





#### Directed by Meagan Cascone

Stage Manager	Anna Baum
Scenic Designer	Max Nolan Young
Lighting Designer	Katie Underwood
Costume Designer	Alex Allison
Props Designer	
Sound Designer	
Director of Production	Matthew Swindell
Technical Director	Walter Pigford
Production Stage Manager	Jess Adams
Assistant Technical Director	David Jones
Assistant Costume Shop Manager	Mollie Lipkowitz
Scenic Artist	Katie Andreachi
Production Technician	
Props Assistant	MH Harrison
ASM Intern	
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# THE CAST

Tumnus, Father Christmas	Carter Eldridge
Aslan	Will Oliver
Elf/Unicorn	Lilly Hintay
Lucy.	Wendy Ndao
Edmund	Kelly McFalls
Susan	Addison Kees
Peter	Ethan Santiago
White Witch	Kamryn Brooks
White Stag/Animal 3	Abigail Greeff
Fenris Ulf	Marissa Morgenstren
Centaur	Meg McPherson
Mr. Beaver	Percy Ritchie
Mrs. Beaver	Dixie Silver
Warrior 1	Oakley Parker
Warrior 2	Anna Carpenter
Animal 1	Sailor King
Animal 2	Willa-Rose Mosley
Lucy	Colette Baker
Edmund	Chase Griggs
Susan	Laney Heath
Peter	Eli Smith
White Witch	Eddie Young
White Stag/Animal 3	Khrystian Owens
Fenris Ulf	Libby Schrimsher
Centaur	Ali Blackburn
Mr. Beaver	Vivian Hostetter
Mrs. Beaver	Emma Rose
Warrior 1	Atticus Beck
Warrior 2	Lily Greene
Animal 1	Fiona McCray
Animal 2	Leila Smith

Based upon the book "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe™ by C.S. Lewis

Produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois

# **CAST BIOS**

CARTER ELDRIDGE (Tumnus, Father Christmas) holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance from Columbus State University, and hails from right here in Columbus. His favorite Springer credits include Shrek the Musical (Pinocchio), Spamalot (Ensemble/French Taunter), and Escape to Margaritaville (Ensemble). Some of his favorite Columbus State University credits include Spring Awakening (Georg), Love's Labour's Lost (Costard), and Peter and the Starcatcher (Black Stache). Enjoy the show!

WILL OLIVER (Aslan) is excited to return to the Springer stage. He graduated from Columbus State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Performance. Since then he has acted in several stage productions that include Fences (Cory), For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls (Tom), and Skeleton Crew (Dez). He has also performed in many motion pictures including Electric Jesus (Jamie), Redeemed (David Ryan) and the Lifetime Original Movie, The Night Before Christmas (Joshua). He considers the Springer his theatrical home and always enjoys returning to participate in engaging productions. He thanks everyone for coming and encourages you to continue to support Georgia's state theatre. Please enjoy the show.

LILLY HINTAY (Elf, Unicom) is so excited to return to the Springer stage. She was prevously in White Christmas (Susan Waverly). This is her second year with the Springer and she has learned so much from all the talented teachers and fellow actors. On a regular day she is part of the Prodigy competition dance team which she credits her amazing teachers for her passion for dance and performing on stage. Over the years she has done many dance productions at the Rivercenter. Lilly hopes to continue her pursuite in acting, dance and stage performance. She is so grateful to Springer and all they do for the community and more.

**WENDY NDAO** (*Lucy*) is excited to make her rst appearance in a Springer production as Lucy. She is currently in fth grade at Witts nn Academy homeschool group. This summer was her rst time attending Springer Academy and she's already looking forward to next summer.

**KELLY MCFALLS** (Edmund) is excited to return to the Springer for his third production! He is currently a seventh grader at Richards IB Middle School. You may have previously seen him in X Marks the Spot (Arthur) or On My Street (Benny the Beatboxing Busdriver). Along with his love for theatre, Kelly also participates in Cross Country, swims for the Columbus Hurricanes, plays the guitar and is learning the violin.

