

THE COLOR PURPLE



JUNE 6-29

BASED UPON THE NOVEL WRITTEN BY ALICE WALKER AND THE WARNER BROS./AMBLIN ENTERTAINMENT MOTION PICTURE

BOOK BY MARSHA NORMAN

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY BRENDA RUSSELL, ALLEE WILLIS, AND STEPHEN BRAY

HADES TOWN TEEN EDITION

JULY 25 -AUGUST 10

Adapted from the eight-time Tony Awardwinning Broadway musical

Book, Music & Lyrics by Anaïs Mitchell
Directed by Terra Hodge

Presented by RLT's Teens on Stage and Teens Backstage program

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



presents

THE COLOR PURPLE

Based Upon The Novel Written By Alice Walker and The Warner Bros./Amblin Entertainment Motion Picture.

Book by Marsha Norman Music and Lyrics by Brenda Russell, Allee Willis, and Stephen Bray

THE COLOR PURPLE was produced on Broadway at the Broadway Theater by Oprah Winfrey, Scott Sanders, Roy Furman and Quincy Jones. The world premiere of THE COLOR PURPLE was produced by the Alliance Theatre, Atlanta, Georgia.

Directed by Tia James

Music Directed by Carolyn Colquitt
Choreographed by Christa Oliver
Scenic Design by Sonya Leigh Drum
Costume Design by Pamela A. Bond
Lighting Design by Jenni Mann Becker
Sound Design by Jared Kirkpatrick

Stage Management by LaNeisha Brown Farrar

The Color Purple Revival is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by Theatrical Rights Worldwide 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.theatricalrights.com

The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.

Sponsors

Thanks to our show sponsors,
The Cardinal at North Hills and North State Bank.





Additional thanks to our media sponsor, WRAL.



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



The Color Purple is supported by United Arts 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 Eric Forehand (Stone Pine Studio) for our 2024-2025 season program layouts.



Welcome to Raleigh Little Theatre!

When I first started going to New York, working for North Carolina Theatre in the early '90s, I didn't get to pick the shows I saw. My mentor, De Ann Jones, made it her mission to teach me the difference between a good musical and a great one. We saw some unforgettable performances – Richard Chamberlain in My Fair Lady, Hugh Jackman in The Boy from Oz, Terrance Mann in Disney's first-ever musical, Beauty and the Beast, Julie Andrews in Victor/Victoria, Adam Pascal and Heather Headley in Aida, Lea Salonga in Miss Saigon, Sutton Foster in Thoroughly Modern Millie, and Bebe Neuwirth and Victor Garber in Damn Yankees, among many others. We saw at least two shows every time we went!

I moved to New York in late 2004 - my husband was in the original cast of *Hairspray* and they were in the middle of a good Broadway run. *The Color Purple* opened in December of 2005. By that time, I had developed my own tastes in theatre and decided *The Color Purple* with LaChanze would be a mesmerizing night of theatre. When LaChanze sang "I'm Here," raw talent filled the room, and the audience jumped to their feet as the song ended. What makes a great musical? A great musical is born when the right people come together with a shared vision, creating something that leaves a lasting mark on anyone it touches.

This production of *The Color Purple* is the final show of my first season programming for Raleigh Little Theatre, and it feels like the season has flown by. I haven't spoken much about the challenges we face – like the potential loss of funding from the NEA and other sources. But as you witness Celie's 40-year journey to self-love, I hope you're reminded of how essential storytelling is in reflecting and celebrating the human experience.

Our 2025/2026 season subscriptions are on sale, and it's not too late to renew or join us. Visit RaleighLittleTheatre.org/Subscriptions to snag your seats. We're kicking off the season with Hadestown, featuring our Teens on Stage/Teens Backstage theatre intensive. The talent in this program just keeps blowing me away - reaffirming the power of theatre and theatre education to change lives.

Lastly, a huge thank you to Tia James and the entire ecosystem of this production for pouring their hearts into what you are about to see.

There is no Raleigh Little Theatre without the artists, volunteers and staff. And thank you for being here, for supporting RLT, and for keeping this theatre growing and serving the community. Enjoy this beautiful adaptation of Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*.

Micheli

Michele Weathers, Executive Producer

Cast

Celie A'zhariyha T Vaughan

Shug Avery **TyDiam Coleman**

Mister Deandre Sanders

Nettie Sydney Kain

Sofia Candace Spencer

Squeak Berganne Monroe

Harpo Benaiah Adesoji

Church Ladies Beverly Kain (Darlene)

Kaileigh Michelle Naylor (Doris)

India Williams (Jarlene)

Young Celie Lauren Smith

Young Nettie Bailey Rae Matthews

Ensemble DaNiesha Carr (Dance Captain, u/s Celie)

Jah'Mar Coakley (Buster/Bobby)

Davi Cunningham (Adult Olivia, u/s Squeak)

Allen Dillon (Fight Captain, Pa/Guard)

Kyree Harris (Grady, u/s Harpo)

Nadalie Harris

Jared Little (Adult Adam)

Dina-Marie (Church Soloist, u/s Sofia)

Michelle Pichardo

Paisley Waller (u/s Young Celie and

Young Nettie)

Matthew Wardsworth (Preacher/

Ol' Mister/Chief)

Production Team

Director

Music Director

Choreographer

Scenic Designer

Costume Designer

Lighting Designer

Sound Designer

Stage Manager

Fight Director

Intimacy Choreographer

Production Manager/

Technical Director

Costume Shop Manager

Assistant Technical Director

Associate Costume Shop Manager

Wig Sylist

Assistant Director

Associate Intimacy Choreographer

Assistant Stage Managers

Musicians

Conductor/Keyboard 1

Keyboard 2

Percussion

Bass

Reed

Trumpet

Guitar

Tia James

Carolyn Colquitt

Christa Oliver

Sonya Leigh Drum

Pamela A. Bond

Jenni Mann Becker

Jared Kirkpatrick

LaNeisha Brown Farrar

Jeff A. R. Jones

Laura Rikard

Dennis R. Berfield

Jenny Mitchell

Ali Wood

Denise Schumaker

Klovyr Mills

Metra Sheshbaradaran

Lyric Dukes

Lauren Montana

Jada B. Smith

Carolyn Colquitt

Amanda Honea

Jonathan Ross (sub)

Priscilla James

Joe Wimberley

Natty Traywick (Sub)

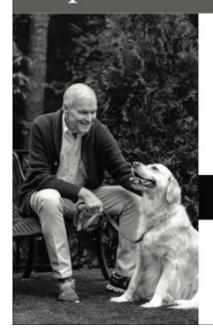
Hailey Guerra

Michael Mole

Yusha Bey (Sub)

Wei-Han Lai

Experience Life at The Cardinal

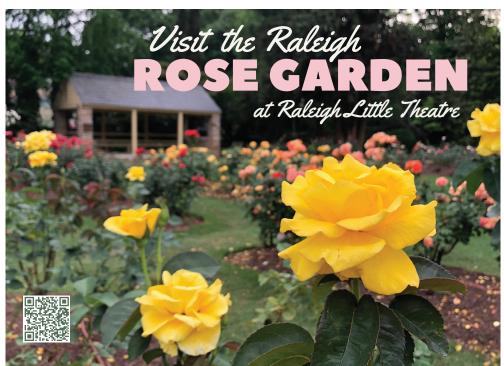


The Cardinal at North Hills offers Independent Living, Assisted Living, Memory Care, and Skilled Nursing, supported by our Life Enrichment wellness program. Residents enjoy museum visits, concerts, and local outings in the vibrant North Hills area. We're proud to support The Color Purple at Raleigh Little Theatre.

CALL **984.983.4422** FOR MORE INFO.



A KISCO SIGNATURE COMMUNITY





Learn how United Arts creates a community where the arts and culture are available and accessible to everyone in Wake County.



Scan the code or visit: www.unitedarts.org @UnitedArtsWake



Photos by Chris Janaro (I-r) El Pueblo, CAM, NC Museum of History, Town of Zebulon, African American Cultural Festival, Justice Theater Project, IBMA, Hum Sub, WCPSS Pieces of Gold

Letter from the Director

Welcome to The Color Purple.

