CAST

Troy Bolton .................. ZAC EFRON
Gabriella Montez ....... VANESSA HUDGENS
Sharpay Evans ........... ASHLEY TISDALE
Ryan Evans ............... LUCAS GRABEEL
Chad Danforth ........... CORBIN BLEU
Taylor McKessie ........... MONIQUE COLEMAN
Kelsi Nielsen ............. OLESYA RULIN
Zeke Baylor .......... CHRISS WARREN JR.
Jason Cross .............. RYNE SANBORN
Martha Cox .................. KAYCEE STROH
Coach Bolton ............... BART JOHNSON
Ms. Darbus ............... ALYSON REED
Jimmie Zara .............. MATT PROKOP
Donny Dion .................. JUSTIN MARTIN
Tiara Gold ............... JEMMA MCKENZIE-BROWN
Mrs. Bolton ............... LESLIE WING POMEROY
Mrs. Montez .............. SOCORRO HERRERA
Mr. Danforth ............ DAVID REIVERS
Mrs. Danforth .............. YOLANDA WOOD
Mr. Evans ............. ROBERT CURTIS BROWN
Mrs. Evans ................. JESSICA TUCK
Principal Matsui ............ JOEY MIYASHIMA
Mr. Riley ................. STAN ELLSWORTH
Coach Kellogg ............ DAVE FOX
Stagehand ................. JEREMY BANKS
Mr. Juilliard ............. TODD SNYDER
Ms. Juilliard .............. TARA STARLING
Sharpay’s Dog
Boi .......... MANLY “LITTLE PICKLES” ORTEGA

Principal Dancers
BAYLI BAKER ............... SHAWN CARTER
KATIE COCKRELL ............ MAX EHRICH
ITALO ELGUETA .............. CHRISTINA GLUR
JAMIE GOODWIN ........... MOLLEE GRAY
CHARLES KLAPOW ............ KIMBERLY KLAPOW
NICHOLAS LANZISERA ROGER MALAGA
DOUG PENIKAS ................ JAMESON PERRY
TIA ROBINSON ............... HAYLEE RODERICK
BRITT STEWART .............. JASON WILLIAMS

Featured Dancers—“Now or Never”
NIKOLA CLARK ............... AUDRA GRIFFIS
MEGAN HONORE .............. CARA HORIBE
DAVID HUFF ............... MELISSA MAGLEBY
ALLYSA SHORTE
Featured Dancers—“I Want It All”
MERCEDES BAILEY LISA BENSON
CHRISTA BLUTH NACOLE BROWN
ERICA L. BRYCE TAYLOR CATE
STACEY CLARK LACEY DERRICK
MALLAURI ESQUIBEL ALEXANDER FARNsworth
HAYLEY FOLSOM RAQUEL GOODSELL
DAYSHA HANNEMANN ADAIR HENSLEY
BAILEE HUNSaker KELENE JOHNSON
KEALEE JONES TIFFANY MALLARI
NINA MILLER SENECA MINER
TAYLOR PAIGE AMBER SNOW
JESSICA SNOWDEN KELSEY PETERSON TANNER
TYLER WELLING CHELSEA WILLIAMS

Featured Dancers—“The Boys Are Back”
TADD GADDUANG KALEB HENDERSON
SKYLER JOHNSON MIGUEL OLAGUE
CHRIS OWENS TUI-NIUA TUITA
JOSH UNICE ZACK WILSON

Featured Dancers—“High School Musical”
KATIE ALLRED KELLI BAKER
CHAZ BODILY AVERIE DELGROSSO
D.J. GUTHRIE CASEY HARWARD
JAREMY HILL ELDON JOHNSON
NOELLE MENARD JEN OSORIO
JUNAR “J.J.” PASco, JR. BRANDON PERRY
SYDNEY T. SORENson JESSIE THACKER
HEFA LEONE TUITA LISA WHITTAKER
ZACK WILSON VERONICA YEAGER

Stunt Coordinator ............... DON SHANKS
Mascot Stunt Double ............. JOCELYN PECK
Stunt Rigger ...................... FRANK BARE

Production
Supervisor .............. SHAUNA MILLER SChAIN
Utah Casting/ Extras Coordinator ................. JEFF JOHNSON
Assistant Choreographers . ROGER MALAGA
PAUL WINKELMAN
BAYLI BAKER

Theatrical Lighting
Designer ................. PATRICK WOODROFFE
Associate Lighting Designer . . ADAM BASSET

Lead Lighting
Programmer ............ DIRK OP ’T EYNDE

Human Wildcat & Card Stunt
Choreographer ... KRISTEN PATTERSON TERRY
Human Wildcat & Card Stunt Chartist ............... JASON OLTHOFF
Human Wildcat & Card Stunt Team ............... STEPHEN M. BOYD
J. COLLIN SURLES
CATI SNARR
AMY HOLT

Art Director ............... WING LEE
Set Decorator ............ KEN KIRCHNER
Leadman ................. KONNOR S. JENSON

Costume
Supervisor . . . . CARLANE PASSMAN LITTLE
Costume Supervisor–LA . . . ISABELA BRAGA
Key Costumer ............... RIC SPENCER
Key Costumer–Utah . . . BARBARA J. NELSON
Costumers ................ BROOKE WESTBERG
JENNIFER BREEDEN
KACIE SEAMONS
CHRISTINA P. JOHNSON
ALYSON N. HANCEY

Costume–LA . . . . GEORGIA FLETCHER
Head Cutter/Fitter ........ ZOYA BERGAM
Cutters/Fitters .......... MARGO SEAMONS
MICHELLE BOUCHER

Costume Illustrator .................. KAREN YAN

Key Makeup
Artist ........... ROBIN MICHELLE PATRICK
First Assistant
Makeup Artist . . . TARA PAIGE STARLING
Assistant Makeup ............... JODI GLEAVE
TROY LUNT

Key Hairstylist ....................... LORA LAING
First Assistant
Hair stylist ............... CHRISTIANNA M. MOWER
Hair stylists ............... CHARLENE C. JOHNSON
KATHERINE WARD

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Steadicam Operator ........ DON MUIRHEAD
Camera
Operator ........ ANDREW MITCHELL, SOC
First Assistant Camera . . . . . DAVID RHINEER
DEAN AOKI
Second Assistant Camera . . . . . SIMON MIYA
GARY JOHNSON
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Camera Loader . . . . . . RYAN MUIRHEAD
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Rigging Gaffer . . . . . CRAIG C. WALLACE
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Best Boy Grip . . . . . RICHARD HENDRICKS
Key Rigging Grip . . . . DARREN MCLAUGHLIN
Rigging Best Boy Grip . . . PETER WEILAND
Dolly Grips . . . . . . JASON WALTERS
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Grips . . . . . . KC OLSEN
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Assistant to Mr. Ortega . . . . JAMES PHARES
Assistant to Mr. Borden & Mr. Rosenbush . . . KAREN BORJA
Assistant to Mr. Schain . . . . MICHELLE BRINKERHOFF
Set Designer/ Theatre Foreman ............... DOUG ELLIS
Construction Coordinator ............... JOHN MALMBORG
Construction Foreman ......... RUSSELL EVANS
Key Scenic Artist ............. DAVID BROTHERS
Scenic Forepersons ...... MICHAEL KIRKLAND
L.S. “LU” PRICKETT
Carpenter Gang Bosses .......... ERIC PEARCE
DUSTIN LAWRENCE
Art Department Buyer ...... KEN E. DIAMOND
Art Department Coordinator .......... RICHARD OLSON
On-Set Dressers ........ JOSHUA ADAM MOCERI
BURKE BOWTHORPE
Set Dressers ........ ADAM HENDERSON
CODY FAIRBANKS
DANIEL HENDERSON
MICHAEL T. HIGGINS
Storyboard Artists .......... DARREN FLETCHER
Key Set Production Assistant ............... RYAN PEDERSON
Set Production Assistants .... RACHEL MOCERI
JEFFREY PEASE
Key Office Production Assistant .............. DALLIN G. BASSETT
Production Secretary .... CORTLAND WILSON
Office Production Assistants .... KATY SINE
NATHAN D. LEE
Studio Teachers .......... JUDIE HARRIS
KATHLEEN MCMILLAN
Basketball Technical Advisors .......... ROB LAFOLLETTE
SKIP LOWE
Piano Technical Advisor .. MARK ROBINETTE

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Payroll Accountant ............. FELIX CHEN
Post Production Accountant ............ JEANIE DANIELS

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Transportation Co-Captain ................ HAFDIS BLONDAL-MAW
Casting Associate– Los Angeles ............. MELISSA MOSS
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Craft Service Provided by .... MATT SERNA
First Aid/ Medical Coordinator .... JEFF MIDGLEY
Security Services Provided by ........ CBI SECURITY, INC.
Cast Security Coordinator ........ DOUGLAS PATRICK
Music Supervisor .............. STEVEN VINCENT
Production Music Supervisor ........ JOSEPH MAGEE
Arrangements & Orchestration by ........ MARSHALL BOWEN
DAVID GUILLI
JENNIFER HAMMOND
FRED KRON
MARCO LUCIANI
FRANK MACCHIA
ROBBIE NEVIL
Music Preparation .............. BOOKER BURGOS
WALT DISNEY MUSIC LIBRARY
Additional Score Preperation ........ PANCHO BURGOS
MATT LAPOINT
Songs Conducted by .............. NICK GLENNIE-SMITH
Score Orchestrated & Conducted by ... DAVID LAWRENCE
Score Recorded & Mixed by ... CARY BUTLER
Musician Contractors ... CONNIE BOYLAN, SANDY DECRESCENT & PETER ROTTER
Choir Contractor ... BOBBI PAGE
Songs Recorded and Mixed by ... JOSEPH MAGEE, CARY BUTLER, MATTHEW GERRARD, JAMIE HOUSTON, BRIAN MALOUF, ADAM ANDERS, JEREMY LUZIER, RYAN PETERSEN, JOEL SOYFFER

Supervising Music Editor ... CHARLES MARTIN INOUYE, TANYA NOEL HILL
Songs Recorded at ... ABBEY ROAD STUDIOS, LONDON, UK, CAPITOL STUDIOS, HOLLYWOOD, CA, RESONATE STUDIOS, BURBANK, CA, LA EAST STUDIOS, SALT LAKE CITY, UT, COUNTERPOINT STUDIOS, SALT LAKE CITY, UT
Songs & Score Recorded at ... EASTWOOD SCORING STAGE, BURBANK, CA

Main and End
Title Sequences by ... IMAGINARY FORCES
Design & Art Direction ... KARIN FONG, LAUREN HARTSTONE, RONNIE KOFF, JOAN LAU, JENNIFER SHAININ
Lead Animators ... ORLANDO COSTA, ROBERT HENRY, JONATHAN GERSHON
Producers ... KATHY KELEHAN, COURTNEY GRAHAM, JULIE FISCHER
Digital Intermediate and Opticals by ... TECHNICOLOR DIGITAL INTERMEDIATES, A TECHNICOLOR COMPANY
Digital Film Colorist ... TRENT JOHNSON
Digital Intermediate Producer ... BOB PEISHEL
Digital Intermediate Editor ... EVERETTE JBOB WEBBER
Digital Edit Assist ... JENNIFER LEE

Digital Color Assistants ... JADA BUDRICK, FRANK FIGUEROA, RON LEIDELMEIJER, DAN WILLIAMS
Film Editorial ... SCOTT DROST
Negative Cutter ... BUENA VISTA NEGATIVE CUTTING
Color Timer ... GEORGE CHAVEZ

STANFORD SECOND UNIT
Second Unit Director ... BILL BORDEN
Second Unit Director of Photography ... BRIAN SULLIVAN
First Assistant Camera ... RICK PAGE
First Assistant Director ... CRAIG STEINER
Second Assistant Director ... CHRISTOPHER J. BARNES
Extras Coordinator ... WENDY YEE, CALIFORNIA CASTING
Visual Effects Producer ... GAYLE BUSBY
Visual Effects by ... STARGATE DIGITAL
Visual Effects Supervisor ... KENT JOHNSON
Visual Effects Producer ... SARA LEE
Compositing Supervisor ... ADAM EALOVEGA
2D Sequence Leads ... JON CRAIG, DIEGO GALTIERI, MARTIN HILKE, MELIZA FERMIN
Compositors ... RAGUI HANNA, MEGAN OMI, JON RHINEHARDT, SPENCE FULLER, RICHARD SACHAR, RODRIGO ARMENDARIZ
CG Supervisor ... AL LOPEZ
CG Artists ... BEN RUNYAN, JON ROSETHAL, ANTHONY OCAMPO, BRENT STEINBERG
Visual Effects Coordinators ... NICOLE ZABALA, EDDIE BONIN
Production Coordinator ... SHANNON BLANKS
SONGS