**ADDISON KEES** (Susan) is blessed and thrilled to return to the Springer stage! You

may remember her from her roles in James and the Giant Peach (Spider), Rainbow Fish (Little Fish), The Cat in the Hat (Kitten), and 101 Dalmatians (Dalmatian Ensemble). A senior at Smiths Station High School and an 11-year veteran of the Springer Theater Academy, Addison plans to attend Auburn University next year and major in biomedical sciences. She is grateful to her friends and family for their support and encouragement. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

**ETHAN SANTIAGO** (Peter) is exceptional student! loves theater, singing, gaming, and Elvis Presley! Ethan wants to be a zoologist or veterinarian and is pursuing a career in animal science. If that does not work out he will pursue acting. Ethan has been attending the Springer for ten years and is in his senior year of high school. He is very excited to see how things go with this production and many more to come! Ethan has been in shows like Jackie and Me, and Romeo and Juliet, and is currently in Memphis the Musical. He has also been a crew member on productions that include 9 to 5, Hush, and Men all productions at Rainey McCullers School of the Arts, where he is a student.

KAMRYN BROOKS (White Witch) is excited to return to the Springer for her second production! She is currently a sophomore pursuing an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts at Chattahoochee Valley Community College. You may have previously seen her in Akeelah and The Bee (Akeelah). Other favorite credits include portraying both Harriet Tubman and a member of the sensational Motown girl group the Marvelettes in a Black history month tribute. In the

same play, she delivered a captivating performance of Stand Up by Cynthia Erivo (South Girard Junior High School, 2020). Kamryn is also passionate about performing as a musician and singer.

ABIGAIL GREEF (White Stag) is thrilled to take part in her rst Springer production She is currently in the seventh grade at St. Luke School. She has previously starred in six Drama Kids productions and two St. Luke School plays - Matilda (ensemble) and Peter Pan lost boy . She has also completed ve years of the Springer Threatre Academy.

**FELIX MORGENSTERN** (Fenris Ulf) is a sophomore at Columbus High School and is excited to make his Springer debut in The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. He has been a student of the Springer Academy for two whole years, which he believes to be a very wise investment. Felix previously performed in shows at

# **CAST BIOS**

Hardaway High School. His favorite roles were in *Animal Farm* (Squealer) , *Horror Movie* 101 (Liam), and *Airport Encounters* (Henry), all performed at Hardaway High School.

**MEG MCPHERSON** (Centaur) is excited to be back on the Springer stage! You may have seen her in productions of Rainbow Fish and Cat in the Hat, and in the Springer's Theater for the Very Young in April Showers (Busy Bee) and Deep Blue Sea (Tuttle the Turtle). She is currently in the eigth grade at Brookstone School. When not in school or on stage, she is on the volleyball court. She thanks her parents and brother for getting her where she needs to go, and her dogs for always believing in her.

**PERCY RITCHIE** (*Mr. Beaver*) is absolutely thrilled to make his return to the Springer Opera House in his third production. Ritchie is currently a sophomore at Columbus High School. You may have seen him in *The Wizard* of *Oz* (Munchkin) or *The Cat in the Hat* (Kitten). Aside from performances on stage, he has been a student at Academy for ve years.

DIXIE SILVER (Mrs. Beaver) is thrilled to be in her rst Springer pera ouse performance. She has enjoyed training at the Springer for three years and is a junior at St. Anne-Pacelli High School. While there, she has performed in The Wizard of Oz (Dorothy), Junie B. Jones the Musical (Junie B.), The Lost Girls (Nina), Alice in Wonderland (The Queen), and Triangle (Mary). She is an active member of the International Thespian Society.

**OAKLEY PARKER** (Warrior 1) is a sixth grade student at Richard's Middle School. He is so excited to perform at the Springer Opera House in his second production. He also appeared in Look Forward: The Ruby Bridges Story (narrator). Oakley has been a student in the academy for six years. He'd like to thank his amazing academy teachers for all they do. He'd also like to thank his parents, grandparents, and sister, Gale, for all of their support.

