SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE ARIZONA

SPOTLIGHT PLAYFEST 2021-'22

Not Driving Ever Summer

BY REBECCA BAIN

THE PICKPOCKET'S LAMENT

BY KATIE KLOBERDANZ

Lost n' Sound

BY ZOEY WALLER

A showcase of original one-act plays by the winners of SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE'S second annual contest for young playwrights!

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

Spotlight Youth Theatre Proudly Presents

PLAYFEST 2021–2022

NOT DRIVING EVER SUMMER
by **Rebecca Bain**
Directed by **Alyssa Armstrong**

THE PICKPOCKET'S LAMENT
by **Katie Kloberdanz**
Directed by **Alec Pursell & Dean Kelldorf**

LOST N' SOUND
by **Zoey Waller**
Directed by **Jack Taylor**

Scenic Design: **Kenny Grossman & Kimberly Schneider**
Costume Design: **Kelly Swope**
Hair & Makeup Design: **Falin Ossipinsky**
Lighting & Sound Design: **Anthony Rozzen**
Properties Design: **Vicki & Kenny Grossman**
Light Operator: **Ellie Little**
Sound Operator: **Neveah Monk**

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

Please no flash photography, audio, or video recording.

Not Driving Ever Summer, The Pickpocket's Lament, and *Lost n' Sound* are presented through special arrangement with Bain, Kloberdanz, and Waller. All rights are reserved.

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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Volunteer Manager ..... **Vicki Grossman**
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Fundraising Committee ..... **Sara Bader, Shelly Boucher, Karen Dolyniuk, Elisa Herndon, Sabrina Hurley, Audra Little, Amanda Newton, Lisa Poormon, Kelly Swope, Karen Turner–Domakeczna,** & **Tammy Waller**

Notes From the Directors

NOT DRIVING EVER SUMMER

After 10+ years of performing at Spotlight Youth Theatre, I am now given the chance to direct my very first play on the stage I grew up on. With *Not Driving Ever Summer* it was a lot more character work than blocking, and it was such an amazing thing to witness the growth of all the actors. When originating roles, it takes creativity and dedication to the craft, and every single one of these kids absolutely exceeded all my expectations!! Thank you to all the parents, kids, and Kenny for trusting me in telling this story!

~ **Alyssa Armstrong,** Director, *Not Driving Ever Summer*

THE PICKPOCKET'S LAMENT

Dante Alighieri defines comedy as "a drama of light and amusing characters, and typically with a happy ending." Our show has two out of three of those things–the light and the characters. The missing element is for you to figure out. Our story lands us in the big city–a land of hope and fear; a land of dreams and nightmares. Together we follow Pete, our lovable pickpocket, on the road to redemption atop the rails of the subway.

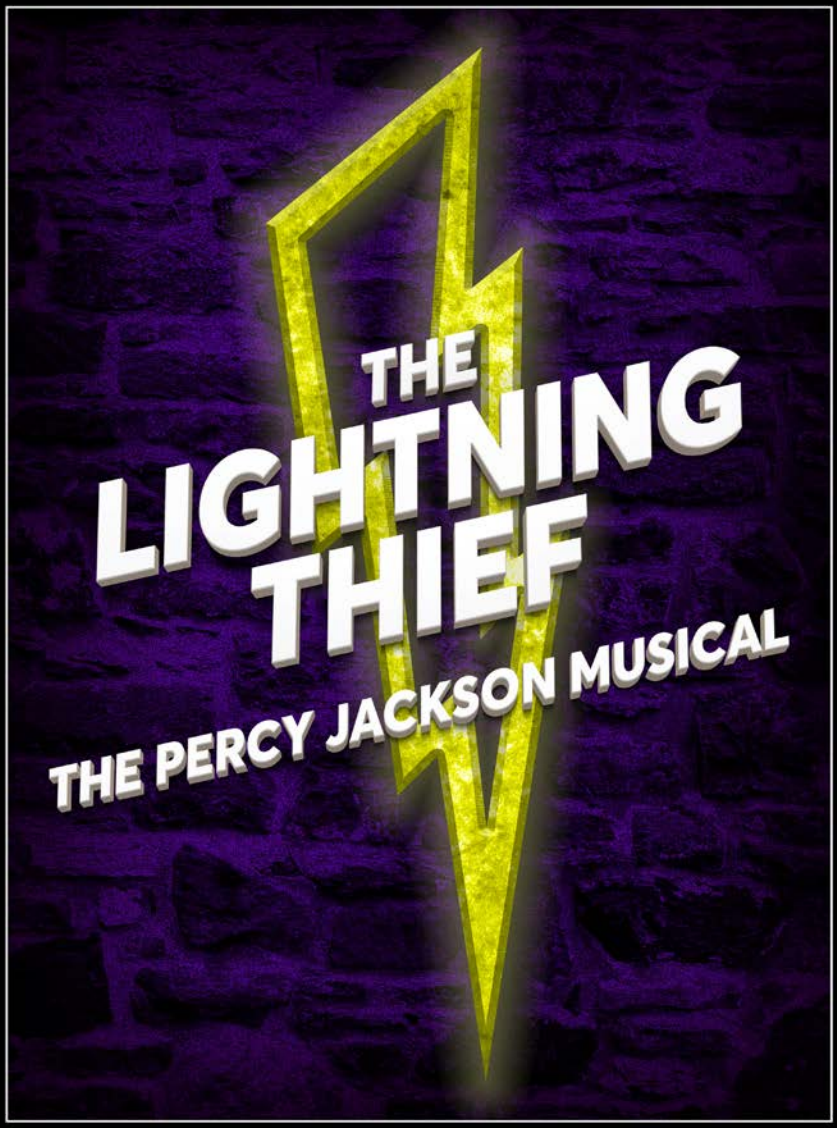
~ **Dean Kelldorf & Alec Pursell,** Co-Directors, *The Pickpocket's Lament*

