

# Starlight

BROADWAY

## PRESS TALKING POINTS



### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A fabulously fun award-winning musical based on the adored movie, *Legally Blonde The Musical* follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. Action-packed and exploding with memorable songs and dynamic dances - this musical is so much fun, it should be illegal!

Elle Woods appears to have it all. Her life is turned upside down when her boyfriend Warner dumps her so he can attend Harvard Law. Determined to get him back, Elle ingeniously charms her way into the prestigious law school. While there, she struggles with peers, professors, and her ex. With the support of some new friends, Elle quickly realizes her potential and sets out to prove herself to the world.

### ABOUT THE STORY

- *Legally Blonde The Musical* is based on the hit movie “Legally Blonde,” which was released on July 13, 2001.
- The movie was based on the novel by Amanda Brown about her experience at Stanford Law, where she herself had to overcome stereotypes brought on by her love of fashion, beauty, and being unapologetically feminine.
- Elle Woods is a Delta Nu sorority sister with a degree in fashion merchandising who, in an effort to prove her ex-boyfriend Warner Huntington III wrong, surprises him by attending Harvard Law.
- During her time at Harvard Law, Elle discovers the value of empowering others around her, allowing her to find friends in the most unexpected people.

MORE

## **STARLIGHT AND *LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL***

- *Legally Blonde The Musical* is this season's self-produced show by Starlight Theatre, an annual tradition of the historic theatre.
- This production stars local and national performers and creatives, helping to further Kansas City's position as a catalyst for the arts.
- This production will be directed and choreographed by Broadway veteran Nikki Snelson, who originated the role of Brooke Wyndham in the original 2007 Broadway production of *Legally Blonde The Musical*.
- Starlight found two "paw"sitively talented canine stars for this production. Bruiser Woods is played by a Chihuahua named Marley from Overland Park, KS, and Rufus is played by a bulldog named Arty from KC Bulldog Rescue!

### **INTERESTING FACTS**

- *Legally Blonde The Musical* aired in its entirety during an MTV Special in 2008, making it the first Broadway show to appear on TV while still being performed on Broadway.
- After the popularity of the MTV special, the reality television series "*Legally Blonde The Musical: The Search for Elle Woods*" was created, which showed viewers the audition process for casting the next Elle Woods on Broadway.
- The winner, Bailey Hanks, played Elle Woods on Broadway from July 2008 until the show closed in October of 2008. The runner-up to Hanks on the TV series, Autumn Hurlbert, served as her understudy.
- Kate Shindle, who originated the role of Vivienne Kensington on Broadway, was Miss America 1998 and is the current President of the Actor's Equity Association.
- *Legally Blonde The Musical* was nominated for seven Tony Awards including Best Original Score and Best Book of a Musical.

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