

# SPOTLIGHT

YOUTH THEATRE ARIZONA

## YOUTH THEATRE

the

# PROM

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

# Spotlight Youth Theatre Proudly Presents



Book & Lyrics by  
**CHAD BEGUELIN**

Book by  
**BOB MARTIN**

Music by  
**MATTHEW SKLAR**

Based on an original concept by  
**JACK VIERTEL**

Original Broadway Production directed and choreographed by Casey Nicholaw

Originally Produced on Broadway by  
Bill Damaschke, Dori Berinstein, Jack Lane

James & Catherine Berges, Nelda Sue Yaw, Natasha Davison, Joe Grandy, Kimberlee Garriss, Lisa Morris, Terry Schnuck, Jane Dubin, Rosalind Productions, Inc., FAHS Productions, Seth A. Goldstein, Mike Kriak, Don & Nancy Ross, Pamela Hurst-Della Pietra & Stephen Della Pietra, Cliff Hopkins, Masie Productions, Vivek Shah, Three Belles & A Bob, Arment-Tackel, Armstrong-Manocherian, Fakler-Silver, Fox Theatricals- Mosbacher-Lonow, Palitz-Stern-Smedes, Nancy & Ken Kranzberg/David Lyons, Larry & Elizabeth Lenke/Elizabeth L. Green, Iris Smith/InStone Productions, Kuhlman-Ketner/Wallace-ATxRandomProductions, The John Gore Organization and The Shubert Organization (Philip J. Smith: Chairman; Robert E. Wankel: President); Produced in association with Independent Presenters Network, Margot Astrachan, Darren P. DeVerna & Jeremiah J. Harris and Reagan Silber

Director: **Kenny Grossman**

Music Director: **Josh Hontz**

Choreographer: **Katie Czajkowski**

Scenic Design: **Rob Adams**

Costume Design: **Samantha Utpadel**

Lighting Design: **Josh Hontz**

Sound Design: **Nevaeh Monk**

Stage Manager: **Tiffany Huisman**

Dance Captain: **Jay Schwab**

Properties Design: **Vicki Grossman & Kenny Grossman**

Projections Design: **Robert Waller**

Hair & Makeup Consultant: **Ixy Utpadel**

Sound Mixing: **Sophia Jones & Alixandra Knight**

Sound Playback Operator: **Grace D'Astice & Reagan Little**

Light Board Operator: **Vanessa Van Atta**

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

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

*THE PROM* is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. [www.theatricalrights.com](http://www.theatricalrights.com)

# Spotlight Youth Theatre Administrative Team

Artistic Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre .....	Kenny Grossman
Managing Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre .....	Deb Czajkowski
General Manager for Spotlight Youth Theatre .....	Jack Taylor
Graphic Designer, Headshot Photographer, & Webmaster .....	Robert Waller
Social Media Specialist .....	Katie Czajkowski
Volunteer Manager .....	Vicki Grossman
Break-a-Leg Table Coordinator .....	Tammy Waller
Promotional & Production Photos .....	Tiffany Elyse Photography
Fundraising Committee .....	Sara Bader, Shelly Boucher, Karen Dolyniuk, Julie Donnick, Elisa Herndon, Sabrina Hurley, Audra Little, Amanda Newton, Jen Parker, Lisa Poormon, Kelly Swope, Tammy Waller, & Barbara Winch



ARIZONA COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION  
Kellenberger + Tollefson  
Center for LGBTQ Philanthropy

The Kellenberger + Tollefson Center is proud to support Spotlight Youth Theatre's production of *The PROM*. We are hopeful that the message conveyed through this production will help to advance justice and opportunity for LGBTQ people by calling attention to the destructiveness that homophobia has on our community.

## Note From the Director

Welcome to Spotlight's 2023 - '24 season and our opening production, *The PROM*.

*The Prom* celebrates a young woman declaring who she is and who she loves with the help of brassy Broadway stars in search of a cause.

Lessons learned from this show are obvious: Creating inclusive environments where everyone is accepted for who they are and the bravery and power that comes with being true to oneself. (This is practically word-for-word from Spotlight's Mission and Vision statements.)

*The Prom* is based on several true events that happened across the country, most notably Constance McMillen and what she went through in 2010 in Fulton, Mississippi. The show deals with serious problems; and yet, it is extremely funny and likable with great music and characters. We hope you love it as much as we do.

