

# RENT



NO DAY BUT TODAY

NIAGARA  
UNIVERSITY  
THEATRE

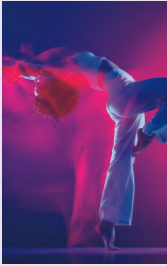
60  
YEAR  
ANNIVERSARY

# NIAGARA UNIVERSITY THEATRE

Elizabeth Ann Clune Center for Theatre

60  
YEAR  
ANNIVERSARY

2023-2024 Season



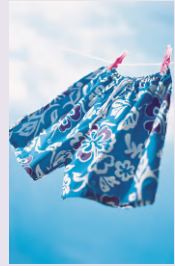
Oct 12-15  
**NU DANCE:  
DISCOVERING ME,  
EMBRACING WE**  
Original NU Production



Nov 2-5  
**FUN HOME**  
by Jeanine Tesori & Lisa  
Kron



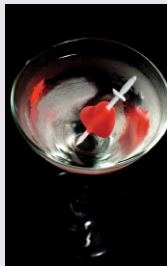
Nov 30-Dec 10  
**MUCH ADO ABOUT  
NOTHING**  
by William Shakespeare



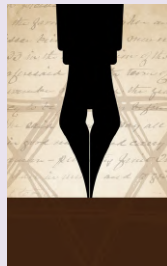
Jan 19-21  
**SHORT PLAY FESTIVAL**  
by Various Playwrights  
All Student-Directed



Feb 22-25  
**THE TAMING**  
by Lauren Gunderson



Mar 1-3  
**ENGAGEMENTS**  
by Lucy Teitler  
All Student Produced



Apr 4-Apr 7  
**THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK**  
by Frances Goodrich &  
Albert Hackett  
Adapted by Wendy Kesselman



Apr 25-May 5  
**RENT**  
by Jonathan Larson



For further information and tickets:

<http://theatre.niagara.edu/> [boxoffice@niagra.edu](mailto:boxoffice@niagra.edu)  
716.286.8685

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY THEATRE

presents a production of

**RENT**

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson

Musical Arrangements  
**STEVE SKINNER**

Original Concept/Additional Lyrics  
**BILLY ARONSON**

Music Supervision and  
Additional Arrangements

**TIM WEIL**

Dramturg  
**LYNN THOMSON**

Directed by

**STEVE BRADDOCK**

Choreography  
**TERRI VAUGHAN**

Choreography  
**ALYVIA CHRISTENSEN**  
Class of '25

Costume Design  
**LARA BERICH**

Music Direction  
**BRIDGET MORIARTY**

Light Design  
**MATT DIVITA**  
Class of '16

Scenic Design  
**DAVID DWYER**

Stage Manager  
**MARY DUGAN**  
Class of '25

Sound Design  
**CHRIS BALLARD**  
Class of '08

Assistant Stage Manager  
**ELIZABETH FLICKINGER**  
Class of '27

Assistant Stage Manager  
**HANNAH LARUEZ**  
Class of '27

**RENT** was originally produced in New York by New York Theatre Workshop  
and on Broadway by Jeffrey Seller, Kevin McCollum, Allan S. Gordon and New  
York Theatre Workshop

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**RENT** is presented in special arrangement with Music Theatre International  
(MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.  
[www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

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Presented in the William P. and Marie Leary Theatre in the Elizabeth Ann  
Clune Center for Theatre APRIL 25 - MAY 5

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Any video and/or audio recording of this production  
is strictly prohibited.

# Cast

ROGER DAVIS  
MARK COHEN  
TOM COLLINS  
BENJAMIN COFFIN III  
JOANNE JEFFERSON  
ANGEL DUMOTT SCHUNARD  
MIMI MARQUEZ  
MAUREEN JOHNSON  
ENSEMBLE

JUSTIN KOCHETTA  
HAYDEN CARR  
AUSTIN MARSHALL  
ISAAC HOHL  
LAUREN FARROW  
JAMARION EVANS  
BRIANNA GARCIA  
JULIA CIANFRINI  
MATTHEW BALL  
MIGUEL CASTANEDA  
ETHAN EGGLESTON  
ADELAIDE HAWKINS  
LILLIAN JARZABEK  
LAUREN LAMPE  
PARIS MOFFITT  
KATIE THOMPSON  
PAIGE TOMLINSON  
SAM PREZIOSO  
RYLIE RANDALL  
NYAH SEARLES

# Orchestra

KEYBOARD 1/CONDUCTOR  
GUITAR 1  
GUITAR 2/KEYBOARD 2  
BASS  
DRUMS

BRIDGET MORIARTY  
JAYSON WILLIAMS  
MADISON GIBBS  
MELISSA BENDER  
ANERIS RIVERA-WAGNER

*\*YAILEN KREN-COLON will be subbing in for  
GUITAR 2/KEYBOARD 2 on Saturday, May 4th*

## Place

New York's  
East Village

## Time

Late 1980s/  
Early 1990s

# Production

Producing Artistic Director  
Technical Director  
Costume Director

Costume Shop Supervisor  
Intimacy Choreographer  
Lead Electrician

Asst. Technical Director  
Asst. Lighting Design  
Asst. Scenic Design  
Asst. Lead Electrician

Props Acquisition  
Props Run Crew  
Turntable Operator  
Swing Tech/A2 Sound Tech  
Sound Technicians  
Light Board Op  
Light Crew

Wardrobe Lead  
Hair/Makeup Crew  
Hair/Makeup Assistant  
Dressers

Box Office Supervisor  
Box Office Personnel

House Managers  
Head Usher  
Costume Construction Crew

Costume Shop Assistants

Set Construction Crew

**Steve Braddock**

**Primo Thomas**

**Lara Berich**

**Yamilex Holguín Pérez**

**Adriano Gatto**

**Jackie Renaud**

**Adelaide Hawkins**

**Jackie Renaud**

**Soph Chaney**

**Brittany Konruff**

**Danielle Becht, Olivia Kane**

**Gabriella Galante**

**Jessica Spengler**

**Jack Mountain**

**Jeremy Vicario, Devin Klumpp**

**Alexander Sylvester**

**Ayden MacNeil, Brittany**

**Konruff, Brian Cunningham**

**Sebastian Newell**

**JaReesa Young, Anessa Preteroti**

**Larcey Dwyer**

**Laura Barcomb, Larcey Dwyer**

**Keirsten Thomas**

**Matthew Catani, Bayleigh Clark,**

**Nik Smith-Goddard, Jeremy**

**Vicario, Maddison Ralph**

**Paige Janes, Lex Cueva**

**Ryan Harbaugh, Logan Comstock**

**Kyle Dempsey, Larcey Dwyer,**

**Lillian Jarzabek, Hannah**

**Laruez, Elena Michele, Nico**

**Scirri, Audrianna Yates**

**Ethan Eggleston, Sebastian**

**Newell, Jessica Spengler, Katie**

**Thompson**

**Matthew Ball, Lauren Farrow,**

**Jamarion Evans**

Work Study Carpenters

**Samantha Prezioso, Alyvia  
Christensen, Logan Comstock,  
Sophie Chaney, Aiden Strack,  
Sky Balkman, Sydney  
Lomasney, Emma Farrell  
Kim Neiss  
Keirsten Thomas  
Suzanne Karaszewski  
Mark Duggan  
Brian Rock**

Publicity/Playbill Coordination  
Social Media  
Graphic Design  
Production Photographer  
Headshot Photographer

## *Special Thanks*



Costume Shop Volunteers  
Erica Fire - Buffalo State University  
Tom Berich  
JC Hartloff  
Jack Wrobel

# NIAGARA UNIVERSITY PLAYERS

The Niagara University Players is a student theatre organization that has been in existence for over sixty years and organizes social activities (Thanksgiving dinner, Christmas party, Kris Kringle gift exchange, annual Players Banquet and more), fundraisers and community service activities. The NU Players also present an all-student-run production once a year. This year's production is:

## Engagements

by Lucy Teitler

**March 1 - 3, 2024**



Any NU student is eligible for membership.  
contact: [nuplayers1964@gmail.com](mailto:nuplayers1964@gmail.com)

## NU PLAYERS 2023-24 BOARD OF OFFICERS

Co-Presidents	<b>Gabriella Galante, Adelaide Hawkins</b>
VP/Concessions Co-Treasurers	<b>Ryan Harbaugh Jamarion Evans, Bayleigh Clark Lauren Farrow</b>
Secretary Publicity	<b>Julianna Struzik Nyah Searles</b>
Banquet/Soiree Community Service	<b>Danielle Becht Jeremy Vicario</b>
Apparel Head Events	<b>Sam Prezioso Sebastian Newell</b>
Diversity & Inclusion Chair	

## PLAYERS PRESENTS

Artistic Director	<b>Austin Marshall</b>
Assist Artistic Director	<b>Kayla Kurek</b>
Technical Director	<b>Justin Kochetta</b>

# COME CELEBRATE!

NIAGARA  
UNIVERSITY  
THEATRE

60  
YEAR  
ANNIVERSARY

## FRIENDS OF NU THEATRE GALA! Sat. May 4, 2024

### Your ticket includes:

4:00pm Musical Matinee showing of:

# RENT

*Followed by cocktail hour, silent & live  
auctions and dinner at*

***NU's Russell J. Salvatore Banquet Room***

For tickets &  
information:

Contact Keirsten  
Thomas

(716) 286-8483 /

[ktomas@niagara.edu](mailto:ktomas@niagara.edu)



The Friends of Niagara University Theatre, incorporated in 1986, help raise awareness and develop support for the theatre department and its students.

You, too, can join us in our efforts to help ensure the future of one of the oldest professional theatre training programs in the region, and provide invaluable opportunities for future generations of theatre artists.

BECOME A  
FRIEND

*Today*  
TO HELP BUILD FOR  
*Tomorrow* ✨

DONATE  
NOW!