LOST N' SOUND

Lost n' Sound was a very difficult show to tackle as my second directing job. The playwright, Zoey Waller, has written a beautiful play that takes on very heavy, difficult topics and displays them in a very real and tragic story. It has been an absolute honor to be able to work with all these young actors to build this show from the ground up for the very first time. Every single performer on the stage has worked incredibly hard, and a great deal of their work had nothing to do with me. I want to thank Kenny for trusting me with this production, the amazing cast that is bringing these characters to life, and Zoey Waller for all her help with coaching the actors in ASL, and for allowing me to share the story of *Lost n' Sound* with you all. Enjoy the show!

~ **Jack Taylor,** Director, *Lost n' Sound*

Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



MAY 13–29, 2022

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 2PM
additional 2PM matinees on May 21 & 28

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

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE ARIZONA

LIGHTS UP SPOTLIGHT!

PLEASE HELP SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE GET IMPORTANT TECH UPGRADES!

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE ARIZONA

Please help Spotlight Youth Theatre continue to shine the spotlight on young performers with our "Lights Up!" campaign! As a non-profit arts organization, SYT depends on individual donations and greatly appreciates all the community support it can get.

Please visit sytaz.org for a list of lighting and sound equipment Spotlight Youth Theatre needs to replace its old and broken technology. As old lights and computers have a limited lifespan, we need various upgrades just to keep producing shows of equal quality to what we've staged in past years. This equipment will also help Spotlight expand its programs and opportunities for children and young adults on a second stage.

For more information or to donate to Spotlight Youth Theatre's "LIGHTS UP!" campaign, please visit

sytaz.org/lights-up

Spotlight Youth Theatre • 10620 N 43rd Ave • Glendale, AZ 85304 • (602) 843-8318

The Cast of *Playfest 2021–2022*

NOT DRIVING EVER SUMMER

Alexandra ..... **Zoie Moller**
Elizabeth ..... **Emma Woolstenhulme**
Katherine ..... **Sabina Dart**
Samantha ..... **Kate Donick**
Mom ..... **Bella Swope**
Owen ..... **Josh Pike**

Setting: Alexa's Mom's car

THE PICKPOCKET'S LAMENT

Pete ..... **TJ Brumbaugh**
Jen ..... **Zoie Moller**
Chris ..... **Emma Woolstenhulme**
Headphone Person/Flower Person ..... **Mia Hurley**
Street Prophet / Construction Worker / Fashion Mogel ..... **Josh Pike**
Street Musician / Businesswoman ..... **Bella Swope**
Do-Gooder / Police Officer ..... **Sabina Dart**
Ensemble ..... **Kate Donick & Brooklyn Carro**

Setting: NYC Subway

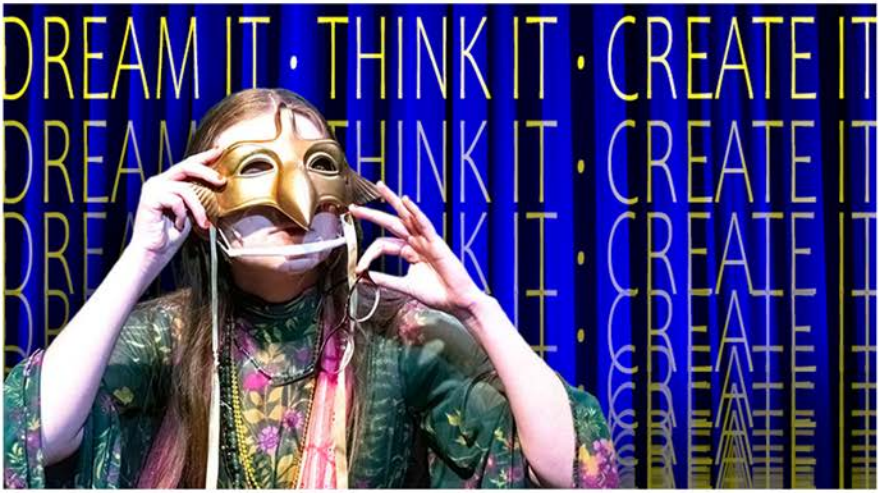
LOST N' SOUND

Lizzie ..... **Mia Hurley**
Anna ..... **Sabina Dart**
Mother ..... **Bella Swope**
Ms Taylor / Nurse ..... **Brooklyn Carro**
Allison ..... **Kate Donick**
Lucas ..... **TJ Brumbaugh**
Doctor ..... **Josh Pike**
Ensemble ..... **Zoie Moller & Emma Woolstenhulme**

Setting: A big town in the modern day

Calling young playwrights!

