

# PLAYBILL

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



# HADESTOWN

## TEEN EDITION

Art © by SpotCo

10620 N. 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue • Glendale, AZ 85304 • (602) 843-8318 • [syfz.org](http://syfz.org)

# Spotlight Youth Theatre Proudly Presents



## HADESTOWN TEEN EDITION by Anaïs Mitchell

Originally produced on Broadway by **Mara Isaacs**, **Dale Franzen**, **Hunter Arnold**, and **Tom Kirdahy**

Original New York Production developed with and directed by **Rachel Chavkin**

Arrangements and Orchestrations by **Michael Chorney** and **Todd Sickafoose**

*Hadestown* was co-conceived by **Ben T. Matchstick**

"Papers Instrumental" by **Michael Chorney**, published by Seoats Music (ASCAP)

Vocal Arrangements by **Liam Robinson**

Additional Vocal Arrangements by **Justin Vernon** and the **Haden Triplets**

Director: **Jack Taylor**

Musical Director: **Elise Kurbat**

Choreographer: **Falin Taylor**

Set Designer: **Rob Adams**

Lighting Designer: **Ellie Little**

Sound Designer: **Nevaeh Monk**

Costume Designer: **Samantha Utpadel**

Stage Manager: **Marai Perez**

Hair and Make-up Designer: **Angel DeMichael**

Assistant Choreographer: **Ada Poormon**

Properties Designer: **Caster Morse**

Production Manager: **María Cruz**

Light Board Operator: **Finley Wilbur**

Sound Board & Spotlight Operator: **Lorna Maynard**

Microphone Board Operator: **Claire McComb**

Deck Manager: **Lucy Currier**

This production features strobe lights and haze.

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

HADESTOWN TEEN EDITION

is s presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Corp.

[www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)



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 • [syta.org](http://syta.org)

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



# The Cast of *Hadestown Teen Edition*

Orpheus.....	Jacob Price
Eurydice .....	Katerina Anderson
Hermes .....	Janaysha Garcia
Hades .....	Eli Franklin
Persephone.....	Jaely Damasco
The Fates.....	Reagan Little, Morgan Massey, Sarina Arbaugh
Workers .....	Emily Anton, Joey Garcia, Ava Newton, Sophia Mengel, Isabella Penza, Amber Poirier, Jayden Hawley

## The *Hadestown Teen Edition* Band

Piano, Conductor.....	Elise Kurbat
Drums .....	Nico Viquesney
Guitar .....	Jacqueline Foley
Bass.....	Gage Gonzalez
Trombone .....	Izzi Haber
Cello .....	Julia Miller-Chang
Violin.....	Michael Coy
Guitar .....	Jacob Price
Accordion .....	Eli Franklin
Viola .....	Morgan Massey

## About *Hadestown Teen Edition*

### Time, Place & Setting

*Hadestown* is a mythic tale - not set in a particular time or place - but it does take inspiration from the american depression era and the city of New Orleans. It consists of two worlds: most of Act One takes place aboveground, and most of Act Two takes place in the underworld (Hadestown). Occasionally, both worlds are visible at once.

### Runtime & Intermission

*Hadestown Teen Edition* runs approximately 150 minutes (2 ½ hours) with a 15-minute intermission.



SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE PROUDLY PRESENTS



SAVE THE DATE !

*Saturday, May 3, 2025*  
*6 to 9 p.m.*

OLD TOWN WEDDING VENUE

*Go all in for adventure and excitement*

For more information please visit [sytaaz.org](http://sytaaz.org)  
or call (602) 843-8318

# Note From the Directors of *Hadestown* Teen Edition

In April of 2024, my wife Falin and I took a trip to New York City. This would be my first time ever visiting New York, and my first time ever seeing a show on Broadway. We were only able to fit one show in our itinerary, so we asked our friends and colleagues what we should see. The answer we received far more than any other, was *Hadestown*. We purchased ridiculously expensive seats at the box office for a Wednesday matinee on April 17th, which just so happened to be *Hadestown*'s 5 year anniversary on Broadway. The show was absolutely beautiful. I couldn't have asked for a better experience for my first ever Broadway show. Immediately after Falin and I left the theatre, I told her "I need to direct this show."

*Hadestown* opened on Broadway in 2019, and in just five short years has cemented its place in Broadway history. It was nominated for 14 Tony Awards in 2019 and won eight of them including Best Musical, and has even won a Grammy for Best Musical Theatre Album. To me, the iconography of *Hadestown* is on the same level of *Hamilton* or *A Chorus Line*. The seedy jazz club in Depression Era New Orleans, the sprawling industrial walls of *Hadestown*, the hand holding the red flower; images that will be part of Broadway history forever.

Most of all, the messages within the music and lyrics of *Hadestown* resonated with me. I won't spell everything out for you here because that would be stupid and annoying of me, but I will share some notes that I think are important. Above all, the message of *Hadestown* can be summed up in the song "If It's True" sung near the middle of Act II. I've written and deleted several long paragraphs explaining the restrictive contracts we had to sign to do this production, but I'll just say this: a show where the protagonist saves the day with his extraordinary artistic abilities, and proves that the people should be free from the clutches of an oppressive oligarchy should probably not have this many restrictions on advertising and creative liberties. The themes of *Hadestown* are more important now than ever before. Corporate greed is the one of the greatest evils humanity is facing right now, and it's really disheartening to see *Hadestown* falling victim to the very thing it actively warns against.

Something that eagle-eyed super fans of *Hadestown* may notice is different about our production is that the flower that appears after Orpheus sings his song is a rose. The flower used on Broadway (seen in the iconic playbill and album cover) is heavily debated whether it is intended to be a carnation, pomegranate (a nod to the original tale of O & E), or ranunculus flower. I decided to use a rose for a number of reasons, but the easiest answer is because a rose is a universal symbol of love, even in Greek mythology. If that's not a good enough reason for you, I would suggest looking into the French Socialist movement in 1969.

If you're still reading, now is the part where I thank everyone who made this show possible. I am beyond grateful to Kenny for trusting me to direct this production, and am honored to have been able to work alongside this unbelievably talented production team. Many thanks to Sam, Angel, Rob, Ellie, Caster and Nevaeh for their wonderful designs and enthusiasm. I'd also like to extend thanks to Elise, Maria, Ada and Marai, and many, many, many thanks to every single member of this ridiculously talented and intelligent cast for putting in the work to bring these beautiful characters to life. Finally, thank you to my amazing wife Falin for listening to my ramblings about *Hadestown*, and for putting her heart and soul into choreographing these insane dance numbers (while pregnant)!

That's enough outta me. Thank you for supporting Spotlight Youth Theatre. Enjoy the show!

