

The United States Air Force Academy Bluebirds Theatre Troupe
Proudly Presents

WEST SIDE STORY

Based on a Conception of
JEROME ROBBINS

Music by

**LEONARD
BERNSTEIN**

Lyrics by

**STEPHEN
SONDHEIM**

Book by

**ARTHUR
LAURENTS**

Entire Original Production
Directed and Choreographed by

**JEROME
ROBBINS**

Arnold Hall Theatre, USAFA

“WEST SIDE STORY”

Based on a Conception of JEROME ROBBINS

**Book by ARTHUR LAURENTS
Music by LEONARD BERNSTEIN
Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM**

**Entire Original Production
Directed and Choreographed
by JEROME ROBBINS**

Originally produced on Broadway by Robert E. Griffith
and Harold S. Prince
By Arrangement with Roger L. Stevens

WEST SIDE STORY is presented through special arrangement with
Music Theatre International (MTI). All Authorized performance
materials are also supplied by MTI
www.MTIShows.com

WEST SIDE STORY is rated PG-13 by MTI

Creative Team

<i>Director</i>	Katie Kohler
<i>Asst. Director</i>	Julia Rochester
<i>Vocal Coach</i>	Briana Chavez
<i>Conductor</i>	Drew Fressel
<i>Choreographers</i>	Laura Na, Ross Prado
<i>Dream Ballet Choreography</i>	Sofia Gilkeson
<i>Act I, Scene 4 Staging</i>	Alexander Betka, after Jerome Robbins
<i>Set Designer</i>	Jandy Vioria
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Matt Cuoco

The West Side of Manhattan; 1957

Act One

Scene 1, The Street

Prologue.....Jets, Sharks
“Jet Song”.....Riff, Jets

Scene 2, Behind the Drugstore

“Something’s Coming”.....Tony

Scene 3, The Bridal Shop

Scene 4, The Gym

Dance at the Gym.....Jets, Sharks, Jet Girls, Shark Girls
“Maria”.....Tony

Scene 5, An Alley

“Tonight”.....Maria, Tony
“America”.....Anita, Rosalia, Shark Girls

Scene 6, The Drugstore

“Cool”.....Riff, Jets, Jet Girls

Scene 7, The Bridal Shop

“One Hand, One Heart”.....Maria, Tony

Scene 8, The Neighborhood

“Tonight” (Quintet).....Tony, Maria, Anita, Riff, Bernardo

Scene 9, Under the Highway

The Rumble.....Jets, Sharks

Act Two

Scene 1, The Bedroom

“I Feel Pretty”.....Maria, Shark Girls
Dream Ballet/“Somewhere”.....Dancers, Soloist

Scene 2, An Alley

“Gee, Officer Krupke”.....Action, Jets

Scene 3, The Bedroom

“A Boy Like That”/“I Have a Love”.....Anita, Maria

Scenes 4 & 5, The Drugstore

Scene 6, The Street

Cast of Characters

Tony Ben Paulk
Maria Alyssa Garmon

THE JETS

Riff Rob Rauff
Action Todd Campo
Diesel Jimmy Cummings
Baby John Preston Semenuk
A-Rab Lawson Barrett
Big Deal Chuck Davis

THE SHARKS

Bernardo Ross Prado
Chino Jordan Garivay
Pepe Jelani Washington
Indio Derrick Dye
Juano Patrick Newman
Luis Marcos Ferreira

JET GIRLS

Anybodys Laura Na
Velma Moira Casey
Graziella Calista Torbenson
Pauline Brooke Schumacher
Clarice Beth Hartman
Minnie Mikaela Pollock

SHARK GIRLS

Anita Briana Chavez
Rosalia Carla Nava
Consuelo Jen-Liz Maldonado
Francisca Grace Robinson
Margarita Juanita Garcia

THE ADULTS

Doc Kevin Tierney
Lt Schrank David Evans
Officer Krupke Steven Fox
Glad Hand Kevin Tierney

THE DANCERS

Eliza McCarthy
Sarah Pattillo
Thuytien “Twee” Pham
Alexandria Pruitt
Alyssa Tamburo

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

Lawson Barrett (A-Rab) is very humbled to be a part of Bluebards' *West Side Story*. He has previously acted in his high school's productions of *Grease*, *Hamlet*, *Sunset Boulevard*, and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Lawson is a member of USAFA's Officer Christian Fellowship and enjoys playing and writing music, flying, and all outdoor activities. He would like to thank his family back home, his squadron, and the entire cast.

