



# PRIDE & PREJUDICE

BY KATE HAMILL

ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL BY JANE AUSTEN  
DIRECTED BY JERI LYNN SCHULKE



SEPTEMBER 16 - OCTOBER 2, 2022



# PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

by Kate Hamill

Adapted from the Novel  
by Jane Austen

World premiere production co-produced by Hudson  
Valley Shakespeare Festival and Primary Stages;

June 24, 2017, Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival  
(Davis McCallum, Artistic Director; Kate Liberman,  
Managing Director)

November 19, 2017, Primary Stages  
(Andrew Leynse, Artistic Director; Shane D. Hudson,  
Executive Director)

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE received a presentation as part  
of The Other Season at Seattle Repertory Theatre  
2016-2017.

This show is dedicated in loving memory to  
Elizabeth Grimes Droessler who inspired us all  
to be lights in our community.

**Directed by  
Jeri Lynn Schulke**

**Stage Managed by  
David Wilk**

**Choreographed by  
Jess Barbour**

**Scenic Design by  
Derrick Ivey**

**Costume Design by  
Jenny Mitchell**

**Lighting Design by  
Thomas Matrejek**

**Sound Design by  
David Ranii and Brennan Reilly**

**Props Design by  
Katie Moorehead**

**ANY VIDEO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS  
PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

# Sponsors

Special thanks to our media sponsor, Walter Magazine.



Thanks to our show sponsor, North State Bank.



This program is funded in part by the City of Raleigh based on recommendations of the Raleigh Arts Commission.



*Pride and Prejudice* is supported by the United Arts Council of Raleigh and Wake County, as well as the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.



Special Thanks to David Watts for website maintenance.

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# A Note from the Director

Three years in the making! As the saying goes, third times a charm.

Originally scheduled for RLT's 2020-21 season, the production was re-scheduled for the 2021-22 season & made it half-way through rehearsals before being re-scheduled again for the current season...our journey has had its share of ups and downs and yet, as Jane Austen wrote "The distance is nothing when one has a motive."

That this production of *Pride and Prejudice* adapted by Kate Hamill, is not *Pride and Prejudice*, the Jane Austen novel, is another one of those truths that must be universally acknowledged. (to mis-quote Kenneth Tynan...)

*Pride and Prejudice* is considered a flawlessly written novel, one that is revered by a multitude of readers. During my research for the play, a revelation came when I read that Austen and her family were great lovers of theater. Jane wrote and staged theatricals at home, attended plays in London and Bath, and her letters are full of her reactions to the plays and players she liked (and didn't...). This inspired a fresh take on our theatricals, mixing up Hamill's contemporary spin with our own twist.

Hamill's adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* is very contemporary. Although it is set in the early 1800s, the play has a sly, modern sensibility. It's fun and feisty and maybe a bit anachronistic—it looks at the Regency era with twenty-first century eyes. The layers of humor, honesty, pathos and theatricality mix well with the underlying questions about society's rules, past and present. What are rules, if not to be broken?

"...give a loose rein to your fancy, indulge your imagination in every possible flight..." and enjoy the show!

# Cast, Crew, and Production Team

## Cast

Performer 1

**Meg Carnahan**

Jane/Miss De Bourgh

Performer 2

**Zosia DeWitt**

Lizzy

Performer 3

**Samantha Kiser**

Lydia/Lady Catherine

Performer 4

**Justin Brent Johnson**

Mr. Darcy

Performer 5

**Brian Hollingsworth**

Mr. Collins/Wickham

Performer 6

**Carl Staub**

Mr. Bingley/Mary

Performer 7

**Kevin Varner**

Charlotte Lucas/Mr. Bennet

Performer 8

**Lu Meeks**

Mrs. Bennet/Miss Bingley

# Production Team

Director

**Jeri Lynn Schulke**

Assistant to the Director

**Sejal Mehta**

Stage Manager

**David Wilk**

Assistant Stage Manager

**Alex Gromo**

Production Manager/Technical Director

**Dennis R. Berfield**

Costume Designer

**Jenny Mitchell**

Scenic Designer

**Derrick Ivey**

Choreographer

**Jess Barbour**

Lighting Designer

**Thomas Matrejek**

Sound Designer

**David Ranii**

Sound Engineer/Designer

**Brennan Reilly**

Scenic Artists

**Hope Hammond**

**Shannon Clark**

Props Designer

**Katie Moorehead**

Dialect Coach

**Rebecca Bossen**

# Crew

Auditions Crew

**Steve Bradford**

Auditions Crew Coordinator

**Marie Berry**

Auditions Crew

<b>Amy Blackwell</b>	<b>Paula Scicluna</b>
<b>Anne Purcell</b>	<b>Phyllis Wellman</b>
<b>Brenda Schulman</b>	<b>Shanell Milani</b>
<b>Claire Huene</b>	<b>Steve Bradford</b>
<b>Catherine Lambe</b>	