# ON STAGE THIS SUMMER!



Niagara University Repertory Theatre returns! Free, fun, fantastic family entertainment for children and the young-at-heart at these locations this summer:

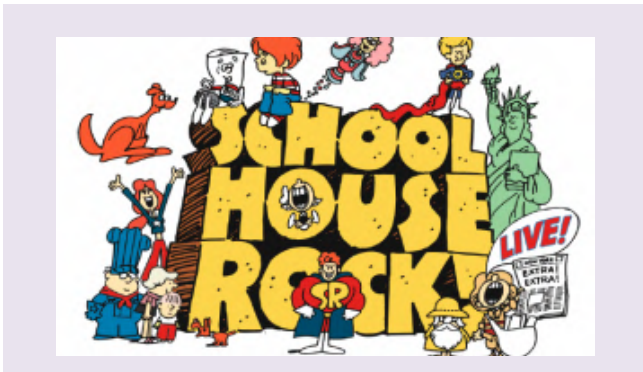
**Artpark, Lewiston, NY  
NU's Leary Theatre**

For dates/times and more information, please visit:  
**<https://theatre.niagara.edu/>**  
or call: **716-286-8483**

**MORE  
INFORMATION**

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## Summer Musical



## Schoolhouse Rock Live!

\*\*\*Reservations are not required for our summer performances\*\*\*

FREE Admission

First come, first served!

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

# Department of Theatre & Fine Arts

## Academic Year 2023-2024

### Theatre

**Chris Ballard**  
(Sound)  
Sound Coordinator

**Amanda Benzin**  
(Dance)

**Lara Berich**  
(Design/Production)  
Costume Technologist

**Steven Braddock**  
(Acting)  
Artistic Director of NU Theatre

**Kelly Meg Brennan**  
(Voice)

**Jayson Clark**  
(Lighting)  
SPF Production Manager

**Julia Cordani**  
(Voice)

**Aurora Deeds**  
(Voice)

**Matt Divita**  
Guest Lighting Designer

**Teodoro Dragonieri**  
(Physical Theatre)

**David Dwyer**  
(Design/Production)  
Technical Facilities Supervisor/  
Scenic Designer

**Adriano Gatto**  
(Stage Combat)  
Artist-in-Residence  
Recruitment

**Robyn Horn**  
(Acting/Directing)

**Yamilex Holguín Pérez**  
(Costume Shop Supervisor)

**Briana Blair Kelly**  
(Dance)

**Gary Marino**  
(Dance)

**Dr. Bridget Moriarty**  
(Voice)  
Music Director

**Mara Neimanis**  
(Physical Theatre)

**Kim Neiss**  
Administrative Assistant

**Dr. Dave Peterson**  
(Theatre History)

**Tony Rajewski**  
Guest Lighting Designer

**Patty Rihn**  
Guest Lighting Designer

**Dr. Kahlil Sarikey**  
(Music Theory)

**Amanda Sharpe**  
(Speech)

**Maureen Stevens**  
(Design/Production)  
Costume Designer

**Amy Teal**  
(Voice)

**Keirsten Thomas**  
Administrative Assistant  
Box Office Supervisor

**Primo Thomas**  
Technical Director

**Paul Todaro**  
(Acting)

**Steven Vaughan**  
(Acting)

**Terri Filips Vaughan**  
(Dance)  
Chair, Dept. of Theatre & Fine Arts  
Choreographer

**Leanne Vida**  
(Voice)

**Kim Vincent**  
(Dance)

### Fine Arts

**Randy Andropolis**  
(Music History)

**Sonya DeLazzer**  
(Art History)

**Jessica DiPalma**  
(Art History/Museum Studies)  
Director of Museum Studies

**Nancy Knechtel**  
(Art History)

**Alison Lytle**  
(Drawing/Painting)

**Ed Millar**  
(Museum Studies)

**Ellen Owens**  
(Museum Studies)

**John Sauter**  
(Urban Sketching)

**Eileen Sullivan**  
(Art History)

# Biographies of the Authors and Licensing Agency

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**Jonathan Larson** received the 1996 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for RENT. He also won the 1996 Tony Award for Best Musical and the 1994 Richard Rodgers Award for RENT and twice received The Gilman & Gonzales-Falla Theatre Foundation's Comendation Award. In 1989 he was granted the Stephen Sondheim Award from American Music Theatre Festival, where he contributed to the musical "Sitting on the Edge of the Future". In 1988 he won the Richard Rodgers Development Grant for his rock musical Superbia, which was staged at Playwrights Horizon. He composed the score for the musical J.P. Morgan Saves the Nation, which was presented by En Garde Arts in 1995. Mr. Larson performed his rock monologue tick, tick... BOOM! at Second Stage Theatre, The Village Gate and New York Theatre Workshop. In addition to scoring and song writing for "Sesame Street", he created music for a number of children's book-cassettes, including Steven Spielberg's "An American Tail" and "Land Before Time". Other film scores include work for Rolling Stones magazine publisher Jann Wenner. He conceived, directed and wrote four original songs for "Away We Go!", a musical video for children. RENT, his rock opera based on "La Boheme", had its world premiere on February 13, 1996 at New York Theatre Workshop. Mr. Larson died unexpectedly of an aortic aneurysm on January 25, 1996, ten days before his 36th birthday. His music (including songs cut from his shows) is archived in the Library of Congress.

**MTI Music Theatre International (MTI)** is one of the world's leading theatrical licensing agencies, granting theatres from around the world the rights to perform the greatest selection of musicals from Broadway and beyond. Founded in 1952 by composer Frank Loesser and orchestrator Don Walker, MTI is a driving force in advancing musical theatre as a vibrant and engaging art form.

MTI works directly with the composers, lyricists and book writers of these musicals to provide official scripts, musical materials and dynamic theatrical resources to over 100,000 professional, community and school theatres in the US and in over 150 countries worldwide.

MTI is particularly dedicated to educational theatre, and has created special collections to meet the needs of various types of performers and audiences. MTI's Broadway Junior™ shows are 30- and 60-minute musicals for performance by elementary and middle school-aged performers, while MTI's School Editions are musicals annotated for performance by high school students.

# Biographies of Theatre Students, Faculty, Staff & Guest Artists 2023-2024

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**MATTHEW BALL**, a Senior from Hammond, IN, is pursuing a Theatre major degree, with a minor in dance. Credits: The Little Mermaid (Ensemble), The Diary of Anne Frank (Dr. Dussel), She Kills Monsters (Chuck), Songs For a New World (Ensemble), Coming Back Home: Dance Theatre (Ensemble), Cabaret (Bobby), Us & Them: Aerial Investigations (Ensemble), Everybody (Somebody, Everybody, Cousin, Kinship, Strength, Beauty).

**CHRIS BALLARD** (Sound Designer) is an '09 Graduate of NU Theatre with a BFA in Design Technology. After graduation Chris served as the Audio Coordinator at Shakespeare In Delaware Park for 14 season. He also spent 8 years as an Audio Engineer at the Seneca Niagara Casino. He has also been a Stagehand and Audio Engineer at UB Center for the Arts, IATSE 121, BAV Services, and a number of other theatres and production companies around the Buffalo Region. He is currently working as an AV Specialist for M&T Tech in downtown Buffalo. Chris has also designed sound for Road Less Traveled Productions, Iroquois High School and Grand Island High School. He is extremely excited to be back at Niagara as the Sound Designer, Coordinator and Adjunct Professor.



**LAURA BARCOMB** is a senior from Williamsville, NY, who is double majoring in Theatre Performance and History with a minor in Women's Studies. Her Niagara University performance credits include Measure for Measure (Provost), Us & Them (Ensemble), Niagara University Dance Theatre, and Shakespeare's Kings & Queens (Katherine/Hermione). She also has past performance experience from Lorraine Goddard Dance Studio, Mount Saint Mary Academy, and St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute. Recently at Niagara University, she had the opportunity to direct Bedtime Story for the 2023 Short Play Festival, be assistant stage manager for their production of Machinal, as well as be wardrobe head for A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder.



**DANIELLE BECHT**, a junior from Morristown, NJ, is pursuing a theatre performance major with an ASL deaf studies minor. NU Credits: Moving Back Home (Ensemble), Measure for Measure (House Manager), Art (House Manager), Us and Them: Aerial Investigations (Wardrobe Crew), Cabaret (Follow Spot). Outside Credits: Batter the Doom Drum (Iphigenia), Picnic at the Battlefield (Mme. Tepan), and As You Like It (Adam, Le Beau, Corin, William) at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. Offstage Credits: Merrily We Roll Along (Assistant Technical Director) at Abbey Players, Our Town (Assistant Director/Stage Manager) at Chester Theater Group.

**AMANDA BENZIN** is a somatically conscious, rhythmically and passionately driven educator, Emmy-Award-winning performer, choreographer, scholar-artist, and administrator originally from Buffalo, New York. She holds an MFA in Dance from CU Boulder with concentrations in performance, choreography, somatics, women and gender studies and pedagogy. She graduated summa cum laude from the University at Buffalo with a BFA in Dance and minor in Business Administration. Her research and choreography have recently been presented at ACDA, Alma College, DSA's Conference at University of Malta, Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities, Life in Motion Film Festival, and BMCA's Conferences at Smith College, Texas State University, University of California, Santa Barbara, and Denison University. Most recently Benzin served as Assistant Professor of Dance and Dance Program Coordinator at Colorado Mesa University. She is currently the Assistant Director of The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy at the University at Buffalo School of Law as well as an Adjunct Instructor at Niagara University and UB.

**LARA BERICH** (Assistant Professor of Costume Technology/Costume Director) Originally from Virginia, most recently from Montana and New Mexico. Prior to and while teaching at universities and professional training programs, Lara spent five years working as a draper/tailor with the Oregon Shakespeare Festival during the year and with the Santa Fe Opera every summer since 2006. They also work with the SFO costume apprentices as technical advisor. They have worked at many other theatres and, as an active professional, Lara frequently does freelance! In each environment, they focus on inclusion, accessibility, and making the world a better place.