Todd Campo (Action) is a freshman from Maryland and is happy to be performing in his first Bluebards production. In high school, he performed in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Robert Martin), *Hello, Dolly!* (Horace Vandergelder), *The Sound of Music* (Captain von Trapp), and *Grease* (Kenickie). Todd is also a member of In the Stairwell, Drum and Bugle Corps, Catholic Choir, and Cadet Orchestra. He plans to continue participating in theatre throughout his time at USAFA.

Moir Casey (Velma) is a freshman from Ohio who is making her 19th appearance in a theatrical production. Some of her favorite past shows include *Children of Eden*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *A Christmas Carol*, *School House Rock*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and *You Can't Take It with You*. She has also served as the student director of *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Phantom Tollbooth*, and *Cinderella*, as well as the director of *Dracula*. Moira would like to thank her family, both at home and here at USAFA, for their love and support.

Briana Chavez (Anita, Vocal Coach) has been a drama queen since childhood, performing anywhere she could. She is the Bluebards president, appearing most recently as Kate in *All My Sons* and the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*. She also performed in Bluebards' productions of *Rumors*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *The Pajama Game*. In addition to Bluebards, Briana is a member of the RPA Squadron; she enjoys painting, and singing with her church. She would like to thank her family, friends, and the cast for making her final show one to remember.

Jimmy Cummings (Diesel) is excited to perform in his first musical. He has previously appeared in amateur comedy sketches, and he credits his musical skills to those years dedicated to comedy. He was born in Alaska, but he is officially from Texas. He would like to thank the Bluebards family for welcoming him with open arms; he has greatly appreciated the opportunity to work with them. He should also thank his parents, to whom he attributes his dramatic nature!

Matt Cuoco (Stage Manager) was born and raised in Florida. He is excited to be working alongside the production team to stage this beautiful musical. Matt loves being a part of the Bluebards family and sees a bright future for the club. He has greatly enjoyed being a part of the production, and he is grateful for the opportunity to support his fellow cadets.

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

Chuck Davis (Big Deal) is a junior from Tennessee who is just beginning his journey as a member of a theatre troupe. Outside of theatre, Chuck finds enjoyment in the outdoors through backpacking, rock climbing, and swimming, though he does not mind a rainy day as long as there is a good book at hand. Chuck would like to thank his mom and dad for always believing in him, his close friends for coming to see his first show, and Ben Paulk for convincing him to do something he did not know he would love so much!

Derrick Dye (Indio) is a fourth-class cadet from Maryland. Having taken part in Social Impact Theatre, *West Side Story* marks his formal Bluebards debut. In addition to Bluebards, Derrick is a manager of the Women's Volleyball Team, and a member of the Protestant Cadet Gospel Choir. He would like to thank the cast for sharing this amazing experience, and Lt Colonel Ruehl for planting the seed to join Bluebards.

David Evans (Lt Schrank) is a fourth-class cadet from New Jersey who is excited to take the stage in this production of *West Side Story*. David has previously performed in his high school's productions of *Fiddler on the Roof* (Ensemble) and *South Pacific* (Captain Brackett). David enjoys flying and hopes to become an instructor pilot. He would like to thank his mother for giving him an appreciation of the arts, as well as the rest of his family, his friends, and the cast for their support.

Marcos Ferreira (Luis) is a doolie from Minneapolis. He has previously acted in productions of *Our Town* and *Almost Maine*. Marcos learned to dance mainly by teaching himself, and only started to learn how to sing his junior year of high school. He thanks his mom and brother for always being there for him, and he thanks squadron twenty-one for being the best. Marcos is also grateful to Bluebards for giving him the opportunity to perform with such an amazing group of people.

Steven Fox (Officer Krupke) is a senior from North Carolina. Previous theatre credits include roles in productions of *Alice in Wonderland* (Mock Turtle), *Twelve Angry Men* (Juror #3), and *Once Upon a Mattress* (Wizard). In addition to Bluebards, Steven is an active member of the Spectrum Club and the Secular Cadet Alliance; he also enjoys creative writing, camping, going on adventures/road trips, and playing video games. Steve would like to thank his family, his close friends, the cast, and especially his partner in crime, Ensign Cabot Bisbee (U.S. Navy).