Special thank you to **The Kellenberger and Tollefson Center for LGBTQ Philanthropy** for supporting this show with a grant titled, "Building a More Inclusive Community for Our Youth." To honor this financial support, we have partnered with **One•n•Ten**, a nonprofit charitable organization dedicated to serving and assisting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth. **One•n•Ten** provides youth with tools to improve self-esteem and self-acceptance.

We will be holding Talk-Backs featuring the cast, directors, and representatives from One•n•Ten after the performances on Friday, September 15, and Friday September, 22 to open up dialogue and talk about this show and many important issues. Everyone is welcome to attend these Talk-Backs.

Enjoy the show!

Kenny

# The Cast of *The PROM*

Emma Nolan .....	Mia Hurley
Barry Glickman .....	Donovan Reza
Dee Dee Allen .....	Chris Brown
Trent Oliver .....	Kylan Chait
Angie Dickinson .....	Katerina Anderson
Sheldon .....	Cris Mory Barron
Alyssa Greene .....	Anna Parker
Principal Hawkins .....	Zachary Snyders
Mrs. Greene .....	Alexandrea Dwyer
Shelby .....	Jay Schwab
Kaylee .....	Morgan Massey
Nick .....	Andrei Igdanes
Kevin .....	Jayden Hawley

## Ensemble

Ava Petri, Brooklyn Martin, Dorry Bailes, Kate Kirsch, Kiana Jeskewitz,  
LillyBelle Lange, Lorna Maynard, Sophia Mengel, Sydney Adams, Tessa Marotta,  
William Richardson, Adam Kurbat, Nick Runyan, Elliot Noah Thompson

# The PROM Band

Piano / Conductor .....	Josh Hontz
Keys 2 .....	Hannah Viquesney
Guitar .....	Corban Adams
Bass .....	Tracy Haddad
Drums .....	Nicolas Viquesney

# *The PROM* Musical Numbers

## ACT ONE

“Overture”	
“Changing Lives”	Dee Dee, Barry, Guests
“Changing Lives (Mini-Reprise)”	Barry
“Changing Lives (Reprise)”	Barry, Dee Dee, Angie, Trent
“Just Breathe”	Emma
“It’s Not About Me”	Dee Dee
“Dance With You”	Emma, Alyssa
“The Acceptance Song”	Trent, Dee Dee, Barry, Angie, Cast of Godspell
“You Happened”	Nick, Kevin, Emma, Alyssa, Teens
“We Look To You”	Principal Hawkins
“Tonight Belongs To You” / “Act I Finale”	Company

**THERE WILL A 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION**

## ACT TWO

“Zazz”	Angie, Emma
“The Lady’s Improving”	Dee Dee
“Love Thy Neighbor”	Trent, Teens, Cast of Godspell
“Alyssa Greene”	Alyssa
“Barry Is Going To Prom”	Barry
“Unruly Heart”	Emma, Students
“Changing Lives Act II”	Barry, Dee Dee, Angie, Trent, Sheldon, Hawkins
“It’s Time To Dance”	Company
“Bows”	



# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



## SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, November 11, 2023

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Old Town Wedding and Event Center



