

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANCHORS AWEIGH! SHAW FESTIVAL'S *ANYTHING GOES* SETS A COURSE FOR ROMANCE, HIJINKS AND DE-LOVELY DITTIES

- Seafaring screwball musical comedy cruises into previews Friday -

Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON (May 1, 2025) – Cole Porter's [Anything Goes](#), the long-running musical comedy from Broadway's Golden Age, brings its infectious melodies, bubbly charm and a dazzling display of tap dancing to Niagara-on-the-Lake. Directed and choreographed by Associate Artistic Director **Kimberley Rampersad**, this fresh revival featuring spectacular dance numbers and unforgettable songs begins previews May 2 at The Shaw's Festival Theatre.

Wall Street broker Billy Crocker (**Jeff Irving**) stows away aboard the S.S. American to win the heart of wealthy heiress, Hope Harcourt (**Celeste Catena****). Just one problem: Hope is about to marry the stuffy British Lord Evelyn Oakleigh (**Allan Louis**). Love triangles, mistaken identities and comic misunderstandings abound when Billy turns to sultry nightclub singer Reno Sweeney (**Mary Antonini**) and affable gangster Moonface Martin (**Michael Therriault**) for help. Before long, everyone aboard learns that, when it comes to chasing true love – anything goes.

[The Shaw](#)'s production of *Anything Goes* also highlights the talents of **David Adams**, **Matt Alfano*****, **Alexander Batycki****, **Leslie Garcia Bowman**, **Jason Cadieux**, **Sharry Flett**, **Kristi Frank**, **Élodie Gillett**, **Alexandra Gratton**, **Daniel Greenberg**, **Jaden Kim***, **Taran Kim****, **Graeme Kitagawa**, **Stewart Adam McKensy**, **Madelyn Miyashita***, **Cheryl Mullings**, **Jade Repeta**, **Kiera Sangster**, **Éamon Stocks***, **Mikayla Stradiotto***, **Jay Turvey**, **Kelly Wong** and **Shawn Wright**.

The show's creative team includes music direction by **Paul Sportelli**, set and costume design by **Cory Sincennes**, lighting design by **Mikael Kangas**, sound design by **Corey MacFadyen** and **Kaitlyn MacKinnon**, as well as additional choreography by associate choreographer **Matt Alfano**. The production team consists of stage manager **Allan Teichman** and assistant stage managers **Becca Jorgensen** and **Annie McWhinnie**.

On stage at the [Festival Theatre](#) (10 Queen's Parade) from May 2 to October 4 (available for review beginning May 15), *Anything Goes* is recommended for audience members 12+. Running time is approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes, including one intermission.

Anything Goes is sponsored by **BMO Financial Group**, **Mary E. Hill** and the **William & Nona Heaslip Foundation**. Hotel Sponsor: **Vintage Hotels**

Cast

David Adams	Ship's Captain
Matt Alfano***	Spit (Luke)
Mary Antonini	Reno Sweeney
Alexander Batycki**	Swing
Leslie Garcia Bowman	Quartet/Reporter/Sailor
Jason Cadieux	Ensemble
Celeste Catena**	Hope Harcourt
Sharry Flett	Evangeline Harcourt

Kristi Frank
Élodie Gillett
Alexandra Gratton
Daniel Greenberg
Jeff Irving
Jaden Kim*
Taran Kim**
Graeme Kitagawa
Allan Louis
Stewart Adam McKensy
Madelyn Miyashita*
Cheryl Mullings
Jade Repeta
Kiera Sangster
Éamon Stocks*
Mikayla Stradiotto
Michael Therriault
Jay Turvey
Kelly Wong
Shawn Wright

Erma Latour
Ensemble
Swing
Fred/Ensemble
Billy Crocker
Reno's Angel Chastity
Quartet/Sailor
Quartet/Sailor
Lord Evelyn Oakleigh
Swing
Swing
Ensemble
Reno's Angel Charity
Reno's Angel Purity
Quartet/Sailor/Photographer
Reno's Angel Virtue
Moonface Martin
Ship's Purser
Dippy (John)
Elisha Whitney

