

WATERSHED  
PUBLIC THEATRE

presents



# ANASTASIA

Book by Terrence McNally  
Music by Stephen Flaherty    Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Inspired by the Twentieth Century Fox Motion Pictures  
by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical  
From the play by Marcelle Maurette, as adapted by Guy Bolton

September 15, 16, 22, 23, 2023 7:00 pm  
September 17 & 24, 2023 3:00 pm

Cherry Theater  
Columbia State Community College

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## Cast

Anya ..... McKenna Steel  
Dimitry ..... Christopher Burns  
Vlad Popov ..... R Scott Cantrell  
Countess Lily ..... Jordan Tudor  
Dowager Empress ..... Deb Meeks  
Gleb Vaganov ..... Alan Long  
Little Anastasia/Alexei ..... Everley Helms  
Anya Understudy/Ensemble ..... Jessica Fonville  
Vlad Understudy/Ensemble ..... Tim Rust  
Lily Understudy/Ensemble ..... Sarah Tatom  
Gleb Understudy/Ensemble ..... David Fonville  
Teen Anastasia/Featured Dancer/Ensemble ..... Trinity Madura  
Countess Ipolitov/Ensemble ..... Crystal Kurek  
Count Leopold/Ensemble ..... LaKameron Buchanan  
Tsar/Ensemble ..... Micah Padgett  
Tsarina/Ensemble ..... Haley Hixson  
Marfa/Ensemble ..... Tracie Williamson  
Ensemble ..... Christian Randell  
Ensemble ..... Caleb Finley  
Ensemble ..... Crystal Carrasco  
Ensemble ..... Meredith Aydelott  
Dimitry Understudy ..... Payton McCarthy

## Setting

St. Petersburg, 1906, 1917, 1927 and Paris, 1927

***There will be one 15-minute intermission between acts.***

ANASTASIA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals.  
[www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

**Photography, videotaping or other video or audio recording of this  
production is strictly prohibited.**

## Production Team

Director.....	Payton McCarthy
Music Director.....	Cheri Hughes
Choreographer.....	Mary Ann Trimble
Stage Manager.....	Susan Gaw
Scenic Design.....	Sarah Tatom
Costume Design.....	Sara McLoud
Hair & Makeup Design.....	Charlotte Nickell
Light Design.....	Eva Orman-Garrett
Sound Design.....	Kristin Carter
Properties.....	Dani Rust
Intimacy Director.....	Rachael Murray
Fight Choreographer.....	Eric Pasto-Crosby
Dramaturg.....	Beverly Mitchell
Technical Director.....	Justin Blackburn
Scenic Artist.....	Krista Totten
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Heather Barnard
Assistant Technical Director.....	Zach Perkins
Wardrobe Manager.....	Sarah Kennedy
Fight Captain.....	R Scott Cantrell
Dance Captain.....	Trinity Madura
Scenic/Technical Crew.....	Justin Blackburn, Zach Perkins, Krista Totten, Kate Foreman, John Schweri, Corinne McElroy, Mason Hagler
Run Crew.....	Dillon Hughes, Dani Rust, Natalie Seay

## Musicians

Piano.....	Duncan Bohannon
Synthesizer.....	Carter Elliott
Percussion.....	Neil Rutland
Violin.....	Kenton Lanier
Flute.....	Lillie Anderson
French Horn.....	Febrienne Lovell
Trumpet.....	David Alderson

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## Musical Numbers

### Act One


Prologue: Once Upon a December  
The Last Dance of the Romanovs  
A Rumor in St. Petersburg  
In My Dreams  
The Rumors Never End  
Learn to Do It  
The Neva Flows  
St Petersburg  
Once Upon a December  
A Secret She Kept  
Stay, I Pray You  
We'll Go From There  
Traveling Sequence/Still  
Journey to the Past

### Act Two

Paris Holds the Key  
Close the Door  
Land of Yesterday  
The Countess and the Common Man  
A Nightmare  
In a Crowd of Thousands  
Arriving at the Ballet/Meant to Be  
Quartet at the Ballet  
Everything to Win  
The Press Conference  
Finale

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## The Cast



**Meredith Aydelott** (Ensemble) is excited to be joining her first Watershed Public Theatre production! She is a Nashville, TN native who recently graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a major in theatre and a minor in musical theatre. She recently returned from Minnesota where she worked for Prairie Fire Children's Theatre teaching and performing with young theatre artists. Her other credits include *A Simple Sanctuary* (Elizabeth King), *Stolen the Musical* (Ginny Meyers) with Blue Gate Musicals; as well as *Godspell* (Uzo) and *Romeo and Juliet* (Balthasar) with MTSU. She would like to thank her friends and family for their endless support and love.



