



Now one of the most performed shows in America, *Seussical* is a fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza! Tony winners Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty (“Ragtime,” “Once On This Island”) have lovingly brought to life all of our favorite Dr. Seuss characters, including Horton the Elephant, The Cat in the Hat, Gertrude McFuzz, Lazy Mayzie, and a little boy with a big imagination--Jojo. “Oh, the Thinks You Can Think” captures the show’s spirit of imagination, as the colorful characters transport us from the Jungle of Nool to the Circus McGurkus to the invisible world of the Whos.

The story centers around Horton the Elephant, who finds himself faced with a double challenge—not only must he protect his tiny friend Jojo (and all the invisible Whos) from a world of naysayers and dangers, but he must guard an abandoned egg, left to his care by the irresponsible Mayzie La Bird. Although Horton faces ridicule, danger, kidnapping and a trial, the intrepid Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him, the only one who recognizes “his kind and his powerful heart.” Ultimately, the powers of friendship, loyalty, family and community are challenged and emerge triumphant, in a story that makes you laugh and cry.



Notes From The Director

Last night we had the first read-thru/sing-thru of *Seussical* and the energy and enthusiasm in the room was incredible. I can’t remember the last time I had a cast this excited about doing a show. There just seems to be something about it. Even when we were recruiting new students for the department last year, just the mention of the possibility of doing *Seussical* in our season would spread like wild fire through a room and we would be swamped with students asking, “Are you really doing *Seussical* next year? I love that show.” So what is it about this musical that inspires such fervor? It’s based on the works of Dr. Seuss, primarily the Horton stories—*Horton Hears a Who* and *Horton Hatches an Egg*. The characters are the ones we grew up with - the mischievous Cat In The Hat, the rowdy trouble making Wickersham Brothers, of course the caring and reliable Horton, Gertrude with her one feathered tail, the lazy and fun-loving Mayzie, and the endangered Whos in Who-ville especially the imaginative boy Jo Jo, the Mayor’s son. And all the fun, quirkiness, and life lessons in the stories still ring true.

Despite all the impressive production elements in the Broadway production the show was not considered a great critical success. It was deemed “overproduced” by some detractors. The creators Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty actually agreed. They keep reminding directors now to basically “Keep it simple, Stupid!” It’s about the importance of *Imagination* in our lives. It’s that return to a simpler approach to the show which has brought it such success in its post-Broadway life. It now ranks as one of the most produced musicals in America. Don’t get me wrong. It’s still a very fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza! But it doesn’t need multiple sets and costumes with elaborate special effects. It just needs to be fun, spontaneous, and imaginative. So bring your favorite kid or come be a kid again yourself. Just join us for the journey!

Rebecca Britton



Production Staff
 Director
 Rebecca Britton
 Musical Direction
 Thomas Rowell
 Producer
 Leon Van Dyke
 Choreographer
 Monica Henry
 Scene Design
 Lyle B. Miller
 Costume Design
 Rebecca Britton
 Poster Design
 Constance Smith

Cast for

Seussical
The Musical

Cat..... Brandon Caten
 JoJo..... Lee Smith
 Horton..... Evan Wilson
 Gertrude..... Penny M. Endicott
 Mayzie.....
 Lauren Ashley Fussell
 Sour Kangaroo.....
 Hannah Yeats
 Mrs. Mayor.....
 Monica Ganoë
 Mr. Mayor Ben Jacobs
 Birds Katie Bandy,
 Lauren Gessner,
 Twila Tschan
 Wickershams
 Chris Hill, Aaron Meadows,
 Jonathan Pruitt
 Yertle The Turtle
 Robert Veihman
 Whos/Jungle Animals/Fish
 etc. Hillary
 Bosarge, Jonathan Davis,
 Ravyn Otis, Devin Patrick,
 Jennifer Schultz, Ashley
 Sutter, Robert Veihman, Zac
 West



"Horton the Elephant, the Sour Kangaroo, Mayzie LaBird, Yertle the Turtle, and many other familiar characters get together to put on a wonderful show."

"Seussical is one of the most enjoyable new Broadway musicals out there. It is great for kids of all ages."
Seth Bisen-Hersh Theatre Review

Ticket & Box Office Information

The Box Office will be open from 9:00 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday and one hour before each performance. The Box Office is located in the lobby of the Laidlaw Performing Arts Center on the main campus of the University of South Alabama. (251) 460-6306

Public: \$15.00, Faculty/Staff & Sr. Citizens: \$12.00, Students: \$10.00



University of South Alabama
1052 Laidlaw Performing Arts
307 University Blvd. North
Mobile, Alabama 36688-0002

University of South Alabama
Theatre USA

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the
Seussical

By: Stephen Flaherty,
Lynn Ahrens,
& Eric Idle

Based on the works of Dr. Seuss

Laidlaw Performing Arts Center
September 25-26, October 1-3 @ 7:30 pm
September 27 @ 2:00 pm
October 3 @ 9:30 am • (251) 460-6306

University of South Alabama



Theatre