

# PLAYBILL®

JTF 2022 ATLANTA



DIGITAL PROGRAM



The logo for the Junior Theater Festival '22. It features a red square with a white curtain and three black silhouettes of people with their arms raised. Below this is the word "junior theater" in a black, sans-serif font. Underneath that is the word "Festival" in a large, blue, stylized script font with a registered trademark symbol. To the right of "Festival" is "'22" in a black, sans-serif font.

# junior theater Festival<sup>®</sup> '22

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**THE JUNIOR THEATER FESTIVAL ATLANTA  
IS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FINE FOLKS AT iTHEATRICS:**



Timothy Allen McDonald, Susan Fuller, Lindsay Weiner Lupi, Steven G. Kennedy,  
Cindy Ripley, Marty Johnson, Rob Rokicki, Laura Jo Schuster, Daniel J. Mertzlufft, Jiana J. Odland,  
Joseph Ayala, Tammy Dinger, Mary-Catherine Chambliss, Alex Robertson

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**SPECIAL THANKS**

Caley Beretta, Alex Birsh, Philip S. Birsh, Jason Cocovinis, Drew Cohen, Logan Culwell-Block, Carol Edelson,  
Freddie Gershon, Myrna Gershon, Stuart Hendricks, John Higgins, Pearl Hodiwala, Ryan Macaulay, Bert Padovan,  
Daniela Padovan, John Prignano, Candace Reeder, Dan Rudin, David R. Scott, Kyle Smith

Thanks to the students at Columbus State University Department of Theater and Dance,  
Savannah College of Art and Design, Troy University Department of Theater and Dance,  
and all of our volunteers and JTF Interns!







**We're Back!**  
**Welcome to**  
**JTF Atlanta 2022**

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# The Team

Welcome back to JTF Atlanta! We are thrilled to be back at the Cobb Galleria Centre. So many people have been working behind the scenes to ensure this festival is chock-full of musical theatre magic, and we can't wait to share it with you! Before you run off to your pods, jump into a workshop, or try on your MUSICALSINC.com store swag, we thought we would take a moment to introduce ourselves. Say hey and hello to Team iTheatrics!

iTheatrics began in 2006 when fearless leader **Timothy Allen McDonald** (Founder and CEO) put together a core team, including Vice President of Publications **Steven G. Kennedy**, Director of Mainstage Programming **Marty Johnson**, Senior Education Consultant **Cindy Ripley**, and Senior Vice President of Publications **Susan Fuller**. These amazing folks, through hard work, an unwavering commitment to theatre education for young people, and a deep dedication to all things jazz hands, brought Broadway Junior® into the world.

Soon enough, the fabulous **Lindsay Weiner Lupi** joined the team as Vice President of Education and took on the (now colossal) task of JTF Administrator; then, the team gained Copyist and Composer **Rob Rokicki** (ever heard of *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*? Rob wrote that!). Creative Media Director and Publications Editor **Laura Jo Schuster** arrived next to help make sure every Broadway Junior ShowKit® is picture perfect. Music Associate and *Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical* composer **Daniel J. Mertzluft** arrived in 2015 and brought a little sparkle to the team, and in 2016 Program Director, DEI Advisor, and Jill-of-all-trades powerhouse **Jiana J. Odland** hopped on board. **Mary-Catherine Chambliss** has joined the team as Education Director after many years of collaborating as a teaching artist. Last but not least, former JTF kid **Alex Robertson** came onboard in 2021 as Producing Associate.



Since 2006, iTheatrics has been bringing musical theatre to young people everywhere. In a typical year, over 36 million people sit in the audience of one of our adaptations - three times the number of people who see a Broadway show each year. iTheatrics is committed to creating quality musical theatre programs for young people through our partnership with the Shubert Foundation/MTI Broadway Junior Middle School Musical Theater Program, which has built hundreds of musical theater programs in New York City Schools. We partnered with the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities and facilitated programs for Turnaround Arts, which used the arts to build successful schools. With former First Lady Michelle Obama, we presented in the first-ever White House Talent Show.

The Educational Theatre Foundation (ETF), in collaboration with iTheatrics and Music Theatre International (MTI), created JumpStart Theatre (JST), a three-year scalable program designed to create sustainable theatre arts programs in under-served middle schools where there were none. These programs are active in Cincinnati, St. Louis,

San Diego, Atlanta, Frostburg, and Detroit.

iTheatrics celebrates musical theatre education programs through our Junior Theater Celebrations held in New York City, the Blumenthal Center for the Performing Arts in Charlotte, North Carolina, and Shea's Performing Arts Center in Buffalo, New York.

The Junior Theater Festivals are the world's biggest and best festivals exclusively dedicated to musical theatre education. These festivals are held in Atlanta, Sacramento, and also internationally in the United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand.

iTheatrics works hard to make the world a better place, one musical at a time. We are committed to making sure every kid has the life-changing opportunity to make a musical. So, what are you waiting for? Rock those wristbands, warm up your voices, mask up, and get ready for even more musical theater magic. Welcome back to the Junior Theater Festival.

**#TeamiTheatrics**



# JTF 2022 SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 13

5:00 PM Festival Sign-In Opens

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 14

8:00 AM Optional Group Rehearsals Begin

9:00 AM Festival Sign-In Opens

4:30 PM Professional Development Sign-In/Orientation

5:30 PM Theatre Opens

6:00 PM *Festival Kick-Off!*

7:00 PM Adjudications Begin • Choreography Video Auditions • Tech Olympics • Student Workshops

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 15

8:00 AM Adjudications

1:00 PM Lunch (*on your own*)

2:15 PM Theatre Opens

2:45 PM *Direct From Broadway*

4:00 PM Student Workshops • Teacher Workshops

6:00 PM Dinner (*on your own*)

7:30 PM Theatre Opens

8:00 PM *New Works Showcase*

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

8:00 AM Choreography Video Callbacks

8:30 AM JTF All-Stars Workshop

9:30 AM Theatre Opens

10:00 AM *Growin' Up Broadway: LIVE!*

11:15 AM Student Workshops • Teacher Workshops

12:45 PM Lunch (*on your own*)

2:00 PM Theatre Opens

2:30 PM *There's A Place For Us*

3:30 PM *Freddie G Awards Ceremony*

5:00 PM Dinner (*on your own*)

7:30 PM Theatre Opens

8:00 PM *An Evening With Ali Stroker*



*the*  
★ **iTheatrics** ★  
**Method**

THE QUINTESSENTIAL GUIDE  
TO CREATING QUALITY  
MUSICAL THEATRE PROGRAMS



TIMOTHY ALLEN McDONALD, CYNTHIA A. RIPLEY & MARTY JOHNSON

**Available where books are sold.**



# 2022 New Works Showcase

This festival-favorite program celebrates brand new titles being released into MTI's Broadway Junior and One-Act Edition catalogues. Pre-selected groups from past Junior Theater Festivals perform selections from these new titles on the mainstage, complete with costumes, props, set pieces, and all the musical theater magic! Hosted by Timothy Allen McDonald, the *New Works Showcase* is not only a sneak peek at new titles and a great way to get excited about future productions, but also a chance to celebrate the fantastic performances of festival showcase groups.



**COMMUNITY THEATRE OF GREENSBORO**  
**GREENSBORO, NC**  
*DISNEY'S THE DESCENDANTS*



**WELLESLEY THEATRE PROJECT**  
**WELLESLEY HILLS, MA**  
*MTI'S BROADWAY JUNIOR REVUE:  
RAISE YOUR VOICE*



**MELODY LANE PERFORMING ARTS  
CENTER**  
**NORTH FORT MYERS, FL**  
*THE BIG ONE-OH! JR.*



**PACE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS**  
**JONESBORO, GA**  
*MTI'S BROADWAY JUNIOR REVUE:  
PURE IMAGINATION*



**NORTH TEXAS PERFORMING ARTS –  
FAIRVIEW YOUTH THEATRE**  
**FAIRVIEW, TX**  
*DISNEY'S FREAKY FRIDAY*

## Pod Schedule

### RED POD | Waverly - Habersham Ballroom

Friday, January 14

7:00 PM	Marietta Middle School	<i>Sister Act JR.</i>
7:30 PM	Oakland Middle School	Disney's <i>Beauty and the Beast JR.</i>
8:00 PM	Off Broadway Childrens Theatre	<i>Dear Edwina JR.</i>
8:30 PM	Mill Creek Musical Theatre	Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda The Musical JR.</i>

Saturday, January 15

8:00 AM	North Whitfield Middle School	Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Academy Team Rock Hill	<i>Seussical KIDS</i>
9:00 AM	Marietta Sixth Grade Academy	Disney's <i>Frozen JR.</i>
9:30 AM	The JET-PAC	<i>Legally Blonde The Musical JR.</i>
10:30 AM	Woodruff ACE Music	Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
11:00 AM	Preston Center Dance	Disney's <i>The Little Mermaid JR.</i>
11:30 AM	Pace School of the Arts	Disney's <i>Frozen JR.</i>
12:00 PM	Stopher Elementary	Disney's <i>The Lion King JR.</i>
12:30 PM	University School of Nashville	<i>Once On This Island JR.</i>

### ORANGE POD | Waverly - Ballroom I/II

Friday, January 14

7:00 PM	From the Top Theatrics	Disney's <i>Aladdin JR.</i>
7:30 PM	High Point Community Theatre	Disney's <i>Frozen JR.</i>
8:00 PM	CharACTers Children's Theatre	<i>Godspell JR.</i>
8:30 PM	InnoVATION Arts Academy	<i>Into the Woods JR.</i>

Saturday, January 15

8:00 AM	DMR Adventures	<i>Godspell JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Christian Family Theater	<i>Chitty Chitty Bang Bang JR.</i>
9:00 AM	BRAVO	Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
9:30 AM	The PACT Theatre Company	Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's <i>Mary Poppins JR.</i>
10:30 AM	British Academy of Performing Arts	Disney's <i>The Little Mermaid JR.</i>
11:00 AM	Northwestern Middle School	Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
11:30 AM	NGMSDrama	Disney's <i>Frozen JR.</i>
12:00 PM	Musical Mayhem Productions	<i>Seussical JR.</i>
12:30 PM	Creative Theater Workshop	Disney's <i>Aladdin JR.</i>





**SILVER POD | Waverly - Ballroom III****Friday, January 14**

7:00 PM	Olde Towne Hall Theatre	<i>Legally Blonde The Musical JR.</i>
7:30 PM	Decatur Community Players	<i>Disney's Frozen JR.</i>
8:00 PM	Mountain City Center for the Arts	<i>Singin' in the Rain JR.</i>
8:30 PM	The Rose Theater	<i>Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.</i>

**Saturday, January 15**

8:00 AM	Durant Road Musical Theatre	<i>Shrek The Musical JR.</i>
8:30 AM	The Biz Academy of Musical Theatre	<i>Oliver! JR.</i>
9:00 AM	Boothbay Region YMCA: YARTS!	<i>Madagascar - A Musical Adventure JR.</i>
9:30 AM	Broadway Center for the Arts	<i>Disney's Aladdin JR.</i>
10:30 AM	Innovation Drama Academy	<i>Singin' in the Rain JR.</i>
11:00 AM	Smoke Rise Academy of Arts	<i>Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.</i>
11:30 AM	Nashville Christian School	<i>Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
12:00 PM	Florida Academy of Performing Arts	<i>Junie B. Jones The Musical JR.</i>
12:30 PM	ACTivate LLC	<i>Shrek The Musical JR.</i>

**GREEN POD | Waverly - Ballroom IV****Friday, January 14**

7:00 PM	Studio Bleu Vocal & Theatre Arts	<i>Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.</i>
7:30 PM	Plaza Academy	<i>Fiddler on the Roof JR.</i>
8:00 PM	BCCT	<i>Disney's Moana JR.</i>
8:30 PM	Woodford Theatre Young Artists	<i>Meredith Willson's The Music Man JR.</i>

**Saturday, January 15**

8:00 AM	Play On Players	<i>Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Apex Performing Arts	<i>Disney's High School Musical 2 JR.</i>
9:00 AM	Lewisville Arts Conservatory	<i>Meredith Willson's The Music Man JR.</i>
9:30 AM	Forsyth Academy of Performing Arts	<i>Seussical JR.</i>
10:30 AM	Spotlight Squad	<i>Disney's Winnie the Pooh KIDS</i>
11:00 AM	Pittsboro Youth Theater	<i>Disney's Frozen JR.</i>
11:30 AM	City Kidz Playhouse	<i>Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins JR.</i>
12:00 PM	Uptown Music Theatre	<i>Seussical JR.</i>
12:30 PM	Red Mountain Theatre Company	<i>Meredith Willson's The Music Man JR.</i>

