



PRISCILLA

QUEEN OF THE DESERT

the musical



OFFICIAL EVENT



LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER

PRIDE

Palm Canyon Theatre
Presents



Book by
STEPHAN ELLIOTT & ALLAN SCOTT

Musical Arrangement and Orchestrations by
STEPHEN "SPUD" MURPHY

Directed by **DERIK SHOPINSKI**
Choreographed by **NATHAN WILSON**
Musical Director **STEVEN SMITH**
Scenic & Lighting Design **J.W. LAYNE**
Costume Design **DERIK SHOPINSKI**
Hair/Makeup **ADAM HIETER**

Produced by special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide.

October 24-November 16, 2025

Video or audio recording of any kind of this production is strictly prohibited.

Thank you to our American Sign Language Interpreters
Sunday, November 2, 2025
Liisa Mendoza and Tom McGillis



PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager	STEPHEN DAVIS
Dance Captain	SANAI WRIGHT
Light Board Operator	DANNY HARGREAVES
Sound Designer	NICK CAMPBELL
Costume Assistants	VIRGINIA SULICK, COLLEEN WALKER, GEORGIA SMITH
Headpiece Creator	MAT TUCKER
Set Construction	JACKSON ENZLER, STEPHEN DAVIS
Props	MARSHA BERRY

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Managing and Co-Artistic Director	SE LAYNE
Co-Artistic Director/Set Designer	J.W. LAYNE
Resident Costume Designer	DERIK SHOPINSKI
Publicity Director	CARA VAN DIJK
Company Photographer	TARA HOWARD
Head Usher/Coordinator	TIM STEELE
Graphic Artist	NICK EDWARDS



Proud member of the Desert Theatre League

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

It's Raining Men	The Divas and Company
What's Love Got to Do with It?	Miss Understanding
I Say a Little Prayer	Tick
Don't Leave Me This Way	Bernadette, Tick and Company
Venus	Felicia and the Boys
Go West	Bernadette, Tick, Adam and Company
I Say a Little Prayer	Tick and the Divas
I Love the Nightlife	Shirley, Bernadette, Mitzi, Felicia and Company
True Colors	Bernadette, Tick and Adam
Sempre Libera	Felicia
Color My World	Adam, Tick, Bernadette and Company
I Will Survive	Bernadette, Adam, Tick, Jimmy and Company

15 – Minute Intermission

ACT II

I Will Survive (Reprise)	Divas
A Fine Romance	Young Bernadette
Shake Your Groove Thing	Mitzi, Bernadette, Felicia and the Divas
Pop Muzik	Cynthia and Company
A Fine Romance (Reprise)	Bob
Girls Just Wanna Have Fun	The Divas and Adam
Hot Stuff	Felicia, the Divas and Bernadette
MacArthur Park	Bernadette, Tick, Adam and Company
Boogie Wonderland	Marion and Company
Casino Floorshow	Company
Always on My Mind	Tick and Benji
Confide in Me	Felicia, Divas and Company
We Belong	Felicia, Mitzi and Bernadette
Finale	The Company

CAST

(In Alphabetical Order)

LOIS BONDURICH	Ensemble
GARY CONWAY	Ensemble
RON CORONADO	Bernadette
MICHELE DAVIS	Shirley/Ensemble
DAWN DONOHUE	Cynthia/Ensemble
JACKSON ENZLER	Ensemble
JANA GIBONEY	Diva
STEVIE GOLD	Ensemble
ADAM HIETER	Miss Understanding
HEATHER JOY	Diva
EMMY KAMINSKY	Ensemble
REAGAN KAMINSKY	Ensemble
ROB KREISINGER DENK	Pastor/Frank/Ensemble
JUSTIN MARIONOWITZ	Ensemble
STEFFON MARTINDALE	Ensemble
LARRY MARTIN	Jimmy/Ensemble
TEGR POWELL	Tick/Mitzi
LUKE RAINEY	Bob
ARI RAND	Benji
JENIA RAND	Marion
JOHN RATHGEB	Ensemble
DENISE ROONEY	Diva
FIONA SARCHETT	Ensemble
NOAH WAHLBERG	Adam/Felicia
SANAI WRIGHT	Ensemble

THE ORCHESTRA

STEVEN SMITH	Piano, Musical Director
JIM WATSON	Drums
LARRY HOLLOWAY	Bass
JOHN PAGLES	Guitar

THE CAST

Lois Bondurich (Ensemble)

Lois is happy to be back on the PCT stage. Previous credits here include *How To Succeed In Business* and *Mary Poppins*. At DT: *Oliver*; COD: *Cabaret*; CVRep: *Ballroom*. Lois toured with Ballet Northeast and instructed dance at studios in Pennsylvania, Florida, and California. She is also a limited sight performer with Juvenile Macular Degeneration. She has danced for most of her life and loves adventures.