**Jack Taylor**  
Director

# Hadestown Teen Edition

## Musical Numbers

### ACT ONE

"Road to Hell" .....	Hermes & Company
"Any Way the Wind Blows" .....	Eurydice, Fates, Hermes & Workers
"Come Home with Me" .....	Orpheus, Eurydice, Hermes & Workers
"Wedding Song" .....	Orpheus, Eurydice & Workers
"Epic I" .....	Hermes & Orpheus
"Livin' it Up on Top" .....	Persephone, Hermes, Orpheus & Company
"All I've Ever Known" .....	Eurydice, Orpheus & Hermes
"Way Down Hadestown" .....	Hermes, Persephone, Fates & Company
"A Gathering Storm" .....	Fates, Hermes, Orpheus, Eurydice & Workers
"Epic II" .....	Orpheus & Workers
"Chant" .....	Company
"Hey, Little Songbird" .....	Hades & Eurydice
"When the Chips are Down" .....	Fates, Eurydice, Hermes & Hades
"Gone, I'm Gone" .....	Eurydice & Fates
"Wait for Me (Intro)" .....	Orpheus & Hermes
"Wait for Me" .....	Hermes, Orpheus, Fates & Company
"Why We Build the Wall" .....	Hades & Company

### ACT TWO

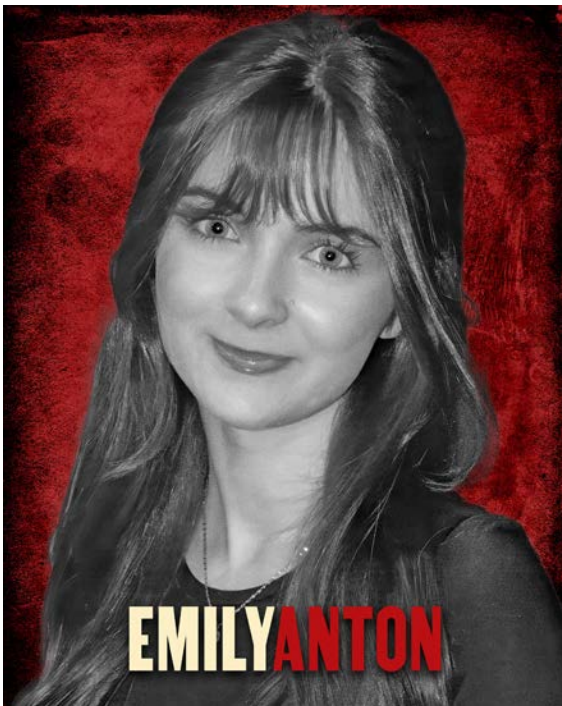
"Our Lady of the Underground" .....	Persephone & Hermes
"Way Down Hadestown (Reprise)" .....	Fates, Eurydice, Workers & Hermes
"Flowers" .....	Eurydice
"Come Home with Me (Reprise)" .....	Orpheus & Eurydice
"Papers (Intro)" .....	Hades, Persephone, Orpheus, Eurydice & Hermes
"Papers" .....	Instrumental
"Nothing Changes" .....	Fates
"If it's True" .....	Orpheus, Workers & Hermes
"How Long?" .....	Persephone & Hades
"Chant (Reprise)" .....	Company
"Epic III" .....	Orpheus & Company
"Epic III (Instrumental)" .....	Hermes, Orpheus & Optional Workers
"Promises" .....	Eurydice, Orpheus & Workers
"Word to the Wise" .....	Fates, Orpheus, Hermes & Hades
"His Kiss, the Riot" .....	Hades
"Wait for Me (Reprise) Intro" .....	Hermes, Orpheus & Eurydice
"Wait for Me (Reprise)" .....	Company
"Doubt Comes In" .....	Fates, Orpheus, Eurydice & Workers
"Road to Hell (Reprise)" .....	Hermes & Company
"We Raise Our Cups" .....	Persephone, Eurydice & Company

# Who's Who in Hadestown Teen Edition



## Katerina Anderson Eurydice

Katerina (16 years old) is thrilled to be back on the Spotlight stage in one of her favorite musicals! Recent roles include Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Chaparral High School), Cheshire Cat/Tabatha in *Alice by Heart* (Spotlight), Katherine Howard in *Six* (Spotlight), Karen Smith in *Mean Girls* (Chaparral High School), Angie Dickenson in *The Prom* (Spotlight – Zoni Nom), Alice Russell in *Lizzie* (Spotlight – NYA Nom), and Morticia Addams in *The Addams Family* (Spotlight – Zoni Nom). She would like to thank Jack, Falin, Elise, and Kenny for this amazing opportunity, the cast and crew for their incredible talent and hard work, and her friends and family for their constant support!



## Emily Anton Worker

Emily Anton is 18 years old and ecstatic to be a part of this amazing show. Her most recent roles include Cosette in *Les Mis* (SYT), ensemble in *Hunchback of Notre Dame* and *Addams Family* (VYT), and Ariel Moore in *Footloose* (AYT). She would like to thank this incredible production team and cast for their support. Enjoy the show!



# Who's Who in Hadestown Teen Edition



## Sarina Arbaugh

Fate 3

Sarina is so excited to play one of the Fates (Atropos) in the beautiful show *Hadestown*. She is currently 16 years old and is an 11th grader at ACAA. This is her 5th show at SYT but 9th musical she's done. At SYT she's been in *Last Chance Angels*, *Moana Jr.*, *SIX the Musical*, and *Les Misérables*. And at ACAA she's been in *Guys and Dolls* as a hot box dancer, Regina George in *Mean Girls*, and is currently in *Merrily We Roll Along* which opens this February. Sarina is unbelievably grateful for her parents and friends who have supported her throughout her theater career, and she couldn't be on stage without them. Enjoy the show!!!



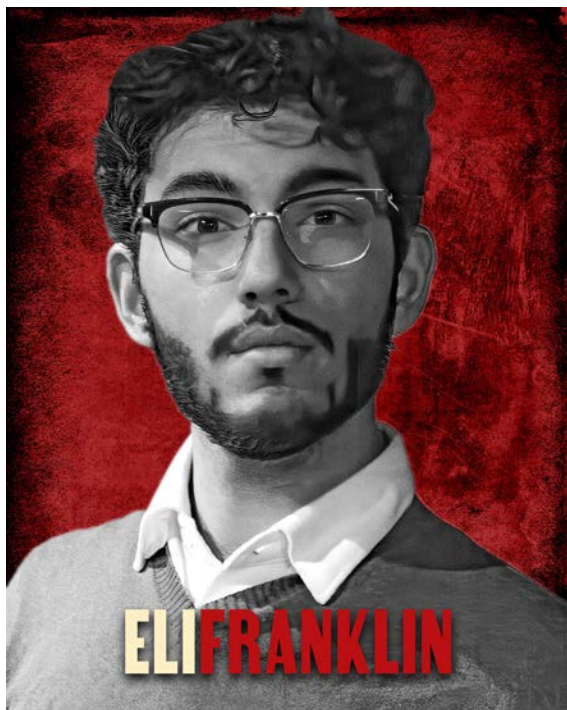
## Jaely Damasco

Persephone

Jaely is thrilled to be back on the Spotlight stage! Some of her favorite past roles include Anna of Cleves in *SIX Teen Edition*, Soupy Sue in *Urinetown*, Ms. Square in *Polkadots* (ariZoni/NYA nom), and Jeanie in *Hair* (ariZoni/NYA win). She would like to thank her friends and family (largely her sissies) for their unwavering support; the cast, band, Marai, Fal, and Jack; and especially Spotlight for being a second home. She can't wait to share her rendition of Persephone with everyone and is super grateful to share her final Spotlight performance with this talented group of people :) Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

