

SPOTLIGHT

YOUTH THEATRE



Music by Jeanine Tesori • Book & Lyrics by Lisa Kron
Based on the graphic novel by Alison Bechdel

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

Spotlight Youth Theatre Proudly Presents



Book and Lyrics by **Lisa Kron**

Music by **Jeanine Tesori**

Based on the Graphic Novel by **Alison Bechdel**

Originally Produced on Broadway by

Fox Theatricals - Barbara Whitman, Carole Shorenstein Hays, Tom Casserly, Paula Marie Black

Latitude Link - Terry Schnuck, Jane Lane. The Forstalls - Nathan Vernon.

Mint Theatricals - Elizabeth Armstrong.

Jam Theatricals - Delman Whitney, Kristin Caskey, Mike Isaacson

The world premiere production of FUN HOME was produced by **The Public Theater. Oskar Eustis, Artistic Director, Patrick Willingham, Executive Director**, in New York City on October 22nd, 2013

FUN HOME was developed, in part, at the **2012 Sundance Institute Theatre Lab at White Oak** and the **2012 Sundance Institute Theatre Lab at the Sundance Resort.**

Director: **Kenny Grossman**

Musical Director: **Adam Bei**

Choreographer: **Falin Ossipinsky**

Assistant Director: **Jack Taylor**

Scenic Design: **Bobby Sample & Kenny Grossman**

Costume Design: **Heather Riddle**

Lighting & Sound Design: **Anthony Rozzen**

Special Thank You to **Josh Hontz**

Hair & Makeup Design: **Charlie Rabago**

Properties Design: **Vicki & Kenny Grossman**

Sound Operator: **Lucy Delamater**

Light Board Operator: **Reagan Little**

Deck Crew: **Sabina Dart, Olivia Martinez, Valerie Winch, & Sophie Dessaules**

FUN HOME is produced by arrangement with Concord Theatricals

www.concordtheatricals.com

Parental Guidance is suggested for this performance for strong language and content

Spotlight Youth Theatre Administrative Team

Artistic Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre	Kenny Grossman
Managing Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre.....	Deb Czajkowski
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Special thanks to **Amanda Newton, Angela Gass,**
the Spotlight Youth Theatre Board of Directors, and to the **friends & family members**
who volunteered to make this show so successful.

A Word from the Director

Alison Bechdel's graphic memoir **FUN HOME** is a beautiful and compelling book. It's a look back at her childhood and around the four months between when Alison came out to her parents and her father committing suicide. I went to see the original Broadway show with my oldest daughter and the two things we discussed most about the show was that it was the first Broadway show we ever saw that had a lesbian protagonist, and the other was that it was the only show we've ever seen (even to date) that has a main story line dealing with the Father / Daughter relationship. One of the greatest aspects of this show is that patrons who watch it will feel different emotions and take away different thoughts based on who you are and what your mindset is when you sit in your seat. Me being the father of two daughters made a personal connection with the Alison relationship with her dad, and I cried into the script when I was blocking it, and I held back tears every time we ran the end of the show at rehearsals. For others it might be Alison's relationship with her brothers or Joan; maybe, the emotional stress of Alison's mother, Helen; or maybe when Alison finally realizes who she is, etc., etc.

Thornton Wilder said about the difference between novels and plays, "On the stage it is always now: the personages are standing on that razor-edge, between past and the future...the words are rising to their lips in immediate spontaneity. A novel is what took place; we hear (the narrator's) voice recounting, recalling events that are past and over." The creators of this musical were able to tell the story from the book; but, instead of just looking back, we watch the characters as they move forward in time.

I have many people to thank: Vicki, Jamie, and Carly; the directors, tech crew, volunteers and designers who helped create this production; the Spotlight Board for always pushing for great art; and mostly, to the cast for giving such powerful performances with so much determination to get it right. No adult cast can ever bring more emotion, more dedication, and more love to this story.

Thank you for supporting youth theatre in all its forms.

Kenny

The Cast of *Fun Home*

Alison Bechdel	Alyssa Armstrong
Helen Bechdel	Olivia Pratt
Small Alison	Ava Newton
Bruce Bechdel	Anand Khalsa
Medium Alison	Emma Gass
Christian Bechdel	William Richardson
John Bechdel	Jaxyn Damasco
Joan	Lyda Armistead
Roy / Mark / Pete / Bobby Jeremy	Josh Pike
Understudy for Joan	Sabina Dart
<i>An announcement will be made prior to the performance if the understudy is going on.</i>	

