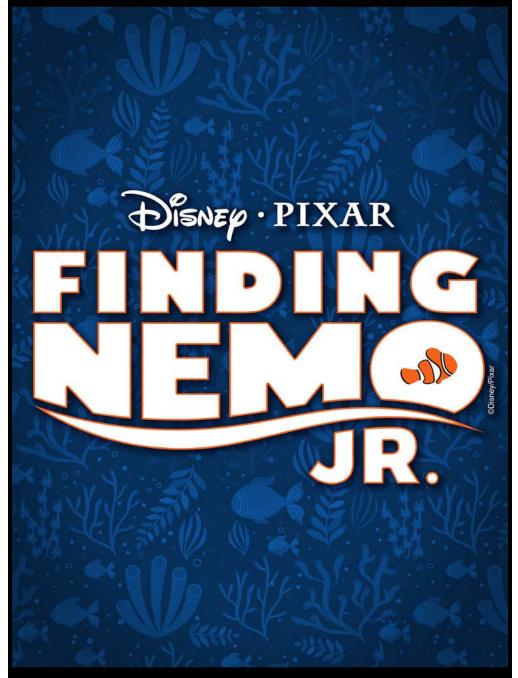
PLAYBILL

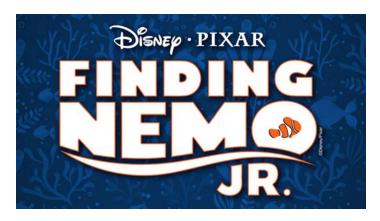


SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



10620 N. 43rd Avenue • Glendale, AZ 85304 • (602) 843-8318 • sytaz.org

Spotlight Youth Theatre Proudly Presents



Disney • Pixar's Finding Nemo, Jr.

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez

Book adapted by Lindsay Anderson

Music and Orchestrations Adapted and Arranged by Myrna Conn

Based on the 2003 Disney • Pixar film *Finding Nemo*, written by **Andrew Stanton**, **Bob Peterson**, **David Reynolds** and Directed by **Andrew Stanton**

Director: Kelly Swope

Musical Director: **Heather Walker**

Choreographer: Bella Swope

Set Designers: Brianna Funk & Becky Funk

Costume Designer: Nicole Tatro

Stage Manager: Tiffany Huisman

Lighting and Sound Designer: **Dorry Bailes**Hair and Make-up Designer: **Kelly Swope**

Properties Designer & Lobby Painter: Logan Swope

Dance Captain: LillyBelle Lange

Light Board Operator: AJ Riddle

Sound Board Operator & Spotlight Operator: Kate Logan

Microphone Operator: Michael Murtagh

Deck Manager: Brooklyn Martin

Photography, video, or audio recording of this show is strictly prohibited by law.

DISNEY • PIXAR'S Finding Nemo, Jr.

is presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

The Cast of Finding Nemo, Jr.

Cora Hancock	Nemo
Harper Thompson	Marlin
LillyBelle Lange	Dory
Nova McGoldrick	Coral, Nigel, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish
Violet Sorby	Pearl, Squirt, Fish Friend, Grouper, Seagull
Bennett Riddle	Sheldon, Breeze, Seagull
Jaxson McComb	Tad, Kai, Seagull
Cora Welch	
Craig Piazza	Sheldon's parent, Shark, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Grouper
Melanie Escalera	
Kenzie Speirs	Tad's parent, Shark, Turtle, Damselfish, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Octopus
Alissa Nadolny	Bubbles, Scuba Mask Dancer, Damselfish
Liam Davenport	Bruce, Turtle, Lobster
Lily Spears	
Riley Whitney	Anchor, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Seahorse
Vada Sorby	Bloat, Ensemble
Isabella Hines	Gurgle, Ensemble
Kylie Hamilton	Peach, Ensemble
Arabella Blanco	Gill, Ensemble
Kingston Petty-Purcell	Crush, Fish Friend, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Lobster
Lucy Salari	Pearl's Parent U/S, Shark, Turtle, Angelfish, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Electric Eel
Ellia Row	Tad's Parent U/S, Shark, Turtle, Barracuda, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Electric Eel
Annie Wolfley	Sheldon & Breeze U/S, Vacationer, Turtle, Angelfish, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Octopus
Billie Murtagh	Vacationer, Fish Friend, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Grouper

Break a leg, Bennett Just Keep swimming towards your dreams: We are so proud of you Dad, Mom, JR, AJE Gracie'O' The Sun is Shining! Great Work Peach So om + Dad K. Good Luck We believe in you. Bell Violet, 07 So proud of you! You will be great. Have a blast in your first snow at Spot light. we love you so much. Love your family &

*Lily, our sweet girl, all your hard work is about to shine you're going to bring so much energy + fun to Chum. 4 the audience will Nemo Jr. Break a leg! Love you mom ! Dad. Vada, a Your amazing and we lave you so much! Congrats on your vote and the hope you have ablast! Love your any Brille Billie Billie Billie Billie Billie Billie Bitie Billie Billie Bil Billie Billie Billie Billie Billie Bi Congratulations to the cast and crew of Finding Nemo Jr! We are so proud of you! The Spattight Youth Theatre Board of Directors

Note From the Director of Finding Nemo, Jr.

Finding Nemo is a story about being different.

We are all different – different colors, sizes, shapes, and abilities. We have our own fears, phobias, and struggles. We have our own paths in life; but we don't have to walk them alone.

Just like Nemo, remember that even the smallest fish can make a big splash in the world. Embrace your uniqueness and let your light shine!

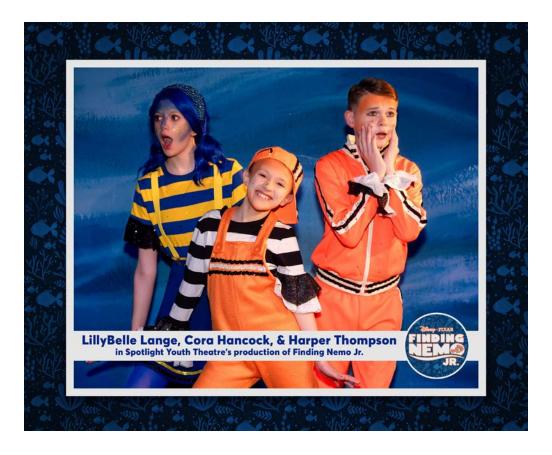
Like Marlin and Dory, cherish the power of friendship and teamwork. Together, we can overcome any obstacle that comes our way.

Take a lesson from Crush the sea turtle and go with the flow. Sometimes in life, it's best to ride the current and see where it takes you.

Remember the importance of family, whether it's the one you're born into or the one you create along the way. Family is where love and support swim endlessly.

Thank you for joining us on this unforgettable journey under the sea. Just like Nemo, we've learned that with a little courage and a lot of heart, we can achieve the impossible. Just Keep Swimming!