IG @jaely.damasco

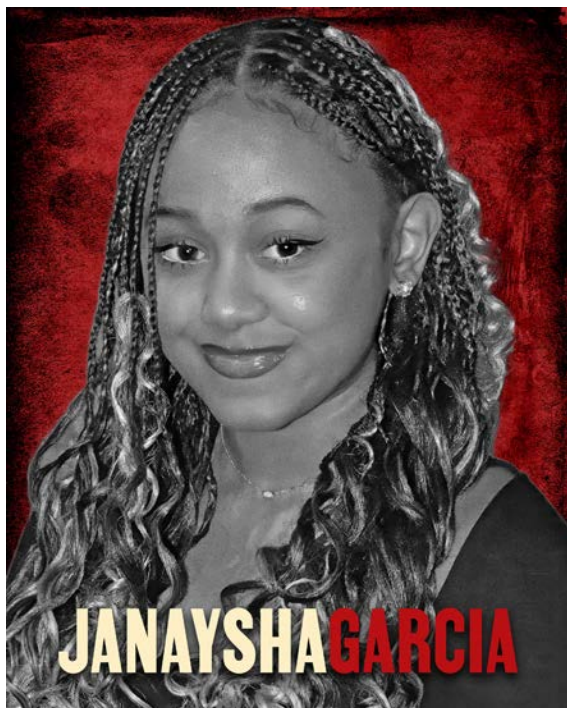
# Who's Who in Hadestown Teen Edition



## Eli Franklin

Hades

Eli Franklin makes his debut at Spotlight Youth Theatre. He has been seen in The Phoenix Theatre Company's Festival of New American Theatre, Valley Youth Theater's *The Addams Family* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* at the Herberger, as well as *Catch Me If You Can* at Desert Stages Theater. He would like to thank his music teachers Peter, Nick, and Jack for their help and support as well as Phoenix Conservatory of Music for letting him use their accordion. Eli is very thankful to Jack Taylor and the rest of the production team for having him play one of his dream roles!



## Janaysha Garcia

Hermes

Meet Janaysha Garcia, a passionate 16-year-old performer with a love for singing, acting, dancing, and storytelling. Whether on stage or in front of a camera, she thrives in bringing characters to life, embracing every opportunity to grow and experiment with new creative avenues. Recently, she had the incredible honor of becoming the first female teen to play Hermes, a role that has taught her the power of imagination and making purposeful choices as an actor. Outside the spotlight, she's part of a lively family of eight, complete with a zoo's worth of animals—chaos and love abound! With boundless energy and a heart full of gratitude, Janaysha is always ready to shine through every performance, bringing a little magic to the world one role at a time.

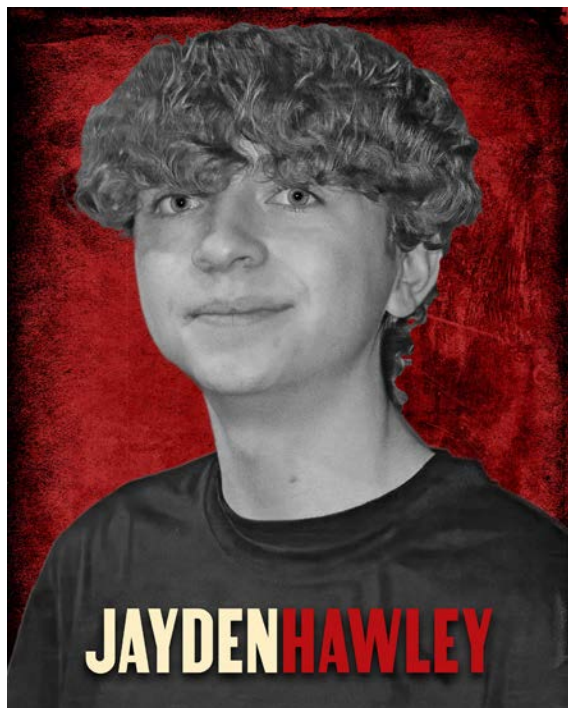


# Who's Who in Hadestown Teen Edition



**Joey Garcia**  
Worker

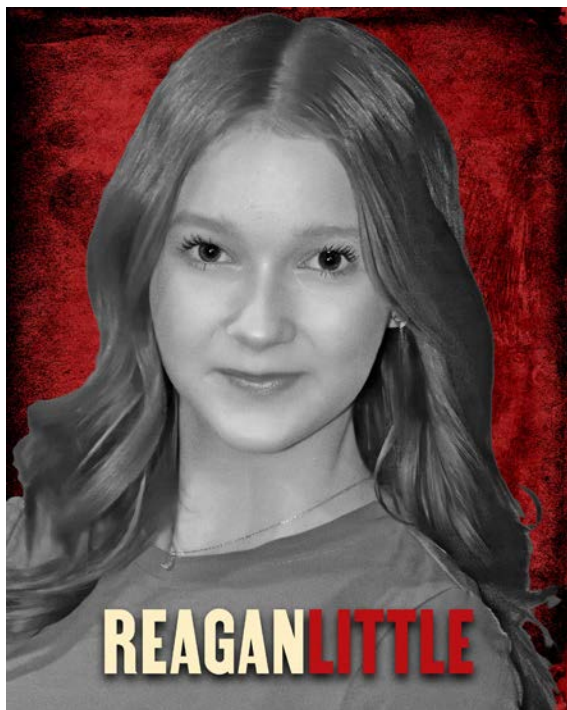
Joey is thrilled to be returning to the Spotlight stage for this production of *Hadestown*. He is 14 yrs. old and is a freshman at Ironwood High School where he is involved in drama club. Recent favorite roles include Evan Goldman in *13: The Musical* (SCT), Harold Pudding in *Alice By Heart* (SYT), and Mr. D/Grover understudy in *The Lightning Thief* (SCT). In addition to performing on the theater stage, he also trains in piano and voice. He would like to express his utmost gratitude to Jack Taylor for casting him in this incredible show! He would also like to thank his friends and family for always supporting him! He couldn't do it without you! See you on the stage!



**Jayden Hawley**  
Worker

Jayden is a 17-year-old at Boulder Creek High School. He is president of Broadway Bound, the top varsity show choir at his school. He's been performing since he was seven years old and has most recently been seen in *Footloose* as Travis/Cowboy Bob (DST), *The Prom* as Kevin (SYT), and *A Chorus Line* as Greg (MTA). Jayden has had the best experience doing his third show at Spotlight and really enjoys working with the cast and crew. Enjoy the show!