FUNDRAISING

RAISE  
SOME DOUGH



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**ORGANIZATION NAME:**

SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

**FUNDRAISER DATE:**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

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# Who's Who in *The PROM*



Sydney  
Adams



Katerina  
Anderson



Dorry  
Bailes



Chris  
Brown



Kylan  
Chait



Alexandra  
Dwyer



Jayden  
Hawley



Mia  
Hurley



Andrei  
Igdanes



# Who's Who in *The PROM*



Kiana  
Jeskewitz



Kate  
Kirsch



Adam  
Kurbat



LillyBelle  
Lange



Tessa  
Marotta



Brooklyn  
Martin



Morgan  
Massey



Lorna  
Maynard



Sophia  
Mengel

# Who's Who in *The PROM*



**Cris**  
Mory Barron



**Anna**  
Parker



**Ava**  
Petri



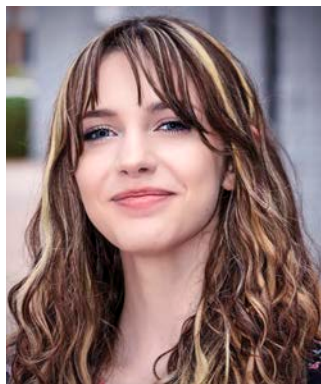
**Donovan**  
Reza



**William**  
Richardson



**Nick**  
Runyan



**Jay**  
Schwab



**Zachary**  
Snyders



**Elliot Noah**  
Thompson

# Who's Who in The PROM

## **Sydney Adams** (Ensemble)

Sydney is a 7th grader at ACAA. Previous theater performances include: *Moana Jr.* (TeFiti/ Ocean Dancer) and *Thumbelina* (Fairy) at Spotlight, *How to Eat Like a Child* and *Letters to God* at Starlight, and *Winnie the Pooh* (narrator) at Theater Works. She also loves dancing and had the opportunity to play Clara in Elite Dance Academy's version of *The Nutcracker*. Sydney is excited to be on the Spotlight stage again! Thanks Kenny and Katie for the opportunity to "dance at the PROM!" Enjoy the show!

## **Katerina Anderson** (Angie Dickinson)

Katerina is 15 years old and a student of North Valley Arts Academy at SMHS. She began dance training when she was four years old. Her passion for singing and performing grew quickly thereafter. This is Katerina's 4th show at Spotlight. She made her Spotlight debut as Morticia Addams (Zoni nom) in *The Addams Family*. She most recently played the role of Alice Russell in Spotlight's production of the all-female rock musical, *LIZZIE*. Katerina would like to thank everyone at Spotlight. She is thrilled for the opportunity to play the role of Angie with this incredible cast! Enjoy the show!

## **Dorry Bailes** (Ensemble)

Dorry is so excited to make her debut on the Spotlight stage! She has been involved in theatre her whole life and has just recently started her tech and stage managing career. Her favorite shows that she has been in are *Be More Chill* (Desert Stages), *Footloose* (Starlight), and *Zombie PROM* (Thunderbird High School). She is so excited to be a part of this community and make so many new friends through this show!

## **Chris Brown** (Dee Dee Allen)

Chris Brown is thrilled to make her second appearance on the SYT stage after last year's hit *The Lightening Thief*. During the past few years, Chris has performed at Centennial High School as The Witch in *Into the Woods*, Olga Katrina in *You Can't take it With You*, Gabriella in *High School Musical*, Cook in *Clue*, and Rhonda in *Almost Maine*. She has also participated the PUSD Summer Program shows *Pippin* and *Les Miserables*, and *Mean Girls, Jr.* at Arizona Broadway Theatre. After graduating in 2024, Chris hopes to study musical theater at NYU or University of Michigan.

## **Kylan Chait** (Trent Oliver)

Kylan is 16 years old and attends ASU Prep Digital. He is excited to be back on the Spotlight stage where he was last seen as Gomez in *The Addams Family*. Favorite roles include: Crutchie in *Newsies* (Theater Works), Dr. Craven in *The Secret Garden* (Desert Foothills Theater), Michael in *Elf* (The Phoenix Theatre Company), Archie in *13 The Musical* (Greasepaint), and Flounder in *The Little Mermaid* (Valley Youth Theatre). In his spare time he enjoys reading, watching movies and playing with his three dogs Kisa, Poppy and Maggie. IG @kylantristanchait

## **Alexandrea Dwyer** (Mrs. Greene)

Alexandrea is a 12th-grade student at AAEC. This is Alexandria's 1st production at Spotlight Youth Theatre. Alexandria also has experience at other theatres including *Beetlejuice*, *Hamilton*, *Mean Girls*, *Willy Wonka Jr.*, *Sleeping Beauty Jr.*, *Little Red Hen*, *Three Billy Goats Gruff*, and *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* She loves music, cosplay, and marine biology. Alexandria would like to thank her great directors and cast. Alexandria looks forward to performing in this production and hopes you enjoy the show!

# Who's Who in The PROM

## Jayden Hawley (Kevin)

Jayden is excited to be back on the SYT stage for *The PROM*! He's a junior at Boulder Creek HS where he performs with their award-winning show choir 'Broadway Bound'. He was thrilled to be selected to join the All-State show choir and he enjoyed performing with Arizona Broadway Theatre's HyRev troupe. Jayden was most recently seen as Squidward Tentacles in *The SpongeBob Musical*. Jay would like to give a big thank you to his family and friends for their constant support and to Kenny for such an honor of performing with this talented cast. Enjoy the show!