Gary Conway (Ensemble)

This is Gary's first performance since the mid 80s, and he is excited to be on the PCT stage. Prior to his brief hiatus, he played in *Deathtrap* (Clifford) at the Cliff Theater in Newport Beach, and in *The Ritz* (Duff, the towel boy), at The Valley Art Theater in Los Angeles.

Ron Coronado (Bernadette)

After doing *Priscilla* in 2017 and 2019, Ron is ecstatic to reprise his role as Bernadette. Other favorites: *La Cage Aux Folles* (Albin/Zaza), *Hairspray* (Edna), *Boys in the Band* (Donald), and *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* (Chief). Ron's extensive performance history includes stage, television, and film credits from NYC to LA, and everywhere in between. Ron thanks his friends for their love and support. Special thanks to Tom who fills his days with love and laughter.

Michele Davis (Shirley)

This is Michele's eighth season with PCT where she was last seen in *Sordid Wedding* (Sissy), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Mme Renaud), *How to Succeed in Business* (Miss Jones), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Mrs. MacAfee), *Sordid Lives* (Sissy), *Elf* (Deb), *Steel Magnolias* (Ouiser; DTL Winner), *Little Women* (Aunt March), *Titanic* (Charlotte Cardoza; DTL Nominee). Other favorite shows at PCT include *Pajama Game*, *Big River*, *Scarlette Pimpernel*, and *Spamalot*. "Thank you, husband Rick, for supporting my creative endeavors."

Rob Kreisinger Denk (Pastor/Frank/Ensemble)

Rob is thrilled to work with his PCT family again in this fabulous musical treat. Notable past shows at PCT include *The King and I* (King), *The Boys in the Band* (Harold), *A Very Sordid Wedding* (Billy Joe and Hardy), and *Victor/Victoria* (King Marchand). As a company member of the now defunct Thorny Theatre, he starred in *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, and *P.S. Your Cat is Dead*, among others. Offstage, Rob is a clinical therapist. He thanks his husband Bryan for 15 years of wedded bliss.

Dawn Donohue (Cynthia)

Dawn is very excited to be back on the stage at PCT. She has previously appeared in the variety comedy show *The Desert Drolleries*. She has also starred in several films, vertical mini-series, TV series, music videos, and commercials. She is currently starring in and producing a short film here in Palm Springs entitled *Performances*. Dawn would like to thank everyone at PCT for this incredible opportunity!

JacksonENZler (Ensemble)

This is Jackson's 22nd show at PCT. He has been seen in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Billy Bibbit), *Victor/Victoria*, *My Fair Lady*, *Shunned*, *How to Succeed*, *Bye Bye Birdie* (Hugo Peabody), *She Loves Me*, *Titanic*, *Godspell*, and *Peter Pan* (John Darling). Jackson is a graduate of the University of California Riverside and is studying theater, film, and digital production with a concentration in acting and directing as well as the methods of Stanislavski.

Jana Giboney (Diva)

Jana was last seen on the PCT stage in *Falsettos* (Dr. Charlotte). She is a professional hairdresser by day and theatre geek by night! Previous credits include *Legally Blonde* (Paulette), *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Edith Frank), *Avenue Q* (Lucy), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Jaqueline), *The Pajama Game* (Mabel), *Gypsy* (Mazepa), *Shrek* (Mama Bear), *Cabaret* (Kit Kat Girl) as well as various roles in *RENT*, *In the Heights*, *The Addams Family*, and *Jekyll and Hyde*. Jana would like to thank her husband, Steve, and children, Griffin and Julia for their constant love and support. And also a big "THANK YOU" to everyone at PCT!

