

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



JANUARY 17-26

BOOK AND LYRICS BY
HOWARD ASHMAN

MUSIC BY
ALAN MENKEN

BASED ON THE FILM BY **ROGER CORMAN**
SCREENPLAY BY **CHARLES GRIFFITH**

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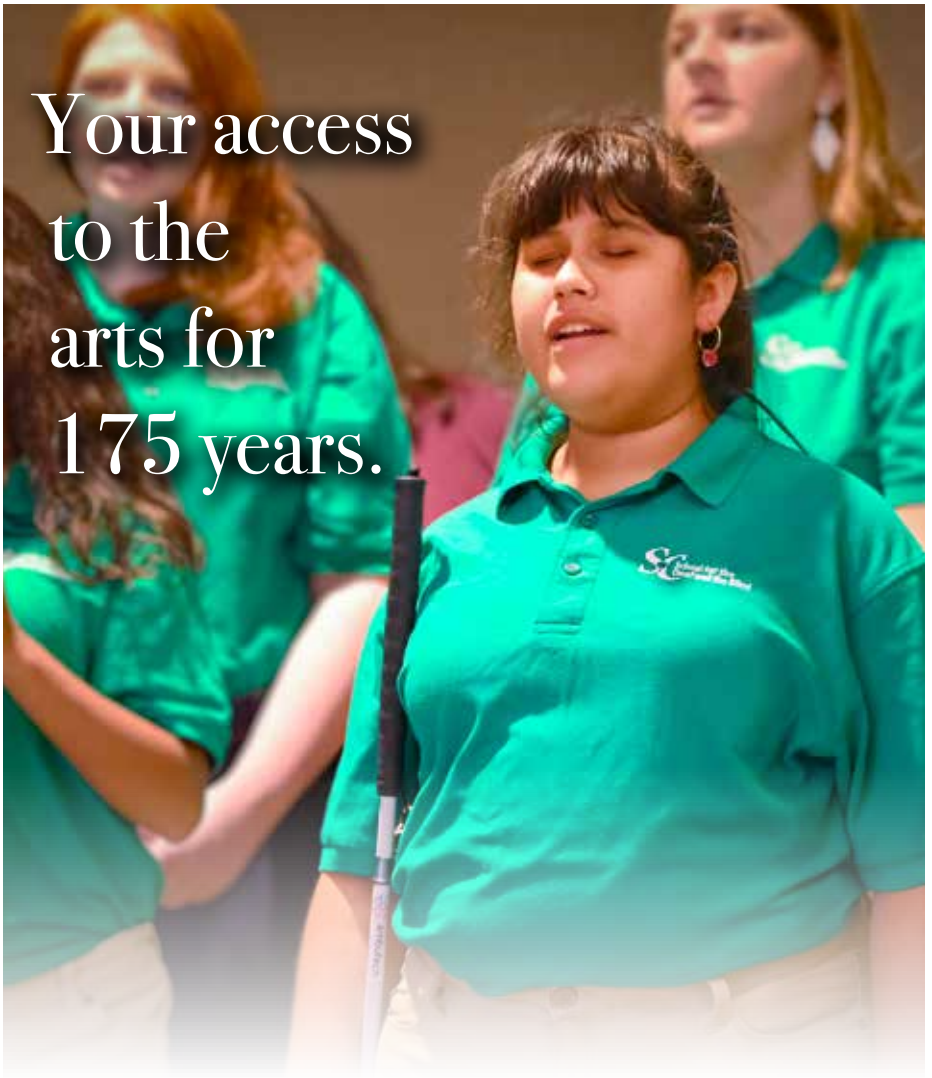
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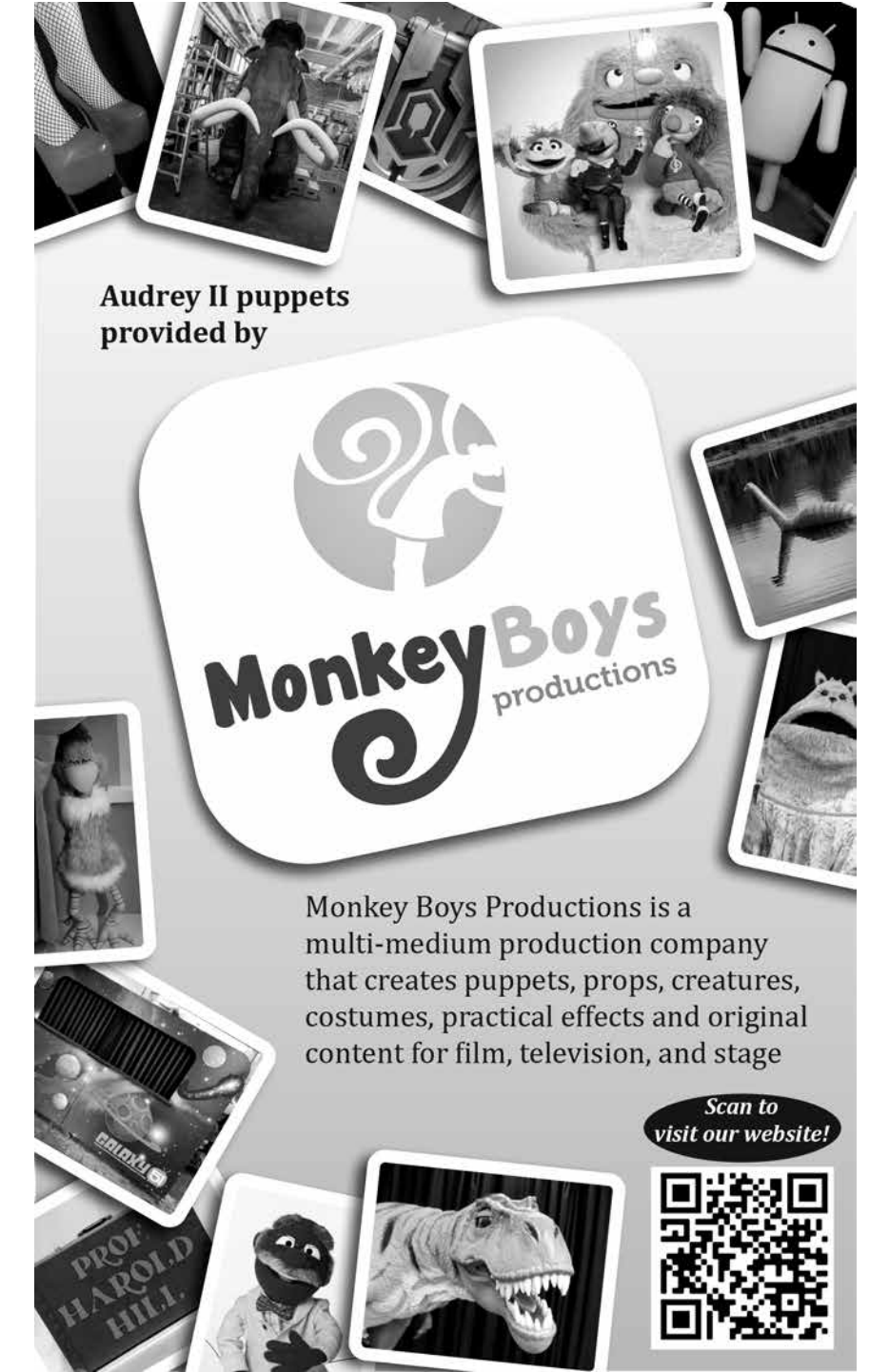
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Puppets in Little Shop of Horrors provided by Monkey Boys Productions