Kelly Swope, Director



Spotlight Youth Theatre Administrative Team

Artistic Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre	Kenny Grossman
Managing Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre	Deb Czajkowski
General Manager for Spotlight Youth Theatre	Jack Taylor
Graphic Designer, Headshot Photographer, & Webmaster	Robert Waller
Social Media Specialist	Jack Taylor
Promotional Photos	Audra Little
Break-a-Leg Table Coordinator	Tammy Waller
Fundraising Committee	

Special thanks to **Doug Novotny**, the **Spotlight Youth Theatre Board of Directors**, and the **friends & family members** who volunteered to make this show so successful.

How Are We Doing?

WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK

Please take a moment to complete our online survey. Your responses are greatly appreciated.

Please scan the code or type the link into any internet browser.

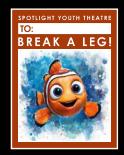
https://bit.ly/SYTSurvey



Finding Nemo, Jr. Scene List & Musical Numbers

Prologue	
Scene One: First Day of School	
	"Big Blue World (Part 1)"
	,
Scene Two: Abduction to Sharks	
	"Fish are Friends, not Food"
Scene Three: Boardwalk (Part 1)	
	"Saguile (Part 1)"
	we swim Together
Scene Four: Journey Through the Sea	
	"Just Keep Swimming (Part 1)"
	3 1 3 7
Scene Five: Boardwalk (Part 2)	
	"Seagulls (Part 2)"
Scene Six: The Pump is Off	
Scene Six: The Fullip is On	"Not My Dad"
	Not wy Dau
Scene Seven: Go With the Flow	
	"Go with the Flow
Scene Eight: The Game, The Gossip, The Escape	
	"We Swim Together (Reprise)"
Scene Nine: Boardwalk (Part 3)	
Scene (vine: Boardwark (rart 3)	"Seagulls (Part 3)"
	Scaguns (Fart 3)
Scene Ten: Sydney Harbour Fishing Grounds	
	"Just Keep Swimming Together "
	,
Scene Eleven: Finale	
	"Bows"

Give Your Favorite Actor, Crew Member, or Director a Break-a-Leg!









For only \$5.00 you can send a personalized Break-a-Leg to your favorite actor or crew member!









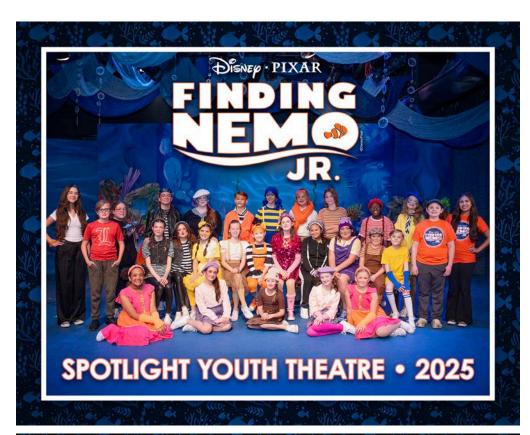








The actors, crew members, and directors love it, and all proceeds are channeled directly back into the theatre to support amazing programs such as this one. Stop by the "Break-a-Leg" table in the theatre lobby to brighten someone's day!





SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

AUDITION



13 THE MUSICAL

We all have a little more homework to do!

Production Dates:

May 16 – June 1, 2025

Ages: 12-15

Audition dates:

- Friday, April 4, 2025, at 6:00 PM
- Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 5:00 PM
- Callbacks: Monday, April 7, 2025, at 5:30 PM

Requirements:

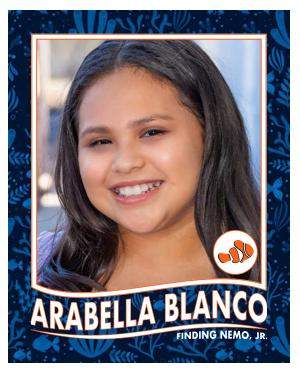
- Complete the online audition form.
- Please come prepared to sing 32 bars (about 90 seconds) of two
 contrasting songs One appropriate-style upbeat, character-driven
 song, and one ballad. (Track or sheet music only; no a capella.)
- Mandatory parent meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at 5:30 PM.
- Headshot and resume required.

Video auditions:

- Complete the online audition form.
- Email kenny@sytaz.org by 9:00 PM on Thursday, April 3, 2025.
- Include your name with the audition video linked or attached to the email.
- In-person callbacks are mandatory.

NOTE: We are looking for young people of all ethnicities, body types, and gender identifications.

See complete requirements and access the online audition form at sytaz.org/13-the-musical-2025



Arabella Blanco

Gill, Ensemble

Arabella is an 11-year-old dedicated young performer with a passion for both stage and screen. She has appeared in several main stage productions at Arizona Broadway Theater, including The Wizard of Oz, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, The Little Mermaid, and Beauty and the *Beast.* She has also participated in four theater camps there. Currently in her second semester of HyRev at ABT, Arabella has honed her skills in acting, singing, and quickly mastering new material. Known for being reliable and hardworking, she is eager to continue growing in the performing arts. Outside of performance, she enjoys volleyball and attending theater shows. Arabella is excited to perform in *Finding Nemo* Jr at SYT and looks forward to future opportunities at SYT.



Liam Davenport

Bruce, Turtle, Lobster

Liam is a 13-year-old who attends Western Sky Middle School and is thrilled to return to the Spotlight Youth Theatre stage for yet another incredible production! A few of Liam's favorite roles include Courfeyrac in Les Misérables (SYT), Oliver Rivers in Puffs (SCT), Robertson Ay in Mary Poppins Jr (SYT), and Scar in The Lion King Kids (SYT). When he's not immersed in the world of theatre, Liam loves hanging out with friends and playing with his adorable French Bulldog, Cooper. He's immensely grateful for his family's unwavering support and love and for inspiring him every day.

Enjoy the show!



Melanie Escalera

Pearl's parent, Fish Friend, Turtle, Angelfish, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Grouper

Melanie Escalera is a seventh grader at Rio Vista Elementary School, where she is a part of the yearbook club and cheer team. She is excited to be making her SYT debut! Melanie has become very active at Arizona Broadway Theatre (ABT) over the last year, performing as Matilda in Willy Wonka Jr., the Scuba Mask Dancer in Finding Nemo Kids, and as the Enchantress in Beauty and the Beast Jr. in ABTs Academy for Young Performers. In addition, she performed in the ABT mainstage productions of *The Little* Mermaid and Beauty and the Beast and is a member of the Rev'd Up Troupe. In her free time, Melanie loves to dance, rollerskate and do make-up. She would like to thank her family for "ubering" her to the extracurriculars and the creative team for their amazing work on this show - Tiffany, Kelly, Heather, and Bella. Enjoy the show!



Kylie Hamilton

Peach, Ensemble

Kylie (14 years old) is thrilled to return to Spotlight's stage as Peach! She is currently a freshman at ASU Prep Digital. Her last performance here was as Deb / Featured Ensemble in Elf Jr. Some of her other most recent roles were Parent #2 in My Son Pinocchio Jr. at TheatreWorks and Gabriella Montez in High School Musical Jr. at TheatreWorks! Follow her on Instagram @kyliehamilton.actor to see what her next show is!



