#### THE PREMIERE PLAYHOUSE EQUICATION

## PRESENTS



### **August 11 - 13, 2023**

**Book by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty** 

**Music by Stephen Flaherty** 

Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Conceived by Lynn Ahrens, Stephen Flaherty and Eric Idle

Based on the works of Dr. Seuss

Music Supervised, Adapted and Produced by Bryan Louiselle



www.thepremiereplayhouse.com

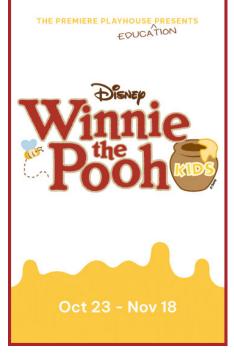


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### A Note From The TPP Education Team



The Premiere Playhouse's Summer Education Programs are a great way for aspiring young performers to learn more about what it takes to put on a theatrical production (and beat the heat.) Here they learn the ins and outs of acting, production, set building and more, all while making friends and expanding their talents!

This group of young performers have a bright and colorful future ahead of them as young leaders, innovators & teachers, pushing the boundaries of theatre & performance. Here at TPP, we never set a limit for anyone, we support growth and confidence. Those here will be seen, heard, and valued for exactly who they are and what they want to do.

You too can be a part of the wonderful experiences within The Premiere Playhouse! Join us this season to learn more about theatre in our upcoming workshops, classes, shadow program, and main stage productions.

### Alex, Abby, & Oliver

Education Team

The Dance Line, Inc. Activewear, Shoes, Accessories

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### **Anthony Weiss** / Wickersham Brother / Judge Yertle The Turtle

Anthony is 13 years old and is an actor. He plays Judge Yertle the Turtle, a Who, a Wickersham brother, and a jungle citizen. He has two pet rats. Anthony's favorite part of theatre is that he has a mentor who helps him.



### **Brennen Schrank** / Wickersham Brother

Hi, I'm Brennen. I play a Wickersham brother. I have been in *Aladdin Jr.* at school. I play violin in orchestra and love Legos. This is my first year with the Penguin Project. I really like working with my mentor, Sonja, and I hope you have fun at our show!



#### Carson Meile / Wickersham Brother / Grinch

Hi my name is Carson Meile also known as meilecarson33 and carson.meile.5 on Instagram this is my second year with The Penguin Project I play as the Grinch and one of the Wickersham Brothers.



### Chrissy Mailloux / The Cat In The Hat

Chrissy is a 17 yo Brandon Valley HS senior who loves all animals, especially cats, and who couldn't be more thrilled to playing as The Cat in the Hat in Seussical Jr. This is her first production with The Penguin Project, but she has been in LifeScape Theater productions, Camp Bravo productions, and Fall Plays at school, including Space School Musical, Elf Jr, Adventures Through Wonderland and A Christmas Carol. When not involved in theatre, Chrissy enjoys participating in Special Olympics bowling, basketball, and track & field. She also enjoys music and time with friends. She would like to thank the mentors and production staff for all their time and hard work to make these productions happen.



#### Emily Groeneveld / Bird Girl

My name is Emily. I love The Penguin Project. This the 2nd play that I am currently in. I was involved in the inaugural *Annie Jr* last year. I love showing sheep and goats in the Ilead Program during Turner County Fair. I participate in Special Olympics in swimming, bowling and track. This year was crowned SD Miss Amazing Teen 2023. Will be participating in the National event in Chicago at end of July.



#### Emmalynn Schrank / Mayzie La Bird

Hi, I'm Emmalynn (Emma). I play Mayzie La Bird in *Seussical Jr.* I'm 15 years old and going into 10th grade. I adore cats, puzzles, and back rubs. I have 5 pets and 3 siblings. Last year, I played Mrs. Hannigan in *Annie Jr.* I can't wait to perform with my friends in The Penguin Project again.