ANNA CARPENTER (Warrior 2) is excited to be in her rst production at the Springer She attends Taylor County Middle School and is in the 7th grade. Anna Beth has been a student at the Springer Theatre Academy since she was 5 years old. She is a member of the local 4-H, Student Council, and the Junior Beta Club.

**SAILOR KING** (Animal 1) is thrilled to be cast in her rst Springer production She is currently in the 5th grade and homeschooled. She will be playing the part of Animal/Warrior in The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe. Sailor has been an Academy student for 2 years now and has fallen in love with the stage and all the things that help bring together a show.

# THEATRE **COURTESIES**

#### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

No doubt we have all been distracted by a cell phone or watch alarm ringing or lighting up when attending the theatre. Out of consideration for your fellow audience members, we ask that you turn off all elctronic devices that emit noise or light. Thank you.

#### **ALLERGY ALERT**

For the safety of those with allergies, please refrain from the use of scented perfumes, colognes, or lotions before coming to the theatre.

#### **LATE SEATING**

We endeavour to minimize the distraction for our patrons and actors when seating latecomers. If you arrive late for a performance, you will be seated at the first appropriate moment in the show in designated latecomer seating. You are welcome to move to your assigned seat at intermission.

#### **EMERGENCY EXITS**

We ask that you please take a moment to identify the exit nearest you, so you can safely exit in the event of an emergency.

#### **TALKING**

Please refrain from talking to your neighbor during the performance, as it can be distracting to other audience members as well as the performers on stage.

# **CAST BIOS**

COLETTE BAKER (Lucy) is happy to make her debut acting role on the Springer Opera House stage! She is a fourth grade student at Brookstone in Columbus and has been a Springer Academy student for three years.

LANEY HEATH (Susan) is a Senior at Harris County High School and is thrilled to join the cast of The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe for her fth show at the Springer Opera House! You may have seen her in other productions such as The Cat in the Hat (Sally), The Lion King Jr. (Shenzi), and Peter and the Starcatcher (Prentiss). Laney has done theatre for 0 years and nds that her home is on the stage. The Springer Theatre Academy has fostered her love for the stage and she is super excited to bring this show to life and she hopes you enjoy the show!

ELI SMITH (Peter) has been a student at the Springer Theatre Academy since age ve and is so excited to be playing Peter in his show at the Springer. His other shows include The True Story of the Three Little Pigs (Rocky), 5 Little Monkeys, Planes, Trains, and Things that go Zoom, and X Marks the Spot. He is a sophomore at Calvary Christian School and is an active member of their Thespian Troupe. He has been on stage in many school performances Newsies (Teddy Roosevelt), such as Cinderella (Sebastian), and Spongebob the Musical (Mr. Krabs) and a member of the One Act Play cast for the last three years.

**EDDIE YOUNG** (White Witch) is thrilled to be in their third performance at the Springer. They are currently a senior at Hallie Turner Private School, and have been a Springer Theatre Academy student for thirteen years. You may have seen Eddie in On My Street (Doctor B. Well) for the Springer's Theatre for the Very Young, as stage crew, or as an Academy intern.

KHRYSTIAN OWENS (White Stag/Animal 3) is excited to return to the Springer for her third production! Khrystian has been a student with the Springer Academy for ve years. She is an eighth grade cheerleader at South Girard School in Phenix City, Alabama. You may have previously seen her in A Superhero for all Seasons and April Showers (Springer Theatre).

LIBBY SCHRIMSHER (Ulf Ferris) is thrilled to be back for her second Springer production. She is an eighth grader at Opelika Middle School. Previously, she played Pam in Look Forward: The Ruby Bridges Story. Other favorite roles include Mary Poppins (Michael Banks, Opelika High Theater Society), Holmes and Watson (Helen Stoner Auburn Area Community Theater) and The Addams Family: Young at Part (Grandma Addam, Opelika Community Theater).