Cora Hancock

Nemo

Cora is a 10-year-old fifth grader who is thrilled to be part of *Finding Nemo Jr.* with Spotlight Youth Theater. She previously appeared in *Elf Jr.* and *Rudolph* at SYT, as well as the role of Fairy Sue in *My Son Pinocchio Jr.* at TheatreWorks. When she is not on stage, Cora loves playing Minecraft and painting.

She would like to thank Ms. Kelly for trusting her with this special role and Renee, Shonn, and Stephen for their guidance and support in helping her reach her dreams.



Isabella Hines

Gurgle, Ensemble

Isabella is thrilled and honored to be part of Spotlight Youth Theatre's production of Finding Nemo Jr. She has performed at the Arizona State Fair, Phoenix Zoo Lights, Glendale Glitters, and many other events with SYT troupes. Her past productions include Disney's Frozen Jr., Moana Jr., The Lion King Jr., and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer Jr., along with numerous theatrical camps over the years.

Isabella is currently a student at Arizona School for the Arts, where she studies piano, cello, and choir. Her passion for the performing arts continues to grow, and she is excited for many more opportunities to share her love of music and theater.



LillyBelle Lange

Dory

LillyBelle is so excited to be back on the Spotlight stage! She's a sophomore at Sunrise Mountain High School. She loves to sing and dance. Recent credits include *Lightning Thief* and *13* at Starlight & Mary Poppins, The Prom, Moana, and Shrek Jr at SYT! She's a member of HyRev at ABT as well. LillyBelle would like to thank Kelly, Bella, Heather, and Kenny for this opportunity, and says thanks to this awesome-sauce cast and crew! Shoutout to her wonderful coaches, her family and friends too!

Thank you for coming to the show, and please support local theater!

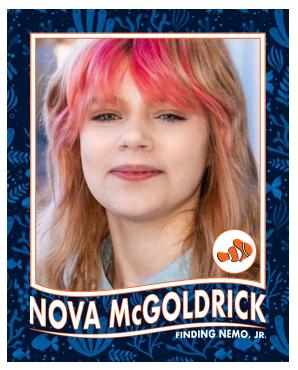


Jaxson McComb

Tad, Kai, Seagull

Jaxson McComb is 10 years old and ecstatic for his Spotlight debut! Most recently, he was Tiny Tim in A Christmas Carol at TheatreWorks. He was also in the homeschool production of A Midsummer Night's Dream (Puck) as well as the Theater Alive Kids' show Frozen Jr. (Bishop / Hidden Folk) and Finding Nemo Jr (Sheldon).

He'd like to thank Kelly, Heather, Bella, and the entire *Finding Nemo Jr.* team for this opportunity.



Nova McGoldrick

Coral, Nigel, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish

Nova is a 12-year-old 7th grader from Phoenix, AZ. She is thrilled to be a part of *Finding Nemo Jr.* at Spotlight Youth Theater! Her past performances have been in *Snow White and the 8 Dwarfs, Barbie, Mary Poppins, Lion King Jr.*, and *Wednesday* (all at SYT). When she's not performing, you can find her involved with many shenanigans, such as gaming and reading Manga.

She'd like to thank her peers for accepting her.

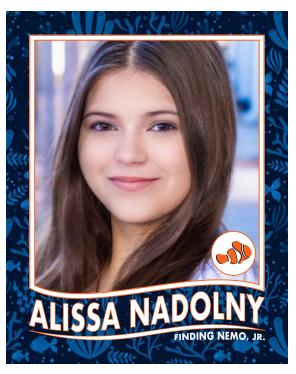


Billie Murtagh

Vacationer, Fish Friend, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Grouper

Billie is excited to be a part of another show at Spotlight! She lives in Glendale, Arizona, is 8 years old, and is in third grade. She loves performing in her local musical theatre class and being a part of various clubs at her school.

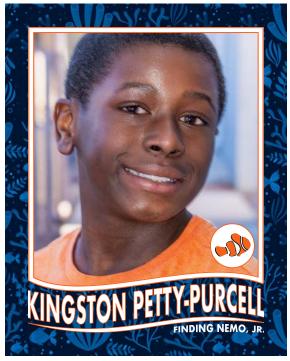
She is honored to be a part of this incredible cast. Break a leg, fellow castmates!



Alissa Nadolny Bubbles, Scuba Mask Dancer, Damselfish

Alissa Nadolny is a 12-year-old girl in 7th grade excited for her first performance as Bubbles in *Finding Nemo Jr*. Alissa draws in her free time.

She is grateful for books and her parents for loving and supporting her.



Kingston Petty-Purcell

Crush, Fish Friend, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Lobster

Kingston Petty-Purcell is 11 years old and attends Arizona School for The Arts. You may have seen him as Flounder at the Arizona Broadway Theater production of *The Little Mermaid* last summer, or more recently, performing as Peter Pan in Temple Performing Arts' *Peter Pan Jr. Finding Nemo Jr.* is Kingston's 17th musical theater performance, and he is delighted to be back at Spotlight Youth Theatre performing as Crush!

Many thanks to Kenny, Kelly, Heather, Bella, and the whole Spotlight family.

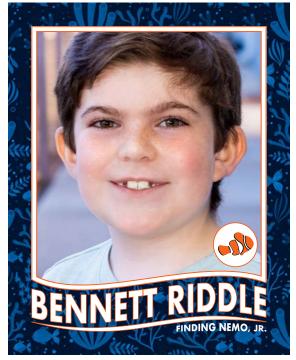


Craig Piazza

Sheldon's Parent, Shark, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Grouper

Craig is a 13-year-old 7th grader at Copperwood Elementary School. He participated in two of SYT's Summer Camps with a little encouragement from his music teacher. He was thrilled to be a part of *The Great Toy Escape* and fell in love with the theatre experience. *Shrek Jr* was his first full production.

Craig's other interests include amateur geology, modded Minecraft, indie horror, Lego, and writing scripts and skits.



Bennett Riddle

Sheldon, Breeze, Seagull

Bennett is thrilled to be returning to the Spotlight stage after playing Young Rudolph in Rudolph, Ir. last year. His first show was Finding Nemo Jr. as Squirt (ABT Academy), and he has loved this show ever since. Recent credits include Beauty and the Beast (Young Prince / Youth Ensemble) and The Little Mermaid (Youth Ensemble), both at Arizona Broadway Theatre. Bennett is nine years old and in 3rd grade at Verrado Heritage Elementary School. He loves performing and proudly follows in the footsteps of his big brothers, JR and AJ, who also call Spotlight home. Bennett thanks Kelly, Heather, Bella, Tiffany, Kenny, and vocal coach Renee for being so awesome and supportive! He would also like to say "break a fin" to all his amazing castmates!

Thank you for supporting Spotlight Youth Theatre, and remember, as Nemo teaches us, it is our unique differences that make us special!

