

SPOTLIGHT



STUDIO

Spotlight Youth Theatre's Black Box Performance Space



LIZZIE

10820 N. 43rd Ave., Suite 9 • Glendale, AZ 85304 • (602) 843-8318 • syfzaz.org

Spotlight Youth Theatre Proudly Presents

LIZZIE

Music by **Steven Cheslik-deMeyer and Alan Stevens Hewitt**

Lyrics by **Steven Cheslik-deMeyer & Tim Maner**

Book by **Tim Maner**

Additional Music by **Tim Maner**

Additional Lyrics by **Alan Stevens Hewitt**

Based on an original concept by **Steven Cheslik-deMeyer & Tim Maner**

Orchestrations by **Alan Stevens Hewitt**

Director: **Chanel Bragg**

Co-Director / Stage Manager: **Marielle Tepe**

Musical Director: **Elisa W. Kurbat**

Choreographer: **Katie Czajkowski**

Costume Designer: **Heather Riddle & Chanel Bragg**

Hair & Makeup Designer: **Angel DeMichael**

Lighting & Sound Designer: **Josh Hontz**

Set Design: **Chanel Bragg & Marielle Tepe**

Properties Artisans: **Vicki Grossman & Kenny Grossman**

Dramaturg: **Claire Schmidt**

Light Board Operator: **Addi Lauder**

Deck Manager: **Emmy Lange**

Stage Crew: **Elissa Kenney**

Sound Board Operator: **Josh Hontz**

WARNING! A strobe light effect is used in this production.
Video and audio recording of any kind of *LIZZIE* is strictly prohibited

LIZZIE has been developed with the assistance of tiny mythic theatre company, HERE arts center, Took An Axe Productions (Hillary Richard & Peter McCabe), Brisa Trinchero/Corey Brunish (Make Musicals) and Van Dean/Kenny Howard (Broadway Consortium). *LIZZIE* was presented at the National Alliance for Musical Theatre's Festival of New Musicals in 2010 and further developed by Village Theatre, Issaquah, Washington (Robb Hunt, Executive Producer; Steve Tomkins, Artistic Director). *LIZZIE* was produced by Theatre Under The Stars, October 2013. The West Coast Premiere of *LIZZIE* was produced by Portland Center Stage, Chris Coleman, Artistic Director. To purchase recordings and sheet music, or for more information, please visit: www.LizzieTheMusical.com.

Spotlight Youth Theatre Administrative Team

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Special thanks to **Heather Cucchetti, Ryan Anderson, Chris Tepe, Sue Damasco**, the **Spotlight Youth Theatre Board of Directors**, and the **friends & family members** who volunteered to make this show so successful.

Note From the Directors

We would like to welcome you to this exciting production of Spotlight Youth Theatre's *LIZZIE*. This badass piece of art examines a time within our American History where women were deemed "too demure" to take matters into their own hands. Heck, even the decision to acquit Lizzie Borden of the murders only took the all-male jury ten minutes to deliberate and declare a "not guilty" verdict. Whether you believe Lizzie committed the murders or not, this is quite the think-piece on how women are viewed and, at times, underestimated. *What lengths would you go to in order to protect yourself?*

During the rehearsal process, it has been a joy to collaborate with our young women as they worked to develop their own personal **ROCKSTAR** personas. Nothing is more incredible than watching a young performer push themselves beyond their own limitations. We are most grateful to have been entrusted with the safety of that journey. The care these young women have for each other and their respect for the process is truly inspiring. Our conversations have been deep and insightful. We are happy the future of the world is in their capable and powerful hands. Fondest moments during the rehearsal process include the staging of "Questions Questions," "Why Are All These Heads Off?," and our favorite song, "Somebody Will Do Something." That number was so much fun to collaborate on with Katie (our brilliant choreographer) and our fearless cast. The way these young ladies are game for all the wild and unorthodox choices we requested from them made our job easier and enhanced our production!

We are grateful to have navigated this experience with not only the best creative team in the land (Thank you, Elise and Katie!) but also a dedicated group of designers, volunteers, Kenny G., and an entire band of incredibly talented female musicians! It has been an honor to inaugurate the new Spotlight Studio! Big Thanks to everyone who had a hand in getting the space primed for opening!