**STEVEN BRADDOCK** (Artistic Director, Acting) has directed over 20 productions for NU Theatre, including Measure for Measure, Peter & The Starcatcher, Cabaret, James Austen's Emma, An Ideal Husband, Legally Blonde, Little Shop of Horrors, Chicago, Julius Caesar, Lady Windermere's Fan, Sweeney Todd, Urinetown, and Damn Yankees. He served for eleven years as the Artistic Director of the Gifford Family Theatre, a professional Theatre for Young Audiences in Syracuse. He has worked as Director of Education for Syracuse Stage and Asst. Director of Education at the Huntington Theatre Company in Boston. Mr. Braddock has taught acting at Le Moyne College, Syracuse University, Anna Maria College and Worcester State College. A member of Actor's Equity, Steve has been seen locally at Shakespeare in Delaware Park, and regionally at theatres throughout the northeast. He has also appeared in numerous commercials as well as voiced characters in multiple audiobooks. Steve received his M.F.A. in Acting from the University of Southern California.



**KELLY BRENNAN** (Voice Instructor) has successfully taught a diverse student population ranging from kindergarten through the collegiate level. With 23 years in professional theater and over 45 productions throughout her career, it has been Kelly's creative pleasure to portray a colorful assortment of women on virtually every stage in the region. The Artie awards committee has honored her work in productions with 19 nominations and 6 wins, including productions with Kavinoky Theater, New Phoenix Theater, Torn Space, and Irish Classical Theater. Buffalo Spree also honored her work with their "Best of WNY award for Best Actress" twice in 2010 and 2017.



**HAYDEN CARR** is a junior from Grand Island, NY, pursuing a BFA in Theater Performance. Theater Experience: Niagara University Theatre: Sondheim Tribute Revue (Ensemble), NURT 2023 (Ensemble), A Gentleman's Guide To Love And Murder (Featured Ensemble), Cabaret (Hans/Max/ Heir Schultz Understudy) St. Stephen's Parish Players: Mary Poppins (Bert), Hello Dolly (Ensemble), The Wizard of Oz (Ensemble), Beauty and the Beast (Ensemble). Offstage Experience: Miss Cathy's Dance Academy: Tap, Jazz, Musical Theater, Hip Hop; Shea's Camp Broadway The Next Step. @Haydencarr813



**MIGUEL CASTANEDA** is a sophomore from the Philippines pursuing a Theatre Performance major through the NU Honors Program. Previously, he has worked with the Broadway Theatre Troupe of Ateneo: Between Lands (Co-director / Jheme), Broadway on Shuffle: Vol. 3 (Music Director). Other Outside credits: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Barfée). Sending much love back home. Lipad!

**SOPHIA CHANEY** is a junior Design and Production major from Erie, PA.



**JULIA CIANFRINI**, a sophomore from Lancaster, NY, is currently studying Theatre Performance with minors in ASL and Theatre Design and Production. NU credits: Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley (Jane), 2023 Short Play Festival's Lines (John) and The Open Door (Lady Torminster), A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Evangeline/Ensemble), N.U.R.T. (Ensemble), Sondheim Tribute Revue (Ensemble), Us & Them: Aerial Investigations (Head Usher), Art (Assistant Stage Manager). Outside credits: Art Park Fairy Festival (Ensemble), Newsies (Kathrine), Catch Me If You Can (Brenda), Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella (Cinderella). Julia was nominated for Outstanding Actress In a Leading Role at the 2022 Kenny Awards.



**BAYLEIGH CLARK**, a sophomore from Jordan-Elbridge, NY, is pursuing a Theatre Performance major with a double major in Spanish and minors in Dance and Design & Production through the NU Honors Program. Niagara University credits: 2023 Short Play Festival's The Lovers (Mrs. H), Measure for Measure (Assistant Stage Manager/Sound Board Operator). Outside credits: Jesus Christ Superstar (Universal Swing/Ensemble) at CNY Playhouse, and at Jordan-Elbridge High School, The Wedding Singer (Julia Sullivan), Clue: The Play (Mrs. Peacock), Anastasia (Swing), and Million Dollar Baby (Adeline). Offstage credits: Jordan Elbridge Middle School's JEMS (Stage Manager).

**JAYSON D. CLARK** (Guest Lighting Designer/Adjunct Production Manager), a 2012 graduate of NU, has professionally designed lighting for over 25 productions, including NU Theatre's *The Pajama Game*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *The Wrestling Season*, *Bat Boy: the Musical*, *Urinetown the Musical*, and the Short Play Festivals 2013 through present. Other recent design credits include *Detour*, *Uncle Vanya* and *He Who Gets Slapped* (Torn Space Theatre),

*Accidental Death of an Anarchist* (Subversive Theatre), and *Hamlet* (BAVPA). Jayson also served as a technician for *A More Perfect Union* performed off-Broadway. As a sound technician, Jayson has worked for numerous local and national bands, including The Steve Miller Band, Cute is What We Aim For, Alice Cooper, We the Kings, Ethnic Heritage Ensemble, OAR, and Grammy Award Winner Walt Whitman Jr. Jayson is the Technical Director in residence for Torn Space Theatre, specializing in site-specific installation theater. He is also a multi-instrumentalist musician, who has recently appeared on stage in *Once* and *Pump Boys and Dinettes* at MusicalFare Theatre, as well as appearing in several local musical groups, including the bluegrass band The Rear View Ramblers and Erie Lackawanna Railroad.



**LOGAN COMSTOCK**, a Junior from Bellows Falls, VT, is pursuing a BFA in Theater performance and a minor in American Sign Language. NU Credits: NU Repertory Theatre 2023 (Ensemble), Peter and the Starcatcher (Ted), Decision Heights and Machinal (Prop Runner), Miss Bennett: Christmas at Pemberley (Props Acquisition), Head Usher: The Short Play Festival, and Measure for Measure, and Art. Offstage credits: Sweet Charity (Charlie/Ensemble)-OFC Creations Theater Center. Mary Poppins (George Banks), Mamma Mia! (Harry Bright), The Curse of the Hopeless Diamond (Basil Benchley)

**CHRISTOPHER COOPER**, a freshman straight out of Buffalo, NY, is excited to be continuing his theatre production career at Niagara University. Outside credits: Under Milkwood (Assistant Stage Manager), The Snow (Rollark, Guard 1), The Still Life of Iris (Prop Design and Build), Illustrated Bradbury (Assistant Stage Manager), Eurydice (Poster Design), Museum (Poster Design), Twelve Night (Assistant Stage Manager and Prop Design and Build)

**JULIA CORDANI** is an adjunct private voice lesson instructor at NU.



**ALEXIS CUEVA** from Depew, NY, is a transfer student from Niagara County Community College, joining the Theatre Performance major. NCCC credits include: First Date (Casey), Almost, Maine (Marvalyn/Ginette), A Streetcar Named Desire (Eunice), and I Hate Hamlet (Felicia). Some other credits include: The Lockport Palace Theatre's Matilda the Musical (Ensemble), and Road Less Traveled Productions' Hand to God (Assistant Stage Manager). Thank you for supporting live theatre! IG: @alexiscueva

**AURORA DEEDS** is an adjunct private voice lesson instructor at NU

**MATT DIVITA** is an adjunct lighting designer at NU.



**KYLE DEMPSEY**, a senior from West Seneca, NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major. NU credits: She Kills Monsters (Great Mage Steve).



**TEODORO DRAGONIERI** A multi-disciplinary artist and educator who has developed acclaimed programs for all levels of education. He has worked with arts organizations, cultural institutions, museums and theatre companies. Teodoro has served Indigenous communities, individuals with special-needs, LGBTQ, at-risk and street-cultured youth. He has led workshops, lectured, performed and shown his artwork internationally. He is artistic director of Zanni Arte, a company dedicated to promoting inter-disciplinary arts and fostering the use of masks, in theatre and education. Teodoro is currently part-time faculty/visiting artist in the theatre programs of University of Toronto Erindale Program, University of Waterloo, Sheridan, Humber and Centennial Colleges. He has worked for the National Arts Centre, Theatre Ontario, Soupepper Theatre Company, Tarragon Theatre, Second City and the Art Gallery of Ontario. Teodoro is the recipient of several Exemplary Practices Awards for arts programming, the Theatre Ontario Michael Spence Award and The Harold Award (from Toronto's Independent Theatre and Dance Communities). peek at some of Kari's projects in progress, she can be found on Instagram @TrixieandBubbles. Outside of designing, Kari holds a degree in History and Pre-Medicine from the University at Buffalo.



**MARY CLAIRE DUGAN**, a junior from Rochester, NY, is pursuing a theatre design and production major. NU credits: Emma (Assistant Stage Manager), Cabaret (Assistant Stage Manager), Peter and The Star Catcher (Stage Manager), Everybody (Stage Manager), and NURT/A Sondheim Review (Stage Manager). Outside Off Stage credits: Shrek (Student Directed), Something Rotten (Costume Assistant), Music Man(Student Directed), Children's Play Sleeping Beauty (Student Directed), Dracula (Assistant Stage Manager).

**LARCEY DWYER** is a sophomore from Gasport, NY., majoring in Design and Production at Niagara University. NU credits include A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder. Other credits include Midsummer Night's Dream at Kleinhan's Theater (Scenic), and scenic painting for multiple summers at Shakespeare in Delaware Park. Oklahoma (Stage Crew), Anything Goes (Stage crew), Adamm's Family (Stage Manager), Mamma Mia (Stage Crew), and Roger's & Hammerstein's Cinderella (Assistant Stage Manager).





