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THEY'RE CHIC, UNIQUE AND QUITE ADORABLE! CAST ANNOUNCED FOR *THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE* AT THE GOODSPEED THIS SPRING

EAST HADDAM, CONN., MARCH 1, 2017: Goodspeed Musicals kicks off its 2017 season at The Goodspeed with the Broadway hit *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. You'll get a kick out of this dance-filled musical comedy running April 21 – July 2 at The Goodspeed in East Haddam, Conn. [Official Press Opening will be May 10, 2017]

In 1922 New York, all the modern girls are sporting bobbed hair and heightened hemlines! Newcomer Millie is no exception, jumping headlong into a makeover and a dizzy plan to marry rich – until she falls for a penniless charmer. Her jazz-kissed adventures are crowded with a flurry of flappers, a runaway heiress, a nefarious landlady and more. A mix of madcap mistaken identity, high-spirited show tunes and tap-happy dance has more kick than bootleg gin in the Tony Award-winning Best Musical. *Thoroughly Modern Mille* features Book by **Richard Morris** and **Dick Scanlan**, New Music by **Jeanine Tesori**, and New Lyrics by Dick Scanlan. Based on the original story and screenplay by Richard Morris for the Universal Pictures Film. This effervescent musical will be sponsored by Chester Village West, The Shops at Mohegan Sun, and Webster Bank.

Millie will be played by **Taylor Quick**, who has performed at numerous regional theaters across the U.S. including Lyric Stage and Casa Mañana. Tony nominee **Loretta Ables Sayre** will play Mrs. Meers. Ms. Sayre received a Theatre World Award for her performance as Bloody Mary in the Lincoln Center Theater revival of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *South Pacific*. **Dan DeLuca**, returns to Goodspeed where he played Danny in *Snapshots* at The Terris Theatre in 2013. Mr. DeLuca who recently performed as Jack in the 1st National Tour of *Newsies* will play Jimmy. The role of Miss Dorothy will be played by **Samantha Sturm** whose Broadway Credits include *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn*, *On the Town*, *Matilda*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It* and *The Addams Family*.

Edward Watts returns to Goodspeed as Trevor Graydon. Mr. Watts was last seen at The Goodspeed as Thomas Jefferson in *1776*. Prior to that he thrilled audiences at The Terris Theatre in *The Girl in the Frame*. On Broadway, Edward appeared in *Scandalous*, and *Finnian's Rainbow*. **Ramona Keller**, whose Broadway credits include *Brooklyn The Musical*, *Caroline or Change* and *Smokey Joe's Café* will play Muzzy. Bun Foo will be played by **Christopher Shin** who appeared in last spring's buoyant romp *Anything Goes* at The Goodspeed. Shin performed on Broadway in *Mary Poppins*. Ching Ho will be played by **James Seol** who last appeared at The Goodspeed in *Mame*. Mr. Seol performed on Broadway in *A Naked Girl on the Appian Way* and Off-Broadway in *Small Mouth Sounds* and *Around the World in 80 Days*. The role of Miss Flannery will be played by **Lucia Spina** whose Broadway credits include

Kinky Boots, *South Pacific*, *Legally Blonde*, the revival of *Les Misérables* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*.

The ensemble includes **Darien Crago** (Goodspeed and Broadway's *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn*, National Tour of *Irving Berlin's White Christmas*), **Caley Crawford** (Goodspeed and Broadway's *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn*, National Tour of *A Chorus Line*), **Patrick Graver** (1st National Tour of *Bullets Over Broadway*), **Bryan Thomas Hunt** (Goodspeed Musicals' *Chasing Rainbows* and *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn*, Broadway and National Tours of *Irving Berlin's White Christmas* and *Billy Elliot*), **Emily Kelly** (Assistant Choreographer on Goodspeed's *The Roar of the Greasepaint - The Smell of the Crowd*), **Daniel May** (Broadway's *Flower Drum Song*, National Tour of *Thoroughly Modern Millie*), **PJ Palmer** (National Tour of *Elf*), **Amelia Jo Parish**, **Sherisse Springer** (National Tour of *Chicago*, Cirque du Soleil's *CRISS ANGEL Believe*, *West Side Story* at Carnegie Hall, TVs "The Wiz Live" and "Bunheads", and the motion picture *Hairspray*), **Sarah Quinn Taylor** (Goodspeed 2012 Festival of New Musicals' *Harmony, Kansas*), **Amy Van Norstrand** (Goodspeed and Broadway's *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn* and National Tour of *Elf*), and **Darius Wright** (1st National Tour of *Matilda*). The swings will be **Evan Mayer** (National Tours of *My Fair Lady*, *A Christmas Story*, and *Annie*) and **Elise Mesticelli** (Goodspeed's *Chasing Rainbows*).