Lastly, we just want to share with the audience that our youth are intelligent, fierce, and fiery young women that you get to call your amazing children. As you witness their crafted characters, reflect on how much work went into creating this production and the countless hours they sacrificed to bring you this production. Sincere Thanks to Spotlight Youth Theatre and the SYT Board of Directors for this incredible opportunity.

Thank **YOU** for spending your evening with us. We invite you to **ROCK OUT** to *LIZZIE*!

Chanel Bragg & Marielle Tepe

The Cast of LIZZIE

Lizzie Borden	Bella Cucchetti
Emma Borden	Jazlynn Damasco
Bridget Sullivan / Maggie	Isabella Menzel
Alice Russell.....	Katerina Anderson

Thursday, October 13 Performance

Alice Russell.....	Lainey Kenly
Bridget Sullivan / Maggie	Olivia Martinez

Thursday, October 20 Performance

Lizzie Borden	Lainey Kenly
Emma Borden	Olivia Martinez

UNDERSTUDIES

Understudies will never substitute for the listed performers unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.

Lainey Kenly for Lizzie Borden & Alice Russell

Olivia Martinez for Emma Borden and Bridget Sullivan / Maggie



LIZZIE Band

Keyboard / Conductor	Elisa W. Kurbat
Percussion	Hannah Viquesney
Bass (Thursday, Friday, & Saturday performances).....	Katie Sample
Bass (Sunday performances)	Autumn McClintock
Guitar	Zoey Waller

LIZZIE

Musical Numbers

A rock-show retelling of the bloody legend of America's favorite axe-wielding double-murderess and Victorian hometown girl, Lizzie Borden.

**August, 1892
Fall River, Massachusetts
The Borden Family home**

Act I

"Forty Whacks (Prologue)	Spotlight Youth Theatre's Sparkles
"The House of Borden"	Lizzie, Emma, Bridget, Alice
"This is Not Love"	Lizzie
"Gotta Get Out of Here"	Alice, Lizzie
"If You Knew"	Alice
"The Soul of The White Bird"	Lizzie, Bridget, Emma, Alice
"Maybe Someday"	Alice
"Sweet Little Sister"	Emma, Lizzie
"Shattercane and Velvet Grass"	Bridget, Lizzie,
"Will You Stay"	Alice, Lizzie
"Why Are All These Heads Off?"	Bridget, Lizzie, Alice
"Mercury Rising"	Bridget, Lizzie, Emma, Alice
"Somebody Will Do Something"	Lizzie, Emma, Bridget, Alice

Act II

"Forty Whacks (Entr'acte)"	
"The Fall of the House of Borden / The Alibi"	Bridget, Lizzie, Alice
"What the Fuck Now, Lizzie?"	Emma, Lizzie
"Burn the Old Thing Up"	Lizzie, Emma
"Questions, Questions"	Alice, Lizzie, Emma, Bridget
"Will You Lie?"	Lizzie, Alice, Emma, Bridget
"Watchmen for the Morning"	Lizzie, Emma
"Maybe Someday" (Reprise 1)	Lizzie, Emma, Bridget, Alice
"Thirteen Days in Taunton"	Lizzie, Emma, Bridget, Alice
"Maybe Someday" (Reprise 2)	Lizzie, Emma, Bridget, Alice
"Into Your Wildest Dreams" (Epilogue)	Lizzie, Emma, Bridget, Alice
"Forty Whacks" (Curtain)	Lizzie, Emma, Bridget, Alice

Who's Who in LIZZIE



Katerina Anderson

Alice Russell

Katerina is a freshman at Shadow Mountain High School and a student of the NVAA theatre and dance programs. She is honored to be in this amazing girl power show! This is Katerina's third show at Spotlight. She made her Spotlight debut last season as Morticia Addams in *The Addams Family* (ariZoni Rising Star nomination) and recently performed in Spotlight's *Oklahoma!* Some of her other favorite roles include Lucy Dunn in DFT's *13 the Musical*, a Big Kid in VYT's *Matilda*, Henrika the Dutch girl in ABT's *Miracle on 34th Street* and Peter Pan in PCA's *Peter Pan* (NYA nomination). Katerina would like to thank the sensational *LIZZIE* team and cast for this unforgettable experience and her family and mentors for their love and support.



