

LEONARD BLOOM (Co-Writer, Book) Since my background has been banking, you'd think that this first effort at a full length Musical Comedy is unusual, but it was a marvelous experience. Working with such a talented, dedicated group, and making the most of a family that is full of strong characters and funny experiences, as well as a misspent youth in the Catskills of New York, where we put on shows for the guests. My thanks go out to my family, for their eccentricities, and my wife, Marilyn, for putting up with me, and a great group of people to work with.

CHRIS HARDIN (Musical Director) is a composer, orchestrator, musical director and conductor. He has worked for many celebrities such as *Michelle Lee, Freda Payne, Goldie Hawn, Sally Kellerman, Merv Griffin*, and others. Chris orchestrated the music for the concert production of *Israel 2000*, that featured *Steve Allen, Roslyn Kind, Red Buttons, Lionel Hampton* and *Meir Finklestein* performed at the *Greek Theater*. He also orchestrated music for the concert honoring *Chayim Frenkel* that featured *Tovah Feldshuh* at *Royce Hall*.

Chris was the Musical Director for Warner Bros. production of *Broadway on Sunset*, introduced by *Gordon Davidson* and *Andrea Marcovicci* and directed by *Stuart Ross* (writer/director of *Forever Plaid*) with *Kaitlin Hopkins* and *Gary Imhoff*. His musical directing talents were also put to use in the recent, sold out production of *Craig Taubmans Hallelu* at the *Universal Amphitheatre* as well as "*Theo! The First 80 Years*" which was a concert honoring *Theodore Bikel* at the *Wadsworth Theater*. Chris also appears in the film, *Anywhere But Here* with *Susan Sarandon* as well as a television episode of *Mad About You* featuring *Mel Brooks* and has produced and performed on many CDs for various artists.

His most recent film scores include *Not Again, Two Paths* and *On Growing Older* for which he won an award for *Best Original Score*. His formal education includes studying composition and orchestration for film and television at *UCLA* and *USC* with such notable composers as *Elmer Bernstein, David Raksin, Jerry Goldsmith, Buddy Baker* and others. He was presented with an award from the *Harry Warren Foundation* for a symphonic composition he wrote while attending *USC*. His skills as an orchestrator, performer and arranger can also be heard on a CD featuring *Roslyn Kind* titled *The Promise of Time* and the symphonic CD titled *A Joyful Light*. Chris is currently focusing his time on writing choral and band music for High Schools and Colleges.



FIRSTSTAGE
Hollywood



Presents

The World Premiere Of

ANSWER THE CALL

A New Musical By
Michael Antin



Directed By **Derrel Maury Friedman**

October 30th - November 22nd

The Hollywood Court Theater



MUSICAL NUMBERS



OVERTURE

SCHOOL SUCKS.....	Spencer Price
SOCCER MOM.....	Josie Yount
CRAP ON THE GOLDEN YEARS.....	Lou Briggs
MARCH KLUMPF.....	Lou Briggs
CAR TROUBLE.....	Shammarah E. Pates
IT'S SO UNFAIR.....	L. B. Zimmerman
EYES OF GREEN.....	L. B. Zimmerman & Lou Briggs

There will be a 15 minute Intermission.

CLOUDS.....	Lou Briggs
SAM, I AM SAM.....	Derrel Maury Friedman
FLOWERS.....	Haley Price
NASHVILLE.....	L. B. Zimmerman & Lou Briggs
CAR TROUBLE (Reprise).....	Shamarrah E. Pates
BEACH.....	L. B. Zimmerman & Lou Briggs
BLESSINGS TO COUNT.....	L. B. Zimmerman
JEWISH GUILT.....	Josie Yount
BIG BAD MUSIC MACHINE.....	Lou Briggs
OLD PEOPLE.....	Ensemble
ANSWER THE CALL.....	Ensemble



ANSWER THE CALL



Presented by Dennis Safren & Michael Antin

Book by Michael Antin & Leonard Bloom
Music and Lyrics By Michael Antin
Musical Director - Chris Hardin

Directed By Derrel Maury Friedman

Scenic, Lighting and Sound Design by Walter Ulasinski
Stage Manager - Dale Bancroft
Graphic Designs - Thomas J. Misuraca

CAST

Gordon (Grandfather).....	LOU BRIGGS
Hannah (Grandmother).....	L. B. ZIMMERMAN
Jill (Gordon & Hannah's daughter).....	JOSIE YOUNT
Sam (Jill's husband).....	DERREL MAURY FRIEDMAN
Nettie (Caregiver).....	SHAMARRAH E. PATES
Eddie (Jill's 11 year old son).....	SPENCER PRICE
Becky (Jill's 8 year old daughter).....	HALEY PRICE

