



RALEIGH
LITTLE
THEATRE

2025/2026
SEASON



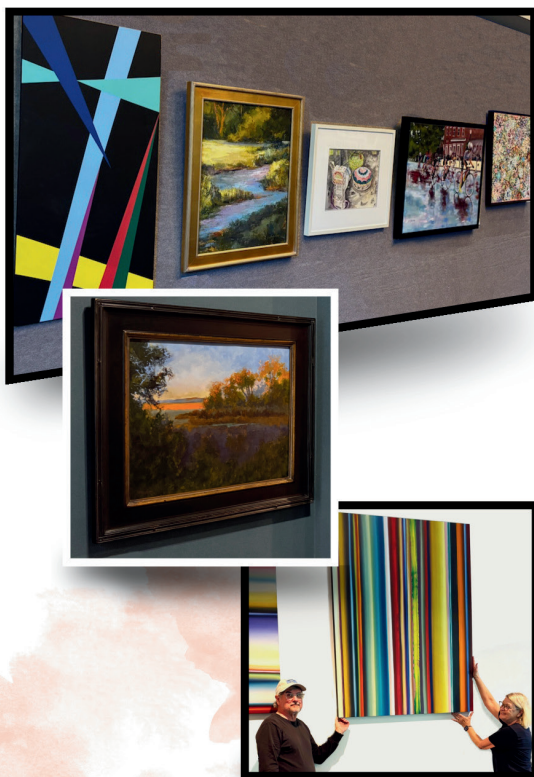
WITCH

BY JEN SILVERMAN

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 9

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RALEIGH
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THEATRE



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RALEIGH
LITTLE
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presents

WITCH

BY JEN SILVERMAN

Directed by Jeri Lynn Schulke

Scenic Design by Jenni Mann Becker

Costume Design by Jenny Mitchell

Intimacy and Fight Directed by Montgomery Davis

Lighting Design by Darby E. Madewell

Sound Design by Juliana Valente

Props Design by Devra Thomas

Stage Management by Lauren Montana

Witch was commissioned by Writers Theatre through the Literary Development Initiative, with the generous support of David and Mary Winton Green, and the World Premiere was presented at Writers Theatre in Glencoe, IL; Michael Halberstam, Artistic Director, Kathryn M. Lipuma, Executive Director.

Witch is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com.

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



**Raleigh
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Witch 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.



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Arts**

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WELCOME TO RALEIGH LITTLE THEATRE AND THE GADDY-GOODWIN THEATRE

We often use this month to explore stories of mystery, desire and the mystical. Jen Silverman's *Witch* is that and more. I want to thank Jess Barbour for introducing me to this play in my first month on the job here at RLT in August 2023.

Silverman's play takes a centuries-old story and cracks it open to reveal something stunningly modern—a sharp, funny, and deeply human look at ambition, morality, and the yearning for change. Beneath its wit and dark humor is a question that feels timeless: what would you trade—or risk—to make the world, or yourself, into something different?

At its core, I believe, *Witch* is about choices and possibilities, about the struggle to remain hopeful when cynicism is the easier path. It's about power, and who dares to claim it or perhaps deserves it. And like all good theatre, it reminds us that transformation is possible, although it may come at a cost.

Thank you for joining us for this bold and surprisingly tender story. Being here to share in these ideas helps us keep conversation at the heart of what we do. Thank you also to Jeri Lynn Schulke and the team of actors, designers and volunteers who brought this show to life.

Enjoy the show.