Book and Lyrics by
HOWARD ASHMAN

Music by
ALAN MENKEN

Vocal Arrangements by
Robert Billig

Orchestrations by
Robert Merkin

Originally produced by the WPA Theatre (Kyle Renick, Producing Director)
Originally produced at the Orpheum Theatre, New York City by the WPA Theatre,
David Geffen, Cameron Mackintosh and the Shubert Organization

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CAST



J.R. Bloomer



Ella Hardigree



Kyle McIntyre



Kenneth Tice



André Webb



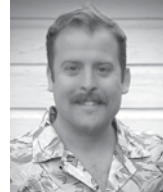
Bre Surratt



Kaira Archibald



Amiya English



Ben Abrams

CAST OF **CHARACTERS**

Seymour	J.R. BLOOMER
Audrey.....	ELLA HARDIGREE
Orin & Others	KYLE MCINTYRE
Mushnik.....	KENNETH TICE
The Voice of Audrey II	ANDRE' WEBB
Ronnette, an Urchin	BRE SURRATT
Crystal, an Urchin	KAIRA ARCHIBALD
Chiffon, an Urchin	AMIYA ENGLISH
Audrey II (puppetry)/Wino.....	BEN ABRAMS

BAND

Conductor/Keyboard	SAMUEL KRUER
Keyboard.....	JANET ALLISON
Guitar.....	JOHN ATKINS
Bass.....	JONATHAN INMAN
Drums.....	KEVIN HEUER



PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	CLARE SHAFFER
Music Director	SAMUEL KRUER
Choreographer	LUSTRA MILLER
Vocal Coach.....	ANDRE' WEBB
Stage Manager.....	JACOB HANSEN
Scenic Designer	CLINT WALKER
Costume Designer.....	HEATHER STEWARD
Lighting Designer	PETER LAMSON
Properties Designer.....	LESLIE H. HENDON
Audio Engineer	TREY HENDON
Scenic Construction.....	OLIVER ELLIS, EMILY ROSE WATTS, PETER LAMSON
Intimacy Coordinator.....	AMIYA ENGLISH
Dance Captain.....	BRE SURRATT
Photographer	WENDY MCCARTY
Poster Design	PETER B. KAY
Additional Audrey II Puppeteer	GARY FRAZIER
Production Crew	BENCE BAYS, AVERY BEATON, KITTY CASH, B COLLINS, EOWYN CONNOR, JEAN DANFY, GARY FRAZIER, MATTHEW HANSEN, ZORA HAYLER, LOKI RHODES, LI SHUFORD

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS was originally directed by
Howard Ashman with musical staging by Edie Cowan

STAFF & CREATIVE

Executive Artistic Director.....	JAY E. COFFMAN
Youth Theatre Director	ADAM SANDERS
Education Coordinator.....	MADDIE TISDEL
Multimedia Coordinator	ANNA RENNINGER
Production Manager.....	LUCIA STANDRIDGE
Technical Director	PETER LAMSON
Scene Shop Foreman	OLIVER ELLIS
Scene Shop Assistant	EMILY ROSE WATTS

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

"Little Shop of Horrors"	Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
"Downtown (Skid Row)"	Company
"Da-Doo"	Seymour, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
"Grow for Me"	Seymour
"Ya Never Know"	Mushnik, Seymour, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
"Somewhere That's Green"	Audrey
"Closed for Renovation"	Mushnik, Seymour, Audrey
"Dentist!"	Orin, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
"Mushnik and Son"	Mushnik, Seymour
"Git It"	Seymour, Audrey II, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
"Now (It's Just the Gas)"	Orin, Seymour

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

ACT II

"Call Back in the Morning"	Audrey, Seymour
"Suddenly Seymour"	Seymour, Audrey, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
"Suppertime"	Audrey II, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
"The Meek Shall Inherit"	Seymour, Chiffon, Crystal, Ronnette
"Somnifix"/"Suppertime" (Reprise)	Audrey, Audrey II
"Somewhere That's Green" (Reprise)	Audrey
Finale: "Don't Feed the Plants"	Company