**DAVID DWYER** (Associate Professor, Design/Tech, and Scenic Designer/Production Manager) holds a Master of Fine Arts in production design from Michigan State University, a Bachelor's degree in theatre, and an Oral Communication Certificate with distinction from Marietta College. As a freelance scenic designer he has over two hundred designs to his credit throughout the Eastern United States. Some of his favorite designs include: *Tally's Folly* at The Jewish Repertory Theatre, *Deathtrap* at the Lancaster Opera House, *Tartuffe* at LiveArts Theatre, *Blood Brothers* and *The Full Monty* at The Mount Washington Valley Theatre Company, *Pumpboys and Dinettes* and *Tuesdays with Morrie* at The Mountain Playhouse, *Equus*, *The Liar* and *After Miss Julie* at The Irish Classical Theatre Company, *Avenue Q* and *Mauritius* at SUNY Brockport, *King Lear*, and *Love's Labour's Lost* at Shakespeare in Delaware Park, and *The Conversion of Ka'ahumanu* at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. He was also production designer of a film adaptation of *King Lear* filmed in Washington DC. and the Amazon web series: *Diary of a Lunatic*. At Niagara University he is the principal Scenic Designer and teaches courses in theatre design and technology. Some of his favorite designs at Niagara include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Urinetown the Musical*, *The Learned Ladies*, *Into the Woods*, *Bat Boy*, *The Philadelphia Story*, *Mother Hicks*, *Chicago*, and *Sweeny Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. See his work at: [www.dwyerdesignstudio.com](http://www.dwyerdesignstudio.com)



**ETHAN EGGLESTON**, a sophomore from Gansevoort, NY, is pursuing a major in theatre performance. NU credits: GGTLAM (*Mr. Gorbby*), *Us & Them* (Ensemble). Offstage credits: *Matilda* (*Trunchbull*), *RENT*(Gordon), *Songs For A New World* (Man 2), *Damn Yankees* (Applegate), *Seussical* (*Cat In The Hat*), *Avenue Q* (Rod), *Newsies* (Wiesel), *School of Rock* (Lawrence).



**JAMARION EVANS** from Hammond, IN, about 20 minutes from Chicago. Attends Niagara University pursuing a B.F.A in Theatre Performance and two Minors one in American Sign Language, and the other in Design and Production. Previous Shows, NU Credits: *Emma The Musical* (Robert Martin); *Machinal* (ASM); *Us & Them: Aerial Investigation* (Ensemble); *Measure for Measure* (SM); *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*(Investigator and Ensemble); *Sondheim Review* (Ensemble), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Sound Operator) Outside Credits: *The Little Mermaid*(Ursula); *We Will Rock You* (Galileo); *The Tempest* (Ceres); *Sister Act* t(Tj); The 25 annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Male Understudy).



**LAUREN FARROW**, is thrilled to be back on the Niagara University stage! A junior from Rochester, NY, Lauren is pursuing her theatre performance major with a minor in design and production. NU credits: Moving Back Home: Niagara University Dance Theatre, the 2022/2023 Short Play Festival, and Peter and the Starcatcher (Betty Bumble). Outside credits: Macbeth (Macduff) and New Works Play Festival (Lane) at the Powerhouse Theatre, The Addams Family (Morticia) and Anything Goes (Charity). Lauren would like to give a special thanks to her parents for always supporting her crazy endeavors. Find her on instagram at @laurenfarrow313



**ELIZABETH FLICKINGER**, a freshman from Northville, NY, is a theater design and production major at Niagara University. Outside Credits: At Northville Central School, Beauty and the Beast (Crew), The Little Mermaid (Crew), Little Women (Stage Manager), 101 Dalmations Kids (Student Director), Guys and Dolls Jr. (Stage Manager), Frozen Kids (Student Director), Lion King Kids (Student Director), and Footloose (Stage Manager).



**GABRIELLA GALANTE**, a senior from Wheatfield, NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major with minors in dance and general business. NU Credits: A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Phoebe D'Ysquith), As You Like It (Celia), The Musical of Musicals the Musical! (Abby), Peter and the Starcatcher (Prentiss), Good Kids (Kylie), 2021 Short Play Festival's Let Me In: A Conference Call Play (Phantom), Jane Austen's Emma (Mrs. Bates, Miss Elizabeth Martin), NURT (ensemble). NU Stage Management Credits: 2021 Short Play Festival's Just A Game (Stage Manager) and Rules of Comedy (Stage Manager), Cabaret (Assistant Stage Manager).



**BRIANNA GARCIA**, a sophomore from Lockport, NY, is pursuing a double major in Theatre Performance and Psychology, with a minor in Spanish through the NU Honors Program. Outside credits; The Great Gatsby (Daisy Buchanan), 42nd Street, Young Frankenstein, Joseph... Dreamcoat at the Historic Palace Theatre. Other; Into the Woods (Baker's Wife), Radium Girls (Kathryn Schaub), Godspell (Turn Back O' Man), Hello Dolly! (Minnie Fay), CLUE (Yvette). Previous summer; Lake Plain's Players "The State of the Arts Cabaret", and Starring Buffalo's Hello Dolly. Brianna attended NYSSMA Conference All State Vocal Jazz and NYSSA's Drama Program, and was nominated for a Kenny.



**ADRIANO GATTO** (Artist in Residence, Recruitment) As an internationally Certified Fight Instructor with the Academy of Fight Directors Canada, Adriano's work as a Fight Director has been seen in over 100 productions including: the world premieres of Revival: The Resurrection of Son House and Heartland (Geva Theatre Center); One Man, Two Guvnors, Into the Breeches! (Chautauqua Theatre Company); Tis Pity She's a Whore, and the world premiere of The Onion Game (Irish Classical Theatre Company); Carmen (RPO); Don Giovanni, Out of Darkness/Into the Fire (Eastman Opera Theatre), among others. For NU Theatre, Adriano has served as the Fight

Director on over 30 productions and also directed *The Wolves*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Eurydice*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* and *Comedy of Errors* (Best Director of a Play - BroadwayWorld Buffalo Theatre Awards). Professional acting credits include productions with Shakespeare Theatre Company, Folger Shakespeare Theatre, Round House Theatre, Indiana Repertory Theatre, and Olney Theatre Center, along with many award winning theatre companies here in Buffalo. He is a proud member of AEA, SAG/AFTRA, SDC, and FDC.



**RYAN ALEXANDER**, a junior from Cleveland, OH, is pursuing a performance major. NU Credits: *A Gentleman's Guide* (Tour Guide/Ensemble), 2023 Short Play Festival's *The Open Door & This is Not a Play* (Sir Geoffrey & A), *Us & Them* (Peppino), & *Machinal* (Doctor/Ensemble). Outside Stage Credits: *The Cripple of Inishmaan* (Cripple Billy Claven), *Newsies* (Crutchie/Fight Captain), *Anything Goes* (Dippy), *Titanic* (Bellboy), *She Loves Me* (Ladislav Sipos). Film Credits: *Lightning Baby* (Crowe). Ryan also had the honor of performing as part of *The Comeback Cabaret* at Don't Tell Mama NYC in August! He is so happy to be back with this wonderful program and ecstatic for another year!



**ADELAIDE HAWKINS**, a junior from Killingworth, CT is pursuing a theatre performance major with minors in political science and dance. NU credits: *Everybody* (Child/Time), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Moving Back Home*, *Decision Height*, and *Emma* (Lighting Crew), *Machinal* (Lightboard Operator). Outside credits: *Blue Fire Stage Company*; *Freaky Friday* (Gretchen) and at Haddam-Killingworth High School; *Bye Bye Birdie* (Ensemble), *The Wizard of Oz* (Ensemble), *Small Actors* (Emily), *One Act Play Disaster* (Elise), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Chiffon), *A Virtual Murder Mystery* (Sarah Wilcox), and *Working* (Dolores Dante), *A Christmas Carol* (Lighting Director), *It's A Wonderful Life* (Lighting Director), and *Check Please* (Director). Offstage Credits: Connecticut Performing Arts Center (CTPAC) *Seussical Jr.* (Assistant Choreographer).



**ISAAC HOHL**, a sophomore from Atlanta, GA, is pursuing a theatre performance major with a minor in dance. NU credits: *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Ensemble) *Miss Bennett: Christmas* at Pemberly (Wardrobe Crew) Short Play Festival's *Dogma Afternoon* and *Extreme Customer Service*. Outside credits: *Our Town* (Mr. Webb), *Roger's and Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Sebastian), *Anatomy of Gray* (Pastor Phineas Wingfield/Sound Tech), *Peter Pan* (John Darling), *The Little Mermaid* (Chef Louis/Ensemble) at Allatoona High School's Theatre Department, and *Into the Woods* (Big Bad Wolf/Mysterious Man/Steward) at Creative Arts Theatrical Studio. He has competed in the Junior Theatre Festival, National Performing Arts Festival, and the GHSA Region 6A One Act State Championship throughout his career in Theatre.



**ROBYN LEE HORN** moved to Buffalo in 2018 after two decades of working as a professional actor and director in NYC and regional theatre and six years teaching theatre at a performing arts high school in New Jersey. Locally, she has taught theatre courses at Niagara and UB, served as Managing Director of Alleyway Theatre, and has continued to work professionally as an actor and director, earning Artie Award nominations for Best Actress in a Musical (Adult Alison in Fun Home at MusicalFare/ Shea's 710) and Best Director (Berserker at Alleyway Theatre). Robyn contributed a chapter to the edited volume, Theatre and the Macabre, published in 2022 by the University of Wales Press and she is currently completing her doctoral dissertation in Theatre and Performance at UB. Last spring, Robyn directed NU's production of The Thanksgiving Play by Larisa Fasthorse. She is delighted to bring Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley to the Leary Theatre stage in collaboration with the wonderful Theatre and Fine Arts students and faculty.



**PAIGE JANES**, Theatre Performance and Theatre Education major, a junior from Ashland, VA, is pursuing a Theatre Performance Major, along with the Theatre Education 4+1 Program. NU Credits: A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Ensemble) and Sondheim Tribute Revue (Ensemble).



**LILLIAN JARZABEK**, a sophomore from Conesus, NY, is currently pursuing a theatre performance major and a dance minor. NU credits: Art (Marc), 2023 Short Play Festival (Bethlehem, PA - Bunny), Us & Them: Aerial Investigations (prop runner), Everybody (prop runner). Outside credits: OFC Creations; Sweet Charity (Rosie), Into the Woods (The Witch), Heathers (Veronica Sawyer), Jekyll and Hyde (Emma), Rent (Joanne). Livonia High School; All Shook Up (Natalie), Little Shop of Horrors (Audrey), The Lion King Jr. (student director, asst. choreographer).