Snareway To Heaven
Written and Performed by Bart Hendrickson, Stix Randolph
Courtesy of Extreme Music

Dillon Cadence
Written by Rob Walker
Courtesy of 5 Alarm Music

Now Or Never
Performed by The High School Musical 3: Senior Year Cast
Written by Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil
Produced by Matthew Gerrard

Like Whoa
Written by Antonina Armato, Tim James, Amanda Joy Michalka, Alyson Michalka
Performed by Aly & AJ
Courtesy of Hollywood Records

Freaky
Written by Theodore Thomas, Theron Makiel Thomas, Timothy Jamahli Thomas
Performed by Jesse McCartney
Courtesy of Hollywood Records

Right Here Right Now
Troy and Gabriella
Performed by Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens
Written and Produced by Jamie Houston

My Shoes
Written by Arnthor Birgisson, Savan Kotecha
Performed by Jordan Pruitt
Courtesy of Hollywood Records

Fabulous
Written by David Lawrence and Faye Greenberg

You Are The Music In Me
Written by Jamie Houston

I Want It All
Troy and Gabriella
Performed by Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens
Written and Produced by Jamie Houston

Can I Have This Dance
Troy and Gabriella
Performed by Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens
Written by Adam Anders and Nikki Hassman
Produced by Adam Anders and Rasmus “Raz” Bille Bahncke

A Night To Remember
Performed by The High School Musical 3: Senior Year Cast
Written by Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil
Produced by Matthew Gerrard

Just Wanna Be With You
Ryan, Kelsi, Troy and Gabriella
Performed by Lucas Grabeel, Olesya Rulin, Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens
Written and Produced by Andy Dodd and Adam Watts

The Boys Are Back
Troy and Chad
Performed by Zac Efron and Corbin Bleu
Written by Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil
Produced by Matthew Gerrard

Walk Away
Gabriella
Performed by Vanessa Hudgens
Written and Produced by Jamie Houston

Scream
Troy
Performed by Zac Efron
Written and Produced by Jamie Houston

Last Chance
Kelsi and Ryan
Performed by Olesya Rulin and Lucas Grabeel
Written and Produced by Randy Petersen & Kevin Quinn

I Want It All
Ryan
Performed by Lucas Grabeel
Written by Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil
Produced by Matthew Gerrard
Just Wanna Be With You
Sharpay, Jimmy, Troy and Gabriella
Performed by Ashley Tisdale, Matt Prokop, Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens
Written and Produced by Andy Dodd and Adam Watts

A Night To Remember
Sharpay and Tiara
Performed by Ashley Tisdale and Jemma McKenzie-Brown
Written by Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil
Produced by Matthew Gerrard

We're All In This Together (Graduation Mix)
Performed by The High School Musical 3: Senior Year Cast
Written by Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil
Produced by Matthew Gerrard

High School Musical
Performed by The High School Musical 3: Senior Year Cast
Written by Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil
Produced by Matthew Gerrard

Just Getting Started
Performed by Stan Carrizosa
Written and Produced by Jamie Houston

Ashley Tisdale appears courtesy of Warner Bros. Records

Original Soundtrack Available on Walt Disney Records

Shot on Location in Utah
Special Thanks to the Governor Jon M. Huntsman, Jr.
Utah State Legislature
Jason Perry, Executive Director,
Governor’s Office of Economic Development
Governor’s Office of Economic Development Board
Marshall Moore, Director,
Utah Film Commission

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Stanford University
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The Men’s Wearhouse
David’s Bridal
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR

About the Production

Disney’s “High School Musical” phenomenon leaps onto the big screen in “High School Musical 3: Senior Year,” in which the world’s favorite high school students (ZAC EFRON, VANESSA HUDGENS, ASHLEY TISDALE, LUCAS GRABEEL, CORBIN BLEU and MONIQUE COLEMAN) hit senior year. Amidst a basketball championship, prom and a big spring musical featuring all of the Wildcats, Troy and Gabriella vow to make every moment last as their lifelong college dreams put the future of their relationship in question. A crew of sophomore Wildcats (MATT PROKOP, JUSTIN MARTIN, JEMMA MCKENZIE-BROWN) joins in the fun as the film’s incredible new music and exciting dance numbers take maximum advantage of the big screen.

Other actors reprising their roles from the first two Disney Channel movies include OLESYA RULIN, CHRIS WARREN JR., RYNE SANBORN, KAYCEE STROH, BART JOHNSON and ALYSON REED.

Walt Disney Pictures presents “High School Musical 3: Senior Year,” directed and choreographed by Emmy Award®-winning Kenny Ortega. Ortega, who helmed the first two films for Disney Channel, also adds new duties as executive producer. “High School Musical 3: Senior Year” is produced by Bill Borden and Barry Rosenbush; Don Schain serves as co-producer. Peter Barsocchini, veteran HSM writer, penned the screenplay.

The phenomenon of “High School Musical” started out as an idea in producer Bill Borden’s living room. “I wanted to make a musical that I could sit down and watch with my kids. It was that simple,” says Borden.

Although the musical had seen somewhat of a revival with the success of adult fare such as “Moulin Rouge!” and “Chicago,” no one was making musicals for the teen audience. “Bill and I are true believers in this particular genre—the musical for teens,” says Borden’s producing partner Barry Rosenbush. “With the first movie, we weren’t trying to invent the wheel…we were trying to reintroduce the wheel.

“Movie history is filled with musical comedy for teens,” continues Rosenbush. “The movies back in the ‘30s and ‘40s, the movies that we grew to love—‘Westside Story,’ ‘The Sound of Music,’ and later ‘Grease’—were all for young people.”

Borden and Rosenbush were already working with writer Peter Barsocchini on another project when the idea for “High School Musical” gained momentum; they tapped him to write the screenplay.

“They said they were doing a Disney project that involved music and sports,” says Barsocchini. “The world of music and sports was familiar to me—I played basketball during my youth and I was a music critic in the late ‘60s in San Francisco.”

Multi-talented director/choreographer Kenny Ortega then joined the trio to bring this musical idea to the small screen. “Kenny has many unique talents which make him a really fantastic director,” says Borden. “He is a musician. He’s a great dancer. He’s a choreographer. He’s an actor. He really does mold the screenplay. He can take a concept and make it come alive in a musical like no other person in the world. Kenny really is an amazing force of nature.”

“All I’ve ever tried to do here with ‘High School Musical’ was to enjoy telling a story from a musical point of view in a light-hearted and joyful way without having an overly complicated story and overly complicated characters,” says Ortega. “I just try to bring it to life with as much fun and joy and color and excitement as possible.”

The team fathered a creative phenomenon that would come to include cable television’s highest-ever-rated telecast, the two highest-ever-rated Disney Channel movies, two multi-platinum soundtracks, a concert tour, an ice show, numerous awards and accolades, and a source of inspiration to teens worldwide. “There’s something about teenage life that is the same all around the world,” says Borden.
Bringing “HSM” from Disney Channel to a feature film was a dream-come-true for Ortega. “I’ve always wanted to direct a musical for the big screen.”

So when it came time to continue the Wildcats’ story in a big-screen format, Ortega was ready. “The first thing out of Kenny Ortega’s mouth was ‘I don’t want to remake the first two movies. I want to be true to the ‘High School Musical’ feeling, but I want to let these kids grow up,’” remembers Barsocchini. “They’re high school seniors, so let’s give them the pressures that high school seniors have about prom, finals, graduation and going away. There’s a balance—we’re making musical comedy but we want to try and base it in some emotional reality.”

Ortega revels in being a part of a creative endeavor. “Peter has given us a wonderful blueprint and has been there with me all along in the development of the song placement,” he says. “We were able to do workshops with the actors and throw some improvs out there. The last drafts of this script were actually done in the company of all the actors and dancers in the rehearsal studio.”

Adds Borden, “Even though ‘HSM3’ is a big-screen feature film, we wanted to make sure it came out of the same world and has the same feeling as the first two.”

The filmmakers admit that a major motion picture’s screen size and production crew did allow them to up the ante. “High School Musical 3’ features bigger musical numbers with more difficult choreography and more dancers, more elaborate sets with more complicated lighting and sound, and more detailed and fabulous costumes,” says Ortega.

CASTING
Old Favorites, New Favorites

Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Tisdale, Lucas Grabeel, Corbin Bleu and Monique Coleman return to the roles they created in the international smash hit “High School Musical” and the record-breaking “High School Musical 2,” that catapulted them to the center of the worldwide “HSM” phenomenon.

“One of the untold stories of the ‘High School Musical’ franchise is how talented the cast really is,” says Barsocchini. “Yes, they’ve all become teen idols. But they’re good young actors. Our principal cast has molded those characters into something that kids love. That’s the secret.”

Ortega adds, “The chemistry the kids have with each other elevates it and makes it something more than just telling a fun story. They are the most generous lot you could ever hope to work with. They really come to work with the right things on their minds.”
Everyone’s favorite high school sweethearts Troy Bolton and Gabriella Montez—played by Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens—still front the troupe.

“I’m very excited for ‘High School Musical 3’ to be on the big screen,” says Efron. “This is what we’ve been waiting for, what we’ve been working towards, and it feels great because I feel like we earned it. We’re just regular kids that made ‘High School Musical’ and now it’s progressing.”

Efron has grown up with his character. “Troy is a lot of different things,” he says. “He’s a very average kid going through high school, dealing with everyday choices. But the fun thing about him is that he’s got these hidden talents. So Troy’s got a lot to balance: his basketball career, his newfound love of singing, and then of course, Gabriella. What’ll happen to them after high school? You don’t know. It’s like typical high school drama that we get to sing about.”

According to writer Peter Barsocchini, the Troy Bolton character was inspired by the great Pittsburgh Steelers football player Lynn Swan. Barsocchini went to high school with Swan; they played on the same basketball team. “One day we were riding on a bus to a game and he said ‘You know, I’d really like to try ballet,’” says Barsocchini. “There’s the character. There’s so much pressure on kids to be cool that it’s tough to do something different.”

Adds co-producer Don Schain, “One of the big lessons from the first movie is to break stereotypes. The power forward wants to be a pastry chef. The star basketball player wants to be a thespian. The message to children is that you can be whatever you want to be.”

“Troy Bolton has always planned to go to the local university with his best friend Chad,” explains Borden. “Now, because of his relationship with Gabriella and his relationship with the stage, he has some choices to make.”

But Efron’s character isn’t the only one with choices, says the producer. “Vanessa’s character is given a choice to go away to an early acceptance program at Stanford University.”

Adds Hudgens, “Gabriella has always been ruled by her head. In this movie, you see her kind of being torn by her heart and her head—making tough decisions, trying to figure out what to do with friends, family, relationships, school.”

Ortega appreciates Hudgens’ unique blend of talents. “She continues to amaze me in the way that she grows as an actress. This girl can dance. This girl can sing. This girl can act. She’s funny, she’s everything. She’s a real leading lady.”

“Shooting ‘High School Musical 3’ has been the most fun I’ve had on any of the movies,” says Hudgens. “We’re all close now and we got to be with each other every day, working, goofing off and just being kids.”

Hudgens says she was home schooled, experiencing many of the typical high school experiences through “HSM.” “I’ve never been to a prom, so through this movie I got to experience my prom. I never went to my graduation, but I got to wear a cap and gown.”

Ashley Tisdale returns to her signature role as Sharpay Evans. “Sharpay is a character who the world loves,” says Barsocchini. “There’s a part of every kid who would like to be Sharpay. She’s a mean girl with a heart of gold—sort of. The name Sharpay actually comes from a dog who bit me.”

