



NIAGARA  
UNIVERSITY  
PLAYERS

girl.

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Niagara University

Players Presents

An All Student Run Production of

girl.

by Megan Mostyn-Brown

Directed by  
Nefantee Mayers  
Class of '23

Artistic Director  
Tricia Lazatin  
Class of '22

Stage Manager  
SGB  
Class of '23

Technical Director  
and Set Designer  
Spencer Dick  
Class of '22

Costume Designer  
Amaya Mack  
Class of '23

Lighting Designer  
Julia Miskines  
Class of '22

Assistant Artistic  
Director  
Julia Hartloff  
Class of '23

**March 4-6, 2022**

"girl" is presented by arrangement with Concord  
Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

[www.concordtheatricals.com](http://www.concordtheatricals.com)

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# 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, fundraisers, and community service activities. The NU Players also present an all-student production once a year. Join us this year for our production of *girl*. Any NU student is eligible for membership(contact:nuplayers@niagara.edu).

## NU Players Board 2021-2022

Co-Presidents	Taylor Grosskopf, Isabel Merkel
VP/Concessions	Ben Hayes
Secretary	Julia Hartloff
Co-Treasurers	Ryan Henneberger, Julia Miskines
Co-Head Events	Austin Marshall, Nefantee Mayers
Community Service	Gabriella Galante
Soireé/Banquet	Alyssa Garmone
Publicity	Morgan Hilliker
Co-Heads Apparel	Austin Marshall, Jeremy Vicario
Diversity and Inclusion Chair	Nefantee Mayers

## Players Presents

Artistic Director	Tricia Lazatin
Asst Artistic Director	Julia Hartloff
Technical Director	Spencer Dick

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# Director's Note

As a Junior that is beginning the journey of closing out this chapter here at Niagara University, my goals and focus of studies have been how can we pave the way and uplift others who are oppressed and marginalized for their gender, identity, race, and more through our voices and our art. Despite the trials and tribulations, we have had these past years, we still seek a new day and create a new sense of hope and change through the work we do.

A show like *girl.* has put into perspective the hardships and struggles that girls and women alike go through and the emotions and feelings that you don't get to see, that happens behind closed doors. Through the rehearsal process, we have had many conversations about the meaning of this show and the importance of telling these stories, and changing the societal narratives that are placed upon women. It is enriched with connections that other modern plays fear to touch upon, however, the catalyst for growth in these characters reaches to each member of the show whether they be an audience member, actor, critic, or those that are crew members. It is through pain where we find strength. It is through loss where we find peace. It is through shame where we find hope.

As you settle into your seats to watch the show, I want to acknowledge these last few things before you submerge yourself into the world of *girl.* This show was completely worked on, led, designed by students, and was picked by students. Not only this, but I myself am proud to be a part of such an amazing process as it has given me the opportunity to be one of the first students of color to direct a show here at Niagara University. I hope that this show creates a precedent for the future to show how the NU Players can work on a multitude of topics and we as people, no matter what background, can create the opportunity to have different conversations and diversify the lens that we see through.

Peace and blessings,  
Nefantee J. Mayers

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# Cast

In Order of Appearance

Hannah	Gabrianna Wos
Lucy	Grace Ventura
Issac	Ben Sylvester
Mother	Ashley DiPisquale
Lydia	Krista Wander

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## **Act One:**

*Content Warning: Self-Harm, Drug Abuse, Suicide, Adult Language, Alcohol Usage*

**Part I:** Things You Can't Tell Just By  
Looking At Her

**Part II:** We Did What We Could  
With What We Had

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## **Act Two:**

*Content Warning: Sexual Assault, Adult Language*

**Part III:** Lessons I've Learned

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# Production

Asst. Technical Director.....Jeremy Vicario  
NU Players Faculty Advisor.....Doug Zschiegner  
Faculty Technical Advisor.....Primo Thomas  
Assistant Stage Manager.....Danielle Becht  
Deck Crew.....Sophie Chaney, Shyhiem Rodriguez  
Wardrobe Crew....Nyah Searles, Sebastian Newell,  
.....Meghan O'Connor  
Makeup and Hair.....Meghan O'Connor  
Sound Board Operator.....Sean Taylor  
Light Board Operator.....Lauren Farrow  
House Managers.....Elena Michele, Paige Janes  
Head Usher.....Martell Thomas  
Box Office Supervisor.....Keirsten Thomas  
Box Office Manager.....Marley Judd  
Box Office Personnel.....Matthew Catani, SGB,  
..Christian Hines, Tricia Lazatin, Morgan Mincer  
Publicity.....Derek Moran  
Graphic Design.....Suzanne Karaszewski  
Photography.....Mark Duggan  
Playbill Coordination.....Julia Hartloff