As I reflect on this journey, I am filled with immense joy and gratitude. This experience has taught me so much—most of all, the profound power of community.

Every note heard, every song sung, every line spoken, every movement on this stage, every stroke of paint, every light cue, every piece of



set, props, and costumes—each element has been infused with love, support, bravery, vulnerability, skill, passion, and unwavering dedication. To our cast, crew, designers, stage management, volunteers, and production team: thank you. And to you, our audience, thank you for joining us on this journey.

Alice Walker's timeless creation, *The Color Purple*, has resonated deeply with so many over the years. It is a story I have read countless times, a film I have watched and quoted (and y'all know exactly which lines I mean!). Seeing the original Broadway musical changed my life, and now, having the honor to direct this production, I am reminded once again of its transformative power.

"You know God works in mysterious ways."

To tell Celie's story—a story of triumph, resilience, and love through the eyes of a Black woman in 1920s-1940s Georgia—is a privilege beyond words. Celie endures unimaginable hardship, yet she shares with us her sadness and hope, her pain and joy, her doubts and her fights, her resilience and her strength. Through her journey, we witness the beauty of identity, the movement from silence to song, from oppression to freedom. We see the pain of loss and injustice, but also the courage it takes to love, to stand up for oneself and for others. Healing comes through friendship, community, forgiveness, and self-love.

My hope is that, like Celie, we all come to realize our own beauty and strength. May we each shine, becoming beacons of light in a world that needs it now more than ever.

"So make a joyful noise!"

Tia James, Director

Order of Songs

Act I

Opening/Mysterious Ways Celie, Nettie, Church Ladies, Preacher,

Ensemble

Somebody Gonna Love You Celie, Nettie

Our Prayer Celie, Nettie, Mister

That Fine Mister Church Ladies

Big Dog Mister, Celie, Ensemble

Mister/Nettie Mister, Celie

Lily of the Field Celie

Sofia Harpo, Sofia

Dear God - Sofia Celie

A Tree Named Sofia Church Ladies

Hell No! Sofia, Ensemble

Brown Betty Harpo, Squeak, Ensemble

Shug Avery Comin' to Town Mister, Celie, Church Ladies, Ensemble

All We Got to Say Church Ladies

Too Beautiful for Words Shug Avery

Push da Button Shug Avery, Ensemble

Uh-Oh Church Ladies, Sofia, Mister, Harpo,

Squeak, Ensemble

What About Love? Celie, Shug Avery

There will be a 15-minute intermission following Act I.

Order of Songs

Act II

Africa (Part 1) Nettie, Celie, Ensemble

Africa (Part 2) Nettie, Ensemble

We Walk Away Ensemble

The Color Purple - Shug Shug Avery

It's Easter Sunday Nettie

End Easter Dinner Celie

Mister Song Mister

In Miss Celie's Pants Celie, Sofia, Shug Avery,

Church Ladies, Ensemble

Any Little Thing Harpo, Sofia

What About Love? (Reprise) Celie

I'm Here Celie

The Color Purple (Reprise) Celie, Ensemble

Bows Celie, Ensemble

WE SERVE SCHOOLS

WE FUND ARTISTS & ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

WE CREATE COMMUNITY



UNITED ARTS WAKE COUNTY

Building a better Wake County through the support of and advocacy for the arts

This production was made possible with support from United Arts.

unitedarts.org

Cast Biographies



BENAIAH ADESOJI (Harpo) is a performance artist and creative based in Raleigh, NC. He is no stranger to the Sutton stage having played King Darling in RLT's annual *Cinderella* twice as well as being crowned DIVA! in 2023. Benaiah is excited to be a part of this phenomenal group of artists to tell such a powerful story! He is grateful for the

opportunity and dedicates his performance to his dad and mom (Ben x Bettie) in heaven.



DANIESHA CARR (Ensemble, u/s Celie) is thrilled to take part in her first full production at Raleigh Little Theatre. She has a degree in theatre and over 10 years of professional acting experience under her belt. Some of her most notable roles include Billie Holiday (Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill), Ti Moune (Once on This Island), Beneatha (A Raisin in

the Sun), Sarah (Ragtime), and Dionne (Hair). She is grateful for the opportunity to share her gifts with the community!



JAH'MAR COAKLEY (Ensemble/Buster/Bobby) is excited to be a part of *The Color Purple* cast. A native of Charleston, SC, he has performed with Charleston Stage in productions such as *The Prom*, Once on This Island, Elf The Musical, Footloose, Bright Star, and Our Town. He was recently seen as the Leading Player in Pippin at Theater in the Park

and as Tom in *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* with Raleigh Little Theatre. An experienced teaching artist, Jah'Mar has choreographed numerous productions, including *The Lion King Jr.*, *High School Musical Jr.*, *Finding Nemo Jr.*, and others.



TYDIAM COLEMAN (Shug Avery), the world's best friend, is honored to share in this amazing moment with you! Thank you for being here! She is excited to be part of *The Color Purple* production with Raleigh Little Theatre! Some of her past productions include: *The Motown Sound of Christmas*, *Home*, *Purlie*, *Memphis*, *Black Nativity*

and For Colored Girls. When she isn't on stage, TyDiam loves having fun, empowering others and spreading hope. P.S. You Matter!

Cast Biographies



DAVI CUNNINGHAM (Ensemble/Adult Olivia, u/s Squeak) (she/they) is an up and coming actor, director, and producer in the Raleigh area. They are a rising senior at Meredith College studying Musical Theatre and English. They have been in many shows including: Carrie (2023), Sweet Charity (2024), Committed the Musical (2024),

and *Much Ado About Nothing* (2025) to name a few. They are so happy to be a part of this production with RLT and they hope you enjoy the show! Their social media handle is @queenangelyls for all socials.



ALLEN DILLON (Ensemble/Pa/Guard) is a graduate from the University of Mississippi, where he received his BFA in Musical Theatre Performance from the Department of Theatre and Film. A Mississippi native, he is thrilled to be making his Raleigh Little Theatre debut with *The Color Purple*. Previously, Allen has performed

with Georgia Ensemble Theatre as a member of their TYA tour in Schoolhouse Rock Live, Aesop's Fables, And Then They Came for Me..., and Tuck Everlasting and their main stage production of Leading Ladies as Jack. He hopes this production is the beginning of a wonderful relationship with the Raleigh theatre community!



DINA-MARIE (Ensemble/Church Soloist, u/s Sofia) is an actress based in the Triangle area. Her credits include: Hair, Reefer Madness, Evil Dead the Musical, Cinderella, Freaky Friday and Stop Kiss. She's thrilled to be part of this impactful production and expresses gratitude to the cast, crew, and Raleigh Little Theatre for amplifying

diverse voices.



KYREE HARRIS (Ensemble/Grady, u/s Harpo) is very excited to be a part of *The Color Purple* at Raleigh Little Theatre. He recently worked with Raleigh Little Theatre on *Kinky Boots* as an Angel. Kyree studied commercial/electronic music at Western Carolina University where he earned a BM. Kyree thanks his partner, Kevin, for all of his

love and support.



NADALIE HARRIS (Ensemble) was born and raised here in NC. Since a young child, she has had an enormous love for the performing arts. She has taken acting classes with the Houde School of Acting and Howard Fine Acting Studio. She is very excited to be making her stage debut and is grateful that it is with Raleigh Little Theatre.

Nadalie would like to express her deepest gratitude to her family and friends for their unwavering encouragement and support in all of her endeavors.



BEVERLY KAIN (Church Lady Darlene) is EXCITED to be a part of telling this amazing story as one of the church ladies, Darlene. And she's especially thrilled to share the stage with her daughter, Sydney, playing Nettie. She thanks God for the gifts He's given her and the opportunities to use them. She thanks her husband, Darrell, and daughter, Monica,

for their support of both she and Sydney in this and all endeavors.



