217-Es

BY MATT COX
DIRECTED BY ALEASE TIMBERS

JULY 21-30, 2023



PUFFS, Or: Seven Increasingly Eventful Years At A Certain School of Magic and Magic

by Matt Cox

Originally Produced Off Broadway by Tilted Windmills Theatricals (John Arthur Pinckard / David Carpenter)

PUFFS was Developed in Part During a Residency with the University of Florida School of Theatre + Dance, Jerry Dickey, School Director

Originally Produced Off-Off Broadway by Stephen Stout and Colin Waitt

Puffs (One Act for Young Wizards) is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

www.concordtheatricals.com

Directed by Alease Timbers
Scenic and Props Design by Joel Soren
Costume Design by Michael Bradley Lamont
Lighting Design by Kaitlin Davis
Sound Design by Ryan Vasconcellos

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



Puffs 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 and to Tori Harden and Miyuki Su for scenic painting for *My Wonderful Birthday Suit*.

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A Note from the Director

Hello and welcome to RLT – or should I say, a certain Wizarding school. We are so excited to have you here and want to make sure you know a few things. You are a "Puff." Puffs in my opinion are the most kind, heroic and gentle creatures you will ever meet. Throughout this journey, you will laugh, cry and even find a friend. I really hope the next Seven Years at Wizarding School are as magical for you as they have been for us to make.

I would like to thank some amazing humans that made this possible. Thank you to the RLT staff who helped make this possible during the busy summer camp season. Our TOS/TBS design team embraced the challenges and brought this show to life. The Teens on Stage for never giving up and continuing to persevere. Teens Backstage for their attention to detail and creativity. And last but not least my loving partner (Bobby) who encouraged me to keep going even when I doubted myself. So sit back and enjoy the show!

Alease Timbers - Director

Cast, Crew & Production Team

Teens on Stage/Cast

Megan

Aminah Al-mesad

Oliver

Mason Caddick

Wayne Nate Branscomb

Cedric/Mr. Voldy

Dio Bann

Actor 1:

Ernie Mac / Seamus / Professor Turban / Professor Locky / Sal / Real Mr. Moody Violet Hellmers

Actor 2:

A Very Tall Man / A Certain Greasy Haired Potions Teacher / Mr. Nick / Second Headmaster / Soul Sucking Guard / Death Buddy

Kendall Shorts

Actor 3:

Hannah / Professor Sprouty / Xavia Jones / Runes Teacher

Victoria Katz

Actor 4:

First Headmaster / Professor McG / Professor Lanny /
Soul Sucking Guard / Death Buddy
Sage Sigmon

Actor 5:

J. Finch Fletchley / Goyle / Clumsy Longbottom / Zach Smith

Grace Niesel

Actor 6:

Uncle Dave / A Fat Friar / Ghost History Teacher / Hermeoone #3 / Viktor / Mr. Bagman / Death Buddy / Scorpy Maddox Daher

Actor 7:

Leanne / Anthony Goldstein / Ginny / Helga / Frenchy Delacour / Soul Sucking Guard Frances Becker Allen

Actor 8:

Sally / Hermeoone / Rowena / Bippy

Hannah Micah Matias

Actor 9:

Blondo Malfoy / Rita Scooter / Soul Sucking Security Guard / Death Buddy / Myrtle / Ms. Babble / Dragon Molly Huffman

Actor 10:

Susie Bones / Colin / Ric Griff / Sorting Hat / Sports Announcer Martha-Ann Cates

Actor 11:

Harry / Hermeoone #2 / Soul Sucking Guard / Death Buddy **Delice Kapini**

Narrator **David Emmanuel**

Teens Backstage/Crew

Alex Glass Henry Jacob Currie-Luden Kaz Del Tufo Lia Hodges Maya Wert Selah Woodhead Shiri Dayan

Production Team

Director/Head of Teens on Stage Alease Timbers

Production Manager **Dennis R. Berfield**

Costume Designer

Michael Bradley Lamont

Technical Director/Scenic & Props Designer

Joel Soren

Lighting Designer Kaitlin Davis

Sound Designer Ryan Vasconcellos

Stage Manager Max Vincent Fight Choreographer

Bradford B Frost

Assistant Director **Grace Bianco**

Teens on Stage Instructors

Bradford B Frost

Ruthie Martinez

Teens Backstage Guest
Instructors
Ebie Britt
Joel Soren
Judy M. Dove
Kaitlin Davis
Ryan Vasconcellos

Teens on Stage Biographies



FRANCES ALLEN (Actor 7) was born and raised right here in Raleigh NC. A rising freshman at Enloe High School, Frances loves acting, tap dancing and math. She has performed in productions such as *Antigone 3021* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. This is her first show at Raleigh Little Theatre and she is so grateful and happy to be involved in this production of *Puffs*.