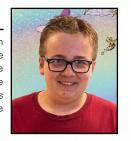
### Halle Bauman / JoJo

Halle is happy to be back with the Penguin Project this summer! She made her debut on stage last year in *Annie Jr*, playing the part of Annie. Halle's other interests beyond acting include singing, riding horses, swimming, hanging out with friends and her two kitties, Clementine and Lily. She dreams of living on a hobby farm with ALL the animals, having a swimming pool, and being roomies with her cousin, Lucy. Halle will be in 6th grade at Sioux Falls Lutheran this fall.



#### **Hunter Ross** / Horton

Hunter is happy to further "break out of his shell" this year in his being Horton the Elephant after portraying Rooster and the dogcatcher in last year's *Annie Jr.* This fall Hunter will be a junior at Canton High School and will continue with his involvement in a number of sports and activities. Some of his favorite things are sports, music, involvement in church and helping others. He has enjoyed meeting and working with the groups of people from both plays he has been part of in all aspects.



### Jaxon Duke / Young Kangaroo

Jaxon is a 5th grader that loves singing, dancing & music of all kinds. Seussical Jr. is his second musical. His first was his school's production of Aladdin Jr. Jaxon's favorite part of the Seussical is the voice he created for his character, Young Kangaroo. In his free time, Jaxon loves to play video games & run RC cars with his dad. He also bowls, plays basketball, and loves to swim. Jaxon's favorite movies are the whole Transformers franchise and in the future he plans on designing battlebots.



### Nate Sheppard / Wickersham Brother

"I'm where I belong!", Nathan (aka Nate) recently told his mom about being involved with Seussical Jr. Nate is 11 years old and going into the 6th grade. He enjoys being a Wickersham, a Who, and a circus animal. Nate has also performed in the children's ensemble for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. His hobbies include baseball, taekwondo, dancing, singing, playing chess, and being involved with the church youth group and youth choir. Nate has had fun making new friends with similar passions! He hopes to make you smile and dance in your seat while you enjoy the show!







### Laura Sheppard / Sour Kangaroo

Laura is an 18 year old girl going into her senior year of high school. She enjoys art, animation, music, reading, and of course, acting. This is Laura's first year with The Penguin Project and has enjoyed making friends, having fun, and growing her skills as an actress. She hopes you enjoy the program everyone has worked so hard for!



### Nathan Mallard / Mr. Mayor

My name is Nathan Lucas Mallard, and I was Oliver Warbucks from *Annie Jr.* last year and now I'm the mayor of Whoville. I always love fine arts for my friends and family and the one that I love is from my heart. And I always remember that trying my best is key to my success and made me very special just the way God made me from my heart and soul.



#### **Nev Wilson** / Vlad Vladikoff

Nev is excited to be part of The Penguin Project for the 2nd year! Last year she played Pepper in *Annie Jr.* and is now Vlad in *Seussical Jr.* She has participated in *Prince of Peace: A Christmas Story* as well. Nev also plays the piano & ukele. Two of her favorite things are babies and bike riding. She'll be an eighth grader this year.



#### Sara Newitt / Gertrude McFuzz

When she's not participating in theater, Sara enjoys 4-H, show choir, NHD, and reading. Although new to theater, Sara has always enjoyed singing and dancing, just for the joy of it. She did perform in Newsies Jr! last spring. Sara's favorite part of Seussical Jr. has been the fun that she has been able to have with the other artists and mentors, and another bonus to this program has been being connected with other youth members who share similar struggles. Sara is very excited to be on stage today!