**ALI BLACKBURN** (*Centaur*) is happy to be returning to the Springer for her fth production! She is currently a junior at Harris County High School. You may have previously seen her in *The Cat in the Hat* (ensemble), *X Marks the Spot* (Darla), and *The Rainbow Fish* (Shrimp). She has been attending Academy since 2018, and is excited for many more opportunities with the Springer.

EMMA ROSE (Mrs. Beaver) is a 10th grade student at Glenwood School and thrilled to be returning to the Springer Opera House. She has appeared in numerous theatrical productions at the Springer with some of her favorites being Click Clack Moo (cow), The Rainbow Fish little sh, and 101 Dalmatians (Scotty dog). She has enjoyed starring in school plays such as The Wizard of Oz (Tin Man), Aladdin (Narrator), The Little Mermaid (Flotsam), and Alice in Wonderland (small Alice). "Dream Big!" as Emma always says! When Emma is not entertaining an audience, she can be found on the tennis courts. She is performing in honor of her grandmother, Annie, who was always her biggest fan.

ATTICUS BECK (Warrior 1) is making his debut performance at the Springer! A homeschooled fourth grader, Atticus has been a student at the Springer Theatre Academy since 2019. He also studies dance and has earned multiple awards as part of the Columbus School of Music and Dance's competition team.

LILY JANE GREENE (Warrior 2) has been a student of The Springer Academy for 4 years! She is currently an 8th grader at Smiths Station Junior High. Lily has always thought of the Springer as her second home and is excited to work with this cast in her Springer Theatre debut!

FIONA MCCRAY (Animal 1) is excited for her debut as Animal Warrior in the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe as her rst production at the Springer She is currently a Sixth grader at St. Luke's School. Fiona has been a student of the Academy for two years and was recently awarded 'Most Outstanding' during the last Summer Academy.

LEILA SMITH (Animal 2) is currently in the seventh grade at Sylvan Academy. The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe is her rst Springer production, after 3 years as an Academy student. Because of Springer, Lelia has grown a love for theatre, using it as an opportunity to grow not only as an actress, but as a person overall.

# SPRINGER THEATRE ACADEMY



www.springeroperahouse.org

## PRODUCTION BIOS

**MEAGAN CASCONE** (Director) is a part of the Springer Education Team as the PAIR Director, academy teacher, and Theatre for the Very Young director. She has her Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Theatre Performance from Lagrange College. She has been working with the Springer Opera House since 2018 as an performer and stage manager. Meagan has also worked as a tour director/actor with Missoula Children's Theatre and has also spent some time as a preschool teacher. She is so grateful to be working in this historic building, surrounded by people who are good at what they do and love what they do.

**ANNA BAUM** (Stage Manager) graduated in 2023 from Covenant College with a degree in Music and a concentration in Piano Performance. She was a student at the Springer Theatre Academy in middle and high school, and is super excited to be back working with the students. The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe is very dear to Anna because she grew up reading the Narnia stories with her family.

MAX NOLAN YOUNG (Scenic Designer) has worked at the Springer Opera House for the better part of fifteen years in a wide array of positions including facilities maintenance, performance, production, and scenic design. Max holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre Design and Technology from Columbus State University. Previous Designs: Cat In The Hat, Amazing Grace (Springer Opera House); She Kills Monsters, James and the Giant Peach, Fancy Nancy (CSU)).

KATIE UNDERWOOD (Lighting Designer) is a senior member of the Springer artistic staff responsible for casting and contracting production personnel. She is also one of several staff directors with credits including The Wizard of Oz and The Great Gatsby. Katie serves as the primary lighting designer for productions McClure Theatre productions with favorite designs including Ace: The Eugene Bullard Story, The Jungle Book, and Mother of Rain. She is a Springer Theatre Academy alumni, a graduate of Columbus State University with a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology and earned an MBA from Kennesaw State University.

