
doudna
FINE ARTS CENTER
The MT/Opera Theatre Class Presents
Le Nozze di Figaro
{abridged!}
NOVEMBER 6 & 7, 2026
7:30 PM
THE RECITAL HALL
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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

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PROGRAM

Duettino: Dieci…venti…trenta ..... Figaro and Susanna
Cavatina: Se vuol ballare..... Figaro
Recitativo: Ed aspettaste il Giorno ..... Marcellina and Bartolo
Aria: La vendetta ..... Bartolo
Recitativo: Tutto ancor non ho perso ..... Marcellina and Susanna
Duet: Via resti servita..... Marcellina and Susanna
Aria: Non so più cosa son ..... Cherubino
Terzetto: Cosa sento! ..... Il Conte, Basilio, Susanna
Coro: Giovani liete ..... Company
Cavatina: Porgi amor ..... La Contessa
Recitativo/Aria: Hai già vinta la causa Vedrò mentre io sospiro..... Il Conte
Recitativo: Andiam, andiam ..... Barbarina and Cherubino
Recitativo/Aria: E Susanna non vien!…Dove sono ..... La Contessa
Duetto: Sull'aria ..... La Contessa and Susanna
Coro: Ricevete, oh padroncina ..... Treble Company
Cavatina: L'ho perduta ..... Barbarina
Aria: Il capro e la capretta ..... Marcellina
Recitativo/Aria: Tutto e disposto…Aprite un po'quegl'occhi ..... Figaro
Recitativo/Aria: Giunse alfin il momento…Deh vieni, non tardar..... Susanna
Finale: Pian pianin ..... Company

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SYNOPSIS

On a grand estate, Figaro and Susanna, servants to the Count and Countess Almaviva, are preparing for their wedding. Figaro is furious when he learns from his bride that the Count has tried to seduce her. He's determined to have revenge on his master. Dr. Bartolo appears with his former housekeeper, Marcellina, who is equally determined to marry Figaro. She has a contract: Figaro must marry her or repay the money he borrowed from her. When Marcellina runs into Susanna, the two rivals exchange insults. Susanna returns to her room, and the Count's young page Cherubino rushes in. Finding Susanna alone, he speaks of his love for all the women in the house, particularly the Countess. When the Count appears, again trying to seduce Susanna, Cherubino hides. The Count then conceals himself when Basilio, the music teacher, approaches. Basilio tells Susanna that everyone knows Cherubino has a crush on the Countess. Outraged, the Count steps forward, but he becomes even more enraged when he discovers Cherubino and realizes that the boy has overheard his attempts to seduce Susanna. As the Count fumes about his ever-unfaithful servants, the household praises his generosity on this wedding take, hoping to assuage his anger.

Meanwhile, Rosina, the Countess, mourns the loss of love in her life. Still enraged by the blatant disrespect, the Count counters the Countess' song of loss with one of scheming. Meanwhile, the young servant Barbarina hatches a plan to hide Cherubino from the Count's wrath. They should dress Cherubino up as another female servant, Barbarina suggests! The Countess, upon searching for Susanna and not finding her faithful handmaiden, maintains her anger against the infidelities of her husband. The Countess is now more determined to go through with the conspiracy against her husband, and she and Susanna compose a letter to him confirming the meeting with Susanna that evening in the garden. The servants enter, singing a song of patronage and thanks to their beloved Countess. Barbarina is to be entrusted with this special missive, which is sealed by a special pin in hopes that the Count will see it and recognize Susanna's bauble.

Unfortunately, Barbarina despairs that she has lost this precious pin. As she continues to look for the pin, Marcellina enters, contemplating her broken contract and the evils perpetrated upon her by the men in her life. (Although Marcellina comes to a happy end, learning that Figaro is her long-lost son, she does have a point!)
As evening falls, Susanna and the Countess are prepared to trap the wayward Count in the confusion of the fast-falling twilight hour. Figaro, however, has been hearing rumors of a rendezvous between Susanna and the Count. Thinking that his bride is unfaithful, Figaro makes his way to the garden to catch his beloved Susanna, cursing all women for their unfaithfulness. He hides when Susanna arrives, dressed as the Countess. Alone, Susanna sings of love. Once he hears her voice, Figaro recognizes his dear Susanna.