### **Shianna Tiemann** / Mrs. Mayor

My name is Shianna Tiemann. I am 21 years old. I have 2 dogs and their names are Duke and Pepper. I love to act and type my own plays too. I have been in a middle school play called *The Scheme of the Driftless Shifter*, a high school play called *Cinderella*, and I was in *Annie Jr*. last year. I like to act with tv shows. I love to sing too. I live with my mom, grandpa, and my dogs. My favorite food is cheese. My favorite singer is Taylor Swift and my favorite TV shows are Steven Universe, The Owl House, Amphibia, Once Upon a Time, and Gravity Falls



#### **Taylor Putnam** / Bird Girl

Taylor is excited to be playing a Bird Girl, a Who, and a Fish in *Seussical Jr.* Last year Taylor played Lilly and the Appleseller in *Annie Jr.* Acting and singing are some of Taylor's favorite things to do, along with participating in SD Miss Amazing and advocating for girls with disabilities. Taylor works at Lava Java and makes keychains for her own business. Taylor's mentor is Taetym.



### Meet The Mentors



#### Aislynn Arens / Mentor to JoJo

I'm Aislynn. I'm a mentor for Halle who plays Jojo in *Suessical Jr.* This is my second year mentoring in The Penguin Project. I've been in four musicals, this would be my fifth. I have two siblings, a dad, and two cats. Their names are Milo and Harley. I'm going into 8th grade. I love to sing and dance. I was in dance for about 2–3 years but quit because of COVID but thinking about joining again maybe this year.



#### Beckett Kustak / Mentor to Mayzie La Bird

Beckett has been in 8 musicals. They are going to 7th grade at Edison middle school. They try really hard to be sassy for being a bird girl. They love to sing, perform, act, and do musicals. They want to do volleyball in 7th grade. They love helping in this performance this year and hopes to do it again.



#### Casey Kustak / Mentor to Young Kangaroo

This is not about me. This is about these fantastic actors.





### Meet The Mentors



#### Charlie Wheeler / Mentor to Wickersham Bros

This is my first year doing The Penguin Project and I am having so much fun! I danced in ballets for nearly a decade of my youth, but it's been a while since I've been on a stage!!



### Clarissa Schrank / Mentor to Cat In The Hat

Hi, I'm Clarissa. This is my first time being in The Penguin Project. It is awesome! I have been in Aladdin Jr and The Wizard of Oz. I have two siblings in the cast, Emmalynn (Mayzie La Bird) and Brennen (a Wickersham brother). I have 5 pets, but I love my dog the most. I am a mentor to Chrissy (The Cat in the Hat). I hope you enjoy the show as much as we do!



#### Josie Lawrence / Mentor to Mr. & Mrs. Mayor

Josephine is thrilled to be a mentor for the penguin project for the first time. She has acted in other musicals, such as *Aladdin Jr, The Wizard of Oz*, and *Newsies Jr.* When not performing, Josephine loves to draw, swim, camp, and hang out with her friends. Starting 6th grade this fall, she would like to play percussion in band and is excited not to have to ride the bus anymore. Josephine has loved this experience and hopes you enjoy the show!



### **Leah Hill** / Mentor to Bird Girls

Leah is one of the many mentors for The Penguin Project. This is her second year and last year she helped with *Annie Jr.* In her free time she likes theatre, dancing, and singing. Leah has been in over 25 plays in the past 6 years. She acts with the program DAPA at the Washington Pavilion. Leah also takes dance lessons and has for 12 years. And recently got a voice teacher. Leah lover performing and hopes on day she can do it for a living. She is so excited to be back and can't wait to see it all come to together.



### **Lily Satterlee** / Mentor to Vlad Vladikoff

Lily is grateful and thrilled to be back for another year of The Penguin Project! She absolutely treasures her role as one of the Mentor Coordinators because she gets a front-row seat to all of the meaningful and lasting friendships being developed amongst the cast, their family members, and the staff. Lily is proud to be Nev's mentor this year! During the school year, Lily is able to share her passion for the arts with her Kindergarten students at Eugene Field A+ Elementary. She'd like to thank her dad, Tom, for being the first to enthusiastically welcome her to the land of Dr. Seuss in childhood!