AMINAH AL-MESAD (Megan) is going into her senior year at Apex High School where she proudly represents the Peak Players! She is so excited to be a part of this production as this is her first show here, she has worked as a Teaching Assistant for Raleigh Little Theatre but has never been on stage with them. Aminah loves to perform and has been in numerous shows throughout her career, she believes there

is truly no feeling like being up on stage. She wants to thank her family, friends, and mentors for all their support and is so excited to share this show with you!



DIO BANN (Cedric/Mr Voldy) is excited to be in their first play at Raleigh Little Theatre! They have previously been in *Applause!* Cary Youth Theatre's production of *The Hundred Dresses* as Mr. Svenson. Dio will be going into the 11th grade as a homeschooler and, when not working on school, enjoys pampering their collie, Shadow, drawing, hanging out with friends, watching horror movies, and singing loudly in the car.



NATE BRANSCOMB (Wayne) is delighted to perform in the Gaddy Theatre again, previously in Raleigh Little Theatre's production of *Xanadu* as Danny/Zeus. He enjoys all forms of art, like animation, acting, singing, and more!



MASON CADDICK (Oliver) is ecstatic for his first role at Raleigh Little Theatre. He is a 10th grader at Cleveland High. Some of his favorite roles have been Queen of Hearts, the Scarecrow, Smee and Toto. He dreams of seeing his name in lights on Broadway. His family has been his biggest fans.



MARTHA-ANN CATES (Actor 10) is so excited to be performing in *Puffs!* This is her second year participating with Teens on Stage at Raleigh Little Theatre and loves the program. She hopes you enjoy the show!



MADDOX DAHER (Actor 6) is an upcoming 9th grader at American Leadership Academy in Clayton. He is pumped to be a part of his first play at Raleigh Little Theatre. He has performed in school productions of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* as Ralph, *The Secret Garden* as Dickon, and *Footloose* as Ren. Maddox also enjoys playing goalie for his school's soccer team, anime and chess.



DAVID EMMANUEL (Narrator) is in his first show at RLT. He has done *The Wizard of Oz, James and the Giant Peach*, etc. He has a strong ambition in theatre and hopes to continue. David is happy to be in this year's TOS program. He hopes you enjoy him fitting 5 hours of material into 90ish minutes.



VIOLET HELLMERS (Actor 1) is excited to return to the Raleigh Little Theatre stage, having played Nerdy in *The Snow White Variety Hour.* Past roles include Ms. Teavee (Willy Wonka Kids) and Chihuahua Narrator (101 Dalmatians Kids). Violet is a rising 9th grade student at Broughton High School. She wishes to thank Alease, her fellow cast members and crew, and her family for their love and support.



MOLLY HUFFMAN (Actor 9) is delighted to be part of her third show at Raleigh Little Theatre! She appeared in the 2021 and 2022 Teens on Stage/Teens Backstage productions, and recent credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck) and *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel). She's passionate about art and storytelling through various mediums, and she's grateful for the opportunity to learn and collaborate through this program. She would like to thank her

friends, family, and girlfriend for their support and encouragement!



DELICE KAPINI (Actor 11) is a rising junior and new to Raleigh Little Theatre. Born and raised in Raleigh, her love for performance began in her school theatre class. She made her on-stage debut in her school's production of Shrek the Musical last spring. She is excited to perform in *Puffs* and gain more acting experience. She would like to thank her family for supporting her creative endeavors and the Raleigh Little Theatre family for welcoming her.



VICTORIA KATZ (Actor 3) found her first love in performance. For as long as she can remember, she's grabbed at every

chance to be on stage. At 16, Victoria has been in several productions, some being *Radium Girls* and *High School Musical*. In theatre, she found a community she can't imagine living without. She is so grateful to Raleigh Little

Theatre for the opportunity to further pursue it.



HANNAH MICAH MATIAS (Actor 8) is so excited to be a part of Raleigh Little Theatre's production of *Puffs!* She attends Longleaf School of the Arts and has been in multiple productions. Some of her roles are Cinderella from *Into the Woods*, Chiffon from *Little Shop of Horrors*, Miranda from *The Tempest*, and more! She thanks all of her friends and family for supporting her through all her productions.