Costume Shop Crew

<b>Ameer Tohamy</b>	<b>Linda Wellnitz</b>
<b>Ann Haigler</b>	<b>Mallory Schultz</b>
<b>Danielle M. Welch</b>	<b>Ruth Berry</b>
<b>Deborah Sherrod</b>	<b>Sam Frigerio</b>
<b>Fiona Crow</b>	<b>Viviana Straniero</b>
<b>Kathy Mauney</b>	

Scene Shop Crew

**Donald Gillett**

**Don Miller**

2022–2023 House Managers

<b>Ariel Gray</b>	<b>Judy M. Dove</b>
<b>Bettie Murchison</b>	<b>Julianne Santana</b>
<b>Chanté Thompson</b>	<b>Laurel Drobits</b>
<b>Chelsea Pinto</b>	<b>Lilo Miles</b>
<b>Dawn Graham</b>	<b>Lindsey Wyatt</b>
<b>Freyja Sindemark</b>	<b>Maria Barber</b>
<b>Greg Lytle</b>	<b>Raquel Rouse</b>
<b>Herb Estes</b>	<b>Shay Hamidou</b>
<b>Howard Estes</b>	<b>Thommie O'Neal</b>
<b>Jaret Preston</b>	



# Raleigh Little Theatre Staff

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Production Manager/Technical Director

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Costume Shop Assistant

**Jeremy David Clos**

Education Programs Specialist

**Alease Timbers**

Box Office Associates

**Morgan Harris**

**Denise Mikesh**

**Nicholas Reed**

**Ren Regehr**

**Joel Schaer**

# Cast Biographies



JUSTIN BRENT JOHNSON (Performer 4: Mr. Darcy) is excited for his premier Raleigh Little Theatre production! He previously played another Jane Austen man- Mr. Knightley in *Emma* with Sweet Tea Shakespeare last spring. Other credits include *Go Back For Murder* (Meredith), *Deathtrap* (Clifford), and *The Hollow* (Inspector) with NC State TheatreFEST, *It's Only A Play* (Gus) and *Fuddy Meers* (Millet) at Theatre in the Park, and *Bent* (Horst) with Justice Theatre Project. Justin graduated from Catawba College's BFA Acting program before receiving a MA in Teaching from North Carolina State University. Thanks to Jeri Lynn, the cast, crew and everybody involved for the opportunity!



MEG CARNAHAN (Performer 1: Jane/ Miss De Bourgh) is thrilled to be performing with Raleigh Little Theatre! A graduate of James Madison University, she recently moved to North Carolina from her hometown of Richmond, Virginia where she worked with Richmond Triangle Players, Virginia Repertory Theatre, and Quill Theatre amongst others. She is grateful for the wonderful community of people putting on this show, and to Adam, Mom, Dad, and the Yanagiharas for their support!



ZOSIA DEWITT (Performer 2: Lizzy) is a senior at NC State majoring in Psychology and Spanish, and is so excited to be making her debut with Raleigh Little Theatre as Lizzy Bennett! Zosia's credits include Mrs. Gottlieb in *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, Edith Frank in *Diary of Anne Frank*, and most recently Karen the Computer in *Spongebob Squarepants the Musical*. Zosia thanks her family and friends for their support and love, and everyone at RLT for connecting her with amazing opportunities and incredible people.



BRIAN HOLLINGSWORTH (Performer 5: Mr. Collins/Wickham) has been bombilating with anticipation to return to the stage after 7 years of being positively bedeviled with grad school, etc., and is absolutely glee-ridden to be part of this splendacious production. Previous credits include *Spamalot* (Ensemble), *Hairspray* (Corny Collins), *Bus Stop* (Bo Decker) and *The Crucible* (Willard) at Raleigh Little Theatre, and *A Christmas Carol* (Ensemble) at Theatre in the Park. Much love to Grey for his unending support through this theatrical peregrination.



SAMANTHA KISER (Performer 3: Lydia/Lady Catherine) is an 18 year old NC State graduate, with a BA in English. She has performed in community theatre for almost 11 years. Her writing has been published in UNCW's *Atlantis* Magazine. You can find her on Instagram @samanthalilykiser



LU MEEKS (Performer 8: Mrs. Bennet/Miss Bingley) is thrilled to be back gracing the Raleigh Little Theatre boards. You might recognize her from RLT's *The Revolutionists*, SweetTea Shakes' *Romeo and Juliet* or Bare Theatre's *Trojan Woman*. Lu was trained at UNCG, but has traveled the world doing theatre. She wants to give a major shout out to her fellow castmates and Jeri Lynn for allowing her to endlessly play and hear out her crazy ideas. She also gives love to the

OG's; Mama and Papa Meeks. Love y'all!