Michele
Producing Artistic Director



CAST

Elizabeth

Lola Ureña

Scratch

Jordan Monadjemi

Cuddy

Parker Perry

Frank

Kevin Collins

Winnifred

Gwen Muncy-Champitto

Sir Arthur

Matthew Kinney

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director

Jeri Lynn Schulke

Scenic Designer

Jenni Mann Becker

Costume Designer/Costume Shop Manager

Jenny Mitchell

Lighting Designer

Darby E. Madewell

Fight and Intimacy Director

Montgomery Davis

Sound Designer

Juliana Valente

Props Designer

Devra Thomas

Stage Manager

Lauren Montana

Assistant Stage Manager

Gavin Hamilton

PROGRAM NOTES

By Rayden Leeder, Dramaturg

From the trials of Salem to Sabrina Spellman, the topic of witches has kept a strong hold on the cultural zeitgeist. We are continually captivated by the idea of magic within our world, and it has led to the creation of many incredible works of art. Jen Silverman's *Witch* is another wonderful story surrounding the mystical and magical in a refreshingly grounded way.



The concept of witches stretches all the way back to biblical times, with some of the earliest mentions of witches coming from the books of Samuel and Exodus. It wasn't until the mass hysteria that hit Europe in the 1400s that witches took on a new life and identity of their own. Over the next 200 years, more than 80,000 women would be executed due to witchcraft accusations. Europeans were quick to accuse any woman they suspected to be working with the devil, tearing entire communities apart due to the mistrust of one another. The mistrust

and fear of witches within their communities led Europeans to create anti-witch propaganda, often in the form of pamphlets. These pamphlets existed to report on all things witches, from how to identify them in your own community to reports on the trials happening in the area. One such pamphlet, *The wonderfull discoverie of Elizabeth Sawyer, a witch late of Edmonton, her conviction and condemnation and death*, written by Henry Goodcole in 1621, inspired the play *The Witch of Edmonton* by William Rowley, Thomas Dekker and John Ford. Both the pamphlet and subsequent play are based on the real-life story of Elizabeth Sawyer, who was executed for witchcraft on April 19, 1621.

To be a witch was a concept now tainted with the negative perception that you were a bitter and manipulative temptress who lures innocents to devil worship. What made *The Witch of Edmonton* so unique in

PROGRAM NOTES



comparison to the information on witches being represented during this time is how it was set up to make audiences empathize with the witch in the story. Instead of showing a wicked witch terrorizing an innocent town, the play gives us a normal woman who was pushed into becoming a witch due to the treatment she faced from her community. The idea of witches being women who turned to the devil

not because they were evil, but because the devil treated her with more kindness than the society she lived in was a new and subversive take for a story about witches. This concept would inspire Jen Silverman to write her own take on a modern witch story.

Witch by Jen Silverman takes a similar approach as *The Witch of Edmonton*, allowing us a glimpse into witch hysteria from the perspective of a misunderstood woman. Elizabeth is a normal woman who is reviled by her community, and the devil sees her as the perfect target due to her status. Despite the mistreatment Elizabeth faces, she is not so easily turned to the devil's side.

A story with stakes as high as fighting for inheritance, legacies, and titles, mixed with deals with a devil, *Witch* is, at its core, a story of love and connection. It brings to the fore ideas of transformation, love as a radical act, and freedom from systematic power structures, themes found throughout many of Silverman's plays. *Witch* spins an incredibly complicated yet beautiful picture, showcasing that to be loved is to be seen, and the act of finding connection in a world where you feel invisible can forever change your outlook on life and the moments that define who you are.



CAST BIOGRAPHIES



KEVIN COLLINS (Frank) is excited to be making his Raleigh Little Theatre debut in *Witch*. Most recently he appeared as Frank/Franz in *Appropriate* at North Raleigh Arts & Creative Theatre. Offstage he is a PhD student in the Department of Statistics at NC State, studying whales and fish and the like. He would like to thank everyone at RLT, the crew of *Witch*, his fellow castmates, and most importantly everyone who takes the time to see our production!



MATTHEW KINNEY (Sir Arthur) is excited to be working with Raleigh Little Theatre and the cast and creative team for this production. He was most recently seen in *Un/NAMED* with Burning Coal and *Appropriate* at North Raleigh Arts & Creative Theatre. Previous stage productions in New York and North Carolina include *Taming of the Shrew*, *Caucasian Chalk Circle*, *The Real Thing*, *The MacGuffin*, *Hay Fever*, and many more. Love to his support team, Michelle, Elliott, Ivy, and Ada.