Stevie Gold (Ensemble)

This is Stevie's second show at PCT, after recently appearing in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Cherry Sundae). She is happy to be back on stage for another show and is looking forward to future shows at PCT!

Adam Hieter (Miss Understanding)

This is Adam's 4th season at PCT. Having spent time living in Australia, Adam is extremely excited about appearing in this show. Recent PCT credits: *Victor/Victoria* (Henri Labisse), *Mary Poppins* (Chairman, Park Keeper), *La Cage aux Folles* (Mercedes), *How To Succeed* (Wally Womper), *Boys in the Band* (Larry), *Something Rotten* (Brother Jeremiah), *Titanic* (George Widener) and *The Scarlet Pimpernel* (Hal). Other local credits: Jacob Marley/Bob Cratchit in *Dickens Writes a Christmas Carol*.

Heather Joy (Diva)

This is Heather's second production with PCT, having just appeared in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Mrs TeaVee), and she is having a great time! At Revolution Stage Company, her credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* (Crystal), and her favorite part last season in *Company* (Amy). Other unique shows include *Salty* (Desiree/ Flora) with Desert Ensemble Theatre, *Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike* (Cassandra), and *Mid-Century Moderns*. Enjoy the show and remember, whatever we deny or embrace for worse or for better, we belong together!

Emmy Kaminsky (Ensemble)

Emmy has been performing at PCT since the age of 9 and has been in shows such as *Palm Springs Getaway*, *Victor/Victoria*, and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Her pastimes include playing the piano, teaching herself to play guitar, country music, watching hockey, and fishing.

Reagan Kaminsky (Ensemble)

Reagan has been acting with PCT since the age of 7 and has been in shows such as *The Sound of Music*, *Titanic*, *Palm Springs Getaway*, *Mary Poppins* (Jane Banks), and, most recently, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Her pastimes include playing the piano, singing, and playing the guitar.

Justin Marionowitz (Ensemble)

New on the Palm Springs theater scene, this is Justin's first show and season of performing with PCT, and his second performance overall since 2023. While still new, Justin has taken the opportunity to start building genuine connections within the community and wants to use his experiences in this and future shows to build a foundation for his acting career to take off. He's very grateful to his loved ones for giving him their ongoing support, and will thank them wholeheartedly from the stage.

Larry Martin (Jimmy/Ensemble)

Larry is excited to be back for his 22nd season at PCT. He was last seen at PCT in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and at Desert Ensemble Theatre in *Loot*. Award-nominated performances include *Titanic* (Frederick Fleet) and *The Boys in the Band* (Emory) at PCT, and *Nonsense A-Men* (Sister Mary Leo) and *Lend Me a Tenor* (Bellhop) at Desert Theatreworks. Some favorite credits also include *Chicago* (Billy Flynn), *Oklahoma!* (Curly), *The Full Monty* (Ethan), and *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (Miss Understanding). A dentist for 43 years, he likes working jigsaw puzzles.

Steffon Martindale (Ensemble)

Steffon recently made his debut at PCT in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Mike Teavee). Previous local musical credits include *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Neville Landless), *Dogfight* (Stevens), and *Curtains* (Johnny Harmon). He brought his theatrical passion for collaboration and creativity to Los Angeles, creating numerous award-winning short films while graduating from ASU. Upon his return to the Desert, he has performed in RSC's *Spring Awakening* (Otto) and Desert Theatricals' *Hairspray* (Duane).

Tegr Powell (Tick/Mitzi)

This is Tegr's second show for PCT, as he choreographed for *Charlie*, but his first time on the stage here. He holds a BA in Dance from Western Michigan University, and a doctorate in physical therapy. In NYC, Tegr performed with Antigravity Gymnastics & Dance. As a member of the Gay Men's Chorus Los Angeles, and was the junior choreographer working with the main and youth chorus. More recently, Tegr was seen in *Beautiful: The Carole King Story* (Lead Drifter).