**LaKameron Buchanan** (Ensemble) was born and raised in Columbia, TN. He is so happy to be back onstage with Watershed Public Theatre! When he's not onstage he's either helping clients with houses at simpliHOM or serving tables at McCreary's Irish Pub. He wants to thank everyone who has supported him on his journey and his multiple careers!



**Christopher Burns** (Dimitry) is very excited to be a part of Watershed Public Theatre's interpretation of *Anastasia*! This is his first production with WPT, and he is so grateful to have the chance to work with such talented and passionate people. Through the rehearsal process so far, he has learned so much about the drive and skill that his fellow cast mates and crew possess and is eager to show you what this group has to offer.



**R Scott Cantrell** (Vlad/Fight Captain) Scott was last seen in *Romeo and Juliet* (Fr. Laurence) at Watershed Public Theatre. Other Tennessee credits include *Inherit the Wind* (Drummond) and *MacBeth* (MacBeth). He has been acting professionally for over 30 years in theatre, film, and television. You may recognize Scott from the dozens of animated characters he has voiced.



**Crystal Carrasco** (Ensemble) is currently in her second year at MTSU with a major in theater and a minor in musical theater. Recently she's been featured as Belle in *Beauty and the Beast* and an ensemble member in *Bright Star*. She is so excited to be a part of the *Anastasia* cast and is very excited to share it with everyone.



**Caleb Finley** (Ensemble) is excited to join the company of *Anastasia*. Last seen in Corn Stock Theatre's *Next to Normal* (Gabe), *Cats* (Skimbleshanks), and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Algernon), he has also directed *Bus Stop* for Peoria Players Theatre and co-directed *Les Miserables*. He enjoys reading, volunteering at Ghostlight Books, and playing Dungeons & Dragons with friends.

## The Cast *(continued)*



**David Fonville** (Gleb Understudy/Ensemble) David is a 2020 Freed-Hardeman Graduate in Theatre-Performance. He was last seen as Sampson in Watershed Public Theatre's production of *Romeo & Juliet* and is ecstatic to be welcomed back onto the stage. Previous roles include Richard Hannay in *39 Steps*, Lucien P. Smith in *The Boys Next Door*, and John N Fail in *Failure: A Love Story*. He would like to thank God, his family and his beautiful wife with whom he shares the stage tonight for allowing him to pursue his theatrical endeavors.



**Jessica Fonville** (Anya Understudy/Ensemble) Jessica is so excited to be in her second show with Watershed Public Theatre! You may have seen her as Jo March in WPT's production of *Little Women* last year. Other credits include Audrey (*Little Shop of Horrors*), Henrietta Leavitt (*Silent Sky*), and Grace (*Annie*). She is happy to share the stage with her husband, David, and is grateful to him and her family for their continued love and support.



**Everley Helms** (Young Anastasia/Alexei) is proud to join the cast of *Anastasia*. Everley lives in Spring Hill with her mom, dad, two brothers and dog, Presley. She attends Columbia Academy, in the fifth grade, and her favorite subjects are Bible and chorus.



**Haley Hixson** (Tsarina/Ensemble) is so excited to be part of Watershed Public Theatre's production of *Anastasia*! She has been involved with theatre since she was little, but this is her first show with this company. She is so grateful to be a part of creating such an amazing story with the best cast and crew. She hopes you enjoy watching it just as much as she enjoys performing it!



**Crystal Kurek** (Countess Ipolitov/Ensemble) is excited to be in her first WPT production! Other recent theatre credits include *Angel Street* (Bella Manningham), *Cinderella* (Cinderella), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), *The Secret Garden* (Lily), *As You Like It* (Rosalind), and *The Music Man* (Marian). She received her B.Mus. A. and M.Ed. from Vanderbilt University. Many thanks to her husband, family, and friends for their loving support and to Payton and Watershed Public Theatre for this wonderful opportunity! *Totus Tuus*.