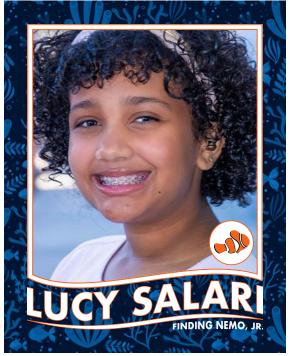


Ellia Row

Tad's Parent U/S, Shark, Turtle, Barracuda, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Electric Eel

This is Ellia Row. She is 11 years old, and she is in 5th grade, and she loves doing theatre. It is her #1 hobby, but she likes to do many other things, such as playing the Sims, talking with her friends, watching movies, and hanging out with her labrador Nyx / Nyxie. Her favorite roles so far have been Dopey (Snow White and the 8 Dwarfs), and Grand Pabbie (Snow Queen 2).

This is her first non-camp show that she got cast in, and she is extremely happy!

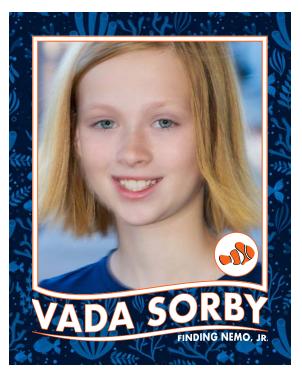


Lucy Salari

Pearl's Parent U/S, Shark, Turtle, Angelfish, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Electric Eel

Lucy is an 11-year-old 6th grader from Phoenix, Arizona. While she has participated in Spotlight camps and troupes, *Finding Nemo Jr.* is her first cast production at SYT. Lucy loves to play the cello, sing in her school choir, read, and write. Lucy also loves spending time with her three cats, Margo, Max, and Millie!

She would like to thank her family for their support and the production team for making this a show she will never forget!



Vada Sorby

Bloat, Ensemble

Vada is so excited to be a part of *Finding Nemo* and performing at Spotlight again! She loved performing in *Mary Poppins* here last spring and since then has played Matilda in the *Matilda Musical* and a Rat Henchman and Narrator in *The Nutcracker Fantasy*. But now she is so glad to be back at Spotlight with old friends and making some great new ones!

Thank you to the cast and crew for all your hard work and support and to her family who always cheers her on and supports all her dreams!



Violet Sorby

Pearl, Squirt, Fish Friend, Grouper, Seagull

This is Violet's first show at Spotlight, and she has never been more excited! Violet's past theater experience has been in Ensemble in *Matilda* and a Rat Henchman in The *Nutcracker Fantasy*. Ever since seeing her sister in *Mary Poppins* here last spring, Violet has wanted to be on this stage. She's having the best time and making great friends.

Thank you to all the cast and crew for making this experience so great and to her family, who loves and supports her!



Lily Spears

Chum, Sheldon's Parent U/S, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Seahorse

Lily Spears is a 12-year-old 7th grader at Desert Foothills Middle School. After years of incredible experiences at SYT's summer camps, winter camps, and performance troupes, she is thrilled to make her debut in a full production. Having spent years in gymnastics, she's excited to shift her focus to the stage and bring her energy and passion to this performance.

She would like to thank her friends, family, and SYT for their support—with a special shout out to her sigma mother.



Kenzie Speirs

Tad's parent, Shark, Turtle, Damselfish, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Octopus

Kenzie Speirs is thrilled to make her SYT debut with this production of *Finding Nemo Jr!* She is 12 years old and in 7th grade. Kenzie has performed in several productions at Arizona Broadway Theater and TheatreWorks, and most recently played Ester Jane in *A Christmas Story* at Desert Stages Theatre. Her favorite roles include Babette (*Beauty and the Beast Jr*), Aunt Spiker (*James and the Giant Peach Jr*), Veruca Salt (*Willy Wonka Kids*), and Young Anna (*Frozen Jr*). Outside of theater, Kenzie is involved in her school's Student Council and cross-country team.

She would like to thank her family for all their support, as well as the entire cast, crew, and production team here at Spotlight for this amazing opportunity to perform.



Harper Thompson

Marlin

Harper is ecstatic to be playing Marlin in Spotlight Youth Theatre's production of Finding Nemo Jr. Recent credits include Eddie in 13! The Musical (Starlight Theatre), Community Von Hussler/ Ensemble in Mary Poppins Jr. (Spotlight Youth Theatre), and Youth Sea Creature Chorus in The Little Mermaid (Arizona Broadway Theatre). Harper is 12 years old and a principal's list student at West Wing Elementary. In his free time, Harper enjoys reading, singing, and dancing! Thank you to the Finding Nemo Team: Kelly, Heather, Bella, and Tiffany for making this possible. Special thanks to Mom, Dad, Eli, Aidan, Maddie, Mamaw, Papaw, and Nana for always supporting him! He loves you more than you can ever know.

Now sit back, relax, and enjoy this journey through the Big Blue World!

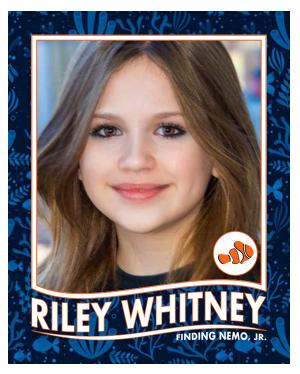


Cora Welch

Professor Ray, Fish Friend, Turtle, Damselfish, Moonfish, Jellyfish

Cora Welch is so very excited to be in Finding Nemo! She is a 13-year-old, 8th-grade student at Imagine Buckeye. Though this is Cora's first musical, it is not her first time on the stage. She was most recently in Playfest 2025 (SYT), and some of her more notable roles are Charlotte in Charlotte's Web and Bagheera in The Jungle Book (WVS). When she's not in the theatre, Cora enjoys writing and playing guitar. She is extremely grateful for this opportunity and would like to say thank you to the directors, cast, her family and friends for their support.

Cora hopes you enjoy the show!

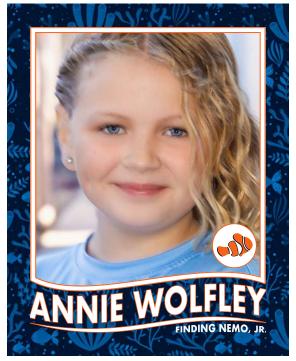


Riley Whitney

Anchor, Turtle, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Seahorse

Riley is 12 years old and in the 6th grade and is thrilled to be performing at Spotlight Youth Theatre for the first time! Her previous roles include *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (Verrado Heritage / Grinch), *Anthem Haunted House* (Anthem Musical Theatre / Scare Actor), *The Celebration of Christmas* (Dream City Church / Choir).

She would like to thank the SYT team for the opportunity to participate in this special production.



Annie Wolfley

Sheldon & Breeze U/S, Vacationer, Turtle, Angelfish, Moonfish, Jellyfish, Octopus

Annie is thrilled to be a part of her first cast at Spotlight Youth Theatre. She is 10 years old and in 4th grade. When Annie is not at play rehearsal, she enjoys riding horses, singing, dancing, gymnastics, knitting, crocheting, and reading. Annie has a passion for new adventures and living life to its fullest.

She is excited you're here and hopes you enjoy the show!