SPOTLIGHT PLAYFEST 2022–'23
YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS' COMPETITION



Spotlight Youth Theatre's annual Playfest competition is for young adult playwrights to create a one-act (short) play for young actors. Every writer who enters will receive custom feedback from dramatists at SYT about the strengths of their play and challenges to work on.

SPOTLIGHT PLAYFEST 2022-'23

Up to three winners of the competition will receive a **$100 prize!**

The entry period is June 1, through July 1, 2022.

Dream it. Think it. Create it…and see the work of new writers produced on the Spotlight stage in the 2022–2023 season!

For more information, please visit the SYT webpage:
https://sytaz.org/playfest-competition

Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*

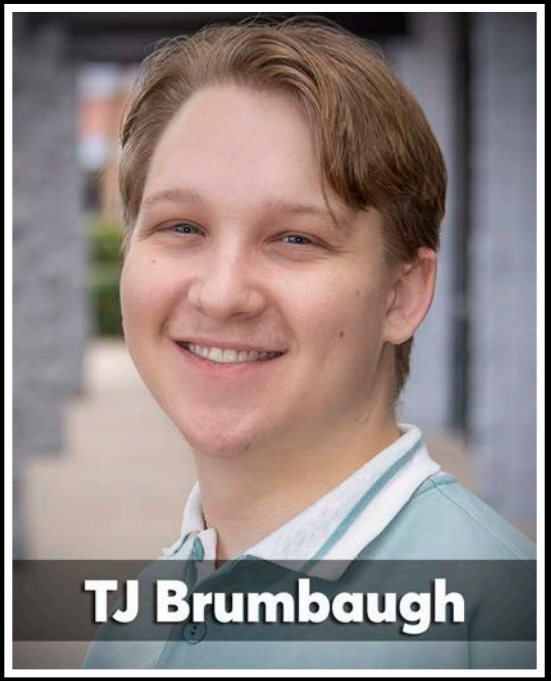
Alyssa Armstrong
Director
Not Driving Ever Summer

Alyssa is thrilled to be having her Childsplay debut as Shulie in *SHRL!* She has been performing around the Valley for a little over ten years. Previous credits: *Pippin* (National Youth Award–Best Supporting Actress) *Fun Home, Dogfight* (Spotlight Youth Theatre) Agnes / Tessie U.S in *Gypsy, Elf, the Musical* (Arizona Broadway Theatre). She is currently studying voice with Renee Koher and Jordan Scott Gilbert.

Rebecca Bain
Playwright
Not Driving Ever Summer

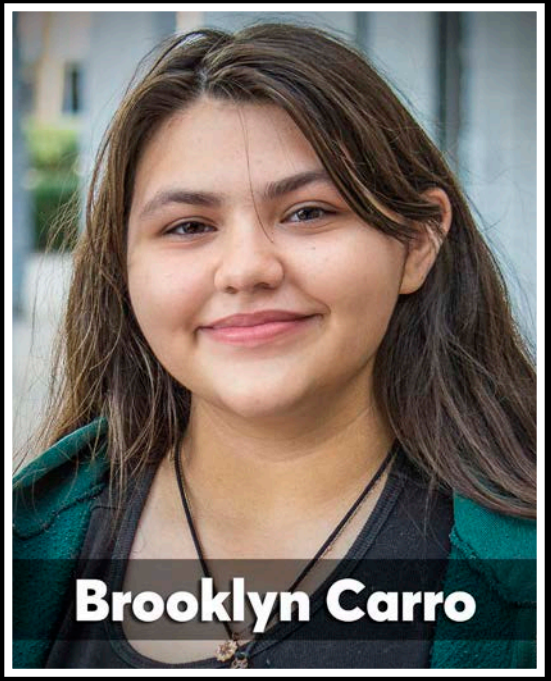
Rebecca is so excited to see her writing back on stage at Spotlight! This is the 3rd play Rebecca has written, but the 2nd one performed at Spotlight, the first one was *Most Dead Summer Ever* at the *2020 – '21 Playfest.* Rebecca has been in a few shows at other theatres, and she enjoys acting, singing, reading, and writing. She hopes to write more plays in the future.

Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*



TJ Brumbaugh
Pete, Lucas

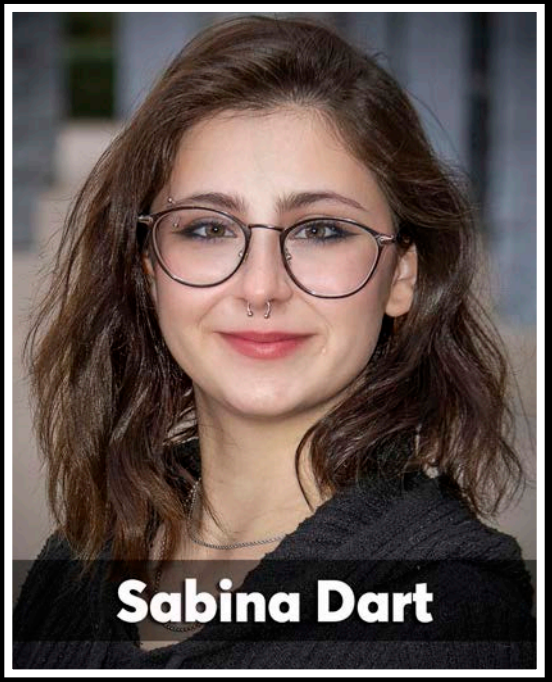
TJ is ecstatic to be doing another show at Spotlight! It's been over two years since he's done a show at Spotlight Youth Theatre, and he can't wait to be on the stage again. He's done multiple shows at Spotlight including *Annie, Frozen Jr, Into the Woods Jr.* and *Junie B. Jones.* He's thankful for all his friends and family who support him in everything he does. And he hopes you enjoy the shows!



Brooklyn Carro
Ensemble, Ms. Taylor, Nurse

Brooklyn is a 14-year-old at ALTS. This is her first show at SYT. She played Maria and was in the ensemble for *My Son Pinocchio Jr* at SCT. She wants to thank Kenny, the directors, her parents, friends, and castmates for everything.

Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*



Sabina Dart

Katherine, Do-gooder, Police Officer, Anna

Sabina is proud to be part of such a wonderful set of original short plays, ranging from comedy to inspiring pieces of work. She is 18 years old and has been seen in shows such as *Soul of Frankenstein* and loves to help backstage in her free time. She'd like to thank the actors for a great environment and the directors for the opportunity to play a wide range of characters, and please enjoy the show!

Kate Donick

Samantha, Ensemble, Allison

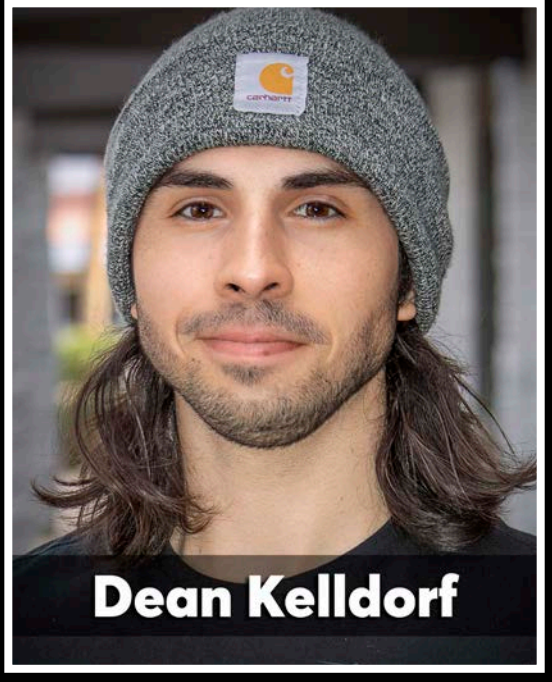
Kate is thirteen years old and in 7th grade at Paradise Honors Middle School. This is her first performance with Spotlight! Her most recent credits include Aunt March in *Little Women,* Duchess in *Alice in Wonderland,* and *Superheroes* for which she was AriZoni nominated in the Actress in a Leading Role category. She'd like to thank all her friends and family for dealing with her crazy! Kate is thrilled to be making her Spotlight debut with this amazing opportunity.

Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*

Mia Hurley

Headphone Person, Flower Person, Lizzie

Mia is 14 years old and is extremely grateful to be part of these original written plays. She has been seen in Spotlight musicals and plays in the past and is excited to be part of a brand new one. She is very happy with the supporting and fun environment that you find on and behind the stage and is very excited to see what future shows have to offer!



Dean Kelldorf

Co-Director

The Pickpocket's Lament

Dean is extremely excited to be making his directorial debut with Alec Pursell. Dean was last on the Spotlight stage acting as Theseus/Oberon in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* where he won an AriZoni Award for Best Actor in a Youth Play. Dean also has performed in *Soul of Frankenstein* as Captain Robert Walton and as Eddie Birdlace in *Dogfight* where he also won an AriZoni Award for Best Actor in a Youth Musical. Dean would like to thank Kenny for giving him this opportunity, and Alec Pursell for being the best darn Co-Director this side of the Mississippi. Dean would like to thank his girlfriend, Domonique, and family for their endless support and love.

