

PROGRAMME

SUDBURY PERFORMANCE GROUP

— *Be a Part of the Art* —



Sudbury Performance Group Presents

ROCK OF AGES

Book by Chris D'Arienzo

Arrangements and Orchestrations by Ethan Popp

It's the tail end of the big, bad 1980s in Hollywood, and the party has been raging hard. Aqua Net, Lycra, lace and liquor flow freely at one of the Sunset Strip's last legendary venues, a place where sex machine Stacey Jaxx takes the stage and scantily clad groupies line up to turn their fantasies into reality. Amidst the madness, aspiring rock star (and resident toilet cleaner) Drew longs to take the stage as the next big thing (and longs for small-town girl Sherri, fresh off the bus from Kansas with stars in her eyes). But the rock 'n' roll fairy tale is about to end when German developers sweep into town with plans to turn the fabled Strip into just another capitalist strip mall. Can Drew, Sherri and the gang save the strip – and themselves – before it's too late? Only the music of hit bands Styx, Journey, Bon Jovi, Whitesnake and more hold the answer.

Director – Mark Mannisto | **Choreographer** – Angel Mannisto

Vocal Director – Scott Mitchell | **Stage Manager** – Theresa Anderson-Butcher

Sound Technician – Steve McArthur | **Lighting Technician** – Patrick Wright

Musicians – Sarah Craig, Daniel Pisani, Ryan Paquette, Mike Clarke

Assistant Stage Managers – Adam Laurenti, Genevieve Gibbons, Rowan Montgomery,
Mel Houchen, Wenjing Kou, Mac Dupuis, Caleb Oleksiw

Set Construction – Brian + Jenn Armstrong, Angel Mannisto, Dexter Layugan,
Yannick Nusi Tassah, Zahra Samiee, Charlene Shattock, Wenjing Kou

Set Painting – Lindsay Dainton, Rebecca Lecour, Joey Roy,
Zahra Samiee, Charlene Shattock, Wenjing Kou

Props + Costumes – Theresa Anderson-Butcher + Rachelle St. Denis + Cast + Crew

Team Cheer Master – Mae Mahaffy

Front of House Volunteer Coordinators – Chanda Grylls-Mahaffy + Christina Carmichael

Programme Headshot Photographer – Betrand Productions

Graphic Designers – Tara Hawkes + Leo Duquette

Programme Editor – Tanya Saari | **Web Designer** – Leo Duquette

A special thank you to Sean Perras for your time and expertise.



MEET THE PRODUCTION TEAM & CAST OF

ROCK OF AGES



MARK MANNISTO

– Director's Message

Once again, I would like to thank audiences for coming out and supporting the shows put on by Sudbury Performance Group. The best part for me about putting on these shows is working with a fabulous group of local performers. To me, it's all about local. We don't bring people in from out of town, we don't just stick locals in the background, and we don't just call on the locals when we are stuck. We celebrate them. We put them front and center. We are thankful for them.

As a volunteer-run organization, our volunteers are key. I invite each and every one of you who are reading this message to consider coming on board as a volunteer. Whether it be on stage or behind the scenes, or even volunteering in different aspects of the organization, we would love to have you on board. Flag me down at one of the shows, or if I'm not around, flag down one of our volunteers in the front lobby. They will point you in the right direction.

I look forward to working with you all.

THERESA ANDERSON-BUTCHER

– Stage Manager

Theresa joined Sudbury Performance Group in 2024 as an actor, and has since tried her hand in other volunteer roles. This is Theresa's first foray into stage management, and she has enjoyed the experience immensely. She thanks the cast and production team for all their support as she learned the ropes. The cast and crew have worked very hard to bring this fabulous show to Sudbury audiences. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride.



SCOTT MITCHELL

– Vocal Director/Denis

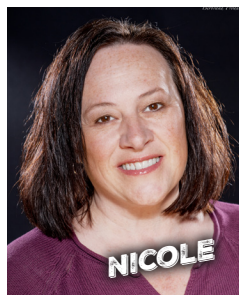
Scott is excited to make his stage debut in *Rock of Ages*! A passionate music teacher and longtime fan of live performance, Scott is stepping into the spotlight after years of supporting his wife and daughter in their theatrical adventures. He's grateful for their encouragement—and pumped to bring some serious rock energy to the stage!

