

Kelsey Theatre & MPOnStage Present



Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

Music by Alan Menken ©Disney

Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

Directed & Choreographed by
Haley Schmalbach

Music Direction by
Sue den Outer

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

- Overture
- Prologue
- “Belle” Belle, Gaston, Lefou
..... La Fille de La Ville, Townspeople
- “No Matter What” Maurice, Belle
- “Maurice Travels” Maurice
- “Me” Gaston, Belle
- “Belle” (Reprise) Belle
- “Home” Belle
- “Home” (Reprise) Mrs. Potts,
..... Madame de la Grande Bouche
- “Gaston” Lefou, Gaston, La Fille de La
..... Ville, Tavern Patrons
- “Gaston” (Reprise) Gaston, Lefou
- “How Long Must This Go On” Beast
- “Be Our Guest” Lumiere, Mrs. Potts, Cogsworth,
..... Madame de la Grande Bouche, Chip, Babette,
..... Enchanted Objects
- “How Long Must This Go On?” Beast

ACT 2

- Entr’acte
- “Something There” Belle, Beast, Lumiere, Mrs. Potts,
..... Cogsworth
- “Human Again” Lumiere, Madame de la Grand
..... Bouche, Cogsworth, Mrs. Potts, Enchanted Objects
- “Beauty and the Beast” Mrs. Potts
- “If I Can’t Love Her” (Reprise) Beast
- “A Change in Me” Belle
- “The Mob Song” Gaston, Lefou, Monsieur D’Arque,
..... Townspeople
- “Home” (Reprise) Beast, Belle
- Bows/”Beauty and the Beast” (Reprise) Company

Running Time: 2 hours, 30 minutes
Including a 15 minute intermission

CAST

Belle.....Sally Graham Bethmann
The Beast.....Ian Bethmann
Gaston.....Pat Rounds
LeFou.....Casey Okamoto
Maurice.....Edward Liu
Lumiere.....Michael Zweig
Cogsworth.....Michael Hall
Mrs. Potts.....Jenny Weiner
Chip.....Eddie Pfender
Babette.....Kim Pearson
Madame De La Grande Bouche.....Natalie Megules
Les Filles La Ville.....Kaleigh Coyle
.....Cynthia Reynolds
.....Lindsay Paige Spitzer
.....Jackie Sterlace
Old Begger Woman/Enchantress.....Emily O'Sullivan
Young Prince.....Zlatin Ivanov
Monsieur D'Arque.....Christopher Schmalbach
Narrator.....Jordan Schonberger
Belle Understudy.....Katherine Semon
Beast Understudy.....Kolter Yagual - Rolston
Lefou Understudy.....Jermaine Terry

Townpeople/Castle Staff

Timothy Boyd, Shelley Bromberg, Stacy Danko, Hope Ghaffoor*,
Laura Ghaffoor*, Lori Howard, Zlatin Ivanov, Neelam Makvana,
Emily O'Sullivan*, Frankie Pendleton, Kai-Le Pine, Kendal
Plumstead*, Ethan Shaev, Christopher Schmalbach, Jordan
Schonberger, Marc Suznovich, Jermaine Terry, Melody Weiner,
Brian Wurtz

**Denotes featured dancer*

PRODUCTION STAFF

PRODUCERS..... John M. Maurer & Diana Gilman Maurer
DIRECTOR.....Haley Schmalbach
MUSIC DIRECTOR..... Sue den Outer
STAGE MANAGER.....Melissa Gaynor
ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER.....Jo Wymer
CHOREOGRAPHER.....Haley Schmalbach
ASSISTANT CHOREOGRAPHER.....Luke Profy
COSTUMER.....Anthony Wurtz
PROPS MASTER.....Diana Gilman Maurer
SET DESIGNERS.....Haley Schmalbach, John Maurer
MASTER BUILDER.....Jeff Cantor
LIGHTING..... Judi Parrish
SOUND.....Noah Schwartz
FOLLOWSPOTS.....Daniel Adamy, Maryanne Fiuza
BACKSTAGE CREW.....Jeff Cantor, Dekota Homer,
.....Toast Jenkins, Jo Wymer, Anthony Wurtz
T SHIRTS.....Kari McDonnell
SCENIC CHARGE.....Terry Perry
WIGS AND HAIR STYLIST.....Christina Parke

DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

*Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre
International (MTI).*

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.MTIShows.com

Any video and/or other audio recording of this production is
strictly prohibited.