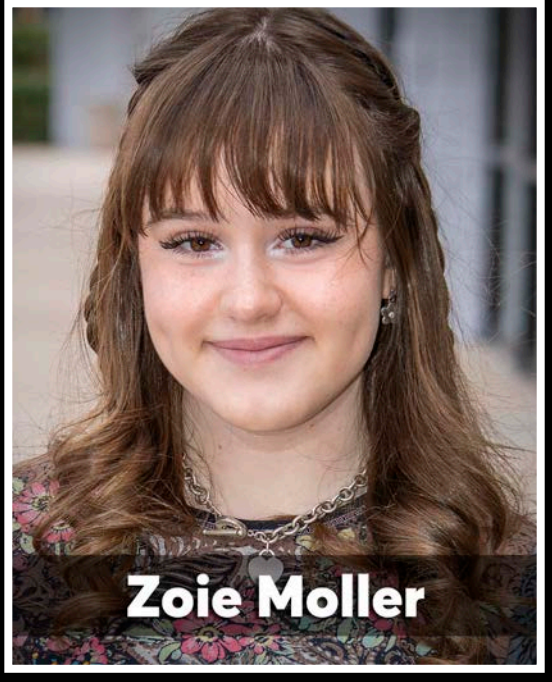
Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*

Katie Kloberdanz

Playwright

The Pickpocket's Lament

Katie is a senior at Ironwood High School. She is so excited to be involved in *Playfest* for the second time, after her play *Behind the Curtain* was featured last year. When she's not writing plays, she's in them! She was most recently seen in *Big Fish* at her school. Katie would like to thank Kenny, Alec, and Dean for bringing her show to life!

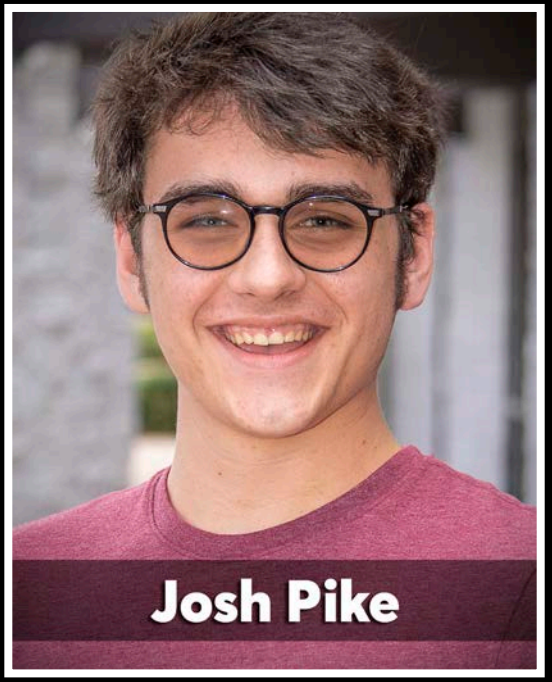


Zoie Moller

Alexandra, Jen, Ensemble

Zoie is a sophomore at Sandra Day O'Connor high school where she also participates in theatre and was most recently seen in *Legally Blonde* as Paulette. One of the things she loves most about SYT is the opportunity to be a part of the amazing creativity of *Playfest* as she also participated in *Playfest 2020/21* and *Potty Party,* another original SYT play. Working with a variety of her peers as directors and artists is a great learning experience, and she is thankful to SYT for offering these opportunities! She wants to say thanks to Alyssa, Alec, Dean, and Jack for letting her be a part of these amazing productions, and the playwrights for their amazing shows!

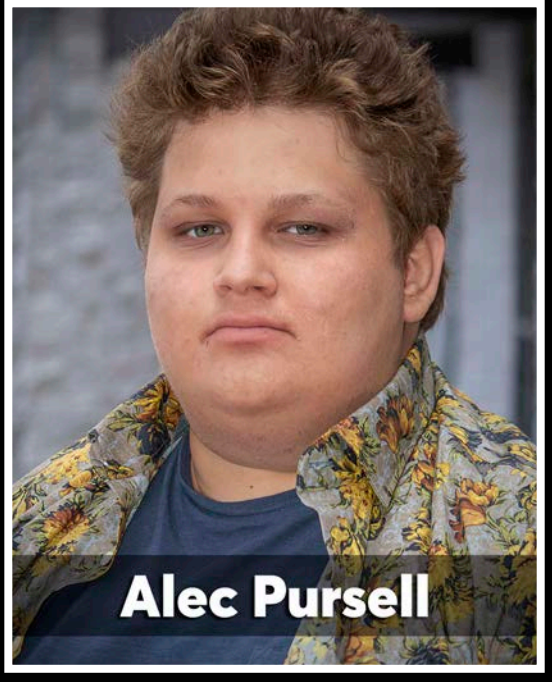
Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*



Josh Pike

Owen, Street Prophet, Construction Worker, Fashion Mogul

Josh is a senior at ACAA and is very excited to get to be able to put these originals on with some of the coolest folks in town. Josh was last seen on the Spotlight Stage in *Fun Home* as Roy and in *Dogfight* as Gibbs. Josh wants to say thanks to Jack, Alyssa, Alec, Dean, and Kenny for being awesome.