JORDAN MONADJEMI (Scratch) is excited to make his Raleigh Little Theatre debut, returning to the stage after years exploring film and other pursuits. He studied acting at Greensboro College, attended Berkshire Theatre Group's summer program, and trained in various workshops in Los Angeles. His most recent work includes a starring role in the indie feature "Oh Crappy Day" (available online). He thanks his wife Lindsey for encouraging his return to theater, and is happy to be back living in the Triangle!

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



GWEN MUNCY-CHAMPITTO (Winnifred) is delighted to be joining the cast and crew of *Witch* for her first Raleigh Little Theatre production! She graduated from Appalachian State University in 2024 with her degree in Theatre Education. Gwen has been teaching Theatre in the Cary/Raleigh areas since then, but is so thrilled to be performing again. Gwen would like to extend her deepest gratitude to her family, friends and partner Kevin for their support. Enjoy the show!



PARKER PERRY (Cuddy) is thrilled to be returning after a nine year hiatus to the theatre that raised him! Previous credits at Raleigh Little Theatre include *Spring Awakening* (Hanschen), *Spamalot* (Prince Herbert), and *Bat Boy: the Musical* (Edgar), as well as *Pippin* at UNC-Greensboro (Pippin). He would like to thank the brilliant cast and creative team, his incredibly supportive family, his partner in everything Leanne, and you for supporting the arts!



LOLA UREÑA (Elizabeth) is thrilled to play alongside such a talented cast in her debut Raleigh Little Theatre production after ten years away from the stage. She attended East Carolina University's School of Theatre and Dance where she studied the Meisner acting technique. Most recently she has worked closely with Burning Coal Theatre Company (Raleigh) and Theater Delta (Durham). She would like to extend gratitude to her loving partner, Mike, for his support. Enjoy the show!

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

JERI LYNN SCHULKE (Director) is an actor, director, producer, and co-founder of RedBird Theater Company. She received her MFA from UNC-Chapel Hill and has appeared in productions throughout the Triangle. Directing credits include: *Appropriate* (NRACT), *Art* (RedBird Theater Co), Kate Hamill's *Pride & Prejudice* (Raleigh Little Theatre), *Spring Awakening* (Kenan Theater Co), *Small Mouth Sounds* (Honest Pint), *The Taming* (Justice Theater Project), *Bonnie and Clyde* (NRACT), *All is Calm*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, (ArtsCenter Stage).

JENNI MANN BECKER (Scenic Designer) is a Raleigh based scenic and lighting designer. Her recent work includes: Lighting for *The Color Purple* at Raleigh Little Theatre; Lighting for *The Sound of Music*, *Silent Sky* and *A Christmas Carol* at Center Stage Theater; Scenery for *Fairview* and lighting for *Men in Boats* at Justice Theater Project; Lighting for *Eurydice* at Duke University; *Barbecue and Natasha*, *Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* (winner of the 2022 Broadway World Raleigh Awards) at Theatre Raleigh; Scenery and lighting for *The Wolves* and *Roe*, and lighting for *Carrie* (The Musical), and *Sweet Charity* at Meredith College. Ms. Becker was faculty at Meredith College where she taught theater design and technology. While at Meredith her work was nominated for several Kennedy Center American Theatre Festival awards (Faculty Design & Technology).

JENNY MITCHELL (Costume Designer) is the RLT Staff Costume Shop Manager and Resident Costume Designer. She brings all her experience to RLT to work with volunteers to create the costumes for each production. Past work includes designs for *Kinky Boots*, *Something Rotten*, and *Hadestown: Teen Edition* among so many others. She is thrilled to contribute to this production and help bring its visual world to life.