Bella Cucchetti

Lizzie Borden

Bella is ecstatic and incredibly grateful to be working with a group of such amazing people. Some of her favorite credits include Mitch in *Spelling Bee* (Greasepaint) and Gregory in *Romeo and Juliet* (Greasepaint). She goes to Xavier College Prep and is in the 11th grade. She would like to thank Kenny Grossman, Chanel Bragg, Marielle Tepe and Katie Czajkowski for making this show such an incredible experience and believing in her to deliver this AWESOME role and show.

Who's Who in LIZZIE



Jazlynn Damasco

Emma Borden

Jazlynn is a Sophomore at ASU Barrett. She is so excited to be back on the SYT stage for the opening of Spotlight Studio. Some of her favorite past roles include #13 in *The Wolves* (SYT), Ruth Two Bears in *Dogfight* (SYT), Female Ensemble in *Sister Act* (ABT), and Mulan in *Mulan Jr.* (SYT, NYA and 'Zoni Nom). She would like to thank her family, friends, Chanel, Marielle, Katie, Renee, Kenny, and the brilliant female cast and crew. It's killing time now!



Isabella Menzel

Bridget Sullivan

Isabella is 18 years old. Past roles include Cosette in *Les Miserables*, April in *Company*, and Antigone in *Antigone*. "Playing a tenor in this show has been really tough for me, getting into character and all, but after gaslighting a lot of women, and singing Santa Fe once or twice, I'm ready to go!"

Who's Who in LIZZIE



Lainey Kenly

Understudy Lizzie / Alice

Lainey is thrilled to be making her Spotlight Youth Theatre debut in *Lizzie!* Lainey is a senior at Chaparral High School where she has recently performed as Sophie in *Mamma Mia* and Beth in *Little Woman*. She would like to thank the whole cast and crew for all the hard work that has been put into this production. She hopes you will enjoy the show!

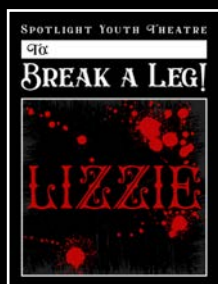


Olivia Martinez

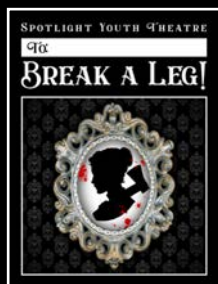
Understudy Bridget / Emma

Olivia is 15 years old and absolutely thrilled to be in this killer show! (pun intended) Some previous credits include Medusa/Nancy Bobofit in *The Lightning Thief* and Maya in *Cloudy with a Chance of Musicals* both at SYT, and the "We Beseech Thee" soloist in *Godspell* at Starlight. When she's not on stage, Olivia can be seen in the tech booth pursuing her second passion on the technical side of things! She'd love to thank Chanel, Marielle, Katie, Kenny, Elise, and all her friends and family for their immense support over this journey. Most importantly, she'd like to thank her biggest supporters: Owen Glenn Morris and her dog, TJ. She hopes you enjoy your stay in the House of Borden!

Support SYT by Buying Your Favorite Person a Break-a-Leg!



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



Everyone loves 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!

You can also purchase "Break-a-Legs" online by visiting sytaz.org!