Dorry Bailes (Lighting & Sound Designer)

Dorry Bailes is so excited to return to Spotlight Youth Theatre for lighting and sound design. Dorry has recently discovered a love for lighting and had the opportunity to expand her knowledge throughout the valley. Some of her favorite productions she has worked on are *The Lighting Thief* (Starlight Community Theatre) and *School Girls; or, The African Mean Girls Play* (Spotlight Youth Theatre, AriZoni Nominee). She was recently given the opportunity to compete in the WAFT Regional Thespian Competition and won a Superior Rating for Lighting Design. She is so thankful for the opportunities she has received and wants to thank her boyfriend and her family for their unending support.

Becky Funk (Co-Set Designer)

This is Becky's fifth set design project with Spotlight Youth Theatre. She previously designed *Elf Jr, Anastasia*, and *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer Jr*. She is the Assistant Director for Imagine Theater Company and has been the scenic painter for many shows. She has loved working with Spotlight again on this production. She wants to thank her family for all their love and support.

Brianna Funk (Co-Set Designer)

Brianna is excited to be working with Spotlight again on *Finding Nemo Jr the Musical*. She previously was the set designer for *Elf Jr the Musical*, *Shrek*, and *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer Jr*, to name a few. A special thanks to Kenny and Spotlight Youth Theatre for always making theater accessible to all. Love to her family, especially her husband, Travis, who gets roped into her crazy theater hijinks! Just keep swimming and enjoy the show!

María Guadalupe Cruz (Production Manager)

María (She/Her/Ella) is thrilled to be the Production Manager for *Finding Nemo Jr.* María has several stage management credits at theaters across the Arizona valley for the past seven years, and she is proud to step into the production manager role this season with Spotlight. She has her Master's in Legal Studies from ASU and a BA in Organizational Leadership - Project Management. She currently works at Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts as their Programming Administrative Specialist. Maria believes Spotlight is a truly special place that does important work that genuinely supports and expands the community. She wants to thank Kenny, Deb, Kelly, Bella, Jack, and the whole production team, cast, and crew for allowing her to work with them on this show. Por último, ella quiere agradecerle a su mamá, papá y hermanas por el apoyo que recibe. "Disfruten la obra!"

Tiffany Huisman (Stage Manager)

Tiffany is excited to be back behind the scenes as the Stage Manager for *Finding Nemo*, *Jr*. Tiffany has been part of the SYT family for eight years as a parent and stage manager. She has performed in five adult fundraising productions at SYT. She grew up in the theatre and is so grateful that SYT has created a space for young people to be who they truly are in a safe space. Thanks to Kenny and the entire production team!

Kelly Swope (Director / Hair & Make-Up Designer)

Kelly is thrilled to direct such a fun show for Spotlight! She has been involved with theater as a parent, volunteer, actor, and in many different parts of a production team. For over a decade, SYT has been our home away from home for her family and she is thankful for the opportunity to work with both of her kids here as they are now adults. She would love to thank Kenny Grossman for always believing in her and her kids and allowing them to learn and grow. Enjoy the show!

Nicole Tatro (Costume Designer)

Nicole Tatro is a Bay Area native; she graduated from UCLA and worked as a dental hygienist for ten years before becoming a full-time costume designer. She has sewn over 7,000 costumes in her career, working with theaters, circuses, ballet companies, competitive dance teams, parades, and the entertainment industry. Since moving to Scottsdale in 2019, she has twice been nominated for a 'Zoni award in costume design and is still holding out for a win. This is her first production with Spotlight, and she loves the community spirit she has felt in such a short time. When she is not sewing, she spends her time with her husband, four children, two mini pigs, and a basset hound.



SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS SPRING BREAK WORKSHOPS 2025



Sing • Dance • Act • Explore • Dream!

Workshop 1

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March 17-21

March 10-14

Monday-Friday

9 AM-4 PM
Show Finale:

Friday, March 14, at 5 PM

Monday–Friday 9 AM–4 PM

Workshop 2

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Show Finale: Friday, March 21, at 5 PM

Tuition: \$200 • Ages 8 to 19

Early drop-off and late pick-up available

Spotlight Youth Theatre

10620 N. 43rd Avenue Glendale, Arizona 85304 (602) 843-8318 • sytaz.org



SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

LITTLE ACTORS ACADEMY Spring Break Camp

March 17 – 21 • 9 AM – Noon



Join us for this actionpacked Super Mario themed SYT Little Actors Academy Spring Break Camp!

This fun and exciting camp invites young performers to jump into the vibrant world of the Mushroom Kingdom.

Whether dodging Koopa Troopas or racing to save the day, they'll have a blast bringing this iconic video game world to life on stage!

Designed specifically for toddlers ages 3–7, SYT's Little Actors Academy combines the joy of music, movement, and imagination to create an unforgettable theatrical experience!

Tuition is \$175. Sibling discount available. For more information or to register, please call the SYT Box Office or visit sytaz.org.

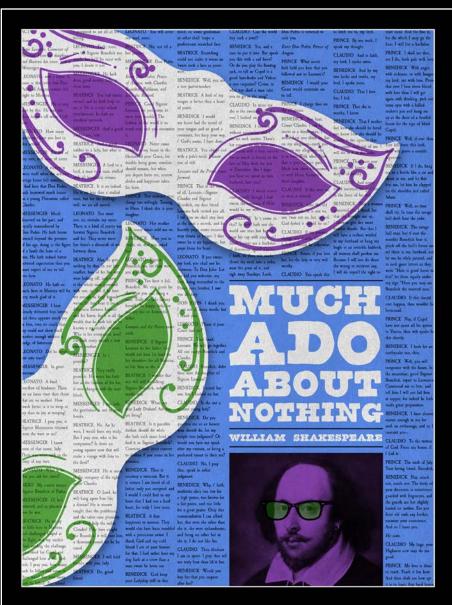
Spotlight Youth Theatre

10620 N 43rd Ave • (602) 843-8318 • sytaz.org



YEARS 2005 - 2025

Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



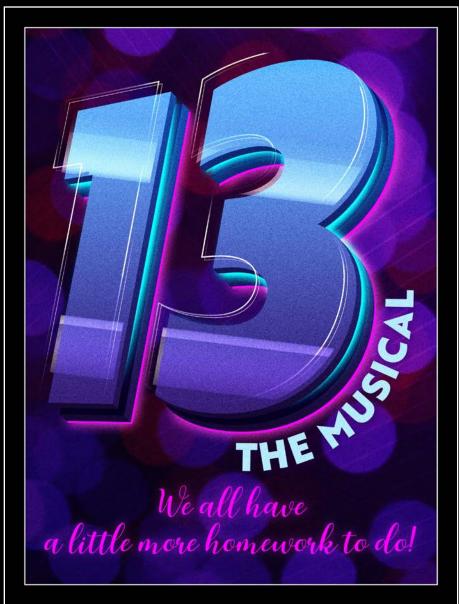
APRIL 11-20, 2025

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Saturdays and Sundays at 2PM

10620 N 43rd Ave • (602) 843-8318 • sytaz.org



Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



MAY 16-JUNE 1, 2025

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 2PM additional 2PM matinees on May 24 & 31

10620 N 43rd Ave • (602) 843-8318 • sytaz.org



YOUNG ACTORS THESPIAN COMPANY

a theatrical adventure for aspiring young performers



MAR 8 - MAY 10, 2025

Saturdays from 10AM-Noon

Ages 5 to 9

All kids and experience levels are welcome!