DARBY E. MADEWELL (Lighting Designer) (she/they) is thrilled to be a part of this fabulous production team and working with Raleigh Little Theatre again! Recent credits include lighting design for *Hadestown: Teen Edition* at RLT, *Hamlet* at Theatre in the Park, *Bright Star* at Pure Life Theatre Company, and the 38th, 39th, and 40th annual productions of *Cinderella* at RLT. Darby is an interdisciplinary artist with a decade of experience creating theatre as a lighting designer, projections designer, and stage manager. www.darbyemadewell.com



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PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

MONTGOMERY DAVIS (Fight and Intimacy Choreographer) is excited to be returning to choreograph another show with RLT, especially one that combines both their loves of fight and intimacy work with teaching. They are an internationally award-winning choreographer who specializes in traumatic, LGBT+, disabled, and youth work. An advanced actor combatant with the SAFD and graduate of the international stunt school, they are currently pursuing certification as an intimacy director and their masters in teaching at NC State. They'd like to thank their dogs and husband for their continued support. Previous credits at RLT are *Something Rotten!*, *Cinderella*, and *Hadestown: Teen Edition*.

JULIANA VALENTE (Sound Designer) is a Durham-based actor, director, and sound designer. She has composed original scores and designed soundscapes for regional, national, and international productions, drawing on her background as a classical musician and theatre maker. Juliana trained at CCM and RADA, and in NC has worked with Raleigh Little Theatre, Burning Coal Theatre, Theatre Raleigh, and The North Carolina Theatre. She leads OdysseyStage Theatre Company.
@julianavalenteofficial

DEVRA THOMAS (Props Designer) helps artists of all genres get their work started and in front of an audience. Recent design credits: *Revolution* (Redbird Theater), *King Lear* (South Stream), *Morning After Grace* (Raleigh Little Theatre). She produced the critically acclaimed *Changing Same: The Cold-Blooded Murder of Booker T. Spicely* (Mike Wiley Productions, StreetSigns Center, & Kenan Institute for Ethics). Over the past twenty years, she has produced or supported close to a hundred theatrical works across North Carolina. She helps connect readers with North Carolina authors via her work at the North Carolina Literary Review. Devra holds a Masters in Arts Administration from Goucher College. More info online at www.stubborndev.com.

PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

LAUREN MONTANA (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be back on headset for another amazing show at Raleigh Little Theatre! She's recently been ASM for *Proof* (NRACT), *The Color Purple* (RLT), and *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* (RLT), 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!

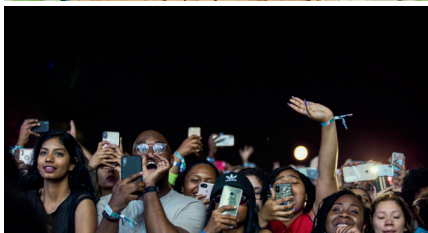
GAVIN HAMILTON (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to serve his first time as Assistant Stage Manager. He is thrilled to be able to assist in bringing this fun, important play to life. He is in his first semester at Wake Technical Community College (WTCC) and is taking theatre appreciation as one of his courses, as well as acting lessons here at Raleigh Little Theatre. Gavin is passionate about collaboration and immersion. Training in acting and singing, he hopes to secure a role in a Raleigh Little Theatre production soon. @leopalddecaprio

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!

KRISTINA BRUNELLE (Team Dynamics Strategist) is an Organizational Strategist and the founder of Momaging Made Easy, where she equips parents - especially moms - with the tools and confidence to guide their young actors through the often-overwhelming world of auditions, self-tapes, and casting. Her professional work focuses on helping leaders and teams thrive through purposeful conversations that build trust and connection, while her entrepreneurial work helps families navigate the business side of show business without losing their sanity. By night, she's an avid theatre-goer (likely in a row near you), and always grateful for the chance to support incredible casts and crews. Here's to a spectacular performance - on with the show! [MomagingMadeEasy.com](https://www.MomagingMadeEasy.com)

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RALEIGH LITTLE THEATRE

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

MICHELE WEATHERS (Producing Artistic Director) (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). NYC 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 workshops: artEquity and Emerging Equity. Michele is a member of the League of Professional Theatre Women. Her daughter, Peyton Rose, is a freshman at Michigan State University. Meredith College grad. She is incredibly proud of RLT's place in the 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.