SPECIAL THANKS

Vicki Kaiser, Yardley Players, Playful Theatre, Kelsey Theatre Staff,
Hayden Production Services, Laurie Gougher, Addie Pendleton,
Chadd Pine, Katrina Plender, Frances Yuan, Dan Mucha,
Zhi Sharpe, Janet Quartarone

ORCHESTRA

Conductor/Keyboard 1.....Sue den Outer
Keyboard 2.....Joe Nappi
Percussion.....Aaron Allen, *Substitute* Julia Baker
Reed 1.....Cameron Stahl
Reed 2.....Heather Poppell
Violin.....Robbie Scholink
Cello.....Stephen Burke
Bass.....Michael Wolf
Trumpet.....Marty Weisberg, *Substitute* John Brunozzi
Horn.....Lisa Peterson
Trombone.....Terry Chesnovitz

MPO on Stage and the Kelsey Theatre sadly lost one of its own in Dan Spalluto this past summer. He was a valued friend, colleague, actor, and mentor. A memorial scholarship has been set up in his name to benefit students wishing to enroll in the Tomato Patch Master Class.

Donations can be made through the QR code below or by texting "Tomato Patch" to 41444.



CAST BIOS

Ian Bethmann (Beast) Ian Bethmann (baritone) is a professional vocalist and voice instructor in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Ian holds a M.M. in Voice Performance from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA, where he studied under Dr. Marcus DeLoach and a B.M. in Voice Performance from Messiah University in Mechanicsburg, PA, where he studied under Dr. Damian Savarino. Recent roles include Yamadori from Puccini's *Madama Butterfly*, Count Almaviva from Mozart's *Le nozze di Figaro* with LAHSOW Philadelphia, Dulcamara from Donizetti's *L'elisir d'amore* with Temple Opera Theatre, Admiral Von Schriber from Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The Sound of Music* with Music Mountain Theatre and Ensemble from Verdi's *Turandot* with Opera Delaware. Ian is employed as a soloist and section leader at West Trenton Presbyterian Church and frequently performs at various churches throughout the greater Philadelphia region. He would like to thank the cast and crew of *Beauty and the Beast* for all their passion and hard work through this process. Finally, Ian would like to thank his amazing wife Sally for all her constant love and support.

Sally Graham Bethmann (Belle) Sally Graham Bethmann is excited to return to the Kelsey stage in a dream-come-true role. Some of her favorite past productions include *The Sound Of Music* (Maria), *Matilda* (Miss Honey) and *A Gentleman's Guide* (Phoebe). When not onstage she goes by "Miss Sally" and can be found running her business, "The Little Music Corner," a platform dedicated to high quality music education for early childhood. She is so excited to be sharing the stage with many of her talented voice students in this production. She also directs, choreographs, and music directs for many children's theatre productions and dance studios in PA and NJ. She'd like to thank her husband, Ian, her friends and family, and the entire MPO team for supporting her through this experience.

Timothy Boyd (Ensemble) Timothy is excited to be working with this amazing cast and crew. He has been involved in theater productions since moving to New Jersey three years ago. He has appeared in *Bye Bye Birdie* and *The Sound of Music*. Before moving to New Jersey, Timothy performed in theater in South Carolina, including *Godspell*, *The Full Monty*, *The Producers*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Big Fish*, and *Matilda*. Timothy would like to thank his partner Jody for being his biggest fan and supporting everything he does. He also wants to give a shout out to his church family for their support. Friends, please stay after the show so I may say hello and thank you for your support of live theatre!

Shelley Bromberg (Ensemble) An accomplished actress and published playwright, Shelley has recently appeared in *Romeo and Juliet* (Paris), *Anne of Green Gables* (Julia Barry) and *The Prom* (Mrs. Green). Her one-act play had two runs in an off-Broadway competition. She is an adjunct professor of communications at CCM and plans to continue embracing her love for acting and singing.

Kaleigh Coyle (La Fille de la Ville) Kaleigh is thrilled to be in her first production with Maurer Productions! Kaleigh recently graduated from Montclair State University with a degree in Communication and Media Studies and a minor in Musical Theater. Some of her most recent favorite roles include Violet in *9 to 5* with MSU Players and Pearl in *The Spongebob Musical* at Newtown Arts Company. Thank you to the production team for this wonderful opportunity and to my family for their constant support!