Thoroughly Modern Millie will be directed and choreographed by **Denis Jones**, who choreographed Goodspeed's world-premiere production of *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn* and The Terris Theatre production of *Band Geeks!*. Mr. Jones choreographed the Broadway productions of *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn* and *Honeymoon in Vegas*. He served as Associate Choreographer for Broadway's *Legally Blonde* and *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. As Director Jones's credits include *Piece of My Heart: The Bert Berns Story* at Signature Theatre; *42nd Street*, *Grease*, *Spamalot*, and *Chicago* at The MUNY; *Legally Blonde* at North Carolina Theater and the upcoming NY lab of *Fancy*.

Scenic Design will be by 2017 Helen Hayes Award nominee **Paul Tate dePoo III**. Called Live Design Magazine's 'Designer To Watch,' Paul designed *Guys and Dolls* at The Goodspeed and last season's *A Sign of the Times* at The Terris Theatre. Most recently, he designed the sets for the Broadway-bound productions of *Josephine* and *War of the Roses*.

Costumes will be designed by two-time Tony nominee **Gregory Gale**, who designed several shows for Broadway including *Rock of Ages*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Urinetown*, and the 1995 revival of *Hello, Dolly!*. For Goodspeed, Gale designed the productions of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *High Button Shoes*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* and *The Fabulous Lipitones*. Lighting Design will be by **Rob Denton**, who served as Associate Designer for the Broadway productions of *Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn*, *Blackbird* and *A Delicate Balance*. Hair and Wig Design will be by **Mark Adam Rampmeyer**, whose work has been seen at The Goodspeed in last seasons' *Anything Goes*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Chasing Rainbows*, as well as *La Cage aux Folles*, *Good News!*, *42nd Street*, and *Big River* to name a few. On Broadway, he designed *West Side Story*, *Lysistrata Jones* and *The Farnsworth Invention*. Sound Design will be by **Jay Hilton**, who is in his 31st season at Goodspeed.

The Music Director for *Thoroughly Modern Millie* will be **Michael O'Flaherty**, who is in his 26th season as Goodspeed's Resident Music Director. **William J. Thomas** will be Assistant Music Director. Orchestrations will be provided by **Dan DeLange**, who has created the orchestrations for over 40 Goodspeed productions.

Casting for *Thoroughly Modern Millie* is by **Paul Hardt** of StewartWhitley Casting

Thoroughly Modern Millie will run April 21 through July 2, 2017 [Official Press Opening May 10, 2017]. Curtain times are Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Thursday at 7:30 p.m. (with select performances at 2:00 p.m.), Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. (with select performances at 6:30 p.m.).

Tickets are available through the Box Office (**860.873.8668**), open seven days a week, or online at goodspeed.org. For show highlights, exclusive photos, special events and more, visit us at goodspeed.org and follow us on [Facebook](#), Twitter [@goodspeedmusicl](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

Under the leadership of Executive Director Michael Gennaro, Goodspeed Musicals is dedicated to the preservation, development and advancement of musical theatre and is the first theatre in the nation to receive two Tony Awards (for outstanding achievement). Goodspeed produces three musicals each season at The Goodspeed in East Haddam, Conn., and additional productions at The Terris Theatre in Chester, Conn., which was opened in 1984 for the development of new musicals. Goodspeed also maintains The Scherer Library of Musical Theatre and The Max Showalter Center for Education in Musical Theatre. Goodspeed gratefully acknowledges the support of United Airlines, the official airline of Goodspeed Musicals; the official audio sponsor Sennheiser; and official auto sponsor Hoffman Audi. Goodspeed is also grateful for the support of the Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of the Arts

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GOODSPEED MUSICALS

THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE FACT SHEET

Production: *THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE*

Book by: Richard Morris and Dick Scanlan

New Music by: Jeanine Tesori

New Lyrics by: Dick Scanlan

Original Story and Screenplay by: Richard Morris for the Universal Pictures Film

Theatre: The Goodspeed
6 Main Street, East Haddam, Connecticut

Director and Choreographer: Denis Jones

Set Designer: Paul Tate dePoo III

Costume Designer: Gregory Gale

Lighting Designer: Rob Denton

Sound Designer: Jay Hilton

Wig & Hair Design: Mark Adam Rampmeyer

Music Director: Michael O'Flaherty

Assistant Music Director: William J. Thomas

Orchestrations: Dan DeLange

Production Stage Manager: Bradley G. Spachman

Principals: Taylor Quick (Millie)
Loretta Ables Sayre (Mrs. Meers)
Dan DeLuca (Jimmy)
Samantha Sturm (Miss Dorothy)
Edward Watts (Trevor Graydon)
Ramona Keller (Muzzy)
Christopher Shin (Bun Foo)
James Seol (Ching Ho)
Lucia Spina (Miss Flannery)

