

## LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE ANNOUNCES CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR *THE OUTSIDERS*

WORLD-PREMIERE MUSICAL BASED ON THE ICONIC NOVEL AND FILM  
TO BEGIN PERFORMANCES FEBRUARY 19

La Jolla, CA – La Jolla Playhouse announces the cast and creative team for its world-premiere production of *The Outsiders*, the new musical adapted from S.E. Hinton’s seminal novel and Francis Ford Coppola’s groundbreaking film. Featuring a book by Pulitzer Prize finalist **Adam Rapp**, music and lyrics by **Jamestown Revival (Jonathan Clay & Zach Chance)** and Tony Award winner **Justin Levine**; music supervision, arrangements and orchestrations by Justin Levine, and choreography by **Rick Kuperman & Jeff Kuperman**, *The Outsiders* is directed by Obie Award winner **Danya Taymor**. *The Outsiders* will begin preview performances on **February 19** (press opening: Saturday, March 4). For tickets and information, please visit [LaJollaPlayhouse.org](http://LaJollaPlayhouse.org).

The cast features (in order of appearance): **Brody Grant** as “Ponyboy,” **Sky Lakota-Lynch** as “Johnny,” **Daniel Marconi** as “Randy,” **Kevin William Paul** as “Bob,” **Brent Comer** as “Paul,” **Ryan Vasquez** as “Darrel,” **Da’Von T. Moody** as “Dallas,” **Jason Schmidt** as “Sodapop,” **Trevor McGhie** as “Two-Bit,” **Piper Patterson** as “Cherry,” **Kiki Lemieux** as “Marcia,” along with ensemble members: **Annelise Baker, Barton Cowperthwaite, Tilly Evans-Krueger, Sean H. Jones, L’ogan J’ones, Renni Magee, Melody Rose and Daryl Tofa**; swings: **Jordan Chin, Milena J. Comeau and Tristan McIntyre**; and understudies: **Spencer McCabe Hunsicker, Junior Nyong’o and Trevor Wayne**.

The creative team includes **AMP** featuring **Tatiana Kahvegian** (Scenic Designer), **Sarafina Bush** (Costume Designer), **Isabella Byrd** (Lighting Designer), **Justin Ellington** (Sound Designer), **Tal Yarden and Taylor Edelle Stuart** (Projection Designers), **Jeremy Chernick** (Special Effects Designer), **Nicholas Parrish** (Wig Designer) and **Tishonna Ferguson** (Make-up Designer). The production team also includes **Matt Hinkley** (Music Director), **Matt Stine** (Music Producer), **Ann James** (Sensitivity Specialist), **Gigi Buffington** (Company Voice and Dialect), **Liz Caplan** (Vocal Supervisor), **Tara Rubin Casting/Xavier Rubiano, CSA** and **Jacole Kitchen** (Casting), **Kristin Newhouse** (Stage Manager), and **Jenn Elyse Jacobs, Emily Searles, Kelly Martindale and Dean Remington** (Assistant Stage Managers).

“It is with tremendous excitement that we cap off our 2022/2023 season with the world premiere of *The Outsiders*. The classic novel and movie have influenced generations of people, and this stellar cast and creative team will bring S.E. Hinton’s timeless story to vibrant life in a brand new incarnation for the stage,” said **Christopher Ashley**, the Rich Family Artistic Director of La Jolla Playhouse.

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About *The Outsiders*

The story that defined a generation has been reimagined as a groundbreaking new musical. Tulsa, Oklahoma, 1967, the hardened hearts and aching souls of Ponyboy Curtis, Johnny Cade and their chosen family of 'outsiders' are in a fight for survival and a quest for purpose in a world that may never accept them. A story of the bonds that brothers share and the hopes we all hold on to, this gripping new musical reinvigorates the timeless tale of 'haves and have nots', of protecting what's yours and fighting for what could be.

