

VSU Theatre & Dance
presents the 2022-2023 season:

This story follows 8-year-old Lily Polkadot who just moved to the "Squares Only" small town of Rockaway. As the first Polkadot in an all Square school, Lily faces an almost impossible task of gaining acceptance from her peers. From daily bullying to segregated drinking fountains, Lily's quest seems hopeless until she meets Sky, a shy Square boy whose curiosity for her unique polkadot skin blooms into an unexpected pal-ship. Inspired by the events of *The Little Rock 9, Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical* serves as a colorful history lesson for children, reminding them that our individual differences make us awesome, not outcasts.

POLKA DOTS

THE COOL KIDS MUSICAL

This production will be recorded and streamed to local schools. Please share any contacts with us to make this available to schools and young people's programs. -broadwaylicensing.

**SQUARE
TOWN**

Book by Melvin Tunstall, III

Music by Greg Borowsky and Douglas Lyons

Lyrics by Douglas Lyons

Based on an Original Concept by Douglas Lyons

Friday, February 3, 2023 at 7:30 PM
Saturday, February 4, 2023 at 2:00 PM
Sawyer Theatre

This production is sponsored by an anonymous gift to the VSU Foundation supporting Theatre & Dance's annual young audience performances.

Patron List 2022 - 2023

The patrons below have contributed to the Golden Circle Scholarship & Support Fund providing support to our production program but most importantly to the Theatre and Dance scholarships that help us attract outstanding students to our programs. The names below reflect those who have contributed through September 30, 2022.

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Bridgett Smalls

Letter from the President



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 Theatre and Dance season at Valdosta State University.

We are delighted to have you join us for this year's lineup of shows, each with its own compelling and exciting story.

"Stories" is a fitting theme for this season.

It was Theatre and Dance's own story of patience and perseverance that helped VSU secure the funding needed to construct a brand new, state-of-the-art Performing Arts Center where the former Ashley Cinemas once welcomed movie-goers through its doors. Demolition began this past summer, and assuming no delays, the project is scheduled for completion at the end of 2024.

The new Performing Arts Center will feature more than 36,000 square feet of performance, rehearsal, instructional, and office space for VSU Theatre and Dance, as well as ample parking and enhanced visibility and accessibility to residents and visitors in the greater Valdosta community. It will be a magnificent tribute to the role the arts play in driving innovation in our region.

VSU Theatre and Dance is committed to fostering excellence within its theatre performance, theatre production, theatre management, musical theatre, and dance programs while also contributing to the lifelong learning and cultural development of the citizens of South Georgia, North Florida, and beyond.

VSU Theatre and Dance attracts highly talented students from around the world and, over the course of four years, helps them develop critical thinking, problem-solving, planning, and organizational skills; perseverance; self-discipline; patience; physical stamina; creative abilities; a broad understanding of literature, history, and other arts, which helps them to interpret ideas and feelings; and an understanding of music, costuming, and staging.

Many of our VSU Theatre and Dance graduates go on to pursue careers as writers, dancers, actors, directors, managers, and more in the film and television industry, as well as on Broadway, Off-Broadway, in regional tours, at theme parks, and more across the United States and beyond.

We are grateful for our Theatre and Dance students, faculty, and staff for their tireless dedication to the performing arts and their willingness to share their talents. We are also grateful for each of you – the individuals, families, community leaders, and business owners who generously support, protect, and nurture VSU's tradition of creative excellence.

Thank you for being a part of our audience.



Enjoy the show!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Richard A. Carvajal".

Richard A. Carvajal, Ph.D.
President

ROLKA DOTS

THE COOL KIDS MUSICAL

Book by **Melvin Tunstall III**

Music by **Greg Borowsky & Douglas Lyons**

Lyrics by **Douglas Lyons**

Based on an original concept by **Douglas Lyons**

CAST

Lily Polkadot **Jaylan Jones**

Sky Square **Andrew Rowell**

Penelope Square **JW Watson**

Ms. Square **Hananel Mavity-Jackson**

Mama Square/Square Student **Hannah Rose Kramer**

CREATIVE TEAM

Director/Vocal Director
Joe Mason

Choreographer
Meredith Reitz and Sarah Wildes Arnett

Costume & Wig Design
Chalise Ludlow

Makeup Design
Jolie DesRuisseau

Scenic/Lighting/Projection Design
Ruth A. Brandvik

Stage Manager
Taylor Parris

Technical Director
K'Nyia Bumpers

The World Premiere Recording of *Polkadost: The Cool Kids Musical* is available on Sony Records and through Amazon or iTunes.