**Alan Long** (Gleb Vaganov) is a singer/songwriter who was born and raised in Memphis and has been performing on stage since he was 12 years old. He's very excited to join Watershed Public Theatre for his first musical production in more than 14 years!

## The Cast *(continued)*



**Trinity Madura** (Teen Anastasia/Ensemble/Dance Captain) is making her Watershed Public Theatre debut, but she has been in 12 other productions with different theaters. Trinity is 17 years old and has been acting and dancing on stage for five years.



**Deb Meeks** (Dowager Empress) Deb Meeks has been donning a costume and taking the stage to share her love of theater for more than forty years. She is thrilled to join this amazing cast in her third WPT production; previous credits include Nurse in *Romeo & Juliet* and Aunt March/Ms. Kirk in *Little Women*. Other notable credits include her Award winning roles as Yente (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Helen Ffolliot-Ffolkes (*Murder on the Nile*), and Lady Lucy Angkatell (*The Hollow*). Sprinkle in a few other favorites — Mrs. Potts (*Beauty & the Beast*), Kate Keller (*All My Sons*), Miss Hannigan (*Annie*), Ms. Skillon (*See How They Run*), Mrs. Gloop (*Willie Wonka*), Stepmother/Giant (*Into the Woods*), Margaret Pomerance (*9 to 5*), Anne Sullivan (*The Miracle Worker*), Dolly Levi (*The Matchmaker*), Sister Mary Theresa (*Sister Act*), Old Hag/Ghost of Christmas Future (*A Christmas Carol*) — and you are sure to get a taste for her love of character-work. “Thankful & Blessed... and as always, it is a joy!”



**Micah Padgett** (Tsar/Ensemble) Architect by day, thespian by night, Micah enjoys sharing his creative energies with local performing arts organizations and choral ensembles. With a collaborative spirit and the heart of a crooner, he delights in being a bass/baritone voice in the crowd. He is excited to join Watershed Public Theatre for the first time in *Anastasia!*



**Christian Randell** (Ensemble) Christian loves being back on stage with Watershed Public Theatre! He most recently completed *Romeo & Juliet* (Romeo) with WPT and looks forward to many more opportunities with them. Other credits include *Macbeth* (Macbeth), *Silent Sky* (Peter Shaw), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Demetrius). Outside of rehearsals, Christian is a cast member on the podcast, “Improv Tabletop”, and loves getting to create more stories with them. Check it out anywhere you get your podcasts!



**Tim Rust** (Vlad Understudy/Ensemble) is thrilled to be a part of *Anastasia* with Watershed Public Theatre. This is his second production with WPT, having most recently been seen as Mr. Bingley in *Pride and Prejudice*. Favorite past roles include: Stone in *City of Angels*, and Rapunzel's Prince in *Into the Woods*.

## The Cast *(continued)*



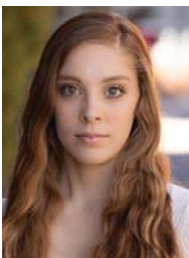
**McKenna Steel** (Anya) is beyond thrilled to be portraying Anya on the Watershed Public Theatre stage! This show holds a special place in her heart and she is so grateful for this opportunity. Previous credits with WPT include *Romeo & Juliet* (Mercutia) and *Little Women* (Meg). She holds a BA in Theatre Studies: Performance and loves that she gets to put that degree to work! McKenna would like to thank her husband, Christian, and their cat, Nott the Brave, for letting her pursue her dreams.




**Sarah Tatom** (Set Designer/Lily Understudy/Ensemble) is excited to work with such a wonderful group of artists on her first production with Watershed Public Theatre. Sarah works as a teacher and Theatre Director at Columbia Academy. She received her bachelor's degree in Theatre Design and Production from Freed-Hardeman University.



**Jordan Tudor** (Countess Lily) Jordan is very excited to be making her Watershed Public Theatre debut! She is a Middle Tennessee native and has performed at Street Theatre, Nashville Children's Theatre, Nashville Shakespeare Festival and Studio Tenn. She has a BFA in Musical Theatre from Roosevelt University in Chicago. When not performing, she enjoys watching trashy TV, baking, attempting to grow vegetables, and playing with her dogs.