“She is obviously the diva,” says Tisdale. “You love to hate her. Sharpay’s the one who stirs the pot. But, I think deep down—really, really, really, really deep down—she’s probably really sweet. Probably.”

“Ashley’s my girl,” says Ortega. “She’s just one in a million. I think Ashley is a classic in
the making. I think she can deliver on many, many levels. She’s just a fun spirit.”

In the story, Sharpay, Ryan, Kelsi and a surprised Troy are up for one prestigious Juilliard scholarship. “Of course, Sharpay wants to get that scholarship and does everything she can to eliminate the competition,” explains Borden.

Lucas Grabeel reprised his role as Sharpay’s enigmatic brother Ryan Evans. “He’s a show-stealer,” says Ortega of Grabeel’s character. “It’s always been Sharpay’s show and in this film, Ryan explodes onto the screen. Ryan really blossoms and you get a greater sense of him than ever before.”

According to Grabeel, his onscreen brother-sister relationship has become an off-screen reality. “We’re a true brother and sister duo and it’s been great to have that. There’s an energy between us, we bounce off each other really well.”

“Lucas is absolutely wonderful, a great all-around actor, dancer and singer,” says Borden. “He’s created a character that is nothing like him in real life. Lucas is gentle, laid back and a really sweet guy. On screen, he’s hysterical.”

Adds Ortega, “He’s a wonderful improvisational actor as well as a wonderful studied actor and technician. He has some great dance numbers in ‘HSM3’ and he takes it to the edge.”

Corbin Bleu brings his character’s love of basketball to the big screen. “Chad’s a typical jock,” says Bleu. “He lives, eats and breathes basketball. He loves being around his friends, he loves being around Troy, and he has a nice girlfriend in Taylor.”

“Chad Danforth is a character I am very close to as a writer, because I grew up in a gym,” says Barsocchini. “I spent countless hours in smelly gym socks shooting baskets. Chad is not a conflicted character. He’s a guy who loves playing basketball and he wants to play in college.”

According to Barsocchini, Chad’s dilemma comes when Troy Bolton begins to question his own future. “Chad’s defined his own life by his experience with his best friend.”

Adds Bleu, “This movie explores friendship and camaraderie, the bond that’s been built between these two brothers and how it’s changing. It’s the joy in seeing a friend move on and do what he wants to do, and at the same time the sadness of losing a partner.”

Borden credits the actor. “Corbin is an amazing athletic dancer. He’s also a great actor.”

Adds Ortega, “He prides himself on being prepared. Corbin works as hard as anybody I’ve ever known. He’ll take one step and he’ll just drill it until he feels absolutely 100 percent about it. Corbin came up with the idea of Chad walking around with a basketball under his arm. He slept with that basketball. He didn’t let that basketball out of his sight until he felt that he owned it.”

Monique Coleman returns as Taylor McKessie. “For ‘Senior Year,’ Taylor has a lot more responsibility—student body president and yearbook editor—which I think is very fitting and a pretty natural progression for this character,” says Coleman. “She’s really in her element. She has been ready to graduate since she started school; she’s ready to run the world.”
But in “HSM3,” Coleman’s character adds girlfriend to her resume. “It’s interesting because in the previous movies, Taylor has been strictly independent. It’s great to see her enhanced by the fact that she just adores Chad Danforth,” giggles Coleman. “Still, I think that it’s important for young girls to see a character whose strength isn’t about her relationship with a boy.”

Barsocchini says Taylor has always known what she wants and that doesn’t change in “HSM3.” “Taylor, like Chad, is not a conflicted character,” says the writer. “She sees no boundaries to what she can achieve and she’s willing to do the work. We’ve had thousands of letters from parents that say ‘thank you’ for having a character who does her homework. She’s got her eye on the prize.”

“I feel like what people see on-screen is magic and it comes from the fact that Kenny will not settle for just singing and dancing and acting,” says Coleman. “We are required to tell a story and be truthful about these kids’ lives.”

Ortega returns the compliment. “Monique is like the candle in the dark,” he says. “She never lets us fail ourselves as a team, a family, a group, a posse, a franchise.”

Actress Olesya Rulin once again brings to life Kelsi Nielsen, who is the composer of the Spring Musical called “Senior Year.” Says Rulin, “For me, it’s been a pleasure to see Kelsi change from the first movie, in which she’s shy, very quiet and almost unnoticed—to the second movie, in which she’s not only made friends, but she’s a little bit more comfortable with herself. Now, in ‘HSM3,’ Kelsi’s really come out of her shell.”

Chris Warren Jr. and Ryne Sanborn return to leave their legacy as champion Wildcats basketball teammates Zeke Baylor and Jason Cross.

“Zeke is still a jock who likes to bake and he’s still in love with Sharpay,” says Warren.

In the story, Zeke gets to go to the prom with Sharpay, so Warren had to learn how to waltz with Ashley Tisdale—much to the delight of their castmates. Says Hudgens, “Ashley and Chris have this brother-sister, love-hate relationship and they mess around with each other. Watching them dancing together was hysterical, like an old married couple.”

Warren also developed a close sibling-like relationship with his basketball co-star Ryne Sanborn. “We became really good friends from the beginning because neither of us was a dancer. We both came from playing sports. We had to put in extra time rehearsing.”

KayCee Stroh’s pop-lock brainiac Martha Cox becomes a Wildcat cheerleader for the big screen. “I’m just so excited for Martha because throughout each movie, she’s stepped out of her comfort zone a little bit more,” says Stroh. “In the first, she’s a shy little brainiac who secretly loves to dance. In the second, you see her coming out of her shell. Now, in the third she is head cheerleader. I feel it’s a great message—if you want to step out of your box and change, you can.”

Bart Johnson and Alyson Reed reprise their roles as Coach Jack Bolton and Ms. Darbus.

Johnson enjoys the line his character has to walk. “It’s an interesting dynamic that Coach Bolton has because he’s not just a hardnosed coach and he’s not just a loving dad. He’s trying
to balance between the two.”

Reed is thrilled to be a part of the big screen extravaganza. “We have a full orchestra—a real youth orchestra. We also have a real youth choir singing,” she says. “And it’s all going to be 40 feet tall. It’s unbelievable.”

Also returning are Leslie Wing Pomeroy as Mrs. Bolton, Socorro Herrera as Mrs. Montez, Robert Curtis Brown and Jessica Tuck as Mr. and Mrs. Evans, and Joey Miyashima as school principal Matsui.

New Wildcats


“To find the three new actors, we auditioned thousands of kids and it came down to 15 kids that we thought had star quality,” explains Borden. “We brought them into a dance studio and had them sing, dance, play sports. In the end, the final three had some magic that we felt would transfer to the big screen.”

Adds Ortega, “There’s that certain kind of effervescence, energy and excitement, a chemistry that is underneath the words, the music, the dancing that some of these kids carry into the room with them. And you want to know them and spend time with them.

“From the first day they arrived, they came in ready and excited,” continues Ortega. “I felt like we made really great choices. All of them come from good schooling and experience. In a matter of hours they were a part of the team.”

“When we thought about introducing new characters, the one thing that we all said was we do not want to find the ‘new Troy’ or the ‘new Taylor,’” says Borden. “We want to find new characters, we don’t want to clone anyone. That isn’t how school or life really is and that isn’t how we want these actors to be perceived.”

“Each new class is a new start,” adds Rosenbush. “Each new adventure is your experience to understand and to learn and to exercise your talents and your aspirations. So by watching Matt, Justin and Jemma in these new character roles, we’re going to see them find themselves. But they’re still dealing in this magical world of East High.”

“Jimmie ‘the Rocket’ Zara is your classic sophomore,” says writer Barsochinni. “When you’re that age, you think you rule the world. He’s a young kid on the basketball team who really idolizes Troy Bolton. But on the other hand, sophomores think they’re the coolest thing in the world. We wanted that kind of character at East High.”

Actor Matt Prokop, 18, was thrilled to be cast as the rocker-wannabe. “It’s a dream. I would have never thought in my life that I would be in a musical—I didn’t sing and didn’t dance before HSM3,” he says. “It’s kind of scary because everyone’s heard of ‘High School Musical’
and now it’s going to be in theatres.”

Justin Martin was cast as Donny Dion, best friend to Jimmie and towel boy for the basketball team. Explains Borden, “Those two guys hang out and they’re kind of like Abbott and Costello. They’re an unlikely team, which is really fun.”

Adds Barsocchini, “Of the pair, Donny Dion is the brains of the operation. Donny checks out the depth of the water before he jumps in the pool.”

Martin adds, “He’s sort of a chill character. He balances out crazy Jimmie. He idolizes Troy and Chad and hopes to be like them, but also wants to get them out of the school so he and his partner-in-crime Jimmie can take over.”

Martin’s family shared in his excitement of being involved in the project. “I have an 8-year-old sister who thinks I’m the coolest brother ever,” says Martin.

The search for the Tiara character took filmmakers across the pond to find Jemma McKenzie-Brown. “When we met Jemma, we thought this girl can do a lot of things,” says Barsocchini. “She’s got some sophisticated abilities. We knew we could give this character of Tiara more colors in the rainbow than we originally thought.”

Adds Ortega, “Jemma’s smart, sophisticated beyond her years and funny. She’s effervescent and a ball of fun. She can sing. She can dance. I think she’s got that thing that Ashley has.”

“Tiara transfers to East High from England,” explains Barsocchini. “She’s a couple years younger than our principal characters and might have a couple surprises up her sleeve.”

“She becomes Sharpay’s personal assistant—her Mini-Me,” adds McKenzie-Brown. “She looks up to Sharpay and sorts out her diva demands, but secretly, Tiara is conniving. She’s the naughty one, Sharpay’s a diva—together we’re a nightmare.”

The veteran cast members opened their arms to the new arrivals. “It’s great having the new cast members,” says Coleman. “It totally parallels real high school.”

**LET THE MUSIC PLAY**

**A Big Screen Soundtrack for a Big Screen Story**

Composer David Lawrence and music supervisor Steven Vincent continue the HSM tradition. The soundtrack for “High School Musical 3: Senior Year” features ten all-new songs penned by several of the hit songwriters/producers from past HSM smash records, including “Now or Never” (Matthew Gerrard/Robbie Nevil), “Right Here, Right Now” (Jamie Houston), “I Want It All” (Matthew Gerrard/Robbie Nevil), “Can I Have This Dance” (Adam Anders/Nikki Hassman), “A Night to Remember” (Matthew Gerrard/Robbie Nevil), “Just Wanna Be with You” (Andy Dodd/Adam Watts), “The Boys Are Back” (Matthew Gerrard/Robbie Nevil), “Walk Away” (Jamie Houston), “Scream” (Jamie Houston), and “High School Musical” (Matthew Gerrard/Robbie Nevil). Multiple reprises and medleys fill
in the story about the spring musical called “Senior Year.”

“The returning composers and lyricists and the new folks that have joined us on this venture have turned out a soundtrack that I think is the best of them all,” says Ortega. “It serves the story. It serves the characters. It’s dynamic, rhythmic, romantic, funny, orchestral, symphonic and choral. It gets as big as it can and as intimate as it can and everything in between.”

“‘Now or Never’ opens the movie in a really brilliant way,” says Ortega. “We get to see how Troy, through song and dance, is actually facing a dilemma in his life. He’s a great singer and he wants to perform on stage, but he’s also an all-star athlete. We get to show dancing, we get to show great singing, and we get to combine it in a storytelling way so that we understand the dilemma going on in this boy’s personal life.”

Adds Corbin Bleu, “It is the very first musical number and it starts off in a very heated basketball game. The Wildcats are down at halftime. This is the last game that we’ll ever play at East High.”

The East High gym was filled with more than 2000 extras for the championship game. “The experience was completely surreal,” says Efron. “It felt like a real game because we were playing against a real team and we had real plays set up. A lot of the basketball you see was just us playing. Every time you missed a shot everyone would boo! When you’d make a shot, even if it was just a lay-up, everyone would go crazy.”

“‘Right Here, Right Now’ is Troy and Gabriella’s duet in Troy’s backyard treehouse. It’s about them just enjoying being in the moment and the time that they have. I think all the girls out there are just going to die when they see this number. It’s really magical,” says Hudgens.