CARL STAUB (Performer 6: Mr. Bingley/Mary) recently graduated from NC State University with a Major in Communication and a Minor in Theatre. He is very excited to be returning to the Raleigh Little Theatre stage. Recent credits of his include *Ragtime* (Henry Ford, NC State) and *Blood at the Root* (Colin, RLT). He would like to thank his family, his friends, the cast, the crew, and his coworkers for their support. He hopes you have a ball!



KEVIN VARNER (Performer 7: Charlotte Lucas/Mr. Bennet) is delighted to be on stage after a 16 year sabbatical. He first wowed audiences with his portrayal of President Abraham Lincoln in 4th grade, where Miss Collins applauded his ability to stand still and speak at the same time. Past roles include Sir Andrew Aguecheek in *Twelfth Night* and *Cleante* in *Tartuffe* with The Acting Company; Doctor Sugar in *Suddenly Last Summer* at Triad Stage; and The Devil in

*Man and Superman* at The American Repertory Theater. Kevin is a licensed therapist at a non-profit practice in Raleigh. He sends love to family, friends, and his partner Jim.

# Production Team

## Biographies

**JESS BARBOUR** (Choreographer) is an actor, choreographer, and teaching artist. Jess holds a BFA in Theatre from Elon University and studied under Bill Esper at The Esper Studio in NYC. Film: *Most Wonderful Time*, *Oh Crappy Day*. Favorite credits: *Wit* (NCT), *Tony & Tina's Wedding* (Pirate Stage), *The Herd* (Honest Pint). By day, Jess trains medical professionals as a Standardized Patient with Duke University Medical School and the American Board of Anesthesiology.

**DENNIS R. BERFIELD** (Production Manager) is from South Williamsport, Pennsylvania. He received degrees in Theater and Communication Studies at the Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, and a Masters of Fine Arts in Scenic Design and Technology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Dennis has worked at various regional and off-Broadway theaters as a Scenic Artist, Carpenter, Master Carpenter, Scenic Designer, Assistant Technical Director, Scenic Coordinator. After working professionally for a number of years, Dennis became an adjunct professor at Millikin University in Decatur, IL and went on to become the Technical Director at the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania.

**REBECCA BOSSEN** (Dialect Coach) is a Durham-based voice coach, playwright, performer, and theatre educator. She has taught many classes for Raleigh Little Theatre, including Acting, Teens on Stage, and Dialects. Previous Raleigh Little Theatre dialect coaching credits: *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *One Man Two Guvvornors*. She holds theatre degrees from Duke University and Northwestern University, as well as an Advanced Certificate in Voice Studies from London's Central School of Speech and Drama. [www.rebeccabossen.com](http://www.rebeccabossen.com)

**ALEX GROMO** (Assistant Stage Manager) has been involved in theater since his college years at Syracuse University where he played Creon in *Antigone* and Orgon in *Tartuffe*. After college, he moved behind the scenes in several community theaters up and down the east coast. Most recently, Alex has volunteered at Raleigh Little Theatre as Assistant Stage Manager for *In The Heights*. He has served as Stage Manager of RLT's *Divas!* for the past four years. He has also been a part of various crews including lights, sound, props and deck for many productions over the past several years.

**DERRICK IVEY** (Scenic Designer) is a Triangle-based actor, director, designer, and producer. Along with Jeri Lynn Schulke and David Berberian, he recently launched RedBird Theater Company, [www.redbirdtheatercompany.com](http://www.redbirdtheatercompany.com), and will design sets for their production of *A Doll's House, Part 2* by Lucas Hnath in November.

**JERI LYNN SCHULKE** (Director) is a Triangle-based actor, director and producer. Directing credits: *Small Mouth Sounds* (Honest Pint); *The Taming* (Justice Theater); *Bonnie And Clyde* (NRACT); *Picasso At The Lapin Agile* (ArtsCenter Stage) and more. Producing credits: *PlayMakers' Syc*; *10 By 10 In The Triangle*, *Redbird*, *All Is Calm*, *Into The Breach*, *Gem Of The Ocean*, *The Whipping Man*, *44 Plays For 44 Presidents* (ArtsCenter Stage) and more. She will be seen this fall in *Doll's House Part 2*, produced by RedBird Theater Company, a new Durham-based theater.