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*THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER  
AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION  
AND DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS OR STREAMS IN ANY  
MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY  
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AND ACTIONABLE UNDER UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT LAW.*

*FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT:*

*<https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists>*

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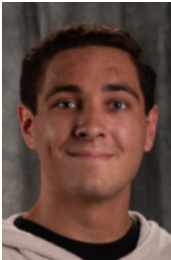
# Cast & Production Biographies



**GABRIANNA WOS** is a junior theater performance major with a minor in American sign language from Findlay, Ohio. Her favorite productions have been *Oklahoma*, *Fools*, and *The Election*. She has also been involved in multiple choirs, voice lessons, and stage crew. While at Niagara, she has been cast in *The Firebugs*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Vital Signs* and been assistant hair and makeup specialist for *Shakespeare Unwrapped: Shakespeare's Kings & Queens: A Family Drama*. She loves to sing and perform and aspires to be a makeup artist for film work.



**GRACE VENTURA** is a freshman from Olean, NY, pursuing a BFA in performance on a pre-law track. Her past credits include *Little Women* (Amy March), *Into The Woods* (Baker's Wife), *Fiddler On The Roof* (Yente), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Simon Zealot). Grace also attended the New York State Summer School of the Arts and was part of the School of Theatre's class of 2019.



**BEN SYLVESTER**, a freshman from Chicago, Ill., is pursuing a theatre performance major. Outside credits: At Putnam High School, *Rumors* (Glenn), *Beauty and the Beast* (Gaston), *Diary of Anne Frank* (Peter), *Loserville* (Eddie), *The Addams Family* (Gomez); at Hinsdale Central, *It's a Wonderful Life* (Freddy Filmore), *The Theory of Relativity* (Anthony); at BAM Theatre, *Mamma Mia!* (Bill). Offstage credits: BAM Theatre's *High School Musical Jr.* (Directing Intern/Sound Tech).



**ASHLEY PEARL DIPASQUALE**, a sophomore from Lockport, NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major and a minor in American Sign Language. Niagara County Community College credits include *Love Doctor* (Martine), *Romeo and Juliet* (Lady Capulet), *Into the Woods* (Florinda), *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Anne), and *I Hate Hamlet* (Lillian). Outside Credits include Patchwork's production of *A Shadow Over Insmouth* (Anne), *First Date* (Reggie and others), and *Kayfabe* (Wendy). Offstage roles include Patchwork's *Nevermore* (Stage manager), and NCCC production *I Hate Hamlet* (Costume assistant).

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# Cast & Production Biographies



**KRISTA WANDER**, a junior from Lockport, NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major and a theatre education masters, with minors in dance and theatre design/production. NU credits: *Pippin* (Bolero Dancer, Catherine's Backup Singer and others), 2020 Short Play Festival's *The Big Ride* (Helena) and *The Woods Are For Suckers and Chumps* (Zoe), *Legally Blonde* (Elle's Mom, D.A. Joyce Riley, and others), 2019 Short Play Festival's *Bee* (Shi57), TYA's *Go Dog Go* (Red Dog) and 2019 NURT.



**DANIELLE BECHT**, a freshman from Morristown, NJ, is pursuing a theatre performance major. NYC Credits: *A Doll's House* (Emmy), *Dream Street* (Featured Ensemble), *Madeline's Christmas* (Juliette). NJ Onstage Credits: *The Miracle Worker* (Jimmie Sullivan), *Working* (Sharon Atkins), *Shrek* (Farquod), *Big Fish* (Ensemble), *Love and Information* (Ensemble), *Grease* (Ensemble). Offstage Credits: *Merrily We Roll Along* (Assistant Technical Director), *Kids Cabaret 2018* (Co-director), *Our Town* (Assistant Director), *This is Our Story* (Run Crew), *The Addams Family* (Sound Crew). She has completed multiple theatre internships at SurfFlight Theatre and at the Oskar Schindler Performing Arts Center.