Drew Fressel (conductor) is a firstie from Michigan. This is the second time Drew has conducted the pit (having previously done so for *Into the Woods*). Drew's special talents include being able to drop a

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

Mean Girls quote into any situation. He would like to thank his parents for their support, his sponsor dad Richard for forcing him to be able to sing an 'A' on command, and his roommate for putting up with the score to *West Side Story* being played nonstop.

Juanita Garcia (Margarita) previously worked behind the scenes with RATTEX on Bluebards' *Into the Woods* and *All My Sons*. However, she is very excited to participate in a Bluebards production as an on-stage performer. She has a great love of musicals and is overwhelmed to be a part of one of her favorite shows. Juanita would like to thank Thomas Krzyzanowski and her friends for their support. She hopes the audience appreciates and enjoys the diversity of this musical.

Jordan Garivay (Chino) is a sophomore from Wisconsin who is very pleased to make his Bluebards debut. This will also be his first performance in a musical. In addition to Bluebards, Jordan is a member of the USAFA Boxing Team. He also enjoys exercising and playing Xbox. Jordan would like to thank his family, teammates, and the entire cast.

Alyssa Garmon (Maria) is a firstie from Alabama who is thrilled and heartbroken to cap off her Bluebards career. Previously, she played the nefarious Queen Aggravain in *Once Upon a Mattress* and the oblivious Rapunzel in *Into the Woods*. In addition to her roles in Bluebards, Alyssa spent a semester in Morocco where she cultivated a newfound passion for singing around campfires with cast-mate Ross Prado (Bernardo). Alyssa would like to thank her family, friends, squaddies, cast-mates, and Ben Paulk (Tony) for being such a joy to work with.

Beth Hartman (Clarice) is a junior from Maryland and is thrilled to be performing in her first Bluebards production. Beth has participated in theater all throughout high school in plays and musicals such as *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Music Man*. In addition to Bluebards, Beth is a member of the Catholic Choir and Cadet Chorale, and she is CIC of Catholic SPIRE; on weekends her favorite activity is to go hiking and read in the mountains. Beth would love to thank the entire cast, especially Mikaela Pollock who "strongly encouraged" her to audition!

Jen-Liz Maldonado (Consuelo, "Somewhere" Soloist) is excited to perform in her fourth Bluebards production and to show her Puerto Rican pride on stage. Previous credits: *Rumors* (Claire), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella's Mother), *All My Sons* (Berta). In addition to theatre, Jen enjoys Netflix, napping, and dancing Salsa while singing her favorite song, "Vivir Mi Vida." She'd like to thank her family, friends, and the cast, especially her fellow Sharks: Briana, Carla, Juanita, and Grace.

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

Eliza McCarthy (Dancer) is a freshman from Philadelphia who is delighted to be making her Bluebards debut. Her previous theatre credits include *The Wizard of Oz* (Auntie Em) and *In the Heights* (Featured Dancer). In addition to Bluebards, Eliza is a member of the radio station KAFA and has her own show; she also is an assistant editor on the yearbook. Eliza would like to thank the entire cast, especially her crazy roommates and fellow dancers, Alyssa Tamburo and Allie Pruitt.

Laura Na (Anybodys, Choreographer) is excited to be a part of her second musical with Bluebards following her performance as Little Red in *Into the Woods*. Previous theater experiences include *Edwin Drood*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *The Pajama Game*, *How To Succeed...*, and several other shows. She is also involved with the Cadet Chapel Praise Team and loves to make music on her own. Laura would like to thank her family, friends, and Igor for their love and support, and the cast and crew for all of the time and effort they've invested in *West Side Story*!

Carla Nava (Rosalia) is a firstie from San Diego who is excited to take part in her first Bluebards production! In high school, Carla participated in multiple shows, including *Fame*, *High School Musical* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. While her career in Bluebards has been brief, she hopes to maintain her recently revived passion for singing and dancing in Pensacola, her next destination for Combat Systems Officer training. Carla extends her gratitude to her friends, family, and adopted squadron family for their support and for the wonderful memories!

Patrick Newman (Juano) is a sophomore from Rhode Island. He's excited to return to Bluebards after performing as the Steward and Jack in *Into the Woods*. He enjoys reading and spending time with his friends. Patrick would like to thank Lt Col Ruehl as well as Dr. Napolitano for all of their hard work in making this show happen.