## Pod Schedule

### YELLOW POD | Waverly - Highlands Ballroom

Friday, January 14

7:00 PM	Humphreys School of Musical Theatre	Disney's <i>Aladdin JR.</i>
7:30 PM	Showtime Theatre Company	Disney's <i>Frozen JR.</i>
8:00 PM	Eastern Shore Repertory Theatre	<i>Seussical JR.</i>
8:30 PM	Northwest Theatre Lab	Disney's <i>The Jungle Book KIDS</i>

Saturday, January 15

8:00 AM	Forefront Arts	Disney's <i>The Little Mermaid JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Ohlook Performing Arts Center	Disney's <i>Beauty and the Beast JR.</i>
9:00 AM	Jeter Backyard Theater	Disney's <i>Moana JR.</i>
9:30 AM	Brylliant Acting Studio	Disney's <i>High School Musical JR.</i>
10:30 AM	First Stage Theatre Company	<i>Godspell JR.</i>
11:00 AM	Spotlight Players	<i>Guys and Dolls JR.</i>
11:30 AM	Nashville Theatre School	Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
12:00 PM	Moorestown Theater Company	Disney's <i>Moana JR.</i>
12:30 PM	SET Studios	<i>Shrek The Musical JR.</i>

### PURPLE POD | Waverly - Kennesaw Ballroom

Friday, January 14

7:00 PM	CAST Theatre	Disney's <i>The Little Mermaid JR.</i>
7:30 PM	First Redeemer Church	Disney's <i>Aladdin JR.</i>
8:00 PM	Kids On Stage	Disney's <i>The Lion King JR.</i>
8:30 PM	Folsom Academy Of The Arts	<i>Xanadu JR.</i>

Saturday, January 15

8:00 AM	Inspiration Stage	<i>Oliver! JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Texas Music Theatre Company	<i>Honk! JR.</i>
9:00 AM	Treehouse Theater	Disney's <i>Frozen JR.</i>
9:30 AM	City Springs Theatre Conservatory	<i>Children of Eden JR.</i>
10:30 AM	Raleigh Area Children's Theatre	Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
11:00 AM	The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati	<i>Legally Blonde The Musical JR.</i>
11:30 AM	Seattle's Performers	<i>Singin' In the Rain JR.</i>
12:00 PM	The Actor's Charitable Theatre	Disney's <i>Moana JR.</i>
12:30 PM	The Lighthouse Theatre Company	Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's <i>Mary Poppins JR.</i>





## GOLD POD | Cobb - Ballroom A/B Saturday, January 15

8:00 AM	Melody Lane Performing Arts Center	Disney's <i>Beauty and the Beast JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Carpe Artista	<i>Seussical JR.</i>
9:00 AM	Encore Theatrical Company	<i>Children of Eden JR.</i>
9:30 AM	Masquerade Theatre	Roald Dahl's <i>Matilda The Musical JR.</i>
10:30 AM	Edge Dance & Performing Arts Center	<i>Shrek The Musical JR.</i>
11:00 AM	North Texas Performing Arts	Disney's <i>Moana JR.</i>
11:30 AM	Southeast Alabama Community Theatre	<i>Dear Edwina JR.</i>
12:00 PM	Riverside Theatre	Disney's <i>Beauty and the Beast JR.</i>

## BLUE POD | Cobb - Ballroom C/D Saturday, January 15

8:00 AM	Carolina Academy of Performing Arts	<i>Peter Pan JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Granbury Theatre Academy	Disney's <i>Beauty and the Beast JR.</i>
9:00 AM	MelloDrama Productions	Disney's <i>The Lion King JR.</i>
9:30 AM	Spotlight Theatre Productions	<i>Children of Eden JR.</i>
10:30 AM	Bay Area Performing Arts & Casting	<i>Once On This Island JR.</i>
11:00 AM	Sunny Side Theater	Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's <i>Mary Poppins JR.</i>
11:30 AM	Myrtle Beach Area Children's Theater	Disney's <i>The Lion King JR.</i>
12:00 PM	New Spark Performing Arts	Disney's <i>Moana JR.</i>

## LIME POD | Cobb - Ballroom E Saturday, January 15

8:00 AM	Wings Performing Arts	Disney's <i>High School Musical JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Florida Rep Education	<i>Legally Blonde The Musical JR.</i>
9:00 AM	SAC Youth Arts Ambassadors	<i>Godspell JR.</i>
9:30 AM	Spark Theater Company	<i>Oliver! JR.</i>
10:30 AM	Acting Upon Faith Productions	<i>Xanadu JR.</i>
11:00 AM	Wellesley Theatre Project	Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's <i>Mary Poppins JR.</i>
11:30 AM	Holly Performance Academy	<i>Guys and Dolls JR.</i>
12:00 PM	Mercury Theatre Company	<i>Sister Act JR.</i>

## MAGENTA POD | Cobb - Ballroom F Saturday, January 15

8:00 AM	The Studio of The Sooner Theatre	<i>Shrek The Musical JR.</i>
8:30 AM	Magic Curtain Productions	<i>Bugsy Malone JR.</i>
9:00 AM	Snellville Performing Arts	<i>Into the Woods JR.</i>
9:30 AM	Momentum Arts	Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's <i>Mary Poppins JR.</i>
10:30 AM	Center Stage Academy	<i>Godspell JR.</i>
11:00 AM	Community Theatre of Greensboro	Disney's <i>High School Musical JR.</i>
11:30 AM	Stars that Act!	Disney's <i>Beauty and the Beast JR.</i>
12:00 PM	Red Phoenix Theatre Company	<i>Legally Blonde The Musical JR.</i>

## Growin' Up Broadway: LIVE!



Want the inside scoop from Broadway professionals? *Growin' Up Broadway: LIVE!* features JTF founder Timothy Allen McDonald and iHeartRadio Broadway's Sarah Jane Arnegger hosting Broadway's brightest up-and-comers, with career conversations, personal stories, the occasional quiz game, and, of course, unforgettable performances.

## Direct From Broadway



JTF welcomes back *NEWSIES* to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Broadway production. Join original cast members as they chat about their past, present, and future with *NEWSIES*! Learn the incredible “story-behind-the-story” and share in the robust energy that has inspired productions around the globe. Get ready to SEIZE THE DAY with exclusive performances, captivating interviews, and a few surprises. #newsiesforever

## There's A Place For Us



iTheatrics' Education Programming Director and DEI Advisor Jiana Odland leads a panel of star performers discussing the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the theater – come for the chat, stay for the unforgettable performances! Don't miss these brilliant superstar professionals discuss their personal experiences and ways to build a brighter future for young people in theater.





## Sunday Night Concert

**The final event at the Junior Theater Festival, the concert brings every attendee back to the Broadway Junior Theatre for a professional concert from a Broadway star. The 2022 concert will feature groundbreaking Tony® Award winner Ali Stroker, live at the Junior Theater Festival!**



### ALI STROKER

Ali Stroker won the 2019 Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical for her role as 'Ado Annie' in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Oklahoma!* She next stars as a series regular in Netflix's upcoming limited series, *Echoes*. Last winter, she starred in the Lifetime holiday film, *Christmas Ever After*. She made history as the first actor in a wheelchair to appear on Broadway in Deaf West's acclaimed 2015 revival of *Spring Awakening*. She starred in 12 episodes of *The Glee Project*, culminating in a guest role on Fox's *Glee*. Ali will be seen in a key recurring role in the upcoming final season of Netflix's *Ozark*. She recurred in Hulu's *Only Murders in the Building*, the ABC series, *Ten Days in the Valley* and guest starred on CBS' *Blue Bloods*, Freeform's *The Bold Type*, Fox's *Lethal Weapon*, CBS' *Instinct*, The CW's *Charmed* and Comedy Central's *Drunk History*. She recently co-wrote a novel, *The Chance to Fly*, which was released by Abrams Books. She's performed her cabaret act at Green Room 42 and solo'ed at the Kennedy

Center in Washington, DC, New York's Town Hall, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts and Carnegie Hall. Her mission to improve the lives of others through the arts, disabled or not, is captured in her motto: "Turning Your Limitations Into Your Opportunities."



### JOHN FISCHER

John Fischer has been a music director and pianist in NYC for over 20 years. He made his Lincoln Center debut in 2020, music directing for Tony award winner, Ali Stroker, in her sold out AMERICAN SONGBOOK concert. This will be his 14th year as music director for BROADWAY'S RISING STARS at the famed Town Hall NY, where he also worked on numerous BROADWAY ORIGINALS concerts. He spent 7 seasons as music director for the highly acclaimed musical theatre program at

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in the Berkshires. His last season saw him working hand in hand with Stephen Schwartz and Chet Walker on the creation of a new ballet, *The Boy on the Roof*. He has also appeared in the symphony world as a guest artist with the Santa Ana Symphony Orchestra in *Music of the Knights*, and the Signature Symphony in Tulsa for a Bernstein/Robbins celebration. In NYC, he is a regular fixture at Feinstein's/54 Below, music directing everything from Sondheim to Sinatra. Recent highlights include Alice Ripley and Emily Skinner's sold out run of *UNATTACHED*, and the 25th Anniversary concert of *JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT*, part of the award winning 54 SINGS series for which he also music directed *APPLAUSE*, *MACK & MABEL*, and *KISS OF THE SPIDERWOMAN*. Other NY credits include pianist for the previous Broadway revival of *WEST SIDE STORY*, pianist/conductor for *TALK OF THE TOWN* Bank Street Theatre, *TAKE ME ALONG* Irish Rep, *NAKED BOYS SINGING* at New World Stages, and much more. He has been on staff at *Applause NY*, *The Growing studio*, *AMDA*, *HB Studios*, *The New School*, and the *Lee Strasberg Theatre and Film Institute*.

## **THE JTF ATLANTA MUSICALSINC.COM ONLINE STORE IS OPEN!**

COVID might mean we can't have an in-person MUSICALSINC.COM store, but it doesn't mean you can't take home JTF merch! The MUSICALSINC.COM online store is open and taking orders for in-person pick-up during JTF Atlanta! Order now and you can wear your new JTF swag during the festival!

### **HOW TO SHOP:**

1. The MUSICALSINC.COM Online Store is open through **Saturday, January 15th at JTF Atlanta!**
2. Go to MUSICALSINC.COM or on the JTF app click on MUSICALSINC.COM Store. Orders are not available for shipping and will only be fulfilled in person at the festival.
3. When ordering please be sure to include your group name. Merchandise will only be available for pick up at the festival by a designated member representing your group.

### **WHEN TO SHOP:**

- Orders placed by **5pm on Tuesday, January 11th** will be given to your group's director at Festival Sign-In.
- Orders placed between **5pm on Tuesday, January 11th to 10pm on Thursday, January 13th** will be **ready for pick up on Friday**. Your group will be assigned a pick-up time and one designated person from your group can pick up your group's items.
- Orders placed between **10pm on Thursday, January 13th to 10pm on Friday, January 14th** will be **ready for pick up on Saturday**. Your group will be assigned a pick-up time and one designated person from your group can pick up your group's items.
- Orders placed between **10pm on Friday, January 14th to 10pm on Saturday, January 15th** will be **ready for pick up on Sunday**. Your group will be assigned a pick-up time and one designated person from your group can pick up your group's items.

**No orders can be placed after the online store closes on  
Saturday, January 15th at 10pm.**

## IMPORTANT ITEMS TO NOTE:

- Merchandise stock is extremely limited; early ordering is strongly recommended.
- **All orders are delivered in person during JTF Atlanta only. No orders will be shipped to homes.**
- The MUSICALSINC.COM store is not currently accepting any orders for shipping to homes.
- **Orders cannot be changed once submitted.**
- You will be able to order merch when you are in Atlanta, but no, there will be no physical pop-up store and no items to look at in person.
- Items purchased on MUSICALSINC.COM during the festival will only be delivered as outlined above (see “WHEN TO SHOP”).
- If you want your director to pick up your merch at sign-in, you must order by **Tuesday, January 11th at 5pm ET.**

## CUSTOMER SERVICE

Our fabulous merch folks will be live in Exhibition Hall A in the Cobb Centre to answer any questions that might pop up at the following times:

Saturday, January 15th      12:30pm - 2:30pm

Sunday, January 16th      9:00am - 10:00am  
4:45pm - 7:30pm

Need answers sooner?

Send all JTF Merchandise inquiries to [joseph@musicalsinc.com](mailto:joseph@musicalsinc.com).

**ALL SALES ARE FINAL, NO RETURNS OR EXCHANGES.**





# 2022 Junior Theater Festival iTheatrics



## Timothy Allen McDonald

*Founder and Executive Producer*

Tim is the Founder and Producer of Junior Theater Festivals Worldwide, serving over 15,000 musical theatre makers annually, and the Founder and CEO of iTheatrics. Tim has adapted over 125 musicals for the education market, ranging from *Xanadu JR.* to *Annie JR.* An estimated 36 million people attend one of these productions annually, which prior to the pandemic, was three times the number of people who attend a show on Broadway each year.