Stacy Danka (Ensemble) Stacy is so happy and blessed to be joining Maurer Productions for this lovely production. A graduate of Mason Gross at Rutgers, Stacy has performed with Opera at Florham, Avery Fischer Hall, and in many community theatre productions. During the day Stacy works as a paraprofessional to students with special needs. This is her favorite role of all! Thank you to Haley, Melissa and the entire production team at MPO for the opportunity and their support.

Hope Ghaffoor (Ensemble/Featured Dancer) Hope is so excited to be a member of the *Beauty and the Beast* cast!! She has had so much fun putting the show together with the cast and crew. Hope loves theater and performing; her favorite roles include Amanda Thripp (*Matilda The Musical*) and Madison (*School Of Rock*). Hope began dancing at the age of 2 and is on her studio's competition team. Hope's favorite part about performing is making the audience happy. In her spare time Hope enjoys going to amusement parks, listening to music, and hanging with her friends. Hope would like to thank the production team for this incredible opportunity. Many thanks to her family and friends for their love and support. Best wishes to the cast and crew!!

Laura Ghaffoor (Ensemble/Featured Dancer) Laura is super excited to be a part of the *Beauty and the Beast* cast! Thank you so much to the production team for this fun opportunity. Laura is thrilled to be performing on stage with her daughter Hope, something that she has always wanted to do. Some of her favorite shows she has been a part of include, *Crazy For you*, *Anything Goes*, and *Guys and Dolls*. Laura's most favorite role she has ever played is Mommy to her 3 little ones. Many thanks to her family for all their love and support.

Michael Hall (Cogsworth) Michael is a paraprofessional at The Quaker School at Horsham. He is the assistant director of TQS Drama and co-founder of TQS D&D Collective. This is his third show with MPO, and he's over the moon to be a part of this iconic story! Previous roles include, Mr. Wormwood in *Matilda* (MPO), Dean Hyde in *All Shook Up* (MMT), Billy Cane in *Bright Star* (MPO), Miles in *She Kills Monsters* (VPH), Rod in *Avenue Q* (MMT).

Lori Howard (Ensemble) Lori is thrilled to be a part of the *Beauty and the Beast* cast. She last appeared in *School of Rock* at Kelsey Theater. Favorite roles include Vivian Baptiste (*A Lesson Before Dying*), Tintinabula (*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*), and Mrs. Bradman (*Blithe Spirit*). She would like to thank her family and friends for their continued support.

Zlatin Ivanov (Ensemble/Young Prince) Zlatin is an ambitious artist with a great work ethic who loves the stage. In past years, Zlatin has performed on stage, dancing and singing. As a dancer, Zlatin has performed on stages ranging from Bulgaria, to Greece, and Türkiye, with his homeland dance company, “Ludi Mladi-Novı Pazar.” In his Kelsey Theatre debut, Zlatin played the antagonist, Benjamin Coffin III, in the MCCC Academic Theater and Dance Programs’ production of *RENT*. He is very thankful of being part of the MPO’s production of *Beauty and the Beast* and looks forward to working with everyone else again in the future.

Edward Liu (Maurice) Ed Liu is happy to add Maurice from *Beauty and the Beast* to the list of interesting oddballs he's portrayed on the Kelsey Theatre stage. Past credits include an assortment of nutball fairy tale characters in *The Adventures of Nick Tickle*, *Fairy Tale Detective*; Nostradamus in *Something Rotten!*; a gaggle of British eccentrics in the ensemble of *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*; living his childhood dream of being the world's premiere Asian Bogart impersonator as the title character in *The Further Adventures of Nick Tickle*; and a teacher, parent, and the bass player of No Vacancy in the ensemble of *School of Rock*. Last year, he also hosted the *Probably Doomed!* cabaret at the Town and Country Players and the *Very Kelsey Christmas* cabaret. Finally, Ed is a founding member of Trenton Makes Improv, which performs regularly at the Mill Hill Playhouse in Trenton. Follow us on Facebook for details about our next show! Ed would like to thank the cast and crew of this amazing production of *Beauty and the Beast*, all the wonderful folks at MPOonStage, and his family for their patience and support of all his assorted foolishness and occasional moments of talking about himself in the third person.