SYNOPSIS

Although he teases her for a moment, it is soon revealed that he knew it was her all along, and the two lovers reconcile. Just then, the Count bursts into the garden, looking for Susanna. Figaro and Susanna hide, saved by the entrance of the real Countess, who steps forward to reveal her identity. Ashamed, the Count asks her pardon. Ultimately, she forgives him, and the entire household celebrates the day's happy ending.

CAST

Susanna, the Countess' maid.....Allison Cooke
Figaro, the Count's valet, betrothed to Susanna ..... Chris Andrus
Countess Almaviva.....Jemma Allen
Count Almaviva ..... Owen Hough
Barbarina, an underservant of the household..... Maria Ochs
(Understudy for Susanna)
Cherubino, a pageboy .....Aanya Sharpe
Marcellina, Dr. Bartolo's older, former housekeeper .....Alana Dove
Basilio/Dr. Bartolo .....Nathan Blackwell
Narrator 2/Ensemble ..... Katie Chumbley
(Understudy for Marcellina)
Narrator 1/Ensemble ..... Olivia Enlow
Understudy for Barbarina..... Brennah Gerdes

PRODUCTION TEAM

Music Director/Area Coordinator/Narrations ..... Dr. Rebecca von Kamp
Stage Director ..... Prof. Larry Cox, Jr.
Assistant Music Director/ Pianist ..... Ethan Hayward
Violin.....Elaine Fine
Stage Manager ..... Brennah Gerdes
Social Media Manager.....Jemma Allen
Lighting Designer .....Conor Baltz
Supertitles .....Carter Davis

BIOGRAPHIES



Jemma Allen (La Contessa) is a second-year graduate student pursuing a vocal performance degree at the Eastern Illinois University School of Music. They are so excited to be a part of *Le Nozze di Figaro* & hope you enjoy the show! Jemma debuted the role of Donna Anna in *Don Giovanni* with Musica Prohibita Management earlier this year and debuted Marcellina in their production of *Le Nozze di Figaro* in 2025. Aside from international productions, Jemma can be found on stage frequently at Doudna Fine Arts Center. You may have seen them in *Bright Star, Dido & Aeneas, She Loves Me*, or *Down in the Valley*. Jemma would like to thank Dr. von Kamp for her infinite wisdom, Larry Cox Jr. for his inexhaustible wit, and Ethan Hayward for his invaluable insight throughout the rehearsal process. Jemma would also like to thank you all for attending, because without an audience there is no show!



Chris Andrus (Figaro) is a 5th year Senior who is double majoring in Vocal Performance and Audio/ Recording Technology. He is a singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. Some of his past roles include Second Attendant in EIU's *Dido and Aeneas* and the guitar player in EIU's *Bright Star*. He is super grateful to Dr. VonKamp and Larry to be given a chance to play as Figaro in EIU's *The Marriage of Figaro*. Thank you, Ethan Hayward, for all the hard work you do and for being there for all of us. He also wants to thank his family and friends for all their love and support. One last thing…the Figaro song from the Looney Tunes cartoon is not in this opera. With that being said, please enjoy the show!



Nathan Blackwell (Bartolo/Basilio) is a music education major at EIU. Nathan has been in previous productions at EIU such as *Dido and Aeneas* (2025) and *Brightstar* (2026). Nathan would like to thank Dr. von Kamp and Professor Larry Cox for all of their support. Nathan hopes you enjoy the show!

