# DIGITAL PROGRAM



JANUARY 12 - 14, 2024 Atlanta, ga



# 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, Mary-Catherine Chambliss, Cindy Ripley, Richard Frazier, Joseph Ayala, Rob Rokicki, Laura Jo Schuster, Daniel Mertzlufft, Jiana J. Odland, Tammy Dinger, Marianne Phelps, Rebecca Marlowe

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Julia Averill, Caley Beretta, Alex Birsh, Philip S. Birsh, Jason Cocovinis, Drew Cohen, Logan Culwell-Block, Eleanor Davis, Carol Edelson, Sandria Effs,
Freddie Gershon, Myrna Gershon, Dean Greer, Stuart Hendricks, Andrew Kaufman, Drew Lacy, Ryan Macaulay, Taylor Mattes, Brian O'Sullivan, Bert Padovan,
Daniela Padovan, Valentina Padovan, Nick Pramik, John Prignano, Leonard Rodino, Dan Rudin, Kristi Russo, Chris Russo, David R. Scott

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!





# Welcome to JTF Atlanta 2024

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# **About iTheatrics**

# The Team

Welcome 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 chockfull 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**, 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 Vice President of Education Lindsav Weiner Lupi joined the team 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!). Social Media Director and Publications Editor Laura Jo Schuster arrived next to help make sure every Broadway Junior ShowKit<sup>®</sup> was picture perfect. Music Associate and Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical composer Daniel Mertzlufft 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 joined the team as Education Director after many years of collaborating as a teaching artist. Longtime freelancer Marianne Phelps became the fulltime Publications Associate Editor and General Manager of JTF. The illustrious Richard Frazier directs the JTF mainstage programs and many other iTheatrics projects.



From left; Marianne Phelps, Daniel J. Mertzlufft, Cindy Ripley, Steven G. Kennedy, Joseph Ayala, Rob Rokicki, Susan Fuller, Mary-Catherine Chambliss, Timothy Allen McDonald, Lindsay Weiner Lupi, Marty Johnson, Jiana J. Odland, Rebecca Marlowe, Laura Jo Schuster Photo: Seth Jolles Photography ©2022

Last but not least, former JTF kid **Rebecca Marlowe** came on board in 2022 as Education 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 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 underserved middle schools where there were none. These programs are active in Cincinnati, St. Louis, San Dlego, 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, 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, and get ready for even more musical theater magic. Welcome to the Junior Theater Festival.

**#TeamiTheatrics** 

# **JTF '24**

# **JTF 2024 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

#### **THURSDAY, JANUARY 11**

5:00 PM - 9:30 PM 5:00 PM - 9:30 PM Festival Sign-In Optional Group Rehearsals Waverly – Habersham Ballroom Waverly Hotel

#### **FRIDAY, JANUARY 12**

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM Festival Sign-In Optional Group Rehearsals PD Sign-In/Orientation Theater Opens Festival Kick-Off! Dinner Adjudications Waverly – Habersham Ballroom Waverly Hotel/Omni Hotel Waverly – Highlands Ballroom The Broadway Junior Theatre The Broadway Junior Theatre On Your Own Cobb Galleria/Waverly Hotel

#### **SATURDAY, JANUARY 13**

8:30 AM – 10:30 AM
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
1:00 PM – 2:45 PM
2:15 PM – 2:45 PM
2:45 PM – 3:45 PM
3:45 PM – 6:00 PM
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
7:30 PM – 8:00 PM
8:00 PM – 9:30 PM

Adjudications Snack Break Adjudications Lunch Theater Opens Direct From Broadway iTheatrics Video Auditions Student Workshops Teacher Workshops Parent & Guardian Panels Dinner Theater Opens New Works Showcase Cobb Galleria/Waverly Hotel/Omni Hotel On Your Own Cobb Galleria/Waverly Hotel/Omni Hotel On Your Own The Broadway Junior Theatre The Broadway Junior Theatre Waverly – Kennesaw Ballroom Cobb Galleria/Waverly Hotel/Omni Hotel Waverly Hotel Ballrooms The JTF Little Theatre – Cobb Exhibition Hall A On Your Own The Broadway Junior Theatre The Broadway Junior Theatre

#### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 14**

iTheatrics Video Callbacks 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Waverly – Kennesaw Ballroom 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM **Tech Olympics** Cobb Galleria Ballrooms Teacher Workshops Waverly Hotel Ballrooms 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM Theater Opens The Broadway Junior Theatre Growin' Up Broadway: LIVE! 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM The Broadway Junior Theatre 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM Cobb Galleria/Waverly Hotel/Omni Hotel Student Workshops 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM **Teacher Workshop** The Broadway Junior Theatre 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM Parent & Guardian Panels The JTF Little Theatre – Cobb Exhibition Hall A 11:15 AM - 1:00 PM All-Star Workshops Waverly Hotel Ballrooms 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM Lunch On Your Own **Theater Opens** The Broadway Junior Theatre 2:15 PM - 2:45 PM 2:45 PM - 3:45 PM There's A Place For Us The Broadway Junior Theatre 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Freddie G Awards Ceremony The Broadway Junior Theatre 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM Dinner On Your Own **Theater Opens** The Broadway Junior Theatre 7:30 PM - 8:00 PM The Broadway Junior Theatre 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM **JTF** Concert

# iThe iTheatrics Method

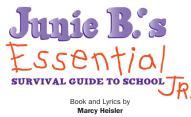
THE QUINTESSENTIAL GUIDE TO CREATING QUALITY MUSICAL THEATRE PROGRAMS

TIMOTHY ALLEN McDONALD, CYNTHIA A. RIPLEY & MARTY JOHNSON

# Available where books are sold!

# **2024 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 and musical theatre 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 it's also a chance to celebrate the fantastic performances of festival showcase groups.



Music by Zina Goldrich Adapted from the JUNIE B. JONES series of books by Barbara Park

#### THE ROSE THEATER OMAHA, NE



Music and Lyrics by Danny Elfman, Sammy Fain & Bob Hilliard, Oliver Wallace & Cy Coben, Michael Abbott & Sarah Weeks, and Mack David, Al Hoffman & Jerry Livingston

Music Adapted and Arranged and Additional Music and Lyrics by Bryan Louiselle

> Additional Arrangements & Orchestrations by Patrick Sulken

> > Book and Additional Lyrics by David Simpatico

Based on the 1951 Disney film Alice in Wonderland and the novels The Adventures of Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass by Lewis Carroll

> THE PACT THEATRE COMPANY MOBILE, AL



Music & Lyrics by Kate Anderson & Elyssa Samsel Book by Timothy Allen McDonald & Jodi Picoult Based on the book by Jodi Picoult & Samantha van Leer

BRADFORD THEATRE KENOSHA, WI



Music and Lyrics by Frank Loesser Book and Additional Lyrics by Timothy Allen McDonald

Additional Arrangements and Incidental Music by Daniel Mertzlufft

OVATION ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS OAK PARK, IL



Music & Lyrics by Eddie Perfect Book by Scott Brown & Anthony King Based On The Geffen Company Picture, With a Story by Michael McDowell & Larry Wilson

#### NORTH TEXAS PERFORMING ARTS FAIRVIEW, TX



MAROON POD   Waverly - Habersham Ballroom Friday, January 12			
7:00 PM	The Studio of The Sooner Theatre	Disney's Newsies JR.	
7:30 PM	The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati	Seussical JR.	
8:00 PM	Apex Performing Arts	Oliver! JR.	
8:30 PM	Ohlook Performing Arts Center	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.	
Saturday,	Saturday, January 13		
8:30 AM	Stars that Act!	Disney's Aladdin JR.	
9:00 AM	Snellville Performing Arts	Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.	
9:30 AM	Granbury Theatre Academy	Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.	
10:00 AM	Christian Family Theater	Junie B. Jones The Musical JR.	
11:00 AM	North Texas Performing Arts	Disney's Frozen JR.	
11:30 AM	Center Stage Youth Theatre	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.	
12:00 PM	Kids On Stage	Disney's Camp Rock: The Musical	

BLUE	POD	Waverly - Ballroom I/II
		4.0

riuay, January 12		
7:00 PM	Woodruff ACE Music	Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins JR.
7:30 PM	Page Middle School	Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.
8:00 PM	Oakland Middle School	Shrek The Musical JR.
8:30 PM	Mill Creek Musical Theatre	Disney's <i>Moana JR.</i>
Saturday,	January 13	
8:30 AM	Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation	The Drowsy Chaperone JR.
9:00 AM	Marietta Middle School	Disney's High School Musical JR.
9:30 AM	Stopher Elementary	Disney's Aladdin JR.
10:00 AM	Northwestern Middle School	Mean Girls JR.
11:00 AM	St. Joseph Catholic School	Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.
11:30 AM	NGMSDrama	Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins JR.
12:00 PM	Pace School of the Arts	Junie B. Jones The Musical JR.
12:30 PM	North Whitfield Middle School	Into The Woods JR.

# Pod Schedule

LILAC POD   Waverly - Ballroom III Friday, January 12			
7:00 PM	Moorestown Theater Company	Mean Girls JR.	
7:30 PM	Treehouse Theater	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.	
8:00 PM	Carpe Artista	Disney's Descendants: The Musical	
8:30 PM	Ignite Theatre Company	Seussical JR.	
Saturday, J	Saturday, January 13		
8:30 AM	Acting Upon Faith Productions	Disney's High School Musical 2 JR.	
9:00 AM	Riverside Theatre	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.	
9:30 AM	Raleigh Area Children's Theatre	Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.	
10:00 AM	Nashville Christian School	Madagascar - A Musical Adventure JR.	
11:00 AM	Ovation Academy for the Performing Arts	Disney's Newsies JR.	
11:30 AM	MelloDrama Productions	Shrek The Musical JR.	
12:00 PM	City Springs Theatre Conservatory	Legally Blonde The Musical JR.	

### LIME POD | Waverly - Ballroom IV Friday, January 12

	uur y 11	
7:00 PM	DMR Adventures	Disney's Descendants: The Musical
7:30 PM	British Academy of Performing Arts	Legally Blonde The Musical JR.
8:00 PM	Stage Center's School of Performing Arts	Disney's <i>Moana JR.</i>
8:30 PM	Texas Music Theatre Company	Children of Eden JR.
Saturday, J	anuary 13	
8:30 AM	Fort Bend Christian Academy	Disney's Aladdin JR.
9:00 AM	CAST Theatre	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.
9:30 AM	Spotlight Acting Academy	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.
10:00 AM	Westside Middle School	Disney's High School Musical JR.
11:00 AM	The PACT Theatre Company	Disney's Newsies JR.
11:30 AM	Gifford Youth Achievement Center/RT	Disney's The Lion King JR.
12:00 PM	Encore Theatrical Company	Seussical JR.

ORANGE POD   Waverly - Highlands Ballroom			
Friday, Janu	Friday, January 12		
7:00 PM	Melody Lane Performing Arts Center	Legally Blonde The Musical JR.	
7:30 PM	Brylliant Acting Studio	Shrek The Musical JR.	
8:00 PM	Plaza Academy	Singin' in the Rain JR.	
8:30 PM	City Kidz Playhouse	Mean Girls JR.	
Saturday, Ja	Saturday, January 13		
8:30 AM	Caryl Crane Youth Theatre	Xanadu JR.	
9:00 AM	Gypsy Playhouse	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.	
9:30 AM	Spotlight Players	Disney's Descendants: The Musical	
10:00 AM	Mrs. Z's Performing Arts Studio	Disney's The Lion King JR.	
11:00 AM	New Spark Performing Arts	Children of Eden JR.	
11:30 AM	Bradford High School Theatre Arts	Into The Woods JR.	
12:00 PM	Adelaide Youth Theatre	Disney's High School Musical JR.	

# NAVY POD | Waverly - Kennesaw Ballroom

r nauy, sana		
7:00 PM	BAMtheatre	Legally Blonde The Musical JR.
7:30 PM	Florida Academy of Performing Arts	Once On This Island JR.
8:00 PM	The SEED Falcon Theatre	Do You Wanna Dance? One-Act Edition
8:30 PM	Studio Bleu Vocal & Theatre Arts	Disney's Newsies JR.
Saturday, Ja	inuary 13	
8:30 AM	Creative Theatre Workshop	Disney's Aladdin KIDS
9:00 AM	Artistic Civic Theatre	Disney's The Lion King JR.
9:30 AM	Marietta Sixth Grade Academy	Disney's Newsies JR.
10:00 AM	New Albany Middle School	Oliver! JR.
11:00 AM	Preston Center Dance	Shrek The Musical JR.
11:30 AM	Off Broadway Childrens Theatre	Madagascar - A Musical Adventure JR.
12:00 PM	Academy Team Rock Hill	Junie B. Jones The Musical JR.