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MEET THE **CAST** and **CREATIVES**

BEN ABRAMS (Audrey II Puppetry) is positively euphoric to be back on the SLT stage this Winter! Previous roles include: *Murder On The Orient Express* (Ratchett/Arbuthnot), *Kinky Boots* (Don), *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Atticus Finch), *School of Rock* (Mr. Williams, Ensemble), *Holmes & Watson* (Holmes 1), *We Will Rock You* (Commander Khashoggi), *9 to 5* (Franklin Hart Jr), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Riff Raff), *And Then There Were None* (William Blore), *Peter And The Starcatcher* (Fighting Prawn), *Rock Of Ages* (Lonny), *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* (Martini), and *Boys in the Band* (Hank). Ben would love to thank his family and friends for their constant love and support.

KAIRA ARCHIBALD (Crystal) is so excited for you all to see *Little Shop of Horrors*! You may have also seen her as "Ti Moune" in *Once On This Island Jr* at Mauldin Cultural Center, "Pearl" in *The Spongebob Musical* at the South Carolina Children's Theater, "Jesus" in *Godspell* at the South Carolina Children's Theater, as a performer in *Bewitched Broadway* at Greenville Theatre, or in various other productions. She is very grateful to her mother for always letting her pursue her dreams. She would also like to thank everyone involved with this amazing production for all of the love and support!

J.R. BLOOMER (Seymour) is thrilled to be back with the Spartanburg Little Theatre with this incredible cast! Recent credits include Willard in *Footloose*, Daryl in *Bright Star* and Franz in *Rock of Ages* with the Spartanburg Little Theatre, as well as Rocky/Others in Spartanburg Youth Theatre's touring production of *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*. He is also thrilled to be back with SYT for their current touring production of *Balloonacy*. He would like to thank his family for always supporting him, and his partner, Bre Surratt!

AMIYA ENGLISH (Chiffon) is excited to be returning to the Spartanburg Little Theatre stage. You may have seen her here recently as Patti DeMarco in *School of Rock*, Susan in *Wait Until Dark*, or Mimi in *RENT*. She is a USC Upstate alum with a B.A. in Theatre Performance. Other recent performance credits include Johanna in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Mauldin Theatre Company) and Diana in *A Chorus Line* (Mauldin Theatre Company). Amiya was also on the first Spartanburg Youth Theatre Tour as Lillian Magill in *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*. She would like to thank Clare Shaffer for this opportunity and her friends and family for their constant support on and off the stage.

ELLA HARDIGREE (Audrey) is thrilled to perform on the SLT stage again! Some of her credits include performing in *We Will Rock You* (Teen Queen/Ensemble), *Bright Star* (Edna/Ensemble), *Footloose* (Ensemble), *Kinky Boots* (Nicola), and *Cinderella* (Ensemble) at SLT. Ella

is a 2023 graduate of Converse University with a B.A. in psychology and is currently pursuing her Specialist in School Psychology degree at Winthrop University. Ella would like to thank her family and friends for their continuous love and support!

KYLE MCINTYRE (Orin & Others) is thrilled to be back on the Spartanburg Little Theatre stage. Kyle graduated from USC Upstate with a BA in theatre performance. His first performance with SLT was in 2009's *Peter Pan*. Kyle would like to thank his parents and his brothers for their ongoing support of his love of acting.

BRE SURRATT (Ronnette) is a Limestone University alumna from Gaffney, SC. She most recently appeared on the SLT stage as Mary Debenham in *Agatha Christie's Murder on The Orient Express*. Other SLT credits: *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Gabrielle), *Motown Magic: Sounds from The Motor City*, *RENT* (Ensemble) and *Bright Star* (Florence/Ensemble). She also appeared in Spartanburg Youth Theatre's first touring production, *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* (Julia), as well as *Legally Blonde* at Centre Stage (Ensemble). She would like to thank her family, friends, and her Seymour, J.R. Bloomer, for all their support!

