

**23-26
MARCH**

MARS HILL UNIVERSITY
THEATRE ARTS PRESENTS...

**SWEET
CHARITY**

IN OWEN THEATRE



THE CAST

(in order of appearance)

Charity Hope Valentine.....Emma-Leigh Brookshire
Charlie, Daddy’s Assistant, Manfred.....Dalton Davidson
Nickie.....Sarah Wheeler
Helene.....Ivy Brooks
Herman.....James Greene
Ursula, Daddy’s Assistant.....Jamie Garcia
Vittorio Vidal.....Ethan Weber
Oscar Lindquist.....Blake Freeman
Daddy Johann Sebastian Burbeck.....Reggie Headen
Fairy.....Regan Sellers

Featured Dancers

Rosie.....Regan Sellers
Carmen, Heavyweight.....Faith Giles
Betsy.....Maria Fernanda-Guerrero
Fandango Ballroom Dancers.....
Dani Cox, Dalton Davidson, Jamie Garcia, Olivia Shoemaker,
Marvin.....Keyshawn Sanders

Featured Soloist

Marcus Orta

Ensemble

Arris Baldwin, Ethan Weber, Blake Freeman, Faith Giles, Fernanda Guerrero, Emma Hall, Dalton Davidson, Ivy Brooks, Regan Sellers, Sarah Wheeler, Jamie Garcia, Keyshawn Sanders, Oliva Shoemaker, Zachary Rumley, Dani Cox, Hunter Grigg, Evan Jones

Huge Thanks to Dani Cox, Reggie Headen & Hunter Grigg for being a part of our show!!

THE CREW

Director.....Chelsey Lee Gaddy
Choreographer.....Amanda Hoyte
Music Director.....Chuck Taft
Producer.....Sue Fair
Assistant Director.....Katie Crutcher
Set Designer.....Andy Rich
Technical Director & Set Dresser.....Sue Fair
Assistant Technical Director.....Andrew Zebroski
Costume Designer & Shop Manager.....Anne Knight
Lighting, Projection & Sound Designer.....Andrew Zebroski
Stage Manager.....Katie Crutcher
Assistant Stage Manager.....Alexis Brooke Stephens
Theatrical Intimacy Assistant Director.....Regan Sellers
Dance Captains.....Ivy Brooks, Dalton Davidson
Costume, Hair, Makeup Crew.....
Blaine Hovis, Dalton Davidson, Eris Mann
Lighting, Projection and Sound Board Operators.....
Jared Benain, Andrew Zebroski, Eris Mann
MarketingAlexis Stephens, Sue Fair
Bos Office Manager.....Alexis Stephens
House Manager.....Blaine Hovis
Construction, Paint Crew.....
Treyllan Barton, Arris Baldwin, Ethan Weber, James Greene, Blake
Freeman, Katie Crutcher, Jared Benain, Sue Fair
Properties Crew.....
Faith Giles, Maria Fernanda Guerrero, Emma Hall
Run Crew.....Angelina Laruy, Alexis Stephens

DIRECTOR NOTES



Sweet Charity is a classic musical about the power of optimism in the face of adversity, based on Federico Fellini's film *La Notti di Cabiria*. It highlights the importance of storytelling and sheds light on overlooked issues in society. The character of Charity serves as a reminder that even in the darkest of times, there is always hope.

Broadway legends Bob Fosse and Neil Simon were determined to bring the story of a simple girl, down on her luck and looking for love, to the stage. Thus, in 1966, *Sweet Charity* was born. Audiences were delighted by the comical antics of Charity Hope Valentine, her Fandango ballroom friends, and the iconic jazz dance styles woven into each moment throughout the show.

While Fosse and Simon worked to bring a simpler, comical, and less political work to the stage, there was no denying the underlying cynicism surrounding the work. Charity remained the eternal optimist, her peers and environment shed a harsh light on the growing state of society--girls forced to sell their bodies to make a living, youngsters turning to drugs and charismatic charlatans to find faith and meaning in life, relationships for convenience rather than love, shattered dreams, and missed opportunities.

Charity remains a lone beacon in a society where hope is easily crushed by cynicism and despair. Her refreshing attitude toward life unknowingly serves as a model for all those around her. My hope is that you learn a little bit about the timelessness of optimism and choose joy just like Charity does when the "fickle finger of fate" gets you down. *Ecce!*

THE AZURE SKY IN OZ

Written By William Leavengood

Featuring Amanda Ladd

May 18-28, 2023