BIOGRAPHIES



Katie Chumbley (Narrator) is a Junior Vocal Performance Major and Theater Minor here at EIU. Some of her past roles include Rona Lisa Peretti in SVHS's *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Second Witch in EIU's *Dido and Aeneas* and The Narrator in EIU's *A Christmas Carol*. She's beyond thankful for a chance to share the stage with such wonderful, talented, and inspiring humans on and off-stage. Thank you to Rebecca and Larry for all they do to help us learn to become better artists and humans. Also, thank you to Ethan Hayward for his beyond fabulous and gorgeous piano playing! She would also like to thank her friends and family for all their continuous love and support. Also, shoutout Mozart for this silly masterpiece that she feels honored to have been a part of! Thank you all for being here and please enjoy the show! <3



Allison Cooke (Susanna) is a Senior Music Education major, and is originally from Alton, Illinois. This is Allison's 2nd opera at EIU, as she was the "Radio Announcer" in T*he Old Maid and The Thief*". This past April, Allison won the Music Honors Recital at EIU. Allison has been recognized statewide for her research findings at EIU, and nationally accredited for two of her undergraduate research studies. Allison would like to thank her past voice teacher (Alison Neace), and her current voice professor (Dr. von Kamp) for encouraging growth and confidence throughout her musical journey. Allison would also like to thank her fellow cast mates, past music teachers, her supportive friends, and loving family.



Alana Dove (Marcellina) is a junior vocal performance major and jazz studies and music technology minor. The role of Marcellina is her first experience in an opera production. She would like to give gratitude by saying, "Dr. Rebecca von Kamp and Mrs. Julianne Sharpe, thank you for not only sharing your wisdom but also your encouragement that has allowed me to step out of my comfort zone and explore an entirely different side to my musicianship. Thank you to Professor Larry Cox for giving me this opportunity to learn and grow as a performer. Thank you for coming to our show. I hope you enjoy it!!

BIOGRAPHIES



Olivia Enlow (Narrator) is an EIU alumni who is overjoyed to be able to perform with this amazing and talented cast! She is so grateful to the directors for allowing her to come share the stage with this great group of people. Olivia would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support.



Owen Hough (Il Conte) is a Vocal Music Education major and is a senior at Eastern Illinois University. This is Owen's second time performing opera at EIU, he has also performed in another opera at EIU called *Dido and Aeneas*. While not opera, he has also performed in musical theater shows like *Bright Star, Fiddler on the Roof, Cinderella, Elf, You Can't Take it with You*, and *Almost Maine*. Owen would like to thank his friends, family, and both the music director and stage director for giving him this opportunity.



Maria Ochs (Barbarina) is a junior vocal music education major here at EIU. She loves performing and has previously performed as Miss Todd in *The Old Maid and the Thief* (2025) and Edna in *Bright Star* (2026). She would like to thank the lovely cast for all their hard work, as well as Rebecca, Larry, and Ethan for putting up with her antics throughout the production. Maria would like to thank her family and friends for all their support! Finally, she would like to thank Mozart for writing a character who gets to search frantically for a pin she lost onstage. Enjoy the show!

BIOGRAPHIES



Aanya Sharpe (Cherubino) is a sophomore Music Education major at EIU. Some of her past experiences include working backstage on *Annie* and *Into the Woods* at Alton High School. She has never been on the theater stage before and is so excited to be making her stage debut in her first production at EIU! She is beyond thankful for the opportunity to share the stage with such wonderful, talented, and inspiring people, both on and off stage. She would like to thank Rebecca, Larry, and Ethan for their support and guidance throughout the process. She would also like to thank her friends and family for their continuous love and support. Thank you all for seeing the show and supporting us!



Professor Larry Cox, Jr. (Stage Director) is a theatre artist, educator, and member of Actors' Equity Association. His professional work spans acting, directing, choreography, music composition, and entertainment leadership across stage, television, film, and commercial projects. He has also taught at Emory University and the University of Georgia, where he received an Excellence in Teaching Award. Larry holds degrees from Villanova University and the University of Georgia and is proud to have developed the Musical Theatre track at EIU.