SYDNEY KAIN (Nettie) is excited to be back for her second Raleigh Little Theatre production. She previously performed as Schwartzy in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, for which she won the Spotlight Performer Award at the 2023 Cantey's. Since then, she has been on stage as Savannah Krewe in *Freaky Friday the Musical* at

NRACT and was backstage as an Assistant Stage Manager for several productions at Burning Coal. She is thrilled to be performing once again with her mom, Beverly Kain, and would like to thank all of her family and friends for their support.



JARED LITTLE (Ensemble/Adult Adam) is a singer, actor, and Music Educator, from Fayetteville, NC. Jared holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from the illustrious North Carolina Central University, and a Master of Arts in Teaching from Lenoir-Rhyne University. He is the Choral Director at Crain's Creek Middle School and Asst.

Women's Basketball Coach at Union Pines High School. Jared is engaged to his beautiful wife-to-be, Precious A. Murray. He was cast as Ya'al in *Pooled: A Gospel Musical*, a regional premiere with Li V Mahob Productions in Bowie, Maryland in 2022. He was most recently cast as David in *The Residue of Unforgiveness* with Hope & Healing Ministries.

Cast Biographies



BAILEY RAE MATTHEWS (Young Nettie) is thrilled to make her main stage debut at Raleigh Little Theatre in *The Color Purple!* A proud participant in RLT's summer camps and classes, she has officially caught the acting bug and loves every minute of it. She is a straight-A student and will appear next as the Fairy Godmother in Disney's

Descendants with Carolina Theatre. She thanks her family for their love and support!



BERGANNE MONROE (Squeak) was born and raised in Saint Louis. She's very excited to be a part of this beautiful story.



KAILEIGH MICHELLE NAYLOR (Church Lady Doris) is thrilled to be performing in Raleigh Little Theatre's production of *The Color Purple*. Performing all her life, Kaileigh is stoked to be a part of this iconic show. A Raleigh native and Counselor at Smith Magnet Elementary School, Kaileigh often incorporates her love of the arts

through student support and guidance, where she created and sponsors The Buzzing Stars Theatre Club. Kaileigh wishes to thank God, her family, and friends for their unending love and enthusiasm during this process.



MICHELLE PICHARDO (Ensemble) is a social worker by day, but when the clock strikes 5pm, she pursues her dreams on a stage. Originally from the Dominican Republic, Michelle relocated to Raleigh from Utah only two months ago. She shares a deeply rooted love for the arts but singing is where shines brightest. This is her

first production ever, and she is beyond happy to be a part of the team. She thanks Raleigh Little Theatre for believing in her and her potential! Being part of this production is her greatest honor, enjoy!



DEANDRE SANDERS (Mister) is a veteran stage actor and emerging screen talent. The Southeast Raleigh native has performed with the North Carolina Black Repertory Company, Burning Coal Theatre, and Three Bone Theater and many more. Recent roles include *The Water* (Lance), *Blues for an Alabama Sky* (Sam), and *Akeelah and*

the Bee (Dr. Larabee). Also a director, producer, and voice-over artist, Deandre is passionate about art, culture, and identity.



LAUREN SMITH (Young Celie) is an elementary school student enrolled in a dual immersion language program. She began taking acting classes at Raleigh Little Theatre in 2023 and is thrilled to make her stage debut. Lauren recently appeared in a video for the Marbles Kids Museum's 2025 Bigger Play Brighter Futures

capital campaign. She enjoys storytelling, singing, and exploring different cultures through language and performance.



CANDACE SPENCER (Sofia) received her BA in Theatre from Greensboro College in 2019, including six months of study abroad in London focusing on theatre and dance. She earned her MFA in Performance from the University of Louisville in December 2023. Candace is passionate about the arts and grateful for the

support of her AMAZING family and friends. She gives all glory to God, whose love and guidance carried her through every step of her difficult journey.



A'ZHARIYHA T VAUGHAN (Celie) concentrated in classical voice and piano at Florida A&M University. Roles include Motormouth from Hairspray, Aunt Em/Evilene from The Wiz, Margaret Alexander from Amen Corner, Asaka from Once on this Island. She has graced stages in New York, Carnegie Mellon Hall, and Vienna,

Austria, performing theatrical, jazz, classical and contemporary selections. Romans 8:18: "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared to the glory that shall be revealed in you." She hopes this reminds you that no matter what you're going through, your struggle now, will make for a wonderful story later.

Cast Biographies



MATTHEW WARDSWORTH (Ensemble/Preacher/Ol' Mister/Chief) (he/him) is excited to return to Raleigh Little Theatre, where he first performed as a child. After over 20+ years away from the high school stage, he's honored to be part of The Color Purple and hopes to inspire his three daughters to keep chasing their passions, no

matter the timing.



PAISLEY WALLER (Ensemble, u/s Young Celie and Young Nettie) is an 8-year-old performer who loves acting and singing! Born in Richmond, Virginia, and raised in Southern California for the first five years of her life, Paisley now attends Cleveland Elementary School. She has taken both acting and singing classes at RLT and brings

lots of heart and energy to the stage. In 2nd grade, she was part of the Odyssey of the Mind team, where she discovered just how fun and creative problem-solving can be. Paisley is excited to share her love of performing and hopes you enjoy the show!



INDIA WILLIAMS (Church Lady Jarene), a Raleigh native, is thrilled to return to Raleigh Little Theatre. Favorite roles include Mabel in *Crowns*, Mama Cedella in *Three Little Birds*, and Church Lady/Soloist in *Black Nativity*. She has twice performed at the International Black Theatre Festival. A gifted vocalist and narrator, India

has lent her voice to background vocals for various local and national artists. Offstage, India is Executive Director of Loaves and Fishes Ministry, leads the Drama Ministry at Macedonia New Life Church, and is the proud mother of three amazing teens.

ARTSFOR ALL

Helping to Create Vibrant Communities Across North Carolina













Learn more at NCArts.org





@ncartscouncil



@ncarts



Production Team Biographies

TIA JAMES (Director) is an assistant professor at UNC Chapel Hill, teaching voice and acting to the graduate students at the Professional Actor Training Program, as well as a company member, resident director, and resident vocal coach for PlayMakers Repertory Company. Tia's acting credits include Hamlet in Hamlet, Benedick in Much Ado about Nothing, Clyde in Clyde's, Angel in Blues for an Alabama Sky, and Mark Antony in Julius Caesar. Tia's directing credits include Crumbs from the Table of Joy, Pride and Prejudice, How I learned what I learned, By the Way, Meet Vera Stark, Grand Concourse, Constellations, A Bright New Boise, Hamlet, Othello, Richard III, and has vocal coached over a dozen plays. Education/Awards: MFA NYU Graduate Acting Program, BFA Virginia Commonwealth University, Miller Voice Method Teacher Certification. Recipient of the 2019 & 2020 Michael Chekhov/ Zelda Fichandler Scholarship, 2014 NYU Graduate Acting Diversity Mentorship Scholarship, 2003 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival; Irene Ryan Winner. Tia is thrilled to be making her Raleigh Little Theatre debut and grateful for the opportunity to get to know and create with the Raleigh Community.

CAROLYN COLQUITT (Music Director/Conductor/Keyboard 1) is a pianist, composer, vocalist, choral director, and music educator. Born in Gary, Indiana, earning degrees from Valparaiso and Indiana Universities. She recently retired with over forty years in music education. After relocating to the Triangle, Carolyn has served as music director for many area theatres; The Justice, Agape, Li V Mahob and NR Arts and Creative Theatres and Raleigh Little Theatre. Carolyn is a member of the vocal/instrumental duo Smoothlyory2 - performing smooth jazz, R&B and original music. In 2021, Carolyn was chosen as 'Artist in Residence' at the NC Museum of Art and commissioned to compose music inspired by the exhibit "The Golden Years of the Netherlands/Shonibare" and to perform the concert series "Uniquely Carolyn." Carolyn has graced stages all over the world with memorable performances in Bethlehem Square on Christmas Eve night and a Papal Mass at St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican. Carolyn is the proud mother of two children and one grandson. Her greatest honor tonight is to serve as Music Director for The Color Purple and to play piano in the band. What fun!!