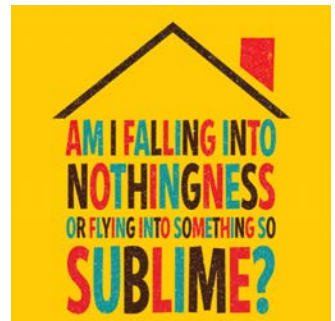
The *Fun Home* Orchestra

Conductor / Keyboards	Adam “ <i>There seems to be a mild storm, though nothing serious, drifting from the</i> ” Bei
Drums	Jeremy “ <i>All class, no petu</i> ” Lentz
Violin / Viola	Isabelle “ <i>Makes the flowers</i> ” Bloomberg
Clarinet / Bass Clarinet / Flute	Rachel “ <i>Did it by her</i> ” Self
Guitars	Zoey “ <i>Wah Wah</i> ” Waller

Fun Home **Musical Numbers**

- “It All Comes Back” **Small Alison, Bruce, Alison, & Company**
- “Welcome to Our House on Maple Avenue” **Helen, Alison, Small Alison,
John, Christian**
- “Come to the Fun Home” **John, Christian, & Small Alison**
- “Helen’s Etude” **Alison, Roy, Bruce, Small Alison,
Helen, John, & Christian**
- “Changing My Major” **Medium Alison**
- “Maps” **Alison**
- “Raincoat of Love” **Bobby Jeremy, the “Susan Deys,” & Company**
- “Ring of Keys” **Small Alison**
- “Days and Days” **Helen**
- “Telephone Wire” **Alison, Bruce**
- “Edges of the World” **Bruce**
- “Flying Away (Finale)” **Alison, Medium Alison, & Small Alison**

FUN HOME will be performed without an intermission
Running Time: 1:40



Who's Who in *Fun Home*



Lyda Armistead

Joan

Lyda is so excited to be a part of this phenomenal show! Lyda has most recently been seen as Hope Caldwell in *Urinetown* at Shadow Mountain High School. Her Spotlight credits include *Soul of Frankenstein*, *Bare*, *Gypsy*, *Pippin*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Wolves*, *13*, and *Into the Woods Jr.* She would like to thank Kenny, Deb, Allison Houston, and the production team of Fun Home. Enjoy the show!

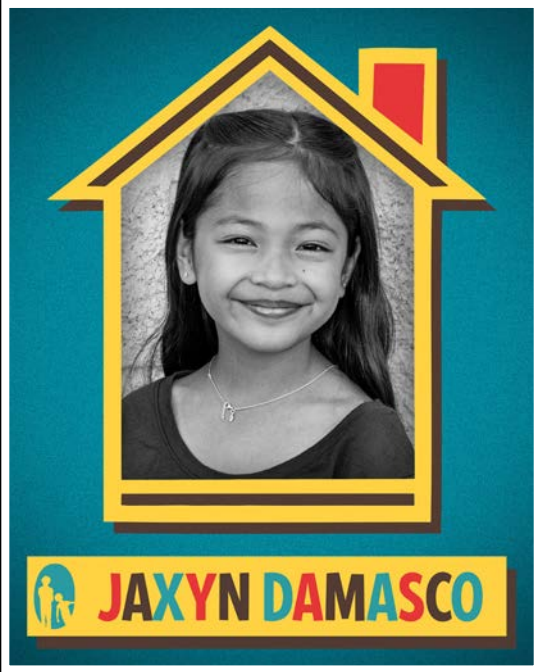


Alyssa Armstrong

Alison Bechdel

Alyssa is 20 years old and has been performing throughout the valley the past ten years. She received a National Youth Arts award for her role as Catherine in *Pippin* (Spotlight Youth Theatre), and is excited to be back on stage at SYT where her love of musical theatre began. Some of her favorite roles include Toula in *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* (Spotlight Youth Theatre), a Nun in *Sister Act* (Arizona Broadway Theatre), and most recently in *The Company in Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Arizona Broadway Theatre). Alyssa would like to thank Kenny Grossman, Falin Ossipinsky, Jack Taylor, Adam Bei, the amazing cast, her friends, and her family for always supporting her. Enjoy the show!