# Who's Who in Hadestown Teen Edition



## Reagan Little

Fate 1

Reagan, 15, is a freshman at Mountain Ridge High School and is delighted to weave her thread of destiny back on the Spotlight stage. Recent roles include Jane Seymour in *Six Teen Edition* (SYT), Bert in *Mary Poppins Jr.* (SYT), Lucy in *13* (Starlight), Ellie Blake in *Freaky Friday* (DST), and Pinocchio in *Shrek Jr.* (SYT - NYA Outstanding Featured Performance Winner & AriZoni Rising Star Nomination). She is also a proud member of AZBT's performance troupe "Hy-Rev." Reagan thanks Jack, Elise, Falin, and the entire production team for guiding her path to this incredible moment. She also thanks her family and friends for their unwavering support. The Fates have spoken—sit back and enjoy the show!



## Morgan Massey

Fate 2

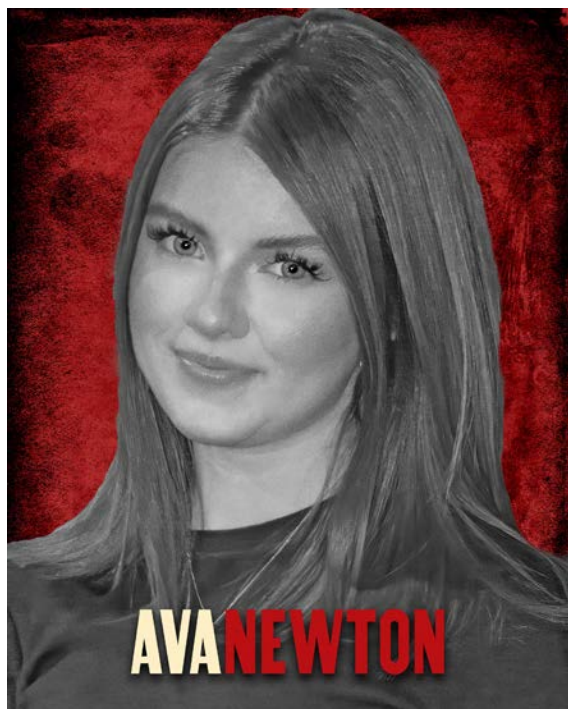
Morgan Massey is 18 years old and is a recent high school graduate. She is excited to perform in her third Spotlight show as Fate 2! Some of her favorite roles include Kaylee (*The Prom*), Veronica Sawyer (*Heathers*), and Janis Sarkisian (*Mean Girls*). She would like to thank her parents for their endless support, all of her friends and family for always being there for her, and everyone involved with this process!

# Who's Who in *Hadestown Teen Edition*



## **Sophia Mengel** Worker

Sophia is delighted to be back on the Spotlight stage! She is 16 and a junior at Ironwood High School. Outside of theatre she is a competitive swimmer and a student in the International Baccalaureate program. Some of her favorite roles include Ensemble in *Runaways*, *Pippin*, and *Hadestown*, and Clarissa/Queen of Diamonds/Mock Mock Mock Turtle in *Alice by Heart*. Sophia would like to express her immense gratitude for the wonderful directors, actors and designers who made this show incredible. She would also like to thank her family and friends for their constant love, support, and belief in her.



## **Ava Newton** Worker

Ava is excited to be part of the *Hadestown: Teen Edition* case as Worker. She always loves coming back to the SYT stage and its theatre magic. Outside of the theater, Ava enjoys spending time with her friends and shopping. She also is very active in her Student Council position and works at The Rec Pizza and Detroit Eats.



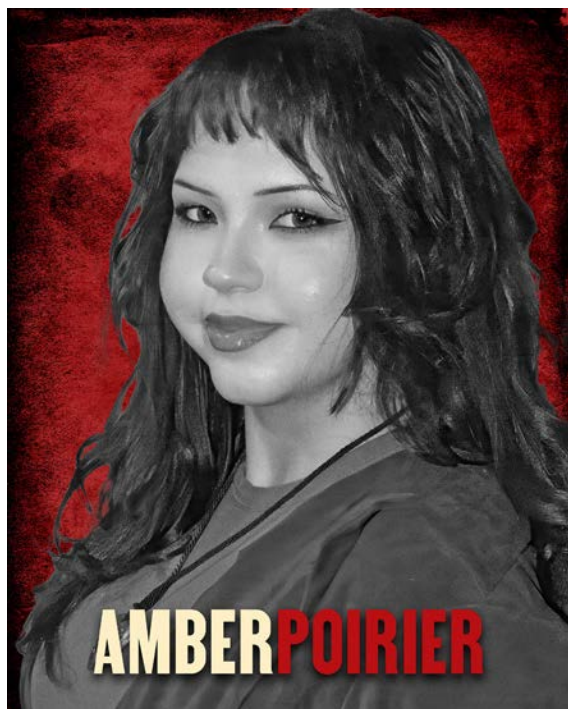
# Who's Who in *Hadestown Teen Edition*



## Isabella Penza

Worker

Isabella Penza was born and raised in Arizona and has been passionate about music and performing for as long as she can remember. She is thrilled to be part of her third production at Spotlight Youth Theatre with *Hadestown: Teen Edition*. Some of Isabella's favorite past productions include *Freckleface Strawberry* (Spotlight Youth Theatre), *13* (Starlight Community Theater), *School Girls; or the African Mean Girls Play* (Spotlight Youth Theatre), *Frozen Junior* (Theater Works) and *Ragtime* (Fountain Hills Theater). She would like to express her heartfelt gratitude to her Phoenix Theatre summer camp counselors, her vocal coach, her family (including her mom and godmother Chanel) and friends for their unwavering encouragement and inspiration.

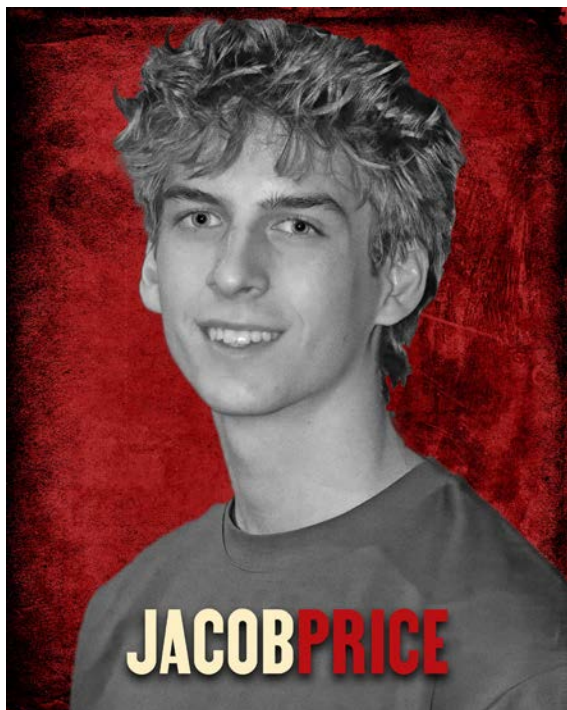


## Amber Poirier

Worker

This is Amber's first show at SYT, and she is so incredibly excited to be here with this extremely talented cast! While auditioning for a community show was scary for her, she's so happy that she took that step as it opened up a new side of the theatre world for her. Some of her favorite roles have been Little Red Riding Hood in *Into the Woods* (CTC), Emma in *Emma* (CTC), and Cheshire Cat In *Alice by Heart* (Ironwood). She would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her, and her new Spotlight family for being so welcoming and giving her this opportunity. She thanks you for coming and hopes you enjoy this wonderful show!

