

PLAYBILL®

ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
THEATER PRESENTS

DREAM, LOVE, LIVE BIGGER

Book by **JOHN AUGUST** Music and Lyrics by **ANDREW LIPPA**
Based on the novel by Daniel Wallace and the Columbia
Motion Picture written by John August



Bigger

ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY THEATER

PRESENTS

Big Fish

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY:

Daniel Wallace

MOTION PICTURE WRITTEN BY:

John August

MUSIC & LYRICS BY:

Andrew Lippa

BOOK BY:

John August

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY:

Dan Jinks & Bruce Cohen

STAGE ENTERTAINMENT WITH:

Roy Furman, Broadway Across America/Rich Entertainment Group, John Domo, The Nederlander Organization and Edward Walson in association with CJ E&M, Dancing Elephant Productions, Parrothead Productions, Harvey Weinstein Carole L. Haber, Peter May/Jim Fantaci, Ted Liebowitz/Joe Piacentile and Columbia Pictures.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

CJ E&M, Dancing Elephant Productions, Parrothead Productions, Harvey Weinstein Carole L. Haber, Peter May/Jim Fantaci, Ted Liebowitz/Joe Piacentile and Columbia Pictures.

The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.

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Director's Note



Theatre is all about telling a good story, and what better story to tell than one that has a great message. At its core, *Big Fish* is a story about the importance of love, forgiveness, and the impact of our relationships with others.

Big Fish follows the story of Edward Bloom, a man who has always told larger-than-life tales about his adventurous life. As his son Will grows up, he becomes frustrated by his father's constant embellishments and begins to question the truth behind his stories.

Ultimately, *Big Fish* is a heartfelt exploration of the complexities of family relationships, showcasing the enduring bond between father and son and the impact that love and storytelling can have on shaping our lives. With its whimsical score and touching story, *Big Fish* reminds us of the magic that can be found in even the most ordinary of moments.

I am grateful to all those who have dedicated their time and talent to bring this show to the stage, and I thank our audiences for joining us on this heartfelt journey. Let us all be reminded of the importance of love, the power of forgiveness and of good storytelling.

Lisa Kollman - Artistic Director
Arizona Christian University



Musical Numbers

ACT I

Be the Hero	Edward Bloom and Company
I Know What You Want	The Witch, Edward Bloom and Company
Alabama Wedding	Edward, Sandra, Will and Company
Just Take Another Look	Josephine, Edward, Will, Sandra and Dr. Bennett
Stranger	Will Bloom
Two Men In My Life	Sandra Bloom
Ashton's Favorite Son	Jenny Hill, Townsfolk
Out There on the Road	Edward, Karl, Jenny and Company
Little Lamb from Alabama	Sandra and Alabama Lambs
Time Stops	Edward and Sandra
Closer to Her	Amos Calloway, Edward and Company
Daffodils	Edward, Sandra and Dancers

ACT II

Red, White and True	Sandra , Edward and Company
Fight the Dragons	Edward and Young Will
Stranger (Reprise)	Will Bloom
Showdown	Will, Edward and Company
I Don't Need a Roof	Sandra Bloom
Start Over	Edward, Don Price, Amos Calloway, Karl, Zacky Price and Company
What's Next	Will, Edward and Company
How It Ends	Edward Bloom
Be the Hero (Reprise)	Will Bloom

Acknowledgements

Arizona Christian University Leadership:

- ACU Board of Trustees
- Senior Executive Cabinet
- Operational Leadership Team

ACU Music Department Faculty & Staff, thank you for all the support you give our students!

ACU Students & Community Musicians thank you for all of the continued support!

Parents, Family & Friends, thank you for your support throughout the year!

Special Thanks

- Haven Church
- Don and Mary King

Upcoming Events

April 15 Musical Theatre Performance:
“Now What?: A Night Original Cabarets”

April 24 Westphal Athletic Awards

April 25 ACU Chorale w/Band Concert

May 5 Commencement Ceremony



The Cast List

Edward Bloom	Matthew Espenson
Will Bloom.....	Statler Rardin
Young Will.....	Camden Hirsch
Sandra Bloom	Victoria Brasfield
Jenny Hill	Braelyn Germaine
Josephine Bloom	Kaitlyn Walker
Amos Calloway	Matthew Phillips
Karl the Giant	Ty Huetter
The Witch	Jayna Rardin
Don Price	Caleb Doerksen
Zacky Price	Kaleb Dueberry
Dr. Bennett	Abigail Wood