# Pod Schedule

GREEN POD   Cobb - Ballroom A/B Friday, January 12			
7:00 PM	МССА	Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.	
7:30 PM	Backstage Theater	Annie JR.	
8:00 PM	Purple Box Theater	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.	
8:30 PM	DM Performance Works	Shrek The Musical JR.	
Saturday,	Saturday, January 13		
8:30 AM	Spirit of the Stage	Disney's <i>Moana JR.</i>	
9:00 AM	Musical Mayhem Productions	Disney's Newsies JR.	
9:30 AM	SET Studios	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.	
10:00 AM	Time to Shine Performing Arts LLC	Children of Eden JR.	
11:00 AM	Magic Curtain Productions	Into The Woods JR.	
11:30 AM	Showtime Theatre Company	Disney's Descendants: The Musical	
12:00 PM	Broadway Center for the Arts	Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.	

# PURPLE POD | Cobb - Ballroom C/D

rinday, Janu	101 Y 12	
7:00 PM	Eastern Shore Repertory Theatre	Shrek The Musical JR.
7:30 PM	Carolina Academy of Performing Arts	Legally Blonde The Musical JR.
8:00 PM	Legacy Theater and Music Company	Into The Woods JR.
8:30 PM	Top Hat Theatrics	Disney's Newsies JR.
Saturday, Ja	inuary 13	
8:30 AM	The Anthony School	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.
9:00 AM	The Biz Academy of Musical Theatre	Disney's Descendants: The Musical
9:30 AM	The Actor's Charitable Theatre	Godspell JR.
10:00 AM	CYT Atlanta	Disney's Finding Nemo JR.
11:00 AM	The Rose Theater	Guys and Dolls JR.
11:30 AM	Forsyth Academy of Performing Arts	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.
12:00 PM	Due West Center for the Arts	Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.

# YELLOW POD | Cobb - Ballroom E

Friday, January 12				
7:00 PM	Northwest Theatre Lab	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.		
7:30 PM	Stageworks Theatre	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.		
8:00 PM	Olde Towne Hall Theatre	Disney's Aladdin JR.		
8:30 PM	First Stage Theatre Company	Mean Girls JR.		
Saturday, January 13				
8:30 AM	InnOVATION Arts Academy	Seussical JR.		
9:00 AM	Red Mountain Theatre	The Drowsy Chaperone JR.		
9:30 AM	Act3 Arts Academy	Into The Woods JR.		
10:00 AM	Nashville Theatre School	Mean Girls JR.		
11:00 AM	Centers for the Arts of Bonita Springs	Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.		
11:30 AM	ACTivate	Disney's Descendants: The Musical		
12:00 PM	Center Stage Arts Academy	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.		

# RED POD | Cobb - Ballroom F

Friday, January 12				
7:00 PM	Jeter Backyard Theater	Disney's Newsies JR.		
7:30 PM	High Point Community Theatre	Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.		
8:00 PM	Momentum Arts	The Big One-Oh! JR.		
8:30 PM	Lopez Studios, Inc.	Shrek The Musical JR.		
Saturday, January 13				
8:30 AM	Smoke Rise Academy of Arts	Disney's Aladdin JR.		
9:00 AM	Woodford Theatre Young Artists	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.		
9:30 AM	Firefly Theatrical	Legally Blonde The Musical JR.		
10:00 AM	Wings Performing Arts	Disney's Descendants: The Musical		
11:00 AM	University School Of Nashville	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.		
11:30 AM	Australasia All-Stars	Disney's Finding Nemo JR.		
12:00 PM	Spark Theater Company	Mean Girls JR.		

# Pod Schedule

MAGENTA POD   Omni - Ballroom 1 Saturday, January 13				
8:30 AM	Boothbay Region YMCA: YARTS!	Godspell JR.		
9:00 AM	Masquerade Theatre	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.		
9:30 AM	First Redeemer Church	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.		
10:00 AM	Center Stage Academy	Shrek The Musical JR.		
11:00 AM	Spotlight Theatre Productions	Disney's The Lion King JR.		
11:30 AM	Fort Myers Theatre	Disney's Descendants: The Musical		
12:00 PM	HART Theatre	Disney's Newsies JR.		

# SILVER POD | Omni - Ballroom 2/3 Saturday, January 13

8:30 AM	Wellesley Theatre Project	Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.		
9:00 AM	Myrtle Beach Area Children's Theater	Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.		
9:30 AM	SAC Youth Arts Ambassadors	Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.		
10:00 AM	New Braunfels Performing Arts	Mean Girls JR.		
11:00 AM	Inspiration Stage	Children of Eden JR.		
11:30 AM	Moving Art	Into The Woods JR.		
12:00 PM	Forefront Arts	Legally Blonde The Musical JR.		

### **Festival Kick-off**

Our Festival Kick-off is a Junior Theater Festival-style welcome designed to get you jazz-hands-ready for the weekend ahead! Hosted by JTF Founder and CEO Timothy Allen McDonald, this cavalcade of talent features a student performance of the US National Anthem, the Sondheim pledge, and an unforgettable surprise... or three.

# **Direct From Broadway**

JTF is spirit-finger-excited to welcome back festival favorites Luca Padovan (School of Rock Broadway) and Isabella Russo (School of Rock Broadway) to host this all-new mainstage extravaganza. Featuring puppetry from Jim Henson's Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas, plus interviews and performances by superstars from SIX, Hadestown, and London's West End.

### **Growin' Up Broadway: LIVE!**

Hosted by AKA North America's Sarah Jane Arnegger and Timothy Allen McDonald, this live talk show (based on the hit podcast) features career conversations, an out-of-control quiz game, and mind-blowing performances from today's hottest theatre makers.



#### There's a Place for Us

Hosted by JTF Director of Programming Jiana Odland, this gathering of theatre's brightest and best celebrates diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility through conversation and performance. You'll want to be a part of the conversation as these brilliant professionals share their personal stories and lead us on an exploration of how we can all work together to create a brighter theatre future for everyone.



# Adam and Arielle Jacobs; Broadway Siblings LIVE in Concert



In their one-night-only sibling cabaret, Arielle and Adam Jacobs (stars of Broadway's Wicked, Aladdin, In the Heights, The Lion King, Les Misérables, and Between the Lines), share stories about their younger days (when they battled each other over everything), their family's adventures that led them to where they are today, and a few adventures of their own that taught them that, sometimes, breaking the rules can work in your favor; ultimately taking them from family foes to the best of friends.

Complete with childhood photos, video, and never-before-heard stories of their resourceful disobedience, this evening will be an eclectic musical mix of Broadway, pop, and rock tunes. For one night only, this brother-sister team will sing you straight to your happy place, and remind you that your family knows you better than anyone in the whole world. So, get ready to get familial.

"He's the dazzling stage vet whose great looks and even greater pipes served him well leading the Broadway blockbusters Les Misérables, The Lion King and now Aladdin. She's the charming little sister who followed him from California to Broadway, debuting as a touching Nina in the final In The Heights company and then rolled around Oz as Nessarose in Wicked. Together, they're a stunning sibling act. Get to know Adam and Arielle Jacobs!" —Broadway.com

#### Store

# MUSICALSINC.COM Store

# **AN ALL-THINGS-THEATRE SHOP!**

At the MUSICALSINC.COM Store, pick up official merchandise from some of Broadway's best musicals! Also available to purchase is special JTF merchandise that you won't be able to get anywhere else!

# WHEN TO SHOP

### Friday, January 12

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM 5:30 PM - 9:30 PM

#### Saturday, January 13

8:30 AM - 2:45 PM 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM

#### Sunday, January 14

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM 11:00 AM – 2:45 PM 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

\*\*\*The store will be closed during mainstage performances\*\*\*



Please note that stock is limited, so we strongly suggest shopping at your earliest convenience. Merchandise design and availability are subject to change.





# 2024 Junior Theater Festival **iTheatrics**



#### **Timothy Allen McDonald**

Founder and Executive Producer Hi! I'm Tim, the Founder and Executive Producer of Junior Theater Festivals Worldwide. We serve over

15,000 musical theatre makers annually. I'm also the Founder and CEO of iTheatrics, where I've had the honor of adapting over 125 musicals ranging from *Xanadu JR*. to *Annie JR*. An estimated 36 million people attend one of these productions annually, which is three times the number of people who see a Broadway show each year. That's pretty cool.

In 1997, I moved to New York City from Northern California hoping to become a musical theatre librettist. Thanks to hard work and a little bit of luck I've been able to write shows like 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 also reimagined as the world's first "Zoomsical" and one of the most produced musicals during the COVID pandemic.

I've also penned *Hans Christian Andersen* (Frank Loesser), which opened at Nashville Children's Theater February 20, 2020, and *Breathe*, written with Jodi Picoult and five songwriting teams (Rob Rokicki and Rebecca Murillo, Daniel Mertzlufft 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 and is now available on Audible.

Since the fall of 2022, so many dreams have come true. Between The Lines opened Off-Broadway at the Tony Kiser Theatre. The Book Thief continued its West End journey with performances in Conventry and Leicester. I produced Jim Henson's Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas at Chicago's Studebaker Theatre. And directly after JTF Atlanta, the debut reading of Austenland will take place in NYC starring the incomparable Arielle Jacobs. Fortunately, people seem to like the shows, even the critics.

I should also mention I'm 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. I'm dedicating this festival to our theatre teachers. Thank you for continuing to make the world a better place one musical at a time. Oh! Don't forget to follow me on Insta: TimMcDonaldNYC.



#### Susan Fuller

Associate Producer (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 is the mom of two school-aged gingers, Beckett and Gus.



#### Lindsay Weiner Lupi

Associate Producer (Administration)

Lindsay (she/her) was part of the first generation of young people to experience the transformative power of the arts through Broadway Junior<sup>®</sup>. 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<sup>®</sup> 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. Lindsav 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 & 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. Lindsay is a fitness enthusiast and breast cancer advocate. Proud mom of eight-year-old Tucker and six-year-old Talia! @lindsayariennelupi





#### Steven G. Kennedv

Director of Choreography From an early fascination with the magic of the stage, Steven knew he found his passion. His performance career led into a commitment to transformative education, reflecting a blend of

creativity and mentorship. Steven endeavors to infuse innovation into the learning process, encouraging students to embrace their individuality and express themselves with confidence. As Steven continues to shape the next generation of thinkers and doers, he hopes to inspire others to embrace their unique talents. Steven extends heartfelt love to his husband Tim, whose unwavering encouragement and support has been a beacon throughout their journey together and their sweet and loyal schnoodle, Duch.



#### **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. Following her undergraduate education at Troy University, Mary-Catherine served as an Associate Teaching Artist at

Lexington Children's Theatre. 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 New York she developed curriculum for Manhattan Youth's Summer Musical Theatre Intensive and Manhattan Youth's Education Director, serving schools including The Anderson School and The Professional Performing Arts School. She is thrilled to have found her way back to iTheatrics as the Education Director. At iTheatrics, she works with various educational partnerships such as the Shubert Foundation/NYC Department of Education and Jumpstart Theatre; adapts for the iTheatrics Academy; produces the iTheatrics Summer Teaching Intensive; develops curriculum connections, community connections, and additional educational resources for published ShowKits™ and Production Guides; and constructs the educational curriculum, workshops, experiences, and professional development track for the Junior Theater Festivals worldwide as well as the Junior Theater Celebrations. Mary-Catherine has her MED in Theatre Education from Columbus State University. She is grateful for the opportunity to help make the world a better place one musical at a time!



#### 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!



#### **Richard Frazier** Mainstage Director

Richard holds a BSEd in Theatre Education from Columbus State University. He is the Executive/Artistic Director of Theatre Macon, where he established Theatre Macon

Education. Richard is this year's JTF Mainstage Director and has worked with iTheatrics for nearly 6 years. He directed and choreographed the workshop productions of Between the Lines JR. and Beetlejuice JR. Richard was recently elected Vice President of the Educational Theatre Association's Board of Directors and will become the Association's first Black president in 2025. Richard serves as Assistant Chapter Director for Georgia Thespians.