ANGEL MANNISTO

– Choreographer/Justice

Angel is very lucky to get to be a part of another production of *Rock of Ages*, having choreographed the show already once, many moons ago! She is so excited to get to step on age as Justice this time around, too. It has been a busy season this year, but so much fun directing *Four Old Broads* and *Don't Dress for Dinner*, along with performing in 'Til Beth Do Us Part, and choreographing the upcoming *Beetlejuice, Jr!* Angel would like to thank everyone for the fun times rehearsals have brought, along with their hard work and dedication! "Thank you Mark and Scott for letting me join you on this ride! Thank you to all the amazing volunteers behind the scenes! Thank you to the audience for supporting us, so that I get to live out my passion and play on stage with some amazing people! I hope to see you on stage again next year!"





ABBY PITRE – Ensemble

Abby is thrilled to be part of the *Rock of Ages* ensemble! Having previous experience playing characters like Ariel in *The Little Mermaid, Jr.* (Sudbury Secondary School) and Elsa in *Frozen, Jr.* (SPG), Abby is super excited to now take on a more mature show. She hopes the audience will have a great time sharing in the magic of this wild musical. Thanks to the lovely cast and crew for making this show possible!

AVA LEVECQUE – Waitress/Constance

Ava is over the moon to be playing Waitress #1 and Constance Sack in *Rock of Ages*! This is her fourth production with SPG, previously having been in *Cabaret*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Frozen, Jr.* Although this show is very different from the latter three, she still had a blast working on it alongside her talented cast and crew mates. She hopes you have “Nothin’ but a Good Time” watching the show!

CAITLIN DROHAN – Ensemble

Caitlin has been grounding her roots in Sudbury for the past two years. She played Harper in *Angels in America* with Porchlight Theatre Company, she was an Apostle in *Jesus Christ Superstar* with Sudbury Performance Group, and she previously performed as *Cinderella*, *Sour Kangaroo* in *Seussical the Musical*, and *Audrey 2* in *Little Shop of Horrors* at New Star Theatre Company in Ottawa.

DANIEL BLAIR – Hertz

Daniel is thrilled play Hertz in *Rock of Ages*! A singer-songwriter, his song “Country Woman” charted at #85 on CanCountry. Musical roots run deep: Uncle Johnny Symbol penned an Elvis track, and parents Andy and Pauline Blair were country duo The Country Couple. Grateful for his debut, he thanks Mark, the Sudbury Performance Group team, cast, crew, fans, and girlfriend Anita Finnilla for their support. Let’s rock!

EMILY HOUCHEN – Ensemble

Emily, an artist whose talents shine from Kingsville, Ontario, to the captivating landscapes of the North, is carving her path in the performing arts. As a student at The University of Windsor, her voice graced the stage alongside the Windsor Symphony Orchestra in a stunning rendition of *The Marriage of Figaro*. Emily’s artistic journey unfolded with Sudbury Performance Group, where she captivated audiences at the Her Northern Voice Music Festival. With unwavering devotion to both the power of music and the communities she serves, Emily radiates artistic brilliance.

JADYN-LEE MARCOUX – Ensemble

Jadyn-Lee is thrilled to be part of *Rock of Ages*! A passionate performer, they bring their creative energy and love for storytelling to the stage. Jadyn-Lee has a background in music, theatre, and dance. They are excited to rock out with this incredible cast. They thank their friends, family, and mentors for their endless support.

KEAGAN DUROCHER – Lonny

Keagen is beyond excited to unleash his inner sound god as Lonny Barnett in *Rock of Ages*! Slingshotting off roles such as Jesus in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Roy Cohn in *Angels in America*, and The King in *Frozen, Jr.*, he’s ready to keep the party going as your guide through this wild, loud, and hilarious musical. Huge thanks to the creative team, cast, and his ever-supportive friends and family. Buckle up—this show is ready to ROCK. YOUR. WORLD!

LIBBY MICHIE – Regina

Libby is thrilled to be playing Regina in SPG’s production of *Rock of Ages*. She loves this show, and can’t get these classic tunes out of her head! When Libby is not on stage, you can find her at home reading, painting, or out and about with friends. She would like to give a huge shout-out to the cast and crew for putting so much time and dedication into the production. She hopes you enjoy the show!