There will be one 15 minute Intermission

SPECIAL THANKS

Rabbi Ed Feinstein
Valley Temple Beth Shalom & it's Administrative Staff
Plays 411
The Board of Directors, FirstStage





LOU BRIGGS has spent much of his show biz life as musical director and orchestra leader for numerous Broadway musicals touring the USA. As a writer he wrote special material for Las Vegas revues such as *Red, Hot and Blue*, *Tickle My Fancy* and *Bottoms Up!*, and as a keyboard accompanist he played for Totie Fields, Martha Raye, Geraldine Fitzgerald and recorded albums with Vivian Blaine and Virginia O'Brien. As composer/lyricist he wrote the musical *Hollywood! Hollywood!* which premiered in L.A. in 2005, as well as the music and lyrics for Wil Manus' *Blues for Central*, and is currently collaborating with Dean J. Parker on the new musical *Haywire!*. As an actor, Lou has appeared on television in *Boston Public*, *The Jamie Kennedy Experiment* and numerous commercials. He is a member of Write Act Repertory and has studied improvisation with Joe Reich and Stephen Book and is represented by ARC Talent Management and the Wallis Agency.



L. B. ZIMMERMAN is a seasoned actress in both comedic and dramatic roles and just in case you can't tell – she's most definitely a native New Yorker. LB is a member of SAG/AFTRA and is Equity Eligible. Her stage credits include the role of Sister Aloysius in *Doubt* at Edgemar Center for the Arts in Santa Monica. Her most recent stage credits include the role of Marsha in the play *Table for One* which just finished a 7 week run at Write Act Repertory in Hollywood and included an excellent review in the July 22nd. edition of the Toluca Times for Zimmerman as the ultimate Jewish Mother from hell, in which Mary Mallory declared LB as being "hilarious". LB was recently listed in the Fall Preview of Soap Opera Digest for her recent role on *General Hospital*. Other upcoming shows include the Lead role of Rachel, in the comedy *Bagels*, written and directed by Art Schulman, which will be running for 8 weeks at the Secret Rose Theatre in North Hollywood, beginning January 29th. Her many years of New York and Chicago Stage credits include, *Chicago*, *West Side Story* and *Evita*, as well as *Look Who's Famous*, directed and produced by Laverne And Shirley co-creator, Mark Rothman. LB's film credits include *Flossin*, directed by Todd Bridges. LB was most recently cast in the Webisode *Curls*, directed by Nick Anderson. When LB isn't acting, she's writing. She has written two sitcom pilots: *House of Gambini* and *Where's Grandma?* as well as had a staged reading of her play, *Staring at the Sun*, which chronicles the life of holocaust survivor Maria Fabian.



JOSIE YOUNT was last seen in *Bitter: Party of 3*, (an original cabaret piece,) at the acclaimed Sterling's Upstairs at Vitello's, after a summer of playing the naughty Fraulein Kost in *Cabaret*, (the musical) with Musical Theatre of Los Angeles at the Met in Hollywood. Other credits include Evelyn Nesbit in *Ragtime- the Musical*, *Evita*, *The Rocky Horror Show (Columbia)*, *Fiddler on The Roof (Chava)*, *Dracula; A Musical Nightmare (Mina)*, *A Christmas Carol- national tour (Martha Cratchit)*, *Frankenstein (Justine)*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream (Titania/Hermia)*. Josie would like to thank Michael and Derrel for the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful project.



DERREL MAURY FRIEDMAN (Sam & Director) A native of LA, Derrel grew up in a theatrical family. He caught the acting bug as a kid watching his parents perform on stage together. His father was a theatre arts professor at UCLA and his mother was a successful stage actress. His first starring role on stage was at the age of 10 in a professional production of *A Thousand Clowns* as Nick Burns. Recently he starred as Lt. Barney Greenwald in *The Caine Mutiny*, the Devil in *Damn Yankees*, Jake in *Jake's Women*, R.P. McMurphy in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and Cole Porter in *Red Hot & Cole* for which he won a best lead actor in a musical award. But Derrel's biggest thrill was sharing the stage with his mother and father in *The Subject Was Roses*. Derrel has appeared as a series regular on *One Day at a Time*, *Apple Pie*, *Happy Days & Joanie Loves Chachi* and was Jughead in *The Archie Show*. He has just completed work on two feature films & won the best actor award in last year's New York Short Film Festival.