## Mia Hurley (Emma Nolan)

Mia is a sophomore at ACAA secondary and is very excited to be a part of this show! They're very grateful to have this opportunity to work with their amazing cast mates and directors! They've done many shows at Spotlight before, and they're really excited to be working with new directors!

## Andrei Igdanes (Nick)

Andrei is a sophomore at ACAA where he recently played Nathan Detroit in *Guys And Dolls*. Favorite past roles include Chiron, *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* (SYT), Paul, *Company* (ACAA), and being a part of *Runaways* (SYT). He likes to play piano and hang out with friends. Andrei thanks Kenny, Katie, Josh, and the whole production team for giving him this opportunity. He thanks his parents for supporting him. He would like to thank his friends Braiden, Gabriel, Malena, and Emma! He hopes you have an epic time at *The PROM*!

## Kiana Jeskewitz (Ensemble)

Kiana is a sophomore at ACAA where she's been seen in *12 o'clock Murder* and *21 Ways to get a Detention*. She is very excited to be in her first musical at Spotlight! She has been dancing for 12 years and acting for 3. She'd like to thank the people who drove her to rehearsals and the cast for always making rehearsals so entertaining. Enjoy the show!

## Kate Kirsch (Ensemble)

Katie is 15 years old and is a sophomore at Boulder Creek High School. She has been doing various community theater productions for 8 years. One of her favorite roles was Heather McNamara in *Heathers: High School Edition* at Starlight Community Theater. This is her first production at Spotlight Youth Theatre, and she couldn't be happier. Enjoy the show!

## Adam Kurbat (Ensemble)

Adam is thrilled to be back at Spotlight Youth Theatre (*Addams Family*, Lucas; *Oklahoma*, Slim; *Hands on a Hardbody*, Don) and he couldn't be more excited! Other favorite roles include Schroeder from *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, Theo from *Pippin*, Ugly from *Honk*, Narrator from *Into the Woods*, and Bickle from *Footloose*. Adam is currently a senior at Arizona School for the Arts. His college plans include majoring in musical theatre and chemistry. Adam would like to thank the entire *The PROM* production team and his fellow castmates for such a spectacular experience.

## LillyBelle Lange (Ensemble)

LillyBelle is a freshman at Sunrise Mountain. She loves to sing and dance. When she's not a part of a show she plays competitive volleyball. She's a member of Evolution at SYT and recently had a fabulous time in *Moana Jr.* here as well! LillyBelle would like to thank Kenny, Josh and Katie for this opportunity and thanks to this awesomesauce cast and crew! Thanks to Renee for being the best, my family and friends too! Thank you for coming to the show and please support local theater!



# Who's Who in The PROM

## **Tessa Marotta** (Ensemble)

Tessa is so excited to be doing *The PROM*! Her past roles include Veronica's mom (*Heathers*) and Lucy Pevensie (*The Lion, The Witch, And The Wardrobe*). This is her first show at Spotlight and she has had the best time. She would like to thank her family, friends, and the entire *PROM* team for giving her their support and this opportunity!

## **Brooklyn Martin** (Ensemble)

Brooklyn is 13 and an 8th grader at ACAA. She is thrilled to be back on the SYT stage! Performing has been Brooklyn's passion since making her stage debut at age 7. She is blessed to have been cast in many amazing productions across the Phoenix Metro area. Recent credits: *The SpongeBob Musical* (Ensemble) at VYT, *Moana Jr.* (Moana) at SYT, *A Christmas Carol* (Grace/Fan) and *Gypsy* (Baby Louise) at Arizona Broadway Theatre and *Matilda* (Lavender) at Theater Works. Brooklyn would like to send a special thanks to her Grandparents who always support and encourage her to chase her dream.

## **Morgan Massey** (Kaylee)

Morgan is 17 years old and a senior at Arizona School for the Arts. She is so excited to be playing Kaylee in *The PROM*! Some of her favorite past roles include Veronica Sawyer (*Heathers*), The Chaperone (*The Drowsy Chaperone*), and Janis Sarkisian (*Mean Girls*). This is her first show at Spotlight and she has loved every moment so far! 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 for this opportunity!