RALEIGH LITTLE THEATRE

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

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. *For her coven.*

MERCEDES RUIZ (Box Office & 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.

DENISE SCHUMAKER (Associate Costume Shop Manager) has designed costumes, props and sets for theatre, dance, opera, and tours, plus film, television, and MrBeast, for over 35 years. She was honored with an Emmy® nomination in 2010. Recent work includes *Polyfamy* on TLC, the horror film *Bloodspawn* (2024), *Pippin* for Theatre in the Park, *The Marriage of Figaro* for NC Opera, *The Magic Flute* for Elon Opera Workshop, and RLT's Theatre For the Very Young production of *All Smiles*.

RALEIGH LITTLE THEATRE

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

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.

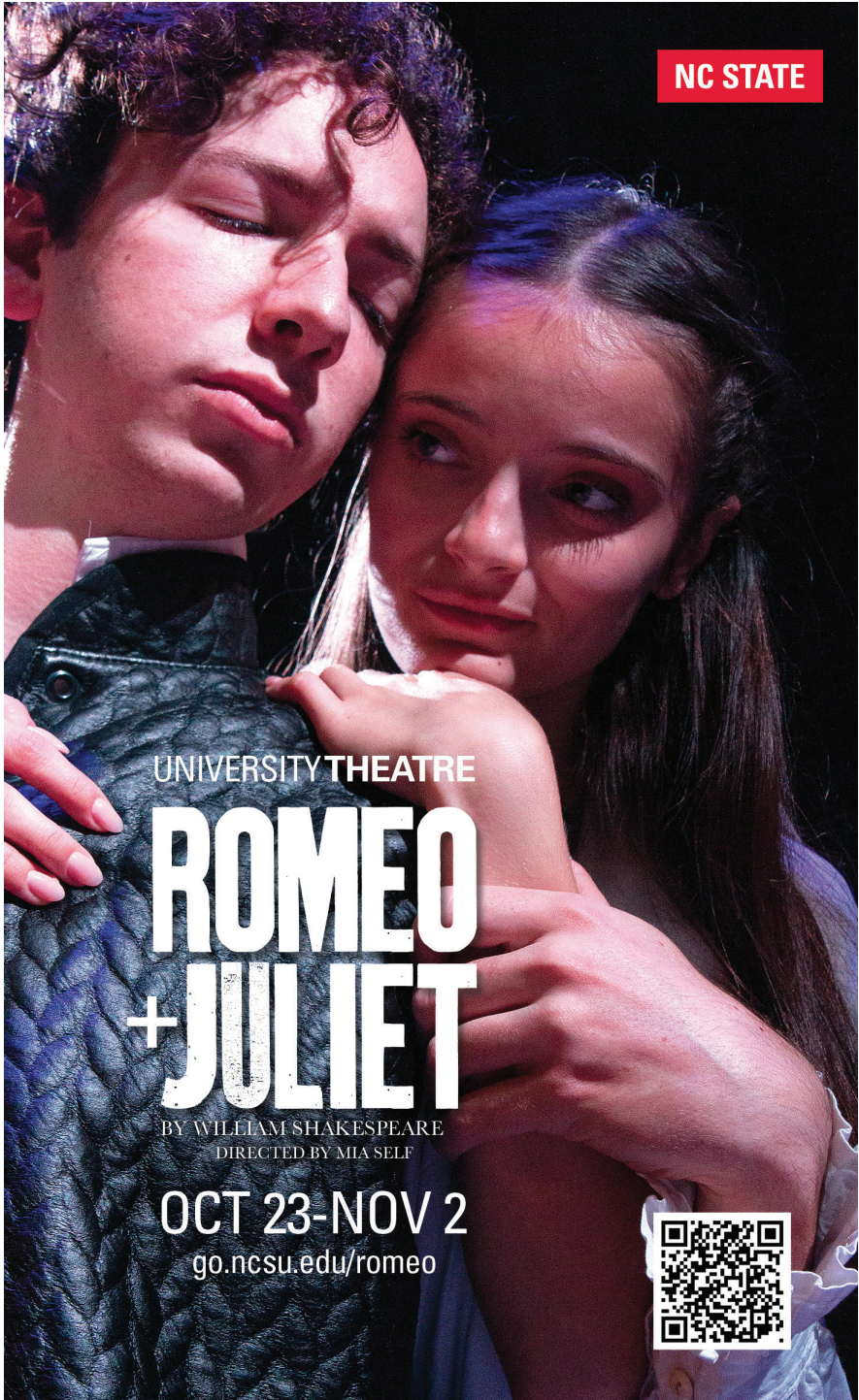
APRIL STORM PERRY (Temporary Education Coordinator) is a professional actress, model, comedian, singer, and fitness professional from New York City. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication Studies from UNC Chapel Hill. In 2015 she started as a teaching artist with Drama Club NYC. She most recently completed the first Pilot Prison Project with See Saw Applied Theater Projects at Wake County Correctional Facility in Raleigh, North Carolina. She also co-hosted Punch Up NC's monthly open mic and comedy writing workshop and worked with NC Theatre Conservatory, Raleigh Little Theatre and the Comedy Conservatory teaching acting, improvisation, stand up comedy, comedy writing, devising shows, and co-directing plays. She recently debuted her first one woman show, *April Storm Perry: Accept or Decline*, at the Glory Theatre in London and is preparing to put the show up in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August of 2026.