#### **Joseph Avala**

Director of Information Technology

Joseph began his career 27 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 the proud uncle of Nat and AJ!



#### Rob Rokicki Music Associate

Rob Rokicki is a NYC-based artist & educator. He is the composer/lyricist & co-orchestrator of the Broadway show The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical (Lortel, Off-Broadway

Alliance, & 3 Drama Desk nominations, book by Joe Tracz). Projects: the graphic novel musical Monstersongs (NAMT); the immersive Experience Marianas (O'Neill semi-finalist). Punk Rock Girl! (with Joe Iconis); The Real Gemma Jordan (with Anna K. Jacobs); Strange Tails (Ars Nova); Breathe (with Rebecca Murillo; book by Timothy McDonald & Jodi Picoult). He is a two-time Larson Award finalist & BMI writing workshop alum. He believes in accessibility for creators & audiences. robrokicki.com @rrokicks

### Theatrics



#### Laura Jo Schuster

Special Teams Coordinator Laura Jo's love for musical theatre began in the sixth grade after being cast as an orphan in the school production of Annie. She pursued a career in theatre 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 transcriptionist before joining iTheatrics in 2012. As Publications Editor, Laura Jo helped publish more than 70 shows for young people. She is delighted to be back at JTF!



#### Daniel Mertzlufft

Mainstage Music Supervisor

Daniel Mertzlufft is a NYC-based composer/ arranger most known for his viral sensation The Thanksgiving Musical on The Late Late Show with James Corden and for launching the TikTok Ratatouille musical movement, and he was the

Executive Producer, Composer and Music Supervisor, composer and arranger for For You, Paige, the world's first TikTok-commissioned musical, and Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical. Daniel also wrote "The Meaning Of Pride (Be True To You)" for Nickelodeon's Pride 2021 collection, performed by drag queen and activist Nina West. Original works include: Fashion Show, Breathe, and Dot and the Kangaroo, commissioned by MTI Australasia and iTheatrics.



#### Jiana J. Odland

Company Manager, Director of Programming 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. 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 produces the Junior Theater Celebrations. As the DEI Advisor, Jiana produces, writes, and hosts events 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 more inclusive and accessible theater and is committed to creating equitable space for young theatre artists, and is studying diversity, equity, and

inclusion with Cornell University. In 2018, Jiana choreographed a 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, or playing with her best friend, Chicago the Doggo. Jiana is so grateful for the opportunity to keep sharing musical theatre with the world! @iianaodd



#### Tammy Dinger Hotel Coordinator

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.



#### Marianne Phelps General Manager

Marianne is an Actors' Equity actor living and working in Lexington, KY. She received her bachelor's degree in theatre from the University of Evansville and her MFA in

acting from University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill/ PlayMakers Repertory Company. After living and working in New York City in television, film, voice over, and the stage, she returned to her home state to fulfill a lifelong promise of expanding the arts in central Kentucky. Marianne also sings, plays various instruments, teaches and coaches acting, directs plays, and has experience in arts administration and operational planning. She is the associate editor for iTheatrics, where she's worked for nine years. She is honored to be part of both Team iTheatrics and Team JTF!



#### Rebecca Marlowe Administrative Associate

Rebecca Marlowe is thrilled to be back at JTF! National Tour: Billy Elliot: The Musical (Swing/ Tracy Atkinson) Favorite performances: Anything Goes (Mrs. Harcourt), Small Town

Story (Gwen), Urinetown (Little Sally), A Little Night Music (Frederika), The Pirates of Penzance (Isabel/Dance Captain), Sister Act (Sister Mary Lazurus). Huge thanks to the full iTheatrics team for letting her be a part of such a special workplace and family.

# 2024 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 and Sacramento. He is one of the key supervisors on the Apiac 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 10th 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 Ruth has recently entered the world of architectural lighting as a proud member of the SESCO Lighting family. This new path follows 16 years in higher education as a

lighting design professor in Savannah, GA, where she makes her home. Lighting with music is her passion and has led to hundreds of productions in opera, dance, musical theatre and concerts over the past 27 years. She is proud to bring epic lighting to the Broadway Junior Theatre for the 11th time at JTF Atlanta with her amazing team!



#### 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 Theater Festival 2008-2024. 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.



#### 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.



#### Jay Rabbitt

Audio Coordinator/CEO of ICP Jay is the CEO of ICP – In Concert Productions Companies, Inc. ICP is JTF's supplier of audio, video projection, and staging services, and he is one of the

festival's project managers. Since 1980, Jay and his company have provided production services for many of your favorite broadcast TV and film shows, from *Family Feud* to *The Hunger Games*, along with corporate events for Fortune 500 companies such as Coca-Cola, Delta Air Lines, Chick-Fil-A, and Mercedes Benz. Tim McDonald and the iTheatrics organization are one of ICP's longest-running clients, since back in the days when only 800 people attended and the production took up ¼ of the space it does now. Jay has been married to the love of his life, Maria, since 2010. Jay is proud to have two grandchildren from his oldest daughter, Payton, and her husband, Andrew: Mason (12) and Brynlee (10). Jay's youngest daughter, Jaycie, and her husband, TJ, have their hands full with 3 boys: Walker (3), and twins Charlie and Sutton (2).

#### **Dustin Adams**

Master Electrician



# Marion Ayers

Marion (she/her) is a freelance sound engineer based in NYC where she works primarily on new works. Past productions include: Once Upon A One More Time

(Shakespeare Theater Company), *How To Defend Yourself* (Humana Festival, 2019), *Evocation to Visible Appearance* (Humana Festival, 2018). She holds a BFA in Sound Design from the Peter Sargent Conservatory of Theatre Arts at Webster University. In her spare time, she enjoys finding 24-hour diners, perusing modern art museums, and film photography.



#### Julianna Babb

MUSICALSINC.COM Store Associate Julianna is a director/choreographer and teaching artist based in Philadelphia, PA. Since graduating from University of the Arts with a BFA in Musical Theatre, she has

worked with both regional theatres and schools to create exciting and heartfelt productions with young actors. Julianna is thrilled to experience the magic of JTF for a second time!



#### Mary Nye Bennett

Assistant Facilities Director Mary Nye Bennett has been part of the professional Theatre scene for over 20 years! Some of her favorite acting roles include Diana in Next to Normal, The Lady of the

Lake in *Spamalot*, Kate Monster in *Avenue* Q, and Paulette in *Legally Blonde the Musical*. Mary joined the Atlanta Lyric Theatre staff in 2012 as the Director of Education and Development. In December 2016, she transitioned into the role of Artistic Director. When the Lyric Theatre closed its doors in March 2023, Mary transitioned back to freelance artist life – allowing her to choose projects that truly spark joy! She has been lucky enough to direct, costume design, wig design, and of course, her greatest passion, perform! Mary enjoys spending her summers in Colorado working at Rocky Mountain Repertory Theatre as a director, actor, and costume designer. However, Mary's favorite job is mother to her 7-year-old goofball, Davey.



### William Brown

Associate Lighting Designer William Brown is a NYC-based Lighting Designer for theatre, dance, and live events; and is thrilled to return to JTF for the 8th year. Recent projects include: *Misery*;

Dogfight; Steel Magnolias; The Little Mermaid (Sierra Rep); A Chorus Line; Beautiful: The Carole King Musical (New London Barn Playhouse); The Moor's Pavane; Orfeo; A Choreographic Offering (Limón Dance Company); Dracula (The Florida Ballet). Associate/assistant work for: Big Shot (Chase Brock Experience); Lizard Boy (Prospect); Coal Country (Audible); Nutcracker Rouge (CompanyXIV). When not designing he works as the Lighting Director for Limón Dance and as the Assistant Lighting Director for Alvin Ailey. BFA, SCAD; MFA, Boston University. williambrownlighting. com



#### Avery Brunkus Social Media, RPM

Avery is a New York City–based photographer and designer specializing in theatre, film, and behind-the-scenes content capture. Select work includes ten-time Tony Award–winning

Moulin Rouge! The Musical, The Music Man, Phantom of the Opera, Death Becomes Her, Boop!, Chicago, Take Me Out, and Mike Birbiglia's The New One. Her images have been featured in Vogue, Vanity Fair, Variety, Forbes, Paper Magazine, The Wall Street Journal and The New York Times, among others. She is currently the Content Director at RPM.



#### Ali Caiazzo Assistant Event Manager

Ali Caiazzo is thrilled to be a part of this year's Junior Theater Festival! Ali's love of children's theater began at Upper Darby Summer Stage. She spent many summers as

an audience member, a performer, and eventually a staff member bringing children's theater to the community. Ali has since worked on many Junior Theater productions across the greater Philadelphia region. On stage, Ali can sometimes be found touring or on Paramount Plus performing as Rocky in Nickelodeon's Paw Patrol, Live!. She offers many thanks for having her and hopes everyone enjoys the Junior Theater Festival!



#### Liz Campbell

Assistant Event Manager Liz Campbell (she/her) is a Stage Manager at the Alliance Theatre, where she has been on the Stage Management team for over 60

shows. She is also a freelance SM in the metro Atlanta area (Synchronicity, Theatrical Out it, Horizon). She also served as the Production Manager at the Atlanta Lyric Theatre until the pandemic and its subsequent closing. She has been the Stage Manager for the GHSMTA (Shuler Awards) since 2015. She holds a BFA in Theatre from Niagara University. Member of Actors' Equity Association. Co-founder of Atlanta Theatre Artists for Justice.



#### Alison Carroll Lead A2

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 Theater Festival this year and hope that everyone has a chance to learn something new!



#### Noah Dettman

Sound Engineer for Breakout Rooms

Noah Dettman is a sound engineer based in Tucson, Arizona. Recent national tour credits include: Production Audio for How the Grinch Stole Christmas, Assistant Audio for To Kill a

Mockingbird. Regional credits include: The Sound of Music, A Little Night Music (AZO); Next to Normal (SAPAC); The Hunchback of Notre Dame, A Christmas Carol (Arts Express). Noah has worked as the House Audio for the Fox Tucson Theatre and is a proud member of IATSE Local #415. Love and much thanks to Mom, Dad, and Vanessa.

#### **Cameron Edkins**

Associate Carpenter



#### Caitlyn Gallip Social Media, RPM

Caitlyn is a New York-based award-winning social media strategist and content expert who has worked with Broadway's most significant producers, creating arguably the

strongest social media campaigns in the industry. Her passion for online community-building creates viral moments and unique opportunities to reach people all over the world. She is currently the Social Media Director at RPM.



### Scott Goodell

Video Auditions Manager

Husband to the adorable Shay Rodgers; lover of all things Broadway; Medicare Broker by Day, Choreography Supporter by night. I am happy to spend time in the musical theatre

world and excited to see the kids audition.

#### **Tommy Hague**

Lighting Programmer



#### Morgan Harrington

Assistant Lighting Designer (Little Theatre)

Morgan Harrington just completed her BFA in Production Design concentrating in Lighting Design at Savannah College of Art and Design. This is Morgan's second time here at

JTF, last year as a student volunteer teaching technical lectures. She wants to thank everyone at iTheatrics for this opportunity to return and be a part of the team. Hope everyone has a great weekend and good luck! :)



#### **Michael Herwitz**

Script Supervisor Michael Herwitz made his JTF debut in *The Aristocats KIDS* and is thrilled to be on the festival staff 17 years later. Michael is a New York City–based director and producer. Most

recently, Michael directed the twice-extended, sold-out, and critically acclaimed run of *Job* at the SoHo Playhouse and has developed and staged new plays and musicals at HERE Arts Center, Ensemble Studio Theater, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Martha's Vineyard Playhouse and the Pasadena Playhouse. His education spans Northwestern University to LaGuardia Arts to watching countless movie musicals as a kid. www.michaelherwitz.com.



#### Shirlee Idzakovich

MUSICALSINC.COM Store Associate Shirlee is a professional costumer from NYC. A proud Freddie G Fellowship winner.



#### 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*. Lavaia has toured internationally through

China, The Republic of Georgia, Hong Kong, Italy, Romania, Slovenia, Switzerland and the United Arab Emirates. Education: MFA, Columbia University. BA, Gonzaga University. Member of AEA, Local 764, and SITI Company. She currently is working for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS as a producer.