DR. KENNETH TICE (Mushnik) is excited to be returning to SLT for another turn on the boards. Kenneth was previously on stage with SLT in *The Sound of Music* (Max Detweiler), *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Chef Louis/Pilot), and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Harding). Kenneth has had leading roles in *The Music Man* (Marcellus), *1940's Radio Hour* (Johnny Cantone), *Mary Poppins* (Mr. Banks), and *The Wizard of Oz* (Zeke/Lion), *Love Letters* (Andy), *Ragtime* (J.P. Morgan), and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Rabbi) as well as directed, music directed and produced many musical and opera scene productions. Kenneth lives in Simpsonville with his wonderful wife Hilary and their two cats. He cherishes her love and support.

ANDRE' WEBB (Voice of Audrey II) is grateful for the opportunity to play the role of Audrey 2! He has recently been seen in *SpongeBob the Musical* as Perch Perkins (SCCT) and as the music director for *Motown Magic: Sounds from the Motor City* here at SLT. Enjoy the show!

HOWARD ASHMAN (Book & Lyrics) Best known as a pivotal creative mind behind the renaissance of Disney animation and his work on *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin* and *Beauty and The Beast* (which is dedicated to, "Our friend, Howard Ashman, who gave a Mermaid her voice and a Beast his soul...") Ashman's first love was theater. Ashman was a founder of off off Broadway's renowned WPA Theater, where he conceived, wrote and directed *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*, as well as the classic musical, *Little Shop of Horrors* (both music by Alan Menken). In 1986, he wrote and directed the Broadway musical *Smile* (music by Marvin Hamlisch). Lamented as a lost treasure of the 1980's theater scene, *Smile* remains popular on High School and College campuses throughout the country.

Howard Ashman died in 1991 from complications of AIDS. For more information, please visit howardashman.com.

ALAN MENKEN (Composer) Theater: *God Bless You Mr Rosewater*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Real Life Funnies*, *Atina: Evil Queen Of The Galaxy*, *Kicks*, *The Apprenticeship Of Duddy Kravitz*, *Beauty And The Beast*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Weird Romance*, *King David*, *Der Glöckner Von Notre Dame*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Sister Act*, *Leap Of Faith*, *Aladdin* and *Newsies*. Film: *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty And The Beast*, *Newsies*, *Aladdin*, *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback Of Notre Dame*, *Hercules*, *Life With Mikey*, *Lincoln*, *Home On The Range*, *Noel*, *Enchanted*, *Shaggy Dog*, *Tangled* and *Mirror Mirror*. Songs: *Rocky V*, *Home Alone 2* and *Captain America*. Awards: 8 Oscars (19 nominations), 11 Grammys (including Song of the Year), 7 Golden Globes, Tony® (plus 4 nominations), Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, New York Drama Critics, Olivier and London's Evening Standard Award, Drama League. Honors: Songwriter's Hall of Fame, Doctorates from New York University and University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

CLARE SHAFFER (Director) is a local director who works across genres and specializes in contemporary musicals and new play development. Recent directing credits include NNPN's rolling world premiere of *Alabaster* at Kitchen Dog Theater, the regional premiere of *A Doll's House: Part 2* at Stage West Theatre, *West Side Story* at the Stolen Shakespeare Guild, and the hit actor-muso *Assassins* at Pallas Theatre Collective. Clare recently moved to Greenville, and this is her first local collaboration— thank you to the wonderful Spartanburg Little Theatre staff, cast, and creative team for making her feel so welcome! Next Up: *Cabaret*, Centre Stage.