**OLIVIA KANE** of Wilson, NY, is a senior theater and performing arts major. Her roles in high school include Guys and Dolls (Mission Band/Agatha), Legally Blonde (Serena), The Addams Family (Wednesday), Bye Bye Birdie (Nancy/Mrs. McAfee), Beehive: The 60s Musical (Wanda). Her roles at Niagara University include An Ideal Husband (Mrs. Marchmont), Emma: The Musical (Mrs. Elton), Machinal (stenographer/bartender/lawyer for prosecution/barber), and Measure for Measure (Isabella). Offstage credits: An Ideal Husband (dramaturg), Dance Theatre: Moving Back Home (wardrobe crew), and Cabaret (prop acquisition), Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley (stage manager), and A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (light board operator).



**BRIANA BLAIR KELLY** is a multidisciplinary artist and dance educator in Rochester, NY. She holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from SUNY Fredonia and an MFA in Choreography and Performance from SUNY Brockport. Kelly is adjunct faculty at Niagara University, where she teaches Jazz and Irish. She is also a movement/theatre/music instructor at the Cobblestone Arts Center and the Creator/Creative Director of ROCeltic, a Rochester based performance company. [www.briana-blairkelly.com](http://www.briana-blairkelly.com)



**DEVIN KLUMPP** is a Junior Performance Theatre major with Niagara University. Most recent professional credits include: Declan (American Idiot) with Belissima, Assistant Technical Director for Shakespeare in Delaware Park, Sammy (Sunset Boulevard), Stormtrooper/ASM (Wicket) \*Artie Nominated\*, and Build Crew (Chicago) with O'Connell and Company, Build Crew (Snowy Day) with Theatre of Youth. Past Niagara credits include: Charles Bingley (Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley), Orange (NURT), Jitter (Musical of Musicals), Victor (Cabaret). Devin is excited to see what this academic year has to offer!



**JUSTIN KOCHETTA** is a senior theatre performance major with a minor in design and production. He is really excited for his final year at NU and all that is to come. Past NU credits: Peter and the Starcatcher (Boy/Peter), Measure for Measure (Claudio), Machinal (George H. Jones/Others).

**BRITTANY KONRUFF**, a sophomore from Cincinnati, OH, is pursuing a BFA in Design and Production. Past NU credits: Props Acquisition (Measure for Measure), Assistant Stage Manager (Art), Light Crew (Measure for Measure, Everybody), Build Crew (Peter and the Starcatcher, Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley, Measure for Measure, Everybody, A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder) Outside credits: Ursuline Academy Performing Arts' Public Relations Crew (Les Misérables, Mary Poppins), Head of Public Relations (The Little Mermaid, Radium Girls) Ursuline Academy's Theatre Arts Group's Stage Crew (2020 One Act Play Festival), Head of Public Relations (2022 One Act Play Festival).



**KAYLA KUREK** is a sophomore Theater Performance Major with a minor in Design and Production from Hamburg, NY. Kayla is the Assistant Artist Director for the NU Players. NU Credits: Short Play Festival 2023, Art (Yvan), A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Head Usher). Outside Credits Include: Company (Bobby), Little Shop of Horrors (Chiffon), Heathers the Musical (Martha), Almost, Maine Marvelyn, Marcy, Rhonda). Directing Credits include: Winnie the Pooh KIDS, Spongebob the Musical Jr., The Prom, Shrek Jr., The Little Mermaid Jr., Footloose Jr., Annie KIDS. Kayla currently works at Mel's School of Music and Theater as Technical Director.



**LAUREN LAMPE**, a freshman from Rochester, NY, is pursuing a major in Theater Performance through Niagara University. Outside credits include: Bare: A Pop Opera (Nadia McConnell), The Prom (Dee Dee Allen), Ride The Cyclone (Jane Doe), Sweet Charity (Ensemble). Outside off Stage credits include, Golden Girls: A Christmas Carol (Crew), Steel Magnolias (Cosmetology Consultant), Beauty and The Beast (Assistant Stage Manager).



**HANNAH LAREUZ**, a freshman from Rochester, N.Y., is pursuing a theatre design/technology major. Outside credits: Legally Blonde (Brooke Wyndham), The Prom (Kaylee/Dance Captain), and A Chorus Line (Lori/Dance Captain). Offstage credits: Hocus Pocus: The Drag Parody Musical (Costume Assistant), Music Man Kids (Wardrobe Head), The Wizard of Oz (Wardrobe Head), Oliver! (Wardrobe Head). Hannah also works at OFC Creations Theater Center as a Wardrobe Head and Production Assistant.



**BRIEGE LENNON**, a freshman from Buffalo, NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major through the Niagara University Honors Program. Outside credits: Game of Tiaras (Cinderella), Mamma Mia! (Rosie), and Peter/Wendy (Captain Hook) at Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart. Romeo and Juliet (Sound Playback), As You Like It (Apprentice) at Shakespeare in Delaware Park. She is thrilled for the many shows to come at Niagara!



**AYDEN MACNEIL**, an incoming freshman from Niagara Falls, NY, is pursuing a theater performance major. Outside credits: Dig It! (Tomb Soloist), At the Bandstand (Carl St. Calir), Annie Jr. (Mr. Warbucks), Beauty and the Beast (Ensemble), Brighton Beach Memoirs (Eugene), Clue! (Mr. Green), Plaza Suite (Borden/Stage Crew), Grease (Kenickie). He has received the Scholastic International Chess Championship award in 2022. He is currently employed at Arby's.



**CALLIE MADDOX**, a freshman from Sanborn, NY, is pursuing a Theatre Studies Major. Outside credits: At Teal's Niagara Theatre, Rock of Ages (Lead Guitarist), Annie (Dog Catcher). At Starpoint High School, The Little Mermaid (Ensemble), Newsies (Ensemble), The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (Mrs. Irving), Something Rotten (Nostradamus). At Niagara Amusement Park and Splash World in the entertainment department (Rosie Dunn Cowgirl/Outlaw).



**GARY MARINO** (Lecturer, Ballet, and Choreographer) Gary began his formal training in the music department of SUNY at Albany, then went on to study dance with Melissa Hayden, Elizabeth Carroll, Edward Vilella, Kay Mazzo and Peter Martins at Skidmore College. He also studied jazz with Rhett Dennis at the Luigi School in New York as well as modern with Ethel Winter of the Martha Graham School. Mr. Marino began performing with the Skidmore Dancers, Saratoga Ballet Company, Schenectady Civic Ballet, Buffalo Repertory Ballet Co. and Camelot Dancers. At Artpark he choreographed and appeared in *La Traviata* and *Rigoletto*. His choreographic experience also includes numerous ballets for the Buffalo Repertory Ballet Co. Previous teaching experience includes Skidmore College, New York State Summer School of the Arts, Darlene Ciglia Dance Project, Royal Academy of Ballet, Union College, Steppin Out Dance Academy, Performing Arts, Lockport City Ballet, Classical Ballet of Western New York, Dawn Marie's Dance Works, Dance Spectrum, Ballet Regent School, David DeMarie's and Mary Alice's Dance Studio in Orchard Park and SUNY at Albany and Buffalo, among others. Currently, Mr. Marino is also on faculty at American Academy of Ballet, Spezio's Dance Dynamics, and Niagara University. In addition, he has judged numerous dance competitions in the U.S. and Canada including Cutting Edge, Dance Masters of America, and Western New York Dance Championships. Recently he has performed with Configuration Dance Theater in Michael Shannons ballet "Been there Done That" and as the Merlin character in "Arthur". In addition, he has created a new ballet in collaboration with Peter Bennett on Jackie Gleasons "Gigot" performed at Niagara University. Many of his students have gone on to join ballet companies and touring companies. In addition to teaching classical Vaganova technique in ballet, he has coached both figure skating for the Buffalo Skating Club and gymnastics at Gleasons Gymnastics. Most recently he will be appearing on the new season of *Dance Twins* to air on the lifetime network this fall. Other talents involve composing music for dance and has produced a ballet class recording with pianist Guy Boleri.



**AUSTIN MARSHALL**, a Senior from Buffalo, NY, is pursuing a Theatre Performance major with a minor in Dance. NU credits: *As You Like It* (Orlando - London Study Abroad), *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Monty Navarro), *Miss Bennett*, *Christmas at Pemberley* (Arthur de Bourgh), *TYA Musical of Musicals the Musical* (Big Willy and others), *NURT 2022*, *Cabaret* (Herman), *Jane Austen's Emma* (Frank Churchill), *Songs for a New World* (Man #1), *Good Kids* (Landon), 2021 Short Play Festival's *Drinks Before Flight* (Lucas), and *Going Viral* (Paranoid Humanoid). Outside credits: At Second Generation and Ujima Theatres, *The Color Purple* (Adam/Ensemble) At OFC Creations Theatre, *A Chorus Line* (Ensemble), *Chicago* (Ensemble). Offstage Credits: Niagara University Theatre, *The Thanksgiving Play* (Assistant Stage Manager).



**JAMES DAVID MAXIM III**, a junior from Corning, NY, is pursuing a Theatre Performance major with a minor in Theatre Design and Production. NU Credits: *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Ensemble), *Peter and the StarCatcher* (Black Stache), *The Thanksgiving Play* (Jaxton). NU Offstage Credits: *Measure for Measure* (Wardrobe Head), *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberly* (Wardrobe), *Cabaret* (Light Board). Outside Credits: *O'Connell and Company's Wicket* (Raodie-Wan) Offstage Credits: *The Glimmerglass Festival's Roméo et Juliette* (Stage Operations), *Candide* (Stage Operations), and at *O'Connell and Company's Wicket* (ASM). James David is also the Co Vice President of the NU Players.