#### Chris Luner

Production Manager

Chris Luner is the Artistic & Managing Director of Upper Darby Summer Stage, one of the nation's oldest & most successful youth theater programs. Chris is excited to

bring Luner Eclipse Productions on board to serve as the festival production manager. Credits include Broadway; Ivo Van Hove's West Side Story, Pretty Woman, Indecent, The Illusionists: Witness The Impossible. National Tours; On Beckett, The King & I, The Illusionists. Luner Eclipse has worked with Fiasco, Transport Group, Classic Stage Company, The Acting Company, Bedlam, SoHo Rep. as well as The Alliance, Paper Mill Playhouse & more. Chris produced Ranch Water, an Indie Award winning film. @Chris\_Luner @LunerEclipseProductions



#### **Don Martin**

*Head Carpenter* Don Martin has been a Stagehand since 1966.



### Kyle Brewster McGinley

Merchandise Director Kyle 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, The McKittrick Hotel and luxury NYC real estate. This is his 8th year managing operations and designing merchandise for the MUSICALSINC.COM Store!



#### Justin G. Nelson

MUSICALSINC.COM Store Associate Justin G. Nelson is a successful performer

and creative based in New York City. He was recently seen in the concert reading of *Jelly's Last Jam* at Long Wharf Theatre. When he's

not on stage or auditioning, he's running his brand agency, Nelson Design Lab, or blogging about plant-based nutrition with his brand Earthy and Cultured. Justin is what you would consider a multi-hyphenate.

www.justingnelson.com



#### 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 24 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 17th year at JTF and 4th festival working as part of the Info Booth team.



#### Troy Parker

House Manager Troy Parker is an Atlanta-based actor, creative and performance-driven development professional. He received his BFA in Musical Theatre Performance from

Reinhardt University. He has over nineteen years of Performance, Administrative and Management experience along with ten years of Marketing, Public Relations and Development/Sales experience. Currently he works full time as the Director of Corporate Relations for United Way of Greater Atlanta. He also serves the fan-FREAKIN-tastic and delightful patrons of The Georgia Ensemble Theatre as the Front of House Manager.



#### **Jakob Plummer**

Assistant Event Manager

Originally from Galion, Ohio. Broadway: Oslo (Tony Award Best Play), Sunday in the Park with George, A View from the Bridge (Tony Award Best Revival of a Play), The Crucible,

*KPOP, Dancin', Hadestown.* Additional: The MET Gala, Tiffany & Co., The GRAMMY Awards, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, Juilliard, A.R.T., The U.S. Open, TEDTalks, The New Group, Primary Stages, Classic Stage, Weston Theatre Company, Arizona Theatre Company, The Junior Theater Festival ('15-'16), Heartbeat Opera, Baldwin-Wallace Alum. Upcoming: Gun & Powder (PaperMill Playhouse).



#### Tim Prestridge VIP Coordinator

Tim has been working in general management and fundraising for arts and media organizations throughout his entire career. He currently serves as the Director of

Advancement Operations and Engagement for the Smithsonian's National Zoological Park and Conservation Biology Institute. Prior to his role as the Zoo, he has worked for NPR, the Kennedy Center, other Smithsonian museums in Washington, DC as well as regional theaters in the Boston area. And to top it off, he secretly knits in his spare time.



#### 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 Sound/Outbound Mixer

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!



#### Nicholas Sostillio

Associate Mainstage Director

Nicholas Sostillio is a dedicated educator and advocate for the arts, with a passion for theater education that has shaped his career and mission. Holding a master's degree in

Theatre Education, Nicholas is a theatre director at Warner Robins High School in Warner Robins, Georgia. He proudly serves as the Chapter Director of Georgia Thespians and Educational Theatre Association, an organization that nurtures the creative talents of young Thespians and teachers across the state. His unwavering mission is to guarantee that theater becomes an accessible and enriching experience for every student.



#### **Amy Valley**

Media Blitz and Book Signing Associate

Amy, returning to JTF for her eleventh 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.



#### Katie Valley

Assistant House Manager (Little Theater)

Katie Valley is currently studying Hospitality Business at Michigan State University to prepare for a career in Event Planning. From her first on-stage role in *Joseph and the* 

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at age 7 to her most recent role in Roald Dahl's Matilda, Katie has always had a love for musical theater and the theater community. She is excited to return this year for her 10th Junior Theater Festival!



#### Andrew Volzer Event Manager

Andrew is thrilled to be returning to JTF! He is currently on the 1st National Tour of *Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations*. Graduated from the University

of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) with a BFA in Stage Management. Previous iTheatrics credits include: iTheatrics' Choreography Video Shoots, Freddie G Fellowship, and the Summer Academy. Other credits include: Kentucky Opera and America's Got Talent. Member of AEA.



#### Alexandra Warner-Valley

Social Media Content Specialist 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.



#### **Marcus Woollen**

Festival Photographer Former actor + singer, now happily working at MTI, Marcus grew up in Washington State, California, Belgium and New Hampshire, and has lived in New York City

since 1993. He spends his evenings and weekends either in a theatre seat or training/competing in bike, swim or running events. His favorite lyric is, "Look, I made a hat. Where there never was a hat." His first JTF was in 2007, and he is thrilled to have seen so many wonderful performances through his camera lenses over the years.



IN CONCERT PRODUCTIONS, INC. (Audio, Video Projection, and Staging Services) ICP Audio, LLC and ICP Comms, LLC, both part of the In Concert Productions Companies, Inc., are JTF's long-time Audio, Intercom, Video Projection, and Staging Services providers. For the past 43 years, ICP has provided services to the TV broadcast, film, corporate, theatrical, and special events industries across the USA. A partial list of projects includes *Family Feud*, *So You Think You Can Dance, We Are Family, Snake Oil, I Can See Your Voice, Judge Steve, The Cube*, Chick-Fil-A, Delta Air Lines, US Army Aviation, USN Blue Angels, NBA, Porsche, Tyler Perry Studios, and many more.

#### **ICP Crew:**

Jay Rabbitt, Cody Denson, Ben Crews, Jeremy Barfield, Brandon Lamons, Soloman King, Cameron Terry, Joel Barnes, Noah Kess, Stan Chaney



**RPM** (Social Media/Marketing) is a full-service agency tailored for live entertainment and experiences. Our team works directly with clients on campaigns that are effective and progressive in both strategy and creativity. Clients include the Broadway shows *Hamilton*, *Chicago*, *Moulin Rouge!*, Madison Square Garden Entertainment, and others. Upcoming titles include Queen of Versailles by Steven Schwartz, *Death Becomes Her* from Universal, *Boop!*, and *Real Women Have Curves*.

#### **RPM Team:**

Founders – Ilene Rosen, Nick Pramik, Pete Milano • Managing Partner – Kara Carothers Social Media Director – Caitlyn Gallip • Content Director – Avery Brunkus



**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 Theatre Wing, *Annie* (Tour); *Blippi! The Wonderful World Tour*; *Company* (Tour); *Girl From The North Country* (Tour); *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*; *Maybe Happy Ending*; New York Cruises; *Peppa Pig Live!*; *Purlie Victorious*; *RiseNY*; Sesame Street Live!; Spamalot; The Tony Awards; *Water for Elephants*; and many more.

#### Super Awesome Friends:

Director of Video Production – Scott Lupi • Switchers – Nicholas Guldner, Scott Lupi • Line Producers – Carol Hartsell, Jason Noricks • Camera Operators – Jensen Chambers, Aaron Leong, Jason Noricks, Sandra Noricks, Giovanni Enrique Quintanar, Justin Reich • Editors – Jensen Chambers, Nicholas Guldner, Justin Reich • Virtual Experience Community Managers – Rebecca Prowler, Daniela Leguisamo, Charnele Gomez



**PRINT SHOP PR** – led by partners Matt Ross and Nicole Capatasto – brings an old-school sensibility and tenacity to the modern press landscape to craft focused, impactful publicity campaigns for theatre productions, companies and artists in New York and beyond.

Originally founded in 2014 as Matt Ross PR, Print Shop's current and recent clients include: New York Theatre Workshop, The Irish Repertory Theatre, MCC Theater, What the Constitution Means to Me (Broadway, National Tour, Amazon Studios), *Sweeney Todd*, Classic Stage Company, Primary Stages, Pass Over, Is This A Room/Dana H., Josh Groban, The Tank, Clubbed Thumb, 59E59, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, The Civilians, Center Theatre Group, Dramatists Guild, New Georges, The Sol Project, The Movement Theatre Company, LAByrinth, Gingold, Breaking the Binary, The Fred Ebb Awards, and the TEAM.

# 2024 Junior Theater Festival Adjudicators, Workshop Leaders, & Special Guests



# Elyssa Samsel & Kate Anderson

Elyssa Samsel and Kate Anderson are the Drama Desk– and Outer Critics Circle–nominated songwriting

duo behind Apple TV's Central Park, Disney Animation's "Olaf's Frozen Adventure" (Annie nomination), the off-Broadway Musical "Between the Lines" (Drama Desk, OCC nominated), and "The Book Thief," which just played the Leicester Curve and Coventry's Belgrade Theatre in the UK. It is now eyeing a West End Transfer.



#### Sarah Jane Arnegger

Sarah Jane (SJ) Arnegger is currently the Head of Partnerships and Community Engagement for AKA, the Broadway advertising agency where her clients include & Juliet, The Wiz, Hell's Kitchen, Cabaret,

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child, Back to the Future, Water For Elephants and An Enemy of the People. SJ's Broadway career has included positions at some of the most prestigious firms – Douglas & Kopelman, Disney Theatrical Group, Boneau/Bryan-Brown, The Karpel Group, Playbill and iHeartMedia, where she launched and served as the Executive Producer for the iHeartRadio Broadway platform as well as the on-camera host for the iHeartRadio Broadway Mercedes-Benz Interview Lounge and the co-host for the 'Growin' Up Broadway' podcast. @sjarnegger



#### **Tilly-Raye Bayer**

Tilly-Raye is from London and trains with Stagebox and is represented by Stagebox Management. She also has LAMDA tuition with Alan Bradshaw whilst attending Tring Park School for the Performing Arts. Most

recently, Tilly-Raye played the role of Liesel in *The Book Thief* at the Belgrade Theatre and Leicester Curve. Her other credits include Matilda in *Matilda The Musical*, Young Elsa in *Frozen* as well as Young Tonia in *Dr Zhivago*, all in the West End. Tilly-Raye also workshopped the role of Matilda for the recent Netflix film and is currently filming for a new Netflix animation series. Tilly-Raye is delighted to be attending JTF!



#### **Emma Bishop**

Emma is an award-winning theatre and education practitioner from Aotearoa, New Zealand. Emma spent 15 years as a secondary educator before setting up her company StageAntics. Emma serves

on a number of national boards including being a Life Member and the Past President of Drama NZ: the National Subject Association for Drama in Education; and is the current Vice-President of Musical Theatre NZ. Emma is the Producer of JTF New Zealand and has been a member of the education team at JTF Atlanta, JTF Europe and JTF Australia.



#### Michael J. Bobbitt

Michael J. Bobbitt is an award-winning theater director, choreographer, and playwright. He is the Executive Director of Mass Cultural Council, the highest-ranking government official for arts and culture in

Massachusetts. He is the former Artistic Director of New Repertory Theater and Adventure Theater in Maryland. Bobbitt trained at Harvard Business School's Executive Education, University of Massachusetts – Amherst, and National Arts Strategies. As a director and choreographer, he has worked nationally and internationally. As a writer, his plays have been published by Concord Theatricals, Broadway Publishing, and Plays for Young Audiences.



#### Sam Bolar

Sam Bolar proudly represents the Springer Opera House at JTF Atlanta. As an educator at Georgia's Historic State Theatre, he teaches year-round theatre classes, manages Theatre for the Very Young

productions, and serves as a PAIR Specialist, teaching arts integration in schools. With fond childhood memories of attending JTF, Sam is thrilled to return to this exciting weekend of theatre!



#### Derek Bowley

Derek has worked all over the country with iTheatrics on innumerable projects as a music director, teaching artist, and writer. In 2022, Derek shifted gears in his full-time work, following his passion for food. He is

in his second year as Lead Teacher with the FRESHFARM FoodPrints program in Washington, DC, helping elementary school students "grow, cook, eat and learn" with fresh seasonal produce. You can also catch him cooking against Antonia Lofaso in Food Network's Outchef'd (season 1, episode 2).