RALEIGH LITTLE THEATRE

STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

EMMA CLEMENTS (Jack Hall Scholar) is a local director and producer. They are very excited to return to the RLT team for the 2025-2026 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.

MAGGIE GINA (Administrative Intern) is currently a junior at NC State majoring in Business Administration with a double minor in arts entrepreneurship and music performance. Since she first picked up a trumpet at age 9, she was immediately drawn to a world of music and creativity, helping her realize she needed the arts to be forever a part of her life! Maggie is very excited to be a part of RLT and is grateful for the chance to gain real-world experience in marketing/administration and see first hand what it means to bring a performance to life. When not in the theater, Maggie can usually be found spending time with friends and family, studying, or in and out of practice rooms.



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CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS

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CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS

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CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS

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CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS

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Amy Hellmers

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Catherine V. Lambe

CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS

PROPS CREW MEMBERS

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Mohoganey Hollowell	Lara West
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Joss Kagarise	

**Raleigh Little Theatre productions are driven by our volunteers.
There are countless ways you can get involved, with any skills
(or desire to learn new skills) you have, including:**

Teaching Assistant

Help our Teaching Artists with classes in our education programs and camps for youth!

Costume Shop

Learn or use your existing skills in sewing, costume repair, hat/mask making, wig styling, and more to help make our productions' costumes!

Scene Shop

You can l Learn or use your existing skills in construction, fly rigging, painting, and more to help bring our sets to life.

Acting

Put a character and a show on its feet!

Visit RaleighLittleTheatre.org/Auditions for upcoming opportunities.

Lighting, Sound, Props, Deck, and Dresser Crews

Create "theatre magic" by working to make all of the elements of a show happen on time!

Assistant Stage Manager

Relay information between the Stage Manager, actors, and backstage crews in real time so each show runs smoothly and efficiently.

Assistant Director

Help the director make the show happen!

Usher/Concessions

Welcome audience members, scan tickets, sell concessions, and help patrons find their playbills and seats.

House Manager

Coordinate and manage all of the moving pieces of audience arrival, departure, and experience during their time at the theatre.



**RALEIGH
LITTLE
THEATRE**

Visit RaleighLittleTheatre.org/Volunteers
or scan the QR code to learn more about
volunteering at RLT and sign up for our
email list. We hope to see you soon!



CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS

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CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS

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CREWS AND VOLUNTEERS

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For more information about volunteering at RLT,
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