ALEX ALLISON (Costume Designer) has worked as a costume and wig designer across the US with notable companies such as the York Theatre, Berkshire Theatre Festival (BTF), Norwegian Creative Studios and others. He is currently the Resident Costume Designer at the Springer Opera House. Upcoming Productions: On Cedar Street (BTF). Theatre Credits include: Hoagy Carmichael's Stardust Road (World Premiere, York Theatre NYC), Shrek the Musical, White

Christmas, The Bodyguard, Little Shop of Horrors (Springer), Grease (Temple Theatre). He worked on Jersey Boys, Swing the Musical and Warren Carlyle's Havana! at Norwegian Creative Studios.

**PATTI JO FENZEL** (*Props Designer*) earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater Design and Technology from Columbus State University in 2010 and has worked in theaters around the US including Florida Repertory Theater, Texas Shakespeare Festival and Opera New Jersey.

JULIANNE SLATON (Sound Designer) is a graduate of Columbus State University where she earned a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology with a focus on Sound Design and Audio Engineering. She started at the Springer as a volunteer and transitioned to working here full time for the 2015 production of A Chorus Line. She has since enjoyed working as the Resident Sound Designer and Audio Engineer for almost every Springer production thus far and looks forward to all of the future productions.

MATTHEW SWINDELL (Director of Production) is a Columbus State University graduate with a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology. He has worked on many Springer productions over the past ten years in a variety of different roles including Director, Scenic Designer, Lighting Designer, Technical Director, and Road Manager for the Springer's touring company, Springer Theatricals. You may also remember him from his time on stage as Teddy Roosevelt in the Springer's 2017 production of Newsies.

WALTER PIGFORD (Technical Director) is from Georgia, graduating from Georgia Southern University Armstrong Campus (previously known as Armstrong State University) with a BA in theater. After graduating he lived in NYC for four years working on the Off-Broadway circuit and working full time as the Assistant Technical Director at Pace University. He has worked at various regional theaters around the country but is glad to be back in his home state bringing theater to the Columbus community.

JESS ADAMS (Production Stage Manager) earned a BA in Theatre from Columbus State University in 2016. They are the former Production Manager / Production Stage Manager of Majestic Repertory Theatre, in Las Vegas, NV. Jess leads the Springer's stage management team and serves as the primary stage manager for the Mainstage Series. Previous credits include The Bodyguard, Mother of Rain, ACE: The Eugene Bullard Story, Million Dollar Quartet, Kudzu: The Musical, Jackie & Me, (Springer Opera House); The Manson Family: An Opera, Sweeney Todd (Majestic Repertory Theatre).

**DAVID JONES** (Assistant Technical Director) is a graduate of Columbus State University with a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology. This is his third full season at the Springer, beginning as the Technical Director for Springer Theatricals, and transitioning to Master Carpenter. He is the Technical Director for the Children's Theatre Series.

MOLLIE LIPKOWITZ (Assistant Costume Shop Manager) is a graduate of Vassar College with degrees in Drama and Psychology. Originally from Miami Beach, Florida, she has worked in theaters around the country including the Williamstown Theatre Festival, The Glimmerglass Festival, and Portland Stage Company in both costume shop roles and backstage wardrobe positions. She is grateful to do work that she loves, and to love her work.

**KATIE ANDREACHI** (Scenic Artist) is a recent graduate from North Dakota State University with a A in Tech and esign. This is her rst season with Springer Opera House as their Scenic Artist. She spends her summers as the Scenic Artist for American Players Theatre in Spring Green, Wisconsin.

(Production SCOTT SCOTTIE Technician) graduated with their BA in Theatre from the University of Motevallo. As a student, they focused in technical theatre and became particularly fond of work with stagecraft and lighting. Scottie has worked with the IATSE Local 78 crew since 2017 and volunteered with Birmingham's Red Mountain Theatre Company. Scottie hopes to eventually go to graduate school for technical direction and one day instruct undergrads on the technical aspects of theatre. In their free time, they enjoy spending time with their partner and cat, as well as playing video games, and gone on bike rides.