Produced by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing

MUSICAL NUMBERS

First Day.....(Penelope, Sky, Lily, Ms. Square, Emma Square)

Sticks and Stones (Lily)

One Pal..... (Lily)

Square Motto.....(Mama Square, Penelope, Sky)

Beautiful (Sky)

The First(Ms. Square, Lily)

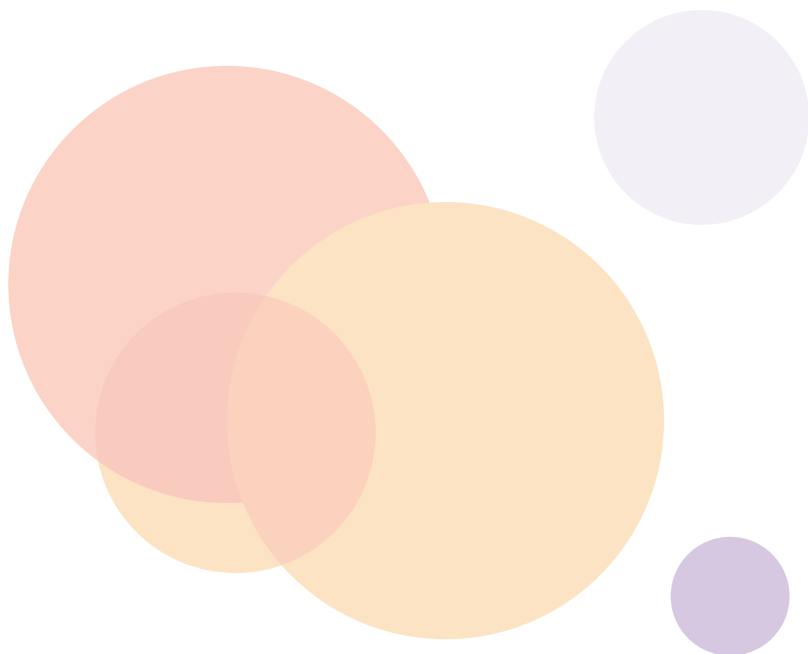
One Pal - Reprise (Lily)

Cool Kid(Penelope)

The Squa-Dot.....(Lily, Sky, Ms. Square, Penelope, Emma Square)

New Day.....(Penelope, Sky, Lily, Ms. Square, Emma Square)

Bows/Finale.....(Penelope, Sky, Lily, Ms. Square, Emma Square)



PRODUCTION TEAM

Light/Sound Board Operator	Taylor Parris
Props Manager	Lauren Gorr
Paint Charge	Ella Marroquin
Costume Paint Charge	Chandler E. Percy
Wig Stylists	Lana Horne Hannah Rose Kramer
Scene Shop Assistants	Lauren Gorr Jesse Latherow
Scene Shop Personnel	Sevannah Clarington THEA 2750 THEA 3720 A
Costume Shop Manager	Kathy-Raess Young
Costume Shop Assistants	Loretta Steed Lana Horne Sabrina Martin Chandler E. Percy
Costume Shop Personnel	THEA 3720 C
Box Office Manager	Taylor Parris
Playbill Developer	Taylor Parris
Social Media Coordinator	Meredith Reitz
House Manager	Melba Miller

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Valdosta State University, Interim Dean Michael Schmidt, Dr. Nicole Cox, Bridgett Smalls, Maggie Vallotton, Amber Porter, Evelyn Davis-Walker, Zach Cramer, VSU Foundation, Inc., VSU Bursary, VSU Campus Mail, VSU Creative Design Services, VSU Printing, VSU Plant Operations, Valdosta Daily Times, Golden Circle Scholarship and Support Fund Board, VSU Theatre and Dance Faculty



VALDOSTA STATE
UNIVERSITY

2022-2023 Season

COMING SOON

to VSU Theatre & Dance's
Stories season

»»» **Spring Dances: Weave**

STORIES AND THEMES EXPRESSED THROUGH MOVEMENT.

Spring Dances: Weave is a collection of concert dance works and dance films created by VSU Dance Faculty and guest artists. Join us as we explore storytelling through the weaving of self-expression, social commentary, collective history, and the community of culture. Dances will provoke, inspire, liberate, and leave audiences in awe as dances intertwine storytelling, abstract thought, and superb artistry.

MARCH 2-4, 2023 AT 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023 AT 3:00 PM

SAWYER THEATRE - 1st FLOOR, VSU FINE ARTS BUILDING



VALDOSTA STATE
UNIVERSITY