Sarah Pattillo (Dancer) is a freshman who is excited to perform in her first Bluebards show. She has appeared in several school productions including *You Can't Take It with You* and *Oklahoma!* Sarah has been dancing her whole life and has also performed in many ballets such as *The Nutcracker* and *Don Quixote*. Additionally, Sarah is a member of the USAFA Dance Team. Big thanks to her friends and family.

Ben Paulk (Tony) is performing in his sixth Bluebards show. Previous productions include *A Christmas Carol* (Scrooge), *The Boyfriend* (Tony), and *Into the Woods* (Cinderella's Prince/Wolf). When he isn't working with Bluebards, he is likely hiking, leading the God Chasers, or preaching about Jesus. Ukulele, snowboarding, whale tracking, and

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

pale modeling are but a few of his hobbies. Ben would like to thank his family and Brickleigh for supporting his acting journey, which has set the stage for his upcoming graduation and transition to pilot training.

Thuytien "Twee" Pham (Dancer) is a fun-loving C4C who enjoys spending her days dancing her heart out, especially as a Shark. Ever since she was little, Twee has loved expressing herself creatively through dance, and she has always wanted to participate in musical theater. Joining Bluebards has given her the chance to broaden her horizons and delve deeper into her theatrical interests. She thanks all of her PHAMily, friends, and the USAFA Fencing Team for supporting her throughout her journey and reminding her to just keep swimming.

Mikaela Pollock (Minnie) is a junior from Florida who is very excited to make her theatre debut in Bluebards' production of *West Side Story*. Beyond Bluebards, Mikaela enjoys taking long hikes through the woods, napping, and singing. She sends out a special "thank you" to her friends who pushed her to try something new, to her family for their unending support, and to the whole *West Side Story* cast.

Ross Prado (Bernardo, Choreographer) is excited to perform in his fifth and final show with Bluebards. This is his first mature role (for all of his previous characters have had had the maturity of a 12-year-old!) Ross is thankful to his family for constantly supporting him and fostering his love of theatre. He is also very grateful to his fiancé Aubrey. He hopes that none of the cast resents him for the choreography, and he is thankful for all the memories and friends he has made.

Alexandria Pruitt (Dancer) is delighted to have the opportunity to put her dance/cheer experience to use in *West Side Story*. Her previous theatre credits include *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Mrs. Beauregard) and *Rats*. In additions to Bluebards, Allie is a member of the Exemplar Committee and has cheered for six years; she is currently a member of the USAFA Cheer Team. Allie would like to thank her five siblings (including her twin sister) and her two awesome roommates Eliza and Alyssa (both of whom are in this show) for supporting her.

Rob Rauff (Riff) has been performing since childhood. Last year, he played Cinderella's Father in *Into the Woods*, in which he (occasionally) gave the immortal line, "The castle that has been set upon by a giant!" He will always forget that proud moment. He is excited to work with an amazing cast, and crew for this production and he looks forward to missing key lines during this year's performance. He'd like to thank his father, his mother, and his ACL for their support and dedication.

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

Grace Robinson (Francisca) is a four-degree from Oklahoma who has made theater a major part of her life. Having taken part in many productions in high school, including *Shrek* and *Cats*, she is ecstatic to be a part of *West Side Story*. She appreciates the opportunity to perform in a topical play that stresses the negative effects of cultural conflict. Grace is a part of the Debate Team and the Cadet Gospel Choir. In her free time, she enjoys writing music, poetry, and playing basketball.

Julia Rochester (Asst. Director) is a freshman who is excited and grateful to take part in her second Bluebards production. Last fall, she played Anne in *All My Sons*, and she is delighted to take on the role of assistant director in this production. Julia is also a Girls Volleyball manager and a member of the SPIRE group Navigators. She would like to thank her family, the cast, and the production team.

Brooke Schumacher (Pauline) was raised in Georgia, after which she lived in Saudi Arabia for six years. She has been participating in theatre since she was four and she is excited to continue performing with Bluebards; previous school/community theatre productions include *The Crucible* (Mary Warren) and *Aladdin* (Genie). She has also been cast in professional productions in New York (Stagedoor Manor) and in Atlanta (Legacy Theatre). Brooke is a member of the USAFA Judo Team and enjoys rock climbing, filmmaking, and playing the ukulele.