**SOPHIA CHANEY** is a freshman design and production major.



**SPENCER DICK** of Lockport, NY, is a senior theatre production and design major pursuing minors in fine arts and communications. His NU positions are *Little Shop of Horrors* (Props Acquisition), *Pygmalion* (Assistant Stage Manager), *Legally Blonde* (Sound Technician), N.U.R.T.2019 (Stage Manager), *Go Dog Go* (Stage Manager), *Freaky Friday* (Props Acquisition), Short Play Festival 2020 (Sound Coordinator), *Sylvia* (Set Designer), *Shakespeare Unwrapped: Shakespeare's Kings & Queens* (Video Tech), *She Kills Monsters* (Video Tech), *Independence* (Set, Sound and Video Designer) and *Songs for a New World* (Sound Technician). His outside involvement includes *Bye Bye Birdy* (Scenic Designer) and *Frozen Jr.* (Assistant Stage Manager).



**SGB** is a Junior Theatre Specialization major from Lancaster, NY, focusing in directing. She has been involved on stage and off stage at Niagara University, acting as Tom/Phyllis/Leslie in *Sylvia*, Bill in *Ushers Through Intermission*, Addison in *Taking Sum Lumps*, and she played a role in *Good Kids*. She was the Assistant Stage Manager for *Decision Height*, Audio Crew for *An Ideal Husband*, Audio Crew for *Songs For A New World*, Swing Tech for *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Light Board Operator for *Freaky Friday*. SGB has been involved with a number of projects where she acted as a director, including directing *I'm Only Sleeping* for Niagara University Theatre's Short Play Festival 2022, and co-directing productions of *Talk About A Murder!* and *Stay As Dead As You Are*. SGB has also had the opportunity to work with local theatre groups, such as the Lancaster Youth Bureau. Off the stage, SGB is an active member of the NU Players board.

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# Cast & Production Biographies



**LAUREN FARROW**, a freshman from Webster, NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major. Outside credits: *The Wizard of Oz* (AuntEm), *Les Miserables* (Featured Dancer), *Anything Goes* (Charity), *Chicago* (Featured Dancer), *The Addams Family* (Morticia Addams).



**JULIA HARTLOFF**, a junior from East Aurora, NY, is pursuing a theatre performance major with minors in communications and ASL and deaf studies. NU Credits: *Anton in Show Business* (Joby), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Messenger/Sexton), *Good Kids* (Madison), 2021 Virtual Short Play Festival's *Once in a Blue Moon* (Valentine Grace), and *An Ideal Husband* (Mabel Chiltern). Outside Credits at St. Mary's High School, Lancaster, NY: *Is There a Comic in the House* (Shotzie Starr), *Arsenic and Old Lace* (Officer Klein), *Clockwork* (Deputy Constable Crow), *The Addams Family Musical* (Uncle Fester), *Seussical* (Ensemble) and *Fame* (Ensemble).



**TRICIA LAZATIN**, of Niagara Falls, NY, is a senior double major in marketing and theatre specialization. Onstage credits at NU include: *Moving Back Home: Cabaret* (Swing), NU Dance Theatre (Dancer), *Songs For A New World* (Dancer), *The Laramie Project* (Zubaida Ula), 2020 Short Play Festival, *Goat* (Lil), *Dancing in the Light* (Dancer), and *Legally Blonde: The Musical* (Bookish Client/Ensemble). Offstage credits at NU include: *Cabaret* (Assistant Choreographer), *Independence* (Assistant Artistic Director), *Vital Signs* (Stage Manager), 2021 Short Play Festival, *A Harmony of Both* (Director), *The Laramie Project* (Stage Manager), *Sylvia* (Assistant Stage Manager), and *Anton in Show Business* (Assistant Stage Manager/Stage Crew Ensemble). Tricia also worked as part of costume crew and scene shop crew for the 2018-2019 Season. Her past theatre credits include: *The Addams Family* (Ancestor), *Shrek the Musical* (Duloc Dancer/Dance Captain), *Hairspray* (LouAnn/Dance Captain), and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Bielke/Russian Dancer/Dance Captain). Additionally, she performed and danced with Niagara Dance Centre for 10 years.



**AMAYA MACK**, a junior from East Amherst, NY, is pursuing a theatre design/production major with minors in fine arts and dance. Niagara University credits: *Independence* (Costume Designer), *An Ideal Husband* (Costume Conception/Illustration), *Sylvia* (Wardrobe head), NU Costume Shop Assistant, 2019 Short Play Festival's *Canker Sores and Other Distractions* and *Green Dating* (Stage Manager), *Freaky Friday* (Assistant Stage Manager). At Williamsville North High School: *The Addams Family* (Ensemble), *The True Story of Cinderella* (Deckhand), *Seussical* (Prop Crew).