SAMUEL KRUER (Music Director) has been a musician his whole life. Performing in countless ensembles ranging from marching bands to string orchestras, bluegrass to rock bands, theater shows to busking in town squares. Samuel has a bachelor's degree in music composition and theory from Eastern Kentucky University. Co- owner of the Practice Pad in Greenville SC, he also hosts a bluegrass jam every Tuesday at Fireforge Brewery in downtown Greenville and can be seen with bands such as "The Grateful Brothers" "Quasi Quasar" and performs with "Darby Wilcox and The Peep Show". Sam was the band leader for *Big River* at Greenville Theatre in 2023, *Escape to Margaritaville* in 2024, and is excited to be music director for one of his favorite shows, *Little Shop of Horrors*.

LUSTRA MILLER (Choreographer) is a proud Spartanburg, South Carolina native who now calls Greenville home. She earned her degree in Dance Performance from Winthrop University and a Master's in Education from Anderson University. With seven years of leading the high school dance program at Southwood Academy of the Arts in Anderson, South Carolina, Lustra has also made a significant impact in theater. Her choreography credits include *Newsies Jr.*, *Elf Jr.*, *Aladdin Jr.*, *The Lion King Jr.*, *Diary of*

a *Wimpy Kid*, and *Freaky Friday Jr.* for Spartanburg Youth Theater. She is thrilled to make her debut at Spartanburg Little Theatre and has loved collaborating with the cast and production team. Lustra hopes you enjoy the show as much as she has enjoyed being part of it!

JACOB HANSEN (Stage Manager) is excited to be back in the Chapman Center. He previously spent 10 years at the Spartanburg Youth Theatre, where he liked to perform on and off stage. His favorite show would have to be *Elf Jr.*, where he was both the assistant stage manager and a member of the cast. Jacob was last seen as the stage manager for *Cinderella* earlier this season and is incredibly grateful to be back for *Little Shop of Horrors*. He would like to thank Jay and Clare for giving him this opportunity, and he hopes you enjoy the show!

CLINT WALKER (Scenic Designer) is excited to be back in his eleventh season with SLT as scenic designer and designed this season's opener, *Cinderella*. Last season's designs included *The Sound of Music*, *Motown Magic*, and *School of Rock*. Other previous SLT design credits include *RENT*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Sister Act*, and *The Addams Family*, along with a variety of other plays and musicals. Clint has also designed SYT's *Lion King Jr*, *Seussical Jr*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Freaky Friday Jr* and *Newsies Jr*. Some of Clint's other production credits include designer for *Once on this Island*, and *Charlotte's Web* (both SCCT) as well as *Into the Woods* and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Centre Stage). As always, I give all the thanks and accolades to the incredible production team at SLT for their collaboration and dedication to bringing these shows to life!

HEATHER STEWARD (Costume Designer) is so excited to return to SLT having designed costumes for *Cinderella*, *We Will Rock You* and *RENT*, as well as many Spartanburg Youth Theatre productions. Before moving back to the Upstate, she and her family lived in Memphis, TN, where she was the Costume Shop Manager for Theatre Memphis. She holds an MFA in costume design and technology from the University of Southern Mississippi and a BA in theatre from North Greenville University. She has constructed and designed costumes for many companies in the United States. Some of her favorite designs include *Peer Gynt* at USM, *Showboat* at Natchez Opera, and *Little Women* at Theatre Memphis. Heather would like to thank SLT and SYT for allowing her this opportunity to get back into the theatre community here in the upstate!

LESLIE H. HENDON (Properties Designer) has been involved with SLT on stage since 2004. She previously designed the props for this season's opening production of *Cinderella*. Love and thanks to her forever favorites, Trey and Ellie, for tolerating all the flower arrangements that came home with her over the past few weeks.

LUCIA STANDRIDGE (Production Manager) is thrilled to be joining the SLT team after several years of being a traveling stage manager. Lucia grew up in Milan, Italy and moved to Virginia to pursue Theatre Arts Administration in 2016. In college, she helped develop the script and stage managed the all female original play *Bloodroot: The Ballad of Clinch Mountain*, which was nationally recognized by the 2019 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival after performing in Twitchell Auditorium. Some favorite stage management credits include *Parade*, *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Alluvion Stage Company), *Tecumseh! Outdoor Drama* (Scioto Society), *A Christmas Carol: The Musical* (The Naples Players), and *Unto These Hills* (Cherokee Historical Association). In her spare time, Lucia loves being outdoors and doing puzzles with her family.