Neelam Makvana (Ensemble) Neelam is thrilled to be making her debut at Kelsey Theatre. Neelam teaches 7-12 choir in Montgomery Township, where she also directs the high school Spring Musical and teaches vocals for the middle school production. Neelam received her Master’s Degree in Music Education from the Teacher’s College of Columbia University and her undergraduate degree from The College of New Jersey. She is excited to be back on the stage and would like to thank her family, friends, and everyone involved in the production!

Natalie Megules (Madame de la Grande Bouche) Natalie Megules is an operatic mezzo-soprano specializing in symphonic, operatic, and sacred music in the metro New York/New Jersey area. Natalie has performed many roles with opera companies including the dell’Arte Opera Ensemble, New York Lyric Opera Theatre, Bronx Opera, Opera New Jersey, Orchestra of the Bronx, the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra Chorus, the Ocean Grove Music Festival, and the National Chorale, with whom Natalie made her Lincoln Center soloist debut at David Geffen Hall in 2013. An alumnus of Westminster Choir College, she has had the wonderful privilege of singing with the NY Philharmonic in venues from Carnegie Hall to the famed Riverside Church in NYC. In 2009, Natalie founded the Natalie Megules Voice Studio, where she continues to educate the next generation of performers through private lessons, classes, and concerts. Her students have appeared in Broadway shows, National Tours, and shows such as *The Voice* and *American Idol*. This past year, she expanded the reach of her studio to serve all young singers, regardless of financial access, by founding The Voices Foundation, a NJ 501(c)3 non-profit. Locally, Natalie also produces a one-woman Christmas show called Showtunes and Snowtunes, performs at the RWJ Cancer Center as a member of the Holistic Program, and currently serves as the music director and organist for Sacred Heart Parish in Trenton, the first and oldest Catholic parish in New Jersey. Natalie resides in Hamilton, NJ with her husband, Jay Dugan, and their two beautiful children, Violet and Truett.

Emily O'Sullivan (Ensemble/Enchantress/Featured Dancer) Emily O'Sullivan is really excited to be making her MPO debut! Performance credits: *Groundhog Day The Musical* (Dance Captain), *Something Rotten!* (Ensemble), *Sweet Charity* (Frenchie), *The Producers* (Showgirl), *Titanic* (Madeleine Astor), *CATS* (Cassandra), *West Side Story* (Graziella), *The Addams Family* (Ancestor), *Big Fish* (Dance Captain), *Cabaret* (Frenchie), *American Idiot* (Ensemble), and many more! Choreography credits: *Once: The Musical*, *The Fantasticks*, *Beautiful: The Carol King Musical*, and *Nunsense*, all at The Kelsey Theatre! Much love to Mom, Dad, and Tim!

Casey Okamoto (Lefou) This is Casey's first show at the Kelsey and with MPOnStage, and he is so honored to be working with this cast, crew, and team. Previous sidekick roles include: Patsy (*Spamalot*), Sancho (*Man of La Mancha*), the Kralahome (*King and I*), and Ching Ho (*Thoroughly Modern Millie*).

Kim Pearson (Babette) Kim is thrilled to return to the Kelsey Theatre stage after playing Portia in MPO's 2022 production of *Something Rotten!* Favorite past roles include Gertrude McFuzz (*Seussical*), Hope Cladwell (*Urinetown*), Fiona (*Shrek*), Donna/Oolie (*City of Angels*) and Marcy (*Dog Fight*). She has also had the honor of hosting the Kelsey Awards three times as 1/3 of everyone's favorite Kelsey Trio, JMK! In addition to her full-time job, Kim has been teaching Pre-Dance at Downstage Center for the last 17 years and gives a special shout-out to all her tiny dancers that are in the audience! Kim would like to thank the production crew for all their hard work, dedication and for the chance to be a part of this beautiful production. She gives all her love to her family and friends, especially to Rich and Parker, for their endless support and constant encouragement to do things that make her happy. To her favorite candlestick, Lumiere, "Look out! Here comes your little fluff!" XOXO

Frankie Pendleton (Ensemble) Frankie is a 4th grader in the North Hanover school district. You have seen Frankie at Kelsey Theatre as Eric in *Matilda the Musical* (MPO), as Victor, an Elf and a Dancing Reindeer in *'Twas the Night Before Christmas* (Kelsey Players), and as a Fish Friend at Music Mountain Theatre's *Finding Nemo, Jr.* In his free time Frankie enjoys dancing, singing, acting and making slime! Frankie would like to wish the cast and crew to "Break Legs!" and to thank his friends and family for always supporting him and coming out to watch all his plays (even the ones at home). Frankie would like to give a special shout out to Brinley for being a great friend, and Ms. Guidotti for being the best teacher ever and making learning fun!