Who's Who in LIZZIE

Chanel Bragg (Director) Chanel Bragg is ecstatic to return to Spotlight Youth Theatre for this ROCKIN' production of *LIZZIE*. For over a decade, she passionately advocates for diversity within the arts. Chanel co-founded The United Colours of Arizona Theatre (UCAT) which supports a powerful learning community providing networking, mentorship, master classes, and other opportunities to future BIPOC creatives and arts leaders. Chanel was highlighted in *American Theatre* magazine this past spring as one of the "10 rising Black Women to Watch in the American Theatre" (2022). Some of her favorite directing credits include: *The Wolves*, *Hair*, *Stick Fly*, *Heathers*, *The Piano Lesson*, *For Colored Girls*, and *The Last five Years*. In 2019, she curated, directed, and produced *The Alexander Project*, a touring *Hamilton* revue in conjunction with Live Nation. Thank you to Spotlight Youth Theatre for all you have done to prepare the space for our rockstars to be successful. It takes TIME and dedication to cultivate a skill or create something special. I share sentiments with the infamous words of Lizzie Borden when she exclaimed - *I can't do anything in a minute*. This production is a collection of minutes turned into art. Enjoy!

Katie Czajkowski (Choreographer) Katie is so excited to be back at Spotlight! Katie first got involved at Spotlight back in 2012 as a cast member. Those previous performance credits include *Footloose*, *A Chorus Line*, *42nd Street*, and *Bring It On*. She has also choreographed Spotlight productions including *Ramona Quimby*, *Honk Jr.*, *101 Dalmatians Kids*, and *Aristocats Kids*. Since then, she graduated with a degree in Musical Theater from Millikin University. Katie would like to give thanks to this incredibly talented cast of fierce ladies for all their hard work and dedication to this show. She would also like to give a special thanks to Chanel, Elise, Josh, Heather, Angel, Kenny, Vicki, Deb, the *Lizzie* Band, and all our crew members that have worked to make this show awesome! Katie would most of all like to thank Marielle, her fiancée, for making this first project together a lot of fun. She hopes you all rock out to this EPIC show!

Kenny & Vicki Grossman (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.

Josh Hontz (Lighting & Sound Designer) Josh Hontz is the Vice President of Spotlight's Board of Directors and has worked as a sound and lighting designer in the Valley since 2014. He has received eighteen ariZoni Theatre Awards of Excellence for his sound, lighting, and media designs. He is also a pianist and plays for musical theaters around town. Outside of the theatre, Josh enjoys gardening and spending time with his lovely wife, Katie, and his sweet dog, Linda.

Elisa W. Kurbat (Music Director) 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*. Since then, her favorites include *Oklahoma*, *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 to Chanel and Marielle for all you do. And a heartfelt thank you to our superb *Lizzie* band and cast who willingly give their time and talent. And a huge thank you to her amazing family who tolerates her crazy schedule. Your support is a gift. Much love to all.

Who's Who in LIZZIE

Autumn McClintock (LIZZIE Band—Bass Guitar - Sunday Performances) Autumn McClintock is a Filipinx-American music therapist, instructor, composer and performer based in Phoenix. She uses music as a way to foster experiences that allow for creative growth and communal self exploration. Currently, she can be found operating Open Air Music Therapy and composing with the Paradise Valley Community College's jazz ensemble: the Composers Improvisors Big Band. She also enjoys playing Dungeons and Dragons and gardening.

Heather Riddle (Costume Designer) Heather is a mom of five kids, wife, part time nurse, piano teacher, business owner and Production Coordinator at Desert Foothills Theater. She has costume designed over 30 shows at many valley theaters and has multiple 'Zoni nominations. She is thankful to Kenny, Chanel and Marielle for giving her this amazing opportunity. She is grateful for her extremely supportive husband who is always encouraging and to her kids who are constantly her costume assistants and live mannequins.

Katie Sample (LIZZIE Band—Bass Guitar - Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Performances) Katie is excited to be back to play some music for another amazing Spotlight show! Katie is a full-time music therapist with years of experience in music education and playing guitar and bass for theatre productions across the Valley. She also co-composed music for Bobby Sample's original musical *The Flying Trunk*, which premiered at Spotlight to critical acclaim in the before times. She is thrilled to be working on original music with her dad again for his brilliant and funny new play *The Last Chance Angels* - Come back to Spotlight to see it on the main stage this December! Katie thanks the whole talented cast and production team of *Lizzie*, and especially her amazing husband, Josh.