She hopes you enjoy the show!



GRACE NIESEL (Actor 5) is a writer and actor who recently graduated from Rolesville High School. They've played various lead and supporting roles in their high school's theatre program, as well as in community theatres around Raleigh and Wake Forest. They'll be moving to Bar Harbor, Maine, this fall to

attend College of the Atlantic, where they'll be studying

journalism and marine conservation. They hope they'll always be able to be involved in theatre.



KENDALL SHORTS (Actor 2) is very excited to be in her first production with Raleigh Little Theatre. She has participated in several productions at Panther Creek High School including Medea, The Addams Family, and She Kills Monsters. This is her first time participating in the Teens on Stage program and she is very excited to have this opportunity!



SAGE SIGMON (Actor 4) is a rising junior at Apex High School. She's thoroughly involved in theater at her high school and has been involved in theater as a whole since she was around eight. Sage loves to sing, read, hang out with friends and spend time with her dog and cats. She's so excited for everyone to see the show and she hopes you enjoy!:) instagram: @sagesigmon

Teens Backstage Biographies



HENRY JACOB CURRIE-LUDEN is a multimedia artist who attends Longleaf School of the Arts. They attend many arts classes year round at the Cary Arts Center and Artspace. Art has always played a big role in their life and they are proud to be in this year's production, *Puffs*.



SHIRI DAYAN is thrilled to return to Teens Backstage! She recently worked as Running Crew for Medea and The Addams Family, as well as the Assistant Stage Manager for She Kills Monsters and Anastasia, all at Panther Creek High School. She was also a Spotlight Operator in Raleigh Little Theatre's Xanadu last year. She would like to thank her friends and family for their

continued support.



KAZ DEL TUFO is a rising sophomore at Enloe High School and this is their 2nd year doing Teens Backstage. Kaz acted in several small productions before moving on to technical theatre for *Xanadu* at Raleigh Little Theatre, and *The Little Mermaid* at Enloe. He has a wide range of theatre skills and is excited for a new summer of doing the program!



ALEX GLASS is excited to be a part of *Puffs!* She attends Longleaf School of the Arts and has technical directed *Into The Woods* there, as well as having designed sets and directed a short play. She'd like to thank her family and friends for their love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show!



LIA HODGES is ecstatic to be a part of the Teens
Backstage program for *Puffs!* She has been involved in
theatre since elementary school and found her passion for
all things crew in high school. She has worked as a sound
crew lead at Green Level High School for 4 productions
so far, and is incredibly excited to be branching out into a
Raleigh Little Theatre production. She would like to thank

her family for supporting her passions!



MAYA WERT was on the crew for *Xanadu* here at Raleigh Little Theatre last year and is so excited to be back to work on *Puffs!*



SELAH WOODHEAD is a rising Sophomore at Enloe High School. They assisted in a production of *Willy Wonka And The Chocolate Factory* as the spotlight operator at their middle school. They enjoy art and animation, and are currently working on figuring out how to do stop-motion.

Production Team Biographies

DENNIS 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.

GRACE BIANCO (Assistant Director) is very excited to be working with Raleigh Little Theatre's: Teens on Stage again, after appearing in their production of *Xanadu* in 2022. She is a current Theatre major at Meredith College with a concentration in Musical Theatre.

KAITLIN DAVIS (Lighting Designer and Lighting Workshop Instructor) is a multi-disciplinary artist with a focus on entertainment lighting and electrics. She has a BFA from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Design and Production, with a concentration in lighting design and technologies. Kaitlin enjoys contributing to a collaborative environment and using her understanding of technology, project management, and production design to bring any concept to fruition. kaitlindavislx.com

JUDY M. DOVE (Puppetry Workshop Instructor) studied puppetry with Hobey Ford and Lisa Sturz, and has designed and built puppets for RLT's productions of *East of the Sun, West of the Moon, Mirandy and Brother Wind,* and *When She Had Wings*. She is constantly being rescued by stray animals and has never outgrown summer camp!