The Cast Crew List

Director	Lisa Kollman
Music Director.....	Corey Hirsch
Choreographers.....	Brinnlee Bailey, Tracy Sandon
Stage/Prop Manager	Amber Perkins
Assistant Choreographer	Rachel Main
Technical Director.....	Samuel Lincoln
Production Coordinator	Gerald Fercho
Costume Design	Briana Thompson
Stage Hands	Damian Sandival, CJ Spanstra

Orchestra

Keys 1/Conductor	Corey Hirsch*
Keys 2.....	Juliana Balinski*
Guitar	Gerald Fercho*
Bass.....	Jon Murray
Drums	Tommy Acedo*
Flute/Piccolo	Jully Guillen
Reeds	Dave Thomasson
Horn/Oboe	Andrew Fort**
Trumpet.....	Josh Haake
Percussion	Hannah Martin**
Violin.....	Morganne McIntyre*
Audio 1	Dalton Spangler**
Audio 2	Jonny Lehman**

*denotes ACU Faculty

**denotes ACU student or alumni



The Cast

ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY



Matthew Espenson

Edward Bloom

is excited to be a part of his 3rd ACU production. He graduated ACU with his Bachelor's degree in Biblical and Theological Studies in December. Matthew has been part of many shows and some of his favorite roles include Bob Wallace in White Christmas and Beast in Beauty and the Beast. He would like to thank all his friends and family for their support.



Victoria Brasfield

Sandra Bloom

originally from Scottsdale, Arizona, has lived her life on stage through dance, acting, singing, and piano. She has won multiple vocal and piano competitions, and starred in numerous musicals. On her free time, she enjoys the outdoors, painting, and photography. Victoria is studying Music and Communications at ACU, and looks forward to what the Lord has in store for her future.



Statler Rardin

Will Bloom

is a Sophomore at Arizona Christian University. He is currently double majoring in Business Administration and Music. He loves to sing, and to file other peoples taxes. But most of all, he loves the Lord, and is trying to make his whole life a life lived for the Lord.



Braelyn Germaine

Jenny Hill

is a composer and violist from Montana who loves to act and create beauty with her brothers and sisters in Christ. When not working on a creative project, she loves to hike, read, and partake in stimulating theological conversations with her friends. She aspires to combine her love of music and literature through filmmaking and musical theater, bringing glory to God with the gifts He has given her.



Kaitlyn Walker

Josephine Bloom

loves having conversations about Jesus, theology, and apologetics. She is majoring in Biblical and Theological Studies, with plans to peruse her Masters in Theology at Dallas Theological Seminary. She loves flowers, baking, painting windows, and laughing with friends.



Camden Hirsch

Young Will

performed in his school's Christmas play as the wise-cracking kid and immediately knew he was made for the stage. In addition to theatre, Camden loves football and advocating for religious and personal liberty. Although Camden can overwhelm others with his thoughts about God's omnipotence and current political events, he is well known for his long prayers and long hugs.



Ty Huetter

Karl the Giant

is a freshmen at Arizona Christian University. He is majoring in Music Technology and minoring in Biblical Studies. In his free time he enjoys playing video games, spikeball, volleyball, and reading. One interesting fact about him is that he loves to beatbox and sing, especially a cappella and chorale music. He looks forward to being a part of the production of Big Fish.



Jayna Rardin

The Witch

is a Junior vocal performance major participating in her third ACU theatre production! She was previously seen as Mrs. Potts in Beauty and the Beast and Madame in Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella. Jayna loves theatre and is thankful to God for the opportunity to do what she loves.



Matthew Phillips

Amos Calloway

is a junior at Arizona Christian University. Though he has high-functioning autism, he is still a strong Christian who wants to follow God in whatever he does. He has a passion for filmmaking, wanting to be an actor, director, writer, editor, and more within the film industry.



Caleb Doerksen

Don Price

is a junior student studying political science. He agrees with the rest of the world that pineapple does not belong on pizza or any other Italian entree. He is also apart of the rare 5% of the population that rolls their “empty” tube of toothpaste instead of throwing it away. Caleb considers himself a natural bad boy, which makes him perfect for his role in this production.



Kaleb Dueberry

Zacky Price

is a person who enjoys musicals, dance, and theater. Kaleb was born and raised in Hayward, California. Being homeschooled, he had the opportunity to pursue martial arts and critical thinking. If Kaleb could summarize himself in a word, it would be “advocate”. Currently, he is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in political science with the hope of becoming a lawyer in the future.