**THOMAS MATREJEK** (Lighting Designer) is excited to be designing once again for Raleigh Little Theatre. He has designed several productions in the area including *Junie B. Jones* (RLT), *All Together Now* (Playhouse of Wilson), *Seussical TYA* (RLT), *Blood at the Root* (RLT), *In the Blood* (NCSU), and *Back to the 80s* (AFY Wilson) as well as countless dance recitals.

**SEJAL MEHTA** (Assistant to the Director) is delighted to serve as assistant director in her first production. She participated in the Directing Workshop Series at Raleigh Little Theatre. Sejal has assisted on the production of short films and various commercials in the Triangle. She serves on the Board of Raleigh Little Theatre and the North Carolina Arts Council.

**JENNY MITCHELL** (Costume Shop Manager) is a Costume Designer here at Raleigh Little Theatre. She is thankful to have such a dedicated group of volunteers and co-workers to work with on this, and every, production. Her most recent credits include: *Junie B. Jones Is Not A Crook*, *The Mountaintop*, *A Number*, *Beehive*, and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*.

**KATIE MOOREHEAD** (Props Designer) is a dancer, choreographer, costumer, and technician. She grew up in a theatre-loving family full of performers, dancers, musicians, and technicians. Katie has spent her life studying dance and theatre and loves to share her passion for the arts with others. She last worked with Raleigh Little Theatre doing props for *Elephant* and *Piggie's We Are in a Play*. Katie has also worked with Paperhand Puppet Intervention, Seed Art Share, and Cary Players. She currently is the Theater Manager at Carrboro High School.

# Production Team Biographies

**DAVID RANII** (Sound Designer) is jazzed about working on his first Raleigh Little Theatre production. A retired News & Observer business reporter, he previously was a co-sound designer for *Heisenberg*, *The Normal Heart*, and *Ashe in Johannesburg* at Burning Coal Theatre.

**BRENNAN REILLY** (Sound Engineer/Designer) is an Audio Engineer and Sound Designer based out of Winston-Salem, NC. In 2019, they designed sound for Ken Ludwig's *Baskerville* at Raleigh Little Theatre. Brennan has designed and engineered sound for many productions at school, community, and regional theatres across the state and is very excited to be back at Raleigh Little Theatre for *Pride and Prejudice*!

**HEATHER J. STRICKLAND** (Raleigh Little Theatre's Executive Director) has been in her role since June 2020. Heather has over 15 years of experience in developing organizational strategy and branding, fundraising, and cultivating engagement for nonprofit and public service organizations. She has been involved with RLT since 2005, starting as a volunteer and stepping into the roles of director, teaching artist, and board member over time. Heather has also worked as a director, actor, and dance/fight choreographer. She is a member of ArtEquity's first cohort of National Board Leaders and has a degree in Theatre Arts and Communications from Flagler College.

**PATRICK TORRES** (Raleigh Little Theatre's Artistic Director) has been a professional director and educator for over 15 years. His work has been seen at The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Southwest Shakespeare Festival, Round House Theatre, The Source Festival, and the Hangar Theatre among others. In 2003, he was selected as a Drama League Directing Fellow and in 2005 was named a Young Leader of Color by the Theatre Communications Group. He has an MFA in Directing from the University of Southern Mississippi.

**DAVID WILK** (Stage Manager) is happy to be stage managing again at Raleigh Little Theatre. Pre-Covid, David stage managed *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *What We're Up Against*, *Don't Dress For Dinner*, *One Man Two Guvnors*, *Mothers and Sons* and *Beertown* at RLT. When not stage managing, he frequently wears all black and can be found working backstage or stage managing at other area theatres.

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# Actor

Abigail Jordan	Dave Sniffin
Ali Goins	Deb Royals-Mizerk
Aliana Ramos	Del Flack
Amber & Jason Garcowski	Derreth & John Kavanagh
Anastasia Sabarsky	Diane & Jeff Williams
Andrew Gibbons	Diane Petteway
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Angela Spain	Doris Huebner
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Dan Bain	J. Paumier & M. Gumpertz
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# Actor

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## Actor

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The dedicated staff at RLT  
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Tippy Thornton  
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## In memory of...

Bobbie Liles Campbell  
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For more information about  
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- Partnering with local cultural organizations
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- Community Music School
- Cultural Voice of NC
- El Pueblo
- The Justice Theater Project
- Marbles Kids Museum
- National Women's Theatre Festival
- The NC Chamber Music Institute
- NC Master Chorale
- NC Museum of History
- NC Opera
- NC State LIVE
- NC State University Theatre
- NC Symphony
- NC Theatre
- North Raleigh Arts & Creative Theatre
- Nuv Yug Cultural Organization
- Performance Edge
- Philharmonic Association
- PineCone
- Raleigh Boychoir
- Raleigh Civic Symphony Association
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