## **Lorna Maynard** (Ensemble)

Lorna is thrilled to be making her Spotlight debut! She is a sophomore at Arizona School for the Arts as a musical theatre major. Previous credits include Ancestor in *The Addams Family* (ASA) and The Conceited Man/Ensemble in *The Little Prince* (ASA). Huge thanks to Kenny, Josh, Katie, and Tiffany for this amazing opportunity.

## **Sophia Mengel** (Ensemble)

Sophia is thrilled to be part of this spectacular production. This year she's performed in *Runaways* (SYT), *Pippin* (IHS), and *Legally Blonde* (IHS). She is so grateful to be working with such an amazing group of actors. She would like to thank her sister Emily for always driving her to rehearsals and letting her borrow clothes, her parents for being so patient and supportive, and finally all of the directors and techies for making this experience so incredible.

## **Cris Mory Barron** (Sheldon)

Cris is ecstatic to begin his journey at Spotlight Youth Theatre as Sheldon, and he couldn't ask for a more talented, and amazing cast to rehearse and present *The PROM* with. He goes to Cactus HS. Cris has previously appeared in *Pippin* (Lewis), *Once Upon a Mattress* (The Minstrel), and *Beauty and the Beast* (Monsieur D'Arque & Young Prince). He would like to thank his choir teacher Mrs. Huizenga, Naja Voce, and a huge thanks to Kenny, Josh the rest of the staff, and the cast through this incredible journey.

## **Anna Parker** (Alyssa Greene)

Anna is so excited to be a part of her third show at SYT, where she was previously in *The Addams Family* and *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*! Her other favorite roles include Grace Smythe in *A Christmas Carol* (SMTC), Orphan Swing in *Annie* (SMTC), and Ensemble in *Mamma Mia* (Stagedoor). Anna is a sophomore at Horizon High School where she is Dance Captain for Show Divas show choir. She would like to thank Kenny, Katie, and Josh for this amazing opportunity! She adores this whole cast and crew and hopes you enjoy the show!

# Who's Who in The PROM

## **Ava Petri** (Ensemble)

Ava is so excited to be part of the talented cast of *The PROM*. She is 15 and attends the Arizona School for the Arts with a focus on musical theatre. She grew up dancing since she was 3 years old and trained for 8 years with The School Ballet Arizona. Ava has been in several ballets including *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Nutcracker*. She has previously performed with both Valley Youth Theatre as the 1st Fairy in *Sleeping Beauty* and Desert Stages Theatre as the lead Water Dancer in *Moana Jr.* Thank you for the opportunity to perform!

## **Donovan Reza** (Barry Glickman)

Donovan is so excited to perform this hilarious, heartwarming show! Some of Donovan's favorite roles include Emcee (*Cabaret*), Angel (*Rent*), Squidward (*The SpongeBob Musical*), Matt (*The Fantasticks*), Jules (*Sunday in the Park with George*), Cameron (*Bring It On*), and Seymour U/S (*Little Shop of Horrors*). Donovan would like to thank Kenny for casting him in one of his dream roles, and he hopes when people leave the show, they feel a sense of acceptance and love.

## **William Richardson** (Ensemble)

William is thrilled to be part of this talented cast of friends, and for the opportunity to be part of a fun inclusive show with a very poignant message. He is a dual enrollment student at AAEC/EMCC. Previous roles include Lord Farquaad in *Shrek* (ariZoni nom) and Christian in *Fun Home* (Spotlight), Michael in *Elf* (Arizona Broadway Theater), Tigger (Theater Works), and his favorite, Crick, in *Beat Bugs* (Spotlight). Thanks to Kenny, Josh, Katie, Tiffany, and our Dance Captain, Jay. It's the whole team that makes being in a show at Spotlight so special. Thanks to Renee for her encouragement!

## **Nick Runyan** (Ensemble)

Nick is very excited to be performing in *The PROM*. This is also his first performance at this theatre and he could not have asked for a better cast and crew to work with. He would like to thank his directors for such a great opportunity and for making this journey worthwhile.