In 1997, Tim moved to New York City from Northern California to become a musical theatre librettist. Credits include Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach* (Pasek and Paul), Roald Dahl's *Willy Wonka* (Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley), and *The Big One-Oh!* (Doug Besterman, Dean Pitchford), which was reimagined as the world's first "Zoomsical" and one of the most produced musicals during the 2020-2021 pandemic. In addition, McDonald penned *Hans Christian Andersen* (Frank Loesser), which opened at Nashville Children's Theater February 20, 2020; *Between The Lines* (Samsel and Anderson) which will open Off-Broadway in June of 2022, *The Book Thief* (Samsel and Anderson), opening in the U.K. fall 2022, and *Breathe* written with Jodi Picoult and five songwriting teams (Rob Rokicki and Rebecca Murillo, Daniel J. Mertzluft and Kate Leonard, Doug Besterman and Sharon Vaughn, Douglas Lyons and Ethan Pakchar, Marcy Heisler and Zina Goldrich) which has been inducted into the Library of Congress. The cast album is available from Broadway Records featuring a star-studded cast including Broadway royalty Brian Stokes Mitchell and Kelli O'Hara. In December of 2021 Tim opened Jim Henson's *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas* at the New Victory Theatre in the Broadway Box. The New York Times hailed the show as "superb," "heart-whole beautiful," and a "message that celebrates fellow feeling and mutual care"... which "is especially welcome right now."

Tim is the co-author of *The iTheatrics Method: The Quintessential Guide to Creating Quality Musical Theatre Programs*, the world's first-ever educational musical theatre textbook (GIA Publications, Inc.), which is available everywhere books are sold. Tim dedicates this festival to our teachers, who continue to make the world a better place one musical at a time, despite the odds.



## Susan Fuller

*Director of Production*

Susan's theatre career began in the third grade when she starred as the title character in *Miss Louisa and The Outlaws*. It wasn't until her sophomore year of high school when her drama teacher made her the stage manager of the spring musical that she realized (for her) backstage is where the theatre magic really happens. Susan is an Equity Stage Manager with a BFA in Theatre Design and Production from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Her involvement with Broadway Junior® started in 2001 when she served as Production Stage Manager for the pilot of *Les Misérables School Edition*. Susan has been a part of iTheatrics from day one (although how many summers that includes is the topic of some debate), where she is the Senior Managing Editor, overseeing the publication process for all materials released by iTheatrics, from adapted titles to study guides and educational materials currently circulating in classrooms worldwide. She is married to a ridiculous man who thinks she's hysterically funny and the mom of two school-aged gingers, Beckett and Gus.



## Lindsay Weiner Lupi

*Director of Festival Administration*

Lindsay (she/her) was part of the first generation of young people to experience the transformative power of the arts through Broadway Junior®. She made her theatrical debut as a seven-year-old with no front teeth, playing the role of Molly in *Annie*. Subsequently, she played the role of Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof JR.* and then continued her work with Broadway Junior® as the Music Director of multiple pilot productions at North Shore Music Theatre. It was there she met Marty Johnson, which led her to join the iTheatrics team after receiving her BFA in drama from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. At iTheatrics, Lindsay serves as the Vice President of Education and as the Music Supervisor, where she has music directed, musically adapted, and/or helped creatively shape over 90 adaptations for Music Theatre International, Disney Theatricals, Tams-Witmark, The Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization, and Samuel French. Additional music directing credits include the Disney+ series *Encore!*, NYMF, multiple national tours, and *The Sign of the Seahorse* and *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley JR.* for the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center. She holds an MA in Music and Music Education from Teachers College at Columbia University. Proud mom of six-year-old Tucker and four-year-old Talia! @lindsayariennelupi



## Steven G. Kennedy

*Director of Choreography Videos*

Steven has done some stuff, taught some people, and traveled to some places, but by far one of his greatest joys was performing in the ensemble of musicals all over the world.

To all of you wonderfully talented young performers, teachers, directors, and especially parents, please remember that being in the ensemble of a show is a life-changing and powerful experience – never to be discredited or discounted, but celebrated! Steven is the proud husband of Tim McDonald and is honored to be the caretaker of a pretty cool puppy named Duch.



## Cindy Ripley

*Director of Professional Development*

Cindy is the Senior Educational Consultant for iTheatrics, leading workshops for kids and teachers across the country. She is the “go to” guru for MTIs online Show Support and

Cindy Says for the Broadway Junior Collection. Cindy piloted the first Broadway Junior production of *Annie JR.*, and developed the first Broadway Junior Director’s Guide. She was proud to be selected for USA Today’s All-Star Teacher Team and most recently has served as a teaching artist for the Kennedy Center and the President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities. Cindy is a co-author of *The iTheatrics Method: The Quintessential Guide to Creating Quality Musical Theatre Programs* published by GIA Publications, Inc. and finds the recipe comprised of young people, teachers, parents, musical theatre and enthusiasm priceless!



## Marty Johnson

*Director of Programming*

Named by Playbill.com as one of the top ten educators who are shaping Broadway, Marty first became involved in the world of musical theatre when he was 10 years old and his

4-H club put on an unforgettable rendition of *Peter Pan* - for which he made his own top hat. Marty has continued his work in the area of Theatre Education for over 25 years and has been fortunate to direct and teach workshops throughout the world including Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain, China, and literally across the entire United States. He currently works as an Educational Consultant for such companies as XIX Entertainment, the Junior Theatre Group (producers of the international Junior Theatre Festivals), and iTheatrics, where he has adapted and directed pilot productions of over 50 new educational titles. In 2018, Marty was honored to direct the first Turnaround Arts National Talent Show held at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC. Additional recent credits include the world premiere of two musicals written by Laurie Berkner,

*Interstellar Cinderella* and *The Amazing Adventures of Harvey and the Princess*, for New York Children’s Theater, and the world premiere of the new musical *Llama Llama Live!* for Bay Area Children’s Theater. Marty holds a graduate degree in Theatre for Youth from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and served for nine years as a board member for TYA/USA, the leading organization for the advancement of theatre for young audiences in the world. He is the proud co-author of *The iTheatrics Method: The Quintessential Guide to Creating Quality Musical Theatre Programs*, published by GIA Publications, Inc.



## Rob Rokicki

*Music Associate*

Rob Rokicki is a New York based writer, performer and composer/lyricist. He wrote the music, lyrics and co-orchestrated the Broadway show, *The Lightning Thief: The Percy*

*Jackson Musical* (book by Joe Tracz). The piece was nominated for Lortel, Off-Broadway Alliance, and three Drama Desk Awards, including Outstanding Musical, before touring across North America. He’s had a wide variety of collaborators and projects including the graphic novel musical, *Monstersongs*, with award-winning illustrator David O’Neill (World Premiere Recording from Broadway Records, selected for the National Alliance for Musical Theatre, played London and Japan, and is in development as a Virtual Reality video game). His immersive musical, *Experience Marianas*, was developed at Cap21/Molloy College, a semi-finalist for the O’Neill National Musical Theatre Conference, and workshopped in the UK with Grace Taylor (*Six*). He is co-arranging and orchestrating *Punk Rock Girl* (book by Joe Iconis), and was a writer on the streaming musical *Breathe*, with book by Timothy McDonald and New York Times Best Selling novelist Jodi Picoult. Rob’s been commissioned to write pieces for The Kennedy Center, Bay Area Children’s Theater, along with scoring the films *The Real Gemma Jordan* (with Anna K. Jakobs), *Dividends*, and *Gingerbread House*. Other credits include: *Strange Tails* (with Michael Ruby); *Eleven Eleven* (The Pitch & USC); *The Listing* (horror/comedy radio play); *Love NY* (American Harmony Award). Rob is a two-time Larson Award finalist, alum of the Tony Award winning BMI writing workshop and graduate of the University of Michigan. Rob is a proud educator and believes in accessibility for creators and audiences.

robertrokicki.com @rrokicks



## Laura Jo Schuster

*Director of Volunteers and Interns*

Laura Jo's love for musical theater began in the sixth grade after being cast as an orphan in the school production of *Annie*. She eventually chose to pursue a career in theater and received a BS from the University of Evansville, then promptly moved to New York City. Laura Jo freelanced as a writer, editor, proofreader, and a transcriptionist before joining iTheatrics in 2012. As Associate Editor, Laura Jo helped publish more than 60 shows for young people. She is delighted to be back at JTF helping make musical theater magic!



## Daniel J. Mertzlufft

*Mainstage Music Supervisor*

Daniel (he/him) is a NYC based composer, arranger, and music director, best known for his viral sensations *The Thanksgiving Musical* on *The Late Late Show with James Corden*, and serving as Music Supervisor, Arranger and Songwriter for *Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical*, after launching the movement on TikTok with Emily Jacobson. Original works: *Breathe: A New Musical*, *Dot and The Kangaroo*, *far memory*, commissioned by Fall Island Vocal Arts Seminar, and *Construction Site on Christmas Night*, commissioned by Bay Area Children's Theatre. He is a member of the advanced class of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop. Music Direction credits: Off-Broadway: *Sistas*, *54 Below Sings - ABBA*, *Ariana Grande*, *Pop Hits of the 2000s*, *The Jonas Brothers*. Readings: *Monstersongs* (NAMT), *The Big One-Oh!* TYA, and *Hans Christian Anderson TYA* (The Kennedy Center's New Visions, New Voices). iTheatrics Workshops: *Heathers HSE*, *Chicago HSE*, *Mary Poppins JR.*, *G2K... Footloose*, *Newsies JR.*, *Sister Act JR.*, *The Drowsy Chaperone JR.*, *My Fair Lady School Edition*, *Finding Nemo JR.* As an educator, he leads workshops at the international Junior Theater Festivals, Junior Theater Celebrations throughout the United States, and specialized music workshops for the Shubert Foundation and the NYC Department of Education. @danieljmertzlufft



## Jiana J. Odland

*Company Manager*

Jiana Odland (she/her) grew up just outside of Chicago, Illinois and was immediately absorbed into the world of musical theatre at the age of six. Ten years later, she met the fine folks at iTheatrics when she stage managed one of their pilot workshops. After school, she joined the international music theatre outreach organization *The Young Americans* and spent four years touring North America, Europe, and Asia as a performer, lighting designer, business manager, and musical theatre educator. She has helped produce live events across America for major companies such as Nike, Toyota, and Sonos Digital. Jiana is thrilled to have found her way back to iTheatrics as the Program Director and the DEI Advisor. At iTheatrics, she produces, directs, and choreographs for the iTheatrics Academy; works with various educational partnerships such as the Shubert Foundation/NYC Department of Education, Turnaround Arts, and Jumpstart Theater; and manages the Junior Theater Festivals worldwide as well as the Junior Theater Celebrations. As the DEI Advisor, Jiana produces, writes, and hosts panels on diversity, equity, and inclusion. She conceives, and creates content for the iTheatrics and Junior Theater Festival social media channels, as well as writes material for the published ShowKits and Production Guides. Jiana is passionate about driving initiatives for a more inclusive theater and committed to creating equitable space for young theatre artists. In 2018, Jiana choreographed a nationwide music video for Turnaround Arts, working with Misty Copeland, Jason Mraz, and Paula Abdul. When not working at the i, you can catch Jiana producing and performing in the New York City cabaret circuit, or playing with her best friend, Chicago the Doggo. Jiana is so grateful for the opportunity to keep sharing musical theatre with the world! @jianaodd



## Joseph Ayala

*Director of Information Technology*

Joseph began his career 25 years ago at Music Theatre International. He has been working at iTheatrics since its beginning. He is the owner of the IT company Artisan Systems and the online store MusicalsInc.com. Joseph holds a BFA from The School of Visual Arts. He's proudest of his niece Natalie and nephew A.J. and beyond proud of his sister Tanya who is a nurse and has been working tirelessly during the pandemic.





## Tammy Dinger

*Director of Hotels*

Tammy was formerly a member of the executive team of Pratt and Whitney in Texas. She spent her childhood being coerced to perform in musical extravaganzas by her brother Tim. Sadly, their variety show, “The Tim and Tammy Cavalcade of Stars,” never materialized. But a cooking channel show is in the works. Tammy lives and works remotely from rural Northern California but visits crazy New York City whenever possible.



