

For Immediate Release:  
Contact: Robin Conklin  
Rconkli1@utk.edu

***“Always...Patsy Cline!” Tops Off  
the Clarence Brown Season!***

“Always...Patsy Cline” will top off the Clarence Brown Theatre season April 20 through May 15, 2022 on the MainStage. Back by popular demand after a sold-out run in 2003, this fabulous musical is based on the true story of Patsy’s long friendship with fan, Louise Seger, and features 27 classic songs including “Crazy,” “Walkin’ After Midnight,” “She’s Got You,” “Sweet Dreams,” and “Back in Baby’s Arms”. Tickets available at <https://clarencbrowntheatre.com/plays/always-patsy-cline/>.

Information on theatre safety protocols are available here: <https://clarencbrowntheatre.com/faq/>

UT Faculty/Staff receive 20% off ticket prices. Students see the previews for FREE and the rest of the performances for \$5, excluding Opening Night. Don’t get scammed! The Clarence Brown Theatre only sells tickets through KnoxvilleTickets.com or by phone at the CBT Box Office at (865) 974-5161.

The Pay What You Can Preview performance, where patrons can name their own price, will be held Wednesday, April 20th. Half of the proceeds from PWYW tickets will benefit the YWCA Knoxville and the Tennessee Valley. Behind the Scenes Sunday will take place following the Sunday, April 24th following the matinee. A Talk Back will take place Sunday, May 1st following the matinee. The Open Captioned performance is Sunday, May 8th at 2:00 pm.

Production sponsors include: Bob and Margie Parrott, ORNL Federal Credit Union, Wes and Liz Stowers, the Clayton Foundation and Pilot Company. Grant and foundation support for this production is provided by the Shubert Foundation Inc., the Arts & Culture Alliance, the Knox County Tourism. Media sponsors for this production are Knoxville News Sentinel, WUOT, and WUTK. Free and convenient parking is available in the Upper Parking of McClung Tower Garage (G2) on Volunteer Boulevard.

For over twenty-five years, Ted Swindley has directed and/or produced over 200 plays. He is nationally known for creating the hit musical “Always...Patsy Cline”, which opened in New York in June, 1997, while continuing to play throughout the world. His “Honky Tonk Angels” played on the CBT stage during the 2002/2008 Season.

**Terry Alford** (Director) is a Distinguished Lecturer in Theatre and teaches Musical Theatre Performance and Honor’s Introduction to the Theatre and Acting. Prior to joining the UT faculty, he held the positions of Director of Musical Theatre at The University of Tulsa, and Director of Musical Theatre at The University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point. He has worked professionally as a performer, director, musical director, and composer at theaters across the country. He has directed or musically directed numerous productions and has created the scores for four original musicals and a variety of chamber and vocal music pieces. He also directs or musically directs shows locally with the Flying Anvil Theatre and the Knoxville Children’s Theatre. He earned his BA and MFA in theatre from The University of Tennessee. Terry is a member of the Clarence Brown Professional Company and regularly directs and musically directs for the Clarence Brown Theatre. In addition, he composes incidental music for CBT productions and is the director of the CBT Summer Acting Workshop and serves as co-facilitator of Outreach and Education hosting Theatre Tours and Talkbacks.

**Laura Beth Wells** (Patsy Cline) Broadway: Emily Osborn in “Spiderman: Turn Off the Dark” (original cast). Regional theatre highlights: Annie in “In The Next Room,” or “The Vibrator Play” (River and Rail), Mrs. Bradman in “Blithe Spirit” (CBT), Mrs. Dilber/Mrs. Fezziwig in “A Christmas Carol” (CBT), Heather in “Gideon’s Knot” (Bridge Street Theatre), Mrs. Walker in “The Who’s Tommy” (CT Rep), Kafka/The Waitress in “All in the Timing” (Hangar Theatre),

Rhetta in “Pump Boys and Dinettes” (West VA Public/Porthouse Theatre), and more. Teaching Artist: UTK, Maryville College, Pellissippi State, Knoxville Children's Theatre, SF Shakespeare Festival, Hangar Theatre, Cornell University, Syracuse University, SUNY Binghamton. Laura Beth received her BA in Theatre from UTK and her MFA in Acting from Kent State University.

**Deanna Surber** (Louise Seger) is thrilled to be back on stage at the Clarence Brown Theater in this alumni production after 30 years, and in her first role as a new member of the Actors’ Equity Association. She has appeared on local stages for many years, most recently in “Bright Star” in 2019 at the Word Player’s. Previous credits include “Little Women” (Marmee) with The Word Players, “A Little Night Music” (Desiree) and “1776” (Abigail Adams) with the Oak Ridge Community Playhouse, “South Pacific” (Nellie) and “Kiss Me, Kate” (Lilly/Kate) with Tennessee Valley Players. She has an MFA from the University of Cincinnati Conservatory of Music.

**Rhonda Mayfield** (Musical Director) is making her CBT debut having previously served as musical director for shows and reviews with Foothills Community Players, Word Players, and Erin Youth Players. She is a Maryville College grad with a degree in piano performance.

The band includes: **Rhonda Mayfield** (Piano); **J. Miller** (Drums/Percussion); **Greg Horne** (Pedal Steel Guitar); **Barry Hannah** (Guitar); **Dave Peebles** (Bass) and **Bethany Hankins** (Violin).

The creative team for this production includes: **Libby Stadstad** (Scenic Designer); **Lauren T. Roark** (Costume Designer); **Helen Garcia-Alton** (Lighting Designer); **Liv Jin** (Assistant Lighting Designer); **Joe Payne** (Sound Designer); **Tate E. Thompson** (Assistant Sound Designer/Mixer); **Lucas Swinehart** (Assistant Sound Designer/Mixer); and **Patrick Lanczki** (Stage Manager); **Presley Keith** (Assistant Stage Manager) and **Allison Bunch** (Assistant Stage Manager).

With a dual mission to train the next generation of theatre artists and to provide top quality professional theatre, the Clarence Brown Theatre at the University of Tennessee Knoxville is one of only 12 academic LORT (League of Resident Theatre) institutions in the nation with a professional theater on campus. Under the leadership of Interim Producing Artistic Director Kate Buckley, Interim Department Head Casey Sams, and Managing Director Thomas Cervone, the CBT season runs from November through May and features five productions ranging from musicals to drama.

The CBT provides a cultural resource for both the University and the larger East Tennessee community and affirms diversity and inclusivity in all their forms.

For more information or tickets, call the CBT Box Office at (865) 974-5161 or visit us online at [clarencbrowntheatre.com](http://clarencbrowntheatre.com). Stay connected to the Clarence Brown Theatre on Facebook (Clarence Brown Theatre), follow us on Twitter (@ClarenceBrown) and view Clarence Brown videos on YouTube (Clarence Bro).

###