#### **Jordan Brownlee**

Jordan Brownlee (he/him/his) is a puppeteer, writer, director and producer from San Diego, CA. He has puppeteered in music videos for Google, Disney, PBS and Coldplay. Jordan was an additional

puppeteer for "Slumberkins" on Apple TV+ and "The Muppets Mayhem" on Disney+. In 2021, Jordan made his Off-Broadway debut in "Jim Henson's Emmet Otter's Jugband Christmas" as Doc Bullfrog/Chuck Stoat/Tiny Squirrel, and reprised his roles in the 2023 production in Chicago. Instagram: @jordanthevoicesguy



#### Paul Brewster McGinley

Paul Brewster McGinley (he/him) remembers falling in love with musical theatre at a community theatre production of 42nd Street in southern New Hampshire. He got involved in school and local

productions, and would spend summers wrangling his sisters and friends into self-produced shows. Paul moved to New York City to attend college and has since had the opportunity to design artistic and education programs, teach across the five boroughs of NYC, produce original work for kids and families, and stage manage and direct for Off-Broadway and regional theatres. Paul is currently on the strategy & operations team at Theatre Projects, a global firm that helps people design and plan the operations of theatre spaces. He's thrilled to return to JTF for a ninth year, and encourages you to find the opportunity for growth in every offering of this experience.



#### Jeff Calhoun

Broadway: Disney's *Newsies* (Tony Award Nomination for Best Director), *Bonnie & Clyde, Jekyll & Hyde, Grey Gardens, Deaf* West's *Big River* (Tony Award Nomination for Best Revival of a Musical), *Brooklyn, Annie Get Your Gun, Grease* (Tony Award

Nomination for Best Choreography), *Tommy Tune Tonite*, and *The Will Rogers Follies*. Tours, Off-Broadway, and International: *Between The Lines*, Dolly Parton's 9 to 5 (US

National Tour, London, and Australia) and Disney's *High School Musical 1 & 2*. Mr. Calhoun is an Associate Artist at The Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Covenant House International. He recently directed *A Night of Covenant House Stars* (2020 and 2021) on AmazonPrime. Twitter and Instagram: @thejeffcalhoun



#### **Reynaldo Cartagena**

Reynaldo Cartagena, Jr is a music producer, musician, educator, and artistic director from Los Angeles, CA. Theatre credits: *RENT*, *Godspell JR*. (Pit musician); *Godspell*, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Musical Director); *The* 

Little Mermaid JR., Aladdin JR., Annie JR., Seussical JR. (Director). Music production credits: Eric Bellinger (Road Trip - Single), Annalé (Annalé EP). Reynaldo is also the Executive Director of Red Roses Creative Enrichment Program, Inc. (RCEP), a non-profit organization providing arts education opportunities to youth, young people and historically excluded individuals in Los Angeles, CA. www.mynameisnaldo.com



#### **Diego Caoili**

Diego Caoili is an actor, dancer, singer, prop maker, sound operator, stagehand, and whatever else theatre demands. He grew up a performer from a young age, with a passion for theater

compounding after being invited to an iTheatrics Choreo recording. Beginning a path through the theater world, he's currently on track to earn a BFA in Acting and Minor in Environmental Studies. Special thanks to his home studio, Spark of Creation, for they shaped the dedicated learner he's become, as he embraces each theater opportunity with unbridled enthusiasm and commitment.



#### Nick Cearley

Nick Cearley is the co-creator of the critically acclaimed "Undie-Rock" duo known as The Skivvies (www.theskivviesnyc.com). Broadway/Tour: *All Shook Up*, Jim Henson's *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas*. Off

Broadway: A Midsummer Night's Dream (Puck), Pageant (Drama Desk Nominated Off Broadway Original Revival Cast/Cast Album on Jay Records), Golden Rainbow (The York Theatre), Sex Tips..., Cupid & Psyche. Nick holds the record for the most performances of Jon Tolins' one-man play Buyer & Cellar all across America. Selected regional credits: Portland Center Stage, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Bay Street Theatre, Bucks County Playhouse, Saugatuck Center for the Arts, Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati, American Stage Company, Rubicon Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, Two River Theatre,

Pittsburgh's City Theatre. Cearley also co-conceived and starred in the revival of the actor/musician *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown,* which had its premiere at the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. Instagram: @clearlycearley & @theskivviesnyc. www.nick-cearley.com



#### Vichet Chum

Vichet Chum is a writer! He's earned various honors including the Lucille Bulger Service Award, the Laurents/Hatcher Award in Playwriting, the Edgerton Foundation New Play Award, the Princess Grace

Award in Playwriting, and a special state citation from the Massachusetts House of Representatives for his production of *KNYUM* in 2018. He's a curator for Space on Ryder Farm, a board member for the New Harmony Project, and a steering committee member for the Tony Award–winning organization AAPAC. Vichet's debut YA novel "Kween" was released this last fall with HarperCollins Publishers.



#### **Matt Hagmeier Curtis**

Matt Hagmeier Curtis is a freelance director and the Content & Marketing Director at the Educational Theatre Association, an organization he has been involved with since inducted into Thespian Troupe

561 at Jefferson High School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Previously, he worked at Disney Theatrical Productions, where he oversaw the development of musicals and plays as they were published for licensing. As a teaching artist, educator, writer, editor, and project manager, he has contributed to the development of over 50 plays and musicals through his work with Disney and iTheatrics. Matt holds a BA in musical theatre and a master's degree in theatre education from the University of Northern Colorado, and was thrilled to be asked to guest direct their 2023 production of Rodgers + Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. He is honored to have worked with President Obama's Turnaround Arts program, providing underserved communities with transformative theatre arts opportunities in schools.



#### **Marissa Davis**

Marissa Davis is a New York City–based voice teacher, writer, music director and performer. She is currently the Head of Voice and Middle School Team Lead at Professional Performing Arts School and

has worked as a music director/teaching artist at several other children's theatre organizations in Manhattan. She has served as composer/lyricist for several youth-devised musicals, such as *smARTS* and *Once Upon a Pandemic*, and has also served as music director, arranger, and

creative consultant to several one-woman shows. Most recently, her writing was selected for TMI Project's Stories for Choice event centering on reproductive injustice in marginalized communities.



#### **Adam Fane**

Adam Fane is a Chicago actor of 15 years! Credits include: *Rock of Ages* (National Tour); Jim Hensen's *Emmet Otter's Jug-Band Christmas* (Studebaker Theater); *Ms. Blakk for President* (Steppenwolf Theatre); *Campy* 

- reading (Goodman Theatre); Leather Daddies - reading (About Face Theatre); Shrek the Musical, Gypsy, Disney's The Little Mermaid, & Ride the Cyclone - US Premiere (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); Little Shop of Horrors, Into the Woods, The Sound of Music, The Producers, Disney's The Little Mermaid, Mamma Mia!, Hairspray, & Mary Poppins (Paramount Theatre); Jersey Boys (Norwegian Cruise Line); Billy Elliot: The Musical (Porchlight Music Theatre); Chicago (Mason Street Warehouse); Cabaret (Theatre at the Center); Alice in Wonderland (Marriott Theatre); First Date - Chicago Premiere (Royal George Theater); Sex Tips for Straight Women from a Gay Man (Chicago Premiere & Edinburgh Fringe Festival); Jersey Boys, Spamalot, Pippin, & Avenue Q (Mercury Theater Chicago); Spring Awakening - Chicago Premiere (Griffin Theatre Company), Cats, Aspects of Love, & The Light in the Piazza (Theo Ubique), Hello Again (BoHo Theatre); Little Fish (Kokandy); The Fantasticks (Quest Theatre); Lucky Stiff (The Music Theatre Company); Pinkalicious (Broadway Playhouse). Film: "Canal Street" TV: "Chicago PD". Commercials work includes: Wisconsin Lottery, Rise of Kingdoms, & LYFT. A 2013 Joseph Jefferson Award Nomination for Actor in a Principal Role - Musical (Princeton / Rod) "Avenue Q" NightBlue Performing Arts Company. Repped by DDO. IG: @almostfanemous



#### **Shantal Francis**

Shantal is an Elementary Music Teacher based in Miami, FL. Prior to graduating from Belmont University, she had the privilege of touring internationally with the nonprofit music outreach organization

called *The Young Americans*. Shantal also traveled to the *Shanti Bhavan* residential school of Bangalore, India as a teaching artist specializing in Musical Theater. Shantal is passionate about teaching music from a global lens as well as seeing how the arts can transform a student's confidence and self-esteem.



#### Kate Froemmling

Kate Froemmling is a multi-hyphenate artist specializing in Musical Theatre, Directing and Choreographing in New York City. Kate is a recent graduate from the Boston Conservatory at Berklee School of Music

with a BFA in Musical Theatre and an emphasis in Tap and Directing. Some of her performance credits include Young Fiona in Shrek the Musical (Boston Conservatory), Candide (Boston Conservatory), Janet Van De Graff in The Drowsy Chaperone (BHHS), and making her Off-Broadway debut in Fix me Jesus with the Abingdon Theater Company, earning her Actors' Equity Association Membership. Kate also has been a part of numerous commercial shoots that include Nickelodeon, Jimu Robots and Sesame Street and recently earned her SAG-AFTRA membership after being on set for Spirited with Apple TV Productions. Kate is also a Theater/Dance Teacher at several distinguished organizations such as 92Y, American Youth Dance Theater and Broadway Bound Kids. Instagram: K8.froemmlingic



#### Katy Geraghty

Katy Geraghty is an actor in New York City most recently seen as Little Red in "Into The Woods" on Broadway. After graduating from UMass Amherst, Katy made her Broadway debut in the original cast of

"Groundhog Day" in 2017. Since then she has worked all over the country and internationally; including a year at Oregon Shakespeare Festival playing Tracy Turnblad in "Hairspray," debuting the new, bound-for-Broadway musical "Bliss" at The 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle, and performing in the North American premiere of "& Juliet" at the Princess of Wales in Toronto.



#### Max Antonio Gonzalez

Max Antonio Gonzalez (he/him) is an actor, singer, dancer, choreographer based in Brooklyn. Recent credits: *Cabaret* (Barrington Stage Co.), *The Three Musketeers* (National Tour), *Romeo & Juliet* 

(National Tour), Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *The Death of Dessert Rose* (Off-Broadway developmental workshop), *Aura 29-Hour Reading* (New York Theatre Workshop), and *For You, Paige: The Live TikTok Musical*. Training: NYU Tisch at the New Studio on Broadway. Get in touch: Maxantoniogonzalez.com and @maxgonzo13



#### Morgan Siobhan Green

Broadway: Be More Chill, National Tours: Hadestown (Original Company, Eurydice), Regional and Off-Broadway: White Girl In Danger (Secondstage, Caroline), Moby Dick (American Repertory Theatre, Cambridge),

Between The Lines (Kansas City Repertory Theatre), Folk Wandering (ART NY) Avalanches (Because I'm Me) Dick Johnson Is Dead (Billie Holiday) TV: The Bold Type (Zuri) Pip and Vernie's mom. For my Angel.

www.morgansiobhan.com @morgansiobhang



#### **Noah Hadland**

Broadway: *MJ: The Musical*, 1776. Off-Broadway: *Titanique*, *The Boys From Syracuse* (Theater Row) Pre-Broadway: *A Wonderful World*, *The Great Gatsby* (Papermill) Touring: 1776 (1st National),

Waitress (2nd National), A Chorus Line (Japan and China tours) Regional credits include: Next to Normal, My Fair Lady, Newsies and Into the Woods at the Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts. NYU Steinhardt '18. IG: @noahhadland



#### **Crayton Haney**

Crayton is a second-year musical theatre major at Webster University and is thrilled to be back at JTF! Since his first JTF Atlanta in 2015, Crayton has attended festivals online, in Atlanta, Sacramento, Texas, and

Europe as a student, theatre staff member, and director. Crayton fell in love with iTheatrics as a performer in the summer workshops and choreography video shoots. He could not be more grateful to his past JTF groups, iTheatrics, and all of the friends he has made through JTF.



#### **Beau Harmon**

Beau is a performer and choreographer based in NYC. He is best known for his run on Season 17 of So You Think You Can Dance, where he finished as a Top 6 contestant. His other TV/Film credits

include Saturday Night Live and IF directed by John Krasinski. His stage credits include Wagon Wheel Center For The Arts, The Alliance Theater, Asolo Repertory Theater, and Radio City Music Hall. He is a proud faculty member of Steps On Broadway and alumnus of the Texas State BFA Musical Theatre Program.