Luke Rainey (Bob)

Luke has worked with PCT since 2008. He directed *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* last season and most recently appeared in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Grandpa Joe), *Falsettos* (Marvin), *Mary Poppins* (Bert), and *La Cage aux Folles* (Georges). He has appeared onstage in *The Boys in the Band* (Hank), *Brigadoon* (Jeff), and *Sweeney Todd* (Ensemble). Past favorite roles include *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (Bob), *The Crucible* (Paris), and *Yellow* (Bobby). PCT directing credits: *Rent*, *Spring Awakening*, *Avenue Q*, and *Blithe Spirit*. "Thank you to PCT's production team, technical crew, and all cast members for their ongoing collaboration and support."

Ari Rand (Benji)

This is Ari's second production at PCT. He has previously appeared in *Oliver!* (Charley Bates) and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Ensemble). He has a phenomenal memory for lyrics and car-related facts.

Jenia Rand (Marion)

Jenia is excited to take the stage in her first theatrical production. She is grateful to Derik and Se for giving her this opportunity and to the cast for making her feel welcome.

John Rathgeb (Ensemble)

John is happy to begin another season at PCT. He appeared last season in *La Cage Aux Folles*, *My Fair Lady*, and *Victor/Victoria*. Some of John's favorite roles include Beverly Carlton in *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, Melvin P. Thorpe in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, and The Wolf/Prince in *Into the Woods*.

Denise Rooney (Diva)

This is Denise's eighth season at PCT. Her first show at PCT was *Sister Act* and she has been in more than 20 shows since, such as *Damn Yankees*, *Oklahoma*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Sweeney Todd*, *My Fair Lady*, and most recently, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Denise holds a degree in music and enjoys teaching the language of music to the young and young at heart.

Fiona Sarchett (Ensemble)

This is Fiona's sixth show at PCT, having previously appeared in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Veruca Salt), *Victor/Victoria*, *My Fair Lady*, *Mary Poppins*, and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. She is excited to be a part of this production, and she thanks PCT for this opportunity and hopes for many more to come.

Noah Wahlberg (Adam/Felicia)

Noah has had a deep love for theatre from a very young age. Noah was very involved in community theatre throughout high school and was last seen at PCT in *My Fair Lady* (Freddy Eynsford-Hill), *Sordid Wedding*, *Mary Poppins*, and *La Cage aux Folles*, having previously appeared in College of the Desert's productions of *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Peter) and *Guys and Dolls* (Nicely Nicely).

Sanai Wright (Ensemble)

This is Sanai's 25th show at PCT. Previous appearances include *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *My Fair Lady*, *Mary Poppins*, *La Cage aux Folles*, *How to Succeed*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Elf*, *She Loves Me*, and *Little Women*. She attended PCT's kids camp for several years, loves all things theatre, and hopes to continue living out her dreams of acting. "I am forever thankful that I have the opportunity to share the stage with such an outstanding cast!"

Derik Shopinski (Director/Costume Designer)

Derik has been the Resident Costume Designer here at PCT since 2005. His costumes have received multiple DTL Nominations, and several wins. He is a 6-time Best Director of a Musical recipient for PCT's productions of *Oklahoma!*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *The King & I*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Sweeney Todd*, and most recently, *My Fair Lady*. He is also an award-winning Choreographer, Dancer, and Hair and Make-up Artist. Derik credits his high school Theatre teacher, Rosemary Mallet, for recognizing and encouraging his talents as both a costumer and director. *"I am always thrilled when I get the chance to direct a show with such crazy talented performers, and co-creatives."*

Steven Smith (Musical Director)

Steven has conducted over 100 musicals, from operettas such as *The Student Prince* to Sondheim's *Merrily We Roll Along* for which he received a Los Angeles Drama Critic's Award. Among his many accomplishments, he was musical Director for Long Beach's CLO, spent 4 years at Berlin's Theatre Des Westins conducting the European premieres of such musicals as *Grand Hotel*, *Follies*, and *La Cages Aux Folles*, and has more conducting credits around the USA than can be listed in this small space.

Nathan Wilson (Choreographer)

Nathan just marked one year in Palm Springs and is thrilled to continue working with so many great theatres in the desert. He was last seen at PCT in *Forever Plaid* (Jinx) and at Revolution Stage Company in *How to Succeed* (J. Pierrepont Finch) and *Spring Awakening* (Herr). You've also seen his choreography in *How To Succeed* and *La Cage* at PCT and *Company* at Revolution. He holds a BPA in dance performance from Oklahoma City University.