Tuition: \$250

It is never too early to start musical theatre!

This program will teach kids the core elements of Musical Theatre including singing, dancing and acting.

Spotlight Youth Theatre's YOUNG ACTORS THESPIAN COMPANY will encourage kids to explore their creativity and imagination in an ensemble–based setting, and will give them an appreciation and understanding of the theatre stage.



Two for the Show: The Little Red Hen & Three Billy Goats Gruff

Performers will shine as adorable farm animals, fluffy forest creatures, or the territorial "mean and nasty" troll as they present two classical tales: *The Little Red Hen* and *Three Billy Goats Gruff*.

Rehearsals will be held every Saturday in the Spotlight Studio from 10AM–Noon. Performances on Saturday, May 10, at 1PM, and Sunday, May 11, at 1PM.

For more information or to register, please call the SYT Box Office or visit our website. Spotlight Studio • 10820 N 43rd Ave • (602) 843–8318 • sytaz.org

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMANCE TROUPE

2024-2025 SEASON

Three exciting 10-week sessions • Sign up for 1, 2, or all 3 sessions! Each session includes Troupe t-shirt and performance finale!

SYT COMPANY

Director: Heather Walker • Choreographer: Falin TaylorAges 9 to 19 • \$250 per session • \$600 for all three sessions

SPARKLES

Director: Haley Kennedy

Ages 5 to 8 • \$175 per session • \$420 for all three sessions

SESSION 1: "CONTEMPORARY BROADWAY A-to-Z"

August 12 to October 28, 2024

SYT Company: Mondays 5:30–8:30 p.m. (Off on 9/2 & 10/14) **Sparkles:** Wednesdays 4:30–6:00 p.m. (Off on 9/4 & 10/16)

SESSION 2: "SPOTLIGHT ON DISNEY"

November 4, 2024 to February 10, 2025

SYT Company: Mondays 5:30–8:30 p.m. (Off on 11/11, 11/25, 12/23, 12/30, 1/20) **Sparkles:** Wednesdays 4:30–6:00 p.m. (Off on 11/13, 11/27, 12/25, 1/1, 1/22)

SESSION 3: "JUKEBOX MUSICAL HITS"

February 24 to May 12, 2025

SYT Company: Mondays 5:30–8:30 p.m. (Off on 3/10, 3/17) **Sparkles:** Wednesdays 4:30–6:00 p.m. (Off on 3/12, 3/19)

For more information or to register for SYT Company, please visit sytaz.org.

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

10620 N. 43rd Avenue • (602) 843-8318 • sytaz.org



PICK-A-SEAS OUTDOOR FAMILY FUNDRAISING EVENT



THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025 • 5:30-8:00PM

LOCATION: SYT Parking Lot Bring your chairs and blankets! FOOD: Potluck (a variety of sides/desserts welcome!) Buy raffle tickets to help us select which shows to feature in Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2025-2026 Season!

10620 North 43rd Avenue • Glendale, Arizona 85304 • sytaz.org

SPOTLIGHT'S 2025 ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ART EXHIBIT



"We must be suspicious of censors who say they mean to prohibit our art for your own welfare." ~ Maya Angelou



"No art ever survived censorship; no art ever will." ~ Oscar Wilde



"In the end, those who seek to censor and destroy art testify to its power, whether the work is seen as a symbol of something hated or disliked, or simply as a vessel of form." ~ David Freedberg

SAT, MAR 22, 5–9 PM SUN, MAR 23, 2–6 PM Admission: FREE!

Come support six high school students as they showcase their powerful and personal artwork—pieces created throughout the school year that reflect their creativity, identity, and artistic voice, including excluded work that pushes boundaries and challenges the limits of traditional high school exhibits.

"The schools that banned these artists reflect a lack of confidence.

We don't." ~ Kenny Grossman

SPOTLIGHT STUDIO • 10820 N 43RD AVE, STE 3 • GLENDALE, AZ





SCHOOL SHOWS

INTRODUCE YOUR STUDENTS TO THE MAGIC OF LIVE THEATRE!

Bring your group or class on an educational and entertaining excursion to Spotlight Youth Theatre! This year we are offering a variety of delightful shows for audiences of all ages!



LES MISÉRABLES SCHOOL EDITION

OCTOBER 29, 2024 • 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.

Winner of over 100 international awards and seen by over 70 million theatergoers, this musical phenomenon is an epic tale of passion and redemption in the throes of revolution.



ELF JR.

DECEMBER 10, 2024 • 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.

Based on the beloved holiday film, this hilarious fish-out-of-water musical comedy follows Buddy the Elf in his quest to find his true identity.



DISNEY • PIXAR'S FINDING NEMO JR.

MARCH 4, 2025 • 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.

Join Nemo, Dory, and a cast of colorful characters as they explore the big blue world in this lively stage musical based on the beloved Pixar film!



MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

APRIL 15, 2025 • 9:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.

William Shakespeare's timeless comedy weaves together sharp banter, mistaken identities, and the quest for true love in a delightful tale that will leave you laughing and cheering.



Spotlight Youth Theatre thanks the **Moon Valley Women's Club** for sponsoring our 2024–2025 School Shows program!

\$8 PER PERSON • Contact Deb Czajkowski at deb@sytaz.org or (623) 332-7201 for information or to schedule your event.

YEARS 2005-2025

10620 N. 43RD AVE • GLENDALE, AZ 85304 • SYTAZ.ORG

March 30 to June 15, 2025
In the Spotlight Studio

Sundays • 6-8 PM Weeks 7-10: Wednesdays • 6-8 PM

Tuition: \$150

Facilitated by Kelly Swope and Logan Swope, **SYT Pride** is a 10-week theater program for LGBTQ+ youth ages 13–21, offering a space to explore and express their identities.

SYT Pride's vision is to provide LGBTQ+ youth with a safe space to share their experiences, collaborate, and create original theater. The goal of the program is to increase LGBTQ+ visibility and promote equity within the arts and community.

Through brainstorming sessions, participants will share stories related to their queer identities, which will then be crafted into a play that will be performed for the community.