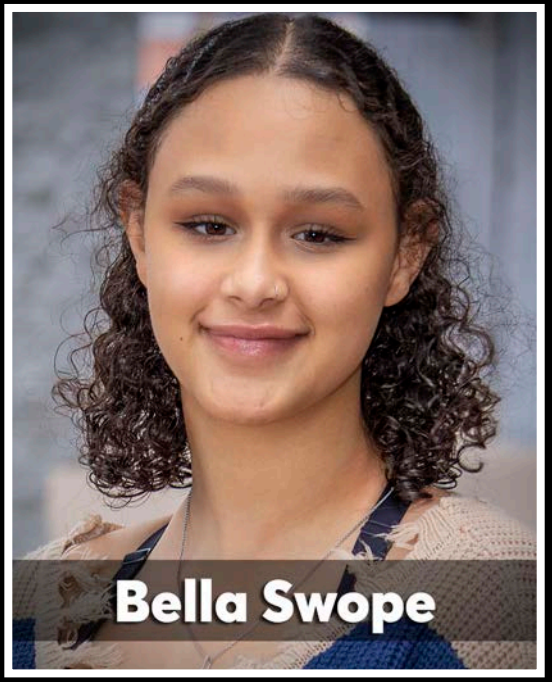
Alec Pursell

Co-Director

The Pickpocket's Lament

Alec is super excited and honored to be working at Spotlight as a first-time director with Dean Kelldorf after being an SYT alumni. Some of his favorite roles include Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* where he won his second 'Zoni, the first being for Spotlight's production of *Dogfight*. In his time away from Spotlight Alec has participated in ASU and USC film projects, commercial work, and appeared as killer Sam Nelson in *Real Murders of Orange County* on the Oxygen Network. Alec would like to thank Dean for being a swell gosh-gee-willikers Co-Director and to Kenny Grossman for this opportunity. Jack and Alyssa are cool too.

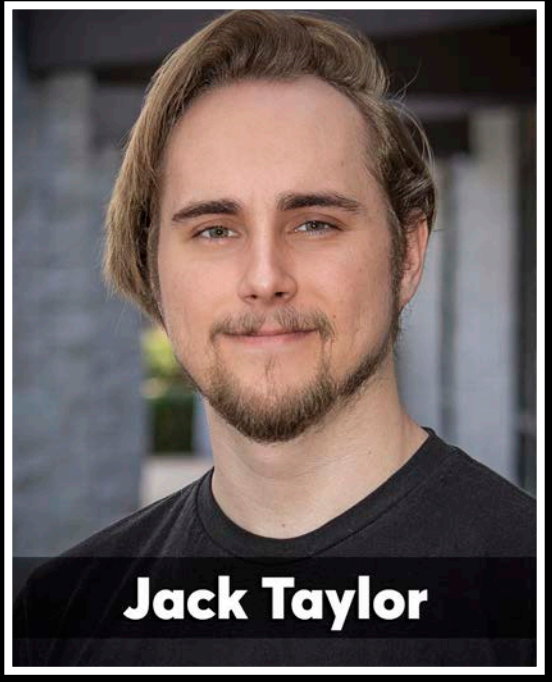
Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*



Bella Swope

Moms, Street Musician, Businesswoman

Bella is 18 and so excited for this amazing show you are about to see. Her previous Spotlight credits include Cleopatra in *Desperate Housewives of Shakespeare* and Amirah in *Emmett's Arts Project*. She would like to thank the cast, crew, and directors for making this show come alive! Hope you enjoy the show!



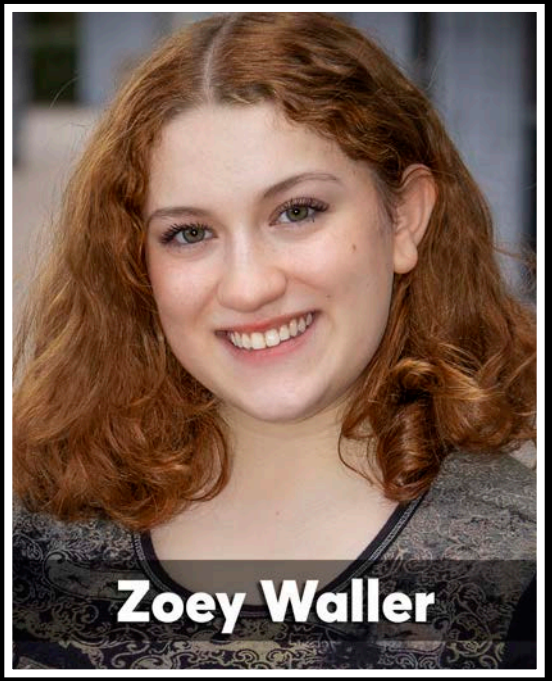
Jack Taylor

Director

Lost N' Sound

Jack is very excited to return to the director's chair for his second time now at Spotlight. He first directed *Wanted: Santa Claus* in 2020, for which he also earned his first AriZoni nomination for direction of a stage-play. Jack would like to thank his family, friends, cast, crew, fellow directors, Kenny, and his amazing girlfriend, Falin. Enjoy the show.

Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*



Zoey Waller
Playwright
Lost N' Sound

Zoey is incredibly excited to see her work up on the Spotlight stage for the very first time. She has had a love of writing ever since she was little, but never got around to publishing her work. When Spotlight announced their second *Playfest,* she decided to submit *Lost n' Sound*, a play that meant a lot to her, and share it with the world. She hopes you enjoy!