#### **Robert Hindsman**

Robert (he/him/his) is an actor, teaching artist, and theatre administrator in Atlanta, GA. He currently works with Alliance Theatre as the Adult Programs Manager. He has worked with many Atlanta theatres over

the past 10 years, and is so proud to be a part of this artistic community. He is so excited to get to work with passionate, talented actors from across the country in his home city!



#### Fernell Hogan

Fernell is a Houston native and JTF alum. He is currently playing Martin in *Kimberly Akimbo* on Broadway. He had the pleasure of originating the role Off-Broadway as well. Other credits include Film/TV: *Mean Girls* 

the Musical, Law and Order SVU; Broadway: The Prom; National Tour: Mean Girls. Fernell is so excited to be back at JTF and looking forward to a great weekend!



#### **Tom Jackson Greaves**

Tom trained at The Place. After a successful performance career with Matthew Bourne's New Adventures, Kneehigh Theatre and others he has spent the last decade working as a theatre director specialising

in movement and musical theatre. He is an Associate Director of Theatre Royal Plymouth and an Associate Artist of the Watermill Theatre. Work as director includes Head Over Heels (Hope Mill Theatre); The Art Of Illusion (Hampstead Theatre); Whistle Down The Wind (Watermill Theatre. Nominated for best musical production at the UK Theatre Awards); Brother (Southwark Playhouse); Disenchanted (Stream Theatre); High Fidelity (Turbine Theatre. Nominated for WhatsOnStage Award for Best Off-West End Production, Finalist for Off West End Award for Musical Production). Work as director and writer/ adaptor includes As Soft As Stone (UOE Arts and Culture Commission); The Jungle Book (Watermill Theatre); Run For Your Life (Kneehigh); Neptunalia (Cscape Dance Company) and Vanity Fowl (Sadler's Wells). Work as choreographer includes The Book Thief (UK Tour, Nominated for UK Theatre Award for Best Musical Production, Nominated for WhatsOnStage Award for Best Regional Production, Nominated for Broadway World UK Awards for Best Choreography); Smoosh (Paraorchestra); Rent (Hope Mill Theatre. WhatsOnStage Award for Best Regional Theatre Production); Priscilla Queen of the Desert (UK Tour), Amélie the Musical (Criterion Theatre/The Other Palace/Watermill Theatre/UK Tour. Nominated for Olivier Award for Best New Musical); Miracle on 34th Street, Paint Your Wagon, Fiddler On The Roof (Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse); Zog, Zog and the Flying Doctors (UK Tour); Billionaire Boy (Nuffield Southampton Theatres); Sweet Charity (Watermill Theatre); Spring Awakening (Hope Mill Manchester/Leehaerang Theatre, Seoul. Broadway World Best Choreography Award); Teddy (Watermill Theatre/The Vaults/UK Tour); The Life (Southwark Playhouse); Peter and the Starcatcher (Royal and Derngate); LIFT (Soho Theatre). Work as movement director includes My Sons A Queer (WestEnd); The DaVinci

Code (UK Tour); *King John* (Royal Shakespeare Company); *The Audience* (Nuffield Southampton Theatres); *Blue Door* (Ustinov Studio Bath); *Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Twelfth Night, The Borrowers, Romeo and Juliet* (Watermill Theatre); *The Dancing Frog* (Kneehigh); *Boudica, The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Shakespeare's Globe); *So Here We Are* (Manchester Royal Exchange); *The Glass Menagerie* (Headlong); *The Crocodile* (MIF); *Frankenstein* (Wilton's Music Hall); *When We Were Women* (Orange Tree Theatre) and *The Ostrich Boys* (Coventry Belgrade). Short Films: *The Neon Shadow* (Kneehigh). Awards: Creative Award Nomination (Industry Minds 2021); Marion North Mentorship Award (2015); New Adventures Choreographer Award (2012).



#### Adam Jacobs

Adam Jacobs is most known for originating the role of "Aladdin" in Disney's *Aladdin* on Broadway, for which he received a Drama Desk and Grammy nomination. Other Broadway credits include "Simba"

in *The Lion King* and "Marius" in *Les Misérables*. Favorite regional credits include: US Premiere of *Zorro* at Alliance Theatre (Suzi nomination), *Once On This Island* at Paper Mill Playhouse, and *Something Rotten*! at the Marriott Theatre, IL. TV: *Soundtrack, Chicago Med, The Bachelorette, The 68th Annual Tony Awards, Good Morning America.* BFA Theater from NYU. Adam's solo album, *Right Where I Belong* featuring songs of Alan Menken, is available on iTunes and Spotify. @AdamJacobsNYC



#### Arielle Jacobs

Most recently seen starring on Broadway as Imelda Marcos in David Byrne's *Here Lies Love*, and previously as Princess Jasmine in Disney's *Aladdin*, Arielle Jacobs has been called "one of the greatest theater

artists of her generation" with a "powerful voice" who "could sing her way to world peace... seriously." Arielle originated the role of Delilah McPhee in the Off-Broadway musical Between the Lines, as well as Gabriella Montez in the stage version of Disney's High School Musical. She made her Broadway debut starring opposite creator Lin-Manuel Miranda in the final Broadway cast of the fourtime Tony<sup>®</sup> and Grammy Award<sup>®</sup> winning musical In The Heights. Praised as "compelling" and "radiant" by Variety Magazine and "Powerful" by The New York Times, she has continued to wow audiences ever since with starring roles in Wicked on Broadway, Disney's Aladdin (both on Broadway and in the Australian premiere production), Rent (Mimi), Into the Woods (Baker's Wife) where she performed opposite Emmy-nominated actor Tituss Burgess, and more. Arielle starred Off-Broadway in two world-premiere plays by Pulitzer-winning playwright Nilo Cruz including the one-woman show "Farhad or the Secret of Being" (which

Lincoln Center Public Library in NYC chose to film for their musical theater archives), and has performed onstage in many of America's greatest concert halls including Jazz at Lincoln Center in NYC, The Kennedy Center in Washington DC, Symphony Hall in Boston, and many more beside legendary artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Chaka Khan, and Stephen Schwartz. She has performed her solo show, "A Leap In The Dark", and in front of symphony orchestras, to rave reviews around the world in Abu Dhabi, Israel, Italy, Athens, Miami, New Orleans, Panama City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Vancouver, Tokyo, Taiwan, and more. Her soaring debut solo album, "A Leap In the Dark: Live at Feinstein's/54 Below", was released by Broadway Records. @ArielleJacobs.



#### **Cori Jaskier**

Cori is so excited to be back at JTF Atlanta! Education: NYU/Tisch School of the Arts, New Studio on Broadway. Past projects: *For You Paige on Tiktok* (Ensemble), TheaterWorksUSA's *Charlotte's Web* 

(Charlotte), *Ratatouille: The TikTok Musical* (Ensemble), the off-Broadway premiere of *The Scarlet Savior* (Emma), new musicals: *Absolute Zero* (Edith), *Mimosa* (Mimosa), *The Valley* (Colby), *America Project* (Madison) and Ray Evans Seneca Theater's productions of *Avenue Q* (Kate Monster), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), and *Rent* (Maureen). She would like to thank her family and iTheatrics for their love and support.



#### Jade Jones

Jade Jones (They/Them) is a multifaceted performer whose talents include rapping, singing, and acting. As a native of the Washington, DC, area, they were recently seen as "Belle" in Olney Theatre's

internationally acclaimed production of Disney's *Beauty and The Beast.* In August, they were spotlighted on ABC 20/20's 25th anniversary *Cinderella* reunion special alongside Billy Porter and Todrick Hall. They have also been featured in Playbill, MSNBC, and People magazine. Jade has performed at the historic Howard Theater in Washington DC, Sony Hall in New York City, and most recently at The MUNY in St. Louis as Mrs. Corry in Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's *Mary Poppins*, starring Corbin Bleu and Jeanna de Waal. Jade graduated with a BFA in Theatre from Ferrum College. Their music can be found on Spotify, Apple Music, and Soundcloud, under the moniker "Litty Official". Instagram: @LittyOfficial TikTok: @LittyOH www.JadeTheCreative.com



#### **Taylor Iman Jones**

Taylor is currently playing Catherine Parr in her third Broadway musical, *SIX*. Last summer she played Andy Sachs in the Broadway-bound musical *The Devil Wears Prada*. Her other credits include *Head over* 

Heels and Groundhog Day on Broadway. The National Tours of Hamilton, and American Idiot. And Off Broadway and regionally she appeared in Scotland, PA at Roundabout, the Golden Globe's The Tale of Despereaux, and The Who's Tommy at The Kennedy Center. But most importantly, she is so excited to be back at JTF!!!



#### Jennifer Katona

Dr. Jennifer Katona, Executive Director Educational Theatre Association/President Educational Theatre Foundation has committed her career to ensuring that all students have access to a quality theatre

education. As a theatre educator, teaching artist, advocate, scholar, administrator, and consultant, Dr. Katona has over 30 years developing the field of theatre education, with a focus on building sustainable arts programming in urban schools. Former Director and founder of the Graduate Program in Educational Theatre at the City College of New York (CCNY), where she oversaw the certification of pre and in-service Theatre teachers and training of noncertified theatre educators. Dr. Katona is the former Visual and Performing Arts Sr. Manager for the Norwalk Public Schools, where she led her district arts teachers through the pandemic and supported their transition to online learning. Dr. Katona is President and Founder of 3 Looms Creative Education Consulting and Co-Director of Immersive Arts Integration.



#### Mary Kennett

A 2016 graduate of the Young Americans College of Performing Arts, Mary embarked on a journey to share her passion for the arts through teaching musical theatre. In 2020, she transitioned into the film and TV

industry in Los Angeles as a makeup artist, collaborating with renowned brands like Clarins, Fresh Clean Threads, and Culture Kings. Her work is a canvas where she merges creativity and her love for the arts, always striving to create a safe, nurturing space that fosters boundless creativity and self-expression.



#### **Robert Lenzi**

Robert Lenzi was most recently on Broadway in *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*. Past Broadway credits: Miles Tuck in *Tuck Everlasting, South Pacific*. Off-Broadway: *Dogfight* (Second Stage Theater), *Hello Again* 

(Transport Group). Regional: Cyrano de Bergerac (Guthrie Theater), Soul (Baltimore Center Stage), Assassins (Yale Repertory Theatre), A Sign of the Times (Goodspeed Opera House), Tuck Everlasting (Alliance Theater), Road Show (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Into the Woods (Baltimore Center Stage and Westport Country Playhouse). Film: The Last Airbender, Sex and the City 2, The Happening, The Village. Television: "Monsterland", "Orange is the New Black", "Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt", "The Good Fight", "Deception", "Blue Bloods", "One Life to Live", "Live From Lincoln Center", "Clubhouse". Robert received a BFA in Acting from Carnegie Mellon University. @bob.lenzi



#### **Kelly Lomonte**

Kelly is ecstatic to be returning to JTF ATL as a staff member this year! Stage: *Rent* (DC), *Sophisticated Ladies* (DC), *Fiddler on the Roof* (CHAVA), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (u/s PUCK), *Jerome Robbins* 

Broadway, Cinderella, Seussical (JOJO), Beauty and the Beast, Mamma Mia! (DC); Film: Lessons (DANA), Sometimes (KATIE), Undeclared (EK), Strangers Anthology. UMICH MT alum, Go Blue! @kellylomo



#### **Brittney Mack**

The Queendom calls her "The Queen of the Castle" for her breakout roll as the original Anne of Cleves in Broadway's *SIX the Musical*. Brittney Mack is a Grammy Nominee, Drama Desk Winner, and 2x

Drama League Nominee for Distinguished Performance. Born on Chicago's southside Brittney had the incredible opportunity attend The Chicago Academy for the Arts College Prep High School where she majored in Music Theatre. She then furthered her training at The American Musical and Dramatic Academy in L.A. then NYC where she graduated. Brittney Mack is a teaching artist and industry coach that believes there is no point in having gifts and talents if you aren't going to share them with the world. Most importantly she is working to inspire any and everyone who needs a little reminder that "YOU CAN DO IT!"



#### **Kelby McIntyre-Martinez**

Kelby McIntyre-Martinez is currently the Associate Dean for Arts Education & Community Engagement, Director, Fine Arts, Master of Arts in Teaching Program, and Director of the Endowed Beverley

Taylor Sorenson Arts Program at the University of Utah. Kelby is passionate about establishing pathways to higher education through sustainable arts programming that allows university and school-aged youth opportunities to create new artistic works alongside cultural workers, artists, organizations, and arts advocates to encourage cultural democracy, ways of knowing, and the generation of new knowledge. She values the mutual exchange of creativity, and the reciprocal benefits this research and learning model creates for all participants and the field of arts education.