# Who's Who in Hadestown Teen Edition



**Jake Price**  
Orpheus

Jake is very excited to perform in his second show at Spotlight. He has been performing since he was in grade school and was recently seen as Seymour in Chaparral's *Little Shop of Horrors*, Georg in Desert Stages' *Spring Awakening* (Zoni Nomination), and Jean Valjean in Spotlight's *Les Misérables*. He is immensely grateful for this opportunity and wants to thank his friends and family for all of their support.

## 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>



**SCAN ME**

# Who's Who in Hadestown Teen Edition

## Jack Taylor (Director)

Jack is honored to have been able to direct this amazing production with such an incredibly talented cast and production team. *Hadestown: Teen Edition* is the fourth production Jack will have directed on the Spotlight stage, having previously directed *Anastasia* (Zoni Nom), *Macbeth* (Zoni Nom), and *Wanted: Santa Claus* (Zoni Nom). On top of directing, Jack is also the General Manager at Spotlight Youth Theatre and has been performing with *Drunk Shakespeare* (Phoenix) in several roles since 2022. He would like to thank the *Hadestown: Teen Edition* production team, band, and cast for all the incredible work they've done to bring this show to life. He would also like to extend thanks to Kenny for trusting him to tell this story, and his beautiful and amazing wife Falin for absolutely everything. Thank you for supporting youth theatre, enjoy the show!

## Falin Taylor (Choreographer)

Falin Taylor is so thrilled to have been a part of this production! Previous choreography credits include: *Six*, *Alice by Heart* (AriZoni award), *Anastasia*, *Oklahoma!*, *The Lightning Thief* (AriZoni Award), and more, on the Spotlight stage! Some previous performance credits include Spot Conlon in *Newsies* (TW), Cassie in *A Chorus Line* (DST), Lulu in *Cabaret* (SYT), Agnes in *Jasper in Deadland* (BTC), and Ensemble in *American Idiot* (SYT). Falin thanks her favorite husband and director, Jack Taylor, and the other half of her brain, Ada Poormon. Without them, she would not have survived choreographing a musical during the first trimester! Many thanks to this wonderfully talented cast, crew, and production team. Enjoy the show and keep supporting youth theater <3

## Elisa W Kurbat (Music Director/Conductor)

Elisa is thrilled to be back at Spotlight Youth Theatre! Elisa grew up in Cleveland, Ohio where she went to Kent State University for Criminology and then Baldwin Wallace Conservatory for piano and voice. While in Ohio, Elisa played piano professionally for Mansfield Orchestra, while maintaining a full piano and vocal studio. Elisa currently works full time at Arizona School for the Arts in the Theatre Arts Department where she teaches voice and continues to maintain her private vocal studio. Elisa's love for musical theatre was realized when she first music directed *Cinderella* in Ohio. Since then, her favorites include *Oklahoma*, *Xanadu*, *Into the Woods*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Cabaret*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Footloose*, *Spring Awakening*, *Addams Family* and *The Lightning Thief*. Many thanks go to the entire *Hadestown* production team, as well as a big thanks to our superb *Hands on a Hadestown* band and cast who willingly give their time and skills. And a huge thank you to Elisa's amazing family who tolerates her crazy schedule. Your support is a gift. Much love to all.

## Marai Perez (Stage Manager)

Marai is currently a sophomore at ASU studying Theatre Design and Production. She has been in the theatre world since she was six years old starting in ballet. Although this is her first time working with SYT, some of her work can be seen in many theaters around the valley such as Theatreworks, The Phoenix Theatre Company, ASU, and upcoming productions at Ghostlight Theatre. Some of her credits include *My Son Pinocchio Jr* (Assistant Stage Manager/Deck Manager), *From Tidworth with Love* (Stage Manager), *Brothers Grimm* (Stage Manager/Assistant Director), *Lord of the Choir* (Stage Manager), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Assistant Stage Manager), and other various productions as extended crew positions such as deck crew, sound, media, lighting, and intimacy. She would like to thank her mom, dad, and sister for their love and support.

## María Guadalupe Cruz (Production Manager)

María (She/Her/Ella) is thrilled to be the Production Manager for *Hadestown: Teen Edition*. María has several stage management credits at theaters across the Arizona valley for the past 6 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. María believes Spotlight is a truly special place that does important work that genuinely supports and expands the community. She wants to thank Kenny, Deb, Marai, Falin, 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!"

# Who's Who in *Hadestown* Teen Edition

## **Ellie Little** (Lighting Designer)

Ellie has been involved in several shows at Spotlight Youth Theatre both backstage and onstage since 2019. Ellie is grateful to be given another chance at Spotlight to build her skills as a lighting designer and student at ASU Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts. Some of Ellie's favorite shows she's participated in are *Annie* (Board Opp.), *Hair* (Board Opp.), *Once* (Assistant Lighting Designer), and *Hands on a Hardbody* (Lighting Designer) as each show at Spotlight helped her make new friends and memories. Ellie thanks not only the cast but also the crew for all their hard work and dedication to bringing a bright and exciting production to the stage. Hope you enjoy the show!

## **Nevaeh Monk** (Sound Designer)

Nevaeh (16 years old) is a senior at Arizona's Conservatory for Arts and Academics (ACAA). Her most recent sound designs have included *Les Misérables* and *School Girls; or, The African Mean Girls Play*, all here at SYT! Nevaeh is extremely excited to have gotten the opportunity to work on this show as Greek mythology, and the many different takes on it, has always been an interest of hers since elementary. This truly is one of her dream shows! Therefore, she would like to give thanks to the entire crew, cast, and family here at SYT for all the memories, support, and opportunities they have given her. Nevaeh hopes you enjoy the epic story of *Hadestown*!

## **Samantha Utpadel** (Costume Designer)

Samantha Essary Utpadel has been costuming shows around the Valley for over 10 years. Favorite credits include Green Day's American Idiot ('Zoni), *Once*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Miracle on 34th Street* ('Zoni), *The Lightning Thief*, *Cabaret*, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, and *Gypsy*. Thanks to the SYT team for creating a supportive, welcoming, and fun environment to explore the arts. Extra thanks to Angel for being an awesome collaborator. Much love to my family, especially Aurora and Charlie.