Derrel has taught for esteemed acting coaches Estelle Harman & Tracy Roberts as well as many top agencies around town. He also runs the Derrel Maury's Young Actor's Workshop which was recently highlighted on CNN in a special report on acting classes for kids. This is his fourteenth year as Director of Performing Arts at the VBS Day School where he also runs an after school drama program and their Summer Musical Theatre Workshop. Adding to his long list of teaching credits, he recently became Drama Director at the esteemed Sanai Akiba Academy Middle School as well. His long list of plays directed in and around LA include *Grease*, *Oliver*, *Once Upon A Mattress*, *The Music Man*, *Fiddler On The Roof*, *The Wizard Of Oz*, *Guys And Dolls*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Damn Yankees*, *Joseph*, *High School Musical*, *South Pacific* & *Willy Wonka*. Every year Derrel also participates in the Secret Roses' Mini Musical Festival where his work has won awards three years in a row.



SHAMARRAH E. PATES has been a performing artist for a host of years. Having caught the acting bug early on in life, she began performing in, as well as helping to write her high school plays, in her hometown of South Bend, In. She attended Purdue University, with a minor in Theatre, where she began to perfect her craft. She has appeared in the tv sitcom *The Minor Accomplishments of Jackie Woodman*, as well as dramas *Boston Legal* and *North Mission Road*. She recently toured in France and Belgium starring in *Elvis: The Man, The Legend, His Music*. She would like to thank her husband and the rest of her family for their love and support.



SPENCER PRICE is a not-so-typical 8th grader at Oakwood School in North Hollywood. Under the tutelage of Derrel Maury Friedman, he starred as bad boy Danny Zuko in *Grease* and lover boy Troy Bolton in *High School Musical* at the Valley Beth Shalom's Summer Musical theatre drama camp. Spencer studied theatre at Oakwood in 7th grade and enjoyed learning improvisational theatre. Spencer loves anything computer related and enjoys Krav Maga, video games and golf. He is grateful for the opportunity to bring the character of Eddie to life and looks forward to sharing the stage with his sister Haley and his drama guru Derrel Maury Friedman.



HALEY PRICE is enjoying 4th grade at the Valley Beth Shalom Day School in Encino. She has performed in the Valley Beth Shalom's Summer Musical Theatre drama camp starring as the lovely Gabriella in *High School Musical 2*, the gum chewing Violet in *Willie Wonka* and the sweet, funny Martha Cox in *High School Musical* all directed by her drama coach, Derrel Maury Friedman. Haley loves singing and dancing. When she is not singing and dancing, she is still singing. Haley is also fond of Krav Maga, gymnastics and loves fashion design. Haley is looking forward to sharing the stage with her brother, Spencer, in this wonderful show.



MICHAEL ANTIN (Music and Lyrics), while continuing as a Visiting Professor of Tax Law at Boalt Hall School of Law, Berkeley, California, Mike Antin has retired from active law practice, going back to his musical background. Composing the music with lyrics, and writing the book, for a year and half, has kept him busier than he was in practice. No rest for the wicked. Mike thanks the wonderful cast and staff for the great show they put on. Their attention to the play makes it so much better than just on paper. Thanks.



WALTER A. ULASINSKI (Designer)

Walter served the New York theater scene for over 30 years, as a Designer and Technical Director, from The HB Playwrights Foundation through the members of The Alliance of Resident Theaters. He taught at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts (N.Y.) and at Sarah Lawrence College. In Los Angeles, he is currently the Technical Director for FirstStage Hollywood; his latest designs were for *Love Sex and Violence* at the Whitefire Theater, *What Would Jesus Do?* and *Women Over the Influence* at the Court Theater and lighting designer and tech director for *Entertaining Mister Sloane* at Malibu Stage Co.



DENNIS SAFREN (Literary Manager, FirstStage)

Mr. Safren is a Los Angeles native. He began his career as a classical pianist, having studied at The Academie Fur Music in Vienna. Changing his focus to acting, he attended U.C.L.A. and then graduated from the famed Pasadena Playhouse. He apprenticed at the La Jolla Playhouse where he worked with such stars as Ethel Waters, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Celeste Holm and Mike Connors. After many television and film roles, he joined the renowned A.P.A. Repertory Company with Helen Hayes and Melvyn Douglas. Mr. Safren has performed in theatrical productions throughout the nation from Broadway to Stratford to Los Angeles. Extending his endeavors to writing, he has authored such award-winning plays as *The Education Of David Bloom*, *Keeper Of The Realm*, *The Gift*, *Offsides* and *Cross Words*. His play, *Cloud Dancing*, won critical acclaim in an extended run in Los Angeles. His play, *Straights!*, has had three productions, including the Trustus Theatre in South Carolina. A previous participant in the famed Sundance Institute in Utah, he is currently the Literary Manager of FirstStage, the nationally recognized play development organization located in Los Angeles, where *Straights!* was first read and developed. He has literally directed over 100 staged readings of new work at FirstStage