CHRISTA OLIVER (Choreographer) is an Associate Teaching Professor in the Department of Performing Arts and Technology at NC State University, where she also serves as Director of the Panoramic Dance Project. Before joining NC State, Christa spent eleven years teaching in the Department of Theatre and Dance at Texas State University. She holds a Master of Arts in Dance Performance and a Professional Diploma in Dance Studies from the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London, England. Additionally, she is a Mellon Fellow in the School of Theater and Performance Research at Harvard University. Throughout her career, Christa has collaborated with esteemed choreographers and dance pioneers such as Donald McKayle, Valerie Preston-Dunlop, Rafael Bonachela, Donald Byrd, Rennie Harris, Lula Washington, Victor Quijada, Christopher Huggins, Willi Dorner, Miguel Periera, Robin Lewis, and Dominique Kelly. Demonstrating her leadership and expertise in the performing arts, Christa served as the dance captain on the national tour of the acclaimed musical *The Color Purple*. Her performance experience spans several countries, having graced stages in the Netherlands, England, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, Kosovo, and Mexico. In addition to her extensive stage accomplishments, Christa has published work in the openaccess, peer-reviewed scholarly journal Dancer-Citizen and showcased her talents in Hollywood films, such as James Cameron's Avatar and Tim Allen's Crazy on the Outside.

SONYA LEIGH DRUM (Scenic Designer) is a theatrical designer and arts educator based in Raleigh. For the past 26 years Sonya has designed scenery for universities and professional theatre companies big and small. Recent regional collaborators include: The Duke Department of Theater Studies, Meredith College Theatre, and Theatre Raleigh. Sonya is pleased to be working once again with Raleigh Little Theatre. The Color Purple will be her 9th production scenic design at RLT. Recent scenic designs include Doubt and Akeelah and the Bee. When not designing, Sonya works as a Magnet Visual Arts Specialist for the WCPSS.

Production Team Biographies

PAMELA A. BOND (Costume Designer) - Credits include world premiere production of *The Christmas Case of Hezekiah Jones* and *Confederates* for PlayMakers Repertory Company, *Fences* for Coastal Carolina Theatre, Hilton Head, SC, *Mutu: A Fantastic Journey* at Nasher Museum at Duke University. Pamela is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Dramatic Art at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and resident costume designer for PlayMakers Repertory Company in Chapel Hill, NC. In addition to her teaching and theatre work, Pamela is a textile artist and actress in community theatre. She holds an MS in Textile and Apparel Design and Theatre Degrees from North Carolina Central University.

JENNI MANN BECKER (Lighting Designer) has recently reappeared in theatre after a brief hiatus. Her recent work includes lighting design for Eurydice at Duke University; Barbeque and Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812 (winner of the 2022 Broadway World Raleigh Awards) at Theatre Raleigh; A Christmas Carol and Silent Sky at Center Theater; and The Wolves, Roe, Carrie (The Musical), and Sweet Charity at Meredith College. Ms. Becker was faculty at Meredith College where she taught theater design and technology, as well as designed and implemented over twenty scenic and lighting designs for Meredith College Theatre. While at Meredith her work was nominated for several Kennedy Center American Theatre Festival awards (Faculty Design & Technology).

JARED KIRKPATRICK (Sound Designer) (he/they) has been a professional sound technician for almost a decade. While relatively new to theatre sound design, Jared is no stranger to the theatre - he carries a deep love for performing arts of all kinds, having grown up in several musical theatre communities around the Triangle. He is thrilled to be working with RLT for the first time as a sound designer, helping to bring such a powerful story to life.

LANEISHA BROWN FARRAR (Stage Manager) is delighted to be a part of this wonderful production and return to Raleigh Little Theatre after an extended time. Some of her stage management credits include productions with Center Theater Company, National Music Theater Foundry, NC Playwrights Lab, Theatre Raleigh, Pure Life Theatre, Raleigh Little Theatre, and Justice Theatre Project. Favorite credits include The Color Purple (Justice Theatre Project) and The Scottsboro Boys (Theatre Raleigh). LaNeisha is ever so grateful to her family and loved ones for your unwavering support!

JEFF A.R. JONES (Fight Director) has staged fights and/or intimacy for over 200 shows. His fights have received rave reviews in The Washington Post and The New York Times. He is a Fight Director, Certified Teacher, and Theatrical Firearms Instructor with the Society of American Fight Directors and a Certified Intimacy Director with Intimacy Directors and Coordinators. He is faculty at Elon University and Meredith College. Visit www.jarjones.com about fight classes with Collaborative Combat Movement Arts (also on Facebook) in Raleigh.

LAURA RIKARD (Intimacy Choreographer) (she/her) is a founder of Theatrical Intimacy Education, an intimacy coordinator, an intimacy choreographer/director, professor, teacher, director, and writer. She is an Associate Professor of Theatre at the University of South Carolina Upstate. Intimacy Coordination Credits include: Interview with A Vampire (AMC), Anne Rice Mayfair Witches (AMC), Supremes at Earl's All You Can Eat (Searchlight Pictures), Appendage (Fever Dream Studios/Hulu), Harlem (Amazon/NBC Universal), Mother's Instinct (Anton/FreckleFilms), Anything's Possible (Amazon), Ramy (Hulu), among others. Intimacy Choreography credits include: Off-Broadway: A Guide for the Homesick, Still...; Regional: Equus, West Side Story, Mamma Mia, Heathers, and many more. She is based in Asheville, North Carolina, and is a mom of twins. Insta: @laurarikardprofessoric

RAYDEN LEEDER (Dramaturg) is excited to be back at Raleigh Little Theatre for another show! Recent production credits include Schoolhouse Rock Live! (Dramaturg), Akeelah and the Bee (Dramaturg), Cinderella 40 (Dramaturg), I and You (Director), and Lynn Nottage's Sweat (Asst. Director/Dramaturg). Rayden would like to thank all the cast and crew for all the love put into this show to make it so magnificent!

Production Team Biographies

LYRIC DUKES (Associate Intimacy Choreographer) is a new team assistant with Theatrical Intimacy Education. She recently graduated from the University of South Carolina Upstate with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. She has performed, stage managed, and assistant directed on many productions and is excited to start her journey as an Intimacy Choreographer with *The Color Purple*.

LAUREN MONTANA (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to be back on headset for another amazing show at Raleigh Little Theatre! She's recently been ASM for Schoolhouse Rock Live! and Akeelah and the Bee, worked on crews for Cinderella 40 and Doubt, as well as crews and SM teams for various productions at her alma mater, New York University. After an extensive break from the theater, she couldn't have asked for a better place to land than here in Raleigh, and she can't wait to keep working with such an incredible group of artists!

JADA B. SMITH (Assistant Stage Manager) is thrilled to serve in her first Raleigh Little Theatre production as Assistant Stage Manager for *The Color Purple*. A recent graduate of Western Carolina University (WCU), she holds degrees in Stage Management and Broadcast Communications. Her recent credits include *Violet*, *Ride the Cyclone*, and *Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical* with WCU's School of Stage and Screen. Jada is passionate about storytelling and collaboration, and she's honored to support this powerful production.