Eddie Pfender (Chip) Eddie has found his "happy place" on stage and is thrilled to be making his Kelsey Theatre and MPOnStage debut as CHIP! Eddie is in 4th grade and moved to Bucks County, PA, from North Carolina this summer. Select past roles: *Seussical the Musical* (Wickersham), *The Lion King* (Timon), *Finding Nemo* (Bloat), *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Charlie Bradley), *The Adventure of Our Lives....So Far* (The Sultan), and *The Jungle Book* (old monkey). Eddie is a self-proclaimed "prank master" who enjoys Legos, impressions and spending time with his friends and family. He would like to thank his mom, dad, brother, sister, & "everyone who got me here!"

Kai-Li Pine (Ensemble) Kai-Li Pine is thrilled to be involved in this MPOnStage presentation of *Beauty and the Beast* with such an amazing team. She previously performed at the Kelsey Theater in productions of *Pure Imagination* and *Matilda*, which sparked her curiosity and enjoyment for performing on stage with others. Kai-Li would like to thank her mentors, fellow cast-mates, family, and friends for their continued support and wishes the entire cast and crew a wonderful run of shows!

Kendal Plumstead (Ensemble/Featured Dancer) Kendal is beyond excited to be in this production of *Beauty and the Beast!* She has been in one other production here at Kelsey so far, with that being

S70's *A Midsummer Nights Dream*. Kendal is an avid theater kid who has been in many other shows with her favorite role being Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. She wants to give a huge thank you to her friends and family who are always there for her!

Cynthia Reynolds (La Fille de la Ville) Cynthia is thrilled to be part of MPO's magical production of *Beauty and the Beast*! Some of her previous theater credits include *Rogers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Cinderella), *Carrie the Musical* (Carrie), *Legally Blonde* (Elle, Serena), *Footloose* (Ariel), and MPO's production of *Bright Star*. Thank you to the cast, crew, and production team for all their hard work on this show, and to her family and friends for all their support!

Pat Rounds (Gaston) Pat is no stranger to the Kelsey stage, he's performed in shows such as *Dogfight* (Stevens), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Trevor Graydon), *33 Variations* (Mike), *Dial M for Murder* (Max), *Romeo & Juliet* (Capulet), *Matilda* (Escapologist), *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, and *Bright Star* (Daryl Ames). Other favorite past roles include Pavlo Hummel in *The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel*, Petruchio in *The Taming of the Shrew*, Aldolpho in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, The Creature in *Frankenstein*, and Williams in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. He wants to thank the cast, crew, and production team for making this show such a fun and rewarding process, as well as his poodle, Marcel, for teaching him French... poorly.

Christopher Schmalbach (Monsieur D'Arque/Ensemble) Christopher is excited to be returning to the Kelsey Stage with Maurer Productions. Some of Christopher's favorite roles include The Cowardly Lion (*The Wizard of Oz*), General Genghis Kahn Schmitz (*Seussical*), Dr. Ted Schieder (*Disaster the Musical*), Mr. Wiesel (*Newsies*), Bill Sikes (Oliver) and Perry Award winning portrayal of Fist (*Four Weddings and an Elvis*). Christopher would like to dedicate this show to his magical wife Haley and his beautiful little princess Elora.

Jordan Schonberger (Narrator/Ensemble) Hailing from Princeton, Jordan first began his performance career when he was cast as Harold Hill in *The Music Man* at age 10. Since then, he has gone on to perform in many musical productions, such as *West Side Story*, *Miss Saigon*, and *Rent*. He's had many leading and supporting roles in various short and feature films and has worked for a number of years as a background actor on shows such as *Young Sheldon*, *911: Lone Star* and *Lessons in Chemistry*. This is his second show at Kelsey Theatre, and he adores it, previously performing as Captain Scott in *Peter and the Starcatcher*. He is an alum of The Groundlings School and has performed in New York as a member of The Complete Theatre Company. He enjoys reading, writing, singing, playing guitar and vegan cooking.