Abigail Wood

Dr. Bennett

enjoys acting and musical theater. She is a sophomore at Arizona Christian. She also loves to read and take walks with her dog.



Abby Deal

Ensemble

graduated from Northwest Christian School in the spring. While she was there, she participated in 6 musicals, 3 plays, and 7 years of choir. She is currently a mentor to junior high students at her church and a stage manager for high school show. She wants to be a director and cast for making this such a fun show! All glory be to God!



Abigail Glazner

Ensemble

has always loved music, it has been a part of her life since she was born. She is a second semester Sophomore/Junior here at Arizona Christian University and is currently pursuing a B.S. in Business Administration. Past productions she has been involved in include Once Upon a Mattress, The Hobbit, and Hood The Musical; all with her high school theatre group, MoezArt Productions Inc.



Alexandra Mihailov

Ensemble

is a senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies of biology and business at Arizona Christian. Over her past 4 years, she has been involved in many areas on campus, including being a member of the ACU cheer and stunt teams, and being a Life Leader. After college, she intends to enter the workforce, eventually pursuing a doctorate in naturopathic medicine.



Aurora Poe

Ensemble

is excited to be in her first musical production at ACU. She has had over ten years of dance experience, with her favorite genres being ballet, jazz, and tap. She also plays clarinet in the Symphonic Winds band at ACU. Aurora is majoring in Christian Ministries and she hopes to use her education to work in Children's Ministry.



Brooke Valler

Ensemble

is a sophomore who is majoring in Music Technology and Biblical Studies. Along with the musical, she is involved in the advance band, chamber singers, and symphonic winds ensembles at ACU. Brooke has been doing theatre for almost seven years, and she is very excited to be in this production for the ACU musical theatre program.



Emily Walker

Ensemble

is a member of the ACU Dance Team. She has been dancing for as long as she can remember. She is a freshman at ACU majoring in family studies with plans to become a counselor helping victims of trafficking. She loves hanging out with family, friends and her Great Pyrenees.



Faith Maze

Ensemble

has a love for musicals and just started getting involved in musical theater last year with ACU's production of Cinderella. She is also involved in chorale and chamber singers. In addition, she has played the piano for over 10 years now and loves to sing and write songs. She is a Christian ministries major at ACU and plans on being a kids pastor once she graduates.



Grace Arons

Ensemble

is a sophomore music major with a dual emphasis in Composition and Education! She had never done musical theater until her dear friend Jayna (The Witch) persuaded her to join theater at ACU last year! She hopes you enjoy watching this play as much as she enjoys acting in it!



Isaiah Carman

Ensemble

is very excited to be a part of ACU's production of Big Fish. An avid theater kid, Isaiah has played a role in over 15 different productions, most recently playing the role of the Prince in ACU's Cinderella. In his free time, he enjoys singing, reading books and playing basketball. Isaiah is currently a Senior at ACU, where he is finishing pursuing a degree in Music Education.



Keegan Caruso

Ensemble

is a BSM undergraduate with concentration in music education and pedagogy. He loves his supportive family, being an uncle, pineapples on pizza, and thinking of new tunes then striking keys to hear the results. Keegan's goal is to serve God by leading grammar students to worship our Lord through performance and music.



Lesia Rasmussen

Ensemble

is in her first year at Arizona Christian University. She has enjoyed growing up in the theater community and was in her first show at age four. Her favorite part of the theater world is the dancing and choreography of musicals.



Macy Spangler

Ensemble

loves all things coffee, people, cheese and music. She is from Greenwood, Indiana but has been at ACU for the past three years, studying Psychology with a minor in Music. She loves nothing more than to sing and dance with a big group of people and she hopes you enjoy the show!!



Maggie Leitch

Ensemble

freshman, is thrilled to be a part of the ensemble for Big Fish, in her first ACU production! In high school, a few of the roles she played were Florence in Poltergeist: A Radio Drama, Elizabeth's Mom in The Audition, and many more. Maggie wants to thank her wonderful family and friends who come and support her endlessly, the fabulous cast and crew, and Corey Hirsch!



Nathan Hendricks

Ensemble

is currently a concurrent student at ACU, and is interested in attending full time next year for a degree in Biblical Studies. He joined the Big Fish musical in order to get to build friendships in the music program.



Rebecca Hendricks

Ensemble

is a senior at ACU graduating in May with a Bachelor's in Music Education. During her time at ACU, she's enjoyed being a part of multiple music ensembles primarily as a flutist. Apart from being a flutist, she finds joy teaching her dance and music students. She is excited to see what doors the Lord opens for her as she continues to pursue a career in teaching and performing.