“Right Here, Right Now” was shot on location at the Bolton House and on a visual effects soundstage, both in Salt Lake City.

“‘I Want It All’ is Sharpay’s version of how she sees the school in her fantasy world,” says Ortega. “We’re all blinged out. We’re colorful. Everything’s totally different.”

“It’s the biggest musical number for me,” says Tisdale. “Sharpay wants the Juilliard scholarship and she wants to use her brother to get it. The song itself is very Fergie/Gwen Stefani meets Sharpay Evans. I love it.”

Lucas Grabeel adds, “To coax Ryan into helping her out, Sharpay paints this picture of what life could be like if they both got the scholarship.”

“I Want It All” takes place in the East High cafeteria with almost 150 people dancing on screen at one time. At one point in the number, Grabeel dances in a classic Radio City Music Hall kick line with 24 pink-haired kitty cat Rockettes.

“There’s a wink and a curtsy to the legends of the great White Way,” says Ortega. “It’s an homage to Gene Kelly and Bob Fosse and Jerome Robbins and Michael Kidd. This is a little
bit of ‘Singin’ In the Rain’ meets ‘Chicago’—all through the eyes of a teenage girl who wants it all: fame, fortune and more."

For “Can I Have This Dance” Kenny Ortega and his choreographers introduced a new genre of dance to the Wildcat seniors—ballroom. Audiences first hear the song as a duet between Troy and Gabriella on the rooftop of East High.

“It’s a really sweet, romantic and charming dance,” says Hudgens. “You don’t see people doing the waltz very often anymore, so the fact that we got to bring that back was magical.”

“I think it’s a great moment because it shows that Troy and Gabriella thing that’s been there from the very beginning,” says Efron.

Says Ortega, “I was inspired by Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers and all those wonderful Gene Kelly dances. I just wanted to find a romantic opportunity for the two of them to dance in each other’s arms, away from everybody else.”

The rest of the Wildcats were not off the hook when it came to learning the waltz. “Can I Have This Dance” is reprised when the audience is transported to the prom through a portal in Gabriella’s imagination. “Gabriella is finally at the prom that she’s always wanted with her friends, her boyfriend, just having the most amazing time of her life. It’s a fairy tale. Every girl wants to have a waltzing prom. It’s a beautiful scene,” says Hudgens.

“A Night to Remember” also involves partner dancing—a cha-cha-cha. It’s the first of many numbers in the film that take place on stage in the East High theatre auditorium.

“The original concept of this movie was always to have a big prom. So we attacked this in a new way, we’ve actually taken our prom and broken it up across the movie,” explains producer Bill Borden. “Preparation, rehearsal, performance and of course, the real prom—we get a taste of it all in the movie and in the end, we bring a big, unique, emotional moment to the prom.”

“With ‘A Night to Remember’ we suddenly find ourselves not at prom at all, but at rehearsal for a prom musical number,” explains Ortega.

“The play within a play, that’s my favorite thing about that number because when you first see it, you think that it’s part of the movie,” adds Ryne Sanborn. “But then you notice little things that show it’s a rehearsal. So it’s not really our prom, which is kind of cool.”

“Basically East High puts on the school play about ourselves,” explains Hudgens.

“Just Wanna Be With You” begins as a duet created by Ryan and Kelsi in the music room, and is reprised as a full-fledged production number in the spring musical featuring the whole cast.

“One of the themes is to live in the moment and not worry so much about the future,” explains Lucas Grabeel. “Kelsi and Ryan have a very interesting relationship. They’re both artists and musicians. I think it’s cool that they can find each other in that way.”
“‘Just Wanna Be With You’ works on a lot of different levels,” explains producer Barry Rosenbush. “I really like that song because it’s not only about wanting to be with you in a romantic sense, it’s about these kids knowing that they’re together in this moment and they’re going to enjoy it, but they’re moving on soon.”

“The Boys Are Back” is a fantasy rock duet that takes place in a junkyard at night with Troy Bolton and best friend Chad Danforth.

“We’ve never really had a number just to ourselves,” says Zac Efron. “So this is a chance for us to team up and just go off each other’s energy.”

“The Boys Are Back” was all about giving Troy and Chad a history and we felt that this style of dance and this space connected to the spirit of these two guys,” says Ortega.

Corbin Bleu explains the characters’ backstory. “When we were young boys, we used to hang out in the junkyard and pretend that we were superheroes and spies and ninjas. With all the stressful things that go on during senior year, we come back to relive those childhood moments.”

The production number features the pair rolling a giant tire, sword fighting, break-dancing, teeter-tottering and dancing on cars. They’re joined by 19 dancers; some seem to appear out of the junk.

“It’s one of the hardest numbers—really hardcore stuff, rugged and dirty and real guy,” says Bleu. “The energy was through the roof.”

Gabriella’s soulful ballad “Walk Away” takes place at her home. Explains Hudgens, “She has to make some decisions about college and her boyfriend and her friends and she decides to do what she thinks is right and just walk away.”

Troy’s power ballad “Scream” has him contemplating his own situation, dancing throughout East High’s gym, hallways and theatre late at night.

“It starts on the basketball court, but he ends up on stage,” says Efron. “That just says it all right there. He’s got these amazing feelings for both.”

“‘High School Musical’ is upbeat and fun and makes you want to leap up out of your chair and dance,” says Ryne Sanborn. “I used to think that they could never top ‘All For One,’ but ‘High School Musical’ is the ultimate party song.”

The Wildcats’ high school graduation big finale was shot over two days on East High’s football field. Approximately 1000 people participated, including a 25-piece orchestra, a 40-member concert choir (led by Justin Martin’s “Donny Dion”), and 600 background artists who created a Wildcat head with human animation.

“It was crazy putting on the Wildcat graduation robes,” says Efron. “It was really symbolic, I felt like we were graduating in so many different ways. Everyone was pretty emotional.”
“The song has a simple message,” says writer Peter Barsocchini. “What’s great about high school doesn’t have to end at graduation. Friendships can go on.”

In staging the final moment of graduation, Kenny Ortega took his inspiration from a Fred Astaire movie. “It looked like the whole world was a stage and I thought that would be a great thing to bring back for a new audience. The entire football field became our stage, complete with a gigantic red curtain.

“On the last shot, I was so moved, so touched, so happy and so satisfied, that I couldn’t even get the word ‘cut’ out,” continues Ortega. “It was a really an emotional day and deeply satisfying after three movies.”

“The song ‘High School Musical’ is an anthem,” says Rosenbush. “It represents the culmination of High School Musical 1, 2 and 3.”

The Walt Disney Records soundtrack hits stores on October 21, 2008.

**LET’S DANCE**

Ortega, Klapow and Story Reteam for HSM3 Choreography

Once again, the Emmy Award®-winning trio Kenny Ortega, Charles “Chucky” Klapow and Bonnie Story share choreography duties.

“Kenny, Chucky and Bonnie have created a new standard in the dance musical industry that everyone else will try to reach,” says producer Bill Borden. “I think their talent and their love of what they’re doing shows up on all the dances and the actors love them.”

“When Chucky started working with me several years ago, he came with this young, hungry spirit—fresh out of school, hot-blooded and ready to tackle anything,” says Ortega. “Bonnie has this incredible history. She’s a teacher, an amazing dancer—classically trained, technically brilliant, and has worked with the best.”

The director says the trio flexed its creativity in “HSM3.” “I have one foot in the street and another foot in the pages of history,” says Ortega. “There’s a little bit of Broadway, funk, sport, ballet and ballroom—a real range of music and dance styles in this movie—and a dynamic range of dance locations including a basketball court, a rooftop, a treehouse. The dancing really is spread out beautifully throughout the story. Each dance is like its own postcard.”

“We cover it all—waltz, hip-hop, breaking, pop, Latin salsa, jazz and Fosse,” adds Klapow.
“So Zac Efron will go from being Fred Astaire in one scene to Michael Jackson in the next.”

Dance rehearsals took place in Salt Lake City. “For a whole week we sat around a table and talked before we even started dancing,” says Klapow. “Kenny painted a picture, he’s the visionary. Then Bonnie and I got in front of the mirror and fed off each other. It’s not just dance steps though. It has to make sense. We have to tell that story through movement.”

For the big screen, the choreographers had to raise the bar. In the two acclaimed television movies, the trio choreographed dances for as many as 10 principal actors, 12 principal dancers and 190 extras. In “High School Musical 3: Senior Year,” they worked with 15 principal actors, 18 principal dancers (plus more than 60 featured dancers in the bigger production numbers), and up to 2,000 extras.

“With each new project, the actors and dancers have become better and we threw more at them,” says Story. “The choreography is more intricate, with more partnering.

“There’s more screen to fill, so we cast more dancers,” continues Story. “We definitely took into consideration the fact that the big screen is wider than TV; we had to approach the choreography from a different point of view.”

Ortega, Klapow and Story added four additional members to their team to assist with the massive numbers designed for the big screen. Principal dancer Roger “Ro” Malaga acted as assistant choreographer and break-dancing specialist. World-class dancer/coach Paul Winkelman served as assistant choreographer and ballroom specialist. Principal dancer Bayli Baker also served as assistant choreographer. In addition, the team tapped dancer Zachary Wilson as a choreography assistant to assist with the waltz.

Shooting in Utah did present one unexpected challenge. “Salt Lake City is a desert in the sky and it is so dry here,” says Klapow. “It’s hard to dance at that altitude. Our hearts would pound and we’d sweat; we couldn’t breathe. I’ll be the best athlete in the world because I trained in Utah.”

ALL DRESSED UP
Costume Designer Caroline B. Marx Creates a Signature Wardrobe

Costume designer Caroline B. Marx took the big screen to heart when it came to wardrobe for “HSM3.”

“The costumes for ‘HSM3’ are more fashion forward; each character is clearly defined,” says Marx. “Layering of the actual pieces and attention to detail was very important for the big screen. In this film, we find each character growing up. Their costumes show their individual personalities.”

Director Ortega was very pleased with the vision Marx brought to the wardrobe. “Caroline is really wonderful and open and brought some wonderful new ideas to the musical. It’s bigger and more colorful and more exaggerated than ever. Because we introduce more fantasy and
peek into the future, we could go places with the costuming in ‘High School Musical 3’ that we haven’t been able to visit before. And Caroline helped take us there.”

“Caroline came to us because of her inventiveness,” adds producer Rosenbush. “She has an amazing ability to take practical clothes—for graduations and prom and basketball games—and add the sparkle of Hollywood.”

Marx began prepping for the feature film five months prior to cameras rolling. “I wanted to make sure we were ahead of the game in terms of trends, so when the movie came out we’d hit at the same time or even further ahead of hot styles,” she says. “I went to Fashion Week in New York, attending 37 shows and as many parties as well as visiting showrooms and meeting with a lot of designers.”

Marx worked closely with the cast on their wardrobes. “After almost four years, they really know who their characters are,” she says.

The costume designer wanted Zac Efron’s character Troy to channel a James Dean/Young Elvis look, with a color palate of mostly blue and gray tones. Troy wears primarily slim-cut Diesel denim jeans and James Perse classic tees with Converse high-top sneakers or low-top Vans.

Vanessa Hudgen’s Gabriella has a very innocent, girl-next-door feel. “Gabriella’s costumes have an arc. She starts in her quintessential white, blue, green and yellow floral dresses, sometimes with little cardigans. As time passes in the film, she becomes more self-aware and begins to take on a more ‘boho’ style of dress,” says Marx. Hudgens wears clothes by American Eagle, Free People, Velvet, Miss Sixty (Italian), and Dutch designer Tony Cohen in the film.

Sharpay’s look is very expensive and over-the-top, with the majority of her clothes enhanced with Swarovski crystals. Labels include Marc Jacobs, Miss Sixty, L.A.M.B., Dolce & Gabbana, Juicy Couture, Betsey Johnson, Diesel, Sheri Bodell, Rock n Republic boots and oversized bags, and accessories from Kitson. “Hot pink and feathers are a focus for Sharpay,” says Marx.

Marx took Ryan’s wardrobe directly from the runway with neon pink Marc Jacobs pants, a J. Lindenberg nylon blazer and Paul Smith floral pants (with added side stripe) tucked into police boots. “He is usually wearing a Goorin Bros. fedora hat,” says Marx. “For the prom, he sports a bowler hat, inspired by a popular Spanish trend.”