## Mary-Catherine Chambliss

*Director of Education*

Mary-Catherine grew up with iTheatrics after meeting the team in 6th grade at the first Junior Theater Festival. Over 17 years, she has worked with iTheatrics as an adjudicator, teaching artist, and associate choreographer for Choreography Videos. The iTheatrics team laid the foundation for her interest in Musical Theater Education. She decided to pursue a career in Theater Education with a Bachelor of Science in Theater Education from Troy University. During her time at Troy, she served on the founding staff of Summer Spotlight, a series of intensives each year for creative people of all ages looking to grow and develop their interests and talents in and through the Arts. Following her education, Mary-Catherine served as an Associate Teaching Artist at Lexington Children’s Theatre performing in *The Cat in the Hat*, *Seussical*, and *Shrek the Musical*. She developed theatre curriculum and Student Growth Measurements for the Muscogee County Board of Education while serving as the Director of Blackmon Road Middle School, where she was named New Teacher of the Year. During her time in Muscogee County, she performed with the Springer Opera House, Georgia’s State Theater in *A Chorus Line*, *The Who’s Tommy*, and Disney’s *The Little Mermaid*. Mary-Catherine made a move to New York City to act as Program Director for The Anderson School and develop curriculum for Manhattan Youth’s Summer Theatre Intensive. She most recently served Manhattan Youth as Education Director for The Professional Performing Arts High School, Simon Baruch Junior High School, Yorkville East Middle School, and The Anderson School.



## Alex Robertson

*Script Supervisor*

Alex is a NYC-based creative and independently produces for Broadway/Off-Broadway. He is a co-producer of Douglas Carter Beane’s new comedy, *Fairycakes*, and Associate Producer of Jim Henson’s *Emmet Otter’s Jug-Band Christmas*. Alex graduated from The Hartt School, University of Hartford with a BFA in Music Theatre and minor in Performing Arts Management. Alex hopes to continue bringing a positive and unique perspective to the ever-evolving entertainment industry. A-Robertson.com @AlexanderERobertson



## Meet the Team

# 2022 Junior Theater Festival Production & Design



### John Edkins

*Technical Director*

John is the owner of JE Scenic Technologies, Inc., a theatrical scenic production services and storage company specializing in Broadway traveling productions and a wide

range of projects, from sets for television newsrooms to operas. He has built scenery for the Pittsburgh CLO for 30 years and has been their Production Supervisor for the past 25 years. John heads the JTF and MYI Awards held yearly in Atlanta. He is one of the key supervisors on the Apic Convention held yearly in Washington, DC. He has since become one of the top Production Supervisors in the country. His credits as Technical Supervisor include *The Phantom of the Opera*. International productions include *Cabaret*, *Big River*, *West Side Story*, *Annie*, and *The Sound of Music*, along with *Rent*. John has been involved with the Diocese of Pittsburgh for the past 10 years in development and construction of the Millennium Crèche, the only existing replica of the Crèche that is displayed at the Vatican in Rome. Presently, John is the Production Supervisor for Civic Light Opera in Pittsburgh, overseeing a rigorous seven-show summer season. He recently built and did Production for the national tour of 9-5 for Dolly Parton and the national tour of *Fela*. John has also been associated with numerous Broadway productions, including *High School Musical*, *Putting it Together* with Carol Burnett, and the national tours of Disney's *The Little Mermaid* and Disney's *Mary Poppins*. Presently, John is the Production Supervisor on *An American in Paris* (International China Tour) and *The Play That Goes Wrong* (US Tour). John resides in Pittsburgh with his wife, Ronda, and four sons.



### Jordan M. Edkins

*Associate Carpenter*

Jordan is the Foreman for the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera's Construction Center for the Arts. He primarily works on planning and building for a wide variety of theatrical productions.

This is Jordan's 9th year as the Associate Carpenter for the Junior Theater Festival. Jordan has worked as a carpenter on the national tours of Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, and the Asia tour of *An American In Paris*.



### Lori Holt

*Director of Facilities*

Lori began her career as an event manager after completing her degree at the University of Georgia. With over 20 years of experience in the event industry and working coast to coast, her keen eye for detail, great logistical prowess, and operational expertise have made her a leader in the field. This will be her fifteenth year working with the Junior Theater Festival.



### Ruth Hutson

*Lighting Designer*

Favorite companies for opera designs include Washington National, San Diego, Virginia, Amarillo, Indianapolis, Opera Company of Philadelphia, and Spoleto Festival, USA.

Recently, Ruth enjoyed designing at London's O2 Arena for *The Gift of Music*. Previously, the show (a collaboration with Dame Julie Andrews) enjoyed great success in a national tour culminating at the Hollywood Bowl. Ruth makes her home in Savannah, GA, where she is on faculty with the Savannah College of Art and Design.



### Matt Kraus

*Sound Designer*

Broadway: *Liza's at the Palace...*, *Kristin Chenoweth: My Love Letter to Broadway*, *Kathy Griffin Wants a Tony*. Off Broadway: *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *50 Shades! The Musical*, *Fat Camp*, *Lone Star Love*, *Cam Jansen*, *Voca People*. Audio Coordinator for remote shoots of *The Tonight Show*, and *NBAs 2020 Bubble*. Regional: Paper Mill Playhouse, St. Louis Rep, Cincinnati Playhouse, Walnut Street, Ogunquit Playhouse, Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival. Sound Designer for the iTheatrics Junior Theatre Festival 2008-2022. Matt has won an Emmy Award for his work as Sound Designer on Disney's *Broadway Hits* at Royal Hall which he has toured around the world.



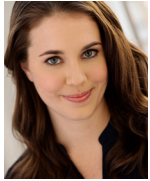
### Jay Rabbitt

*Audio Coordinator/CEO of ICP*

Jay is the CEO and owner of In Concert Productions, Inc., JTF's supplier of audio, video, and staging, and he is one of the festival's project managers. Since 1980, Jay and his company have provided production services for Fortune 500 companies, from Coca-Cola to Toyota; Olympics and Super Bowl events; concerts, special events, and festivals; along with proudly working and growing with our favorite client, iTheatrics and JTF, for over 10 years. Jay has been married to the love of his life, Maria, for 9 years, and

## Meet the Team

she is the office manager for the company. Jay is proud to have two grandchildren from his oldest daughter, Payton: Mason (8) and Brynlee (6). Jay's youngest daughter, Jaycie, is 24 and is newly engaged to be married.



### Marianne Phelps

*General Manager*

Marianne is a contributing editor for, and longtime lover of, iTheatrics! This is her third year at the Junior Theater Festival, and she's thrilled to be participating. When she's not working for iTheatrics, Marianne is a professional AEA actor who teaches acting and serves as the associate producer for AthensWest Theatre Company. She also spends time in Lexington, KY, singing show tunes to her little ones, husband, and dachshund, all of whom she loves very much!



### Valarie Boyd

*MUSICALSINC.COM Store Associate*

Valarie Boyd has enjoyed being a part of the theater community for over 10 years. She is from the Murfreesboro/Smyrna Tennessee area. Her favorite passions about theater are helping design sets and costumes. Seeing her daughter perform is one of the best feelings in the world for her. She is thrilled to be back at JTF and working with such amazing people.



### William Brown

*Lighting Associate*

William is a New York based lighting designer for theatre and live events. This is his 6th JTF and he's excited to be back in person! Most recently he was working on musicals in the Tri-state area, lighting concerts for Grammy Award winning artists, and travelling around the Mediterranean Sea installing shows on cruise ships with RWS Entertainment Group. In the past, William has worked with The Huntington, Boston Lyric Opera, The Hangar Theatre, and Barrington Stage Company. William earned his BFA from SCAD, and MFA from Boston University. [www.williambrownlighting.com](http://www.williambrownlighting.com) IG:@william.mbrown

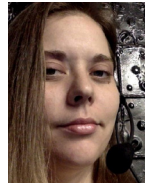


### Kim Carbone

*Production Sound Engineer*

Kim has been a sound engineer since high school when she first fell in love with theatre. Kim has her bachelor's degree from Southern Oregon University in Theatre Arts and her master's degree from UNCSA in Sound Design. She has had the opportunity to create sound all over the world and is extremely proud to be part of the JTF team.

Kim currently resides in Oregon, where she designs, engineers, and teaches.



### Alison Carroll

*Lead Audio Assistant*

Alison has been a working member of the NYC theater community for over a decade. She is currently Head Electrician for "The Play That Goes Wrong" and has been since its move in 2019.



### Alyssa Cooper

*Assistant Event Manager*

Alyssa Cooper is a proud graduate of Columbus State University, where she has received her B.S.Ed and MEd in Theatre Education. Outside of JTF, Alyssa is a high school theatre teacher at Peach County High School in Fort Valley, Georgia and is a Chapter Board Member of Georgia Thespians. Recently, Alyssa has worked on *White Christmas*, *Bystander 9/11*, *Musical Comedy Murders of 1940*, *Something Rotten!*, and *Bright Star*. Outside of working on shows, Alyssa has enjoyed working at local theatre summer camps where she gets to focus on her first love, technical theatre. She is absolutely over the moon to be working with the Junior Theatre Festival this year and hope that everyone has a chance to learn something new!



### Tyler Crow

*Assistant Event Manager*

Tyler Crow (he/him) is a Stage Manager based in New York. Off-Broadway: *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas*. National Tour: *The Prom*. Regional: *Guys and Dolls*, *Little Shop of Horrors* (Theatre Aspen); *Winnie-the-Pooh*, *Slur* (Alliance Theatre); *Coppélia* (Boston Ballet). Love to Maddy, my family, and those who have taught me, always.



### Cody Denson

*In Concert Productions*

Cody oversees the audio, RF coordination, and is the intercom engineer at the Junior Theater Festival. Cody has worked with artists ranging from Keith Urban, to Timothy B. Schmidt from the Eagles, to Dionne Warwick. Cody has also provided his can-do work ethic to the TV and film industries like *Family Feud*, *The Go-Big Show*, *Titan Games*, *Hidden Figures*, *Cobra Kai*; ABC, NBC, BET Networks, TBS, and Tru-TV shows. An avid outdoorsman, Cody enjoys hiking, kayaking, and generally anything that keeps him in nature, and spending time with his rescue pup "Sir."

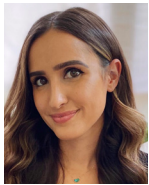
## Meet the Team



### Meghan Emanuel

*Assistant Event Manager*

Meghan is thrilled to be joining iTheatrics for the 2022 JTF Atlanta Festival! Meghan has her BFA in Stage Management from the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music (CCM). This will be Meghan's first festival with iTheatrics and is so excited to begin this journey with the company! She would like to thank everyone who is making this festival happen safely!!!



### Lauren Gates

*House Manager*

Lauren is an Atlanta resident and has experience in planning events for a wide variety of organizations, including several international nonprofits. She most recently worked for Zoo Atlanta as a Public Events Specialist, where she is responsible for the development and coordination of events ranging from 150 to 40,000 guests. She first joined the Junior Theater Festival in 2014 and has enjoyed the opportunity of working alongside the incredible team at iTheatrics for several years now.



### Shirlee Idzakovich

*MUSICALSINC.COM Store Associate*

Shirlee is a professional costumer from NYC. A proud Freddie G Fellowship winner.



### Marissa LaRose

*Assistant Event Manager*

Marissa is the Managing Director of Everyman Theatre in Baltimore, MD and finds joy in leading a phenomenal staff through pandemic theatre-making with balance, heart, and integrity. Prior to Everyman, she spent 11 years as a Production and General Manager at Arena Stage in Washington, DC and has moonlighted as a teaching artist and project manager for anything from carved ice exhibits to talent shows. She loves coordinating logistics, finding new pathways to problem-solving, relaxing in front of a campfire, and having home-cooked family meals with her cat and husband.



### Ellen Mezzera Lavaia

*Event Manager*

Originally from San Francisco, Mrs. Lavaia now resides in New York City. Broadway: *The Lion King, Annie, Les Misérables, Matilda*. New York: *Gentlemen Prefer Blonde; Macbeth* and *A Man's a Man; Shen Wei Dance Arts* at the Park Avenue Armory. With SITI Company, *Steel Hammer, Persians, Café Variations, Radio Macbeth, the theater is a blank page, Bob, Hanjo, Chess Match No. 5, and The Bacchae*. Lavaia has toured internationally through China, The Republic of Georgia, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Romania, Slovenia, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates. Additional Credits: *The Sound of Music Live!* (NBC Universal) and the 2013 Tony Awards. Education: MFA, Columbia University. BA, Gonzaga University. Member of AEA, Local 764, and SITI Company.



### Don Martin

*Head Carpenter*

Don Martin has been a Stagehand since 1966.



### Kyle Brewster McGinley

*MUSICALSINC.COM Store Manager*

Kyle Brewster McGinley spent 15 years supervising merchandise operations and building retail displays for over 150 Broadway, touring and international productions. Select career highlights include *Wicked* (Tokyo), *Hamilton*, *The Pee-wee Herman Show*, and *Dear Evan Hansen*. Currently he is a Production Coordinator for New World Group, a creative agency specializing in promotional marketing for clients including Disney, Marvel, and highend NYC real estate. This is his 7th year managing operations and designing merchandise for the JTF Store!



