



ERINN DIAZ was born in a car in Aurora, Colorado during a snowstorm, and her life has been a whirlwind since day one! She is the director, creator and choreographer of *Letters From Home*, and loves every second of touring life! While not working on *Letters From Home*, Erinn is the Artistic Director for her non-profit organization *Spring Theatre*, a theatre company in North Carolina that she passionately founded in 2013. Erinn is also the co-founder of *First in Flight Entertainment* which has offices in North Carolina and Chicago and entertains all throughout the United States of America. She has been working in the entertainment industry since she was barely walking, and has worked on over 250 theatrical productions nationwide, as well as being in several TV shows and movies. Erinn is also a published author, a national tap dance champion, has worked on-board cruise ships and toured with Cirque productions. She is married to the incredible *Letters From Home* manager Nelson Diaz.

*Erinn Says: My dad, Pat Dearth, was a veteran who served in the United States Coast Guard. When he first suggested to me that I produce a 1940's-style show, I just thought it would be a fun way to entertain and an opportunity to perform some great music. I had no idea at the time that this "little show" would have such a significant impact on my life, but more importantly on the lives of others. Since we started this show, we have had the opportunity to perform for literally thousands of heroes, including many World War II veterans. These incredible men and women are the reason we are free today. We have been honored to bring back happy memories and touch lives in a way that words alone can not express. A woman at one of our shows hugged me, sobbing tears of joy, thanking us for making her feel happiness that she hadn't felt in 60 years and never thought she could feel again. A man at a VA hospital stood up to hug us after a show as his nurses rushed to him in shock because he hadn't stood by himself in years. A WWII veteran departing on the Flights of Honor on the way to Washington DC to see his memorial did the jitterbug with me before returning to his wheelchair. I am so proud and humbled to call these brave men and women my friends. I have met true American heroes and truly feel I could never say thank you enough. My performance and this show are dedicated to my daddy, who passed away in 2015. I now proudly carry on his legacy with every performance with *Letters From Home*.*



NELSON DIAZ (LETTERS FROM HOME MANAGER) has always been a supporter and lover of the arts, and is passionate about providing the community quality entertainment. An official "Half-Back", Nelson grew up in New York, moved to Florida, and then came half-back to settle in North Carolina with his wonderful wife, Erinn Diaz. A graduate of Columbia University now turned entrepreneur. Father to three amazing kids, Max, Diana and Yoko, and "grandpa" to Caleigh. When Nelson is not touring with Letters From Home, he is the CEO of First in Flight Entertainment, and is a passionate business and life coach.

Nelson Says: If you haven't seen the face of a WWII veteran light up when we bring back those powerful and wonderful memories, you haven't experienced joy. If you haven't seen a 91 year old grab a hold of one of the performers and do the jitterbug as his caretaker then walks over and says to him, after the dance, "Here is the wheel chair you requested", then you haven't experienced gut wrenching laughter. If you haven't seen caretakers rush to a combat veteran at the VA Hospital who stood up from his wheel chair and walked over to hug one of the girls at the end of the show, but yet no one had ever seen him walk, then you haven't experienced the awesome magnitude of an emotional miracle. I have seen the faces of the men and women who have sacrificed so much for us. I have thanked them and this is what I hear the most as a reply.... "You are worth it." I tear up every time. It is why I feel so strongly about it and it is why we do this.



COURTNEY GROVES (PERFORMER WITH LFH'S AMERICA'S BOMBSHELL DUO SHOW) Courtney Groves was born in Minneapolis Minnesota and had a love for singing even before she was able to talk. Rumor has it that she could sing the entirety of happy birthday in tune before she was even willing to talk a full sentence. It didn't take long after that for her and her family to realize that performing was what she would be doing for the rest of her life. Courtney started competition dance at the early age of three and continued to dance in competitions around the United States until she graduated high school. During her youth she also did many theatrical productions through both school and theatre companies around the twin cities. After high school she knew there was no other choice for her but to learn more about what she loved. Knowing this,

she auditioned to enter the BFA program at the University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point and was lucky enough to be one of eight people to be accepted into their BFA program. After a tough but rewarding 4 years she graduated with a BFA in Musical theatre and has never looked back. Both during and after college Courtney has been in many theatrical, commercial, and film productions along with doing print work as well. Some of her most recent roles include Christine in Phantom, Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors, Pixie in the film Sad Clown, Rose in the show Savage Sentinels, and you may even have seen her as a Christmas elf in a Grandmas cookies commercial! Courtney is thrilled to get the opportunity to tap dance her way into people's hearts with Letters from Home and cannot imagine a better way to make people happy.