Creative & Production

Kimberley Rampersad	Director and Choreographer
Paul Sportelli	Music Director
Cory Sincennes	Set and Costume Designer
Mikael Kangas	Lighting Designer
Corey MacFadyen	Sound Designer
Kaitlyn MacKinnon	Sound Designer
Matt Alfano	Associate Choreographer
Ryan deSouza	Associate Music Director
Ethan Rotenberg	Metcalf Foundation Music Intern
Eve Legault	Women in Musical Leadership Intern
Jeff Pybus	Assistant Lighting Designer
Alexander Batycki	Dance Captain
Alexandra Gratton	Dance Captain
Jeffrey Simlett	Voice and Dialect
Allan Teichman	Stage Manager
Becca Jorgensen	Assistant Stage Manager
Annie McWhinnie	Assistant Stage Manager
Jamie Anderson	Rehearsal Apprentice Stage Manager

*The Baillie Cohort is generously supported by the Baillie Family Fund for Education.

**Emerging artists are supported by the RBC Foundation

***2025 Christopher Newton Intern, Matt Alfano, is generously sponsored by Marilyn & Charles Baillie

About *Anything Goes*

Music and lyrics by **Cole Porter**

Original book by **P.G. Wodehouse & Guy Bolton** and **Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse**

New book by **Timothy Crouse & John Weidman**

Anything Goes is presented through special arrangement with [Concord Theatricals](#) on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC.

New for the 2025 season, all performances now begin one hour earlier. Matinee performances start at 1 p.m. and evening shows start at 7 p.m.

The Shaw Festival's 2025 season runs through to December 21, with a playbill featuring [*The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*](#), [*Anything Goes*](#), [*Wait Until Dark*](#), [*Tons of Money*](#), [*Major Barbara*](#), [*Murder-on-the-Lake*](#), [*Gnit*](#), [*Blues for an Alabama Sky*](#), [*Irving Berlin's White Christmas*](#) and [*A Christmas Carol*](#). This season's Spiegeltent lineup includes [*Dear Liar*](#), [*La Vie En Rose*](#), [*Ella and Louis*](#), [*May I Have the Pleasure?*](#), [*The Roll of Shaw – Through the Wardrobe*](#), [*The Frogs*](#), [*Coffee Concerts*](#), [*Speakeasies*](#), [*What's In Your Songbook*](#), [*Gospel Choir*](#) and [*Pop-Up Patios*](#).

Direct bus service from Downtown Toronto and Burlington to Niagara-on-the-Lake is available on the [Toronto-Niagara Shaw Express](#). Luxury buses are standard size wheelchair accessible, offer free Wi-Fi and have an on-board host. \$39 return per person. Ticket to a 2025 performance is required. Please pre-arrange with the Box Office. Schedule is subject to change. Please confirm dates and times with the Shaw Festival Box Office. For more information, to purchase tickets or a seat on the Toronto-Niagara Shaw Express, please contact the Shaw Festival Box Office at 1-800-511-SHAW or visit [shawfest.com](#).

The Festival's current Duty of Care health-related protocols and policies can be found on [shawfest.com/duty-of-care](#).

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The Shaw Festival wishes to acknowledge and honour the land upon which its patrons and company members gather as the historic and traditional territory of First Nations peoples. Recognition and thanks are extended to the Neutral Nation, the Mississauga and the Haudenosaunee for their stewardship of these lands over millennia.

About the Shaw Festival

Inspired by the spirit of [Bernard Shaw](#), the Shaw Festival creates unforgettable theatrical encounters. The Shaw is a place where people who are curious about the world gather to share the unique experience of live theatre and to create a deeper human connection with the artists, the beauty and abundance of Niagara and with each other. For more information, visit [shawfest.com](#).

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Media Contacts

Jenniffer Anand
Senior Manager, Communications
1-800-657-1106 x 2222
Mobile: 905-941-0018
janand@shawfest.com

Ashley Belmer
Publicist, B-Rebel PR
Mobile: 416-617-8934
ash@b-rebelpr.com

Matthew Bickerton
Communications Co-ordinator
1-800-657-1106 x 2224
Mobile: 905-941-0377
mattbickerton@shawfest.com