Ensemble: Darien Crago
Caley Crawford
Patrick Graver
Bryan Thomas Hunt
Emily Kelly
Daniel May
PJ Palmer
Amelia Jo Parish
Sherisse Springer
Sarah Quinn Taylor
Amy Van Norstrand
Darius Wright

Swings: Evan Mayer
Elise Mesticelli

PAGE 5 – GOODSPEED MUSICALS ANNOUNCES CAST OF THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE

Background: The musical *Thoroughly Modern Millie* features music by Tony Award-winning composer Jeanine Tesori (*Fun Home*), lyrics by three-time Tony Nominee Dick Scanlan, and a book by Film, TV and Stage writer Richard Morris and Dick Scanlan. It is based on Morris's 1967 film of the same name, which itself was based on the British musical "Chrysanthemum", which opened in London in 1956. *Thoroughly Modern Millie* tells the story of a small-town girl, Millie Dillmount, who comes to New York City to marry for money instead of love – a thoroughly modern aim in 1922, when women were just entering the workforce. Millie soon begins to take delight in the flapper lifestyle, but problems arise when she crosses paths with a corrupt landlady, a runaway heiress, and other questionable city slickers.

Following previews at the La Jolla Playhouse in October 2000, the show opened on Broadway on April 18, 2002. The production won six Tony Awards, including Best Musical. The production launched **Sutton Foster's** career and earning her the first of several Tony Awards. After the success of the original Broadway production, there was both a National tour and a West End production.

Description: In 1922 New York, all the modern girls are sporting bobbed hair and heightened hemlines! Newcomer Millie is no exception, jumping headlong into a makeover and a dizzy plan to marry rich—until she falls for a penniless charmer. Her jazz-kissed adventures are crowded with a flurry of flappers, a runaway heiress, a nefarious landlady and more. A mix of madcap mistaken identity, high-spirited show tunes and tap-happy dance has more kick than bootleg gin in the Tony Award-winning Best Musical.

Dates: April 21 – July 2, 2017

Performances: Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Thursday at 7:30 p.m., (with select performances at 2:00 p.m.), Friday at 8:00 p.m., Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. (with select performances at 6:30 p.m.).

Tickets: Start at \$29.00. All prices subject to change based on availability.
Goodspeed Box Office (860.873.8668) or online at goodspeed.org

Special Events:

Sunday Sips: Sunday, April 23, 6:30pm
Includes a ticket to the show and a specialty cocktail in a souvenir cup. Just \$51 per person.

Kids' Nights: April 26 & 27, 7:30pm; April 28, 8pm. Introduce your favorite young person to the magic of musical theatre. Each adult who buys a regular-priced ticket on the specified dates may purchase a \$15 ticket for a youth age 5 to 18. Meet the cast after the April 28 performance for autographs.

40 Below Tickets: April 21 - May 7
Patrons ages of 21-40 can enjoy \$25 tickets for any evening performance during the first 3 weeks of the production. Available in advance by visiting or calling The Goodspeed Box Office. Must present ID at pick-up. Not available for Season Tickets. *This program is generously funded by The Burry Fredrik Foundation.*

Mother's Day Mom-tini: Sunday, May 14, 6:30pm. Includes a ticket to the show on Mother's Day plus Mom's favorite specialty martini. Just \$51 per person!

Meet the Cast: Take part in a lively discussion with the cast after the Thursday evening performances on May 18 and June 1 & 15. *Meet the Cast events are free with a ticket to that evening's performance.*

Lady Katharine Lunch Cruise: Wednesday, June 21
Enjoy springtime on the beautiful Connecticut River! Add a leisurely cruise and sumptuous buffet aboard the Lady Katharine to your theatre ticket for just \$43. Pair an 11am lunch cruise with the 2pm performance. The ship departs from and returns to the dock at The Goodspeed in East Haddam.

Student Rush: \$15 tickets with valid student ID available beginning at 10 am on any Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday for that evening's performance.

Friday Dinner Theatre Package: Includes dinner at the Gelston House (located next door to The Goodspeed) and a ticket to the 8pm performance. Only \$89!

Dinner Discounts: Reserve tickets for a Wednesday, Thursday, or Sunday evening performance and enjoy special dinner offers at local restaurants.

[Headshots and show art available upon request: elisa.hale@goodspeed.org]

For more information, to schedule an interview, or to receive stock art, please contact
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