Sofia Spillman

Ensemble

is a music student from Riverside, Southern California, with an enthusiasm for music, voice acting, and musical theater. Musicals, in fact, are one of the greatest contributing factors behind her decision to study music at Arizona Christian University. She has dreams that she will be able to use her vocal abilities in her future endeavors, whether it be on stage or in a recording room.

Brinnlee Paige

Choreographer

Brinnlee has been involved in musical theatre since the age of 5 and she started choreographing in her freshman year of high school. She is currently attending ACU in pursuit of a degree in music education with an emphasis in voice. Brinnlee would like to give a huge shout out to her best friend Rachel Main, and thank her for helping choreograph Big Fish!

Amber Perkins

Stage Manager/Props Master

is a freshman here at ACU. She was given the honor of stage managing and training the tech crew for the musical. Amber spends plenty of time being creative through art like painting and drawing. She has also recently taken up drumming, and couldn't ask for a better cast for her first college musical.

Caitlyn Macdonald

Stage Crew

is a sophomore here at ACU. She was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona. She is so excited to be a part of the stage crew and bring this magical play to life.

Levi Felts

Stage Crew

is a sophomore, honors student, and biology major; he hopes to attend veterinary school after his time at ACU. Levi has been working/serving in the AVL field for 7 years, and Big Fish is his first time being a stagehand. He likes pretty much anything that would be considered "nerdy", and enjoys cooking.

Maddy Christy

Stage Crew

is a freshman at ACU. She is a part of the tech crew with the show. Her hobbies include singing, reading, dancing, and painting. She is currently attending ACU to get a bachelor's degree in Biology to become an Avian and Exotic Veterinarian. She is really excited to be a part of the musical to use her God given gifts to help benefit the show.

Sophia Fischer

Stage Crew

is a freshman majoring in psychology and Biblical and theological studies at ACU. She is working as a technician for the production. In her free time, she likes reading, painting, and running.

Kellen Jones

AV

is a Biblical Studies student at Arizona Christian who is a part of the school audio/visual team. Kellen served with audio and video technology at his home church in Colorado Springs before helping at ACU!



SCAN ME FOR TICKETS



Disney
**BEAUTY
AND THE
BEAST**

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

© Disney

THURSDAY
APRIL 18
7:30 PM

FRIDAY
APRIL 19
7:30 PM

SATURDAY
APRIL 20
2 & 7:30 PM

THURSDAY
APRIL 25
7:30 PM

FRIDAY
APRIL 26
7:30 PM

SATURDAY
APRIL 27
2 & 7:30 PM

Produced by *Elijah Mizysak* | Directed by *Lisa Kollman*

Choreographed by *Nathalie Velasquez* | Musical Director *Corey Hirsch*

GO FIRESTORM!

ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Vist arizonachristian.edu



Arizona Christian University (ACU) is an accredited, private, non-profit, Christian university in the Phoenix metropolitan area. ACU is one of the fastest-growing Christian universities in America and ranked by U.S. News & World Report as the No. 1 Undergraduate Teaching Institution in the West. It offers a wide variety of degrees preparing students for successful careers, while remaining committed to its vision of transforming culture with biblical truth.

Study Music & Theater

at Arizona Christian University



CONCENTRATIONS

- Worship
- Music Education & Pedagogy
- Music Ministry
- Music Technology
- Theory and Composition



Bachelor of Science in Music

The Bachelor of Science in Music with concentration in general music is a comprehensive program designed to equip students for advanced studies in music. Conventional music coursework with appropriate music ensemble experiences are emphasized. The program will prepare students for graduate school, teaching, ministry, and other professional careers.

The Music program at Arizona Christian University includes an innovative **CORE General Studies program with integrated Biblical Studies minor**. This unique college program embraces a Biblical worldview of the Liberal Arts and prepares students to be influential thinkers.

Career-related focus areas and courses will include:

- Music Theory
 - (co-requisites: Sight Singing/Dictation, Class Piano)
- Music History
- Conducting
- Counterpoint
- Orchestration
- Form and Analysis
- Music elective classes including Music based Technology, Composition and Arranging, Worship, and Education and Methods classes
- Private Lessons
- Performance Ensembles: Chorale, Praise Bands, Jazz Band, String Ensemble, Pep Band, Musical Theatre, Drumline

haven church



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