According to Marx, Corbin Bleu’s Chad is the first character on film to wear primarily organic and sustainable clothing and shoes. “His entire wardrobe gives off a very eco-friendly vibe,” says the costume designer. His American Apparel organic tees feature custom eco-friendly messages such as “My dog didn’t eat my homework, I recycled it” and “Greenster.” Marx found designers and companies that manufactured green products, including G-Star, Livity Outernational, Alternative Earth, Lucky Brand, Nike and Maasi Treads.

Marx describes Monique Coleman’s Taylor as “brainiac and business-like with a feminine edge.” Taylor wears primarily J. Crew and Banana Republic sweaters and sweater vests over
Theory and G-Star button-front shirts (worn untucked), with skirts by Marc Jacobs, Piazza Simione and Corey Lynn Calter. “We feel that she’s going on to be the future President of the United States so we gave her a very conservative look,” says Marx.

Marx says the wardrobe for Olesya Rulin’s Kelsi is very funky and artsy, but with a vintage feel that includes men’s blazers and vests from Club Monaco and French Connection, and vintage character tees by Disney Couture. Kelsi’s primary designer was artist Elisa Jimenez of “Project Runway.” “The wardrobe has changed with Kelsi, going from ill-fitting clothes to tight-fitting and funkified,” says Marx.

Kaycee Stroh’s Martha takes on a very ’80s vibe, “early Madonna combined with an urban hip-hop flare,” says Marx. “She wears lots of leggings, multiple strands of pearls, bangles, multiple rubber bracelets and bandannas in her hair.”

Ryne Sanborn’s Jason sports the preppy East Coast jock. “He wears polos with the collars worn up, button-down over-shirts worn open and untucked, with either pinstripe, plaid or khaki cargo shorts or jeans.

Chris Warren Jr.’s Zeke is young, hip and preppy with a crisp urban flare. “He wears oversize polos and shorts,” says Marx. Zeke’s chef-wear was customized with Wildcat emblems: his white chef hat bears the paw print, and his red apron the collegiate “E.”

Jemma McKenzie-Brown’s Tiara took on an English schoolgirl look.

Matt Prokop’s Jimmie was given an ‘Emo vibe’ with a little slacker/skater mixed in.

Justin Martin’s Donny Dion sported a wardrobe that was a little conservative with a cool edge.

The prom dresses for Gabriella, Sharpay, Taylor and Kelsi are original designs by Marx and manufactured by famed Madonna seamstress Zoya Bergam.

“It’s every girl’s dream is to have that perfect prom dress,” says Rosenbush. “Caroline put the magic into the ordinary and made it extraordinary.”

**ON LOCATION**

**Albuquerque in Utah**

Filmmakers faced challenges including location issues, shooting in a real high school alongside studying students, and the physical and creative challenges of making elaborate movie sets out of an active high school and a working junkyard.

“Although the story is still set in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Kenny said ‘I want to go back to Utah where ‘HSM’ 1 and 2 were shot,’” says co-producer Don Schain. “He has become very comfortable with the environment, the crew and the dance talent in Utah.”

So for the third time, filmmakers utilized Salt Lake City and the real East High School as the feature film’s primary location.

“High School Musical’ just belongs in Salt Lake City,” says Efron. “Right here on this gym
International Peace Gardens in Salt Lake City and the Stanford University campus in Palo Alto, Calif., plus two days of stage work to complete production.

Production had to film at East High School for 15 days while school was in session before summer break started. Location manager Carole Fontana and her team acted as the chief liaison between the production and the school. “We were very conscious of the fact that filmmaking is not the primary business of the school,” says Fontana.

East High principal Paul Sagers thought it was great that the students were exposed to a working movie production. “The crew involved us when they could,” says Sagers. “When they needed to rent band instruments, for instance, rather than go to a rental house, they’d come to us. When they wanted basketball players, they’d look to our athletes first. About 800 of those 2,000 extras in the gym scene are our students and teachers.”

“When kids were curious, we’d let them take a look at what we were doing, to allow them to have a sense of ownership over this movie,” says production designer Mark Hofeling.

East High School has become the second most popular tourist attraction in Salt Lake City. “Families come here and tour the Mormon Temple and then East High School,” laughs Utah Film Commissioner Marshall Moore.

But shooting a big-screen production movie in a real high school presented some challenges, says Hofeling. “My first reaction to reading this script was feeling a little overwhelmed. That anxiety just increased after my first meeting with Kenny. More is more with Kenny.”

“He really wanted to reintroduce kids to everything about musical film and musical theatre,” continues Hofeling. “We all agreed that if we’re going to introduce kids to the song and the dance of the classic Hollywood and Broadway period, why not try to introduce them to a bit of the stagecraft of that time as well?”

According to Hofeling, the ambitious movie features four Broadway musicals. “One would be quite a challenge, especially since we’re putting Broadway level productions in a high school theatre…not to mention in a high school cafeteria!”
“The great thing about a feature is that we could let our imaginations run wild,” says Borden. “Mark Hofeling really gave us some magical sets—sets that fly in and out and roll across the stage. We have true theatre magic. It’s added a whole new dimension.”

Adds Ortega. “With this we were going for heightened high school reality. We are definitely somewhere between high school and Broadway.”

Theatrical lighting designer Patrick Woodroffe, who has worked with The Rolling Stones, Elton John, Cirque du Soleil and The Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, created the lighting for all the production numbers in the theatre and for “I Want It All,” which takes place in the cafeteria.

The film’s diverse sets inspired filmmakers to flex their creative muscles. “For the cafeteria number, the cue Kenny gave us was Busby Berkeley, a great director and choreographer in the ’30s who used to create these epic black-and-white musicals that were astounding,” says Hofeling. “It’s the glitz and the glamour of Sharpay’s imagined New York experience—this girl from Albuquerque dreaming about fame and fortune.

“We took all of the existing color out of the cafeteria—the iconic red is gone,” continues Hofeling. “This familiar room becomes a ghost of itself—it’s about a big-time girl trapped in small-town high school and she wants out.”

Set to “I Want It All,” the cafeteria-based showstopper features a menu board marquee with pink neon chasing lights and hydraulic pivoting round tables for the dancers to dance on. The cafeteria ultimately morphs into a theatrical version of Times Square with lighted signs of old Broadway Theater names. It was no small feat, yet crews had only five days to transform the cafeteria from its normal red and white into its fantasy state—and three days to turn it back.

The theatre auditorium at East High was used for many scenes involving multiple musical moments. According to Hofeling, they extended the stage eight feet forward into the orchestra pit, added a proscenium and bought new stage curtains in beautiful Wildcat red. To facilitate the medley nature of the fictional musical numbers done on stage, filmmakers created many flexible sets to punctuate the story beats in each song.

To shoot the rooftop waltz for “Can I Have This Dance,” crews had to lift approximately 40 crane-loads of construction materials, skylights, plants and filmmaking equipment to the top of the four-story building. “There’s something really magical and separate about the rooftop,” says Hofeling. “But Kenny said that they were going to waltz over the entire roof, which meant making a garden space out of almost a whole city block. There was an incredible view with the mountains all around and the valley couldn’t have been greener when we were on the rooftop.”

The junkyard set for “The Boys Are Back” number was a unique challenge. Says Ortega, “Mark Hofeling and his art director Wing Lee did a fantastic job. We were actually in a real auto parts yard, but what was created does not have any resemblance of what it looked like on
a normal day. They created a junkyard theatre.” In addition to vintage cars, the junkyard
featured aisles of junk, dirt, broken glass, neon windows and scaffolding. “It’s so amazing to
walk on a set like this because it’s a big playground to us,” says choreographer Bonnie Story.
“You can rehearse all you want in a studio and you can visualize different levels, but when you
bring the choreography into this space it comes alive. Even the costume designer played a role,
making the dancers look like they were part of the cars.”

Filmmakers used Matchbox toy cars to plan out where cars would be placed. “It’s actually a lot more
technical than just plopping a car here and there,” says Hofeling. “You really have to be thinking about the
pace of the music, the choreography and the geography of the place.”

Another challenge involved the football field, the locale for the graduation scene. “The
grass was mostly dead,” says Hofeling. “We made an enormous 24/7 effort—sodding,
watering—just to get this grass back in time for our work there.”

The last shot for the “Scream” sequence and the last shot of the movie found Efron in a
rotating hallway, built to look exactly like the stationary ones at East High. “We wanted the
audience to feel Troy’s confusion that his world is betraying him,” says Hofeling.

ABOUT THE CAST

Nurturing an impressive body of work that encompasses film and
television, ZAC EFRON (Troy Bolton) is positioning himself as
one of Hollywood’s most promising talents as his career continues
to evolve. Efron received the coveted Teen Choice Award for Choice
Male Hottie in 2007 and the MTV Movie Award for Breakthrough
Performance for his role in “Hairspray.”

Efron recently wrapped production on the Richard Linklater film
“Me and Orson Welles,” an adaptation of the period coming-of-age
novel by Robert Kaplow. He portrays a high school student who
happens upon the yet-to-open Mercury Theatre and is then noticed
by Orson Welles. Efron stars in the film alongside Ben Chapin and Claire Danes.

He stars in the upcoming film “17 Again,” a “Big”-like dramedy in which a 36-year-old in
need of a major life do-over wakes up in the body of a high school senior. The film also stars
Matthew Perry and Leslie Mann.

In summer 2007, Efron starred alongside an all-star cast in the box office smash
“Hairspray,” which is about what happens when an all-white American Bandstand style TV
show gets a soul infusion. The film won the Critics Choice award for Best Ensemble and the
cast was also nominated for a Golden Globe® and SAG Award®.

Efron became the break-out star of the Emmy Award®-winning Disney Channel
phenomenon “High School Musical.” He reprised his role in “High School Musical 2,” which broke cable TV records, garnering 18.6 million viewers.

His other television credits include a recurring role on the WB series “Summerland,” and guest-starring roles on “The Suite Life of Zack & Cody,” “ER,” “The Guardian” and “C.S.I. Miami.”

Additionally, Efron starred on stage in the musical “Gypsy” and has appeared in productions of “Peter Pan,” “Mame,” “Little Shop of Horrors” and “The Music Man.”

**VANESSA HUDGENS (Gabriella Montez)** is a promising young actress and recording artist.


Hudgens began her career at age 8 in the world of musical theatre. Early roles in such productions as “Evita,” “Carousel,” “The Wizard of Oz,” “The King & I,” “The Music Man,” “Cinderella” and “Damn Yankees” gave the actress the opportunity to showcase her impressive singing and acting skills.

She made her feature film debut in Catherine Hardwicke’s “Thirteen,” starring Holly Hunter and Evan Rachel Wood. Soon thereafter, she co-starred in the action-adventure film “Thunderbirds,” and was a recurring guest star on Disney Channel’s “The Suite Life of Zach & Cody.” Her television credits include “Quintuplets,” “Brothers Garcia,” “Still Standing” and “Robbery Homicide Division.”

But it was Hudgens’s role in Disney Channel’s breakaway sensation “High School Musical” and its follow-up “High School Musical 2” that has garnered her much praise and attention. In 2006, Hudgens released her debut solo album “V”—a captivating variety of rock, electronic and R&B styles—and toured with the Cheetah Girls, followed by a sold-out 42-date arena concert tour of “High School Musical: The Concert.” In July 2008, Hudgens released her second album “IDENTIFY” for Hollywood Records, followed by a two-month concert tour in the Unites States.

**ASHLEY TISDALE (Sharpay Evans)** is best known for her starring role as Sharpay Evans in the record-breaking and award-winning Disney Channel Original Movies “High School Musical” and “High School Musical 2.”

The 23-year-old actress starred in and executive produced the recent ABC Family movie “Picture This,” which was a joint project by MGM and Tisdale’s production company Blondie Girl Productions.

She appears in the Twentieth Century Fox feature film comedy “They Came From Upstairs,” set to be released in early 2009. She is also slated to star in United Artists’ upcoming feature film remake of “Teen Witch,” and has signed an agreement with Freemantle Media (“American Idol”) to executive produce a new
television series.