Emma Woolstenhulme
Elizabeth, Chris, Ensemble

Emma is currently a 10th grader at ACAA. Some of her past roles include Colin in *The Secret Garden,* Puck / Egeus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream,* and Susan in *Company.* She is super excited to be in this show and is so grateful for this opportunity.

Who's Who in *Playfest 2021–2022*

Kenny & Vicki Grossman (Scenic Design, 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 (Hair & Makeup Design)

Falin is so excited to be involved with these amazing shows, actors, and teams! Falin is an SYT Alumni, choreographer, and occasional hair and makeup designer! She works (and loves) teaching and choreographing for three of Spotlight's performance troupes, Confetti, Celebration, and Evolution. To the cast, directing team, and crew – Break a Leg and Congratulations! Enjoy the show!

Anthony Rozzen (Lighting & Sound Design)

Anthony is a wee lad at the ripe age of 21. Designing sound and lights has become quite the passion for this strappin' lad. He is hoping to continue on this quest and journey for many years to come.

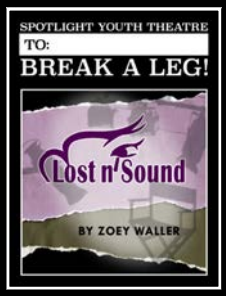
Kimberly Schneider (Scenic Design)

Kimberly is a Professional Photographer and Visual Arts Educator. Passionate about developing youth that connects cultures, cultivates communication, creativity, and understanding. Kimberly has had the privilege to work in Tempe at Kyrene Middle School as an award-winning visual art and design teacher. She has played many roles such as Fox in Sox, Monsters, and R2-D2 when reading to her two amazing children. It's been 20 years since Kimberly has been on the stage. Running the fine art gambit she was in concert band, jazz band, art, theater crew, dance, color guard, and was the paint crew head for any shows at Barry Goldwater High School. She is very fortunate to have a talented son and daughter in every area of the performing arts.

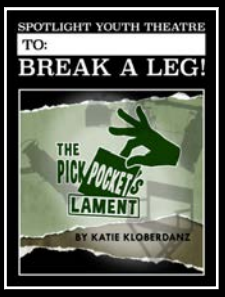
Kelly Swope (Costume Design)

Kelly is excited for the opportunity to costume for these new works. She has recently been seen on stage in *Charlotte's Web, the Musical* at SYT and *The Spongebob Musical* at SCT. But, she has also been known to lend her creative talents behind scenes as well. She has helped with props, costumes, hair and makeup – even earning a couple of 'Zoni nominations along the way. She is honored to help with this production and hopes you enjoy the show!

Buy Your Favorite Actor, Techie, Playwright, or Director a Break-a-Leg!



For only $3.00 you can send a personalized Break-a-Leg to your favorite actor or crew member!



The actors and crew members 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!

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

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS

Benefit Concert for Lyda

Community • Hope • Love

Tuesday, April 26, 2022
6:00–9:00 PM

Spotlight Youth Theatre Parking Lot

$10 per Carload

Performers • Desserts
Vendors • Selfie Station

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE ARIZONA

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PERFORMERS!

We want you to perform at SYT's

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS

Benefit Concert for Lyda

Community · Hope · Love

Tuesday, April 26, 2022
6:00–9:00 PM

Spotlight Youth Theatre Parking Lot

For more information or to express your interest in performing, please email Kenny Grossman at

kenny@sytaz.org

before April 17, 2022

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

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
Karen Dolyniuk • Fred & Angela Gass • J. Wayne Holden
Sabrina Hurley • Sharon Kiepke • Tom Nebrich
Amanda Newton • Tina Nunziato • Susan Pansing
Lee & Sandy Shredroff • Suzanne & Omar Treviño • Jim & Judy Wolfe

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@sytaz.org.

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)

ariZonis
Cabaret for Change
Karen Dolyniuk
Craig Frooninckx
Karen McCollester
Network for Good
Amanda Newton
Helen Novotny
Jennifer & Kevin Parker
Peoria Nissan
The Torosian Foundation
Jerry Weiers
Jim & Judy Wolfe

Emerald-Level Support ($750-$999)

Mark & Sarah Armistead
Shelly Boucher
Donald Boucher
Jake & Gretchen Corey
Fred & Angela Gass
Suzanne Treviño

Ruby-Level Support ($500-$749)

Jennifer Bonnett
Stacey Feldman
Fry's
Sabrina Hurley
Katie Stoll
Valley of the Sun United Way
Heidi Watson
Lindsey Williams
Stephanie Yampolsky

Sapphire-Level Support ($300-$499)

Brooke Adams
Michael & Leah Armstrong
Lisbeth Clingan
Maria Cruz
Kathryn Fulmer
Elisa Herndon
J. Wayne Holden
Elaine Karcher
Sharon Kiepke
Eric Labas
Rhonda Murphy
Tom Nebrich
Tina Nunziato
Susan Pansing
Natalie Philipps
Karen Pugliese
Bobby Sample
Lee & Sandy Shedroff