Katherine Semon (Belle U/S) Katherine is thrilled to be making her Kelsey Theater debut! Katie has trained under the Stella Adler Studio of Acting with vocal coaching from Cassie Rumbough. Some of her past favorite credits include Ariel (*The Little Mermaid*), Tobias (*Sweeney Todd*), and Fantine (*Les Misérables*). Katie would like to thank you for supporting the Arts and hopes you enjoy!

Ethan Shaev (Ensemble) Ethan is thrilled to be a part of the cast of *Beauty and The Beast*! His most recent credits include *Pippin* as Lewis and *Mamma Mia!* as Pepper. Ethan would like to thank his friends and family for the endless support. He would also like to thank the creative team and his fellow castmates for making him part of the Kelsey family. Break a leg to the cast of *Beauty and the Beast*!

Lindsay Paige Spitzer (La Fille de la Ville) Lindsay is thrilled to be getting silly as one of Les Fille de la Ville in *Beauty and the Beast*! She was last seen at the Kelsey as Cynthia Weil in Playful Productions' *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*! Lindsay is a graduate of Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University where she studied vocal music education. She is currently a primary school general music teacher, voice coach, and princess party performer! Past credits include: *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hodel) at

Algonquin Arts Theater; *The Last Five Years* (Cathy), *Songs for a New World* (Woman 1) at Ferrell Studios; *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey), *Diary of a Simpy Kid: A Parody* (Susan Heffley) at Cabaret Theatre; *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel), *Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Janet) at Bellarine Theatre Company; *Hair* (Crissy) at Livingston Theatre Company; and *Cabaret* (Lulu) at Capital Productions. Much love to her friends and family! IG: @lili_paigeee

Jackie Sterlace (La Fille de la Ville) Jackie is excited to make her MPOnStage debut! Her favorite previous credits include Mary Poppins in *Mary Poppins*, Madame de la Grande Bouche in *Beauty and the Beast*, and Sister Margaretta in *The Sound of Music*. Jackie is a proud graduate of Temple University's Theater minor class of 2023 and has been performing for over 12 years. Jackie would like to thank her family, friends, vocal coach Jennine and dance teacher Jenny for all the love and support.

Marc Suznovich (Ensemble) Marc is happy to be with this group again a year later after *Something Rotten!* Favorite roles include Patsy, Tinman, Cogsworth, mailman Marvin, Horace Vandergelder, Elwood P. Dowd and Mr. MacAfee. When he is not on stage, he is a board certified geriatric physical therapist. Break legs to an amazing cast, production team and crew! Special thanks to his beautiful wife Leigh and their fur babies—Tink, Figgy and Lyra—for all their love, support and encouragement!

Jermaine Terry (Lefou U/S/Ensemble) Jermaine is excited to be a part of the *Beauty and the Beast* cast! Jermaine joined the United States Army after graduating high school in 2014 and was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division. While in the Army, he was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division's All-American Chorus as the Musical Director. When not performing, he assists Military Service Members and their families with resources for New Jersey. Jermaine has performed in previous roles like Seaweed in *Hairspray*, Willard in *Footloose*, and Mark in *Rent!* Jermaine is excited to play Lefou with such a fantastic cast!

Jenny Weiner (Mrs. Potts) Jenny Weiner is simply bubbling and brewing to be returning to the Kelsey stage and Maurer Productions. Most recently, she appeared as Miss Trunchbull in *Matilda*. Some of her other favorite roles include Helena Landless in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, Elizabeth Benning in *Young Frankenstein*, Rona Lisa Peretti in *Sunday in the Park with George*, and Lucy in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. She also had the joy of appearing in McCarter Theater's *A Christmas Carol*. Jenny has a BM in Musical Theater from Westminster Choir College. She is so, so, so proud of her daughter, Melody, who is making her theater debut in the ensemble! She sends all her love to her favorite song, Melody, her favorite color, Hazel, and her favorite bear, Steve.