KRISTINA BRUNELLE (Teams Dynamics Strategist) is an Organizational Strategist, guiding leaders and teams to greater effectiveness through purposeful discussions and activities that foster strong interpersonal connections. Her work helps smooth out the challenges that often arise in fast-paced, high-stakes environments while cultivating a stronger sense of community. By night, she's an avid theatre-goer, likely seated in a row near you. Grateful for this incredible cast and crew—here's to a truly spectacular performance. On with the show! IG: kbbrunelle

Connecting People With the Arts

The City of Raleigh Arts Commission nurtures creativity and enriches our community by championing the arts in Raleigh:

- Partnering with local cultural organizations
- Supporting arts programming
- Advocating for arts investment
- Presenting art exhibitions, public art and special events

Vinculando al Pueblo con las Artes

La Comisión de Artes de la Ciudad de Raleigh sustenta la creatividad y enriquece a nuestra comunidad, favoreciendo las artes en Raleigh por medio de:

- La asociación con organizaciones culturales locales
- •El apoyo de la programación de las artes
- El fomento de la inversión en el arte
- La presentación de exposiciones artísticas, arte público y eventos especiales

2023-2024 Raleigh Arts Partners

- African American Cultural Festival
- Animazement
- Arts Access
- · Arts Together
- Artspace
- Artsplosure
- Burning Coal Theatre Company
- CAM Raleigh
- · Carolina Ballet
- · Chamber Music Raleigh
- · Community Music School
- · Cultural Voice of NC
- Diamante Arts & Cultural Center
- El Pueblo
- The Justice Theater Project
- · 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
- PineCone
- Pure Life Theatre Company
- Raleigh Civic Symphony Association
- Raleigh Little Theatre
- The Raleigh Ringers
- Raleigh Youth Choir
- ShopSpace
- Theatre in the Park
- · Theatre Raleigh
- Triangle Youth Music
- VAE Raleigh



Musician Biographies

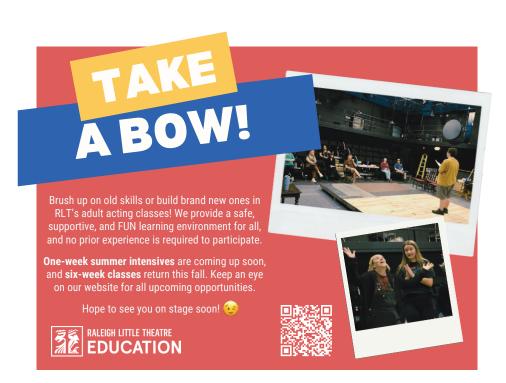
HAILEY GUERRA (Reed) is a multi-instrumentalist with a speciality in woodwinds from Apex, North Carolina. She is currently in her fourth year at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music pursuing a degree in clarinet performance as a member of Eli Eban's studio. Hailey plays for Indiana University's Department of Theatre, Drama, and Contemporary Dance as a woodwind doubler in musicals such as *Reefer Madness* and *Legally Blonde*. She can be found at haileyguerra.com and @hdgwoodwinds on Instagram.

AMANDA HONEA (Keyboard 2) is excited to be part of her first production with Raleigh Little Theatre! A classically trained pianist, she spent most of her musical life as an accompanist and is thrilled to finally explore the world of theatrical performance. After a 15-year hiatus, Amanda has returned to music through work with the Raleigh Youth Choir, WCPSS's Pieces of Gold, and her church's youth choirs. Outside of music, she works as a probate attorney in the Raleigh-Cary area and loves any chance to blend her lifelong passion for music with new creative adventures. She's grateful to her husband for holding down the fort with their three young daughters, to her mom for the gift of music, to her work family for their flexibility, and to her girls, who (hopefully!) are behaving while she's at rehearsal.

PRISCILLA JAMES (Percussion) is joining Raleigh Little Theatre for her third time. She began her time with RLT as the drummer for the summer production of *Kinky Boots*. Priscilla holds a BA in music education from UNC-Greensboro with focus in percussion. She plays music around the Triangle with various groups and enjoys anytime she gets to play music. Priscilla's hobbies are playing drums, gardening, and enjoying time with her family and friends. Priscilla plays this show in memory of her parents Janie and Willie James and dedicates this performance to her sister Felicia. "You and me, us never part!"

WEI-HAN LAI (Guitar) is an Electrical Engineer who geeks out over musical harmony as much as he does electronics. In college he played in the pit orchestra for productions including *Victor/Victoria* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Through his musical journey, he has performed at amazing venues such as The National in Richmond, VA, and Cat's Cradle in Carrboro, NC. He is thrilled to now add Raleigh Little Theatre to his bucket list.

MICHAEL MOLE (Trumpet) is in high demand as a freelance trumpet player and has performed with countless professional ensembles in the Triangle area including North Carolina Theatre, DPAC orchestra, Raleigh Symphony Orchestra, Durham Symphony Orchestra, Tar River Orchestra, Theatre Raleigh, PlayMaker's Theatre, Raleigh Little Theatre, Temple Theatre and Broadway Series South, to name a few. Michael earned a music degree from UNC-Chapel Hill and is associate director and trumpet instructor at Cary School of Music.



Author Biographies

MARSHA NORMAN (Book) won the Pulitzer Prize for her play, 'Night Mother and a Tony Award for her book of the Broadway musical, The Secret Garden. Ms. Norman is co-chair, with Christopher Durang, of the Playwriting Department of the Juilliard School and vice president of the Dramatists Guild of America. Her other plays include Getting Out, Traveler In The Dark, Sarah And Abraham, Trudy Blue, and Last Dance. Her published work includes Four Plays, Vol. I: Collected Plays of Marsha Norman and a novel, The Fortune Teller. She has numerous film and TV credits, Grammy and Emmy nominations, and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Rockefeller Foundation, the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters and the Fellowship of Southern Writers. She is a native of Kentucky who lives in New York City and Long Island with her two children.

BRENDA RUSSELL (Music & Lyrics) has a unique musical perspective, intimate voice and prolific treasure-trove of lyrics, that prove that a truly glowing talent only deepens with time. Composer of the classics "Get Here," "If Only For One Night," and the Grammy-nominated "Piano In The Dark," Brenda's songwriting prowess and chameleon-like ability to shift between musical genres and combine styles trumpeted ovations in 2005 with the opening of the Tony Award- winning hit Broadway musical *The Color Purple*, for which she, Allee Willis and Stephen Bray co-wrote the music and lyrics. Brenda and her co-authors were also nominated for a 2007 Grammy in the Best Musical Show Album category for the original cast album.

ALLEE WILLIS (Music & Lyrics) is a one-woman creative thinktank. A multi-disciplinary artist and visionary thinker whose range of imagination and productivity knows no bounds, her success exuberantly defies categorization; 'unique' pales as a descriptor. Willis is a Grammy-winning and Emmy- and Tony- nominated composer whose hit songs – including Earth, Wind & Fire's "September" and "Boogie Wonderland," The Pointer Sisters' 'Neutron Dance," Pet Shop Boys with Dusty Springfield's "What Have I Done To Deserve This," and The Rembrandts' "I'll Be There For You (Theme From Friends)" – have sold over 50 million records. In 2006, Willis' songs were also featured in three of the top grossing films of the year, Happy Feet, Night At The Museum and Babel.

STEPHEN BRAY (Music & Lyrics) is thrilled to be making his Broadway debut with The Color Purple. After beginning music studies with private instruction in Detroit, Bray continued training at Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. Working with Madonna, he wrote and produced many of her top-ten recordings, including "Angel," "Into the Groove," "Papa Don't Preach," "True Blue" and "Express Yourself." Performing with Breakfast Club, he earned a Grammy nomination for Best New Artist and a topten single. He has composed and produced for multiplatinum artists including The Jets, Gladys Knight and Kylie Minogue. Film and television projects include Beverly Hills Cop II, Who's That Girl?, All About The Benjamins and the theme for PBS's "California Connected." Stephen is developing artists for his Soultone label and looks forward to more musical theatre. He would like to thank his daughter Milena for her eternal patience and his family for their continuing support.



Raleigh Little Theatre Staff Biographies

MICHELE WEATHERS (Executive Producer) (she/her/hers) Previously: Executive Director and Senior Executive Advisor at Carolina Ballet (2017-2023), Managing Director at PlayMakers Repertory Company (2014-2016), Managing Director at Barrington Stage Company (Pittsfield, MA) and North Carolina Theatre (1991-2004). NY credits include: In the Heights, High Fidelity, Orson's Shadow, and Red Light Winter. In 2019, she was recognized with TBJ's Women in Business Leadership Award and, in 2024, she was a member of the inaugural group of award winners for Raleigh Magazine's Impact 50. DEI training: artEquity and Emerging Equity. Michele is a member of the League of Professional Theatre Women. Her daughter, Peyton Rose, is a senior at Enloe High School. Meredith College grad. She is incredibly proud of RLT's place in this community.