Amethyst-Level Support ($100-$299)

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Anonymous
Dina Anderson
Monika Archer
Alyssa Armstrong
Luke & Sara Bader
Sara Bloom
Dawna & Dan Calderone
Robyn Calihan
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Kelli Demski
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Nancy Drago
Sandra Elkins
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Melissa Wiegand
Julia Wright

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

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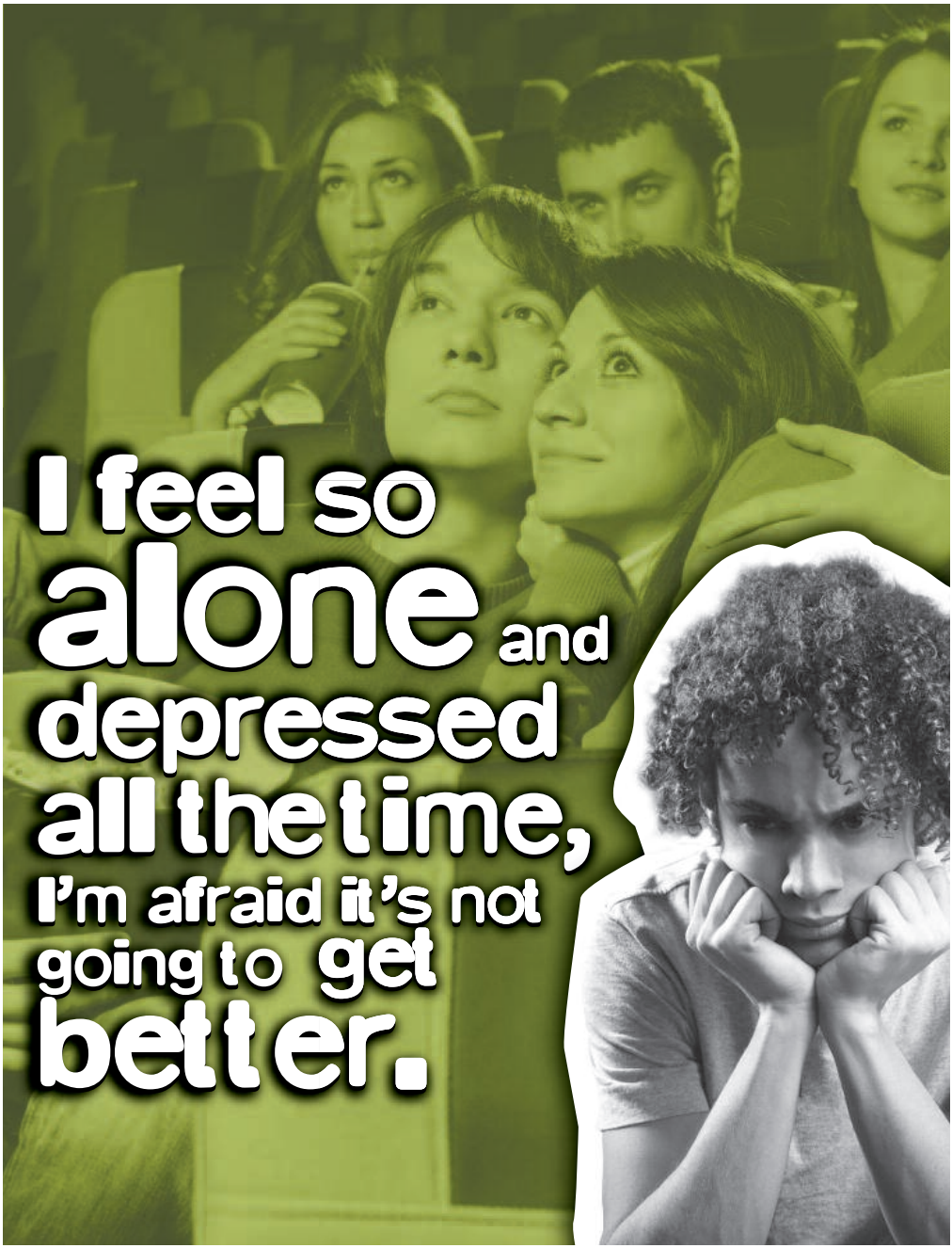

Don't give up - You're not alone.

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 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.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

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.

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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
ARIZONA

Spotlight Youth Theatre

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

sytaz.org

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LIGHTS UP SPOTLIGHT!

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE ARIZONA

- $1,754 • ETC EOS lighting software and computer for programming and running lights
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$30,000

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LIGHTS UP SPOTLIGHT!

Please help Spotlight Youth Theatre continue to shine the spotlight on young performers with our "Lights Up!" campaign! As a non-profit arts organization, Spotlight Youth Theatre depends on individual donations and greatly appreciates all the community support it can get.

Please visit sytaz.org for a list of lighting and sound equipment Spotlight Youth Theatre needs to replace its old and broken technology. This equipment will also help Spotlight expand its programs and opportunities for children and young adults on a second stage.