Marielle Tepe (Co-Director / Stage Manager) Marielle is so honored and humbled to have been a part of *LIZZIE* as her first production with Spotlight! Her previous directing credits include Assistant Director for *Heathers: The Musical* (Millikin University Mainstage); and Director with Shakespeare Corrected for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Macon Resources, Inc), *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Decatur Correctional Center), and *Twelfth Night* (Decatur Correctional Center). Previous performance credits include Lena in *The Undeniable Sound of Right Now* (Pipe Dreams Studio Theatre); Motley Crew in *HEADSHOT!* (Millikin University Mainstage); and the main character in a devised children's theatre piece, *Umbrella Escapades* (Millikin University). She offers many special thanks to this rock star cast for making this the best possible experience as a Spotlight newbie. Many sincere thanks to Chanel, Elise, Katie, Josh, Heather, Angel, Kenny, Vicki, Deb (MIL!!), the *LIZZIE* Band, and our stagehands for being the hardest workers in the room. More on Katie, thanks for dancing your way into my heart. You're the best show choreographer and fiancée I could have ever dreamed of. To my parents and brothers, I'm so happy we all live in AZ now so we can enjoy theatre together as a family. I hope everyone enjoys this killer show!!

Hannah Viquesney (LIZZIE Band—Percussion) Hannah is excited to play in her first show with Spotlight Youth Theater! While she grew up in Phoenix, she is a recent graduate of Chapman University with degrees in Video Game Development and Music Technology. She's grateful for her friends and family for their support and the incredible cast and band of strong women performing with her.

Zoey Waller (LIZZIE Band—Guitar) Zoey is so excited to be in the band for the amazing production of *Lizzie*. She has been playing guitar for six years as a classical guitar student at ASA, and is so excited to perform in the band again after last playing for Spotlight's production of *Fun Home*. Zoey fell in love with music at a very young age, and plays guitar, bass, piano, mandolin, ukelele, and flute. Thank you Christy Welty for everything. Enjoy the show!

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE AUDITION NOTICE



Spotlight Youth Theatre's Production of

The Last Chance Angels

A new holiday musical by Bobby Sample

Director: **Elise Selah**
Musical Director: **Katie Sample**
Choreographer: **Zoey Waller**
Costume Designer: **Audrey Wawro**
Set Designer: **Logan Swope**

Production Dates:
December 2–18, 2022

Ages: **8—19**

Audition dates: **Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022, at 1PM.** and **Sunday, Oct. 16, 2022, at 6PM**

Callbacks: **Wednesday, October 19, 2022, at 5:30PM**

Online audition form: sytaz.org/audition-form-angels

Requirements: **Please come prepared to sing about two minutes of an upbeat song (MP3, phone, a cappella) and perform a one-minute character-driven monologue. Pick a song and monologue that shows off the wonderful you!**

Video submissions also accepted:

- Complete the online audition form.
- Video the required song and monologue performance, and mail video file or link to angels@sytaz.org by noon on Oct. 15.
- Headshot photo and résumé are required for video auditions, either uploaded with the online audition form or attached to the email.
- Attendance at callbacks is still required in-person.

For more information or to register: sytaz.org/the-last-chance-angels

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SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE THEATRICAL SKILLS CLASSES

INSTRUCTED BY JOSH HONTZ

Josh Hontz is an 18-time ariZoni award-winning lighting, sound, and projections designer, and also works as a music director and pit musician.

Josh has been active in the Valley theater community for over a decade and holds a BA in Music from Arizona State University as well as an AAS in Audio Production Technologies from Paradise Valley Community College.

Some of Josh's favorite credits include *Concord Floral* (sound design, Mesa Community College, 2021), *Dogfight* (sound, lighting, & media design, Spotlight Youth Theatre, 2020), and *20,000 Leagues Under The Sea* (sound design, Theatre Works, 2018).