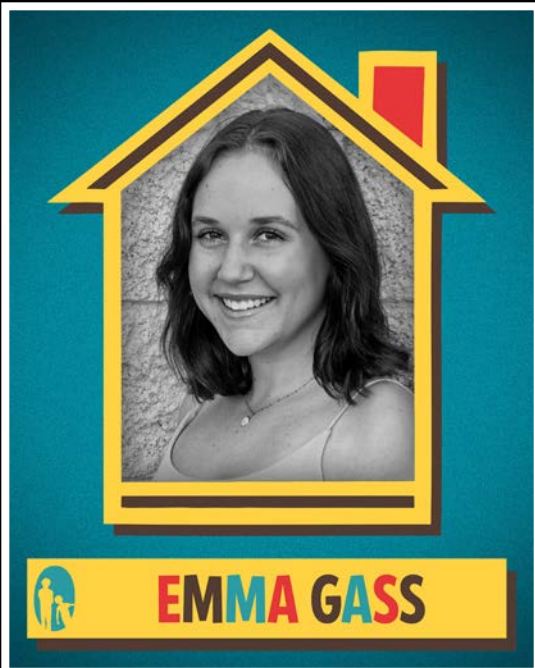
Who's Who in Fun Home



Jaxyn Damasco

John Bechdel

Jaxyn is in third grade at Archway Glendale. She is excited to be back at Spotlight! Past credits: *Polkadots–The Cool Kids Musical*, *Wanted Santa Claus*, *Aristocats*, *Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (SYT), *Elf* (ABT), *Annie* (SCT, NYA nomination), and *Winnie the Pooh* (TW). She would like to thank her family, friends, Kenny, Adam, Falin, and the entire cast and crew for this amazing opportunity. Enjoy the show.



Emma Gass

Medium Alison

Emma is excited to return to the SYT stage after playing Elsa in *Frozen Jr.* last year. She is a Senior at Sandra Day O'Connor High School and has enjoyed performing around the valley in many theaters, most recently as "Bless the Lord soloist" (Emma) in *Godspell* at Arizona Broadway Theatre. Emma would like to thank Kenny Grossman, Adam Bei, Jack Taylor, and Falin Ossipinsky for all their support and for giving her this opportunity to be a part of this incredible show.

Who's Who in *Fun Home*



ANAND KHALSA

Anand Khalsa

Bruce Bechdel

Anand is thrilled to be returning to the Spotlight stage for *Fun Home*! His past credits include Zach in *A Chorus Line* at Desert Stages Theatre, Herbie in *Gypsy* at Spotlight Youth Theatre (NYA Award, 'Zoni nomination'), Beast in *Beauty and the Beast* at Theater Works (NYA Award, 'Zoni Nomination'), Will Bloom in *Big Fish* at Brelby Theatre Company, and Gomez Addams in *The Addams Family* at Greasepaint Youth Theatre. Anand would like to dedicate his performance to his own father, who's compassion and wisdom have been such an important influence in his life.



AVA NEWTON

Ava Newton

Small Alison

Ava, 13, has been looking forward to this show since Pick-A-Season two years ago. She is in the 8th grade at Arrowhead Montessori. She was most recently seen at Spotlight Youth Theatre in *Wanted Santa Claus* and *Desperate Housewives of Shakespeare*. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their support.

Who's Who in *Fun Home*



JOSH PIKE

Josh Pike

Roy / Mark / Pete / Bobby /
Jeremy

Josh is currently a senior attending Arizona Conservatory for Arts and Academics. Some of his favorite past roles include Gibbs in *Dogfight*, Lefou in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Marius in *Les Miz*. He would like to thank his mom and dad for their unending support and Kenny, Jack, Adam, and Falin for giving him the opportunity to be a part of this beautiful show and for being amazing people.



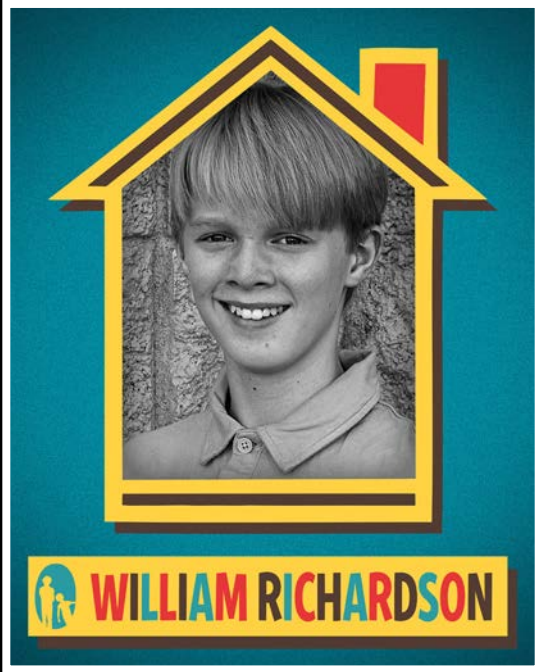
OLIVIA PRATT

Olivia Pratt

Helen Bechdel

Olivia is thrilled to be performing her dream role as Helen! Other notable roles include Squeaky in *Assassins* and Natasha in *Theory of Relativity*. She is a senior at Arizona School for the Arts which is conveniently located to some of the best tea shops in AZ. *Fun Home* has taught her the importance of family, love, and honesty. "For every win, someone must fail. But there comes a point when we exhale" – Whitney Houston. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Who's Who in *Fun Home*



William Richardson

Christian Bechdel

William is very grateful to be part of this powerful show, with such a talented cast. Kenny continues to lead and inspire during these difficult times, and we give thanks for the whole Spotlight community for their perseverance in continuing to provide such a stellar program for the kids. Other roles include Sky, *Polkadots* (Spotlight), Michael/Boy, *Elf* (Phoenix Theater) and Tigger (Theater Works), and his favorite role, Crick, *Beat Bugs* (Spotlight). William is proud member of VYTweens. Special thanks to Adam for sharing his musical talent and Falin for Choreography. We are so grateful to this community and those who have found their home on the stage! It really is William's happy place. Thanks for coming. Enjoy!