## **Angel DeMichael** (Hair & Makeup Designer)

Angel and Tatum have been part of the Spotlight family since 2009. Designing together for a show they treasure has been an unparalleled experience. It's been a privilege to be on the production team, helping these immensely talented actors tell this beautiful story. Special thanks to Jack and Falin, the cast, Vicki for the introduction to *Hadestown* and Kenny for the nepotism, and a big shout out to Shalay Garcia and At The Outlet, Inc.!

## **Caster Morse** (Properties Designer)

This is Caster's (He/She/They) first show at Spotlight Youth Theatre! They have been doing props for ASU for two years, including productions such as *Clue*, *Natasha*, *Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812*, and *Anthropocene*. He will be working on ASU's upcoming productions such as *L'Orfeo* and *The Sleepover Play*.

## **Ada Poormon** (Assistant Choreographer)

Ada is ecstatic to be working with this incredible cast and crew for *Hadestown*! She's currently a Freshman at ASU studying Nursing, as well as a dance instructor at Steppin' Out Performing Arts. Ada's super excited to be back at Spotlight and assisting Falin with choreography, previously helping with *Six*! Many thanks to Jack, Elise, Marai, Kenny, and the entire creative team for working to make the show come to life. Ada would also like to thank Renee, Marlo, Rachel, her friends and family for their endless love and support, and of course Fal for always being one of her biggest cheerleaders and for allowing her to tag along on this journey to the underground with her. Enjoy the show!

# Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



**FEBRUARY 7-16, 2025**

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM

Saturdays & Sundays at 2PM

Spotlight Studio • 10820 N 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Suite 9 • (602) 843-8318 • [sytaaz.org](http://sytaaz.org)

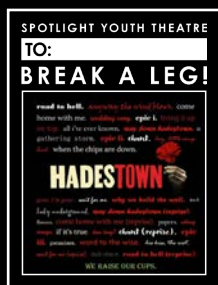
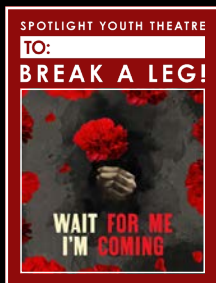




# Give Your Favorite Actor, Crew Member, or Director a Break-a-Leg!

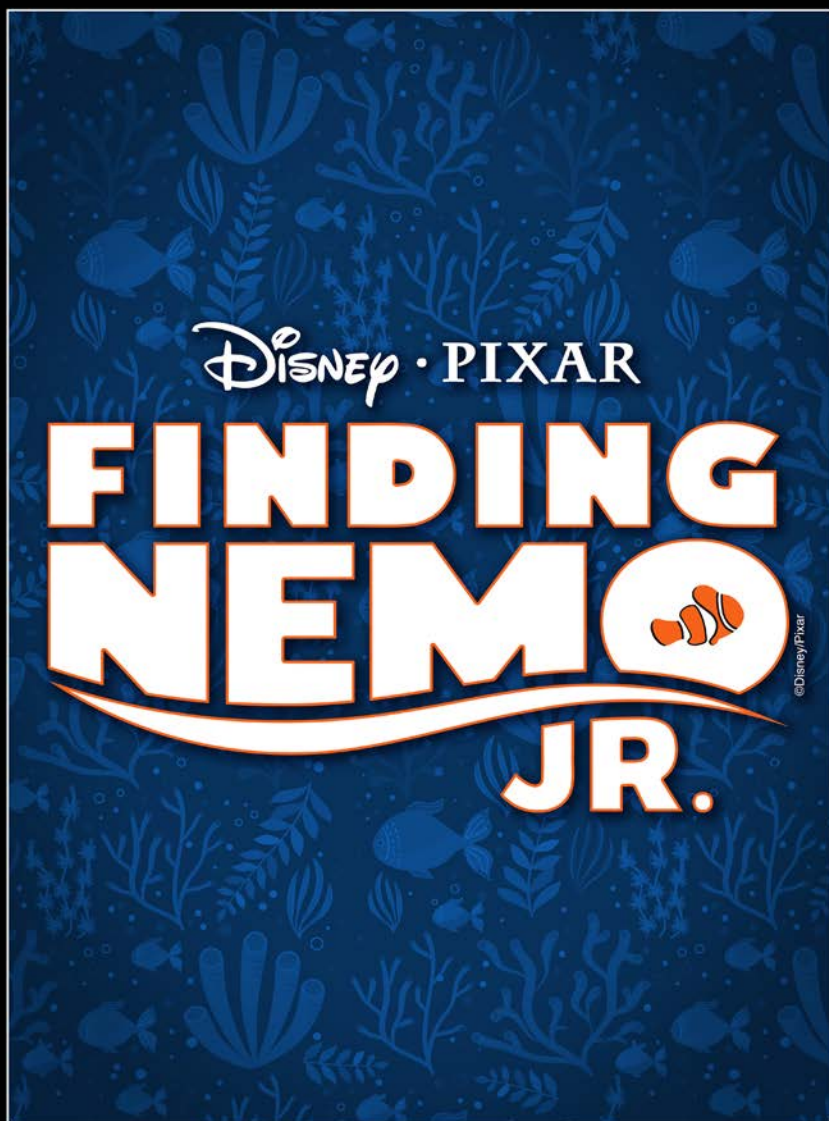


For only \$5.00 you can send a  
personalized Break-a-Leg  
to your favorite actor or crew member!



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!

Coming Soon to  
Spotlight Youth Theatre



**FEBRUARY 28–MARCH 16, 2025**

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 2PM  
additional 2PM matinees on March 8 & 15

10620 N 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave • (602) 843-8318 • [sytaaz.org](http://sytaaz.org)



spotlight youth theatre

# 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 • [sy taz.org](http://sy taz.org)**



[illegible]

**PRINCE:** The death of John  
Your loving friend, Benedict  
**BENEDICT:** My dear  
not, much one. The body of  
your discovery is sometimes  
guarded with fragments, and  
the guards are but slightly  
bound to search. For you  
few old tasks any further,  
reunite your conviction.  
And as I leave you.  
*He exits.*  
**CLAUDIO:** My legs, your  
Highness now stay the me-  
good.  
**PRINCE:** My legs is there  
to mark. Track it but how  
And then shall we leave up  
it is to learn. And how



# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

# SYT Company

## 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 Taylor  
Ages 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 [sy taz.org](http://sy taz.org).

# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

10620 N. 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue • (602) 843-8318 • [sy taz.org](http://sy taz.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 43<sup>rd</sup> Ave • (602) 843-8318 • [sytaz.org](http://sytaz.org)



SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

# LITTLE ACTORS ACADEMY

## Spring Break Camp

Mar 10 – 14 or Mar 17 – 21 • 9 AM – Noon  
Your choice!



Join us for this action-packed 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 [sytaaz.org](http://sytaaz.org).

## Spotlight Youth Theatre

10620 N 43rd Ave • (602) 843-8318 • [sytaaz.org](http://sytaaz.org)



# 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.

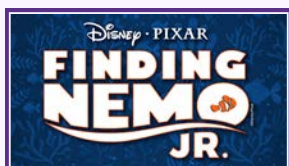
Winner of over 100 international awards and seen by over 70 million theatergoers, this musical phenomenon is an epic tale of passion and redemption in the throes of revolution.