**EMILY MCDONNELL**, a junior from Kenmore, NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major with a minor in costume design/construction. NU credits: *As You Like It* (Touchstone), *Us and Them* (Ensemble), 2021 Short Play Festival's *Nightswim* (Rosie). Offstage credits: NU Player's Art (Sound board operator), 2023 Short Play Festival's *The Faint Taste of Catfood and Sour Milk* (Stage manager), *Cabaret* (Wardrobe crew). Outside credits: *Artpark Fairy Festival* (Ensemble) High School credits: *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Ensemble), *Fahrenheit 451* (Medic), *Argonautika* (Dymas), *Legally Blonde* (Ensemble)



**PARIS MOFFITT** is a sophomore from Gasport, NY. She is pursuing a degree in Theatre Performance with minors in Theatre Design & Production with a focus in Stage Management and American Sign Language & Deaf Studies. NU Credits: *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Smee), Short Play Festival '23, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Ensemble), *N.U.R.T* (Ensemble), *A Sondheim Review* (Ensemble/Assistant Stage Manager). Outside Credits: *At the Lockport Palace Theatre*, *Scrooge The Musical* (Ensemble & Cratchit Child), *Seussical The Musical* (Ensemble), *The Wizard of Oz* (Munchkin & Ensemble), *Joseph And The Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Ensemble), *The Little Mermaid, Jr.* (Ursula), and at *Barker, Jr/Sr High School*, *Mary Poppins* (Ensemble), *Mamma Mia!* (Ali), *Addams Family* (Grandma Addams), *Little Women* (Marmee). Paris was nominated for a Kenny Award for Outstanding Dramatic Performance for her performance as Marmee. @paris.moffitt



**BRIDGET MORIARTY** (Assistant Professor, Voice, Music Director), Bridget Moriarty is the full-time music director at Niagara University, recent NU credits include *Freaky Friday*, *Legally Blonde*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *She Loves Me* and *Chicago*. Other credits include *First Lady Suite* at Syracuse University, *Spring Awakening* and *Cabaret* with Syracuse Summer Theatre at The Oncenter, *La Cage aux Folles*, and *The Little Mermaid*, with Redhouse Arts Center, *Hair* and *Avenue Q* with Covey Theatre Co., and *Les Misérables* with the Wit's End Players. In 2018 Bridget was awarded the Syracuse Area Live Theater (SALT) Award for Best Musical Director, an honor she also received in 2017, 2012 and 2010, when she won the SALT Award for Lead Actress in a Musical for her portrayal of Lucille Frank in *Parade*. In 2016 Bridget was a national finalist in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist Award competition. Bridget received a doctorate of musical arts from the University of North Carolina Greensboro.





**JACK MOUNTAIN** is a freshman studying Theater Performance from Rochester, NY. Outside credits: OFC Creations; Bare: A Pop Opera (Lucas), The Prom (Barry), Ride The Cyclone (Mischa), Spring Awakening (Otto), Spelling Bee (Barfee), Spongebob Squarepants (Mr.Krabs), Rock Of Ages (Lonny) Chicago (Ensemble), and Sweet Charity (Ensemble). Open Road Theater; The Three Musketeers (D'Artagnan) and A Midsummer Night's Dream (Lysander/Flute). Off Stage Credits: OFC Creations; Pippin (Spot Operator), Oliver Jr. (Light Board Operator)



**ABIGAIL MYLOCK**, a senior from Dover Plains, NY, is pursuing a Theatre performance and Communications major with a minor in Film. International Credits: Rosalind, in As you Like It (London) NU Credits: Measure for Measure (Elbow and Mariana) Machinal (Telephone girl, and other ensemble) Decision Height (Rosalie) She Kills Monsters (Evil Gabby), Short Play Festival (Stage Manager for Drinks before Flights) and Short Play Festival: Director (The Faint Taste of Cat Food and Sour Milk) Outside Credits: Film Turn Up The Night (Extra) Short Film (To know a Veil, Tiffany). Offstage Credits: Theatre Promotional Video and film intern with Brian Rock.



**MARA NEIMANIS** devises theatre using standing and suspended steel sculpture. Her work has been described; "Neimanis makes the impossible look supremely easy" –The Washington Post. She has created 6 aerial plays, invented 4 site specific aerial installations, and served as a coach and collaborator on theater projects with companies in DC, NYC and in Costa Rica. Commissions include; Center Stage Endowment for New Works, The Native Cultures Grant of California, The Robert W Deutsch Foundation, to name a few. Mara is a 1985 graduate of the N.U Theatre Program under Bro Augustine Towey, holds an MFA in Theater from Towson University 2006, and is a graduate of The Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theater in Blue Lake California where she served as an instructor and company member from 1993-2000. Aerial training includes The San Francisco School of Circus Arts, and the late great aerial pioneer, Terry Sendgraff. Mara founded In-Flight Theater in 2006-2017 and has been a resident teaching artist at many theatres including The Baltimore Theater Project, The Round House Theater DC, Center Stage VA, The New Market Theater, The Tennessee Williams Theater, The University of San Jose, Cal Arts department for Theater and Video CA, Maryland Institute College of Art, and The Studios of Key West.



**KIM NEISS** (Administrative Assistant-Theatre & Fine Arts) graduated from Drury University in Springfield, Missouri, with a bachelor's degree in Multimedia Production/Journalism. Right after college, Kimberly found a love and passion for working in live theatre. She moved here from Dallas, TX, where she was privileged to work as a Production Manager at a Small Professional Theatre. Kimberly has worked as a stage manager/production manager in over 30 productions and is currently stage managing shows at The Alleyway Theatre. She is excited to support the NUTS during this season and can't wait to watch the stories come to life on stage.



**SEBASTIAN NEWELL**, a junior from East Aurora, NY, is pursuing degrees in Theatre Design/Production and Art History/Museum studies through the NU Honors Program. His area of focus is costume technology and he intends to pursue theatrical and historical costuming professionally. Sebastian spent the 2023 summer season working as a Stitching/Dressing Apprentice at the Santa Fe Opera. [sebastiannewell.com](http://sebastiannewell.com)



**MEGHAN O'CONNOR** is a senior from Buffalo, N.Y. She is pursuing a double major in BFA Theatre Performance and Communications Studies. Recent credits at Niagara University include Everybody (Somebody), Peter and the Starcatcher (Fighting Prawn), Moving Back Home: Niagara University Dance Theatre (dancer), Dancing in the Light 2 (dancer), She Kills Monsters (Evil Tina), and ASM in Jane Austen's EMMA. She recently studied abroad in London, credits include Phoebe, Amiens, William, and Hymen in As You Like It. [@meghan.oc](https://www.instagram.com/meghan.oc) on Instagram



**SAM OLSZEWSKI**, a freshman from Lancaster, N.Y. is pursuing a theatre performance major. Outside credits: At the Lancaster Youth Bureau Mama Mia (Bill), Newsies (Albert and Bunson), and at Lancaster High School and Sweethome High School Beauty and the Beast twice (Cogsworth and Gaston), Mary Poppins (Robertson Ay), Thoroughly Modern Millie (Rodney), Hairspray (IQ) Wizard Of Oz (Wizard), and the Kenny award winning production of Catch Me If You Can (Frank Sr).



**DAVE PETERSON PhD** is an assistant professor of theatre at Niagara University where he teaches courses in theatre history, literature, and theory, and also directs in the season. He holds a PhD in Theatre and Performance Studies from the University of Pittsburgh, in addition to an MA in Theatre from Michigan State University, and a BA in History and Theatre from the University of Michigan. He has taught theatre at Colby College in Maine, North Central College in Illinois, and at California State University in Bakersfield. He has published research on Shakespeare and clowning in Contemporary Theatre Review, Comedy Studies, and Comparative Drama, in addition to various book and performance reviews. He has presented research at The Association for Theatre in Higher Education, The American Society for Theatre Research, the Mid-America Theatre Conference, and others. His current research centers on the work of American playwright Lorraine Hansberry. In addition to this research Dave has directed Machinal and Good Kids at Niagara. Other directing credits include Antigone, Harvey, Troilus and Cressida, Late, A Cowboy Song, The Servant of Two Masters, and others.



**ALIDA PIRACCI**, a senior from Buffalo, N.Y. is pursuing a theatre performance major. NU Credits: Decision Height (Woman Of Avenger Field) and Measure for Measure (Friar Thomas/ Servant/ Abhorson)



**ANESSA PRETEROTI**, a sophomore from Pittsburgh, P.A. is pursuing a theatre performance major with minors in theatre design/production and ASL. NU credits: Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberly (wardrobe crew), Everybody (assistant stage manager). Outside credits: Xanadu (featured dancer), Pippin (ensemble), The Little Mermaid (Alana), The Wizard of Oz (Glinda), Fiddler on the Roof (Avram), Beauty and the Beast (ensemble), Annie (orphan), Anything Goes (assistant director). Anessa also has experience working for the Walt Disney Company's Entertainment Costuming as part of the Disney College Program.



**SAMANTHA PREZIOSO**, a sophomore from Montgomery, N.Y., is pursuing a theatre performance major with minors in theatre design/production and dance. NU credits: Everybody (Stuff, Somebody, Five Senses), 2023 Short Play Festival's This Is Not A Play (B) and Extreme Customer Service (Janis), A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Video Projections). Outside credits: At Valley Central, The Wizard of Oz (Tinman), If Sherlock Holmes Were a Woman (Mrs. Hudson), The Music Man (Zaneeta Shinn), Anything Goes (Ensemble).



**RYLIE RANDALL** is a senior Theatre Performance major from Avon NY with a minor in dance. NU credits: Gentleman's Guide...Murder (Miss Shingle,) Peter and the Starcatcher (Teacher, Mack,) Machinal (Ensemble,) Decision Height (Ensemble, Music Director.) Outside credits: O'Connell and Company's Wicket (Latara,) Livonia Community Players' Grease (Rizzo,) Avon High School's (AHS) Guys and Dolls (Adelaide,) and AHS's Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (Baroness) where she won "Outstanding Supporting Actress" through Rochester's 2019 Stars of Tomorrow Gala. Nominations: "Outstanding Musical Ensemble" for Wicket, Buffalo's 2023 Artie Awards. "Outstanding Lead Actress" for Guys and Dolls (Adelaide,) Rochester's 2020 Stars of Tomorrow Gala.