## **Jay Schwab** (Shelby/Dance Captain)

Jay, a 16-year-old senior at Desert Edge High School is a member of the Thespian Honors Society and ABT's HyRev Performance Troupe. They love all things theater and are thrilled to be back for another production with their Spotlight family! Some of their favorite performances at Spotlight include *Hair*, *Runaways*, and *Playfest '23*. Jay is grateful to their family for always supporting their passions. As a proud member of the LGBTQ+ community, they would like to thank Kenny for giving them the opportunity to perform in this incredibly important and relevant show!

## **Zachary Snyders** (Principal Hawkins)

Zachary is excited to be back on the Spotlight stage after a years-long hiatus. He was last seen on the Spotlight stage in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Lysander). Other credits include, Billy Carewe (*Play On!*) at Desert Foothills Theater, and Juror 3 (*12 Angry Jurors*) at Greasepaint Youth Theatre. Zachary would like to thank Kenny and everyone else at Spotlight for such a warm welcome back to Theatre! He'd also like to thank his parents and brother for supporting him as he transitions to a new college, ASU, where he is planning on getting his BSD in Industrial Design!

# Who's Who in The PROM

## **Elliot Noah Thompson** (Ensemble)

Elliot is excited to appear on-stage at Spotlight for the first time, and grateful to have the chance to join this cast! He loves bears and supporting DIPG research in memory of his best friend Hollis Doherty (#HopeThroughHollis). Elliot is in 9th grade at Arizona School for the Arts. Since age 7, he has appeared in various productions at multiple theaters all around the Valley, most recently, *The Drowsy Chaperone* at DST. Some of Elliot's favorite previous roles include: Narrator (*Into the Woods*, DST), Michael Banks (*Mary Poppins*, MET), Oliver Twist (*Oliver!* DST), Eric (*Matilda*, VYT & Theater Works).

## **DIRECTORS & DESIGNERS**

### **Rob Adams** (Scenic Design)

Rob is excited to be set designing again for Spotlight this season! Rob grew up in an artistic household, where his father was a professional artist/painter. He spent many years, working in art galleries, building frames and setting up art shows. Rob attended art school at NAU where he earned his degree in Arts Management. He also enjoys building and refurbishing furniture. He has worked as a summer camp director, where he built decks, designed ropes courses, designed program sets and built the Carnival and themed Snack Bar. Rob would like to thank Kenny for another awesome opportunity!

### **Katie Czajkowski** (Choreographer)

Katie first got involved with Spotlight in 2012 as a cast member. Some 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*, *Aristocats Kids*, *Shrek Jr.*, *Lizzie the Musical*, and *Once* (ariZoni nom). She graduated with a degree in Musical Theater from Millikin University. Katie would like to thank this cast for all their hard work, Kenny, Josh, and this wonderful creative team and crew for helping put this show together. She would also like to thank her Mutter and Grandma for always supporting her, and she'd especially like to thank her wife, Marielle, for all her love and support.

### **Kenny & Vicki Grossman** (Director & Properties Design)

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

### **Josh Hontz** (Musical Director/Piano/Conductor)

Josh has worked as a designer and music director in the Valley since 2014. He graduated from the ASU School of Music (go devils) and has received twenty-two ariZoni Theatre Awards of Excellence for his work. Josh's highlights from last season include music directing for *Runaways*, designing for *Once*, and mentoring Spotlight's youth to learn how to design for a production. Outside of show biz, Josh works as a network and systems administrator at Estrella Mountain Community College. Thank you for supporting local theater!

### **Tiffany Huisman** (Stage Manager)

Tiffany is excited to be back behind the scenes Stage Managing for *The PROM*! As an ally, this show has a special and personal place in her heart. Tiffany has been part of the SYT family for over six years as a parent and stage manager. She has performed in three adult fundraising productions at SYT. She grew up in the theatre and is so grateful that SYT has created a space for young people to be who they truly are without judgment. This show reminds us all that inclusiveness is the only way to support and encourage this new generation. Thanks to Kenny for this opportunity to dance.

# Who's Who in The PROM

## **Samantha Essary Utpadel** (Costume Design)

Samantha 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. Much love to my family including the Princess Aurora!

## **Nevaeh Monk** (Sound Design)

Nevaeh, 15, has an extreme passion for theatre. She often dabbles in teching and acting here at Spotlight, as well as at her school (ACAA), and is always looking for the next opportunity to learn something new. This is her second time designing sound for a show, her first was Spotlight's *Hands on a Hardbody*. She is extremely excited to be able to work on this project due to its meaning as well as getting the opportunity to work with all these amazing people. She hopes to be able to "change lives" through theatre.