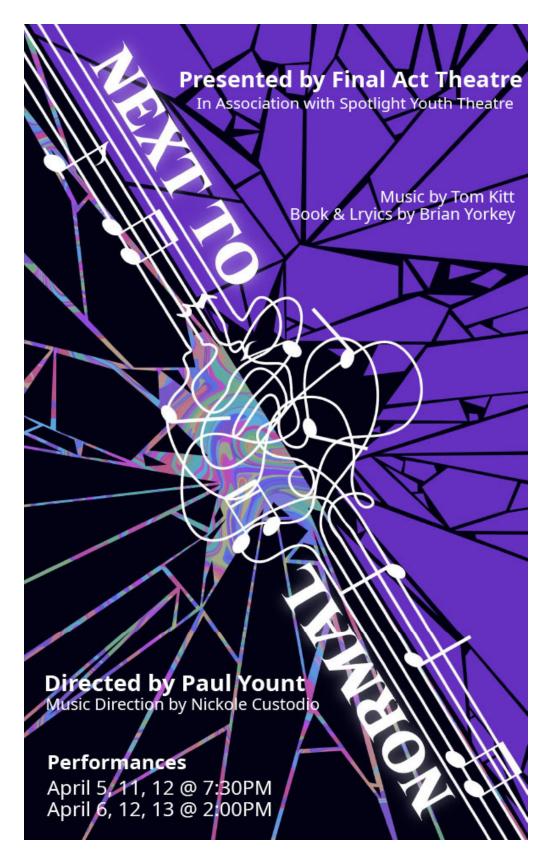
SYT Pride empowers youth to celebrate and express their diverse experiences through theater.

For more information or to register, please visit sytaz.org.

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE









SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE • 2025 SUMMER THEATRE CAMP

JUNE 2-13



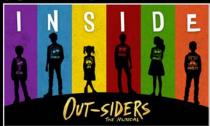
BEATLE-JUICE, BEATLE-JUICE, BEATLE-JUICE Lydia hates her dad's new girlfriend and the new house they moved into. She escapes to the attic to be alone but instead is visited by four ghosts: John, Paul, George, and Ringo. Together with the Fab 4 and special ghost friends, Lydia tries everything she can to scare her dad into selling the house and dumping his girlfriend.

JUNE 16-27



SIX "WIVES" THE MUSICAL "Don't Lose UR Head" over this camp. The "Megasix" wives of six U.S. presidents are joined by the Presidents, their Cabinets and an array of special guests to tell their fantastic stories.

JULY 7–18



INSIDE OUT-siders the MUSICAL Emotions run amok as the East Valley Theatre Troupe battles the West Valley Theatre Troupe to see who will take over VYP (Valley Youth Playhouse). Join us as Ponyboy, Sodapop, Irving, Riley, Joy, Sadness, Fear, Anger, Disgust, Singing, Dancing and of course, Ping Pong face off to the final encore.

JULY 22-AUGUST 1



SHIZ SUMMER SCHOOL Singing, Dancing and Magic. Test your skills in the magical arts. All witches and wizards are welcome. Join us at "Dear ol" Shiz" for the greatest summer school ever. In "Oz" we trust.

During each session of Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2025 Summer Theatre Camp, actors will learn the shows and then perform for families and friends!



Tuition is \$500 per two-week session; \$450 if registered on or before May 1, 2025.

M-F 9AM-3PM • Ages 7-17 • Sibling and multiple-session discount available

Registration fee includes a camp t-shirt • Before-and-after care available

To register, please visit sytaz.org/summer2025

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE • 2025 SUMMER THEATRE CAMP

During each session of Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2025 Summer Theatre Camp, actors will learn the shows and then perform for families and friends!

SESSION 1: June 2–13, 2025



BEATLE-JUICE, BEATLE-JUICE, BEATLE-JUICE! Lydia hates her dad's new girlfriend and the new house they moved into. She escapes to the attic to be alone but instead is visited by four ghosts: John, Paul, George, and Ringo. Together with the Fab 4 and special ghost friends, Lydia tries everything she can to scare her dad into selling the house and dumping his girlfriend.



Tuition is \$500 per two-week session; \$450 if registered on or before May 1, 2025.

M-F 9AM-3PM • Ages 7-17 • Sibling and multiple-session discount available

Registration fee includes a camp t-shirt • Before-and-after care available

To register, please visit sytaz.org/summer2025

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE • 2025 SUMMER THEATRE CAMP

During each session of Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2025 Summer Theatre Camp, actors will learn the shows and then perform for families and friends!

SESSION 1: June 16-27, 2025



SIX "WIVES" THE MUSICAL "Don't Lose UR Head" over this camp. The "Megasix" wives of six U.S. presidents are joined by the Presidents, their Cabinets and an array of special guests to tell their fantastic stories.



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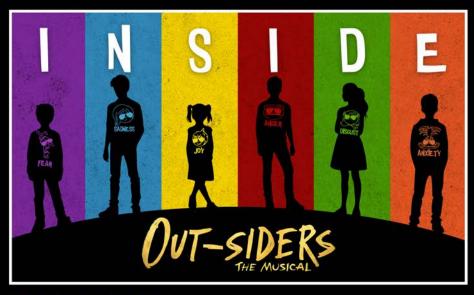
SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE • 2025 SUMMER THEATRE CAMP

During each session of Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2025 Summer Theatre Camp, actors will learn the shows and then perform for families and friends!

SESSION 1: July 7–18, 2025



INSIDE OUT-siders the MUSICAL Emotions run amok as the East Valley Theatre Troupe battles the West Valley Theatre Troupe to see who will take over VYP (Valley Youth Playhouse). Join us as Ponyboy, Sodapop, Irving, Riley, Joy, Sadness, Fear, Anger, Disgust, Singing, Dancing and of course, Ping Pong face off to the final encore.



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SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE • 2025 SUMMER THEATRE CAMP

During each session of Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2025 Summer Theatre Camp, actors will learn the shows and then perform for families and friends!

SESSION 1: July 21-Aug 1, 2025



SHIZ SUMMER SCHOOL Singing, Dancing and Magic. Test your skills in the magical arts. All witches and wizards are welcome. Join us at "Dear ol' Shiz" for the greatest summer school ever. In "Oz" we trust.



Tuition is \$500 per two-week session; \$450 if registered on or before May 1, 2025.

M-F 9AM-3PM • Ages 7-17 • Sibling and multiple-session discount available

Registration fee includes a camp t-shirt • Before-and-after care available

To register, please visit sytaz.org/summer2025

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



A word from our Artistic Director:

There is no need for me to preach to you about the wonderful shows and programs we present on our stage all year long.

What you don't see (but might have been involved with in some way) is the incredible journey the actors and their families take while getting onto the stage. The wonderful experiences are too long to list and are always in progress.

That is what makes Spotlight unique: the sense of community and love off the stage. Everything we do is for the families and kids we serve.

We have no adult theatre to follow, and no city or big corporation to support us. The reality of the business of theatre is that the odds are against us to survive, and we are continually struggling with finances. We have volunteers and Board members working tirelessly to keep the theatre solvent and open. Sometimes we need a little bit more help.

We are asking for 100 people to donate \$100 (the price of one night out at Cheesecake Factory) or more to help us get through a rather challenging financial chapter in Spotlight's incredible history.

Whether your kids are grown up and moved on, or you have future thespians, we hope you can help.

Thank you,

Kenny Grossman, Artistic Director Spotlight Youth Theatre • sytaz.org

To participate in Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2024-2025 100-From-100 campaign, please visit bit.ly/SYT-Donate or use your smartphone to follow the QR code.