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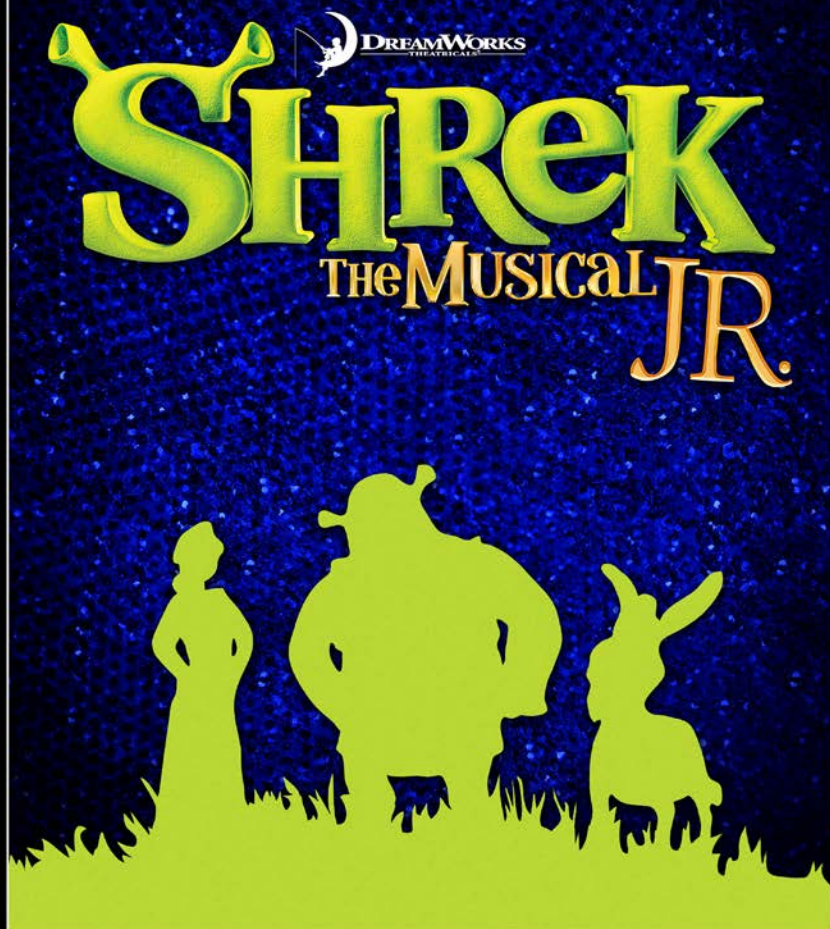
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Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



OCTOBER 21–NOVEMBER 6, 2022

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 2PM
additional 2PM matinees on Oct. 29 & Nov. 5

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Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



DECEMBER 2–18, 2022

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 2PM
additional 2PM matinees on December 10 & 17

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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 2022–2023 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.

Partial funding for Spotlight Youth Theatre's 2022–2023 season provided by the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture through appropriations from the Phoenix City Council.



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.

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

2022-2023 SEASON



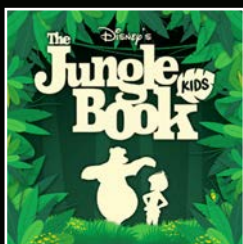
OKLAHOMA!
SEPTEMBER 9 – 25



SHREK JR
OCTOBER 21 – NOVEMBER 6



LAST CHANCE ANGELS
DECEMBER 2–18



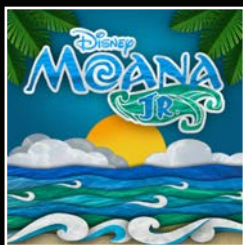
JUNGLE BOOK KIDS
DECEMBER 26–JANUARY 6



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ONCE
JANUARY 20–FEBRUARY 5



MOANA JR
MARCH 3–19



MACBETH
APRIL 14–23



HANDS ON A HARD BODY
MAY 19–JUNE 4

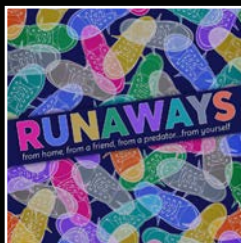
SPOTLIGHT STUDIO PRODUCTIONS:



LIZZIE
OCTOBER 7–23



PLAYFEST '22-'23
FEBRUARY 10–19



RUNAWAYS
APRIL 28–MAY 7

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