## **BAND**

## **Hannah Viquesney** (Keys 2)

Hannah is so excited to be back at Spotlight! This is her 2nd show with the theater, her first being *Lizzie* where she rocked out on drum set. She has performed in numerous musicals such as *Shrek*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Newsies* in the pit. Outside of the theater, she is a pianist, percussionist, and educator in Phoenix and is currently working towards her Masters at ASU. Shoutout to her little brother, Nico, who she has the privilege of playing side-by-side with for the 1st time.

## **Corban Adams** (Guitar)

Hello! Corban will be playing the Bass guitar in *The PROM* band! Corban is a 17-year-old performer, singer, songwriter and musician. Most recent SYT shows include: *Once* (Sven), *Charlotte's Web* (Templeton) and *Beat Bugs* (Mean Mr. Mustard). He performed on a number of stages around the Valley! Corban loves listening to the Beatles and practicing with his band, Speakeasy. Enjoy the music!

## **Tracy Haddad** (Bass)

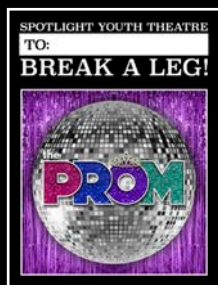
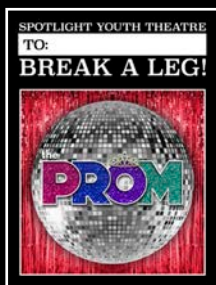
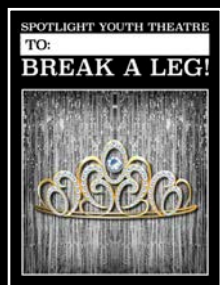
Tracy is a classically trained musician and a graduate of Arizona State University with a B.M. degree in Music Performance. She grew up in Thousand Oaks, CA where she took up the violin, then transitioned to the double bass, and played both in a Youth Orchestra. After graduating from college, she remained in the Phoenix area where she has done extensive musical theater work on both the double and electric bass at many venues including Arizona Broadway Theatre, Phoenix Theater, and more. Tracy has also played in several bands who she has "gigged throughout the state with."

## **Nicolas Viquesney** (Drums)

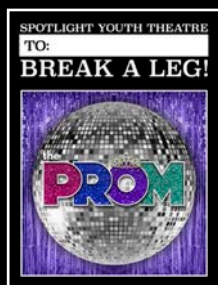
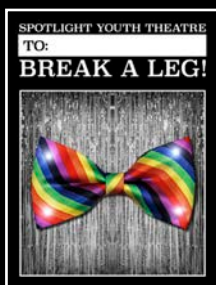
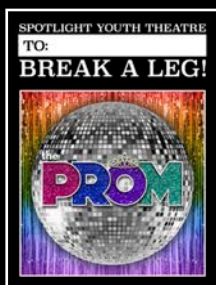
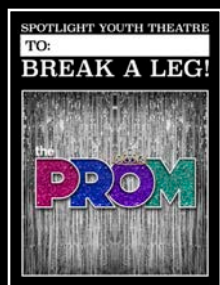
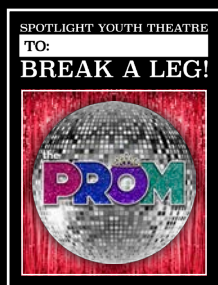
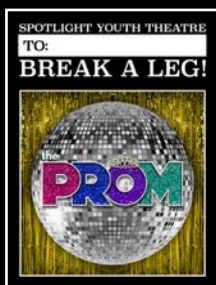
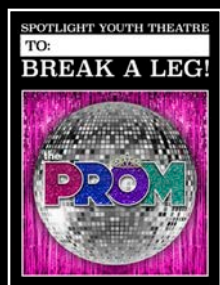
Nico is thrilled to be back at Spotlight Youth Theater. This will be their fourth performance at Spotlight as a pit musician (*The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical*, *Runaways*, and *Hands on a Hardbody*). In addition, you may have also seen Nico perform at Spotlight in the show *Once* where he played Andrej. Nico currently goes to school at Arizona School for the Arts (junior), where they study percussion and choir. They have also played for their school musical before (*The Addams Family*). Many thanks to Josh Hontz for the opportunity, and Elise Kurbat for getting them into the world of theater. A heartfelt thanks goes to Ms. Liz Guzman for teaching them all things percussion!