Dr. Rebecca von Kamp (Musical Director) is excited to return to EIU's Music Theatre/Opera program as Music Director of *Le Nozze di Figaro* {abridged!}, having previously worked in this capacity on *The Impresario* and *Dido and Aeneas*. Dr. von Kamp teaches voice lessons and various music classes as an instructor at Eastern Illinois University, having happily made her home in Charleston, Illinois. Music Directing credits include various operas and musicals, including *Suor Angelica*, *My Favorite Year*, and the EIU productions of *Little Women, Xanadu, Children of Eden, Spamalot*, and *She Loves Me*. As a recitalist and performer, Dr. von Kamp also loves sharing music with family and friends in the audience, but her true joy is having the honor to teach these students and watch them grow in this new-to-them art form. Thank you for supporting this great program and these wonderful students. Enjoy the show!

BIOGRAPHIES



Ethan Hayward (Assistant Music Director/Pianist) is a music director, collaborative pianist, and vocal coach based in central Illinois. He holds a Master of Music from Eastern Illinois University, where he serves as a staff accompanist and vocal coach for the music and theatre programs. He also works as a music director and associate music director for the university's Department of Theatre, including its upcoming production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. His professional theatre credits include productions of *School of Rock, Jersey Boys, Come From Away*, and *Little Shop of Horrors* at The Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan, Illinois, as well as engagements at Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse in Rock Island, Illinois, and Silver Dollar City in Branson, Missouri. In addition to his theatre and university work, Ethan serves as choir director and pianist at Wesley United Methodist Church in Charleston, Illinois.

SPECIAL THANK YOU

EIU Department of Music
EIU Theatre Faculty
Dr. Shellie Gregorich
Prof. Nick Shaw
Conor Baltz
Stacy Butler
Jemma Allen

Thank you for attending EIU's production of *Le Nozze di Figaro* {abridged!} Support from patrons like you means that we can continue the important work of educating these wonderful students and supporting their future artistic endeavors, whatever they may be! We truly appreciate it.

FOR TICKETS TO FUTURE EVENTS

Call the Doudna Fine Arts Center Box Office at 217-581-3110! The Box Office is open Tuesday - Friday 11:00am - 5:00pm and one hour prior to every ticketed event. You can also visit www.eiu.edu/doudnatix and purchase/print your tickets at home and skip the line all together!

DOUDNA FINE ARTS CENTER
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Ushers are located at the entrance of the venue. If you have a question or a problem, please let them know and they will contact the House Manager.

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In most instances you will have to wait until an appropriate time to be seated. Please wait for an usher to escort you to your seat.

From time to time late seating is not allowed. If that is the case will need to wait until intermission or purchase a ticket for another day. Refunds are not given for late arrivals.

Mobile Devices, Photography and Recording

If viewing the digital program, please dim your screen brightness as a courtesy to those around you. Text-messaging and the taking of photographs or videos by phone or tablet is strictly prohibited.

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Failure to comply with the above policy will result in you being asked to leave the performance without a refund.

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If you are a medical professional/parent with a sitter at home, please put your phone on silent and wait to take the call until you are out of the performance venue.

No Smoking

EIU is a tobacco-free campus. Smoking of any kind, including electronic cigarettes is prohibited on campus.

Food and Beverages

Food is not allowed inside any of the venues. Only beverages in the special Doudna drink cup,are permitted in the venues.

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The Doudna welcomes patrons of all ages to experience and enjoy the arts. Please carefully consider whether a performance is appropriate for children before planning to attend with young people. If you have concerns or questions about a specific event, please call the Box Office at (217) 581-3110.

Please be considerate of others in the audience and your young person's comfort. Children or those with special needs who are disruptive will be asked to leave until they are ready to return.

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FINE ARTS CENTER



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