DENNIS R. BERFIELD (Production Manager/Technical Director) 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, and 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.

TERRA HODGE (Director of Education) (she/her) is the Director of Education at Raleigh Little Theatre. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre Education from North Carolina Central University and her Master of Arts degree in Media Arts from Long Island University, Brooklyn Campus. Prior to joining RLT, Terra was the Theatre Arts teacher at Culbreth Middle School in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She was named the 2017-2018 Culbreth Teacher of the Year and was named an Honor Teacher for Chapel Hill – Carrboro City Schools. Terra has worked as a teaching artist, actor, and director with many local theatre companies. She is the director of Agape Theatre Project's production of *Crowns* that was featured at the 2024 International Black Theatre Festival in Winston Salem, NC.

JENNY MITCHELL (Costume Shop Manager) is the Costume Shop Manager 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: Something Rotten!, Kinky Boots, Trouble in Mind, Curtains, and Junie B. Jones Is Not A Crook.

MEGAN FARRELL (Marketing Manager) joined the Raleigh Little Theatre team in August 2019. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Marketing from North Carolina State University. Megan grew up a theater kid and loves getting to "play" on the admin side of the performing arts now as an adult. When she's not at the theatre, Megan is likely cheering on the Dodgers, watching horror movies, or going on adventures with her tiny best friend Emmie. She is lucky to have experienced the powerful love and bond of sisterhood since the day she was born and dedicates this show to her sister Jen.

MERCEDES RUIZ (Box Office and Front of House Supervisor) is thrilled to be a new addition to the RLT team! A long time attendee, Mercedes grew up seeing Cinderella annually with her grandfather. She later made her RLT debut as a Teacher's Assistant and actress, with credits including A Year with Frog and Toad, Charlotte's Web, The Tempest, and Into the Woods. A graduate of Elon University with a degree in Drama and Arts Administration, Mercedes has worked in patron services, education, development, and finance, with a focus on making theatre accessible to diverse audiences.

ALI WOOD (Assistant Technical Director) could be found both on-stage and backstage while she was growing up. From skits her grandfather wrote for church to performing at the local community theatre, Ali was always involved. However, during her college years, she found lighting and swapped over to the dark side. After graduating, Ali worked as an Entertainment Stage Technician for Walt Disney World and now she continues her career as the Assistant Technical Director here at Raleigh Little Theatre where she hopes to continue spreading the love and joy of theatre with everyone she meets.

Raleigh Little Theatre Staff Biographies

DENISE SCHUMAKER (Associate Costume Shop Manager) first worked with Raleigh Little Theatre in 1994 as a volunteer on costumes for *Oliver!* Since then, she has designed, built, organized, and supervised costumes, props and sets for local theatre, dance, and opera, plus off-Broadway, tours, film, and television. In addition to RLT, you may have seen her work on stage at North Carolina Theatre, North Carolina Opera, Theatre in the Park, Theatre Raleigh, Peace University, NCSU, Duke University, Barton College, Honest Pint Theatre Company, RedBird Theater Company, Justice Theatre Project, or elsewhere. She was honored with an Emmy® nomination in 2010.

CANDACE SPENCER (Education Programs Specialist) is an accomplished African American theatre professional passionate about nurturing young artists. She holds a BA in Theatre from Greensboro College and an MFA in Theatre Performance from the University of Louisville. Candace has expanded her artistic perspective through a six-month study abroad program in London, where she explored theatre and dance. While pursuing her MFA, Candace gained four years of experience teaching introductory acting classes to undergraduates, and she developed on-camera acting skills during her undergraduate studies. She is skilled in drama instruction, on-stage and on-camera acting, and stage directing. Her dedication to youth development is not only evident in her teaching experience, but also in her work with young artists at a summer camp in Los Angeles, California. Candace's diverse training, experience, and love for theatre make her an invaluable asset to the RLT Education team.

EMMA CLEMENTS (Jack Hall Scholar) is a local director and producer. They are very excited to be joining the RLT team for the 2024-2025 season as the Jack Hall Scholar! They recently graduated from UNC-CH, where they held several student leadership and production roles, including Executive Director of Production for Pauper Players' 2022-2023 season. Emma also serves as the Artistic Director for Boy With Box Theatre Company, a new small-budget theatre company in Chapel Hill.

* Empire Eats *

We've been called a lot of things, but ordinary isn't one of them

































marketing · print · signs of Raeligh

Where business goes to grow.®
Your Complete Marketing and Printing
Services Provider



7209 Creedmoor Road, Suite 103 • Raleigh, NC 27613

Phone: 919.846.6000

customerservice@pip.com www.piprdu.com

Program Notes

by Rayden Leeder, Dramaturg

A beautiful story of strength, perseverance, sisterhood, and love comes bursting to life with *The Color Purple*. Despite the original being written in the 1980's and based in the 1920's, *The Color Purple* provides a tale woven with a powerful message that stands the test of time. The musical takes that impactful story and puts it to the stage with music that leaves audiences overwhelmed with emotion as we view the story of one woman coming into her own.

This musical is based on the 1982 novel by writer and civil rights activist Alice Walker. The book is written in an epistolary style, meaning it is written in the form of written letters exchanged by the two main characters. This book became an incredible success, winning the 1983 Pulitzer Prize for fiction and making Walker the first Black woman to win the award. The musical began production in 2004 at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, transferring to Broadway the following year. Following the original Broadway run was three national tours before the critically acclaimed Broadway revival, which ran from 2015–2017 and received many awards, including two Tonys (Best Revival, Best Actress) and two Drama Desk Awards. Everyone remembers this run from Cynthia Erivo's stunning performance as Celie, winning her a Tony, Drama Desk Award, and an Outer Critics Circle Award. *The Color Purple* has since gone on to have several productions run around the world, from Canada and the UK to Africa and Brazil.

The plot follows a young woman named Celie through her life as we watch her learn to find inner strength and peace. Celie is a woman full of love for the people in her life, especially her younger sister Nettie. Her love for others causes her to sacrifice much of her life in service of protecting her loved ones. This show tackles serious topics such as abuse and does not sugarcoat the reality of Celie's life, allowing us as the audience to fully witness Celie's transformation as she finds her voice. In the now infamous song "I'm Here," we get to witness the beautiful growth shown by Celie as she finds peace with those in her life and relishes in the life she herself has ahead of her. She realizes that she does not need to define herself in who she is to others, but rather she can see herself for all that she is as a person and all that she has accomplished. After all the adversity she faces through her life, she can finally feel power in saying the words, "I'm beautiful, and I'm here."

The Color Purple helps provide a voice to those who feel voiceless. Those who see this story and can relate in any way to Celie can hopefully find their own inner strength as well to live life for themselves just as Celie was able to.

Season Crews & Volunteers

2024-2025 Auditions Crew Member

Marie Berry Tony Landavazo
Amy Blackwell Denisse Lemos
Barbara Corbin John Maruca
Linda Fetsko Depo Elaine Petrone
Laurel Drobits Heather Shinpaugh
Judy M. Dove Michael Teleoglou
Judy Keyes Karen Wahle

Catherine V. Lambe

2024-2025 Auditions Crew Coordinator Marie Berry

2024-2025 "Beekeepers"

Marie Berry Mohoganey Hollowell
Bill Buckner Lindsey Wyatt

2024-2025 Captions Crew Members

Shruti Chavan Chantea England

Jordan Cofield Heidi York

For more information about volunteering at RLT, contact Cari by email at Cari@RaleighLittleTheatre.org or via telephone at 919-821-4579 x232.

