



News Release

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Media assets for The Bodyguard available [here](#).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

FULL CAST ANNOUNCED FOR AN ALL-NEW REIMAGINED PRODUCTION OF



***COMING TO E.J THOMAS HALL
OCTOBER 27 - 28, 2026***

(Akron, OH) — Producer **Crossroads Live North America** is thrilled to announce full casting of the North American tour of **THE BODYGUARD the musical**. Led by director **Samantha Saltzman**, the international award-winning smash-hit musical will play Akron at E.J. Thomas Hall at the University of Akron on Tuesday, October 27 & Wednesday, October 28 as part of the Broadway in Akron series presented by Playhouse Square. Tickets can be purchased by calling 216-241-6000 or online at playhousesquare.org. Group orders of 10 or more can be placed by calling 216-640-8600.

The cast is led by **Brooke Bailey** (*Rachel Marron*), with **Jonathan Blansfield** (*Frank Farmer*), **Erica Burkett** (*Rachel Marron-Alternate*), **Andrea Simpson** (*Nicki Marron*), **Keyshawn Brian Steele** (*Tony Scibelli*), **Anthony S. Goolsby** (*Bill Devaney*), **Ethan Hall** (*Stalker*), **Riki Stevens** (*Sy Spector*), **Carmelo Kelly** (*Fletcher*), and **Shiloh Prendergast** (*Fletcher*).

The cast also includes **Cedric Jamaal Greene**, **Cydney Heard**, **Tanner Jarrett Kirol**, **Joe Love**, **Lucy Mangion**, **Yurika Ono**, **Camal Pugh**, **Courtney Genoveva Saffold**, **Samantha Scott**, and **Scott Willits**.

Joining Saltzman on the creative team, **THE BODYGUARD the musical** features a book by **Alexander Dinelaris**, choreography by **Jim Cooney**, music supervision and additional orchestrations by **Darryl Archibald**, scenic design by **Christine Peters**, lighting design by **Craig Stelzenmuller**, sound design by **Joshua D. Reid**, costume design by **Whitney Locher**, hair and wig design by **Liz Printz**. Casting is by **ARC**. **Nate Coffey** is the Production Stage Manager, and **Joanne Holdeman** is the Company Manager.

Based on the 1992 film starring Whitney Houston and Kevin Costner, **THE BODYGUARD the musical** is a thrilling, romantic musical that combines high-stakes suspense with unforgettable music. Former Secret Service agent turned bodyguard, Frank Farmer, is hired to protect superstar Rachel Marron from an unknown stalker. Both expect to be in charge of their situation - what they don't expect is to fall in love.

A "BRILLIANT" (*The Times*), breathtakingly romantic thriller, **THE BODYGUARD the musical** features a host of unforgettable iconic songs made famous by Whitney Houston including "Queen of the Night," "So Emotional," "I Will Always Love You," "I Wanna Dance with Somebody," "Saving All My Love," and "One Moment in Time", alongside thrilling plot twists and emotional drama. **THE BODYGUARD the musical** is an electrifying combination of romance, suspense and chart-topping music that will captivate audiences from start to finish.

"There's something incredibly special about **THE BODYGUARD the musical** – it's a story audiences have loved for over 30 years, paired with some of the most iconic songs in music history," said director Samantha Saltzman. "We're honoring that legacy while creating a production that feels fresh, emotional, and deeply human on stage. It's the music you love, the story you remember, and a production that lets you experience it in a whole new way."

Originally produced in the West End of London by Michael Harrison and David Ian from 2012 to 2014, **THE BODYGUARD the musical** made its North American premiere at the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, New Jersey on November 25, 2016. After its limited engagement, the U.S. tour opened in Minneapolis, MN at the Orpheum Theatre on January 10, 2017 bringing the show to 42 cities across the country. **THE BODYGUARD the musical**'s continuous international success has brought productions in various languages across the world including the UK, Ireland and Monaco; Utrecht, Netherlands; Seoul, Korea; Australia; a West End revival; and many more countries.

Based on the Warner Bros film and screenplay by Lawrence Kasdan, **THE BODYGUARD the musical** is produced with the permission of Warner Bros. Theater Ventures, Inc. **THE BODYGUARD the musical** is presented through special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide, 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640 New York, NY 10036, www.theatricalrights.com.

The Bodyguard will play two performances at E.J. Thomas Hall October 27–28, 2026. Curtain for both performances is 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online at playhousesquare.org or by calling 216-241-6000. Group orders of 10 or more can be placed by calling 216-640-8600.

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www.bodyguardmusical.com

Playhouse Square, the nation's premier home for touring Broadway, is a globally recognized arts district. A not-for-profit presenter and producer of performing arts experiences, Playhouse Square is a champion of arts education and the vitality of downtown Cleveland. It proudly serves as home to eight resident companies: The City Club of Cleveland, Cleveland Ballet, Cleveland International Film Festival, Cleveland Play House, Cleveland State University Department of Theatre and Dance, DANCE Cleveland, Great Lakes Theater, and Tri-C JazzFest.