Adam Bei (Music Director)

Adam is proud to be music directing *Fun Home*, a musical rich with gorgeous music and poignant storytelling. This is his fifth show at Spotlight. He would like to thank Kenny, Vicki, and the Spotlight Youth Theatre team for continually elevating the youth theatre community. All of the staff members, volunteers, and crew are wonderful to collaborate with, and he is grateful to be a part of it all. He would also like to congratulate the entire *Fun Home* cast for honing their craft and making his job so easy. Enjoy the show!

Kenny & Vicki Grossman (Director / Properties Design)

Kenny and Vicki have been with Spotlight Youth Theatre from the very beginning and are excited to be a part of this amazing production. They are looking forward to a great new season. Kenny still loves eggs. To Jamie and Carly, "We love you and miss you." Thank you to cast, crew, directors, designers, families, volunteers, and board members.

Falin Ossipinsky (Choreographer)

Falin has been a part of the Spotlight Family since 2016, performing in shows including *Cabaret*, *American Idiot*, and *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*. She was most recently seen as Cassie (alongside Anand Khalsa as Zach) in *A Chorus Line* at DST! Falin has worked as a choreographer for multiple shows, as well as Spotlight's performance troupes: Confetti, Celebration, and Evolution! Many thanks to D Kenny G, the talented cast and crew, and Jack! Enjoy the show :)

Who's Who in *Fun Home*

Charlie Rabago (Hair & Makeup Design)

Charlie is so excited to be back at Spotlight! He previously acted on the Spotlight stage, but has been behind the scenes as of late. Past design credits include *Into the Woods Jr.*, *Bare*, *Dogfight*, and more recently, *The Soul of Frankenstein*. He would like to thank his friends Kyle and Jesse!

Heather Riddle (Costume Design)

Heather is a stay-at-home mom of five, wife, part-time registered nurse, piano teacher, and business owner. She has received 'Zoni nominations for her costume designs at other valley theaters and is thankful for this debut at Spotlight and the opportunity to work with such an amazing cast and production team. She is also grateful for her super supportive husband and kids who encourage her and who she loves incredibly much.

Anthony Rozzen (Lighting & Sound Design)

This is Anthony's first show as Lighting and Sound Designer, so please go easy on him. He didn't know how to screw in a light bulb until two weeks ago. Before being Lighting and Sound Designer, he was a Video Producer/Director during SYT's 2021 season. Finally, before any of that, he was an actor. Always looking forward to more behind the scenes work!

Bobby Sample (Set Design)

Fun Home is the 69th production Bobby has worked on at Spotlight. His latest theatre activity has included designing sets and visual media for most of the 2020-2021 season at SYT, writing and co-directing *The Soul of Frankenstein*, co-coordinating the Spotlight Playfest playwright competitions, and creating animations and projection effects for the *Curiouser* productions at Theater Works. He looks forward to a great new season and thanks everyone in the community for keeping the arts alive through tough times, especially Kenny, Deb, and all the Spotlight family.

Jack Taylor (Assistant Director)

Jack is excited to be working as Assistant Director on this beautiful show. Jack has performed in nine shows at Spotlight, staged managed two shows, and this past season, Jack made his directorial debut with *Wanted: Santa Claus*. He would like to thank Kenny for this amazing opportunity, his friends and family, Jasper, and his wonderful girlfriend, Falin, for everything. Enjoy the show!



SYT Puts the “FUN” in Fundraising

Come join the cast and crew of



to help support Spotlight Youth Theatre!



Friday, September 17

Immediately following the evening's performance

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2008-2021

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for your hard work,
dedication, belief,
courage, and above all,
your LOVE.

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who walks through our
doors owes you a
debt of gratitude.

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there would be
no Spotlight.

WE LOVE YOU!

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.

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For information on how you can contribute to the ongoing success of Spotlight Youth Theatre, please contact
Deb Czajkowski, SYT Managing Director,
at admin@sy taz.org or (623) 332-7201

Helping Hand Benefactors

Spotlight Youth Theatre would like to thank the following kind and generous benefactors for taking part in this season's "Helping Hand" campaign.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our children!



