

Patrick Burns is a playwright, composer, actor and activist.

Burns holds a Bachelor's in Drama with honors from the University of California at Irvine where he studied musical theatre performance, acting, directing, musical direction and played four years on UCI's premiere improvisational troop, *Live Nude People (with clothes on)*.

During his time at UC Irvine, Burns was recognized as a Guardian Scholar, Medici Scholar, Undergraduate Research Opportunities Scholar, and Arts Bridge Scholar. He also received the Edna Helen Beach Award as well as the Steve Lyle Memorial Award, which is the highest achievement bestowed upon a drama department undergraduate. Burns is also a recognized Governor's Arts Scholar in California and studied at the California State Summer School of the Arts.

Burns was recently the resident musical director at the Red House Arts Center in Syracuse, NY where he has conducted productions of *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *The Music Man*, *Next to Normal*, *A Year With Frog and Toad*, *The Phantom Tollbooth*, *Tarzan*, *Godspell*, 25th Annual Putnam County *Spelling Bee*, *The Color Purple*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Seussical: The Musical*, *Oliver!*, *13*, *Big Fish*, *Dreamgirls*, *Into the Woods*, *Ragtime*, *Bring It On* and *Carousel*. Burns was honored with a Syracuse Area Local Theatre award for his work as musical director of *Carousel*. During this residency, he also directed the musicals *13* and *Bring It On* and composed music for productions of *Medea*, *The Penguin Tango*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Burns was the Assistant Conductor on the 2nd national tour of *Spamalot* the musical, playing of over 250 performances in 153 cities in the US and Canada. He has conducted pit orchestras in several regional productions on both coasts. Mr. Burns was the Assistant Musical Director at Sacramento Music Circus for four seasons assisting on over 25 productions and working with some of Broadway's best actors, directors, choreographers and conductors.

As an actor, Patrick appeared as Ryan Kendall in a staged reading of *8* at the Crest Theatre in Sacramento. Mr. Burns is a proud member of Actors' Equity whose acting credits include Claudio in East LA Classic Theatre's *Mariachi Much Ado About Nothing* and Lucas in the Los Angeles 10 year anniversary production of *Bare: A Pop Opera* at the Hudson

Theatre. At the Red House Arts Center in Syracuse, NY, Patrick has appeared in *As You Like It*, *The Cherry Orchard* and *Metamorphoses*. Other favorite Roles: *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* (Schroeder), *Ubu Roi* (Pa Ubu), *Seussical* (Yertle/Deaf Who), *Bat Boy the Musical* (Ned/Clem), *As You Like It* (Silvius), *Twelfth Night* (Curio/Priest), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Friar Frances) and spending four years on UCI's premiere improv troupe: *Live Nude People* (With Clothes On).

Burns has studied acting with Helen Hunt, Robert Cohen, Eli Simon, Don Hill, Keith Fowler, Michael Fields, Jen Colella, Brian Blythe, Michael Holmes, Myrona Delaney, Dennis Castellano, Gary Busby and more.

Patrick Burns' one-man-musical, *From Foster Care to Fabulous* was first presented by the Ahimsa Collective in Los Angeles in 2010. It has since received a workshop production at the UC Irvine Festival of New Musicals. The show was awarded a grant by the Puffin Foundation which funded a benefit performance for the Los Angeles based foster care organization *Fostering Imagination* in March 2011. Last summer, Mr. Burns performed the show in Alaska as a fundraiser for Bay Area organization Beyond Emancipation. *From Foster Care to Fabulous* had its New York debut this June at the Bleecker Street Theatre as part of the Planet Connections Theatre Festivity where it was nominated for *Best Solo Production* and *Best Solo Performance*. The show received the Planet Activist award for going above and beyond the call of duty while working with a charitable institution and raising awareness for a cause. *From Foster Care to Fabulous* continues to astound audiences regionally most recently playing as part of the 20th Annual New York International Fringe Festival.

Burns wrote the score to the musical *Madwomen*, which was featured as part of the UC Irvine Festival of New Musicals in 2012. The show is being further developed with UC Irvine and the Academy for New Musical Theatre.

Burns has been featured as a contributor on the entertainment section of *The Atlantic's* website.