LINDSAY DANTON – Ensemble

It all started with scratching off a bucket-list item, and here she is, 11 years later, still performing in theatre. Lindsay has been involved with SPG since the very start, appearing in *We Will Rock You*, *Godspell*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *RENT*, *ABBA: Gold*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and many more. Dance is a passion of Lindsay’s, and she loves to share her creativity. She has choreographed several theatre productions with SPG. Lindsay also choreographs for gymnastic clubs, having won several artistic awards. She would like to thank everyone involved for their work and dedication during this process. Lindsay is looking forward to more adventures with SPG in the future. Come sing and dance your heart out with us! Enjoy the show!

LINDSAY VICTORIA – Ensemble

Lindsay is delighted to return to SPG’s ensemble for *Rock of Ages*, after making her debut in *Jesus Christ Superstar*. She’s here to harmonize and high-kick her way through the show featuring hair that defies the laws of physics. With a musical background in guitar and trumpet, she’s temporarily traded the brass for sass to live her rocker dreams. She thanks the rockstars who brought this show to life—cast and crew alike!

MAX TRAINOR – Franz

Max is portraying the role of Franz Klineman. He has previously been in the Porchlight Theatre productions of *Angels in America* and *The Crucible*, as well as various shows with SPG, such as *RENT* and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Max has greatly enjoyed working on *Rock of Ages*, and would like to thank the cast and crew for this amazing experience. He hopes you enjoy the show!

NICOLE SYKES – Mayor/Ensemble

Nicole is thrilled to return to the stage after a two-decade hiatus. Throughout her high school and young-adult years, she graced the stage in various productions as a dancer, singer, and actress. Her last performances were in *Footloose* and *Tommy* (Theatre Cambrian). While raising three amazing daughters and pursuing a busy career in healthcare, she has finally found the time to return to the theatre, and is thoroughly enjoying it. She expresses her gratitude to SPG for getting her back on stage!

PHILIPPE POIRIER – Stacee Jaxx

Philippe has been involved in theatre and film for years as a professional performer, acting coach, writer, director and producer. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre Performance from Ryerson Theatre School. His performance experience ranges from classical to contemporary. He's also the founder and President of Porchlight Theatre Company, based in the Sudbury area. His theatre company will be launching its fifth season this fall, with the who-dun-it murder-mystery-farce *CLUE: On Stage*. "It's been an unbelievably rockin' joyride to be sharing the stage with such a terrific group of degenerates, like me! 'WINK!' I'm hoping you all enjoy the show, and join us on stage soon!"

SCOTIA WERELEY – Sherrie

Scotia is no stranger to Sudbury Performance Group, having recently appeared in *Jesus Christ Superstar* as Mary Magdalene, and in *Cabaret* as Lulu, the Kit-Kat girl. When she's not on stage or at home singing along to her favourite Broadway soundtracks, you can find her working towards her Bachelor of Education at Laurentian University, or spending time with her friends. She'd like to give a big shout-out to the cast and crew for all of their hard work, and an even bigger shout-out to her sister, Libby, for being her number-one supporter throughout this process. She hopes you all enjoy the show and get wild, wild, wild!

STEPHANIE FISHER – Ensemble

Stephanie is so excited to be in her very first musical! This is her first year in theatre, and *Rock of Ages* is her third production. After tearing her Achilles in April of 2024, Stephanie decided to try theatre as a way to keep busy during the long recovery from her injury. What started as a diversion has become an undeniable love for theatre that Stephanie is excited to continue exploring. Who knew that a major injury could lead a person on a path to joy? Over the last year, SPG has welcomed Stephanie with open arms, and her gratitude is beyond measure. Her husband and three children have been an unwavering source of support and inspiration throughout her theatre journey. Stephanie is especially grateful to her husband, and thanks him for loving every iteration of her.

TARA HAWKES – Ensemble

Tara is particularly proud of being in this production of *Rock of Ages*. Taking advice out of the mouths of babes, she decided that her audition would be tear-free this year (IYKYK), and she'd "be brave!!!" like the kids. This past winter, Tara choreographed SPG's youth production of *Frozen, Jr.*, and is thrilled to be stage managing the June production of *Beetlejuice, Jr.*! She urges you to get your tickets, as you won't want to miss our talented young performers! She thanks each of you for supporting us while we rock out to epic 80's tunes and use far too much hairspray! Don't stop believing... in the magic of theatre! Enjoy!