BRADFORD B. FROST (Dialect Teacher/Coach and Fight Choreographer) is ecstatic to be making his Raleigh Little Theatre debut as the dialects teacher for Teens on Stage. Bradford has been speaking in "voices" since he was a child and has professionally developed his craft of dialects over the years. A teacher at Longleaf School of the Arts, Bradford became a Raleigh resident in August of 2022 after living as a theater artist in NYC for ten years. Bradford is an actor/director/fight choreographer. Some of Bradfords acting credits include Macbeth (Macbeth: Bryant Park Presents), Polixenes (A Winter's Tale: Shakespeare in the Parking Lot), Ferdinand (The Tempest: Orlando Shakespeare Theater). Bradford has choreographed countless moments of violence and most recently directed A Midsummer Night's Dream at Longleaf. Bradford must thank the unending support of his family E/P/B, and enjoy the show.

MICHAEL BRADLEY LAMONT (Costume Designer) is a 20 year old costume designer, actor, and writer from Fuquay Varina currently attending Wake Technical Community College majoring in the fine arts. In the 2022 48 Hour Film Festival in Greensboro his team was awarded the runners up for best costumes, which he designed. This is his second project with Raleigh Little Theatre, his first being his role in the ensemble of *Blood Wedding* directed by Rachel Klem.

RUTHIE MARTINEZ (Movement Class Instructor) is a lifelong theatre educator and actress. She has a BA in Biology and Drama from UNC-Chapel Hill and an MFA in Acting and Directing from UNC-Greensboro. She is also a certified K-12 instructor in Theatre Arts and Speech, and is certified to teach Meisner acting technique. She most recently taught acting and movement at Appalachian State University. She was also the Director of Fine and Performing Arts and the Upper School theatre instructor and director at Greensboro Day School for over 20 years. She led her program at GDS to an "Outstanding School" designation by the Educational Theatre Association.

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.

JOEL SOREN (Technical Director and Scenic & Props Designer) is a Raleigh local theatrical director, technical director, and designer. Since moving to Raleigh in late 2019, Joel has been a scenic designer, props designer, & technical director for Burning Coal, head of props for the Carolina Ballet Co and a sound, lighting, & video engineer for the Cary Arts Center. Joel has also been a production manager for the Lee Strasberg Theater and Film Institute and Paul Taylor Dance Co (Taylor 2). Joel has directed and designed live performances in spaces ranging from inhabited studio apartments to the New York Hall of Science as well as off-broadway and off-off broadway in NYC. (Playwrights Horizons, Dixon Place, HERE, The Flea, The PIT). (BFA: NYU)

Production Team Biographies

HEATHER J. STRICKLAND (Raleigh Little Theatre's Executive Producer) started as the Executive Director in 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.

ALEASE TIMBERS (Director and Head of Teens on Stage/Teens Backstage) is excited for this to be her directing debut at Raleigh Little Theatre. She has worked artistically in various locations including NY, NE, PA and NC. Some of her favorite directing projects include It's A Wonderful Life (Rose Children's Theatre) and Emma: A Pop Musical (Temple Theatre). Alease would like to thank her family and friends for always supporting her dreams in theatre. And last but not least the TOS/TBS members who went on this journey with her.

RYAN VASCONCELLOS (Sound Designer and Sound Workshop Instructor) is excited to sound design for the first time with Raleigh Little Theatre, as well as be part of his first TOS/TBS. Ryan's most recent credits were being on stage in Raleigh Little Theatre's Divas! 2023, North Raleigh Arts and Creative Theatre's *The View Upstairs*, and is currently Assistant Stage Managing for Theatre Raleigh's *The Prom*. Ryan hopes you enjoy *Puffs!*

MAX VINCENT (Stage Manager) is a stage manager from Raleigh. They've been doing theatre since high school and are currently majoring in stage management at UNC School of the Arts. They are enthusiastic about musicals and *Harry Potter*, and could not be more excited for their first production here at Raleigh Little Theatre.



THE 2023-2024 SEASON

FINDING HOME

PUFFS

JULY 21 - 30, 2023

CURTAINS

AUGUST 11 - 27, 2023

LAST STOP ON MARKET STREET

SEPTEMBER 16 - 24, 2023

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OCTOBER 20 - NOVEMBER 5, 2023

CINDERELLA

DECEMBER 1 - 17, 2023

NATE THE GREAT

FEBRUARY 2 - 11, 2024

TROUBLE IN MIND

MARCH 15 - 31, 2024

LOOKING FOR ROBERTO CLEMENTE

MAY 4 - 12, 2024

KINKY BOOTS

JUNE 7 - 23, 2024

Season Crews & Volunteers

2022-2023 Auditions Crew Coordinator

Marie Berry

2022-2023 Auditions Crew Members

Amy Blackwell
Anne Purcell
Barbara Corbin
Brenda Schulman
Catherine Lambe
Claire Huene
Dan Eckert
Heather Shinpaugh