Tisdale first gained a following with her role as the sweet candy-counter clerk at The Tipton hotel on Disney Channel’s hit series “The Suite Life of Zack & Cody.” Next, she lent her voice as one of the lead characters (Candace) in the Disney Channel number-one rated animated series “Phineas and Ferb.” She was a series regular on “Nathan’s Choice” and “The Howie Mandel Pilot.” Her television credits include recurring roles on “George Lopez,” “Still Standing” and “The Hughleys,” as well as guest-starring roles on “Grounded for Life,” “Strong Medicine,” “Boston Public” and “7th Heaven.”

Tisdale’s first solo CD “Headstrong” debuted at #5 on the Billboard Top 200 Chart and was certified Gold. She recently toured the country in the sold-out 42-city concert tour of “High School Musical: The Concert.”

Tisdale was selected as one of US Magazine’s 10 Most Powerful Girls In Hollywood, Teen People’s 25 Under 25, Teen Vogue’s Young Hollywood stars, and as part of Entertainment Weekly’s annual “Must List” as “Must ‘Musical’ Prodigies.”

She was discovered at age 3 in her hometown mall by Bill Perlman, a talent manager who continues to represent her. After landing a job at her very first audition, Tisdale went on to star in more than 100 national network commercials. At age 8, she booked the leading role in the national tour of the musical “Les Miserables,” and then toured internationally with the Broadway musical “Annie.” She also had the honor of singing at the White House at age 12.

CORBIN BLEU (Chad Danforth) is a gifted young talent who has achieved a remarkable level of success as an actor and recording artist.


He produces and stars in William Dear’s “Free Style,” in which he plays a young motocross racer looking to win the Amateur National Championships while supporting his family. The film is slated for an early 2009 release.

Bleu’s first leading film role was in “Catch That Kid,” opposite Kristen Stewart. Other film credits include “Soldier,” opposite Kurt Russell; “Galaxy Quest,” with Tim Allen and Sigourney Weaver; “Mystery Men,” opposite Ben Stiller and Hank Azaria; and “Family Tree.”

On the small screen, Bleu starred as a boxer turned double Dutch champion in the Disney Channel Original Movie “Jump In!” with Keke Palmer and his real-life father David Reivers. Prior to the premiere of HSM2, “Jump In!” was the most watched Disney Channel program premiering to 8.2 million viewers. Bleu’s television credits also include a starring role on the Discovery Kids/NBC series “Flight 29 Down” and guest-starring roles on Disney Channel’s “Hannah Montana,” “ER,” “The Amanda Show,” “Cover Me” and “Malcolm & Eddie.”

On stage, Bleu starred in the off-Broadway productions of “Tiny Tim Is Dead” and “Brothers of the Knight” with Debbie Allen. He attended the prestigious Debbie Allen Dance Academy and later the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts as a theatre major.

Due for release in February 2009 is Bleu’s second album distributed by Hollywood Records. His debut solo album “Another Side” was released in 2007 featuring the hit single “Push It to the Limit” from “Jump In!” In the summer of 2007, Bleu completed a solo 45-city
concert tour. He recently released the single “Run It Back Again” from the Disney Channel Original Movie “Minutemen,” which was one of the top 10 downloaded songs on iTunes. Bleu was nominated for a 2008 NAACP Image Award for Best New Artist.

Bleu is involved with many children’s charities, including St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, Starlight Starbright and the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

**LUCAS GRABEEL (Ryan Evans)** appears in the upcoming “Milk,” the biopic of assassinated politician Harvey Milk starring Sean Penn, and the upcoming film “Lock and Roll Forever.” He also appears in the drama “Alice Upside Down.” Based on the successful “Alice” book series by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, the independent film stars Alyson Stoner, Luke Perry and Penny Marshall; it was included in the 2008 Santa Barbara Film Festival. Additionally, Grabeel’s recent film credits include “College Road Trip.” He starred in the Disney Channel Original Movies “High School Musical” and “High School Musical 2.”

Grabeel landed his first stage role at age 12 in the high school play “Secret Garden” and went on to star in local productions of “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown,” “Grease,” “Romeo and Juliet” and “Footloose.”

Grabeel’s professional acting career seemed destined when, on a Los Angeles visit with his high school senior class, he was approached by a talent manager while at the Santa Monica Promenade. Upon graduation, Grabeel moved to Los Angeles and signed with that talent manager, who still represents him.

He has since amassed other credits including starring roles in the popular Disney Channel Original Movies “Return to Halloweentown” and “Halloweentown High,” a recurring role on “Veronica Mars” and guest-starring roles on “‘Til Death,” “Boston Legal” and “Smallville,” in which he played a teenage Lex Luthor.

In 2006, Grabeel toured with “High School Musical: The Concert,” a sold-out 42-date arena concert tour throughout North America. After a break to film the sequel to the movie, the tour carried on through spring 2007 in Latin America. Grabeel also recorded the song “You Know I Will” for Disney’s animated movie “The Fox and the Hound 2.”

**MONIQUE COLEMAN (Taylor McKessie)** is best known for her starring role in the record-breaking and award-winning Disney Channel movies “High School Musical” and “High School Musical 2.”

She made it to the top four on ABC’s hit reality series “Dancing With The Stars,” and participated in the show’s live tour. She also performed in the sold-out 42-city national concert tour of “High School Musical: The Concert.”

Coleman had a leading role opposite James Earl Jones in the Hallmark movie “The Reading Room,” for which she received a 2006 Camie Award (Character and Morality in Entertainment). She had a recurring role on Disney Channel’s “The Suite Life of Zack & Cody,” and also guest starred on “Boston Public,” “Veronica Mars,” “Gilmore Girls,” “Strong Medicine” and “Malcolm in the Middle.” In
addition, she co-starred in the cable movie “The Ditchdigger’s Daughters” with Carl Lumbly and Dule Hill, for which she was nominated for a Young Artists Award. In Sept. 2007, Coleman served as co-host of ABC’s “The View.”

On stage in Chicago, Coleman starred in productions of “Noises Off,” “Polaroid Stories,” “The Real Thing” and “The Colored Museum.”

She has been selected as one of Teen People’s 25 Hottest Stars Under 25 and Teen Vogue’s Young Hollywood stars.

At a young age, Coleman enrolled in dance and piano classes and performed in more than 15 plays. After graduating from high school, she earned a BFA in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University in Chicago.

OLESYA RULIN (Kelsi Nielsen) returns to her starring role as the playmaker who inspires the Wildcats with her musical arrangements.

Born and raised in a small village four hours outside of Moscow, Rulin’s life changed completely when she moved to the U.S. with her family at age 7. Growing up in Salt Lake City, she studied ballet and acting and at age 12, she was discovered by Model Search for America. From that victory she was able to land an agent and began work as an actress.

Rulin’s dancing and singing talent earned her the role of Kelsi, the piano-playing pixie in both “High School Musical” and its sequel.

The talented young actress co-stars in the feature film “Major Movie Star,” opposite Jessica Simpson. The comedy, inspired by the hit Goldie Hawn movie “Private Benjamin,” also stars Vivica Fox and Cheri Oteri. Rulin portrays Simpson’s best friend in boot camp. In addition, Rulin will star opposite Billy Ray Cyrus in an independent film “Flying By.”

She is passionate about rescuing animals and has fostered and/or adopted many dogs over the years.

CHRIS WARREN JR. (Zeke Baylor) is one of the stars of Disney’s Teen Choice and Emmy Award®-winning hit movies “High School Musical” and “High School Musical 2.” He portrays Zeke, the basketball player who secretly loves to bake.


Warren’s family moved to California when he was 6 years old; he booked his first LA acting job less than 48 hours after arriving. In 2002, he landed the coveted role of young
‘Simba’ in the Broadway production of “The Lion King” and was also part of the national tour. Warren played football for his high school (2006 Mission League Champs) as running back on offense and was named All-League Linebacker in 2006 and 2007 on defense. He hopes to release his first single in 2008.

RYNE SANBORN (Jason Cross) stars as Wildcat basketball player Jason Cross in the Disney Channel Original Movie “High School Musical 2” and its predecessor, the Emmy Award®-winning “High School Musical,” which has reached more than 250 million viewers worldwide.

Sanborn (named after Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Ryne Sandberg) began modeling when he was 2. He costarred in the cable movie “Not in This Town” at age 7 and has since counted guest-starring roles on “Everwood” and “Touched by an Angel” among his television credits.

At age 13, Sanborn was selected by director and choreographer Kenny Ortega to be the centerpiece of the Opening Ceremony for the 2002 Winter Olympics. Sanborn’s role was to skate across the ice, lighting the hand-held lanterns along his path, until the entire Olympic Stadium was engulfed in glowing candlelight. He worked again with Ortega on “High School Musical,” which filmed in Salt Lake City.

An avid hockey player, Sanborn has played on competition Utah State teams since he was 8 years old. He currently plays with the Celebrity All Star Team in various charity games across the USA. His dream is to one day play for the USA’s Olympic Hockey Team and/or Snowboard Team.

KAYCEE STROH (Martha Cox) starred as the pop-and-lock girl in the Disney Channel Original Movies “High School Musical” and “High School Musical 2.”

Stroh began dancing at the age of 2, studying all forms of dancing. She eventually became a dance instructor. Her life changed forever when she took some of her dance students to a television movie audition. She caught the attention of director Kenny Ortega who cast her in the wildly popular “High School Musical” as a studious student who has a secret passion for hip-hop dancing.

BART JOHNSON (Coach Jack Bolton) reprises his role as Troy’s father from Disney’s global phenomenon “High School Musical” and “High School Musical 2.” From 2008-2009, Johnson has seven other films being released, including “The Cell 2” from the producers of “24,” and a thriller from the “High School Musical” producers called “Animal.”

On television, Johnson starred on the WB’s drama “Hyperion Bay” with Mark-Paul Gosselaar. He has also guest starred and recurred in dozens of TV shows, including “Las Vegas,” “Eve,” “JAG,” “CSI Miami,” “Tremors,” “Babylon 5,” “Strong Medicine,” “Clueless” and “Diagnosis Murder.”

In 2008, Johnson debuted as a writer/director with an 18-minute 35mm short film entitled “The Run.” Johnson took a cast and crew deep into the desert of Baja Mexico for 10 days. The film, shot entirely in Mexico, is a prelude to a feature-length film. Johnson has also penned two additional screenplays for his company Good Brothers Entertainment, both scheduled to begin production in 2008.

In 2006, Johnson bought The Johnson Mill Bed & Breakfast in Midway, Utah, which Redbook magazine named “One of the four most romantic inns in the country.”

In November 2008 Johnson will be driving in the off-road Baja 1000 race in Mexico. Sponsored by Monster, he will be racing a Sandrail with racing partner Ricky Schroder.

Dancer, singer and actress ALYSON REED (Ms. Darbus) brought to life the sage drama teacher in the popular Disney Channel movies “High School Musical” and “High School Musical 2.”

Reed has more than 37 years’ professional experience in television, film and theatre. As a performer, she made her Broadway debut in Bob Fosse’s “Dancin’,” followed by “Oh Brother!,” “Dance A Little Closer” and “Marilyn: An American Fable,” for which she received a Drama Desk Nomination for Best Actress for her performance as Marilyn Monroe. Reed won both Tony® and Helen Hayes Award nominations for her portrayal of Sally Bowles, opposite Joel Grey, in Hal Prince’s revival of “Cabaret.” She starred in Radio City Music Hall’s “Gotta Get Away” and the Roundabout’s “A Grand Night for Singing”—she can be heard on the cast album.

Other cast albums include “Oh Brother!” and “Do I Hear A Waltz?” Nationally, Reed has been seen as Catherine in “Pippin,” Cassie/Val in “A Chorus Line,” and Joanne Galloway in “A Few Good Men.”

Film audiences may remember her portrayal as Cassie in Richard Attenborough’s “A Chorus Line.” Her film credits also include Blake Edward’s “Skin Deep,” “Shop Girl” and “Manhattan Merengue.” Reed’s television credits include “CSI,” “Without A Trace,” “Eli Stone,” “ER,” “NIP/TUCK,” “Boston Legal” and “The George Lopez Show.”