### Eddy Mineishi

*Audio Assistant*

Eddy Mineishi (A2) is excited to join the Junior Theatre Festival! Eddy received his masters in sound design and technology at the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music in 2020 and has been working as a Sound Designer and Engineer for regional theatre companies including: Barrington Stage Company, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, and Flint Repertory Theatre.



## Meet the Team



### Jamie Mulvihill

*Associate Carpenter*

This is Jamie's 2nd year as a carpenter for the Junior Theater Festival. Currently Vice President Elect on the Executive board of IATSE local 3 out of Pittsburgh and a member for over 25 years. As a stagehand she has worked in all aspects of theater and concerts since 1992. She was the Asst Foreman for the Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera's Construction Center for the Arts until 2000, when she left to start a family and has 2 beautiful adults now. Jamie also played roller derby for Steel City Roller Derby, better known as J-Bomb.



### Brenda Newman

*Information Booth Specialist*

Brenda has been associated with JTF since 2007. She has worked in community and professional theatre in Georgia and Kentucky as a director, producer, and business manager. Currently, she serves as a finance technician for the City of Dahlonega in the North Georgia Mountains. She is excited to be returning to JTF and looks forward to seeing everyone at the Info Booth.



### Sean Newman

*Information Booth Specialist*

Sean Newman has been working in theatre for 22 years. In that time, he has been involved with companies across the North Georgia area, in Atlanta, and in New York City. Since receiving his B.F.A. in Design and Technology for Theatre, Sean has spent his time producing work independently and working as a Technical Director and Designer at several schools across North Georgia. This is his 15th year with JTF and third festival working at the Info Booth.



### Jason O'Neal

*Audio Assistant*

Jason O'Neal is a New York City based Sound Designer and Audio Engineer. He mostly works on off-Broadway productions with a little bit of work on touring productions.



### Valentina Padovan

*Education Associate*

Inspired by the amazing children and teachers at the Junior Theater Festival as both a guest and volunteer, Valentina is thrilled to be a part of the incredible iTheatrics team! Some of her favorite jobs over the last few

years include Child Talent Assistant at Season 2 of *Elmo's Not Too Late Show*, Casting Assistant for Season 52 of *Sesame Street*, and of course, Production Assistant at iTheatrics Summer Academy this past summer. Valentina is now working towards her Dual Master's Degree in Special Ed and Childhood Education and is so excited to be a future teacher.



### Tim Prestridge

*VIP Coordinator*

Tim is currently the Senior Executive Director, Development at National Public Radio (NPR). Prior to NPR, he spent 9 years at two arts institutions, Kennedy Center and Smithsonian Institution, in Washington, DC with a focus on creating unique music experiences through strategic partnerships including donor opportunities. Before moving to DC, he worked in development, marketing, and production positions with two theaters in Massachusetts. He holds a masters in arts administration from Boston University and a bachelors in theater from Jacksonville State University in Alabama.



### Al Ripley

*MUSICALSINC.COM Store Associate*

Al taught instrumental music for 33 years in the Grand Island, NY School District. He currently serves as Chair of the Education Committee of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and recently as Executive Director of the Erie County Music Educators Association (ECMEA) where his duties included overseeing the membership, publications, staff development, board meetings, and budget of the 500 member professional organization of Western New York State music teachers. ECMEA sponsors All-County festivals involving auditions and performance of over 6000 music students in grades 4-12.



### Kevin Semancik

*Broadcast Sound Engineer*

Kevin is a Sound Designer and Audio Engineer from Cincinnati, OH. He currently serves as Production Supervisor for Memorial Hall OTR, a historic music venue in the heart of Cincinnati. He works regularly as a Sound Designer for the theatre program at Xavier University and the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company. Kevin is thrilled to be returning to JTF Atlanta!



## Meet the Team



### Kushal Shankar

*COVID-19 Protocol Advisor*

Kush Shankar is a Pharmaceutical Engineer and theater fanatic who is excited to return for his 10th Junior Theater Festival. Kush has been a volunteer, intern, Production Assistant, Discussion Leader, and COVID-19 Protocol Advisor for the festival in years past and is excited to see your performances this year! @kushalrshankar



### Sara Sonnier

*Assistant Event Manager*

Sara Sonnier is a recent graduate of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where she received her BFA in Stage Management. Some of her collegiate credits include *Our Town* (Production Stage Manager), *The Magic Flute* (Production Stage Manager), *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Yeast Nation* (Production Assistant), and *Guys and Dolls* (Production Assistant). She is thrilled to be back at JTF on the Event Management team and see everyone again!



### Alexandra Valley

*Social Media Coordinator*

Alexandra has been attending Junior Theater Festival since 2009 and has served many roles such as Participant, Volunteer, Intern, Associate Publicist, and now Social Media Specialist. Alexandra holds a BFA in Production and Design from Pace University with a concentration in Audio Engineering and is all around happy with any and all things musical theater related. She is thrilled to continue to be part of the JTF family, where every theater kid can find their home.



### Amy Valley

*Volunteer Coordinator*

Amy, returning to JTF for her tenth year, has extensive experience in community theater as a production assistant and volunteer coordinator. Amy credits her years of experience at Walt Disney World for fostering her knack for organization, efficiency, and audience management. Amy holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of South Florida. Thanks to all the friends, kids' friends, and family that come back year after year and make this the best weekend of the year.



### Allison Van Etten

*Publicist*

Allison Van Etten is principal at Ravenscroft Public Relations (RPR), a public relations firm with a focus on the arts. This season, in addition to its work with iTheatrics and the Junior Theater Festivals, RPR has led campaigns for classical clarinetist Anthony McGill, violinist Rachel Barton Pine, Rosanna Gamson World Wide, and Invertigo Dance Theatre. Allison was a part of the original Broadway JR. PR team led by Linda Dozoretz at Linda Dozoretz Communications. She dedicates her work at the festival to Linda Dozoretz and Stephen Sondheim.



### Shannon Wagar

*Choreography Video Auditions Manager*

Having volunteered with iTheatrics and JTF for many years, Shannon is thrilled to be joining the team in Atlanta for JTF 2022. With two children who pursued degrees in arts-related fields, she found a passion for helping other students with their journey. She currently owns Fourth Wall College Consulting, where her focus is guiding high school seniors through their own college audition process.



**In Concert Productions, Inc** (Audio, Video Projection, and Staging Services)

For over 40 years, Atlanta's In Concert Productions (ICP) has supplied state-of-the art sound, staging, lighting, and video equipment services to TV broadcast, film, corporate, theatrical, and special events across the USA. A partial list of recent projects include: audio services for TV's *Family Feud*, NBC's *The Titan Games*, and *The Go-Big Show* on TBS; Films ranging from *The Hunger Games*, *Anchorman 2*, and numerous Netflix productions; to corporate and special events from Microsoft, Porsche and Mercedes-Benz, Coca-Cola, and the NBA.

**ICP Crew:**

Jay Rabbitt – Production Manager  
Cody Denson – Audio Systems Tech & RF Coordinator  
Ben Crews – A2 & Multi-Track Recording  
Nick Bennett – Staging Supervisor  
Will Widdoss – Projectionist  
Soloman Sylva – Video Engineer



**SUPER AWESOME FRIENDS** (Video Production) is a full service digital content and marketing agency dedicated to building strategic and meaningful social experiences that strengthen relationships with audiences. Current client highlights: *American Buffalo*; *Annie*; *Black Theatre Coalition*; *Company*; *Girl from the North Country*; *Lego Awesome Exhibition*; *The Minutes*; *Officer and a Gentleman: The Musical*; *Oklahoma!*; *Pixar Putt*; *Plaza Suite*; *The Producers: 20th Anniversary Documentary*; *RiseNY Experience*; *Water for Elephants*; Disney's *Winnie the Pooh*; and many more.

**Super Awesome Friends:**

Director of Video Production ... Scott Lupi  
Switchers ... Nicholas Guldner, Scott Lupi  
Content Manager ... Leah Vicencio  
Camera Operators ... Jensen Chambers, Aaron Leong, Jason Noricks,  
Madeleine Delaney Noricks, Hai-Tao Wu  
Editors ... Jensen Chambers, Nicholas Guldner, Leah Vicencio  
Virtual Experience Community Managers ... Rebecca Prowler, Holly Wasson

### 2022 Junior Theater Festival

# Adjudicators & Workshop Leaders



#### Sonny Ace

Sonny Ace is a Los Angeles based actor and pastry chef. Sonny has graduated and toured all over America with his performing arts college, The Young Americans, as well as appeared in

several commercials and print ads (Disney, Care Credit, RomperJack). He currently works as a freelance cake artist and performs for The Walt Disney Company in numerous shows such as: *Newsboys*, *Disney Junior Dance Party*, *Jammin' Chefs*, and *Mickey's Trick and Treat* to name a few. IG: @sonny\_ace



#### Krystina Alabado

Krystina Alabado was last seen starring as Gretchen Wieners in *Mean Girls* on Broadway! Other Broadway credits include *American Psycho* (Vanden, OBC) and Green Day's *American Idiot*.

National Tours: *Evita* (Mistress), *American Idiot*, *Spring Awakening*. Off-Broadway: *The Mad Ones* (Samantha Brown, listen on Spotify!), *This Ain't No Disco* (Atlantic Theater), David Bowie's *Lazarus* (NYTW). Selected Regional: *Mystic Pizza* (Daisy Arujo, Ogunquit Playhouse), *Songs for a New World* (NC Theatre), *Burn All Night* (ART). *Miss You Like Hell* (La Jolla Playhouse). TV/Film: "Pantheon" AMC, "A Killer Party" (Lily Wright), Voice of Veronica on "Voltron Legendary Defender" (Netflix), "Sunny Day" (Nick Jr.) "God Friend Me" (CBS), *First Reformed*, "Tyrant" (FX).



#### Kikau Alvaro

Kikau Alvaro (he/him) is an Associate Professor of Musical Theatre and the Program Director of Musical Theatre at University of the Arts in Philadelphia.

Kikau received his MFA in Musical

Theatre from San Diego State University. He will be directing and choreographing *Mamma Mia* this summer at Virginia Repertory Theatre, where he was the Associate Artistic Director from 2017-21. He has been a JTF Workshop Leader/Adjudicator since 2013 at West, Texas, and Atlanta. Kikau lives in Philadelphia with his husband Derrick, and their puppy, Boggnes. Follow his journey on Instagram @kikautown



#### Sarah Jane Arnegger

Sarah Jane (SJ) Arnegger (Director, iHeartRadio Broadway) began her career working within the Broadway community in 2001 with positions at some of the most prestigious firms – Douglas & Kopelman,

Disney Theatrical Group, Boneau/Bryan-Brown, The Karpel Group and Playbill and in 2018 Sarah Jane joined iHeartMedia to launch the new iHeartRadio Broadway platform. SJ oversees the growing streaming radio station, serves as the executive producer for all digital content/podcasts and is the on-camera host for the iHeartRadio Broadway Mercedes-Benz Interview Lounge and the co-host for the 'Growin' Up Broadway' podcast. @sjarnegger



#### Doug Besterman

Three-time Tony Award winner. Broadway: *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Anastasia*, *A Bronx Tale*, *It Shoulda Been You*, *Bullets Over Broadway* (Tony nomination), *Rocky*, *On a Clear Day*,

*Sister Act*, *How To Succeed...* (Tony nomination), *Elf*, *Young Frankenstein* (Drama Desk nomination), *Tarzan*, *Dracula*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (2002 Tony/Drama Desk Awards), *The Producers* (2001 Tony/Drama Desk Awards), *Seussical*, *Music Man* (Drama Desk/Tony nominations), *Fosse* (1999 Tony), *Big* (Drama Desk nomination), *Damn Yankees* (Drama Desk nomination). International: *Me and My Girl*, *Guys and Dolls*; Off-Broadway: *Carrie*, *Weird Romance*. Regional: *Little Dancer*, *Ever After*, *The Honeymooners*, *The Sting*, *Calvin Berger*. Film/television: *Schmigadoon*, *Mary Poppins Returns*, *Aladdin* (2019), *Beauty and the Beast* (2017), *Frozen*, *Mulan*, *Chicago*.



