

The Best of Everything

Caroline Bender	Summer Ferguson
Eddie Harris	David Harris
Brenda Zieleski	Allison Claye
Mary Agnes Russo	Meghan Partain
April Morrison	Jessica Fisher
Mike Rice	Landon Satterfield
Amanda Farrow	Susan Sudar
Mr. Shalimar	Brad Kidder, Jr.
Gregg Adams	Cassie Mikel
David Wilder Savage	Mike Papacoda
Ronnie White	Jacob Hiatt
Lorraine	Victoria Jones

Crew

Director	Micki Voelkel
Assistant Director	Nathan Stockemer
Producers	Joe Graham, Mike Papacoda
Stage Manager/Props	Duff Taylor
Production Assistant	Ian Miller
Lighting Design	Joseph Reed
Sound Design	Micki Voelkel
Light and Sound Operator	Mike Tickler
Set Design	Scott Black
Set Construction	
Bob Voelkel, David Harris, Meghan Partain, Cassie Mikel, and Victoria Jones, Brad Kidder, Jr.	
Crew	Victoria Jones, Kim Kidder
Wardrobe	Valerie Valentine
Artwork design	Scott Black

Cast Biographies

Allison Claye (Brenda) is a full-time theatre student whose favorite roles have included Beth in *Little Women* and Ana in *Ana Split*. Her favorite thing about her character is the Queens accent. Her take on the 50s office is the same as Jessica Fisher's below.

Summer Ferguson (Caroline) is a medical scribe in real life. Her favorite roles are Suzette in *Don't Dress for Dinner*, Lydia in *Pride and Prejudice*, and Ginny in *Splendor in the Grass*. She most enjoys her character because she is not afraid to love and be vulnerable. She also is not afraid to stand up for herself when necessary. Summer believes she could survive a 50s office if she could only eat M&Ms and daydream.

Jessica Fisher (April) is the theatre director at Van Buren High School. She loved appearing in *Leading Ladies* at FSLT last summer and she loves the character of April because she is so fun and full of life. If she lived in the 1950s, she would definitely NOT work. She would wear pretty dresses and vacuum in her pearls while drinking cocktails.

David Harris (Eddie) is a theatre major at UAFS who also works for the Army National Guard. His favorite onstage role was Oscar Madison in *The Odd Couple*. He is excited to play Eddie because he is someone that contradicts his own moral view of the world. If he worked in a 1950s office space he would probably get fired because of a shameless urge to dance to Elvis or Buddy Holly tunes.

Jacob Hiatt (Ronnie) works in what's most easily described as medical accounts receivable. By night he runs the criminal underworld of Tokyo—except for Thursdays when he plays *Dungeons and Dragons*. His favorite roles have been Arne in *I Remember Mama*, Bellamy in *The Fantasticks* and Shaking-Head in *The King of Ireland's Son*. He enjoys playing Ronnie because he finds it nice to be pleasant and devoid of the complex morality or the disillusionment which plagues nearly everyone else. In a 1950s office he believes that as a male he would probably have a good time of it.

Victoria Jones (Lorraine) is a medical biller. Her favorite roles have been Deenie in *Splendor in the Grass*, Meg in *Leading Ladies*, and Shelby in *Steel Magnolias*. Her favorite thing about her character is the number of lines—9!

Brad Kidder, Jr. (Mr. Shalimar) is a pilot in real life. His favorite past roles are Juror #10 in *12 Angry Men* and George in *Chapter Two*. He likes his character because he has three pages in the script to build and destroy the creep Shalimar. He would cope with a 50s office by looking in the windows and making faces at the employees.

SETTING: Fabian Publishing Company in New York, NY
September 1952 through January 1954

There will be one 15 minute intermission

Cast Bios Continued

Cassie Mikel (Gregg) is a substitute teacher in real life. Her favorite roles have been Natasha in *Three Sisters*, Mary in *On the Verge*, and Glory in *Almost, Maine*. She loves the character of Gregg because she gets to have the best entrance in the world! In a 1950s office Cassie would be the silent observer, whose main goal is to be a reader with maybe a few romances on the side.

Mike Papacoda (David) is a senior marketing consultant at 40/29 TV. His favorite roles have been Juror #7 in *12 Angry Men* and Duncan in *Leading Ladies*. He enjoys that he is nothing like David Wilder Savage. He believes he would fit right in a 1950s office.

Meghan Partain (Mary Agnes) is an English teacher making her stage debut in this show. She loves that Mary Agnes is her exact opposite. She loves to read and she does not think that there are only two ways to live or that marriage fixes everything. She would probably be like Caroline in a 50s office—ambitious and driven but not above getting swept into a whirlwind romance.

Landon Satterfield (Mike) is a video director, editor, and motion graphics artist. Previously he has played Rusty in *Splendor in the Grass* and Colonel Fitzwilliam in *Pride and Prejudice*. He likes that Mike is a scarred charmer with a deep backstory. He's much more dashing and frank than Landon believes he is, so it's fun to stretch and figure that out. He feels he would cope with being in a 50s office by being the class clown.

Susan Sudar (Amanda) is a domestic engineer and proud MAMA. She previously appeared at FSLT as Sheree in *The Dixie Swim Club*. She likes that she gets to be herself playing Amanda—that she believes Amanda sees herself in Caroline and quietly hopes that she makes better choices. In a 50s office she would probably be excused from her position the first week and end up married to the mob.

Note from the Director

Funny mixed with sad? Great female characters? Fantasy and dream sequences? Wonderful 50s setting and wardrobe? The chance for FSLT to be one of the first theatres in the country to stage a new play? This show really is *The Best of Everything!*

It's been a joy to work with this phenomenal cast and crew! Enjoy!
--Micki Voelkel

The Fort Smith Little Theatre Presents

The Best of Everything

Adapted by Julie Kramer Based on a book by Rona Jaffe
Directed by Micki Voelkel

May 28 - June 7, 2015



Call 783-2966 for reservations • 401 North 6th St.
Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. Fort Smith, AR 72901

Original New York Production
developed with Amy Wilson