2024-2025 Deck Crew Members

Nmesomachim Ani Essie Horne

Jorge Betancourt Victoria Kalendra-Frysta

Yusha Bey Ryan Jones

Dustin Bowles Amy Keyworth
Peri Boylan Fox LaLeaf
Ebie Britt Sonya LaLeaf

Jordan Cofield Tony Landavazo
Chris Crowe Robby Levenson

Petra Crowe Joey Lloyd Shiri Dayan Dani Miano

Anakin Ducheneaux Lauren Montana

Bri Flynn Michael Parrill
Samantha Gallup Amy Plahuta
Whitney Glomb Doc Price

Lea Goldstein Ray Siminski
Alex Gromo Aubrey Thomas

Mohoganey Hollowell Lara West

Gloria Hope

2024-2025 Dresser Crew Supervisors

Beth Castle Lindsey Wyatt

Jennifer Dai

Essie-Richelle Horne

2024-2025 Dresser Crew Members

Marie Berry Savannah Johnson
Amy Blackwell Karen Matthews Lee
Beth Castle Helen Remington
Petra Crowe Dillon Shorter

Petra Crowe Dillon Shorter
Jennifer Dai Jamie Smith

Kendra Drylie Sophie Thibodeaux

Mohoganey Hollowell Lindsey Wyatt

Season Crews & Volunteers

2024-2025 Fly Crew Members

Jordan Cofield Da
Chris Crowe Sig

Shiri Dayan

Bri Flynn

Ryan Jones Fox LaLeaf

Tony Landavazo

Daniel McKay
Simone Pohlman

Doc Price

Katherine Shauger

Ray Siminski

Zara Van Hemert

Lara West

2024-2025 Lead Ushers

Kristina Brunelle

Judy M. Dove

Michael Dunavan

Amy Hellmers

Amelia Lumpkin

Lilo Miles

Sree Sarkar

Chanté Thompson

Lindsey Wyatt

2024-2025 Lighting Crew Members

Chantal Brown

Maggie Brown Shruti Chavan Barbara Corbin

Petra Crowe Shiri Davan

Anakin Ducheneaux

Chantea England

Lea Goldstein Violet Hellmers Gloria Hope

Ryan Jones

Beth Kirby

Catherine V. Lambe

Lauren Montana Tom Normanly

Veronica Passarelli

Amy Plahuta

Doc Price

Katherine Shauger

Bob Tomasulo Lizzy Yingling

Heidi York

2024-2025 Costume Shop Crew Members

Sofia Albahrawy Matthew Anderson

Liz Armbruster Andrea Axtell Kai Arroyo Lydia Aulisi

Ruth Berry Barbara Biggs Betsy Boyd Millie Bozek Clancy Bradbury

Chantal Brown
Jaye Bullock
Emerson Bulluck

Grey Burns Alyssa Capps Beth Castle

Myrakle Caston Saphfire Cook Sheridan Cooke Barbara Corbin Petra Crowe

Laurel Drobits
Susanna Edwards
Sarah Felts

Lisa Flores-Wolfert

Sam Frigerio
Sophie Gardner
Samuel Geist
Troysha Giggans
Laurel Gregory
Shannon Hahn

Mohoganey Hollowell

Gloria Hope Liz Houde

Ann Haigler

Hannah Hudyncia Gwen Johnson Mallory Koerner Julija Kolenceva Maitreyee Kulkarni Cathorina V. Lambo

Catherine V. Lambe Anne Langdon Michaela Langley Barbara Leimgruber Timothy Locklear

Ana Louis
Stephanie Lu
Jay Mack
Aja Maltin
Kathy Mauney
Bonita McPherren
Heather Meadows
Kelley O'Byrne
Nancy Pennington

Jill Pownall
Cynthia Ramos
Leanne Richbourg
Nayeli Rios-Guzman

Aleena Rivera Sue Rudkin Alyssa Sanders Will Saponara Mallory Schultz James Shaw

Heather Shinpaugh
Dillon Shorter
Eleanor Silver
Nicole Solera
Alex Stevens
Pam Swanstrom
Laura Sweeney
Stephanie Toney

Wren Wick

Alana Williamson

Liz Winfrey Becca Woltz

2024-2025 Props Crew Supervisor

Catherine V. Lambe

2024-2025 Props Crew Members

Sofia Albahrawy Michael Jernigan Chloe Allen Joss Kagarise

Liz Armbruster Victoria Kalendra-Frysta

Yusha Bey Catherine V. Lambe

Shruti Chavan Amy Plahuta
Petra Crowe Simone Pohlman

Michael Dunavan Doc Price

Whitney Glomb Metra Sheshbaradaran
Kaylee Hahn Michael Teleoglou
Violet Hellmers Sophie Thibodeaux

Mohoganey Hollowell Lara West

2024-2025 Sound Crew Members

Sam Beck Robby Levenson
Jorge Betancourt Logan MacDonald
Natalie Brooke Paisley McIntyre
Chantal Brown Lauren Montana
Elizabeth Capps Tom Normanly
Shruti Chavan Amy Plahuta

Barbara Corbin Veronica Passarelli
Chris Crowe Metra Shesbaradaran

Sarah Doering Bob Tomasulo
Chantea England Rachel Ward
Lea Goldstein Selah Woodhead
Victoria Kalendra-Frysta Lizzy Yingling

Jared Kirkpatrick Heidi York

Catherine V. Lambe

2024-2025 Volunteer Task Force Members

Steve Bradford Amy Hellmers
Brett Cooper John Maruca
Marciguía Garnes Brooke Sandoval

Dawn Graham

2024-2025 Scene Shop Crew Members

Chloe Allen

Nmesomachim Ani

Lydia Aulisi

Julianna Babcock

Brenda Bailey

Yusha Bey

Andrew Black

Gary Bossert

Dustin Bowles

Peri Boylan Chantal Brown

Dylan Bruchhaus

Bill Buckner

Enya Burningham

Grey Burns

Joe Burns Alanya Campbell

Victoria Centeno

Joseph Citta

Gillian Coats

Jordan Cofield

Caden Connor

Saphfire Cook
Sheridan Cooke

Brett Cooper

Joe Cordaro

Joe Cordard

Chris Crowe

Shiri Dayan Nic DeBruin

Susanna Edwards

Raesha Emerson-Cook

Chantea England

Larry Fantozzi

Kathleen Friedley

Stephen Furs

Samantha Gallup Troysha Giggans

Whitney Glomb

Lea Goldstein Matthew Graham

Derrick Grooms

Graham Guzynski

Joseph Heil

Violet Hellmers

Samuel Hill

Mohoganey Hollowell

Gloria Hope

Cindy Hughey

Eric Jensen Cat Johnson

Emma Kirkner

Maitreyee Kulkarni

Fox LaLeaf

Sonya LaLeaf

Lacey Lewis

Kaitlyn Macenko Marc Macenko

.

Jay Mack

Melody Markert
Grace McCarthy

Samuel Mccraw

Amy Meller

Kaitlin Merlino

Don Miller

Nasseer Naji

Jeff Nugent

oon magonic

Ethan Onkundi Livia Onkundi **David Oyler**

Veronica Passarelli

Ann Perry

Elaine Petrone

Amy Plahuta

Nia Porter Jill Pownall

Jacob Presson

Daniel Rapuano

Heath Roberts

Caitlin Romig-Koch

Katherine Shauger

Jamie Smith

Raymond Siminski

Sarah Sinawi

Dave Sniffin

Matt Steindl

Rogelio Sullivan

Sophie Thibodeaux

Aubrey Thomas

Kristina Thomas

Alison Thompson

Bob Tomasulo

Blaise Tucker

Natasha Tyson

Meoshia Wallace

Alephie White

Wren Wick

Alana Williamson

Lizzy Yingling

Ezra Zhang

LZI a ZIIalig

Toby Zuiderhof

2024-25 Board of Directors

Natasha Gore (President)

Steve Epstein (Vice President)

Clifton M. Cates III (Treasurer)

Rudra Dutta (Secretary)

Chanda Branch

Gene Cordon

Judy M. Dove

Barbette Hunter

Leslie Ann Jackson

Safiyah Jackson

Betsy Ludwig

Amelia Lumpkin

Carol Machuca

Marquita Robertson

Suzanne Ruggles

Phillip Bernard Smith

Victoria Wheeler

Michael Dunavan (Volunteer Rep)

Caitlin Poe (Board Attorney)

Raleigh Little Theatre Staff

Executive Producer Michele Weathers

Production Manager/
Technical Director Dennis R. Berfield

Director of Education Terra Hodge

Costume Shop Manager/
Resident Costume Designer Jenny Mitchell

Development Manager Kiran Baucom

Marketing Manager Megan Farrell

Box Office/ Front of House Supervisor

Assistant Technical Director Ali Wood

Associate Costume Shop Manager

Education Programs Specialist Candace Spencer

Box Office Associates Jackson Griffin

Jada Smith
Joel Schaer
Morgan Harris
Nic Johnson

Mercedes Ruiz

Denise Schumaker

Temp Finance Associate Laurel Whitten

Jack Hall Scholar Emma Clements



Donors

Contributing Members

1936 Legacy Society

Anonymous (2)

Charles W. Burton, Jr.