THOMAS STEWART

– Ja'keith/Joey Primo

This is Tom's 18th performance with Sudbury Performance Group. This show was so much fun to be a part of, and trying a new take on a character he has previously played. He feels so fortunate to be able to work with this entire group of very talented people. Some he has never worked with before, and others who he has not worked with in some time. Our production team worked incredibly hard in difficult times to help make this show all that it could be, and to keep us all on task. Lastly, Tom would like to thank his family for once again allowing him to be absent from them, so he can continue to follow his passion. Be a Part of the Art!

TYLER DOKIS – Drew

Tyler is an indigenous musician and actor from Dokis First Nation. Starting his theatre journey in 2023, his previous roles include Prior Walter in *Angels in America* (Porchlight Theatre Company), Robert Lambert in *Boeing Boeing* (Sudbury Performance Group), and Ezekiel Cheever in *The Crucible* (Porchlight). Tyler is very excited to be performing tonight as Drew Foley!

MEET THE MUSICIANS OF

ROCK OF AGES



SARAH CRAIG – Keys

This bio is actually written by a person, not by AI. That will give you an idea of Sarah's age (let's just say she knows the *Rock of Ages* repertoire from the radio, when they were top 40 hits). Sarah was in the pit band last spring for the production of Andy Lowe's *No Fences*, and has provided music at SPG dinner theatres and venues. Sarah is a freelance musician involved in music instruction, jazz performance, and recording. She is living her best life, by pulling out the mullet wig and biker jacket for this totally radical musical!

DANIEL PISANI – Guitar

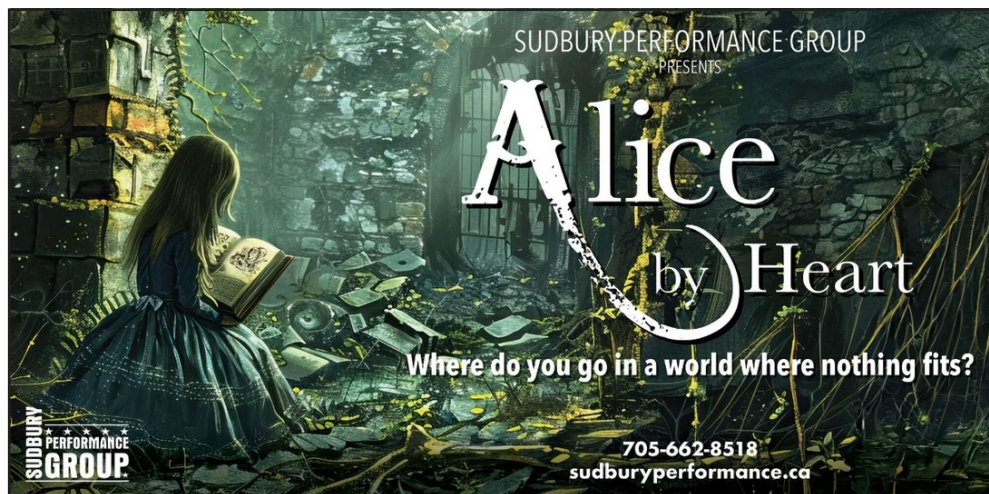
This is Daniel's first production with Sudbury Performance Group, and they're ready to melt your face off with 20 years of tasty, high-voltage, guitar riffs. A seasoned player with a passion for rock, they bring both precision and raw energy to every solo. When not shredding on stage, they're immersed in all things music and sound. Get ready—because the strings are hot, and the volume is cranked all the way up!

RYAN PAQUETTE – Bass

Ryan is the bassist, which is mostly symbolic, since no one really notices the bass, anyway. He showed up to rehearsal once and no one stopped him, so here we are. He hates going to Subway alone, loves long walks on the fretboard, and harbors a deeply confusing attraction to the drummer. We think it is his first show with Sudbury Performance Group, but rarely notice him. Please pretend you can hear the bass. It means a lot.

MIKE CLARKE – Drums

This is Mike's first production with Sudbury Performance Group, and he's thrilled to be behind the drum kit for *Rock of Ages*. A drummer for over 30 years, he brings decades of musical experience to the stage. In addition to music, he has worked as a magician, and has a lifelong passion for visual arts and technology. He's excited to help bring the energy and rhythm of this epic show to life.



WHAT DO YOU NEED
PRINTED?



309 Douglas Street, Sudbury • 705.673.7127

journal-printing.com