### **WHERE:**

Wheelock Family Theatre. <https://www.wheelockfamilytheatre.org/>  
180 Riverway, Boston MA 02215

#### **TICKETS:**

Single ticket prices range from \$26-52

· By phone at (617) 353-3001

- Online at [wheelockfamilytheatre.org](http://wheelockfamilytheatre.org)
- At our box office at 180 Riverway, Boston, MA 02215

Discounts are available for groups and students. For a full list of discounts, please visit:  
<https://www.wheelockfamilytheatre.org/discounts-promotions/>

### **CAST:**

WFT's production of *The SpongeBob Musical* features, Lexie Brown (Mrs. Puff/Ensemble/*Understudy* Sandy), Alan Cid (*Understudy* Patrick Star/Buster Bluetang), Max Connor (SpongeBob Squarepants), Felix Grigsby (Buster Bluetang), Krystal Hernandez\* (Sandy Cheeks), Carson Hollingsworth (*Understudy* Squidward/Patchy/Old Man Jenkins), Sydney Jackson (Ensemble/*Understudy* Mayor), David Jiles Jr.\* (Mr. Krabs), Lisa Kate Joyce\* (Karen the Computer), Reese Krebs (Pearl Krabs), Caroline Larson-Dipalma (Ensemble), Tim Lawton (*Understudy* Mr. Krabs), Aidan Levinson (*Understudy* SpongeBob/Ensemble), Mark Linehan\* (Squidward Q. Tentacles), Dashawn McClinton (Patrick Star), Zoe Maya Miller (*Understudy* Larry the Lobster/Ensemble), Cleveland 'Mac' Nicoll (Perch Perkins), Brian Pereira Coelho\* (Patchy the Pirate/Electric Skate), Elias Robles (Old Man Jenkins/Electric Skate), Chloe Savit (Larry the Lobster/*Understudy* Karen), Eli Schulman (Electric Skate/*Understudy* Plankton), Kate Sheridan (Mayor/Ensemble), Deahnna Spada (*Understudy* Pearl/Ensemble) and Robert St. Laurence\* (Plankton). \*indicates a member of Actors Equity Association

### **CREATIVE TEAM:**

WFT's Creative Team of *The SpongeBob Musical* includes, Nick Vargas (Director), Jon Goldberg (Music Director), Joy Clark (Choreographer), Gabi David (Assistant Director), Shauwna Dias Grillo\* (Stage Manager), Josh Rodrigues\* (Assistant Stage Manager), Saskia Martinez (Scenic Designer), Lawrence Ware (Lighting Designer), Chloe Moore (Costume Designer), Danielle Ibrahim (Props Designer), Gage Baker (Sound Designer), Sam Galvao (Scenic Charge Artist), Kira Troilo (Inclusion Consultant - Art & Soul Consulting), Ari Welch (Inclusion Consultant - Art & Soul Consulting), Carolyn Saxon (Casting Supervisor), Beth Peters (Consultant), Amanda Pelletier (Deck Captain), Bekah Rudinec (Audio Engineer), Nate Morrissey (Deck Electrician), Marissa Wolf (Wardrobe Supervisor), Becca Cottrell (Wardrobe Assistant) and Takiyah 'Taki' Harris (Director of Artistic Sign Language) and Gamalia Pharms (In-show Audio Describer).

WFT staff includes, Jamie Aznive (Assistant Director for Audience Services), Jenna Corcoran (Marketing Specialist), Jeri Hammond (Director of Education & Community Engagement), Marie Libbin (Assistant Director of Education), Ben Lieberman (Technical Director), Keith Orr (Administrative Director), Nick Vargas (Executive Director) and Steve Vieira (Production Manager).

### **ACCESSIBILITY:**

Open Captioning provided at all events.

**Accessibility Performance Dates:** October 20th at 2:00 pm, October 24th at 10:30 am (student matinee) and October 26th at 7:30 pm.

Questions regarding access? Please contact Assistant Director for Audience Services Jamie Aznive at [jaznive@bu.edu](mailto:jaznive@bu.edu).

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**Wheelock Family Theatre at Boston University** is the greater Boston area's leading professional theatre offering a shared experience for the entire family. Founded in 1981, WFT's long-standing commitment to equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion has garnered recognition and awards at the local and national level. WFT's productions have served more than a half-million audience members and WFT's education programs have provided hands-on training to tens of thousands of students across the state of Massachusetts. On June 1, 2018, Wheelock Family Theatre became a program of Boston University.

Founded in 1839, **Boston University** is an internationally recognized institution of higher education and research. With more than 33,000 students, it is the fourth-largest independent university in the United States. BU consists of 17 schools and colleges, along with a number of multi-disciplinary centers and institutes integral to the University's research and teaching mission. In 2012, BU joined the Association of American Universities (AAU), a consortium of 62 leading research universities in the United States and Canada.