Michael & Leah Armstrong • Shelly Boucher • Donald Boucher
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SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE
Helping Hand Campaign

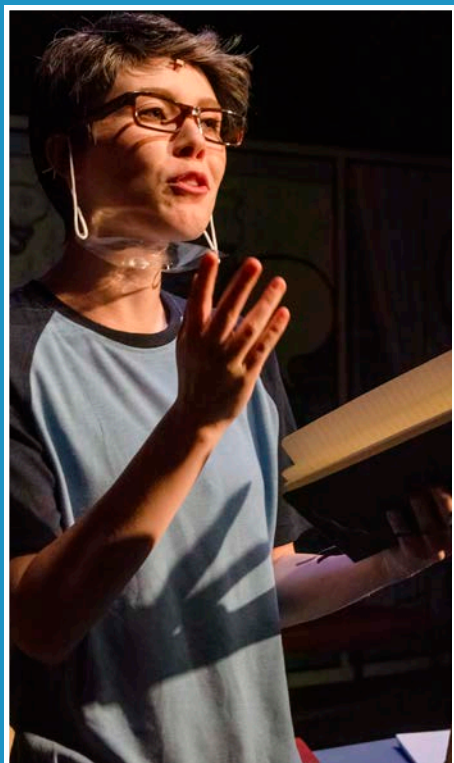
2021–2022

For more information about this season's "Helping Hand" campaign or to receive a Donation Packet, please inquire at the SYT Box Office or email Deb Czajkowski at admin@sy taz.org.

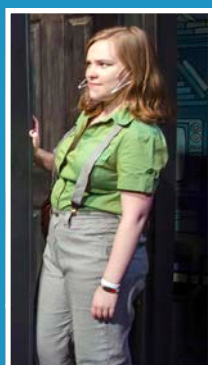


FUN HOME • 2021 SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE









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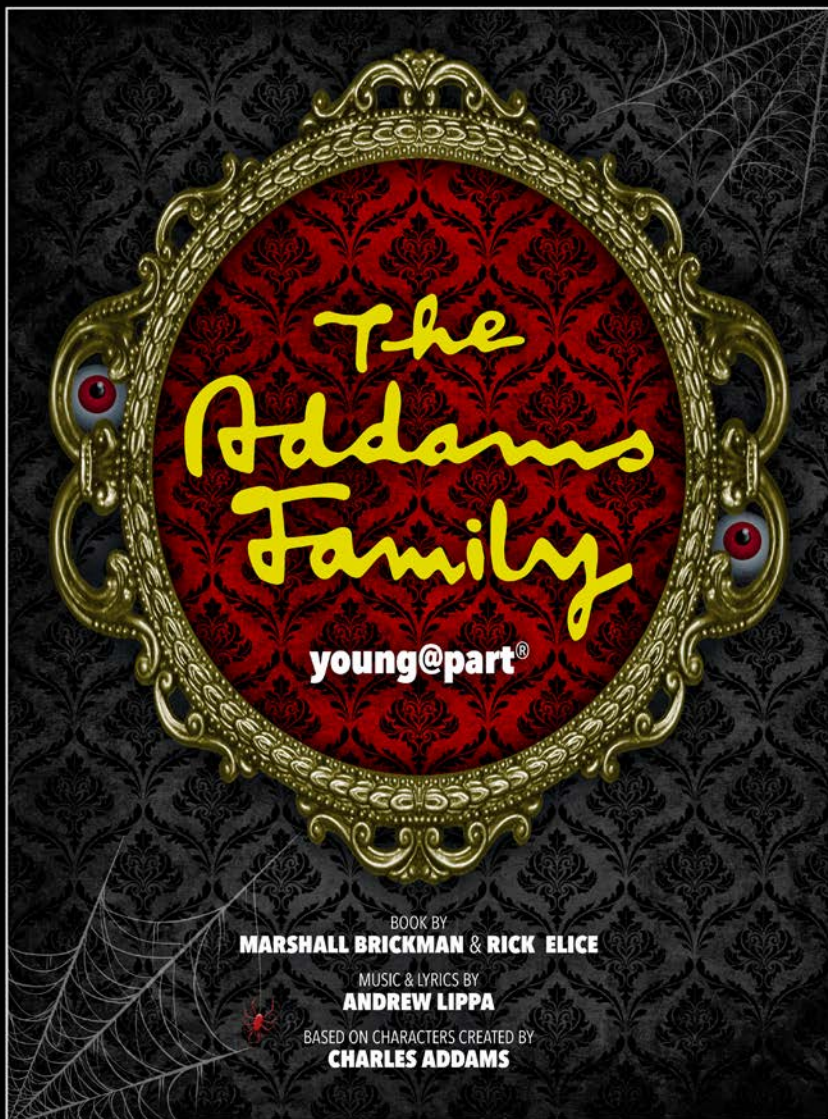