## 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.



Moon Valley  
Women's Club

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@sytaaz.org](mailto:deb@sytaaz.org) or (623) 332-7201 for  
information or to schedule your event.**

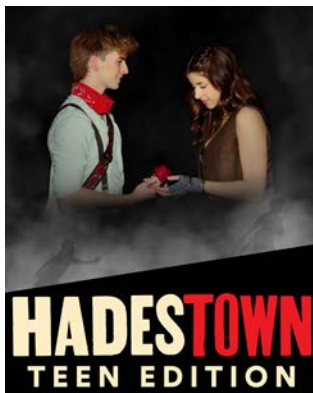
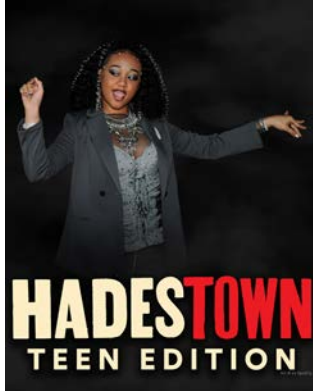
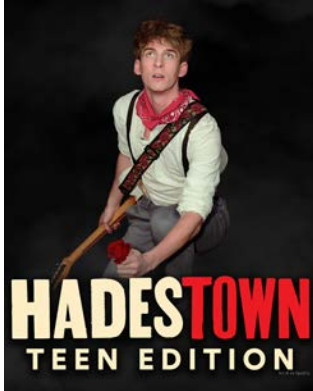
10620 N. 43<sup>RD</sup> AVE • GLENDALE, AZ 85304 • [SYTAZ.ORG](http://SYTAZ.ORG)



# Spotlight Youth Theatre Administrative Team

Artistic Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre .....	<b>Kenny Grossman</b>
Managing Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre .....	<b>Deb Czajkowski</b>
General Manager for Spotlight Youth Theatre .....	<b>Jack Taylor</b>
Graphic Designer, Headshot Photographer, & Webmaster .....	<b>Robert Waller</b>
Social Media Specialist .....	<b>Jack Taylor</b>
Promotional Photos .....	<b>Audra Little</b>
Break-a-Leg Table Coordinator.....	<b>Tammy Waller</b>
Fundraising Committee .....	<b>Sara Bader, Shelly Boucher, Karen Dolyniuk, Julie Donnicks, Elisa Herndon, Audra Little, Amanda Newton, Jen Parker, Lisa Poormon, Kelly Swope, Tammy Waller, &amp; Barbara Winch</b>

Special thanks to **Arizona School for the Arts, Phoenix Conservatory of Music, TJ Brumbaugh, Josh Hontz, Doug Novotny, Chris Tepe, Shalay Garcia, At the Outlet, Inc., the Spotlight Youth Theatre Board of Directors,** and the **friends & family** members who volunteered to make this show so successful.





PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS

Your local source for  
theatre in the Phoenix  
metropolitan area



[www.PHXStages.com](http://www.PHXStages.com)



@PHXSTAGES



/PHXStages

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!

# AQUARIUS SALON



5115 W. Bell Rd, Ste 105-106  
Glendale, AZ (Inside Salon Plaza)

602.978.1774

*30% off for first-time customers!*

Scan here  
to visit  
Spotlight  
Youth  
Theatre's  
Fundraising  
Page



## Jamie Dillon Grossman

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

Email:  
jamiedillon1993@gmail.com

Website:  
jamiedillingrossman.com



## Innovative Screen Printing & Design Ilc



**Rick Wierich**

rick@ispd.us

c: (602) 622-2698 • f: (314) 667-0884

Custom Apparel • Banners • Decals • Embroidery • Screen Printing



**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!*



# 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  
Jeromy Beaver  
Shelly Boucher  
Daniel Burman  
Jake & Gretchen Corey  
Jaime Dion  
Karen Dolyniuk

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

Jennifer Parker  
Bobby Sample  
Schneider Foundation  
Katie Stoll  
Thunderbirds  
Torosian Foundation  
Judy & Jim Wolfe  
Steven Zell

## **Emerald-Level Support (\$750-\$999)**

Donald Boucher

Craig Froonickx

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

Mark & Sarah Armistead  
Scot Claus  
Brianna Funk  
Sabrina Hurley

IBEW  
Jean Kiene  
Gwen Schultz  
Suzanne Treviño

Tammy & Robert Waller  
Heather & Michael Walker  
Heidi Watson

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

American Express  
Anonymous  
Arrowhead Montessori  
Esther Conort  
Dr. Heather Cucchetti

John & Janet Culbertson  
Clisham Finnegan  
Frys Food  
Wayne Holden  
Sharon Kiepk

Renee Koher  
Eric Labas  
Shannon Sweat  
Lee & Sandy Shedroff  
Stephanie Yampolsky

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

Pepper Aguilar  
Anonymous  
Lyda 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  
Tracey Horvath  
Nicole Kearns  
Matt Keiffer  
Bill Kochenderfer  
David Laidig  
Heather Locke  
John Marino  
Diana Martinez  
Brian & Shelby Maticic  
Glenda Matson  
Michael & Teri Momeyer  
Julie 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  
Falín & Jack Taylor  
Tuchi Family  
Laurie Van Atta  
Shanan Winters

For information on how you can contribute to the ongoing success of Spotlight Youth Theatre, please contact  
Deb Czajkowski, SYT Managing Director,  
at [deb@sytaz.org](mailto:deb@sytaz.org) or (602) 843-8318



# THE UPS STORE

5156 W. Olive Ave  
Glendale, AZ 85302

Northwest corner of 51<sup>st</sup> Ave & Olive in the Fry's Plaza

- Shipping • Packing • Packing Supplies •
- Shipping Supplies • Notary • Copies • Printing • Laminating •
- Binding • Fingerprinting • Freight • Mail •

## STORE HOURS

Monday–Friday: 8AM–6PM

Saturday: 9AM–5PM

Sunday: Closed



(623) 939-1784 • [store5440@theupsstore.com](mailto:store5440@theupsstore.com)

## YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR THEATRE IN THE PHOENIX METROPOLITAN AREA

**PHXSTAGES**.com

[www.PHXStages.com](http://www.PHXStages.com)

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!



@PHXSTAGES



/PHXStages



# 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  
**Maria 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:



**Moon Valley**  
Women's Club



**City of Phoenix**



**Ann O'Brien**  
District 1 Councilwoman  
Phoenix City Council



**JOHN F. LONG**  
FOUNDATION  
JFLONG.COM



**arts +  
culture**  
CITY OF PHOENIX



**aps**<sup>®</sup>

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**

Federally insured by NCUA

# HADESTOWN

## TEEN EDITION

Art © by SpotCo

## WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT GREEK MYTHOLOGY BEFORE SEEING *HADESTOWN* TEEN EDITION

Anaïs Mitchell first envisioned *Hadestown* as a concept album inspired by Greek mythology before expanding it into a musical.