As a child, the Anaheim native worked for Disneyland—first in 1972 “Alice in Wonderland’s” Alice in the holiday parade. She later performed in the theme park’s entertainment groups “Disney Company” and “Kids of the Kingdom.”
MATT PROKOP (Jimmy Zara) is quickly becoming one of Hollywood’s hottest, most coveted young stars.

He joins the cast as Jimmie “The Rocket” Zara, a basketball player who idolizes Troy Bolton.

Prokop landed the role after making appearances on the hit comedies “The Office” and “Hannah Montana.”

JUSTIN MARTIN (Donny Dion) displays his musical and dance prowess in “High School Musical 3: Senior Year” as the Wildcats’ ball boy and best friend/partner-in-crime to fellow sophomore Jimmy “Rocket Man” Zara.

Martin found that he loved to act at age 7 when he performed in the drama department of his church. After being discovered by a local talent agent, he was put to work in Atlanta doing commercials and local theatre. Two years later, he traveled to Los Angeles for a test run of the renowned pilot season and he was able to book back-to-back roles on “The Bernie Mac Show,” “Malcolm in the Middle,” three national commercials and the feature film “Doing Hard Time.” He returned to LA the following pilot season to book roles on “Judging Amy,” “Drake and Josh” and two national commercials.

In 2005, the talented young actor was chosen for the coveted role of Young Simba in Disney’s long-running “The Lion King” on Broadway. His performance drew the attention of the producers of the recent ABC adaptation of the Emmy®-nominated “A Raisin in the Sun” and he was cast opposite Tony Award®-winner Phylicia Rashad, Audra McDonald and Sean Combs. The telefilm was the first TV project to premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in January 2008.

In fall 2008, Martin stars in the drama “The Express,” the true story of the first black Heisman Trophy winner, portraying the role of Ernie Davis as a young athlete coming of age in the 1960s. The film also stars Dennis Quaid, Rob Brown and Charles Dutton. Martin costars in “The Soloist” opposite Jamie Foxx and Robert Downey Jr.; Martin portrays Foxx’s character as a boy. He also appears in “Black Water Transit” alongside Laurence Fishburne, Karl Urban, Stephan Dorff and Brittany Snow.
JEMMA McKenzie-Brown (Tiara Gold) was cast from thousands of hopefuls to play the new sophomore transfer student at East High.

In her native England, McKenzie-Brown has appeared in “The Amazing Mrs. Pritchard” alongside Jane Horrocks. Recently, she guest starred as Irena Ryfield in an episode of the television series “M.I. High.” For BBC Radio, she voiced a lead role in “The Monstrous Mother.”

McKenzie-Brown attends the highly prestigious Sylvia Young Theatre School in London, where she has been a full-time student since 2005. The Sylvia Young Theatre School is considered to be at the forefront of theatre schools in the United Kingdom. A resident of East Yorkshire, McKenzie-Brown makes a 3.5-hour journey every Monday to stay with a boarding family in London to attend the esteemed school during the week.

She has been training in performing arts from a young age and it was her local dancing school (Pamela Gray Dancing Academy) that suggested she join the specialist school in London to further her vocational and academic studies.

MANLY ORTEGA (Boi Evans) made his acting debut as the ostentatious canine sidekick to drama diva and country club queen Sharpay Evans, in the Disney Channel Original Movie “High School Musical 2.” He reprises his role for the upcoming big-screen feature film.

Master Manly Little Pickles of Fulton and Weddington (as his pedigree certificate reads) was a gift to Emmy Award®-winning director and choreographer Kenny Ortega.

Like many showbiz legends that have come before him, Manly, a Yorkshire Terrier, was discovered by sheer luck while visiting Ortega during the HSM2 rehearsals. As he worked on a chew toy, the brown-haired pup was spotted by Ashley Tisdale, who suggested to the producers that he’d be the perfect accessory for her character Sharpay.

Once plucked from the obscurity of his dog carrier and given the chance to shine on the small screen, newcomer Manly impressed the cast and crew with his self-assured, natural ability to nail his close-ups, allowing him to coast into the role of Sharpay’s dog, Boi. Although Boi is a boy, Sharpay loves to dress him in an assortment of ensembles that coordinate with her own look.

Manly currently resides in Los Angeles and is often seen canoodling with another Yorkie named Noodle. On the first day of production for HSM3, he became a father when Noodle gave birth to six puppies.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

KENNY ORTEGA (Director, Choreographer, Executive Producer) has amassed a body of work that is loved by millions worldwide. He is the director and choreographer of Disney Channel’s Emmy Award®-winning “High School Musical” and the sequel “High School Musical 2.” He has also directed and choreographed “High School Musical 3: Senior Year,” “Camp Rock,” “High School Musical: The Musical: The Series” and more than 20 other titles for the Walt Disney Company. He was recently honored with a star on Hollywood’s Walk of Fame.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS
Musical 2.”

Ortega created and directed the sold-out “Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus Best of Both Worlds” concert tour with special guests, Jonas Brothers. Spanning 70 dates and 58 cities in fall 2007 and winter 2008, the concert was filmed in state-of-the-art 3-D at several venues including Salt Lake City and St. Louis. The 3-D film, directed by Bruce Hendricks, produced by Art Repola, and featuring Ortega as he works with the young artists to prepare for the tour, was an unprecedented success.

He produces “High School Musical: The Ice Tour,” which debuted in fall 2007, and served as creative director for “High School Musical: The Concert,” which launched in fall 2006. The sold-out 42-date arena concert tour ran throughout North America and, after a break to film the sequel to the movie, carried on through spring 2007 in Latin America. Ortega also directed and choreographed the hugely popular Disney Channel Original Movie “The Cheetah Girls 2” in Barcelona, Spain.

He was nominated for a DGA Award for “High School Musical 2,” which has been seen by more than 286 million television viewers worldwide. For the original 2006 movie, which has been seen by more than 255 million viewers worldwide, Ortega won the DGA Award and the Emmy Award® for outstanding choreography with his team, Bonnie Story and Charles Klapow. The trio is also among the honorees at Dance Camera West’s inaugural Choreography Media Honors. The Imagen Foundation, which recognizes the positive portrayal of Latinos in media, honored Ortega with a Creative Achievement Award. Variety named Ortega Showman of the Year in Fall 2008.

He previously won two Emmy Awards® for Directing and Choreographing the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. Ortega received the Career Achievement honor at the American Choreography Awards in 2004.

Born to first-generation Spanish parents in Redwood City, California, Ortega began his career at age 13, performing in plays and musicals, including the production of “Oliver” with Georgia Brown.

In the 1980s, he became known for his stage direction and choreography of The Tubes, ultimately catching the attention of singer Cher, who asked Ortega to choreograph her television special. He became the most sought-after choreographer for the industry’s biggest musical artists, including Barbra Streisand, Madonna, Michael Jackson, Gloria Estefan, Elton John, Bette Midler and The Pointer Sisters.

When Ortega made the transition from stage choreography to film choreography, he had the honor of working with the legendary Gene Kelly on the feature film “Xanadu,” and then again on Francis Ford Coppola’s “One from the Heart.” Kelly taught him how to design choreography for the camera. Ortega went on to choreograph the hit films “Dirty Dancing,” “Ferris Bueller’s Day Off,” “Pretty in Pink” and “St. Elmo’s Fire.”

Ortega directed Walt Disney Pictures’ “Newsies” and “Hocus Pocus.” He also directed episodes of “Gilmore Girls,” “Ally McBeal,” “Chicago Hope” and “Grounded for Life,” garnering him an Emmy® nomination.

He has collaborated on numerous theatrical and large-scale outdoor spectacles. In the summer of 2007, he worked with Hugh Jackman on “The Boy from Oz” stadium tour in Australia. Ortega continues his work in Las Vegas, overseeing the production of “Lake of Dreams,” a new outdoor, multimedia show for the Wynn Hotel, and co-producing the grand openings of Wynn Las Vegas, Bellagio and Wynn Macau (China) with Steve and Elaine Wynn.
Ortega also choreographed the renowned dancing fountains outside the Bellagio Hotel.

**BILL BORDEN (Producer)** is the Emmy Award®-winning executive producer and creator of Disney Channel’s smash hit movie “High School Musical,” the sequel “High School Musical 2,” and producer of the feature film “High School Musical 3: Senior Year.”


He served as executive producer on “In the Mix” with R&B artist Usher, Steven Chow’s “Kung Fu Hustle” and Jackie Chan’s “The Medallion.” In addition, Borden was production executive of “Alien Nation,” “Midnight Run” and the writer of the upcoming Columbia Pictures feature “The Moscow Rave,” which shot in Russia. He also served as the supervising producer for foreign locations on “Mission Impossible III.”

Borden is a principal at T&C Pictures, which has recently produced and financed several movies in the State of Utah including “Lock and Roll Forever” and for MTV “The American Mall.”

In television, he executive produced the Disney Channel Original Movies “Tiger Cruise,” “Ring of Endless Light” and “Ready to Run,” as well as the network pilot “Alive & Kicking,” and movies-of-the-week “Body Language,” “Backfield in Motion” and “Blackout Effect.”

He attended California State University Northridge and did his graduate studies at the University of International Arts in Florence, Italy, in the field of Art Restoration.

**BARRY ROSENBUCH (Producer)** is the Emmy Award®-winning executive producer and creator of Disney Channel’s “High School Musical” and “High School Musical 2,” and producer of the feature film “High School Musical 3: Senior Year.”

Rosenbush is a veteran in the entertainment business with a 30-year track record. After graduating New York University’s Film School, he spent three years in the television commercial production business for Wakeford Orloff.

Rosenbush’s first film production assistant jobs included working for Woody Allen on “Annie Hall,” Gene Kirkwood on “Rocky” and Mardik Martin on “Raging Bull.” Rosenbush launched his own career with projects at Lorimar and Hearst Entertainment, eventually joining Kirkwood’s Koch/Kirkwood as vice president where he shepherded the films “Idolmaker,” “Pope Of Greenwich Village,” “A Night In Heaven,” “Gorky Park,” “The Keep” and “Ironweed.”

In 1986, Rosenbush started his own production company ROSY BUSHES INC., where he worked on a number of projects with ABC, TNT, Columbia Pictures and Tri-Star Pictures, including “Infidelity,” “Cold Sassy Tree,” “Zelly & Me” and “The Fisher King.” He formed a partnership with producer Bill Borden in 1990 and together they developed and produced the television movie “Backfield In Motion” for ABC.

In 1993, Rosenbush took a two-year sabbatical from show business to work as vice president of marketing for Hillside Coffee, assisting in taking the company public, and as a vice president of business development for United Investments, a venture capital firm.

Rosenbush rejoined Borden in 1995 to develop and produce a number of films and movies for television, including “Blackout Effect” and “Get On The Bus.” In 1999, Borden and Rosenbush joined Beacon Pictures to work on the development of several film projects,
including “Repairman Jack” from the F. Paul Wilson novels. In 2001, Rosenbush joined Dimension Pictures as a production executive on “Scary Movie 2,” and in 2003, he worked with Bruce Beresford as a production executive on the HBO movie “And Starring Pancho Villa As Himself.”

Rosenbush recently produced “American Pastime,” “Animals,” “The American Mall,” “Lock and Roll Forever” and “It’s The Music,” which was shot in Russia for Sony International and CTC.

DON SCHAIN (Co-Producer) produced Disney Channel’s “High School Musical 2” and the original “High School Musical,” for which he won an Emmy Award® in the Outstanding Children’s Programming category.

A veteran filmmaker, Schain produced more than 45 movies for big and small screens, including the Disney Channel Original Movies “Return to Halloweentown,” “Read It and Weep,” “Life Is Ruff,” “Buffalo Dreams,” “Halloweentown High,” “Going to the Mat,” “Pixel Perfect,” “Right on Track,” “The Luck of the Irish” and “Mom’s Got a Date with a Vampire.”

As producer, he oversaw production of the feature film “Little Secrets,” starring Evan Rachel Wood and Michael Angarano, and was producer for “Deep Winter” and “The World’s Fastest Indian,” starring Anthony Hopkins. In addition, Schain produced the cable movies “Paradise,” “Edge of America,” “Maldonado Miracle,” “Just a Dream,” “Nobody’s Baby,” “Partners in Crime” and “The Runner.”