MH HARRISON (Props Assistant) is a 2019 Graduate of Columbus State University, where they earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater Design and Technology and a Minor in Studio Art. MH currently works at the Springer as a Stage Manager, Deck chief, and resident MH.





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## Springer Opera House Leadership Team



Keith McCoy Artistic Director Danielle Varner CEO/Executive Producer

The Springer board tapped two familiar faces to lead the Springer to the next level - Danielle Varner and Keith McCoy. They started their respective roles on October 1, 2023.

**Danielle Patterson Varner**, whom Paul Pierce, the now retired producing artistic director, has often called, "America's best managing director," has assumed the CEO portion of Pierce's duties in the role of executive producer. Varner has served the Springer for twenty-one years, first in sales, then development, and finally as managing director. For the past six years, she has been overseeing day-to-day operations, budget tracking, board relations and historic preservation.

Varner is a member of the Rotary Club of Columbus, the chair of the Columbus Cultural Arts Alliance and was named one of "Georgia's Most Influential Leaders" in 2022 by Georgia Trend Magazine.

**Keith Patrick McCoy** is the Springer's new artistic director. McCoy is well known among local audiences, actors, designers, technicians and Springer Theatre Academy parents. Earlier this year he was recognized with the Lift Him Up award for community service and excellence by the Courier Eco Latino, an independent Columbus newspaper. He is also one of the American stage's most admired and sought-after artists. Over the past thirteen years, this graduate of Norfolk State University has served the Springer as a guest director, actor, choreographer, and teacher and has become a dynamic driver of the theatre's artistic success.

Besides directing, acting and teaching, McCoy has been working to expand the Springer's outreach efforts, seeking ways to attract new audiences and serve underserved populations. He will lead the process of choosing the theatre's plays while cultivating fresh artistic talent both locally and nationally.



Paul R. Pierce (Producing Artistic Director, Retired) until October 2023 led the Springer Opera House as producing artistic director for thirty-five years, taking the State Theatre of Georgia in new artistic directions while expanding its audience and influence throughout the nation. Paul directed and produced more than three-hundred comedies, dramas and musicals at the Springer. A Rome, Ga. native with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Georgia, he is also an Equity actor who has performed in over 1,000 American and Canadian cities with stock, regional, touring and children's theatre companies. Paul is the author of nine plays and *The Springer Ghost Book*.

#### **ARTISTIC STAFF**

Associate Producer	Director of Production	
Production Stage Manager		
Musical Director		
Properties Designer and Artisan		
Resident Costume Designer and Shop Manager Alex Allison Sound Designer/Production Engineer. Julianne Slaton Technical Director. Walter Pigford Assistant Technical Director. David Jones Assistant Costume Shop Manager Mollie Lipkowitz Production Associate MH Harrison	Musical Director	Debbie Anderson
Sound Designer/Production Engineer.  Technical Director.  Assistant Technical Director.  David Jones Assistant Costume Shop Manager.  Mollie Lipkowitz Production Associate.  MH Harrison	Properties Designer and Artisan	Patti Jo Fenzel
Technical Director	Resident Costume Designer and Shop Manager	Alex Allison
Assistant Technical Director	Sound Designer/Production Engineer	Julianne Slaton
Assistant Costume Shop Manager	Technical Director	Walter Pigford
Production Associate	Assistant Technical Director	David Jones
Production Technician	Production Associate	MH Harrison
	Production Technician	Scottie Scott

#### **EDUCATION STAFF**

Director of Edu	ucation	DB Woolbright
Associate Dire	ctor of Education	Meagan Cascone
	ordinator	
Resident Teach	ning Artist	Sam Bolar
	9	

#### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

7.2	•
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Director of Development	Tate LeClair
Director of Finance	
Director of Patron Services	David J. McCray
Community Engagement Coordinator	Machell Dooley
Box Office Manager	Max Nolan Young
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Rentals Coordinator/NO SHAME Host	Kevan Baxley

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