Preston Semenuk (Baby John) is a four-degree from Texas who is thrilled to be making his Bluebards debut in *West Side Story*. Previous theatre roles include Oliver Twist in *Oliver!*, Jay in *Lost in Yonkers*, and Fiona's father in *Shrek*. Preston is a member of the USAFA Ski Club; he also enjoys working out and playing French Horn in the Academy Orchestra. Preston offers his most sincere thanks to his family and his most joyful congratulations to the cast and crew.

Alyssa Tamburo (Dancer) is excited to participate in her first Bluebards show. She has had training in gymnastics, cheer, and dance (ballet, jazz, hip hop, and contemporary), and has also participated in theater since a young age. She has performed in school productions of *It's A Wonderful Life* (Ma Bailey), *The Library* (Detective Washburn), and *Peter Pan* (Tinkerbell). Alyssa is also a cheerleader here at USAFA and is a proud member of BSU. Alyssa would like to thank her family, her roommates, the choreographers, and the entire production team.

Kevin Tierney (Doc, Glad Hand) is a senior who tends to do the most random things possible, such as joining Bluebards. As a sophomore, he walked into a meeting about the club and, upon realizing that he could

Who's Who in the Cast and Crew

not sing or dance, he decided to try out for the spring musical! After taking a year off to search the moon for the secret to great singing and dancing, Kevin has returned to Bluebards (unfortunately, people on the moon dance differently than the people of Earth). He is an avid reader who enjoys nerding-out with fellow nerds about the nerdiest subjects. Kevin would like to thank the cast/crew, with a special nod to Lt Col Ruehl for ensuring USAFA's drama nerds have a home in Bluebards.

Calista Torbenson (Graziella) is very excited to make her Bluebards debut in *West Side Story*. She participated in her high school's production of *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* and sang in high school and church choir. Calista is also a part of the USAFA Rugby Team. She would like to thank her friends and family for always supporting her.

Jelani Washington (Pepe) is a fourth class cadet from Illinois who is ecstatic to be making his Bluebards debut in *West Side Story*. His previous theatre credits include roles in school productions of *Willy Wonka Jr.* (Willy Wonka) and *Shrek* (Shrek's Father). Jelani would like to thank his family, his squadron, and the entire cast.

Katie Kohler (Director) is a second class cadet and a Humanities major. She has been involved in theater consistently since early grade school and is excited to be directing her first musical. Katie has been a part of Bluebards since her four-degree year and has been on the Bluebards board since last year. She is also involved with Steel Script, the spoken word poetry performance club.

A Note from the Director

West Side Story created an immediate sensation when it debuted on Broadway in 1957; never before had a musical addressed contemporary social issues – including gang violence, juvenile delinquency, and racial prejudice – with such visceral emotional honesty. Though much has changed since that time, political divisiveness, generational conflict, and racial intolerance remain harmful forces. Thus, *West Side Story*, so highly regarded for its catchy songs, its stunning dances, its striking themes, and its stylized yet truthful depiction of love and hate, continues to be relevant to audiences today. Bigotry is the poison that turns the Jets and Sharks against each other, and tragically, it is only brought to an end through death; we can preempt these destructive consequences in our society, our nation, and our world by working to recognize, address, and overcome prejudice.

Thank you for encouraging the cadets in Bluebards. Without your support, this organization would not exist. Please enjoy the show.

Credits

Support Team

<i>Officer in Charge</i>	Lt Col Michelle Ruehl
<i>Master Carpenter</i>	Jandy Vilorio
<i>Audio Technician</i>	Stan Sakamoto
<i>Stage Crew</i>	RATTEX
<i>Dramaturg</i>	Dr. Marc Napolitano

Musicians

<i>Flute/piccolo</i>	Erica Drakes
<i>Bassoon</i>	Micaela Cuneo
<i>Trombone</i>	Sam Voss
<i>Violin</i>	Jared Helm
<i>French Horn</i>	Claire Badger
<i>Trumpet</i>	Josiah Savoie
<i>Trombone</i>	Braxton Sesler
<i>Percussion</i>	Matt Fleckenstein
<i>Piano</i>	Megan Getlinger
<i>Trumpet</i>	Sean Castillo
<i>Clarinet</i>	Rose Brunns
<i>Trumpet</i>	Tom McCurdy
<i>Violin</i>	Kat Kowar
<i>Violin</i>	Matt Meno
<i>Violin</i>	Nishanth Kalavakolanu

Bluebards offers its thanks to DFENG, RATTEX, and the Falcon Theater Foundation; without their support, this production would not have been possible.



The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.