**Adam Rapp** is the author of numerous plays, which include *Nocturne* (New York Theatre Workshop), *Finer Noble Gases* (26th Humana Festival), *The Metal Children* (The Vineyard), and *Red Light Winter* (Barrow Street Theatre), for which he won Chicago's Jeff Award for Best New Work, an OBIE, and was named a finalist for the 2006 Pulitzer Prize. *The Sound Inside* received its world premiere at the 2018 Williamstown Theatre Festival and was named one of *The New York Times* best plays of 2018. It premiered on Broadway at Studio 54 in the fall of 2019 and went on to be nominated for six Tony Awards, including Best Play. His playwriting honors include Boston's Elliot Norton Award, The Helen Merrill Prize, The 2006 Princess Grace Statue, a Lucille Lortel Playwright's Fellowship, The Benjamin H. Danks Award, the PEN/Laura Pels International Foundation Award, and a 2021 Arts and Letters Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

**Jamestown Revival (Jonathan Clay & Zach Chance)** is an internationally recognized Americana/Roots Rock band from Austin, TX. who describe their music as "Southern & Garfunkel." Jamestown Revival's latest release, *Young Man*, is the band's first album without electric guitars and their first to be recorded in a studio. With themes like coming of age and settling into an identity, *Young Man* was produced by Robert Ellis and Josh Block (Leon Bridges, Caamp). The band has performed at iconic music festivals, such as Farm Aid, Coachella, Stagecoach and Lollapalooza, and has performed with the likes of the Zac Brown Band, Nathaniel Rateliff, Ryan Bingham and Willie Nelson. Jamestown Revival has released three critically acclaimed albums (*Utah*, *The Education of a Wandering Man* and *San Isabel*) and two equally praised EPs (*A Field Guide to Loneliness*, an intimate collection of songs reflecting recent times where human contact was limited more than ever, and *Fireside with Louis L'Amour*, featuring songs inspired by stories from author Louis L'Amour).

**Justin Levine's** recent projects include *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* (music supervisor, arranger, orchestrator; Tony Award), Shakespeare in the Park's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (original music; Delacorte Theater; Drama Desk nom), *VEVO X LORDE: Melodrama* (vocal arranger/ supervisor, conceived by Lorde, Electric Lady Studios), *Contemporary Color* (music supervisor, conceived by David Byrne, Barclay's Center and Air Canada Center), *Bonfire Night* (book, music and lyrics, NAMT), *The Weight of Smoke* (original music with Matt Stine, choreographed by Doug Elkins for Paul Taylor American Modern Dance, Lincoln Center), *Pepper and Sam* (co-conceived with Salty Brine, Ars Nova, Joe's Pub), *Bloody Andrew Jackson* (music director, co-orchestrator, cast, Public Theater and Broadway), *Here Lies Love* (music director, Public Theater, National Theater, Seattle Rep, MassMoca), *Love's Labour's Lost* (music director, co-orchestrator, cast, Delacorte), *Robber Bridegroom* (music director, co-orchestrator with Martin Lowe, Roundabout Theater), *Murder Ballad* (music director, orchestrator, Manhattan Theater Club and Union Square Theater).

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**Rick Kuperman & Jeff Kuperman's** upcoming credits: co-directing and choreographing an immersive show with the producers of *Sleep No More*. Recent choreo: *Alice by Heart* (MCC; Lortel, Chita Rivera, and Callaway Awards), *Cyrano* (Goodspeed/The New Group), *Phish* at Madison Square Garden, *The Count of Monte Cristo* (St. Petersburg, Russia), *Peter Pan* (Beijing, China), *The Light Princess* (ART/New Victory, NY Times Critics' Pick). Other works with Williamstown, New Ohio, Pipeline. Film: *Verona*, *F\*cking Identical Twins* (A24), *Silent Retreat* (Miramax). TV: "Living with Yourself" (Netflix). As directors: *Roll!* (Ars Nova), *Dispossessed* (HERE), *Smile* (FringeNYC), *The 39 Steps* (PST), and many shorts & music videos. Education: BAs, Harvard & Princeton.  
[kupermanbrothers.com](http://kupermanbrothers.com)

**Danya Taymor** is a New York based director. She reopened Broadway with Antoinette Chinonye Nwandu's *Pass Over*, the first play back after 18 months of darkness on Broadway (*New York Times* 10 best shows of 2021). Other recent work includes: Samuel Beckett's *Endgame* (Gate Theater, Dublin), Will Arbery's Pulitzer Prize finalist *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* (Obie Award, Callaway Award for Outstanding Direction), Jeremy O. Harris' "Daddy" (New Group/Vineyard), korde arrington tuttle's *graveyard shift* (Goodman), Martyna Majok's *queens* (Lincoln Center), Danai Gurira's *Familiar* (Steppenwolf) and Brian Watkins' *My Daughter Keeps Our Hammer* and *Wyoming* (The Flea + Lesser America). Her world-premiere production of *Pass Over* (Steppenwolf 2017) was filmed in collaboration with Spike Lee, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and is streaming on Amazon Prime. Recipient of the Cullman Award for Extraordinary Creativity from Lincoln Center. B.A.: Duke University.