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Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



BOOK BY
MARSHALL BRICKMAN & RICK ELICE

MUSIC & LYRICS BY
ANDREW LIPPA

BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY
CHARLES ADDAMS

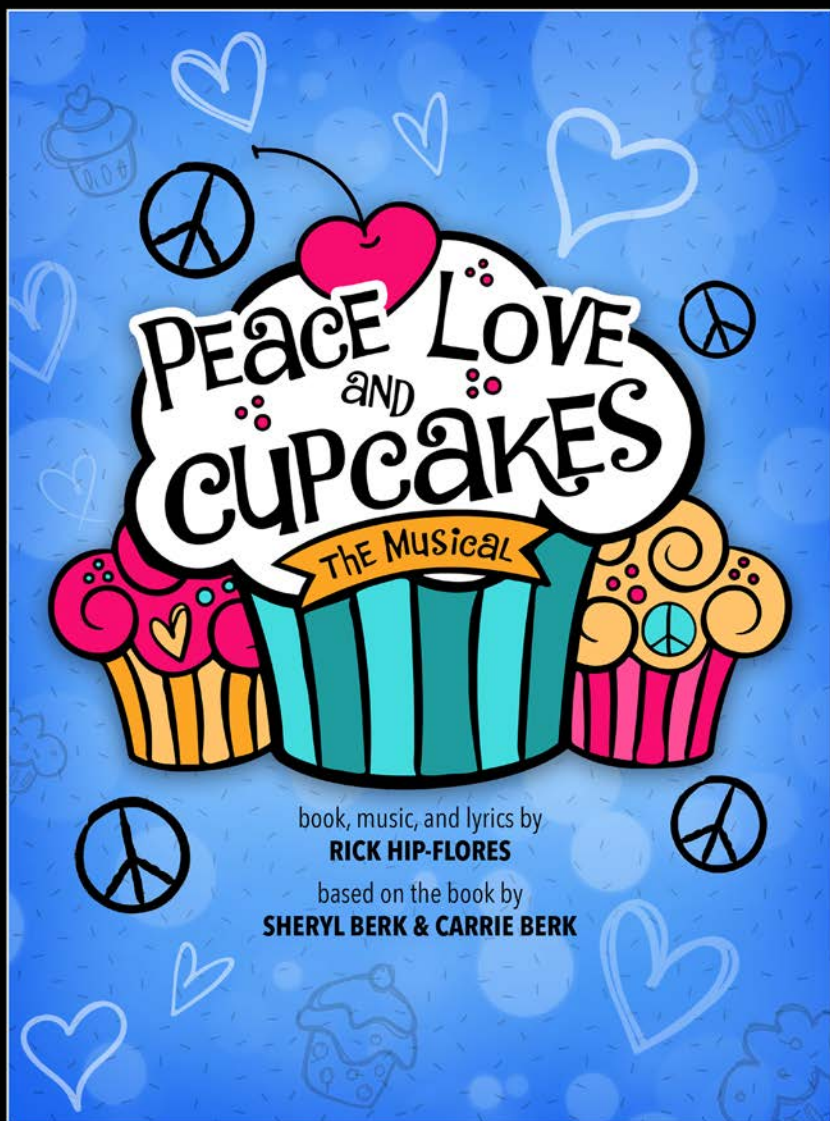
OCTOBER 22–NOVEMBER 7, 2021

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 2PM
additional 2PM matinees on Oct. 30 & Nov. 6