Carlie Huberman

Adrienne Lumpkin

Velvet Rattelade

Clifford and Janet Raynor

Donald and Bonita Scott

Leigh Ann Wilder and John B. Holding

David and Judi Wilkinson

Raleigh Little Theatre is grateful to the following individuals, companies and private and public funding agencies that have invested in live, community theatre and arts education. This list reflects gifts to the general needs of the theatre of \$100 or more between May 12, 2024 - May 12, 2025.

Corporate Partners

Capitol Broadcasting Company/WRAL TV5
The Cardinal at North Hills
Coastal Credit Union
North State Bank
Triangle Family Magazine
WALTER Magazine

Foundation and Government Partners

Capital City Civitan Club City of Raleigh Arts Commission Find Your Light Foundation Floyd Family Foundation **Hubie Poteat Memorial Scholarship Fund** John Rex Endowment John William Pope Foundation Link by Link **Maurer Family Foundation** North Carolina Arts Council North Carolina Community Foundation Talk It Out NC The Irene Ryan Foundation The Jandy Ammons Foundation The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation The W. Trent Ragland Foundation The Warner Fund United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County United Way of the Greater Triangle

Donors

Marquee Circle - \$5,000+

Chuck & Nancy Crew

Charles W. Gaddy and Lucy Finch Gaddy Endowment Fund

Eileen & Michael Hendren

Kathy Mauney[^]

Mindtracs

Jim and Cantey Tanner

Fitz-Simons Society - \$2,500+

John Adams

Ruth Bromer & Joseph Huberman

Shelley Crisp

Peter & Nancy Watkins Dimitrios*

Alec and Georgia Donaldson[^]

Jesse R. Gephart

Chancy & Keith Kapp

Rick LaBach

Mike & Maggie McGee*^

Cece & Peter Scott

Gail G. Smith

Zoe Watts, Kiron Rakkar & David Watts*

Victoria Wheeler

Donors

Producer - \$1,000+

Amy & John Bason[^]

David and Carol Carlson

Roy and Kristin Cooper

Scott Falmlen & Paul Fox

Stephen Furs

Rob & Linda Grew

Charles & Cheryl Hall

Jeanette Jackson[^]

Leslie Ann Jackson

Catherine V. Lambe

Amelia Lumpkin Household*

Victoria Nevois Household

Phyllis Parish & Seab Howard

Mary Anne Payne

Clifford & Janet Raynor[^]

Robert & Connie Shertz

Michele M Weathers

David Wilkinson

Director - \$500+

Alison Bailey Alan Hymowitz & Olivia Fried

Kathleen Burkett[^] Betsy Ludwig

Clifton Cates Michelle & Charles Putterman^

Kathleen Curie Hall Bonnie & Don Scott

Ruth Freeman Cynthia Urquhart

Meredith Howland

Designer - \$250+

Jenny Anglum Jean Gross & Don Miller^

Anonymous April Grossi

Elizabeth Armbruster Terry Haggerty^

Kylee Bloodworth Adrienne Kelly-Lumpkin

Tama Coleman Greg Moore & Kevin O'Barr

Barbara Corbin Charles J. Phaneuf

Rebecca Crosson John Riedy

Denise deLaRue Joyce Rothchild^

Ken and Cindy Denison Dena & Charles Silver

Rudra Dutta[^] Theodore Smyth

Tony & Elli Gemma Charlotte & Brian Sweeney

Natasha Gore Mark Tulbert & Rob Maddrey

Actor - \$100+

Thomas Acker

Lee & Sunny Allen

Michelle Bamford

Lisa & Ray Behrens

Janet Black Household

Marc Bookman

Bill & Sandra Boyd

Jennifer Bryant

Suzanne Chaploney

Lyman Collins & Donald Davis

Natalie Cooper

Gene Cordon

Teresa & Charles Cramer

Renee Crowson

Judy & Kent Dove

Tom & Peggy Eifler*

Herman Ferguson

Linda George

Maureen Grant

Joye Groff

Susan Hager

Jim & Carolyn Hammerle

Karyn Harrell^

Sherri Holmes

Robert Johnson Household

Richard & Sara Loeppert

Linda Maloof

Kenneth Marks

Amanda Matsov

Michael & Helen McGee

Allison Medlin

Molly Mersch

Kimberly Miles

Morrisa & Scott Nagel

Robert Napier

Ksenia Nesterova

Thomasina O'Neal

Lise Osvold and Robert Miller

Sarah Parker

J. Paumier & M. Gumpertz

Gil & Mel Pena

Theresa Pennypacker-Moss

John Peters

Helen Petrovskaya

Caitlin Poe

Rick & Cindy Puetzer

Steve Pysnik

Scott Schauer

Saul Shapiro

Susan Sigmon

Freyja & Magnus Sindemark[^]

Windy Sipe Household

Marsha and Geoff Smith

Mandy Soltes

Mary, Bill & Craig Stelzenmuller*

Pam Swanstrom

Nicholas Thomas[^]

Rose Troyer

Sandy Trull

Helaine Turek

Mary Ann Turner

Larry Vack

Michahla Vassey Household

In honor of...

Kathy and David Bartlett Kiran Baucom Kathleen Milligan Kathleen Rudolph Grayson Scheatzle Anjali Thawani Natalie Turgeon

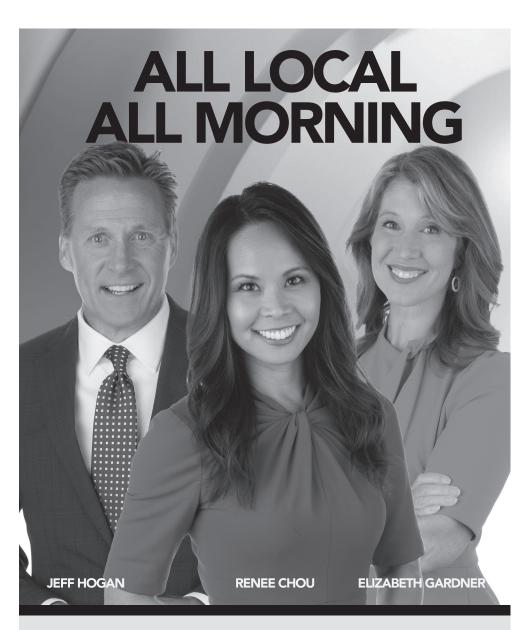
In memory of...

Patsy M. Clarke Jack Hall Larry Vack Judy Wilkinson Jeff Wise

For more information about investing in RLT, contact Kiran Baucom by email at Kiran@RaleighLittleTheatre.org or via telephone at 919-821-4579 x230.

^{*}These patrons support RLT and their employers generously match their gifts.

[^]These patrons are RLT Sustainers and support RLT with automatic recurring donations.



WRALANEWS MORNINGS

4:30-7:00AM



7:00-10:00 AM



The 2025-2026 Season

Hadestown: Teen Edition

July 25 - August 10, 2025

Mad Libs® Live!

September 12 - 18, 2025

Witch

October 24 - November 9, 2025

Cinderella

December 5 - 21, 2025

Moonlight and Magnolias

February 6 - 22, 2026

1776

March 27 - April 19, 2026

The Hobbit

May 2 - 10, 2026

School of Rock

June 5 - 28, 2026

Subscriptions on sale now!

RaleighLittleTheatre.org





TICKETS: 919-821-3111 RaleighLittleTheatre.org