PETER LAMSON (Lighting Designer/Technical Director) has worked with SLT/SYT since 2010. Prior to his arrival in Spartanburg, Peter worked with several theatre companies in Wilmington, NC, including City Stage, Tapestry Theatre Company, and at historic Thalian Hall. Peter relishes working with talented directors, actors, and other designers in order to solve the different challenges each production presents in order to be successful.

TREY HENDON (Audio Engineer) has worked with technology and stage productions for over 25 years. In 2007 Trey began acting with SLT and has enjoyed being in countless productions both on and offstage. His favorite SLT moment, however, was meeting Leslie in the merry old land of Oz - a.k.a. the David W. Reid Playhouse.

JAY E. COFFMAN (Executive Artistic Director) most recently directed last season's *The Sound of Music*, *School of Rock*, and *Kinky Boots*. Other favorite directorial credits include *Sister Act*, *We Will Rock You*, *Sh-Boom!*, *Bright Star*, and *The Rocky Horror Show*. In past seasons he has occasionally appeared on stage in *Legally Blonde* (Dad/Winthrop), *Blithe Spirit* (Charles Condomine) and *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and then some!)*. A native of Southern California and former senior instructor of German at USC Upstate, Jay is in his 17th year as SLT's executive artistic director.

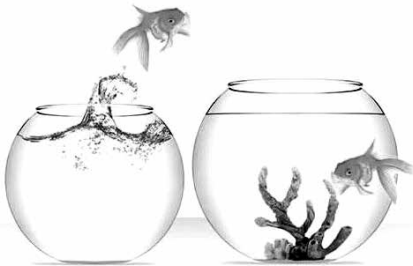
ADAM SANDERS (Youth Theatre Director) grew up with SYT and loves directing the program that shaped him! He has been the SYT Director since 2015, and previously taught and directed at South Carolina Children's Theatre. You can also find him teaching classes at CycleBar Spartanburg! While he loves all his roles, his favorite role is husband to his beautiful wife, Kelsey. Galatians 2:20.

OLIVER ELLIS (Scene Shop Foreman) has worked for the Little and Youth Theatre since 2021. He has worked with local companies such as Ballet Spartanburg and Greenville Light Opera Works and graduated from Converse College in 2020. He is glad to be given the opportunity to grow in theatre here and looks forward to creating art this season.

EMILY ROSE WATTS (Scene Shop Assistant) is excited to be joining SLT/ SYT for another season. Starting as an intern at SLT in 2021, she is glad to be given the opportunity to grow with this season's productions. Emily Rose graduated from Converse University with a BA in theatre. Previously she has worked with GLOW Lyric Theatre, Ballet Spartanburg, and the Spartanburg Philharmonic Orchestra.

MADDIE TISDEL (Education Coordinator) is thrilled for her second season as Education Coordinator for the Spartanburg Youth Theatre! She graduated from Converse University in 2018 with a BA in musical theatre and history and has worked in the Upstate theatre community ever since. You can see her onstage at The Warehouse Theatre and South Carolina Children's Theatre, as well as directing for SYT and SLT. She would like to thank her family, friends, and Austin and Al for helping her make her dreams possible.

ANNA RENNINGER (Office/Media Coordinator) was recently seen costuming *The Lion King Jr.* and *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition* for SYT. She holds a BA in psychology from USC Upstate. This season also marks her first year as Spartanburg Little Theatre's Office/Media Coordinator, and she loves being part of the team! When not working behind the scenes, she enjoys relaxing at home with her husband, Dustin, and spending time with friends.



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