**Tracie Williamson** (Marfa/Ensemble) This is Tracie's fifth show at WPT and she's honored to be a part of this gifted cast. Like many, Tracie grew up watching Don Bluth's *Anastasia*, so this is her inner 7-year-old's dream come true. Previous credits include Ermintrude in *Those Wicked Stepsisters* (WPT), Lady Cathrine De Bourgh in *Pride and Prejudice* (WPT), and Lord Leonard Aster in *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Source One Five). "Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."—Romans 5:3-4



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# The Musicians

**David Alderson** (Trumpet) is a native of Columbia and plays and teaches trumpet and French horn privately in the Maury County area. David is active in the local music scene currently with The Alderson Jazz Collective.

**Lillie Anderson** (Flute) is a Senior Flute Performance major at Trevecca Nazarene University. Lillie has spent the last year and a half playing in pit orchestras for local theatre companies. Recent credits include: *Singin' in the Rain*, *White Christmas*, *Little Women*, and *Once Upon a Mattress*.

**Duncan Bohannon** (Piano) is a professional pianist, composer and arranger based in the Nashville area. He studied piano and composition at Indiana University and completed his graduate studies in Film Scoring at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Until late 2020 Duncan worked in Los Angeles, CA, where he composed scores for a variety of projects and was a faculty and staff member of AMDA Los Angeles and the University of Southern California. He is now on faculty at Belmont and Lipscomb universities, and he accompanies and music-directs regularly in theatres and churches across Middle Tennessee. Duncan lives in Columbia with his wife and daughter.

**Carter Elliott** (Synthesizer) is a multi-instrumentalist and singer-songwriter from Pearl, MS. He has been playing keyboards for more than 15 years and possesses an undeniable passion for music. He is currently a senior at Middle Tennessee State University studying commercial songwriting with minors in honors and music.

**Kenton Lanier** (Violin) is originally from Kansas City and has spent many years playing in orchestras and chamber ensembles and leading church music. He and his wife Rebekah are the owners of Muletown School of Music, where they enjoy passing on a love of music to the kids of Columbia, TN. Kenton holds Master's degrees in Viola Performance and Musicology from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. When not playing or teaching music, he enjoys Kansas City sports, barbecue, LEGO building, and spending time with his two-year-old son Jordan and baby daughter Sadie.

**Febrienne Lovell** (French Horn) graduated from Tennessee Tech with her Bachelor of Music Education degree. She taught middle school band and choir for eight years and is now staying home to raise her two sons. Febrienne is very excited to be coming back to musical theatre playing horn for the stage production of one of her favorite childhood films.

**Neil Rutland** (Drums/Percussion) was the principal percussionist with the Knoxville Symphony for eight years and Instructor of Percussion for three years prior to his 28-year tenure at Eastern New Mexico University, where he taught percussion, band, and music technology. He has returned home to participate in Middle Tennessee's vibrant musical and performing arts culture and to be near family.

# The Production Team

**Heather Barnard** (Assistant Stage Manager) has been involved with theatre her whole life and loves every aspect of it! She has worked with Watershed Public Theatre since 2019 and is so grateful for the opportunities they have blessed her with. Her past productions have been *Romeo and Juliet* as Petra and *Those Wicked Stepsisters* as Ermintrout. She is so excited to be backstage this time and hopes you enjoy the amazing and talented cast of *Anastasia!* She would like to thank her family and friends for all their love and support and her fur babies Gibbs and Ginger for being the best. All the glory to God!

**Justin Blackburn** (Technical Director) is excited to work on yet another production with Watershed Public Theatre. Prior to joining the WPT team, he was actively involved in Theatre Charlotte and worked a variety of jobs on several productions. In his spare time he enjoys thrifting, practicing magic and providing support for theatre programs in Middle Tennessee schools. He resides in Mount Pleasant with his amazing wife Joyce and dogs Ralphie and Rickie. Thank you for supporting local arts!

**Kristin Carter** (Sound Designer) has traveled the country and world as a sound engineer/designer. Kristin's credits include: Disney on Ice, Princess Cruise Lines, Smoky Mt. Opry, *Church Basement Ladies*, *Menopause: The Musical*, *Evita*, *Gilligan's Island: The Musical* and *The Medora Musical* — just to name a few. She lives in Duck River, Tennessee with her daughter Jean and is very happy to be a part of Watershed Public Theatre.

