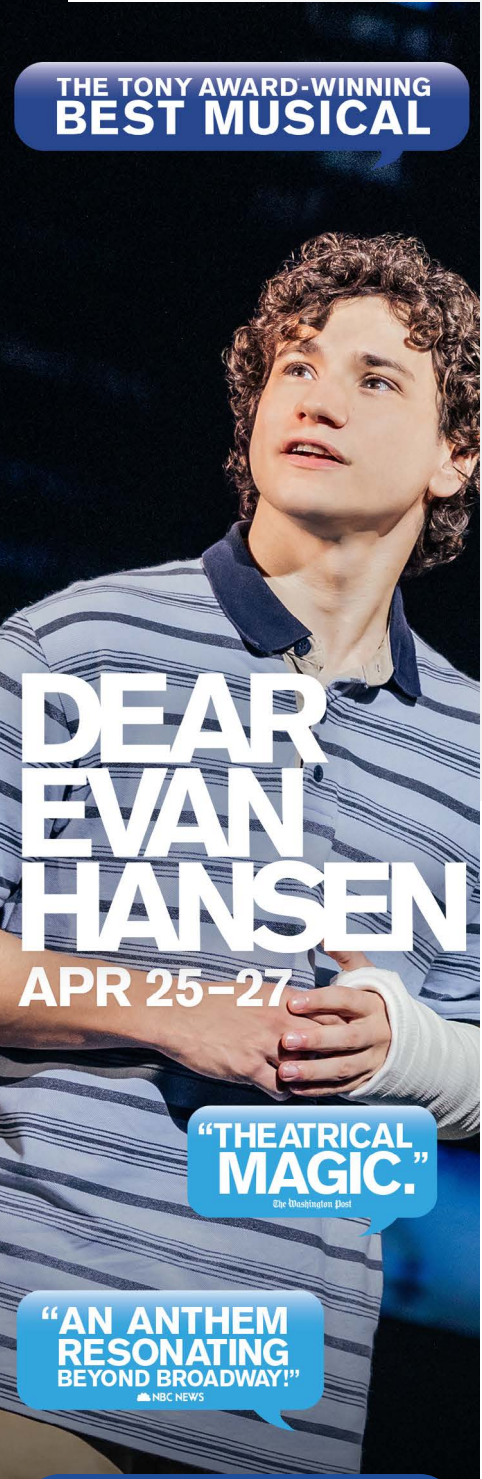


PALACE THEATER

SHOW INTEL

Season 2024–2025 | Issue 5: Dear Evan Hansen

THE TONY AWARD-WINNING
BEST MUSICAL



DEAR EVAN HANSEN

APR 25–27

“THEATRICAL
MAGIC.”
The Broadway Journal

“AN ANTHEM
RESONATING
BEYOND BROADWAY!”
NBC NEWS

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DEAR EVAN HANSEN
OR CALL 203.346.2000

ABOUT THE SHOW

Dear Evan Hansen is the first musical to take a groundbreaking look — from the point of view of both the parents and young people — at our complex, interconnected, and social media-filled lives.

Evan Hansen is a high school student who always feels like he’s on the outside looking in. Evan finally gets what so many of us are searching for — the chance to finally fit in. **What follows is a poignant, funny, and powerful musical about how even though it can be hard, we can find each other — and ourselves — along the way.**



*Michael Fabich and Bre Cade
Photo Credit: Evan Zimmerman for MurphyMade*

WATCH THE TRAILER FOR
DEAR EVAN HANSEN





Michael Fabisch and Hatty Ryan King
Photo Credit: Evan Zimmerman for MurphyMade

FUN FACTS

- *Dear Evan Hansen* was conceived of and created by Steven Levenson (book), Benj Pasek & Justin Paul (music & lyrics). The three collaborated throughout the whole writing and composing process.
- The Original Broadway Scenic Designer David Korins (*Hamilton*, *Bandstand*, *Beetlejuice*, *Motown: The Musical*) conceived of the technologically driven set to represent both the good and bad of the internet and the dual ideas of loneliness and connection that run through the show.
- The lighting in *Dear Evan Hansen* often acts as part of the scenery, defining areas and characters, and working in tandem with the moveable LED screens.
- The color blue is frequently associated with the character Evan Hansen during the show.
- After its premiere in Washington, D.C. (2015) and an off-Broadway production (2016), the show opened on Broadway in December, 2016 to great acclaim. It closed in 2022.
- The West End (London) production ran from 2019–2022.
- Among many awards, the show was nominated for 9 Tony Awards in 2017, and won 6 (including Best Musical, Best Book of a Musical, Best Original Score).
- In 2018, the cast recording won a Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album.

“ONE OF THE
**MOST REMARKABLE
SHOWS IN MUSICAL THEATRE
HISTORY.”**
The Washington Post

PASEK & PAUL

Benj Pasek and Justin Paul began working together as a composer/lyricist team at the University of Michigan. They had both grown up in families where music was valued and encouraged, which led them to both choose musical theater as a major. While in college, they both realized that their interest lay more in creating than performing. As undergraduates in 2005, they wrote a song cycle about growing up, “Edges,” whose popularity grew beyond campus thanks in part to the newly-launched social media platforms Facebook and YouTube. **After graduating, they became the youngest recipients of the Jonathan Larson Award, given to composers, lyricists, and librettists in the early stages of their careers.** Early projects included writing the score for an adaptation of *James and the Giant Peach* (2010), penning music and lyrics for *Dogfight* (2012), and contributing music to *A Christmas Story: The Musical* (2012).

***Dear Evan Hansen*, written with Steven Levenson, brought them worldwide recognition, winning awards and garnering accolades for both its subject matter, design concepts, heartfelt music and lyrics, and the use of social media as a storytelling device.**

Since then, the duo has kept busy, writing music and songs for television (including *Smash*, *The Flash*, and *Only Murders in the Building*) and film (lyrics for *La La Land* and songs for *The Greatest Showman*, among other projects). The Emmy Award for their song “Which of the Pickwick Triplets Did It?” from *Only Murders in the Building* **finalized their EGOT (Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony) status, Pasek and Paul are the first creative team to have won all four awards together.**



BENJ PASEK

JUSTIN PAUL

Photo Credit: Jenny Anderson



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