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



Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



book, music, and lyrics by
RICK HIP-FLORES

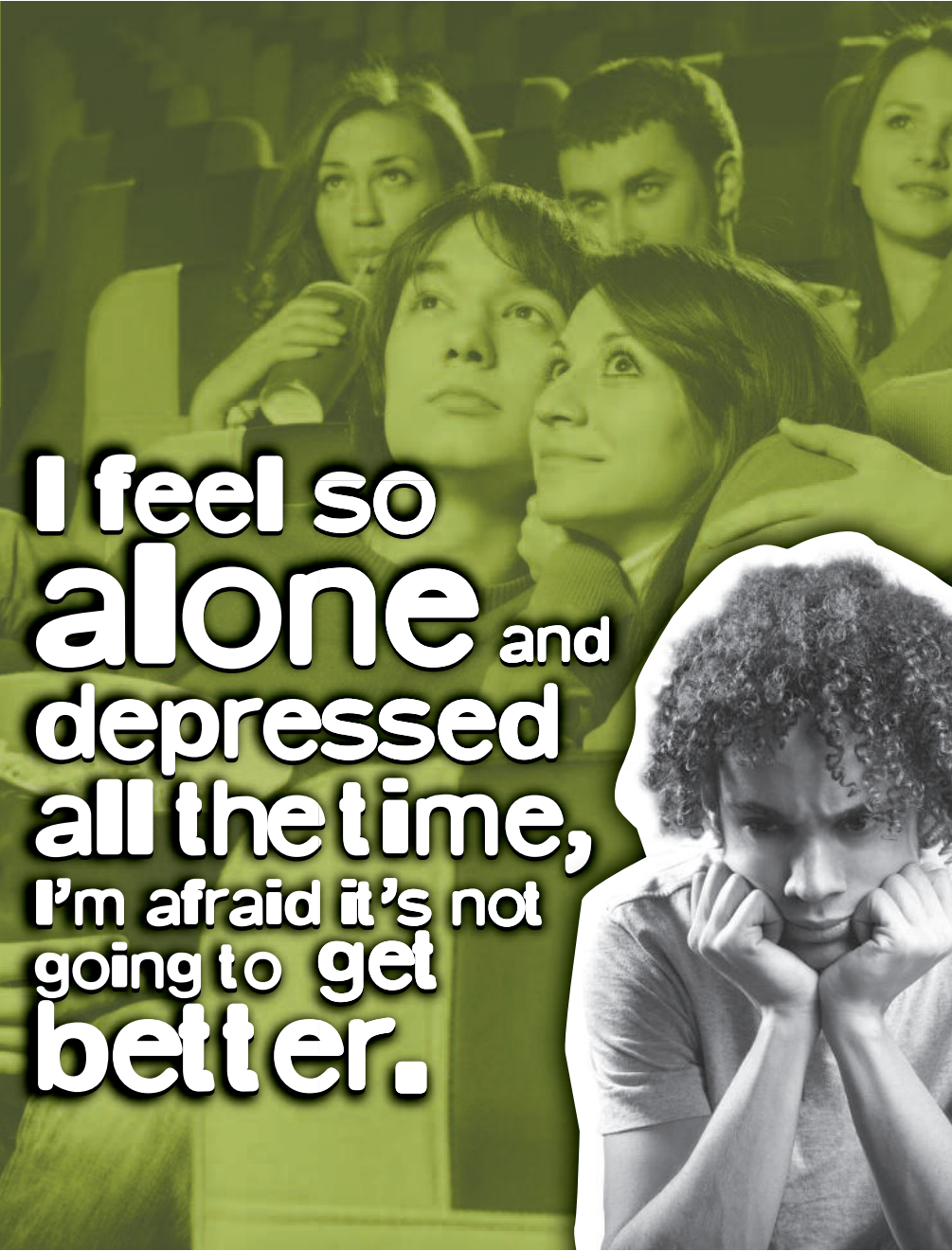
based on the book by
SHERYL BERK & CARRIE BERK

DECEMBER 3–19, 2021

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 2PM
additional 2PM matinees on December 11 & 18

10620 N. 43rd Ave. • Glendale, AZ • (602) 843-8318 • sytaaz.org





**I feel so
alone and
depressed
all the time,
I'm afraid it's not
going to get
better.**



Don't give up - You're not alone.

Teen peer counselors are here to listen and to help!

If you need to talk, call **602.248.TEEN**



Teen Lifeline
teenlifeline.org

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Spotlight Youth Theatre's Board of Directors

Steve Zell—Vice President
Judy Wolfe—Treasurer
Chanel Bragg—Member
Vicki Grossman—Member
Josh Hontz—Member
Sabrina Hurley—Member
Amanda Newton—Member

Kenny Grossman—Artistic Director
Deb Czajkowski—Managing Director
Karen Dolyniuk—Secretary
Bobby Sample—Member
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Heather Walker—Member
Robert Waller—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.

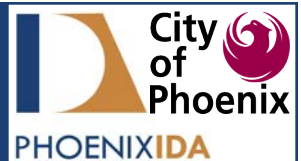
Spotlight Youth Theatre's vision:

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 theater 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 community theater where the impossible becomes possible through the combined efforts of our families, our sponsors, and most of all, the children who shine onstage.
4. 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.