**Susan Gaw** (Stage Manager) holds a degree in theatre from Winthrop University and has been working in live entertainment for more than 30 years. Thanks to Nate, Allison, and Adam for all the stuff!

**Cheri Hughes** (Music Director) has enjoyed helping bring this wonderful production of *Anastasia* to the stage. She has been involved in close to 80 musical productions over the last 40 years, either as director, musician, actor or music director. Some of her favorite performances have been as Sister Mary Amnesia in *Nunsense*, Mrs. Hannigan in *Annie*, and Patsy Cline in *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline* and *Always, Patsy Cline*. She helps run her family's business in Columbia and stays busy being Mynana to her three grandsons. Cheri is grateful to work on a show with her talented son-in-law Alan Long. She is a graduate of Missouri State University with a B.S. in Music Education. She resides in beautiful Santa Fe with her husband Bud.

**Sarah Kennedy** (Wardrobe Manager) is enjoying yet another Watershed Public Theatre experience. By day she is the director of Ghostlight Books in Spring Hill, which benefits programming at Midsouth Youth Theatre & Arts, for which she also serves as Artistic Director. In between peddling books, teaching, directing and keeping up with her son Benjamin and miscellaneous pets, she also coordinates youth arts field trips and advises for youth arts and education in multiple organizations regionally and nationally, including serving as WPT's Education & Outreach Manager.

## The Production Team *(continued)*

**Payton McCarthy** (Director) is honored to be a part of the wonderful WPT team with this production of *Anastasia!* Payton is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University's theatre department with an emphasis in direction. Previous directing credits include *Cabaret* (Murfreesboro Little Theatre), *Stop Kiss* (MTSU), and *Bloody Human* (MTSU). Assistant Director credits include *The Cake* (Nashville Repertory Theatre), *Godspell* (MTSU), and *Witches of Eastwick* (WMU). He thanks you for supporting Watershed Public Theatre and hopes that you enjoy the show!

**Sara McCloud** (Costume Design) is a Nashville-based reuse artist who loves to forage in thrift stores and other people's houses for the materials she needs. A native of Murfreesboro, TN, she studied costume and fashion design at Middle Tennessee State University. Her work was showcased in *American Tall Tales* (2004) and *Necessary Targets* (2005). She later worked in NYC designing *Underwear: A Space Musical* (2008) and running crew for Terrance McNally's *Some Men* (2007). Sara is delighted to be returning for her second WPT production after last season's *Romeo and Juliet*. She currently resides in Nashville with her two children, Arthur and Beatrice, and her fiancé Alex Saylor.

**Beverly Mitchell** (Dramaturg) is a retired professor of English at Columbia State Community College and a life-long theatre enthusiast. She has written and directed numerous plays and especially enjoys working with Shakespeare.

**Rachael Murray** (Intimacy Director) Rachael is a director, intimacy choreographer, deviser, playwright, and producer with roots and ties to Virginia, Tennessee, DC, and New York. Intimacy Credits: *RENT* (Nashville Rep); *Macbeth*, *Pericles*, and *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Match: Lit's BARDcore series, Brooklyn); *Interested In Season 2* (Assistant, Episode 3). Selected Directing: *Failure: A Love Story* (SRDS New Jersey); *The Desk Set* (Fordham University); *#MomVlogLyfe* (NTC/The Tank); *The Right and Left Plays* (Elemental Women); *Sioux Falls* (Mead Theatre Lab DC); *ClickB@it* (NTC/CapFringe) and *R.U.R.* (NTC/CapFringe). Her play, *Better Angels*, has been produced in festivals around New York and virtually, and was published in *Best New Ten Minute Plays, 2020*. Rachael is a founding company member of Naked Theatre Company. [www.rachaelwithanamurray.com](http://www.rachaelwithanamurray.com).