#### Nina Meehan

Nina Meehan is a creativity expert and award-winning director, playwright and producer. She has commissioned and produced over 40 new musicals for young audiences and is an internationally

recognized arts educator. Her work on creativity, communication and connection spans many industries (including theatre, tech, finance, and education) where she supports individual and organizational growth through coaching, consulting and speaking. She holds her BS in theatre from Northwestern University, a Master's of Nonprofit Administration from the University of San Francisco, and is working on her PhD in Creativity, Innovation and Leadership.



#### McKenna Michael

McKenna has been directing and choreographing youth theatre for over 10 years. McKenna has worked as a adjudicator, performed and was on the DEI panel at Junior Theater Festival Atlanta and

Sacramento in 2022. Previously, McKenna performed, taught children, and traveled all around the world. Before the pandemic, McKenna worked as a featured performer at Disneyland for 6 years. You may have seen them building a snowman as Anna and Elsa, in *Frozen-Live* at the Hyperion Theater, and also selling newspapers with the *Red Car Trolley News Boys* on Buena Vista Street! Most recently, McKenna performed on the national tour of *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*. You can also catch them on upcoming TV shows on HBO and commercials. McKenna's passion for theater education grows more and more with each show they direct.



#### **Jarret Murrary**

Jarrett Murray is a Brooklyn-born Composer and Musician. He has written and collaborated on four original musicals and worked on several shows as an MD or Bassist. He has studied with such artists

as Fred Carl, Kirsten Childs, Julianne Wick Davis, Michael John LaChiusa, Paul Denola, and many others. Education: BA American University, MFA NYU Tisch. Jarrett's always excited about camp. Check me out on Instagram: JarrettMurrayMusic or Online: JarrettMurrayMusic.com



#### **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 ANDERSEN 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 2024.



#### Ernie Nolan

Ernie Nolan, Executive Artistic Director of Nashville Children's Theatre, is a nationally and internationally recognized award-winning director and playwright. While programming Nashville's oldest cultural institution over

the past six years, he has focused on work which reflects Nashville's evolving community, instills profound empathy, and fosters personal discovery. These efforts were rewarded with NCT receiving the Nashville LGBT Chamber Arts Leadership Award in June 2021. During his tenure the theatre has received national attention from over 15 world premiere commissions created in NCT's new works incubator. The Hatchery. These scripts have gone on to multiple productions across the country. Taking the lead in the theatre for the very young field, Nolan also created The NCT Snuggery, theatrical experiences for the youngest of theatre goers ages 0-5 years old, placing NCT as a global leader in the field. He has directed and choreographed world premieres by such Tony-nominated artists as Willy and Rob Reale, Stephen Schwartz, Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens, and Bill Russell and Henry Krieger. In March 2012, Ernie made his Off-Broadway debut with Lucky Duck

at the New Victory Theatre in NYC. Ernie currently sits on the Executive Committee of ASSITEJ, a global theatre for young audiences service organization. In 2014, he received the Illinois Theatre Association's Excellence in Theatre for Young Audiences award. He is a proud graduate of both the University of Michigan Musical Theatre Program (BFA Musical Theatre) and The Theatre School at DePaul University (MFA Directing).



#### Anney Ozar

Anney Ozar is a creator and performer of puppets, costumes, and things that go. Anney won 5 Daytime Emmy Awards for her work on Sesame Street. She is an original cast member of Jim Hensen's Emmet

Otter's Jug-Band Christmas and also built Yancy Woodchuck. Broadway: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory and Little Shop of Horrors. TV: Fraggle Rock: Back to the Rock, Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt, Bear in the Big Blue House, The Book of Pooh, Blue's Room, Johnny and the Sprites. Film: The Happytime Murders, The Beaver. www.anneyfresh.com



#### Luca Padovan

Luca is thrilled to be back at this year's JTF! Luca recently starred in "The Boy and the Heron", the critically acclaimed fantasy adventure from Miyazaki's Studio Ghibli, voicing Mahito, the film's main

protagonist. TV: YOU, Are You Afraid of the Dark?, Crazy Ex-Girlfriend, The Magicians. Theater: School of Rock: The Musical (Billy, OBC), Newsies: The Musical (Les), James and the Giant Peach Cast Recording (James). Other notable performances include Eliza in Miscast's "The Schuyler Sisters" and opening the 2018 Macy's Thanksgiving Day singing "Don't Rain on My Parade". Instagram: @thelucapadovan



#### Victoria Pérez

Victoria Pérez is a multiple-award-winning accomplished bilingual theatre artist with over 25 years' experience on stage as a singer, actor, director, writer, arts administrator and as a teaching artist.

Hailing proudly from Puerto Rico and calling Buffalo, NY, her home, she is the Co-Founder and Artistic Director of Raíces Theatre Company, the only Latino(e) theatre company in WNY dedicated to telling Latino(e) stories. She studied musical theatre at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. She recently made her Off-Broadway debut directing Marco Antonio Rodríguez' world premiere of *BLOOM* at IATI Theatre and also directed Ashes of Light at Teatro Dallas in Dallas, TX. Victoria was the assistant director of *La breve y maravillosa vida de Oscar Wao* at New York's Spanish Repertory Theatre. In Buffalo she has performed and directed with almost every theatre company

including *Road Less Traveled* (ensemble member), *O'Connell and Company* (company member) Ujima, Musicalfare, BUA, Alleyway, Kavinoky and Irish Classical. Victoria has been recognized multiple times by Buffalo's local theatre awards and most recently received an Artie for Best Direction of a play; *Kiss of a Spiderwoman*. Currently she is the VP of Arts Engagement and Education at Shea's Performing Arts Center.



#### Jodi Picoult

Jodi Picoult is the award-winning author of 29 novels, with over 40 million copies sold. Thirteen books have debuted at #1 on the New York Times bestseller list, five were made into movies, with four more

currently in development. 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 co-librettist (with Tim McDonald) of the musicals BETWEEN THE LINES, BREATHE, THE BOOK THIEF and the upcoming AUSTENLAND.



#### **Justin Ramos**

Justin Ramos is a music director and pianist from New York City. Broadway: Here Lies Love (Associate Music Director), Dear Evan Hansen (sub conductor/keys), Moulin Rouge!, My Broken Language, Girl From

The North Country, On Your Feet!, Motown (sub/rehearsal pianist). He is a Broadway audition pianist for Roundabout Theatre Company, Carnahan Casting, Telsey, and Tara Rubin Casting, and he teaches at the Institute For American Musical Theatre (IAMT). He is the music director for CO/LAB Theatre Group, R.Evolución Latina, and head music producer at Studio Collective for Performing Arts in California. This is Justin's second year at JTF! @justramos



#### **Grayson Reed**

Grayson Reed is a current junior at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee College of Music, where he is pursuing a BFA, majoring in Musical Theater, with a minor in Stage Management, and an emphasis in Directing

and Tap. He is a creator with interests in all aspects in theater, performance, directing, management, producing, filmmaking, design, and prop making. This summer he worked with the JTF team as an intern at iTheatrics in New York City. He is so excited to be attending and working with JTF for the first time!



#### **Elizabeth Reeves**

Beth Reeves is a professional actor/director and graduate of Columbus State University where she received her B.S.Ed. and M.Ed. in Theatre Education. She currently teaches for her alma mater. She utilizes culturally

responsive teaching methods to increase academic achievement in at-risk student populations/school climate. Beth was a top three finalist for Educator of the Year this past school year through the CSU Student Government Association. In spring of 2024, she will return as a visiting professor for the University of Mississippi Department of Theatre.



#### **Wren Rivera**

Wren Rivera (they/them) is a nonbinary performer who is absolutely stoked to be making their return to the Junior Theater Festival. Wren is known for their work in; *Between The Lines* (Jules), *Jagged Little* 

*Pill* (Jo Cover), and *WeCrashed* (AppleTV). Their next stage project is *Teeth*, by Michael R. Jackson (*A Strange Loop*), this January. Keep in touch @w.t.rivera



#### **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.



#### **Morgan Rose**

Morgan is absolutely thrilled to be returning to the Junior Theater Festival! Favorite performing credits include Broadway: *School of Rock*; Off-Broadway: *Dear Edwina*; National Tours: *Evita* Revival 1st Nat'l

Tour, *Shrek The Musical* 1st Nat'l Tour, *Elf The Musical*. In addition to performing, Morgan is a passionate arts educator. You can find her teaching all over New York City, at Broadway Dance Center, Joffrey Ballet School, MTCA and AMDA. Morgan holds a BFA in Music Theatre from Florida State University and is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association. Her work is inspired by her wonderful husband Trey and the sweetest little boy around, Theo.

### **Meet the Team**

#### **Dan Rudin**

Over the last forty plus years, producer, recording and mix engineer Dan Rudin has amassed thousands of hours in studios around the world, receiving many awards, including two Grammys, and gold and

platinum records in the process. In addition to his extensive record and film work, where his client list includes Riders In The Sky, Pixar, High School Musical 2, Chayenne, Matt Belsante, Tommy Torres, Billy Dean, Wynonna, Flick, The Newsboys, Puffy, and Ricardo Arjona. Dan produces and engineers music for pretty much anything you can think of. Producing and engineering dozens of Broadway cast albums and licensing recordings, hundreds of TV and radio commercials, more than 100 theme park shows, parades and spectaculars, over 4000 songs for educational curricula, and scoring mixer and score editor roles on original scores for video games like Monster Hunter World and films such as Boundin', Sioux City and The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything have proven him a diverse and musical studio veteran. His own composition work has earned him international acclaim, with his score for the Deutsche Bahn (Germany's Rail System) commercial The Early Boss winning 6 international awards for best score. Together with his core team and network of composers and orchestrators, his company Dan Rudin Recording and Production has created custom music for global clients since 2004. Dan's favorite body of work are his Junior Theater, KIDS and High School Edition productions (numbering almost 75!)



#### **Isabella Russo**

Isabella "Isa" Russo (she/he/they) has been working professionally since the age of 11. She debuted on Broadway in *School of Rock*, originating the role of "Summer Hathaway" and continued to Off-

Broadway plays Mother of Invention (Dir. Tony Speciale) and Underlying Chris (Dir. Kenny Leon). She recurred on the HBO series Crashing and most recently, Law & Order: SVU. Isabella is also featured on animated shows Wolfboy and the Everything Factory (Apple TV) and Centaurworld (Netflix). Isabella made their film debut as "Joy Yoshino" in the Netflix film We Have A Ghost, starring Anthony Mackie, David Harbour and Jennifer Coolidge (Dir. Christopher Landon), in February 2023.



### **Darian Sanders**

Darian Sanders is currently playing Simba on the National tour of Disney's *The Lion King.* Trained as a musician both with voice and trumpet from an early age, he's toured with international music groups

as an instrumentalist, conductor, and performer. An

ordained worship pastor, Darian regularly leads worship around the country. He is extremely excited to be joining in his first year with the Junior Theater Festival in Atlanta. Broadway Credits: *The Lion King* National Tour Regional Credits: *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Jesus), Songs For A New World (Man One), Hairspray (Seaweed). Film/TV: Someone Worthy (original short film), New York Homicide (2023) Rep: Peggy@TheSquarePegGroup,Inc.

IG/Twitter: @\_DarianSanders\_ ; www.dariansanders.com



### **Joe Serafini**

Joe Serafini is an actor & musician, best known for his role as Seb Matthew Smith on the Disney+ hit *High School Musical: The Musical: The Series.* A theatre kid from Pittsburgh, PA, Joe grew up playing the

piano and performing on stages regionally from a very young age. This past summer, he starred as Jack in *Into the Woods* at Pittsburgh CLO. Joe has been developing his own music this past year and is thrilled to be releasing his debut single in 2024! He is a proud alum of the University of Michigan and currently resides in New York City. @joe\_serafini\_



### **Kushal Shankar**

Kush Shankar is a New York City–based comedian, singer, scientist, and JTF Alumnus. Kush is so excited to be returning for his tenth year of Junior Theater Festival! In JTFs past, Kush has been a participant,

volunteer, intern, pod leader, production assistant, discussion leader, and COVID-19 Safety Consultant. If you see him running around, say hi! @kushkushshankar



### **Kenny Shepard**

Kenny Shepard (AEA, SDC, AAUP) is the resident TYA choreographer for the world's largest children's museum, TCM of Indianapolis, and for Michael Feinstein's Songbook Academy. Kenny writes, directs,

and choreographs projects starring Grammy-, Tony-, and Emmy-award winners as well as *American Idol* stars. He is an on-camera choreographer for Broadway JR., The Disney Collection, MacMillan/McGraw Hill, and Perfect Harmony and is a professor at Ball State and Anderson Universities. Performance credits include over 100 productions: Off-Broadway, Disney World, Atlantic City, Branson, symphony orchestras, regional theatre, world cruise ships and more.