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Director's Notes:

Priscilla, Queen of the Desert is an iconic story of love, family, and acceptance. From the cult-classic film to the uber campy musical, the themes resonate with people of all ages, genders, and orientations. I am humbled to be at the helm of this ship, er...bus, leading an insanely talented cast of 24 artists, along with a phenomenal Musical Director and Choreographer, who bring humor and heart to this story. From the first chord of "It's Raining Men," to the final note of "We Belong," and every stop along the way, we invite you to take this journey to the heart of fabulous with us. And feel free to sing along. We dare you not to!



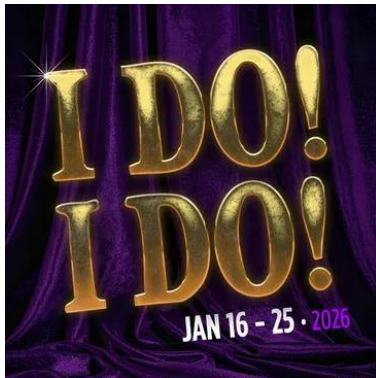
Nov 28 - Dec 21, 2025

Annie is a timeless story of optimism and determination. Follow the beloved redhead and her dog Sandy as they discover their found family. Featuring unforgettable songs like "Tomorrow" and "It's the Hard Knock Life," this classic musical is a gift for audiences of all ages this holiday season.



Nov 1 - 3, 2025

Doug Nagel and Coachella Valley Classical Voices present an abridged rendition of Engelbert Humperdinck's opera based on the Grimm brothers' fairytale of the same name. This family-friendly arrangement includes a dash of Spanish lyrics and is a delightful show for all ages



Jan 16 - 25, 2026

Spanning 50 years of marriage, *I Do! I Do!* is an intimate, charming two-person musical exploring the joys and challenges of wedded life. With a beautiful score by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, this heartfelt show captures the laughter, tears, and enduring love of a lifetime together.

HISTORY of PALM CANYON THEATRE

Celebrating its 29th Season, the Palm Canyon Theatre is the passion project of a family from Kentucky who visited the Coachella Valley often and realized an opportunity to bring the joy of live stage productions and theatre education to the area.

Dr. William "Bill" Layne, his wife Sylvia, his son, J.W., and other members of their family submitted the winning proposal to the City of Palm Springs for how to repurpose the historic Frances S. Stevens School with a cultural, nonprofit organization. After extensive tenant renovations, the Palm Canyon Theatre opened its doors in September 1997 with Romberg and Hammerstein's operetta *A Desert Song*. One of the leading roles was played by none other than Bill and Sylvia's daughter, Se Layne, who was at the time, a working actress in New York City. It wasn't long before Se joined her family in the desert to cultivate the theatre they had all grown to love. Later, Se had two children, Wyatt and Ava, who grew up on the PCT stage.

Beyond the Laynes, Palm Canyon Theatre is a huge family of people who come together to create something special! PCT incorporates education into every production, hiring professionals as needed to teach aspiring performers and technical crews specialized skills. PCT has a small part-time staff and about 250 volunteers, which include on-stage and off-stage talent. The regional repertory theatre opens casting calls several times a year to people of all experience levels. In designing the season's lineup, the PCT team is thoughtful to ensure that parts for actors of various ages are available throughout the season. For those looking for a role off stage, PCT always needs volunteers of all skills for a variety of responsibilities behind the scenes including ushers, costumes, painting, set building, lighting and more.

PCT's casts and technical crews earn honors each year for the theater's well-rounded line-up. In 2014, Dr. Layne received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Desert Theatre League. In 2015, the Layne Family was honored with the 382nd star on the Palm Springs Walk of Stars, placed directly in front of the theater.

The regular main stage season typically runs about 10 musicals and classic productions from September to May, with a summer performance usually in July. PCT holds six weeks of children's theater camp in June and July with about 200 participants ranging in age from 6-17. The theatre also hosts mid-season concerts and a limited number of events for other organizations throughout the year.

The Palm Canyon Theatre is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that operates under a board of directors, which still includes members of the Layne family.

Tax-deductible donations can be made through our box office or mailed to the theatre:

Palm Canyon Theatre, 538 N. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262. A donations link and more information is also available at www.palmcanyontheatre.org.