The story combines the myths of Orpheus and Eurydice with Hades and Persephone, reimagining them in a gritty, industrial setting scored with jazz and folk music. Mitchell's version uses these timeless tales to explore themes like greed, exploitation, and love's resilience.

# HADESTOWN

## TEEN EDITION

Art © by SpotCo

Although *Hadestown* diverges from its mythological roots geographically and thematically, the characters' arcs and personalities remain tied to ancient Greek literature.

### Greek Myths in *Hadestown*

The musical adapts two classic stories of love and heartbreak:

#### **Orpheus and Eurydice:**

Orpheus, a gifted musician, marries Eurydice, a wood nymph. Their happiness is short-lived when Eurydice dies from a snake bite. Heartbroken, Orpheus journeys to the underworld to plead for her return. Hades agrees but sets a condition: Orpheus must

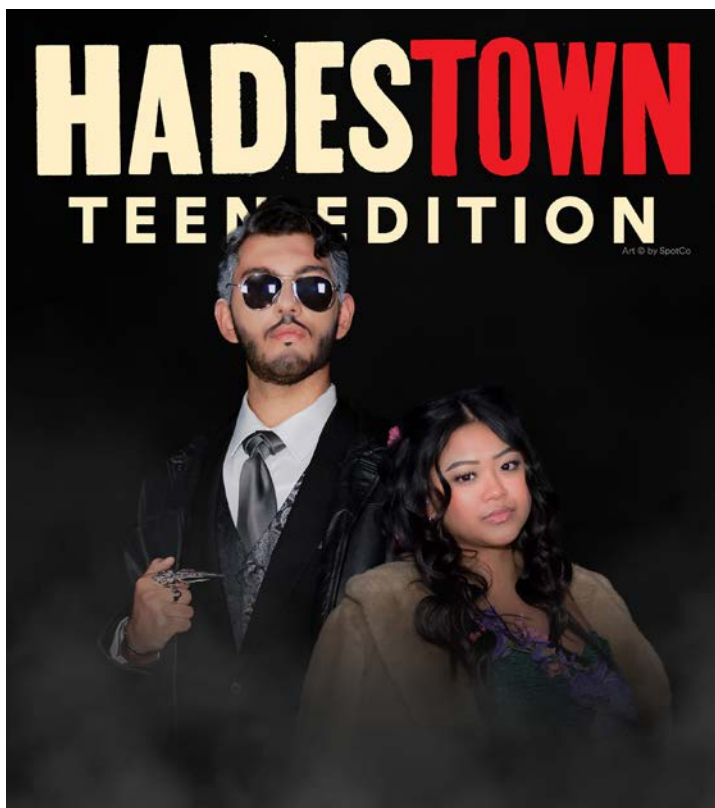
not look back at Eurydice as they ascend. Just before reaching the surface, he looks back, and Eurydice is lost forever. In HADESTOWN, Orpheus is a poor musician, and Eurydice willingly enters HADESTOWN, not knowing its true nature.

### Hades and Persephone:

In mythology, Hades abducts Persephone to be his bride in the underworld. Her mother, Demeter, negotiates a compromise: Persephone spends part of the year above ground, representing spring and summer, and the rest with Hades, symbolizing autumn and winter. In HADESTOWN, Hades builds his underground empire to keep Persephone close, but she feels trapped, mirroring their mythic tension.

## Key Characters in HADESTOWN

- **Orpheus:** A demigod in mythology known for his enchanting music, reimagined in HADESTOWN as a struggling musician.
- **Eurydice:** A wood nymph in the myths, portrayed as a lonely, impoverished young woman who chooses to enter HADESTOWN.
- **Hades:** The god of the underworld, here a ruthless industrial tycoon.
- **Persephone:** Goddess of agriculture, unhappy in her role as queen of HADESTOWN.
- **Hermes:** The messenger god and narrator, who also acts as Orpheus's mentor.
- **The Fates:** The trio who control destiny, influencing but not dictating events in HADESTOWN.



## Major Adaptations in HADESTOWN

- **Setting:** The mystical Greek world becomes a harsh, industrialized Earth. The underworld is reimagined as HADESTOWN, an exploitative factory reached via a railroad called the "road to hell."
- **Characters:** Gods are humanized. Hades is more like a power-hungry billionaire, and Orpheus and Eurydice are portrayed as struggling individuals.
- **Themes and Tone:** The dead of Greek mythology become an oppressed labor force. Persephone runs a speakeasy for them, providing a brief escape from Hades' control.
- **Music:** Instead of ancient tunes, the story is told through contemporary folk and jazz.

Mitchell's *HADESTOWN* transforms ancient myths into a poignant, modern tale of love, loss, and resistance, blending timeless themes with innovative storytelling.

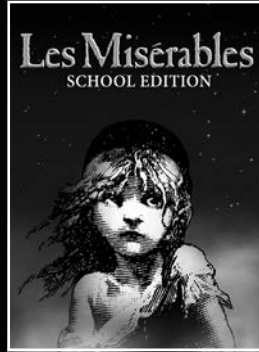


# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

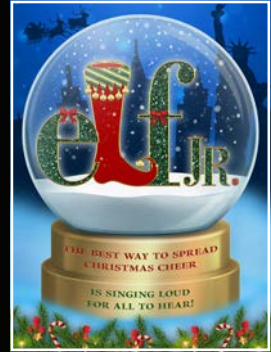
## 2024-2025 SEASON



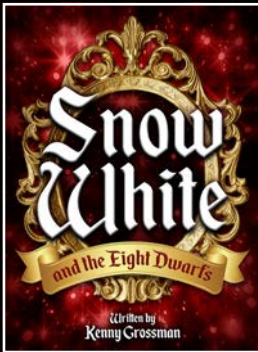
SIX THE MUSICAL  
SEPTEMBER 6 – 15



LES MISÉRABLES SCHOOL EDITION  
OCTOBER 25 – NOVEMBER 10



ELF JR.  
DECEMBER 6 – 22



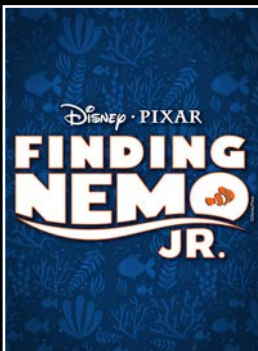
SNOW WHITE & THE EIGHT DWARFS  
DECEMBER 23 – JANUARY 3



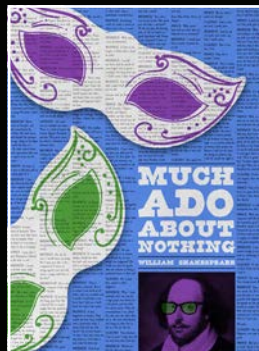
HADESTOWN TEEN EDITION  
JANUARY 17 – FEBRUARY 2



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

10620 N. 43<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE • GLENDALE, AZ • SYTAZ.ORG