### **Meet the Team**



#### Jacob Ryan Smith

Jacob Ryan Smith is a writer/performer living in New York, originally hailing from Atlanta, GA. Some of his writing credits include LIKE FATHER, (Book, Music, Lyrics), MR. SIPPLE (Book, Music, Lyrics), INTO THE BURROW: A

PETER RABBIT TALE (2023 Alliance Theater Commission, Music & Lyrics), and PAINLESS: THE OPIOID MUSICAL (Book, Music, Lyrics). His original compositions have been featured on Disney+ (HAMSTER & GRETEL, co-written with Dan Povenmire), The Today Show, NPR, Out Magazine, and many other publications. He loves to dive into other mediums with his music as well, including ballet (MARLEY WAS DEAD, TO BEGIN WITH. Commissioned by Terminus Modern Ballet and produced in 2020) and choral work (SHELTER ME: AN ORATORIO ON HOMELESSNESS - commissioned by The Dallas Street Choir and to be produced in 2024). His theatrical pop single "In My Head," which he wrote with his writing partner Daniel Mertzlufft, has accumulated millions of streams on Spotify. Jacob is also a working performer, most recently being in the Off-Broadway cast of LIZARD BOY and originating the role of Adam in RELAPSE: THE MUSICAL Off-Broadway. He also won a 2023 Suzi Bass Award for his performance as Gabe in NEXT TO NORMAL at the Jennie T Anderson Theater. He holds a BFA in Musical Theater Performance and a Minor in Composition from The University of Michigan.



### **Theresa Squire**

Theresa Squire (she/her) has been designing costumes in New York City and beyond since graduating from NYU in 1997. She designs mainly for theatre, but her work has also been seen in dance, film, print, industrials,

commercials and on her child for their favorite holiday, Halloween. Favorite productions include *Fun Home*; *High Fidelity* (Broadway); *Into the Woods*; *Small Engine Repair*; *Found, a New Musical*; the off-Broadway premiere of *Dear Edwina*; the tours of *A Year with Frog and Toad KIDS*, *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley JR.*, and *The Jungle Book KIDS*.



### **David Stephens**

David Stephens has been a life-long puppeteer. His company, All Hands Productions, toured North America presenting original award-winning shows from 2001-2021. He has worked for "Sesame Street,"

Muppet Studios, and The Jim Henson Company. As "Banjolicious," Stephens is a singer/songwriter & banjo player based in Alabama.



### **Thommy Bailey Vine**

Thommy was one of the youngest students ever to gain a place on the mini bass course at the Royal College of Music Junior Department aged seven, and is currently in his fifth year studying Double Bass with

Caroline Emery. He has been at Stagecoach Colchester since he was four, and has been a member of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain (Boys' Choir). Thommy made his West End debut playing the role of Eric in the RSC's production of *Matilda* at the Cambridge Theatre in London's West End, age 10. He followed this playing Gavroche is *Les Misérables* at the Sondheim Theatre, and most recently played Rudy in *The Book Thief* at the Curve, Leicester and the Belgrade in Coventry. Thommy was a finalist in the Song Academy Young Songwriter competition in both 2020 and 2021.



### Lotte Wakeham

Lotte is the Artistic Director of the Octagon Theatre in the UK, where her productions include the world premiere of the new musical *The Book Thief*, adapted by Tim McDonald & Jodi Picoult, with songs by Kate

Anderson & Elyssa Samsel. She directs plays and musicals in the UK and internationally, and spent many years as Associate Director of *Matilda the Musical* in the West End and on Broadway. Lotte has previously adjudicated at JTF Europe & is thrilled to be back for her 6th time at JTF Atlanta! @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.

### **Meet the Team**



#### Hannah West

Hannah West is a musician, director, performer, writer, and social media manager from Nashville, TN. She is finishing her degree in Songwriting with a minor in Musical Theater Performance at Berklee

College of Music. She has been working with iTheatrics and JTF for over 7 years, singing on Broadway Junior soundtracks and interning for the iTheatrics summer academy. Some credits include, *Once* (Director), *Mean Girls JR*. (Regina), and *Hans Christian Andersen JR*. (Thagar), as well as personal releases on all streaming platforms. She is thrilled to be at JTF again!



#### **Cam Williams**

Cam Williams is proud to call Alabama home. He received a B.S.E. in Theatre Education, P-12 from Troy University. He has worked with the Johnson Center for the Arts, Troy University, and several public school systems

to develop arts education-based programming for young artists and professional development for educators. Cam is also a former high school theatre teacher and currently works with Alabama Shakespeare Festival as Artistic Coordinator. He is a driven theatre maker and an outspoken advocate for access to the arts for all. @camerongabrielwilliams IG.



#### 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



#### **Josh Zacher**

Josh Zacher is an NYC-based dancer, actor, teacher, and choreographer. A proud native of Fort Wayne, Indiana, Josh holds a BFA in Drama (with Honors) from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and is

a graduate of both the Broadway Dance Center Summer Professional Semester and the University of Michigan Summer Dance Institute. As a performer, Josh served as the Dance Captain on The Prom 1st national tour. Josh also played Larry in the national/international tour of A Chorus Line (under the direction of Tony Award-winner Baayork Lee), which included a sold-out run in Tokyo and was in the world premiere cast of the musical version of the beloved children's book The Elf on the Shelf. Josh has performed at The Kennedy Center, The Lyric Opera of Chicago (West Side Story), Center Theatre Group (LA), North Shore Music Theatre (The Music Man, Young Frankenstein), Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre (Disney's The Little Mermaid), The Ordway (West Side Story), Kansas City Starlight, The REV Theatre Co. (Footloose), Theatre By The Sea (Newsies, The Wizard of Oz), The Sharon Playhouse (Les Misérables, The Little Mermaid) Westchester Broadway (Newsies), and The Wagon Wheel Center for the Performing Arts. On camera, Josh can be seen on the NBC series Rise as well as MTV's TRL, Live! With Regis and Kelly, and Dance Moms. Josh is a guest faculty member at Broadway Dance Center, a teaching artist for New York City Center, a dance coach for MTCA, and a teaching/audition assistant at Ballet Tech: The New York City Public School for Dance in Manhattan. Josh has also served as guest musical theater faculty at NYU Tisch and Emerson College. www.josh-zacher.com, @dancingdudejz



Academy Team Rock Hill Rock Hill, SC



Act3 Arts Academy Marietta, GA

Effeting Upon Saith Production

Acting Upon Faith Productions Hammond, LA



ACTivate Lexington, KY



Adelaide Youth Theatre South Australia



Apex Performing Arts Wheat Ridge, CO



Artistic Civic Theatre Dalton, GA





Backstage Theater Lakeland, FL



BAMtheatre Hinsdale, IL



Boothbay Region YMCA: YARTS! Edgecomb, ME



Bradford High School Theatre Arts Lake Geneva, WI



British Academy of Performing Arts Marietta, GA



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



Brylliant Acting Studio Alpharetta, GA



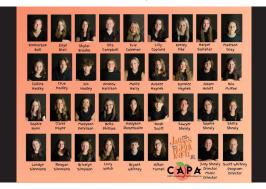
Carolina Academy of Performing Arts New Hill, NC



Carpe Artista Smyrna, TN



Caryl Crane Youth Theatre Sandusky, OH



CAST Theatre Anniston, AL



Center Stage Academy Warrensburg, MO



Center Stage Arts Academy Franklin, TN

Center Stage Youth Theatre Odessa, FL



Centers for the Arts of Bonita Springs Bonita Springs, FL



Christian Family Theater Chattanooga, TN



City Kidz Playhouse Bayonne, NJ



City Springs Theatre Conservatory Sandy Springs, GA



Creative Theatre Workshop Fort Myers, FL



Alpharetta, GA



DM Performance Works Sugarloaf, PA



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Eastern Shore Repertory Theatre Fairhope, AL







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Forsyth Academy of Performing Arts Company Cumming, GA



Fort Bend Christian Academy Sugar Land, TX



First Redeemer Church Cumming, GA



First Stage Theatre Company Huntington, WV



Fort Myers Theatre Fort Myers, FL



Gifford Youth Achievement Center/RT Vero Beach, FL





HART Theatre Waynesville, NC



High Point Community Theatre High Point, NC



Ignite Theatre Company St. Louis, MO



Gypsy Playhouse Fort Myers, FL



InnOVATION Arts Academy Lexington, KY



Inspiration Stage Richmond, TX



Jeter Backyard Theater Gibsonia, PA



Kids On Stage Snow Hill, NC



Legacy Theater and Music Company Stallings, NC



Lopez Studios, Inc. Reston, VA

Magic Curtain Productions Orlando, FL



Marietta Middle School Marietta, GA



Marietta Sixth Grade Academy Marietta, GA



Masquerade Theatre Cinnaminson, NJ



MCCA Frostburg, MD



MelloDrama Productions Dahlonega, GA



Melody Lane Performing Arts Center North Fort Myers, FL



Mill Creek Musical Theatre Nolensville, TN



Momentum Arts Snellville, GA



Moorestown Theater Company Moorestown, NJ



Moving Art Barrie, Ontario



Mrs. Z's Performing Arts Studio Abilene, TX



Musical Mayhem Productions Elk Grove, CA





Nashville Christian School Nashville, TN



Nashville Theatre School Nashville, TN



New Albany Middle School New Albany, OH



New Braunfels Performing Arts New Braunfels, TX





NGMSDrama Sugar Hill, GA



North Texas Performing Arts Fairview, TX



#### North Whitfield Middle School Dalton, GA



Northwest Theatre Lab Puyallup, WA



Northwestern Middle School Atlanta, GA



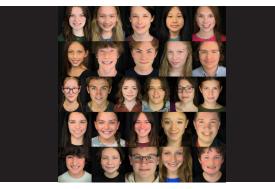
Oakland Middle School Murfreesboro, TN



Off Broadway Childrens Theatre Alpharetta, GA



Ohlook Performing Arts Center Lewisville, TX



Olde Towne Hall Theatre Elyria, OH



Ovation Academy for the Performing Arts Oak Park, IL



Pace School of the Arts Jonesboro, GA



Page Middle School Franklin, TN



Paul Laurence Dunbar Middle School for Innovation Lynchburg, VA



Plaza Academy Cleburne, TX



Preston Center Dance Dallas, TX



Purple Box Theater Pearland, TX



Raleigh Area Children's Theatre Raleigh, NC





#### Riverside Theatre Vero Beach, FL



SAC Youth Arts Ambassadors Springfield, OH



SET Studios Jacksonville, FL



Showtime Theatre Company Rock Hill, SC



Smoke Rise Academy of Arts Stone Mountain, GA



Snellville Performing Arts Snellville, GA



Spark Theater Company Midland City, AL



Spirit of the Stage Hammond, LA



Spotlight Acting Academy Oklahoma City, OK



Spotlight Players Mint Hill, NC



Spotlight Theatre Productions Sarasota, FL



St. Joseph Catholic School Marietta, GA



Stage Center's School of Performing Arts Shreveport, LA



Stageworks Theatre Houston, TX



Stars that Act! Miami, FL



Stopher Elementary Louisville, KY



Studio Bleu Vocal & Theatre Arts Ashburn, VA



Texas Music Theatre Company Fort Worth, TX



The Actor's Charitable Theatre Tuscaloosa, AL

> The Anthony School Little Rock, AR

The Biz Academy of Musical Theatre Avon, IN



The Children's Theatre of Cincinnati Cincinnati, OH

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Time to Shine Performing Arts LLC Fort Worth, TX

Top Hat Theatrics Ball Ground, GA

Treehouse Theater Manitowoc, WI

University School Of Nashville Nashville, TN



Wellesley Theatre Project Wellesley Hills, MA





Woodford Theatre Young Artists Versailles, KY



Woodruff ACE Music Seabrook, NJ



Wings Performing Arts Biloxi, MS



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