### Meet The Mentors



### **Mollie Varcoe** / Mentor to Gertrude McFuzz

Mollie is one of many mentors for The Penguin Project. This is her second year being a mentor. The first show was *Annie Jr.* and it was great. She is so excited to share *Seussical Jr.* which is even more amazing! Mollie has been in multiple shows downtown and hopes to be in many more. She loves to sing, hangout with friends and family, and go to church! Mollie can't wait for opening night so everyone can see the time and effort we put in to this show, and how talented each one of the these artists are!



### Penny Kustak / Mentor to Sour Kangaroo

Penelope (Penny) is 11 and is SO excited to be in this production. She has been in multiple different stages and roles! Such as an Ozian (Wizard of Oz), A guard (Aladdin), etc-and her most recent, a mouse in the production of Cinderella! Penny will be going in to middle school for the first time (she's nervous) but she is SO proud of her accomplishments! She is so happy that she got to work with her whole family in this role: her sibling Beckett, and her two parents Abby & Casey! She's so glad she was able to work with Laura and she hopes you enjoy the show!



#### **Shea O'Brien** / Mentor to Wickersham & Grinch

Shea has been looking forward to The Penguin Project all year! Her love of the arts and passion for working with kids led her to be a part of Annie Jr. last summer. Shea is joining <code>Seussical Jr</code>. as a Mentor Coordinator. She can't wait for the cast to share the important messages in <code>Seussical Jr</code>. with you. Shea grew up doing community theatre with Northern Starz Children's Theatre. Now she keeps busy working at Lutheran Social Services in Mentoring Services. Shea loves mentoring her artists, Hunter and Carson. They have so much fun together on and offstage. Thank you to the families and production staff for encouraging our artists to shine!



#### **Sonja Seivert** / Mentor to Wickersham Brothers

Sonja is happy to be a mentor for their first show, Seussical Jr. They are fairly new to performing but they are always ready to go. Sonja is currently a high schooler who enjoys playing video games in their spare time. Their favorite part about working on Seussical is seeing everyone have fun with each other and watching them make new friends or even see old ones.



### **Sophia Crevinston** / Mentor To Judge Yertle the Turtle

Sophia is participating in The Penguin Project for the second time after mentoring in *Annie Jr.* last year. She enjoys show choir, spending time with her friends, singing & acting. She is so excited for everyone to see all of the hard work that has been put into the *Seussical Jr.* production!!





### Meet The Mentors



### Taetym Eslinger / Mentor to Bird Girl

Taetym is a 12 year old mentor. She is paired with artist Taylor as a Bird Girl, Who, and Fish. This is the first musical she has ever been in! She has been waiting for the *Seussical Jr.* final production to see everyones costumes and talent! Taetym enjoy music, dancing, reading, and drawing. She takes art very seriously and would love to some day help with the production of sets and outfits for a play! Her favorite shows are Teenage Mutan Ninja Turtels and Sonic! Mangas are her favorite books to read!



### Our Thanks

The Premiere Playhouse would like to give a massive thank you to all of the parents, donors, kiddos, and volunteers who helped make this production of Seussical Jr. happen. We couldn't do it without you!

### **Special Thanks To:**

**T. Denny Sanford** for his generous donation
O'Gorman High School
The Penguin Parents



### Production Team



Education Assistant & Stage Manager

Abby Kustak

**Education Coordinator** 

Alex Newcomb Weiland

**Charge Scenic Artist** 

Alexondrea Thong Vahn

Costume, Hair & Makeup

**Makeup** Brittney Lewis **Designer** 

**Assistant Stage Manager** 

Carlie Terrall

**Assistant Choreographer** 

Grace Kjelden

**Assistant Stage Manager** 

Hope Dunkle

Director

Jacqueline Humke

**Properties Artisan** 

Jake Cox

**Scenic Designer** 

Jill Clark

Co-Mentor Coordinator

Lily Satterlee

Choreographer

Magen Richeal

Lighting Designer & Sound Designer/Engineer

Malia Lukomski

Music Director

Matt Nesmith

**Producer** 

Oliver Mayes

**Head Carpenter** 

Pierce Humke

**Co-Mentor Coordinator** 

Shea O'Brien

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