# Buy Your Favorite Actor, Musician, Techie, 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, musicians, 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!

# Thank You

*to Spotlight's Generous and Dedicated Donors!*

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

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

# Thank You for Supporting SYT's 2023 "Spring Fling" Gala!

Spotlight Youth Theatre would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for supporting our annual Gala, which was held on March 25, 2023.



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Youth 14-24  
select programs for 11-13



### PARENTS' GROUP

1st Thursday &  
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6-7pm

### RECURRING YOUTH CENTER PROGRAMS



#### MedVan Night

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 4-7pm



#### The Zone for Young Men of Color 14-24

1st & 3rd Thursdays, 5-6:30pm



#### 2gether N Color for Youth of Color 14-24

1st & 3rd Thursdays, 4-5pm



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2nd & 4th Thursdays, 5-6pm

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Discord



Ages 13-24

Twitch



Ages 11-24

Minecraft



Ages 11-24

Zoom



Ages 11-24

unless otherwise noted

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for updates

## WEST VALLEY SATELLITE PROGRAMS

### Litchfield Park

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### Surprise

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### Yuma

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### Glendale

Wednesdays 6-7:30pm

text @gdonenten to 81010

Satellite programs are  
for youth ages 14-24

Youth ages 11-13 may  
attend some Satellites  
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# Coming Soon to Spotlight Youth Theatre



**DECEMBER 1–17, 2023**

Fridays & Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 2PM  
additional 2PM matinees on December 9 & 16

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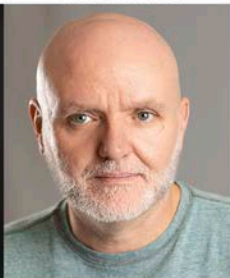
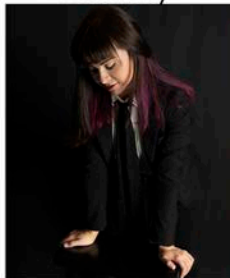
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Spotlight Youth Theatre's mission is to provide youth and their families a safe, welcoming environment where the individual is supported, teamwork is embraced, and creativity is encouraged through high quality performing arts and educational programs 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 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 2023–2024 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 2023–2024 season provided by the Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture through appropriations from the Phoenix City Council.



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Partial funding provided by The Kellenberger + Tollefson Foundation for LGBTQ Philanthropy at the Arizona Community Foundation.

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

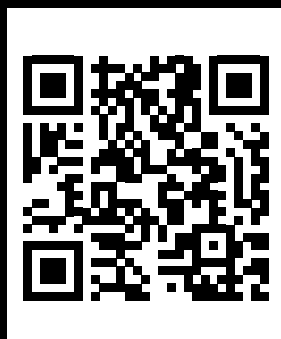
Spotlight Youth Theatre would very much like to thank our community partners and benefactors. Please support the kind and generous people who support SYT by patronizing our sponsors. To learn more about sponsoring or donating to Spotlight Youth Theatre and making a difference in the lives of today's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

# SPOTLIGHT



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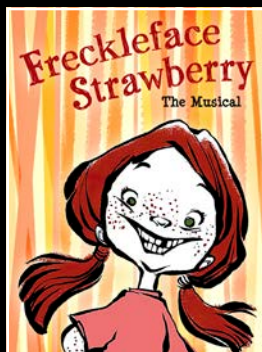
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# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

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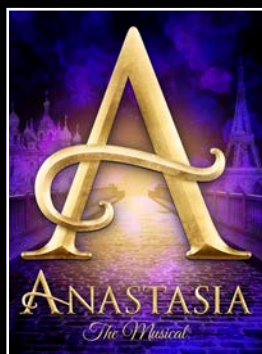
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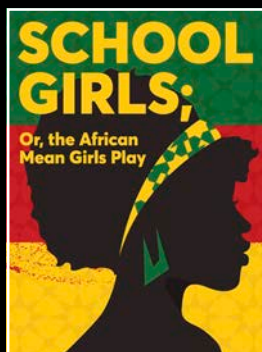
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