**La Jolla Playhouse** is a place where artists and audiences come together to create what's new and next in the American theatre, from Tony Award-winning productions, to imaginative programs for young audiences, to interactive experiences outside our theatre walls. Founded in 1947 by Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire and Mel Ferrer, the Playhouse is currently led by Tony Award winner Christopher Ashley, the Rich Family Artistic Director of La Jolla Playhouse, and Managing Director Debby Buchholz. The Playhouse is internationally renowned for the development of new works, including mounting 108 world premieres, commissioning 60 new works, and sending 33 productions to Broadway, garnering a total of 38 Tony Awards, as well as the 1993 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre.

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**TikTok:** @LaJollaPlayhouse; @OutsidersMusical  
**Facebook:** @LaJollaPlayhouse; @OutsidersMusical  
**Instagram:** @LaJollaPlayhouse; @OutsidersMusical  
**URL:** [LaJollaPlayhouse.org](http://LaJollaPlayhouse.org); [OutsidersMusical.com](http://OutsidersMusical.com)  
**Hashtag:** #TheOutsidersLJP

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FACT SHEET

- WHAT:** *The Outsiders*  
Based on the Novel by S.E. Hinton and Francis Ford Coppola's Motion Picture  
Book by Adam Rapp  
Music and Lyrics by Jamestown Revival (Jonathan Clay & Zach Chance) and Justin Levine  
Music Supervision, Arrangements and Orchestrations by Justin Levine  
Choreography by Rick Kuperman & Jeff Kuperman  
Directed by Danya Taymor
- WHERE:** La Jolla Playhouse, 2910 La Jolla Village Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037
- WHEN:** Previews begin February 19 (Press Opening: Saturday, March 4)  
Tue/Wed at 7:30pm; Thu/Fri/Sat at 8pm; Sun at 7pm; Sat/Sun at 2pm
- WHO:** Scenic Designer: AMP featuring Tatiana Kahvegian  
Lighting Designer: Isabella Byrd  
Projection Designers: Tal Yarden, Taylor Edelle Stuart  
Wig Designer: Nicholas Parrish  
Music Director: Matt Hinkley  
Sensitivity Specialist: Ann James  
Vocal Supervisor: Liz Caplan  
Stage Manager: Kristin Newhouse  
Costume Designer: Sarafina Bush  
Sound Designer: Justin Ellington  
Special Effects Designer: Jeremy Chernick  
Make-up Designer: Tishonna Ferguson  
Music Producer: Matt Stine  
Voice & Text Coach: Gigi Buffington  
Casting: Tara Rubin Casting/Xavier Rubiano, CSA; Jacole Kitchen  
Assistant Stage Managers: Jenn Elyse Jacobs,  
Kelly Martindale, Dean Remington, Emily Searles

Cast (in order of appearance):

|                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Ponyboy</i> | Brody Grant        |
| <i>Johnny</i>  | Sky Lakota-Lynch   |
| <i>Randy</i>   | Daniel Marconi     |
| <i>Bob</i>     | Kevin William Paul |
| <i>Paul</i>    | Brent Comer        |
| <i>Darrel</i>  | Ryan Vasquez       |
| <i>Dallas</i>  | Da'Von T. Moody    |
| <i>Sodapop</i> | Jason Schmidt      |
| <i>Two-Bit</i> | Trevor McGhie      |
| <i>Cherry</i>  | Piper Patterson    |
| <i>Marcia</i>  | Kiki Lemieux       |

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Ensemble:     | Annelise Baker, Barton Cowperthwaite, Tilly Evans-Krueger, Sean Harrison Jones, L'ogan J'ones, Renni Magee, Melody Rose, Daryl Tofa; |
| Swings:       | Jordan Chin, Milena J. Comeau, Tristan McIntyre  |
| Understudies: | Spencer McCabe Hunsicker, Junior Nyong'o, Trevor Wayne   |

- SPONSORS:** Kay and Bill Gurtin, Bank of America, LaCosta Glen, Mintz, Show Imaging  
**TICKETS:** [LaJollaPlayhouse.org](http://LaJollaPlayhouse.org); (858) 550-1010  
**CONTACT:** Becky Biegelsen: [bbiegelsen@ljp.org](mailto:bbiegelsen@ljp.org)

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