**TONY RAJEWSKI** is an adjunct lighting designer for NU.



**JACKIE RENAUD**, is a senior Design and Production major with a concentration in Technical Direction and Scenic Painting. NU credits: Art (Technical Director), Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley (Assistant Technical Director), A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder (Assist. Technical Director), Everybody (Charge Artist), Peter and the Starcatcher (Assist. Charge Artist), Short Play Festival - Dogma Afternoon, Lines, Gorilla Gorilla (Stage Manager), Us & Them: Aerial Investigation (Assist. Stage Manager). Professional Credits: Shakespeare in Delaware Park - 2022, 2023 Build Crew, As You Like It (Assist. Stage Manager); Second Generation Theatre - Cabaret (Assist. Technical Director); Jewish Repertory Theatre - Tuesdays with Morrie (Assist. Technical Director); Des Moines Metro Opera - 2023 Show Operations Apprentice.

**PATTY RIHN (Guest Lighting Designer)** is a graduate of Binghamton University, where she received her BA in Theatrical Design as well as French Language and Literature. Since 2005, she has worked with a number of production companies and theatres in Western New York. Her full-time job is at the University at Buffalo's Center for the Arts, where she works as head electrician. Patty has had the privilege of working with the wonderful NU staff and students for nine seasons and counting as a guest lighting designer. She has lit 16 shows, starting with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the spring of 2012, and most recently *The Machinal* last spring, after a pandemic-induced hiatus. She is thrilled to be rejoining the NU Theatre family for a tenth season.



**HAYLEE SALMONSEN**, a sophomore from Jordan, NY, is pursuing a Theatre Performance major and a minor in Communications. Outside credits: *Anastasia* (Dowager Empress), *Clue* (Mrs. White), *Troilus and Cressida* (Messenger), *Alice in Wonderland* (Flower/Tweedledee). She also competed every year in the National Shakespeare Competition.



**ELENA MICHELE** is Junior from Syracuse, NY., is pursuing a BFA in Theatre Performance and a minor in Sociology. Recent credits include *Legally Blonde* (Paulette Bonafonte), *Annie* (Pepper), *As You Like It* (Silvius), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Mae Peterson), *Decision Height* (Assistant Stage Manager/Ensemble), *Moscow Ballet's Great Russian Nutcracker* (Party Child/Mouse/Snowflake), *Into The Woods* (Ballroom Dancer), and *A Chorus Line* (Ensemble). Elena hopes to pursue a Masters degree in London and be involved in both theatre and film industries. @itselenamichele on Instagram

**KAHLIL SARIKEY** (Adjunct Professor) joined the Theatre Department faculty as the theory/musicianship instructor. He also holds a position at Buffalo State College as instructor for guitar lessons, guitar ensemble, music theory, and aural skills. While recently completing his Doctor of Musical Arts in Guitar Performance and Literature with a music theory minor at the Eastman School of Music, Dr. Sarikey was awarded a teaching assistantship. His educational credits also include a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Buffalo State College and a Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music. He was awarded a performers certificate while attending Eastman, a prestigious award given to those who exemplify the highest levels of performance. Mr. Sarikey has performed in several competitions taking first prize in the Eastman Guitar Concerto competition and second prize in the Great Lakes Guitar Society competition. He has participated in master classes with world-renowned artists such as Roland Dyens, Roberto Aussell, and Eliot Fisk.



**MIRANDA SCHALBERG**, a senior from Newfane, N.Y., is pursuing a theatre performance major with a minor in dance. She also takes lessons in aerial performance at Buffalo Aerial Dance. NU credits: GGTLAM (Ensemble), Us & Them: Aerial Investigations (Ensemble), Decision Height (Mildred), Death Defying (Zazel), A Harmony of Both (Emily). Offstage credits: The Knife (Director), In a Manner of Speaking (Stage Manager), and The First Fireworks (Stage Manager). Outside credits: Historical Palace Theatre; 42nd Street (Ensemble), Joseph ATATD (Ensemble), and Scrooge the Musical (Belle).

**NICO SCIRRI** is a freshmen from Gasport, NY, majoring in Theatre Performance and Communications/Media Studies, and minoring in Film Studies. Credits include The Wizard of Oz (Stage Crew), The Lion King (Stage Crew), Tune into Murder (Stage Crew), Mulan (Stage Crew), The Legend of Robin Hood... Sort Of (The "Thin Friar").



**NYAH SEARLES** is a senior theatre performance major from London, England. Nyah is pursuing a theatre performance major. NU Credits: She Kills Monsters the Virtual Realms (Kaliopé), The Last Call (Sonia), Short Play Festival (Wendy), Niagara University Repertory Theatre (NURT), Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley (Elizabeth Darcy), A Gentleman's Guide To Love And Murder (Lady Eugenia/Ensemble 1) Outside Credits: As You Like It (Duke Senior)



**AMANDA LYTLE SHARPE** (Adjunct Professor, Speech, Guest Director) received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Acting with honors from the University of Florida, and her Masters of Fine Arts in Acting from the University of North Carolina Greensboro. She worked professionally with the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival and the North Carolina Theatre for Youth. Amanda also attended the British American Drama Academy at Stanford University to study acting. She has been an Adjunct Professor at Niagara University for 18 years having taught acting, speech and dialects. A few Niagara University directorial credits include: the 2010–2018 N.U.R.T., *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Stage Door*, *9 to 5: The Musical*, *The Wrestling Season*, *A Piece of My Heart*, *The Secret Life of Girls*, *Rumors*, *The Women of Lockerbie*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *Wonder of the World*, *The Dearest of Friends*, *Spring Dance*, *The Underpants* and *The Princess and the Pea*. In addition to serving as Dialect Coach for many NU Theatre productions, Amanda has worked as the professional dialect coach at SUNY Brockport, MusicalFare, Irish Classical Theatre and The Kavinoky Theatre. She also works in conjunction with the Castellani Art Museum as the Director for the Kids 'n Art Summer Program.



**MAUREEN T. STEVENS** (Associate Professor of Design and Production, Costume, Hair & Make-Up Designer) received her B.S. from Buffalo State College in Apparel and Textile Technology and her M.F.A. in Theatre with an emphasis in Costume Design from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. Previous to joining the faculty at Niagara University, her career has spanned many facets of costuming and areas of the country including: Assistant to the Operational Costume Coordinator for the Walt Disney World Company in Orlando, Florida. At Niagara,

Ms. Stevens has designed or coordinated more than 100 productions. Professional design credits include: The Strudel Lady and The Whipping Man at the Jewish Repertory Theatre, the premiere of Over the Tavern at Studio Arena Theatre, The Taming of the Shrew and Two Gentlemen of Verona at The Colorado Shakespeare Festival in Boulder, CO, and It's a Wonderful Life – the Radio Play at Buffalo's Kavinoky Theatre.



**ALEX SYLVESTER** is a freshman from Lancaster, NY pursuing a theater performance major with a minor in communication studies. Previous credits include; at the Lancaster Youth Bureau, Newsies (Pulitzer), Mamma Mia! (Harry Bright), 50's Revue (ensemble), at St Mary's High School, The Wizard of Oz (Tinman), Little Shop of Horrors (Orin), Blithe Spirit (Dr. Bradman), Godspell (Herb), with Performing Arts, Mean Girls (Aaron Samuels), with the Music Academy of WNY, RENT (Benjamin Coffin III), and with Sacred Heart Academy, Mamma Mia! (Bill Austin)



**AMY TEAL**, a senior lecturer in the theatre department, teaches vocal performance classes to the juniors and freshman, as well as private voice students. She enjoys a busy and diverse teaching and performing career in the WNY region and is the proud owner of her own children's theatre and music academy in Niagara Falls, Teal's Niagara Theatre & Music, in residence at the Niagara Arts and Cultural Center. Ms. Teal has performed as a classical artist, with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, Opera Lytes, Opera Sacra, Cheektowaga Symphony, Amherst Chamber Ensemble, Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus, Erwin H. Johnson and Buffalo Opera Unlimited. A crossover artist, equally at home on the musical theatre stage, amy has performed roles with many Buffalo theaters and at ArtPark and is the proud recipient of a Tanys Award for Outstanding Vocal Performance as the narrator in Joseph with TITM. A passionate educator, Amy believes in creating strong relationships with her students and she was honored to be included in "Who's Who Among America's Teachers", as a "teacher who made a difference".



**MARTY THOMAS** is a Senior at Niagara University and young African American male who seeks to own a theatre and become inspire voice actor. Having a disability at an early age he was face with many hurtle throughout his life. Often overcoming through preservation and with support from family and friends. With this mind, Marty diligently put his heart and soul into each production he works on. NU Credits: Measure for Measure (Froth, Barnadine) Offstage : Offstage credits: Road Less Traveled Productions' (RLTP) Sweat (Stage Management Intern).



**KEIRSTEN THOMAS** (Administrative Assistant/Box Office Supervisor/ FNUT Liaison) received her BFA in theatre performance with a fine arts minor in costume design and construction from Niagara University in 2013. Since graduation, she has been fortunate to continue her work in theatre, from The Entertainment Department of Walt Disney World in Florida, to the Gate Hill Players in the Hudson Valley. Select WNY credits include: Into The Woods (Director/Costume Designer & Supervisor), Godspell (Director/Costume Designer) at NCCC; King John (Costume Designer) at The New Phoenix Theatre; the original and revival productions of It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play (Costume Designer) at 13 Players. Keirsten is a Co-Founder and Co-Artistic Director of 13 Players, a professional theatre company in the Niagara Falls area. She is honored to once again be a part of the NU Theatre family and looks forward to supporting the NUTS in their many productions alongside her creative husband Primo, and their two daughters Penny & Freya.