From 1991-97, he was head of production for Leucadia Film Corporation and worked on such movies as “Just in Time,” “Wish Upon a Star,” “Windrunner,” “Just Like Dad,” “Breaking Free” and “Alan & Naomi.”

Schain is the president of the Motion Picture Association of Utah.

PETER BARSOCCHINI (Writer) wrote the Emmy Award®-winning Disney Channel Original Movie “High School Musical” and its sequel “High School Musical 2.” He was nominated for the prestigious Humanitas Prize for his work on the contemporary movie musical.

Barsocchini recently penned “Lock and Roll Forever.” He is the writer and producer of the adventure thriller “Cuba and the Night,” and is writing feature film and television projects for DreamWorks and HBO.

He began his professional writing career while attending high school in the San Francisco Bay Area, writing more than 300 columns about popular music for the San Mateo Times. He worked as a freelance stringer for the Associated Press and the San Francisco Examiner, as well as contributing reviews to the Associated Press and Rolling Stone. As a young journalist (age 16; he told editors he was 18), he spent weekends backstage at the legendary Fillmore West, covering artists such as Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Eric Clapton, The Grateful Dead, the Kinks and Elton John.

Upon graduating from the University of California, Santa Cruz, with a degree in creative writing, Barsocchini was hired by the Merv Griffin Company as an interviewer for the Merv Griffin Show. In 1979, he was named producer, a position he held for seven years. He won two Emmy® Awards as producer of a talk/variety program, becoming the youngest talk-show producer ever to receive the award.

Barsocchini produced two primetime specials, “Secrets Women Never Share” and its
sequel, “Secrets Men Never Share.” He also produced a one-hour special at the White House, featuring President Ronald Reagan and Mrs. Reagan, and was granted rare access to the first family’s private living quarters.

Barsocchini’s first novel, “Ghost,” was published to laudatory reviews in the late 1980s; Paramount purchased the screen rights, beginning Barsocchini’s transition to the film business. His action/thriller screenplay “Drop Zone” was produced by Paramount and starred Wesley Snipes. Barsocchini also wrote the novel adaptation of “Mission Impossible,” a book that was a bestseller in 13 countries.

**DANIEL ARANYO, A.E.C. (Director of Photography)** previously worked with director Kenny Ortega on the Disney Channel movies “The Cheetah Girls 2” and “High School Musical 2.”

Aranyo has shot a variety of movies and commercials in the U.S. and Europe. He won Best Cinematography awards at the Tribeca Film Festival in New York for the movie “Cross Bronx,” and at the Guadalajara Film Festival in Mexico for the movie “La Distancia.” His work has been chronicled in *The American Cinematographer* magazine.

Aranyo was born in Barcelona, Spain, and graduated with an MFA in Cinematography at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles.

**MARK HOFELING (Production Designer)** is a frequent collaborator with Kenny Ortega, having served as production designer on “High School Musical,” “High School Musical 2,” as well as “The Cheetah Girls 2” for Disney Channel.

Hofeling is a 20-year industry veteran whose recent projects include the upcoming “Dadnapped” and “Minutemen” for Disney Channel, as well as “Read It and Weep.”

Other film credits include “Edge of America,” “The Substitute 3,” “Just A Dream,” “Nobody’s Baby” and “Return to the Secret Garden.”

Hofeling also has numerous television movies to his credit including “Life Is Ruff,” “Go Figure,” “Buffalo Dreams,” and writer Sam Shepard’s “See You In My Dreams.”

His credits as art director include “The World’s Fastest Indian” and “The Maldonado Miracle.” He was assistant art director on “Con Air.”

Recent projects of **DON BROCHU (Editor)** include MTV Films’ “The American Mall” and Thomas Kinkade’s “Home For Christmas.”

His extensive film credits include “In The Mix,” “The Medallion,” “The First $20 Million Is Always the Hardest,” “Dudley Do-Right,” “Blast from the Past,” “Volcano,” “Chain Reaction,” “On Deadly Ground” and “The Fugitive,” for which he was nominated for an Oscar®. Other credits include “Beyond the Law,” “Under Siege,” “Lock Up,” “Mystic Pizza,” “La Bamba,” “Born in East L.A.” and “The Slugger’s Wife.”

Brochu began his career as an assistant editor on films such as “Tootsie,” “Against All Odds,” “Out of Africa” and “Alien Nation.”

**CAROLINE B. MARX (Costume Designer)** broke into the entertainment industry as a costumer on the popular FOX television series “In Living Color” where she learned both character definition with actors such as Jim Carrey, Jamie Foxx and the Wayans Brothers, and the use of combining fashion/dancewear while working with the Fly Girls, including Rosie
After three successful seasons, Marx left the hit show to become a costume supervisor on several series such as “Martin” before transitioning into features as an assistant costume designer on several films, including “Color of Night” starring Bruce Willis, and “Glory Daze” starring Ben Affleck, Sam Rockwell and Matthew McConaughey.

In 1996 Marx became one of the youngest designers to join the ranks of the Costume Designers Guild and began her career as costume designer on Mike Binder’s “The Sex Monster” and Daniel Water’s “Happy Campers” Her original designs for the film “Happy Campers” were featured on MTV’s “House of Style.”

On the small screen, Marx has also created the “Look” for numerous network television series such as the award-winning “Gilmore Girls” and HBO’s first sitcom “Lucky Louie.”


Marx’s costumes have been featured in many publications including Vogue, Spin, Paper and People magazines. Her costumes for “HSM3” have been featured on “Access Hollywood,” “Extra,” “Good Morning America” and the upcoming “Hollywood Green.”

CHARLES “CHUCKY” KLAPOW (Choreographer) is choreographer of Disney Channel’s Emmy Award®-winning “High School Musical” and its sequel “High School Musical 2.” Klapow can also be seen in front of the camera as part of the Wildcat basketball team and a principal dancer in all three movies.

For his work on “High School Musical,” Klapow won an Emmy® for Outstanding Choreography which he accepted with one of his mentors, Kenny Ortega, and fellow choreographer Bonnie Story. At the time, Klapow was the youngest person ever to win the Emmy for Choreography. The trio was also honored at Dance Camera West’s 2007 and 2008 Choreography Media Honors.


Klapow’s credits include the popular Disney Channel Original Movie, “The Cheetah Girls 2” and numerous national television commercials. He served for two seasons as co-director and choreographer of the Sparkids, a hip-hop squad that performs at all of the WNBA’s Los Angeles Sparks home games.

Klapow began dancing at age 10; by age 12, he was dancing for Patti LaBelle, Celine Dion, Salt-N-Pepa, Melissa Etheridge and Sheila E., among others, in an all-star concert for the Pediatric AIDS Foundation. He was featured in Paula Abdul’s music video “Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah.”

At age 15, while attending Van Nuys High School, Klapow was already assisting some of the most prominent choreographers of the time. He assisted Emmy Award®-winning choreographer and mentor Marguerite Derricks on “Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery,” “3rd Rock from the Sun,” “Fame L.A.” and more.

In the 1990s, together with best friend Wade Robson, Klapow created a dance company
called L.A. Images. He also choreographed music videos for Swedish pop group A*Teens and served as their tour director and choreographer for many years.

BONNIE STORY (Choreographer) is an Emmy Award®-winning choreographer for her work in “High School Musical.” For that movie and its record-breaking sequel, “High School Musical 2,” Story worked with acclaimed director and choreographer Kenny Ortega and Charles “Chucky” Klapow to create the critically acclaimed choreography.

Recent credits include the summer release from MTV Films’ “The American Mall” and the feature “Lock and Roll Forever,” along with the Sugar Bowl half-time show in New Orleans. Story attended Juilliard, the School of American Ballet, New York; she was a Ballet West and William F. Christensen scholarship recipient at the University of Utah, and danced with Ballet West. As a principal dancer, she danced in several ballet companies then moved to Los Angeles to study jazz, funk, modern dance and acting.

Her television and film performer credits include national commercials for MasterCard, Pepsi with Michael J. Fox and Shaquille O’Neal, Diet Pepsi with Ray Charles, and AT&T. She also performed in many music videos including Michael Jackson’s “Smooth Criminal” and the MTV Anniversary Show.

As a professional choreographer, Story has worked with many of the most well-known choreographers and directors in the entertainment business, including Kenny Ortega, Vincent Paterson and Toni Basil. She was co-choreographer for the Opening and Closing ceremonies for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah, and the movie “America’s Greatest Pastime.” She also choreographed an episode of “Touched by an Angel,” the Disney Channel Original Movie “Pixel Perfect” and an episode of “The Suite Life of Zack & Cody,” as well as numerous Disney Channel segments featuring Ashley Tisdale, Miley Cyrus and the Muppets.

Her other choreographer credits include assisting choreographer Vincent Paterson on a national Hummer 3 commercial, a Payless Shoe commercial in Canada, and a Norwegian Cruise Line national commercial. She also worked in Tokyo assisting and choreographing “Play Zone 2006,” an ambitious stage show with some of the biggest music artists in Japan.

Throughout her career, she has taught classes in dance education at the University of Utah, as well as other master classes. Up until recently, she has been the Associate Artistic Director of Odyssey Dance Theatre.

The music of DAVID LAWRENCE (Composer) has been featured in some of the biggest pop-culture hits in movie, television and music.

The ASCAP Award-winning songwriter wrote the music scores for the feature films “American Pie,” “American Pie 2,” “Ambulance Girl,” “Pop Rocks” and “Van Wilder.” For television, his songs were used in “Jericho,” “Beverly Hills, 90210,” “Miss Match” and “Still Life.” He also wrote the score to Hallmark Channel’s “Burt & Becca.”

Lawrence, along with his wife and fellow composer Faye Greenberg, penned one of the most popular songs with kids and tweens, “Stick to the Status Quo,” for the multi-Platinum soundtrack to “High School Musical,” the #1-selling album of 2006. He also composed the score for the movie.

For the eagerly anticipated sequel “High School Musical 2,” he and Greenberg co-wrote the songs “Fabulous” and “Humu Humu.”
For the Platinum-selling soundtrack to the hit Disney Channel Original Movie “The Cheetah Girls 2,” Lawrence wrote the underscore, the bilingual ballad “A La Nanita Nana” and, with Greenberg, the song “It’s Over.”

Lawrence’s songs have been recorded by Earth Wind & Fire, Diane Schuur, Randy Graff, Ann-Margret, Raven-Symone and Faith Prince.

He is a graduate of New York’s Mannes College of Music.

STEVEN VINCENT (Music Supervisor) is vice president, music and soundtracks, Disney Channel, a role he was promoted to in November 2007.

He is responsible for supervising the music used in original programming for kids and tweens seen on Disney Channel and series for kids age 6-11 seen on the Jetix action/adventure block. His job duties also extend to programming on ABC Family, part of Disney-ABC Television Group.

Vincent’s duties also include advising and collaborating with TV series and TV movie producers on licensed music and working with recording artists, lyricists and composers in conjunction with Disney Publishing, Walt Disney Records, Hollywood Records and Radio Disney.

His hits for Walt Disney Records include the soundtrack to the Disney Channel Original Movie “High School Musical 2,” which debuted at #1 on the Billboard charts; “Jump In” and “The Cheetah Girls 2” which debuted at #5 on the Billboard Top 200 album chart. The quadruple-Platinum-selling soundtrack for “High School Musical” made history as the first TV movie soundtrack to reach #1 on the Billboard Top 200 album chart, as well as entering the Billboard Hot 100 chart with an unprecedented nine songs. It was the top-selling album in 2006.

On the series side, the Disney Channel comedy series “Hannah Montana” has spawned two #1 albums – the double-Platinum “Hannah Montana 2/Meet Miley Cyrus” and the certified triple-Platinum “Hannah Montana.”

Among Vincent’s other credits are the hugely popular soundtracks in the DCOM franchise “The Cheetah Girls,” which yielded a double-Platinum-selling soundtrack, five other DCOM soundtrack albums and dozens of other Disney Channel Original Movies and series.

In 2006, Vincent’s extensive resume of creative and technical credits qualified him to become a recording voting member of the Grammy Awards®. In 2008, he was elected Governor of the Los Angeles Chapter of The Recording Academy.

Information contained within as of September 22, 2008.
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