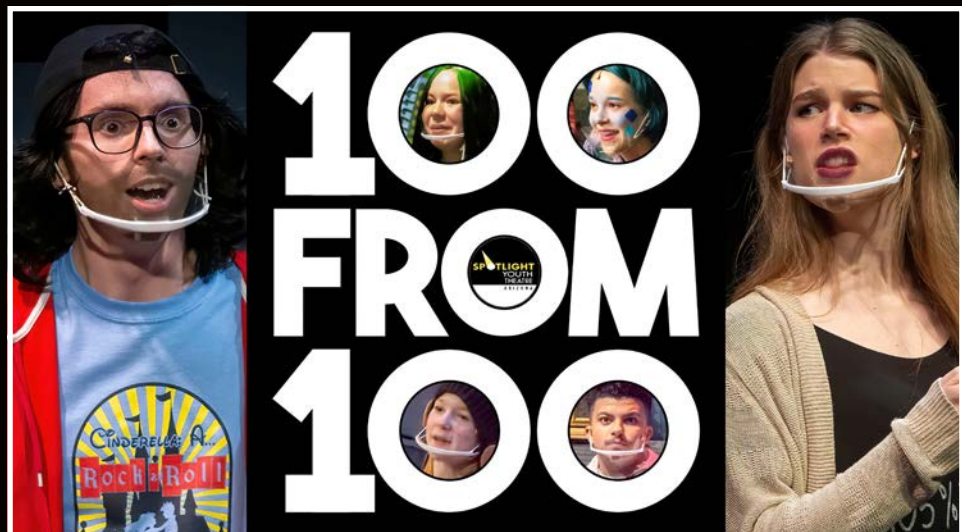
Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2021–2022 season is supported in part by the Arizona Commission on the Arts, which receives support from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2021–2022 season is supported in part by a grant from the City of Phoenix, in coordination with the Phoenix IDA, who offered grants up to \$10,000 to local small businesses and nonprofits experiencing economic distress and loss of revenue due to the pandemic.



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.



Help Keep Our Kids in the Spotlight!

A Word from Our Artistic Director...

What you don't see (but might have been involved with in some way) is the incredible journey that 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 of the stage. Everything we do is for the families and kids that participate.

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 endlessly to keep the theatre solvent and open. Sometimes we need more help.

We are asking for 100 people to donate \$100 (the price of one night out at Cheesecake Factory) to help us get through a very rough time. Whether your kids are grown up and moved on or you have future thespians, we hope that you can help and also spread the word.

If you need to talk with me please, do not hesitate to call, email or text me.

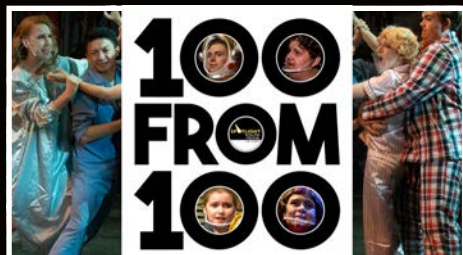
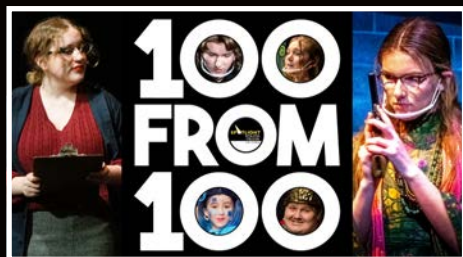
Thank You,

Kenny Grossman
Artistic Director
Spotlight Youth Theatre
(623) 521-8093
kenny@sytaz.org





Help Keep Our Kids in the Spotlight!
sytaz.org/100-from-100





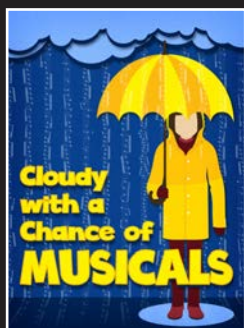
Fun Home
September 17 to October 3
AGES 8-19 • AUDITIONS 8/3 & 8/4



The Addams Family
October 22 to November 7
AGES 10-15 • AUDITIONS 9/7 & 9/8



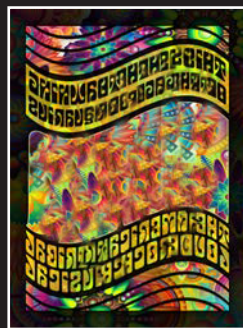
Peace, Love, & Cupcakes
December 3 to December 19
AGES 8-13 • AUDITIONS 10/10 & 10/11



Cloudy with a Chance of Musicals
AGES 8-16 • HOLIDAY CAMP SHOW



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SpotlightYouthTheatre.org



TBA
January 14 to January 30
AGES 15-19 • AUDITIONS 11/15 & 11/16



Charlotte's Web
February 25 to March 13
AGES 8-19 • AUDITIONS 1/2 & 1/3



Playfest 2021-'22
April 1 to April 10
AGES 8-19 • AUDITIONS 2/13 & 2/14



The Lightning Thief
May 13 to May 29
AGES 13-19 • AUDITIONS 3/20 & 3/21

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE
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