**PRIMO THOMAS** (Technical Director) is a proud alumnus of Niagara University's theatre department, graduating in 2013 with a BFA in theatre studies design technology with a concentration in scenic design. Primo is an active designer and technical director in the Buffalo Theatre community. His past scenic design credits include: A Child's Christmas in Wales (Irish Classical Theatre Company), Go, Dog, Go! (NURT), Angels in America (Second Generation Theatre), Annapurna (New Phoenix Theatre), My Three Angels (New Phoenix Theatre), Into the Woods (NCCC), Godspell (NCCC), and A Midsummer Night's Dream (NCCC). He is a Co-Founder and the Technical Director of 13 Players, a professional theatre company in the Niagara Region. He is incredibly dedicated to sharing the love of his craft with the next generation of NU theatre students.



**KATIE THOMPSON**, a junior from Bradford, PA, is pursuing a theatre performance major with a minor in ASL. NU credits: Cabaret (Spot Op), Peter And The Starcatcher (Wardrobe Crew), and A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder (Spot Op). Outside credits: Offerings (Kate), Guys and Dolls (Save-a-Soul Mission Member & Gen. Cartwright U/S), The Sound of Music (Nun & Mother Abbess U/S), Mame (Ensemble & Agnes Gooch U/S) at Bradford Area High School. Bradford Little Theatre's Frozen Jr. (Middle Elsa & Ensemble) and Kiwanis Kaper's Kapers Kabaret (Cabaret Girl & Choir Member).



**PAUL TODARO** (Adjunct Professor, Acting) graduated from Niagara University's Theatre program in 1987 and moved to New York where he worked with the Independent Theatre Company at House of Candles Theatre on Manhattan's lower east side. Paul acted and directed the plays of Shakespeare, Beckett, Brecht, Pinter, Strindberg and, in 1992, became the Artistic Director of the company. In 1993, House of Candles was named the Best Off-Off Broadway Theatre Company by the New York Press. In 1997 Paul returned to Buffalo and began teaching acting at NU. Locally he has worked as an actor and director at Studio Arena, Artpark, The Kavinoky Theatre, Shakespeare in Delaware Park, and for several years, he was an artist in residence for the Irish Classical Theatre. Paul has also appeared as a guest artist on the NU stage as Grandpere in The Happy Time and Teyve in Fiddler on the Roof. He appeared in The Sound of Music at Artpark during the summer of 2012, and was in Red for 710 Main Theatre.



**PAIGE TOMLINSON**, a freshman from Hamburg, N.Y., is pursuing a theatre performance major through the 4 plus 1 theatre education program. Outside credits: Alice in Wonderland (Tall Alice) and, at Frontier High School, Mamma Mia (Ensemble), A Killer Party (Lily Wright), Sister Act (Tina/Featured Nun), Clue: On Stage (Miss Scarlet), and Beauty and the Beast (Silly Girl/Belle Understudy).



**TERRI FILIPS VAUGHAN** (Chair, Professor, Dance, and Choreographer) has choreographed over 45 musicals and 20 concert works at Niagara University. During this time, she had the privilege of working alongside the great musical team of John Kander and the late Fred Ebb. Terri has worked as a freelance teacher, choreographer and theatre director for numerous schools, community groups, studios and professional companies. She has choreographed numerous musicals professionally, working at such places as; Artpark, Shakespeare in Delaware Park, Jewish Repertory Theatre, Hope Summer Repertory Theatre and the Rochester Association of Performing Arts (RAPA), OFC/Rochester Lyric Theatre and O'Connell and Company. Highlights include South Pacific at Artpark starring Tony Award winner Mark Jacoby and choreographing world premiere musical Two Tickets to Paradise written by and starring rocker Eddie Money at RAPA. She has set concert choreography at SUNY Buffalo, SUNY Fredonia, Texas Woman's University, Grand Valley State College and Hope College. She was the co-founder of InSync Dance Theatre, a professional tap and jazz company based in Michigan for which she choreographed and performed. She has also worked professionally as a director for musical theatre and theatre for young audiences. She graduated summa cum laude with an MFA in dance from the Texas Woman's University and cum laude with a BA from Hope College. Terri also served as a judge for the Cutting Edge Dance Competitions around the United States. Terri has taught dance educator at numerous National Dance Education Organization Conferences across the U. S. in both tap and musical theatre.

**STEPHEN VAUGHAN** Steve's Directing credits include Geneva Light Opera, Nickel City Opera, Eastman School of Music, and the Lyric Opera Theater of Rochester. At Shakespeare in Delaware Park his credits include: Taming of the Shrew, Twelfth Night, Comedy of Errors, As You Like It, Julius Caesar, Merry Wives of Windsor, Love's Labors Lost and King Lear. He has also directed Blithe Spirit at the Irish Classical Theater, and Tally's Folly, Visiting Mr. Green, Bad Jews, Holiday Shorts and The Beau Jest at Jewish Repertory Theater of Buffalo. Recently Steve directed an all-female version of 1776 and Glorious for O'Connell and Company. Steve has directed numerous productions at the University level including Niagara University, Genesee Community College and Niagara Community College. Additionally, Steve is a freelance stunt coordinator and fight director with over a thousand theater, film, opera and TV credits. He teaches theater at SUNY Fredonia, and Acting for the Camera at Niagara University.





**GRACE VENTURA** is a Junior from Olean, NY pursuing a double major in Theatre Performance and English. Grace has been involved in many NU Theatre productions including girl (Lucy), The 2023 Short play festival in The Faint Taste of Cat Food and Sour Milk (Lisa) and The Skewed Picture (Betty), and A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder (Ensemble). Grace also attended The New York State Summer School for the Arts in The School of Theatre at (NYSSSA) in 2019.



**JEREMY VICARIO**, a Senior from Amherst, N.Y., is pursuing a Theatre Performance Major, With minors in Dance and Political Science. NU credits: Laramie Project (Doc O'Connor and Others), An Ideal Husband (Phipps), Moving Back Home: Niagara Dance Theatre (Dancer), Cabaret (Herr Schultz), Peter and The Starcatcher (Alf) and Most recently was seen in Measure For Measure (Duke Vincentio). He is also Director and Choreographer at Mel's School of Music and Theatre in Hamburg, NY, Teal's Niagara Theatre in Niagara Falls, NY, and has worked on a multitude of productions, his favorites include Means Girls Jr, Matilda Jr, Descendants, Footloose Youth Edition, Heathers High School Edition, Company, The Little Mermaid, along with the Western New York Area's regional debut of The Prom.

**LEANNE VIDA** is thrilled to be back at NU for another season of voice lessons! Upon completion of an Honours Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance at Brock University, she attended Western University Canada to complete two graduate degrees: a Master of Music in Voice Performance and Literature, and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Voice Performance. Leanne has extensive operatic, music theatre, and recording credits, and has performed throughout Canada, the United States, and Europe. In addition to her teaching studio at Niagara University, she is also the adjunct professor of voice at Brock University, a music instructor at Ridley College, and maintains a small home teaching studio. An active performer, Leanne sings in 2 choirs (Avanti Chamber Singers, The Edison Singers), 3 bands (High Fidelity, Temple of Night, Minuscule), and frequently performs as a soprano soloist and session musician. Recent research projects include a curriculum of Canadian Art Song, and the development of a meditation technique for singers and performers. When not making music, Leanne can be found at her local yoga studio, cultivating her wild perennial garden, or immersed in a Dungeons and Dragons campaign.

**KIM VINCENT** (Adjunct Instructor, Director and Choreographer). Ms. Vincent is an adjunct instructor at Niagara County Community College (NCCC) teaching dance in various styles along with co-directing and choreographing for musicals. Ms. Vincent has recently joined the faculty at Niagara University teaching modern and ballet for the dance minor. Ms. Vincent has performed professionally with Buffalo Contemporary Dance and Mone Dance Company. Ms. Vincent has also performed at the International Dance Festival held in NYC. Ms. Vincent holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts and a Masters in Fine Arts in

dance choreography and performance from SUNY Brockport. Ms. Vincent has a philosophy of giving her students the best education she can by helping them find their creative voice including the opportunities to work with other professionals in the field of dance, to grow and evolve as artists.



**AVA WILS**, a freshman from Tonawanda NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major with a minor in education. NU credits: Love Sick (Ensemble), Songs for a New World (Ensemble), She Kills Monsters (Steven), Lost Girl (Krista) Chicago (Mona Lipschitz) Ken Ludwig's Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood (Mother, Featured Fighter), A Piece of My Heart (USO Girl, Soldier), Fiddler on the Roof (Fruma Sarah), The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged (Cleopatra, King Claudius), 2022 24 hour plays (Director), 2023 24 hour plays (Director). She also works at Niagara Amusement Park and Splash World as an entertainer where she performs as Calamity Jane.



**AUDRIANNA YATES** is a transfer student, from Niagara Falls, N.Y., is pursuing her theatre performance with a minor in dance. You may have seen her in The Little Mermaid (Flotsam), Matilda (Cookie/ Ensemble), Pippin (Ensemble) with the Lockport Palace Theatre, Evita (Eva Peron), Jesus Christ Superstar (Mary Magdalene), Smokey Joes Café (Patty) with the Niagara Alumni Players. She also has worked at Busch Gardens Entertainment department for 6 season. Off stage she is a dance instructor at Jaclyn Carols Dance Academy. She has won choreography awards with the Star Dance Alliance and is a member of NDEO (National Dance Education Organization).



**JAREESA YOUNG** is a freshman majoring in Theatre Performance from Buffalo, NY.



**CATHERINE YOUNGERS** a freshman from Holland, NY, is a Theatre Performance major with plans to double with Social Work. Previous Roles: Mamma Mia (Donna Sheridan), Queen City Strikers (Rosie), Newsies (Snyder/Nun/Ensemble), Cinderella (Madame), Carrie (Ensemble), The Show Must Go On: A Revue (Soloist), Leader of the Pack (Featured Soloist), Mamma Mia (Lisa), Shrek: the Musical (Ensemble), Beauty and the Beast (Ensemble), and The Music Man (Ensemble).



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