#### Michael J. Bobbitt

Michael J. Bobbitt has dedicated his professional career to arts leadership. He is the Executive Director of Mass Cultural Council, the highest-ranking cultural official in Massachusetts. Recently, he

was the Artistic Director of New Repertory Theatre and previously the Artistic Director for Adventure Theatre-

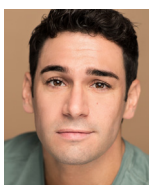
## Meet the Team

MTC in Maryland, where he led the organization to be a respected theatre/training company in the DC region and a nationally influential professional Theatre for Young Audiences. Bobbitt has directed/choreographed at Arena Stage, Ford's Theatre, The Shakespeare Theatre Company, Olney Theatre Center, Studio Theatre, Woolly Mammoth Theatre, Center Stage, Roundhouse Theatre, The Kennedy Center, and the Washington National Opera. His national and international credits include the NY Musical Theatre Festival, Mel Tillis 2001, La Jolla Playhouse, Children's Theatre of Charlotte, Jefferson Performing Arts Center, and the Olympics. As a writer, his work was chosen for the NYC International Fringe Festival and The New York and Musical Theatre Festival. He has two plays published by Rogers and Hammerstein Theatricals. He trained at Harvard Business School's Strategic Perspectives in Nonprofit Management, The National Arts Strategies Chief Executive Program, Certificates in Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell, artEquity and People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, and other top leadership programs. He earned the Excel Leadership Award (Center for Nonprofit Advancement) the Emerging Leader Award (County Executive's Excellence in the Arts and Humanities), and Person of the Year Award (Maryland Theatre Guide), among others.



### Derek Bowley

Derek has been a part of the JTF family since the very first festival in 2003, and he is thrilled to be back in person after participating virtually in 2021! Derek has worked all over the country with iTheatrics on innumerable projects as a teaching artist, music director, and writer, but his "day job" is teaching Speech and Drama at Congressional School in Falls Church, Virginia, where he is in the middle of rehearsals for *Mary Poppins JR.* When not working with young people, Derek can be found in his kitchen, exploring his passion for food.



### Tommy Bracco

Tommy Bracco, a proud native New Yorker, originated the role of Spot Conlon in Disney's *Newsies* on Broadway and reprised the role for the *Newsies* film! He also played the bellhop, Giulio, in the original Broadway cast of *Pretty Woman* and Mike in the City Center Encores revival of *A Chorus Line*. Aside from Broadway, Tommy lived his dream by competing as a houseguest on the reality show *Big Brother* on CBS! Instagram: @tommybracco. Tiktok: @tommy\_bracco.



### Shane Bransdon

Shane Bransdon is the co-founder of JTF Australia and is an actor, producer and theatre educator. He has a PhD in Communication and Media Arts, with his research specializing in the economic, cultural and social value of the theatre industry. Shane is the President of the City of Newcastle Drama Association and the producer of the StageCon drama and theatre convention. His recent show credits include *Wicked*, *Les Miserables* and *Mary Poppins*. Shane's company, Travel Gang, specializes in international performing arts group tours.



### Jacob Brent

JACOB BRENT is the Interim Musical Theatre Program Director at the University of the Arts. Before life in academia, he spent ten years as a Broadway performer, a professional director and choreographer, and a teacher. Jacob holds a B.A. in Theatre Arts and Dance and a M.F.A. in Musical Theatre from San Diego State University. Jacob is best known for his portrayal of Mr. Mistoffelees in the Broadway, London and DVD productions of *CATS*. He adapted the high school editions of *CHICAGO* and *A CHORUS LINE* and has directed the premiere productions of *LEGALLY BLONDE JR.*, *RENT* school edition, and *AVENUE Q* school edition as well as many other iTheatrics productions.



### Paul Brewster McGinley

Paul Brewster McGinley is a New York City based theatre artist, educator, and administrator driven to create aesthetic and educational experiences for youth and families. He is Director of Teaching & Learning for Roundabout Theatre Company ([roundabouttheatre.org/education](http://roundabouttheatre.org/education)) and Managing Director of Trusty Sidekick Theater Company ([trustysidekick.org](http://trustysidekick.org)). He has also taught at City College of New York and as a teaching artist for Disney Theatrical Group. Paul has numerous producing, directing and stage management credits at regional and off-Broadway theatres. BFA, NYU Tisch. MA, NYU Steinhardt.



### Matt Curtis

Matt Curtis is the Content & Marketing Director at the Educational Theatre Association, an organization he has been involved with since elected vice-president of Thespian Troupe 561 at Jefferson High



## Meet the Team

School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He was previously part of the licensing team at Disney Theatrical Productions, where he oversaw the development of musicals and plays as they were published for licensed productions. As teaching artist, educator, writer, editor, and project manager, he has contributed to the development of over 50 plays and musicals. Matt holds a BA in Musical Theatre and a Master's Degree in Theatre Education from the University of Northern Colorado, where he is currently on the remote staff of the graduate school. Matt is honored to have worked with President Obama's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities' Turnaround Arts program.



### Khalia Davis

Khalia Davis (she/her) is a multidisciplinary artist and Artistic Director of Bay Area Children's Theatre where she recently led the premiere of *A Kids Play About Racism*. Directed and devised

other new works with prominent theaters such as Bay Area Children's Theater, Atlantic Theater Company's Atlantic for Kids, New York City Children's Theater, Disney Theatrical Group, The Story Pirates and more. Awards: 2019 Emerging Leader Fellowship-TYA/USA, 2019 NYCCT Leader Fellowship, 2021 Corey Medallion Award-Children's Theatre Foundation of America. BA in Theater Arts from the University of Southern California [www.khaliadavis.com](http://www.khaliadavis.com)!



### Thembi Duncan

Thembi Duncan is an arts administrator, director, actor, playwright, and teaching artist with twenty years of experience synthesizing theatre, American history, and social justice. She has directed and

performed in numerous regional productions, most memorably of plays by Pulitzer Award-winning playwrights Lynn Nottage, Dael Orlandersmith, August Wilson, and Ayad Akhtar. Ms. Duncan holds a B.A. in Theatre, Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Maryland and currently serves as the Director of Arts Engagement and Education at Shea's Performing Arts Center in Buffalo, New York, where her team has received the 2021 Arts Services Alliance Spark Award for Arts Integration for their theatre-based body language program with the Buffalo Police Department.



### Richard Frazier

Richard graduated from Columbus State University and holds a Bachelor of Science in Theatre Education. He is currently the Artistic Director of Theatre Macon (Georgia) where he recently

launched their Education brand which provides theatre and arts education opportunities to youth and adults in his community. Before Theatre Macon, Richard worked as a high school Theatre and Dance educator for 7 years. He serves as the Assistant Chapter Director of Georgia Thespians, in addition to working with JumpStart Theatre as the professional development liaison between iTheatrics and the Alliance Theatre here in Atlanta.



### Katy Geraghty

Katy Geraghty is so excited to be returning to her JTF family after being a part of JTF Texas this past summer, as well as JTF Atlanta in 2018. An actor based out of New York, Katy made her

Broadway debut in "Groundhog Day." She has worked extensively all over the country, including spending a year at Oregon Shakespeare Festival playing Tracy in "Hairspray" and debuting the new, bound-for-Broadway musical "Bliss" at The 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle.



### Max Gonzalez

Max Gonzalez is an Actor, Singer, Dancer, and Choreographer based in New York City. He is a graduate from the New Studio on Broadway at NYU Tisch School of the Arts with a BFA in Drama.

Credits: *Cinderella* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *The Fantasticks*, *West Side Story*, *Joseph... Dreamcoat* (Tibbits Opera House), and *The Wild Party* (NYU Tisch). Max is so excited to be back at the JTF Atlanta!



### Cori Jaskier

Cori is so excited to be at JTF! She is a graduate of NYU/Tisch School of the Arts. Most recently seen in the ensemble of *Ratatouille the TikTok Musical*. Other projects include: TheaterWorksUSA's

*Charlotte's Web* (Charlotte), the off-Broadway premiere of *The Scarlet Savior* (Emma), new musicals entitled *The Valley* (Colby), *America Project* (Madison) and *Rapture* (Vickie), and Ray Evans Seneca Theater's productions of *Avenue Q* (Kate Monster), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella),

## Meet the Team

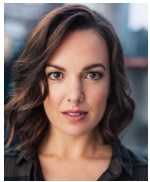
and *Rent* (Maureen). She would like to thank her family, friends, and iTheatrics for their constant love and support.



### Kate Leonard

Kate Leonard is a lyricist and librettist whose recent work includes *Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical*, *Dot and the Kangaroo JR.*, and *Breathe*. Her forthcoming musical *Fashion Show* was developed in part at

the 2021 Rhinebeck Writers Retreat. In television, Kate has worked on drama series including *House of Cards* and *The Looming Tower*. She is a graduate of Wellesley College and a member of the Dramatists Guild and the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Advanced Workshop.



### Kara Lindsay

Broadway: *Wicked* (Glinda), *Beautiful* (Cynthia Weil), Disney's *Newsies* (Katherine) Original Cast/ *Fathom Events* Film. National Tour: *Wicked* (Glinda), *Little House on the Prairie* (Laura).

Paper Mill Playhouse: Disney's *Newsies*, *Little House... Prairie*. Some favorite regional productions include Sacramento Music Circus: *Singin' in the Rain* (Kathy Seldon). NCT: *Mary Poppins* (Mary Poppins). 5th Avenue: *Lone Star Love* (Miss Ann Page).TV: "Murphy Brown", ABC's Disney Family Singalong: Volume II, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Tony Awards. BFA Carnegie Mellon University. For my boys! @karalindsay1



### Nina Meehan

Nina Meehan inspires creativity and imagination in the broader community as a skilled theatre producer, award-winning director, and dedicated arts educator, with expertise in youth development.

Nina's award-winning theatrical work for young people as CEO and Founder of Bay Area Children's Theatre has reached more than 1 million kids and adults and has toured nationally and internationally. She is also an internationally recognized arts educator and youth theatre specialist. As president of the board of directors of TYA/USA, the national organization of theatres for young audiences, she actively engages in outreach and advocacy on behalf of the profession and the issues it embraces. Nina speaks and writes frequently about creativity, arts education, nonprofit management, and theatre for young audiences (TYA) and she is the host of the Creative Parenting Podcast.



### McKenna Michael

McKenna Michael is a non-binary LA/ Orange County based actor, musician, and teacher. They have been teaching ages 4-18 across the US, Europe, and the UK for over 10 years. McKenna

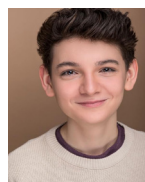
was previously seen performing at Disney's California Adventure in *Frozen Live!* at the Hyperon and *Red Car Newsboys*. Most recently, they could be seen in the National Tour of *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*. Their passion lies in teaching youth theatre back in Orange County, and they are so thrilled to be joining the JTF team this year!



### Rosemary Newcott

Rosemary spent twenty years as the Artistic Director of Theatre for Youth and Families at Atlanta's Alliance Theatre. There she had the great privilege of directing, and sometimes devising many

Theatre for Youth productions and the annual lavish production of A CHRISTMAS CAROL. She also initiated both the Alliance HS Collision Project and the Alliance Theatre for the Very Young. On the National scene, Rosemary has directed premiere TYA productions at the Kennedy Center and LaJolla Playhouse. She recently directed the world premiere of Tim McDonald's HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSON at Nashville Children's Theatre and THUMBELINA at Kennesaw University. Upcoming productions include GRANNY'S GARDEN by Pearl Cleage which she is directing at the Alliance and at Metro Theatre in St. Louis. She proudly returns as part of the education team at JTF ATLANTA 2022.



### Luca Padovan

Luca is looking forward to being back at JTF this year! He is currently attending NYU's Gallatin School of Individualized Study. Broadway Credits include:

Closing cast of Disney's *Newsies: The Musical*; Original cast of *School of Rock: The Musical*; and *Marvin's Room*. TV Credits include: *YOU*, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, and *The Magicians*. Voice Credits: Disney's *The Rocketeer*, *Super Wings*. Other notable performances include opening the 2018 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on NBC, James in *James and the Giant Peach* Cast Recording and Eliza in MISCAS'T's "The Schuyler Sisters." @moreorlesluca

## Meet the Team



### Jodi Picoult

Jodi Picoult is the author of 27 novels, with 40 million copies sold worldwide. More than a dozen have debuted at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list, including her most recent, WISH YOU

WERE HERE, soon to be a Netflix film. BETWEEN THE LINES (co-written with daughter Samantha van Leer) has been adapted as a musical opening off-Broadway in June 2022. She is the recipient of multiple awards, including the Alex Award from YALSA, and the NH Literary Award for Outstanding Literary Merit. She is also, with Timothy Allen McDonald, the co-librettist for the musical BREATHE, and the upcoming musical THE BOOK THIEF. She lives in New Hampshire with her husband.