**Charlotte Nickell** (Hair & Makeup Design) loved creating the looks for this show! She worked with Watershed Public Theatre on *Little Women* (Hair & Wig Assistant), "Christmas Cabaret" (Wardrobe Coordinator) and *Romeo & Juliet* (Hair & Makeup Designer). She received her BA in Theatre Performance at Colorado State University. Other credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* (Hair Assistant), *Three Sisters* (Wig, Hair, & Makeup Design), *Cinderella* (Hair Design), Nashville Ballet's *Peter Pan & The Nutcracker 2021* (Makeup Artist & Wig Assistant). She is a hair stylist and extension specialist at Trace Salon in Franklin! @beautybythewayside

## The Production Team *(continued)*

**Eva Orman-Garrett** (Lighting Designer) is a media specialist with a focus on lighting design and programming. She earned a bachelor's degree from Middle Tennessee State University and holds an associate degree in video production. Much of her experience as a lighting designer was gained while working in Nashville as a concert technician. A lifelong Tennessean, she lives in Columbia with her partner and dog.

**Eric D Pasto-Crosby** (Fight Choreographer) is a proud native of Nashville. He graduated from University of Colorado at Boulder with a B.F.A. in performance studies and studied stage combat and fight choreography under Fight Master Geoffrey Kent and Fight Master Richard Ryan. He has choreographed fights for Nashville Children's Theatre, Belmont University, Vanderbilt University, Nashville Opera, Street Theatre and Nashville Shakespeare Festival, among many others. A loyal member and certified advanced actor combatant through the Society of American Fight Directors, he has choreographed violence for many films, for schools in the Nashville area, and is the stage combat instructor for Belmont University. He is also a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.

**Zach Perkins** (Assistant Technical Director) recently moved to Tennessee from Kansas. This is his fifth show with Watershed Public Theatre, previously appearing in *Those Wicked Stepsisters* and *Romeo & Juliet*.

**Dani Rust** (Properties) is a recent graduate of Middle Tennessee State University and is excited for her first production with Watershed Public Theatre. Some of her shows from her time at MTSU include *Cabaret*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Anonymouse*, and *Ride the Cyclone*. She would like to thank everyone for their support of her theatre career.

**Krista Totten** (Scenic Artist) is a scenic artist who is honored to be working with Watershed Public Theatre. She previously worked with WPT on *Those Wicked Stepsisters*, *Little Women*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* and *Alice in Wonderland*. She began painting sets in 2003 in Indianapolis with Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre. She studied under Kristopher Steege of Marian College. One of her favorite sets was for a childrens production, *The Curious Quest for the Sandman's Sand*. Krista sends a heartwarming thank-you to family and friends for supporting the local arts!

**Mary Ann Trimble** (Choreographer) is a retired educator who has extensive training in dance and theater. She has taught dance and theater in both public and private educational environments. She is an advocate of arts education in local communities. Her contribution includes directing and choreographing over 30 productions in Alabama and Middle Tennessee.



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At Watershed Public Theatre, we believe that theatre is the ultimate collaborative art and work to bring together arts professionals, volunteers, students and patrons to share in the illumination that only live performance can provide. We maintain our focus on nurturing community and practicing social and environmental responsibility while striving for the highest quality of artistic and educational experiences.

**Watershed Public Theatre extends special thanks to the following individuals and organizations for their assistance and in-kind donations:**

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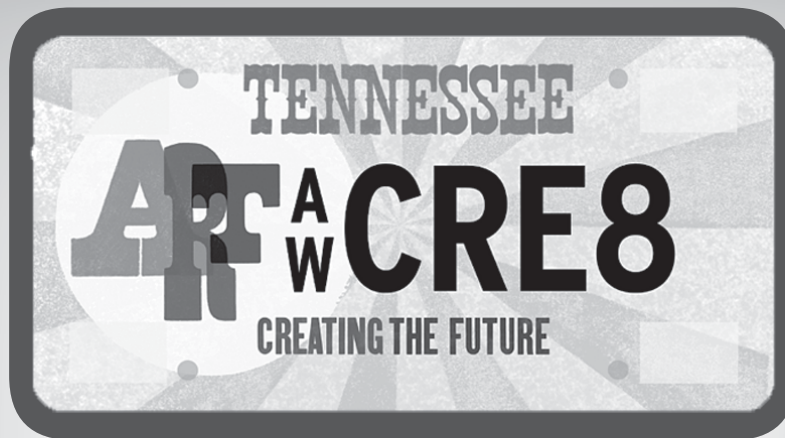
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