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# Cast & Production Biographies



**NEFANTEE MAYERS**, of Rochester, NY, is a junior theatre specialization major who has assistant directed two of her high school plays *Eurydice* and *Peter and The Starcatcher*. Also, in her senior year she chose and directed her school's spring play *Almost, Maine*. She was also on wardrobe for *Anton and Show Business* at NU.



**JULIA MISKINES**, of North Tonawanda, NY, is a senior theatre performance major with a minor in design & production. She is also pursuing her masters in theatre education. While in high school, Julia performed with the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus, participated in Shea's performing arts classes, and attended the NYS Theatre Education (NYSTEA) conference. She is also a graduated member of the Matt's Music Vocal performance team. Her high school roles include *Cinderella* (Ella), *Shrek* (Teen Fiona), and *Bye Bye Birdie* (ensemble). Her Niagara credits include: *The Wolves* (#14), *The Firebugs* (chorus member), and *Sylvia* (Sylvia).



**SEBASTIAN NEWELL**, a freshman from East Aurora, NY, is pursuing a theater design/production degree with minors in American sign language and social work. Offstage Credits: *Wizard of Oz* (Stage Manager), *Twelfth Night* (Student Producer), *Queen City Strikers* (Soundboard Operator), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Student Producer), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Soundboard Operator), and, at Chautauqua Theatre Company, *One Man, Two Guvnors* (Production Assistant), *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Production Assistant).



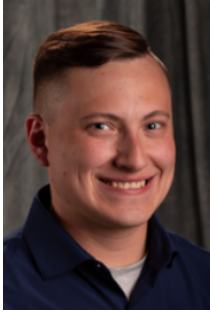
**MEGHAN O'CONNOR** is a sophomore double major in communication studies and theatre performance. Her favorite roles include *Netti Lande* in a feminist rendition of *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* and Susan in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. Her favorite production was *Almost, Maine*, in which she played all the female roles.

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# Cast & Production Biographies

**SHYHIEM RODRIGUEZ** is a sophomore theatre performance major.



**SEAN TAYLOR**, is a junior theatre performance major from North Tonawanda, NY, and is also a triple minor in design/production, dance, and film studies. NU onstage credits include *Vital Signs* (Carl/Others) and *Good Kids* (Tanner), and backstage credits include *Independence* (Set Up Crew), *Vital Signs* (Assistant Stage Manager), 2021 Short PlayFestival: *Let Me In* (Stage Manager) and *The Laramie Project* (Props Acquisition). A transfer from NCCC, his credits there include *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Mr. Van Dann), *Into the Woods* (Deck Crew Head, Build Crew, and Lighting Crew), *Godspell* (Assistant Stage Manager and Build Crew), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Deck Crew), Tanzen Dance Company Spring & Fall 2019 (Assistant Stage Manager).



**JEREMY VICARIO**, of Amherst, NY, is a sophomore double major in theatre performance and political science with a focus in pre-law. He has performed in both high school shows at Sweet Home High School and Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart along with The Lockport palace theatre. Some of his favorite roles include Ms. Trunchbull in *Matilda*, Bill Anderson in *Mamma Mia!* and Monsignor O'Hara in *Sister Act*. He also enjoyed choreographing *Heathers* this summer.

## Players Presents Retrospective 2010-2021

2021: Independence

2020: Sylvia

2019: Some Girls

2018: Recent Tragic  
Events

2017: The Effect of  
Gamma Rays on Man-  
in-the-Moon  
Marigolds

2016: Extremities

2015: Love Song

2014: The Shape of  
Things

2013: Time Stands  
Still

2012: The Twilight of  
the Golds

2011: How I Learned  
to Drive

2010: Proof

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# NU Theatre Invites You to Return For Our Upcoming Shows



*Machinal*

March 31-April 4, 2022



*Cabaret*

April 28-May 1 &  
May 5- May 8, 2022

For more information on our upcoming shows, and to  
reserve tickets, please visit our website:

<https://theatre.niagara.edu/>

Or contact our box office:

Ph: (716) 286-8685

Email: [boxoffice@niagara.edu](mailto:boxoffice@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.

For more information, please visit  
[theatre.niagara.edu/support](https://theatre.niagara.edu/support) or call 716-286-8483.

Join Today to help us build for Tomorrow!"

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