### Dean Pitchford

Hawai'i-born and Yale-educated, Dean Pitchford acted, sang and danced off- and on-Broadway (*Godspell*, *Pippin*) and in over 100 commercials before turning to songwriting (*Fame*, *Let's Hear It for the*

*Boy*, *Footloose*), screenwriting (*Footloose*, *Sing*) and directing (HBO's *Bloodbrothers*). He has been nominated for 4 Oscars (winning for *Fame*), 8 Grammys, and 2 Tonys. His songs have been recorded by artists as diverse as Whitney Houston, Barbra Streisand, Cher, Hugh Jackman, Dolly Parton and L.L. Cool J. On- and off-Broadway his work has appeared in *Footloose*; *Carrie, the Musical*; and *The Boy From Oz*, among others. His novels *The Big One-Oh*, *Captain Nobody* and *Nickel Bay Nick* have been published by Putnam/Penguin; his performances of the audiobooks of the first two titles were both nominated for Grammys. The musical adaptation of *The Big One-Oh!* - with lyrics by Dean - premiered in 2019 at NY's Atlantic Theater. To date, Dean's songs have sold over 70 million records.



### Shay Rodgers

Shay works as a choreographer with iTheatrics and has created more than 30 instructional choreography videos for MTI, Disney, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Samuel French, and Tams-Witmark. She is

currently on staff at Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and Wildfish Theatre. She created the Academy for Theatre Under The Stars in 2003 and managed the program until 2016. Choreography highlights include iTheatrics: *West Side*

*Story School Edition*, *Getting To Know... Footloose*, Disney's *The Jungle Book KIDS*, *Junie B. Jones JR.* Theatre Under The Stars: *Bring It On*, *Heathers*, *The Who's Tommy*, World Premiere of *The Stephen Schwartz Project*. Wildfish Theatre: *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *School of Rock*, *Spring Awakening*.



### Macy Schmidt

Macy Schmidt is an Egyptian-American Orchestrator & Music Director based in NYC. Named a 2021 "Woman to Watch on Broadway" by the Broadway Women's Fund, Macy's recent projects include:

TINA (Broadway), the upcoming Disney revival of *Aida*, Disney's re-imagined UK tour of *Beauty and the Beast* (on which she worked alongside the original creative team), the musical adaptation of Chelsea Clinton's *SHE PERSISTED* (Music Supervisor), and the acclaimed *Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical* (Orchestrator), for which her work was praised by The New York Times for its likeness to a "classic Disney Act I finale in the brassy manner of Alan Menken." Macy is also the Founder of The Broadway Sinfonietta, an all-female-identifying, majority women-of-color orchestra showcasing BIPOC women musicians on Broadway, which quickly caught the attention of national press. She is represented by ICM Partners. [Macyschmidtmusic.com](http://Macyschmidtmusic.com)

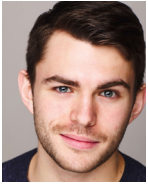


### Kenny Shepard

KENNY SHEPARD is an on-camera choreographer with Disney KIDS/ Broadway JR., a professor in the dance and musical theatre departments at Anderson and Ball State Universities and

director/choreographer with Actors Theatre of Indiana, The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, and The Phoenix Theatre. Recent performance credits: *On Broadway with Kander and Ebb* starring Beth Leavel with the Baltimore and Indianapolis Symphony Orchestras and Michael Feinstein's Palladium Gala. Favorites include Mercedes Ellington's swing show at NYC's Edison Ballroom, *The Wizard of Oz* (Scarecrow), *CATS* (Munkustrap), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Hanna), *Oklahoma!* (dream ballet), and *Disney's World's Beauty and the Beast* (Belle's Prince). [www.WorceShepardProductions.com](http://www.WorceShepardProductions.com)

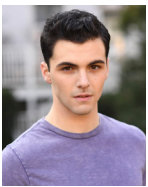




### Jacob Ryan Smith

Jacob Ryan Smith is an Atlanta native and graduate from The University of Michigan, where he received his BFA in musical theater and minor in musical theater songwriting. He currently lives in New

York City where he works as a full-time composer and performer. Most recently, you could see his new work "Marley Was Dead, To Begin With" right here in Atlanta. He'd like to thank Dan for the opportunity to come and play on his home turf.



### Jake David Smith

Jake David Smith is an actor and singer from Richmond, Virginia. In his free time Jake enjoys petting good dogs, coming up with fake band names, and recently joined a soccer league (go

envy!). Credits include - Broadway: Disney's *Frozen* (Ensemble u/s Hans), Regional: *Little Mermaid* (Prince Eric, Music Theatre Wichita), *Escape To Margaritaville* (Tully, Ogunquit Playhouse), *West Side Story* (Tony, New London Barn and The Prizery) TV: "EVIL" CBS (Young Stud). Much love and many thanks to my Family, Juliette, Oozma, Elon, and CGF.



### Nicholas Sostillio

Nicholas Sostillio graduated from Columbus State University with a Masters in Theatre Education and is currently the director of theatre at Warner Robins High School in Warner Robins, Georgia. His

program produces five productions annually that involve over 300 students. This includes two theatre for youth productions, in which his students perform for more than 4,000 elementary school students. Additionally Nicholas serves on the Educational Theatre Association Georgia Chapter Executive Board, is the Marketing and Communications director for Georgia Thespians, and board members for the Georgia Theatre Educators Conference.



### Holly Stanfield

Holly Stanfield is privileged to teach theatre at Mary D Bradford High School in Kenosha, Wisconsin. She has worked as a public school theatre and music educator for over 37 years. Awards include:

Educational Theatre Association Hall of Fame; The

Reba Robertson Award; 2016, and 2018 Tony: Excellence in Theatre Education Award - Honorable Mentions: and the Stephen Schwartz Musical Theatre Teacher of the Year. Under her direction, KUSD students have recorded seven reference CDs for MTI's School Edition series. She is also a clinician for Jump Start Theatre.



### Daniel Stoddart

Daniel is based in NSW, Australia and is one of the region's most well established performers and directors and is a Multi-City of Newcastle Drama Award winner with recent theatrical credits as actor and

director. Daniel is the co-founder of OzTheatrics, who produce the annual Junior Theatre Festival Australia and is the Founder of Hunter Drama, one of the biggest youth acting academies in Australia. Daniel is also a Freddie G Fellowship recipient at JTF Atlanta, USA and has been presented with keys to the city in North Carolina for his contributions to the arts. Daniel has recently been working on the latest Broadway JR. musical *Dot and the Kangaroo* with Daniel Mertzluft as Composer and Kate Leonard as Lyricist.



### Theresa Squire

Theresa has done a few different jobs at JTF since the very first one in 2003! The only reason she has missed a JTF is because she was designing a show or having a baby. JTF is one of her favorite

weekends of the year. Teaching costume design to the tech kids is a highlight. Although she designs mainly for theatre, her work has also been seen in dance, film, print, industrials, commercials and in the last 10 years, she co-designs with her daughter for Halloween. Her first job with iTheatrics was designing *Annie JR.* and *Bugsy Malone JR.* She then went on to design the costumes for the tours of *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *The Jungle Book* and *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley*. She worked on the workshops of *Alice in Wonderland JR.* and *Cinderella KIDS*. She also designed the New York premiere of *Dear Edwina* at Daryl Roth 2. Her most recent designs, pre-pandemic, include *Fun Home* (it is why she missed JTF 2020) & *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* at Kansas City Rep; *Amber Waves* (Indiana Repertory Theater) and *Sooner/Later* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park) all directed by Lisa Rothe. *To the Bone* (Cherry Lane) written by Lisa Ramirez, directed by Lisa Peterson, Charles Mee's *First Love* (Cherry Lane)



## Meet the Team

directed by Kim Wield, *Looking for Helen Twelvetrees* under director Leigh Silverman and Cusi Cram's *The Saint Vincent's Project* (Rattlestick) directed by Daniella Topol. She has also designed costumes for The Signature Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, The New Group, 2nd Stage, Hourglass Group, Barrow Street Theatre, The Atlantic Theatre Company, Soho Repertory and a couple more. Her costumes were seen on Broadway in *Lieutenant of Inishmore* & *High Fidelity*.



### Lotte Wakeham

Lotte is a British theatre director and is thrilled to be returning for her 4th JTF in Atlanta, having recently adjudicated at JTF Europe. In 2019 Lotte was appointed as Artistic Director of the Octagon Theatre in Bolton, UK ([www.octagonbolton.co.uk](http://www.octagonbolton.co.uk)). Prior to this she was Associate Artistic Director at the Stephen Joseph Theatre and an Associate Director at the Royal Shakespeare Company, working on *Matilda the Musical* in the West End. She was also Associate Director of *Matilda the Musical* on Broadway. @LotteWakeham



### Court Watson

Court Watson is a New York-based set and costume designer. Credits range from operas *La bohème*, *Rigoletto* (Wolf Trap), *King for a Day*, *Blizzard at Marblehead Neck* (Glimmerglass), *Tales of Hoffmann* (Beijing), *Samson and Dalilah*, *Three Decembers* (Virginia Opera), *Fledermaus* (Salzburg) to musicals *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Guys & Dolls* (Ford's Theatre), *Sound of Music* (Salzburg), *Dear Edwina* (Off-Broadway), and plays *Hannah Senesh*, *It Must Be Him*, *Harvey and the Princess* (Off-Broadway). He has designed multiple TYA productions with Ernie Nolan at Nashville Children's Theatre and Nina Meehan at the Bay Area Children's Theatre and multiple live theme park shows for Busch Gardens Williamsburg and SeaWorld.



### Carol Worcel

Carol Worcel played in the National Broadway Tours of 42nd STREET (lead dancer and understudy for Peggy Sawyer and Anytime Annie) and ANYTHING GOES starring Leslie Uggams (Virtue). Regional credits include A CHORUS LINE (Cassie and Val); ANNIE (Lilly St. Regis); GODSPELL (Player); HAIRSPRAY (Velma Von Tussle); SWING! (principal singer); The ISO's YULETIDE CELEBRATION (singer/

dancer); and THE KINGS SIX USO SHOW (European Tour). ATI credits include CHICAGO (Go-to-Hell Kitty/Co-Choreographer); GYPSY (Electra/Director/Choreographer); COLE (singer/dancer/Choreographer) and I LOVE A PIANO (Co-Director/Choreographer). Carol co-owns [www.WorcelShepardProductions.com](http://www.WorcelShepardProductions.com) with directing/choreography credits including Sandi Patty's LE VOYAGE, the NBA Pacer's Pacemates, Norwegian Cruise Lines, Circle of Lights, IndyFringe, Beef and Boards, Actors Theatre of Indiana, The Indy 500, as well as regional theatres, tours and opening ceremonies for national clients. As an educator, she has worked with iTheatrics, Ball State University, Anderson University, Palladium's Dance Discovery as well as many private studios across the United States.



### Michael Wordly

Michael has been seen on stage as a Lead Vocalist in 40+ Countries & 30+ States in the U.S. with "The Young Americans" and various Cruise Ship's Lines. In 2015 he won the Henry Award for "Best Supporting Male Actor" for his portrayal as Gator in *Memphis the Musical!* His favorite credits include *The Color Purple* (Revival), *Miss Saigon* (Revival), *The Little Mermaid* (5th Avenue theatre), and *Cinderella* (Paper Mill Playhouse). Michael was last seen starring as Lola in *Kinky Boots the Musical*. @mwordly



### Daniel J. Yearwood

Daniel Yearwood was born and raised in Harlem, NYC in Riverton Houses. Playgrounds, grown-ups teaching him how to play chess on the corner, and The Harlem School of the Arts were all some of the integral parts of his childhood. After attending The Bronx High School of Science from 2009-2013 he attended Pace University for a Bachelor in Fine Arts with a concentration in Musical Theatre. Post graduation in 2017 his credits include: Broadway: *Once On This Island* (2017 Revival), *Hamilton*; Off Broadway: *Grand Hotel*; Regional: *In The Heights* (Fulton Theatre), *Newsies* (Fulton Theatre).