The only theatre and arts website that features:

 detailed listings for over 30 theatre companies in the Valley

a daily performance calendar

 news, reviews, and photos

 ticket offers, cast notices, audition listings, and more!



Scan here to visit Spotlight Youth Theatre's Fundraising Page



Iamie Dillon Grossman

VOICE TEACHER

VOCAL LESSONS TAUGHT OVER ZOOM IN
THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME!

Email: jamiedillon1993@gmail.com

Website: jamiedillongrossman.com







Please sign up your Fry's VIP Card with Spotlight Youth Theatre!

Go to http://www.fryscommunityrewards.com

Step 1: Create an Online Fry's Account

Step 2: Register for the Fry's Community Rewards Program Enter **KL095** for Spotlight Youth Theatre

You will know you registered correctly if you see **Spotlight Youth Theatre** listed under "Community Rewards" on your Account Summary page!



LEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSOR



Thank You

to Spotlight's Generous and Dedicated Donors:

Ticket sales and production fees cover only a fraction of Spotlight Youth Theatre's overall operating costs. The Board of Directors of Spotlight Youth Theatre is grateful for the generosity of our dedicated donors, whose support ensures our ongoing ability to provide youth and their families a safe, welcoming environment where the individual is supported, teamwork is embraced, and creativity is encouraged through high quality performing arts and educational programs that enrich and strengthen our community.

Diamond-Level Support (\$1000 or more)

Dina Anderson Anonymous Ieromy Beaver Shelly Boucher Daniel Burman Iake & Gretchen Corey Jaime Dion Karen Dolyniuk

Michael & Julie Donick Intel Foundation Winona Herrin Kevin Koop Audra & Jeff Little Karen McCollester Bruce & Amie Moller Amanda Newton

Jennifer Parker Bobby Sample Schneider Foundation Katie Stoll Thunder birdsTorosian Foundation Judy & Jim Wolfe Steven Zell

Heidi Watson

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Craig Froonickx

Ruby-Level Support (\$500-\$749)

Mark & Sarah Armistead Scot Claus Brianna Funk Sabrina Hurley

Tammy & Robert Waller Jean Kiene Heather & Michael Walker Gwen Schultz Suzanne Treviño

Sapphire-Level Support (\$300-\$499)

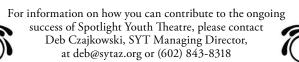
American Express Anonymous Arrowhead Montessori Esther Conort Dr. Heather Cucchetti John & Janet Culbertson Renee Koher Clisham Finnegan Eric Labas Frvs Food Shannon Sweat Wayne Holden Lee & Sandy Shedroff Sharon Kiepke Stephanie Yampolsky

Amethyst-Level Support (\$100-\$299)

Pepper Aguilar Anonymous Lvda Armistead Sara Bader Dan Bickel Blackbaud Giving Fund Sara Bloom Robyn Calihan Dianne Carter Patrick Clisham Wendy Cordova Maria Cruz Debra Czajkowski John Damasco Eileen Delamater Tyler Dolyniuk Lisa & Seth Donsker Kevin Dumcum Andrew Filipowicz Gina Flores

Jonah Fried Kathryn Fulmer Angela Gass Eric Hassler Janey Henze Cook Tracev Horvath Nicole Kearns Matt Keiffer Bill Kochenderfer David Laidig Heather Locke John Marino Diana Martinez Brian & Shelby Maticic Glenda Matson Michael & Teri Momeyer Iulie Nelson Heather Neubauer Tina Nuziato Eileen Ossipinsky

Lori Palmero Steven Peters Lisa Poorman Meribeth Reeves Lori Reger Caroline Richardson Shelly Riddle Beth Sawyer Deborah Sego Justin Shaver Gayle Simkin Rhonda Snyder Heidi Snyders Monica Stern Kelly Sullivan Falin & Jack Taylor Tuchi Family Laurie Van Atta Shanan Winters





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 - a daily performance calendar
 - news, reviews, and photos
 - ticket offers, cast notices. audition listings, and more!

Spotlight Youth Theatre's Board of Directors

Robert Waller—President
Kenny Grossman—Artistic Director
Kevin Parker—Treasurer
Shelly Boucher—Member
Chanel Bragg—Member
Vicki Grossman—Member
María Guadalupe Cruz—Member

Kelly Swope—Vice President
Deb Czajkowski—Managing Director
Jack Taylor—Theatre Manager
Karen Dolyniuk—Secretary
Amanda Newton—Member
Heather Walker—Member

Spotlight Youth Theatre's mission is to provide youth and their families a safe, welcoming environment where the individual is supported, teamwork is embraced, and creativity is encouraged through high quality performing arts and educational programs that enrich and strengthen our community.

Spotlight Youth Theatre's vision:

- 1. A program grounded in the belief that every child deserves a chance to shine, a place that is safe and free from negativity, and an environment where fun and hard work combine into amazing experiences, both on and off stage.
- 2. A theatre program that is as diverse as the community we serve and where all members of the family can join in the endeavor to produce high quality theater productions that amaze and entertain.
- 3. A place where a child can be their authentic self, exploring the creative arts without fear, and be embraced and encouraged to grow and flourish.

Spotlight Youth Theatre is a 501(c)(3) non–profit Community Youth Theatre

Spotlight Youth Theatre would very much like to thank our community partners and benefactors. Please support the kind and generous people who support SYT by patronizing our sponsors. To learn more about sponsoring or donating to Spotlight Youth Theatre and making a difference in the lives of today's youth, please call (602) 843–8318.

Partial Funding of Spotlight Youth Theatre's Programs Provided by:



















Spotlight Youth Theatre would like to thank these funders for their generous support. They play an essential role in helping us create a safe, welcoming space where youth can learn and grow.



Break a Leg, Not the Bank

SUPPORTING THE ARTS AND YOUR FINANCIAL JOURNEY.

Without you, our story would be a short one.

Desert Financial members enable us to donate to arts organizations around Arizona and spotlight countless Random Acts of Kindness along the way.

Thank you for giving us a supporting role as your partner in financial well-being.

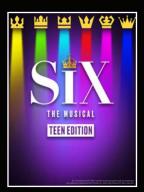




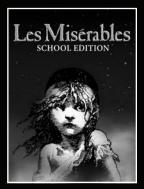
LEARN MORE ABOUT DESERT FINANCIAL'S STORY HERE

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

2024-2025 SEASON



SIX THE MUSICAL
SEPTEMBER 6 — 15



LES MISERABLES SCHOOL EDITION OCTOBER 25 — NOVEMBER 10



ELF JR.

DECEMBER 6 — 22



SNOW WHITE & THE EIGHT DWARFS DECEMBER 23 — JANUARY 3



HADESTOWN TEEN EDITION

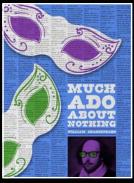
JANUARY 17 — FEBRUARY 2



SPOTLIGHT PLAYFEST 2025 FEBRUARY 7 — 16



FINDING NEMO JR FEBRUARY 28 — MARCH 16



MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING APRIL 11 - 20



13 THE MUSICAL MAY 16 — JUNE 1