Laurel Drobits
Marie Berry
Michael Teleoglou
Paula Scicluna
Phyllis Wellman
Shanell Milani
Steve Bradford
Tony Landavazo

2022-2023 Costume Shop Crew Members

Adalia Schafrath-Craig Alyssa Capps Ameer Tohamy Ann Haigler Athena Tzathas Barbara Biggs Bonita McPherren Brooklyn Franke Brooklyn Smith Catherine Lambe

Catherine Lambe
Cindy Marshburn
Cynthia Ramos
Danielle M. Welch
Debbie Sherrod
Elizabeth Anderson

Fiona Crow

Janice Freeman

J Mack

Kathy Mauney Linda Wellnitz Liz Houde Mallory Schultz Pamela Swanstrom

Patty Ball Rebecca Woltz Ruth Berry Sam Frigerio Sharon Pope Susan Kirley Viviana Straniero

2022-2023 Deck Crew Supervisor Terry Chavez

2022-2023 Deck Crew Members

Alex McLellan Jessica Richardson

Antoinette Lillian Kate Routh Barbara Witherwax Lila Smit

Bri Flynn **Lilly Wolverton**

Catherine Lambe Paula Andrews Chaz Strickland Michael Jernigan

David Wilk Miranda Twombly **Dustin Bowles Shelly Johnston**

Ellary Hileman Stephen Furs Jamie Marlow Terry Chavez Jeff Hooper

Will Lukas Jennifer Dai

2022-2023 Dresser Crew Supervisor **Lindsey Wyatt**

2022-2023 Dresser Crew Members

Aliana Ramos Lisa LeVert

Amber Schnur

Lindsey Wyatt

Marie Berry Amy Blackwell Miranda Twomblev

Antoinette Lillian Paula Andrews **Beth Castle** Rachel Eckert **Brooke Sandoval** Rebecca Leonard

Claire Huene **Ruth Berry Erin Zanders** Sarah Spagnoli **Fiona Crow** Valerie Pymento

Jennifer Dai **Yvette Townsley**

2022-2023 Lighting Crew Supervisor

Ellary Hileman

2022-2023 Lighting Crew Members

Alana Williamson Alex McLellan Alvssa Petrone **Anakin Ducheneaux Antoinette Lillian Barbara Corbin Barbara Witherwax** Bri Flynn Carol Machuca

Catherine Lambe Claire Huene **Darby Madewell**

Dustin Bowles

Ellary Hileman Eric Krebs Gene Lassiter Jadon Frank Janice Fields Jennifer Dai **Kate Routh Maggie Hankins** Michael Jernigan Jessica Richardson

Shruti Chavan **Terry Chavez** Will Lukas

2022-2023 Props Crew Members

Alex Gromo Alyssa Petrone **Amber Powell Antoinette Lillian Barbara Witherwax**

Bri Flynn

Catherine Lambe Chaz Strickland **David Wilk Dustin Bowles**

Ellary Hileman

Hannah Hedrick Jasper Bernauer Jeff Hooper Jennifer Dai **Kate Routh Maggie Brown** Paula Andrews Sam Howard

Shruti Chavan Thommie O'Neal

Will Lukas

2022-2023 House Managers

Andy Ingram Ariel Gray

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Greg Lytle Haley Tury Howard Estes Judy M. Dove Julianne Santana **Laurel Drobits Lilo Miles Lindsey Wyatt Phillip Solano** Thommie O'Neal

2022-2023 Scene Shop Crew Members

Adalia Schafrath-Craig

Alexa Greene
Alison Thompson
Amelia Lumpkin
Amy Blackwell
Cameron Hoyt
Charlie Hart

Christopher Golden

Daniel Eckert
Dave Sniffin
Donald Gillett
Don Miller
Dustin Bowles
Elaine Petrone
Emerson Bulluck
Emily Weadon
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Jasper Bernauer
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Alyssa Petrone

Amy Koo

Anakin Ducheneaux Antoinette Lillian Barbara Corbin

Catherine Lambe

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Sydney Jarrell

Terry Haggerty[^]

Thomas Matrejek

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Anne Hall
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Bailey Dimke
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- Partnering with local cultural organizations
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- Advocating for arts investment
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