# 2022 JTF Atlanta Participating Groups



**Academy Team Rock Hill**  
Rock Hill, SC



**Bay Area Performing Arts & Casting**  
Pinellas Park, FL



**Acting Upon Faith Productions**  
Hammond, LA



**BCCT**  
Brick, NJ



**ACTivate LLC**  
Lexington, KY



**Boothbay Region YMCA: YARTS!**  
Edgecomb, ME



**Apex Performing Arts**  
Wheat Ridge, CO



**BRAVO**  
Oak Park, IL



# Groups



**British Academy of Performing Arts  
Marietta, GA**



**Carpe Artista  
Smyrna, TN**



**Broadway Center for the Arts  
Maryville, TN**



**CAST Theatre  
Anniston, AL**



**Brilliant Acting Studio  
Alpharetta, GA**



**Center Stage Academy  
Warrensburg, MO**



**Carolina Academy of Performing Arts  
Apex, NC**



**CharACTers Children's Theatre  
Rainbow City, AL**





**Christian Family Theater**  
Chattanooga, TN



**CREATIVE THEATER**  
A NON-PROFIT THEATER COMPANY

**Creative Theater Workshop**  
Fort Myers, FL



**City Kidz Playhouse**  
Bayonne, NJ



**Decatur Community Players**  
Clarkston, GA



**City Springs Theatre Conservatory**  
Sandy Springs, GA



**DMR Adventures**  
Charlottesville, VA



**Community Theatre of Greensboro**  
Greensboro, NC



**Durant Road Musical Theatre**  
Wake Forest, NC



# Groups



**Eastern Shore Repertory Theatre  
Fairhope, AL**



**Edge Dance & Performing Arts Center  
Plano, TX**



**Encore Theatrical Company  
Morristown, TN**



**First Redeemer Church  
Cumming, GA**



**Florida Academy of Performing Arts  
Brandon, FL**



**Florida Rep Education  
Fort Myers, FL**



**Folsom Academy Of The Arts  
Louisville, KY**





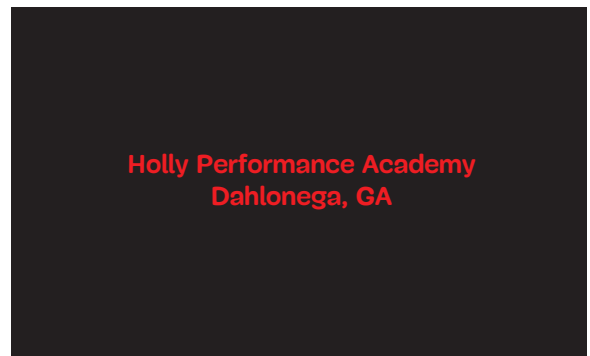
**Forefront Arts  
Lilburn, GA**



**High Point Community Theatre  
High Point, NC**



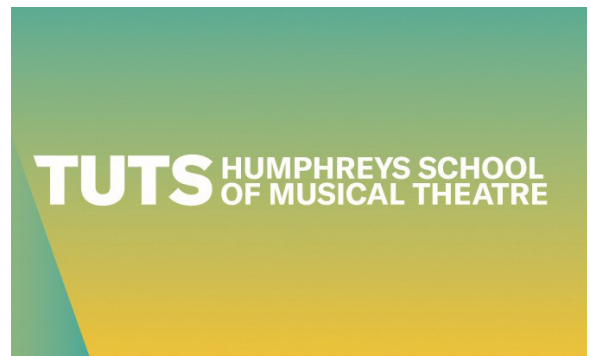
**Forsyth Academy of Performing Arts Company  
Cumming, GA**



**Holly Performance Academy  
Dahlonega, GA**



**From the Top Theatrics  
Marietta, GA**



**Humphreys School of Musical Theatre  
Houston, TX**



**Granbury Theatre Academy  
Granbury, TX**



**InnoVATION Arts Academy  
Lexington, KY**



# Groups



**Innovation Drama Academy  
Monroe, NC**



**Lewisville Arts Conservatory  
Lantana, TX**



**Inspiration Stage  
Sugar Land, TX**



**Magic Curtain Productions  
Orlando, FL**



**Jeter Backyard Theater  
Gibsonia, PA**



**Marietta Middle School  
Marietta, GA**



**Kids On Stage  
Snow Hill, NC**



**Marietta Sixth Grade Academy  
Marietta, GA**





**Mill Creek Musical Theatre  
Nolensville, TN**



**MelloDrama Productions  
Dahlonega, GA**



**Momentum Arts  
Snellville, GA**



**Melody Lane Performing Arts Center  
North Fort Myers, FL**



**Moorestown Theater Company  
Moorestown, NJ**



**Mercury Theatre Company  
Cleveland, OH**



**Mountain City Center for the Arts  
Frostburg, MD**



# Groups



**Musical Mayhem Productions**  
Elk Grove, CA



**New Spark Performing Arts**  
Memphis, TN



**Myrtle Beach Area Children's Theater**  
Myrtle Beach, SC



**NGMSDrama**  
Sugar Hill, GA



**Nashville Christian School**  
Nashville, TN



**North Texas Performing Arts - Fairview Youth Theatre**  
Fairview, TX



**Nashville Theatre School**  
Nashville, TN



**North Whitfield Middle School**  
Dalton, GA



**Northwest Theatre Lab  
Bonney Lake, WA**



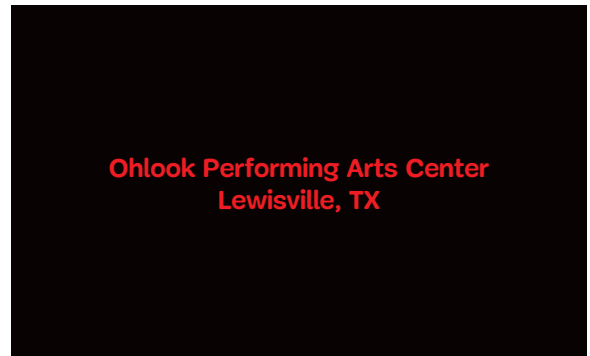
**Northwestern Middle School  
Atlanta, GA**



**Oakland Middle School  
Murfreesboro, TN**



**Off Broadway Childrens Theatre  
Alpharetta, GA**



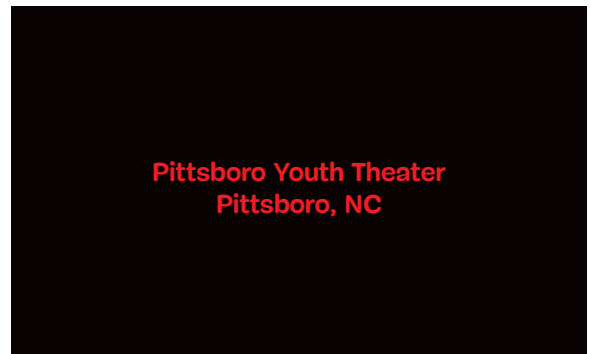
**Ohlook Performing Arts Center  
Lewisville, TX**



**Olde Towne Hall Theatre  
Elyria, OH**



**Pace School of the Arts  
Jonesboro, GA**



**Pittsboro Youth Theater  
Pittsboro, NC**



# Groups



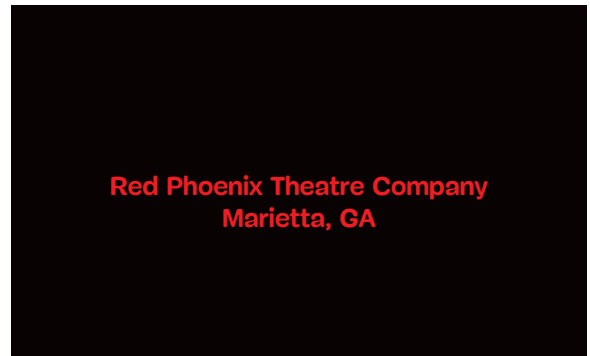
**Play On Players  
Duluth, GA**



**Red Mountain Theatre Company  
Birmingham, AL**



**Plaza Academy  
Cleburne, TX**



**Red Phoenix Theatre Company  
Marietta, GA**



**Preston Center Dance  
Dallas, TX**



**Riverside Theatre  
Vero Beach, FL**



**Raleigh Area Children's Theatre  
Raleigh, NC**



**SAC Youth Arts Ambassadors  
Springfield, OH**





**Seattle's Performers  
Seattle, WA**



**Snellville Performing Arts  
Snellville, GA**



**SET Studios  
Jacksonville, FL**



**Southeast Alabama Community Theatre  
Headland, AL**



**Showtime Theatre Company  
Rock Hill, SC**



**Spark Theater Company  
Dothan, AL**



**Smoke Rise Academy of Arts  
Stone Mountain, GA**



**Spotlight Players  
Mint Hill, NC**



# Groups



**Spotlight Squad  
Huron, OH**



**Studio Bleu Vocal & Theatre Arts  
Ashburn, VA**



**Spotlight Theatre Productions  
Sarasota, FL**



**Sunny Side Theater  
Mobile, AL**



**Stars That Act!  
Miami, FL**



**Texas Music Theatre Company  
Fort Worth, TX**

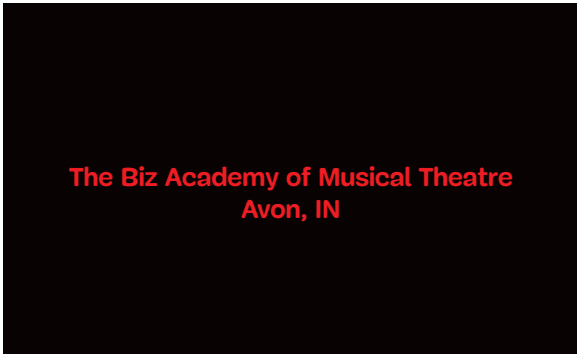


**Stopher Elementary  
Louisville, KY**



**The Actor's Charitable Theatre  
Tuscaloosa, AL**





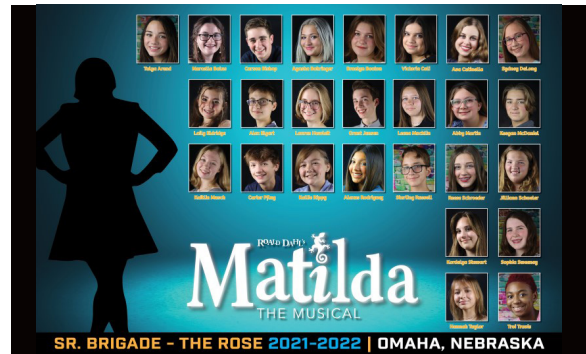
**The Biz Academy of Musical Theatre  
Avon, IN**



**The PACT Theatre Company  
Mobile, AL**



**The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati  
Cincinnati, OH**



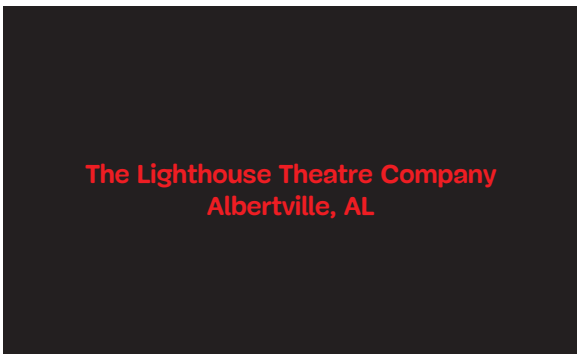
**The Rose Theater  
Omaha, NE**



**The JET-PAC  
Houston, TX**



**The Studio of The Sooner Theatre  
Norman, OK**



**The Lighthouse Theatre Company  
Albertville, AL**



**Treehouse Theater  
Manitowoc, WI**

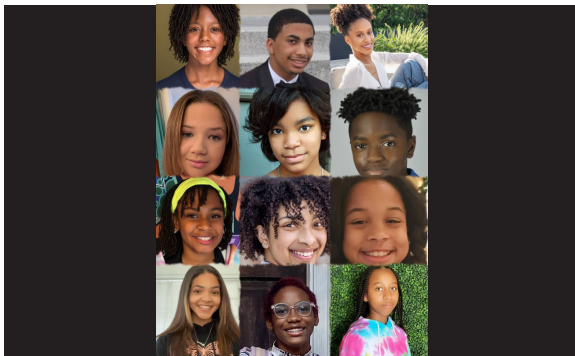
# Groups



**University School of Nashville  
Nashville, TN**



**Wings Performing Arts  
Biloxi, MS**



**Uptown Music Theatre  
New Orleans, LA**



**Woodford Theatre Young Artists  
Versailles, KY**



**Wellesley Theatre Project  
Wellesley Hills, MA**



**Woodruff ACE Music  
Seabrook, NJ**





# iTheatrics Summer 2022



FIND OUT MORE AT [WWW.ITHEATRICS.COM](http://WWW.ITHEATRICS.COM)

## ITHEATRICS ACADEMY

Every summer in New York City, iTheatrics workshops new adaptations of Broadway musicals for young performers. One-week programs run from July 4 - August 12.

Auditions for the summer 2022 programs are by video submission, so students all over the world are welcome to audition!



## ITHEATRICS INTERNS

iTheatrics is looking for interns to join our summer 2022 season! A great candidate is someone interested in theatre education.

Email [jiana@itheatrics.com](mailto:jiana@itheatrics.com) for more information on what it takes and how to apply to be a part of the team!



## TEACHING INTENSIVE

Learn how to teach theatre to young people with the iTheatrics Method! Join iTheatrics in New York City July 13 - July 15 for a weekend-long professional development session in the summer.

Information about the intensive will be made available in the spring.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT [JIANA@ITHEATRICS.COM](mailto:JIANA@ITHEATRICS.COM)