Melody Weiner (Ensemble) Melody Weiner is making her community theater debut! Before *Beauty and the Beast*, she has had a blast attending acting classes with both Tomato Patch Jr., where she appeared as a Hyena in *The Jungle Book*, and at West Windsor Arts Council. When not on stage, Melody loves making art, reading, making music, and all things creepy. She also loves Sonic the Hedgehog and Pokemon, especially Eevee! Hugs and kisses to Hazel and Daddy. Hi mom!

Brian Wurtz (Ensemble) Brian is very excited to be work with MPO in his first musical on the Kelsey stage. Brian has worked on other plays with MPO such as Butch in *Leading Ladies*, as well as backstage on various productions. You may have also seen him play the role of Buddy in Yardley Player's production of *Come Blow Your Horn*. He'd like to thank his better half Anthony, and his family and friends for their love and support.

Kolter Yagual-Rolston (Beast U/S/Ensemble) Kolter is incredibly excited to be making his Kelsey Theatre debut in MPOnstage's production of *Beauty and the Beast* as the Beast (U/S). His most recent credits include *Spring Awakening* (Melchior), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella's Prince), *In the Heights* (Usnavi U/S), and *The Music Man* (Charlie Cowell). Everyone in the staff and cast have been so

incredibly supportive throughout this process and he is excited for you to experience this excellent story. Kolter can be seen acting onstage in the Metropolitan Opera's upcoming production of *AIDA*, opening in January. He thanks his friends and family for their support in pursuing his passions!

Michael Zweig (Lumiere) Michael is happy to be back performing on the Kelsey stage. Previous Kelsey roles include Robin/Bard Boy in *Something Rotten!*, John in *Miss Saigon* (Perry and Kelsey Award nominee), Mr. Mistoffelees in *Cats* (Kelsey Award winner), Peter in *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Kelsey Award nominee), Frank Abagnale, Sr. in *Catch Me If You Can*, Joly in *Les Misérables*, and Preacher in *Violet*. He has performed at the Bucks County Playhouse in New Hope, PA, and many other theaters throughout Pennsylvania in a variety of lead and ensemble roles. Michael sends his love to his friends and his "Little Fluff" for their constant support. He dedicates this and all his performances to his Mom and Dad, his guardian angels above.



PRODUCTION STAFF BIOS

John M. Maurer (Producer/Marketing/Set Design/Props) John founded MPO with his wife, Diana, and his brother, Dan, in 2004. John has directed over 20 plays and musicals, *Something Rotten!* and *Around the World in 80 Days* (Perry Award for Out-standing Production of a Play) and *City of Angels*. He is an accomplished set designer, costume designer, make-up artist, and prop master. He holds 25 of the company's 67 NJACT Perry Award nominations, having won seven times. John started in theater at the age of 10 and ever since then has been an actor, magician, clown, juggler, balloon sculptor, stilt-walker, and mime and has specialized in comedy and improvisational theater. John and Diana are internationally produced playwrights, having written three interactive plays that have been produced in England, New Zealand, and US.

Diana Gilman Maurer (Producer/Props) Diana is a producer, director, and actress. She co-founded Maurer Productions OnStage together with her husband, John, and brother-in-law, Dan. MPO has won numerous Perry Awards including Production of a Musical (*AIDA*), Outstanding Costumes (*AIDA*), Production of a Play (*Driving Miss Daisy* and *Around the World in 80 Days*). Diana was nominated for a Kelsey Award for directing *A Little Murder Never Hurt Anybody* and *Jake's Women*, and received the award for Direction of a Play (*Sleuth*). I would like to dedicate this performance to my biggest fan and supporter. I love and miss you, Mom!

Haley Schmalbach (Director/Choreographer) With over 30 years of theater experience (and choreographing for 24!), Haley has established herself in the NJ community theatre scene both in front of and behind the curtain. Favorite recent credits include *Pure Imagination* (Director/Choreographer), *The Prom* (Phoenix Productions—choreographer) *Matilda* (MPO - choreographer), *Something Rotten!* (MPO—choreographer) and *Cabaret* (Theater to Go—choreographer), Haley is also an accomplished actor, singer,

dancer, set designer and painter. She began her professional career touring with *Sesame Street Live!* and attended Montclair State University where she studied theater and dance. She is a board member for MPO and In Death's Company here at Kelsey. Outside of community theatre, Haley works at Hayden Production Services, a theatrical lighting company in East Brunswick servicing theatres in NYC and the metro region. She dedicates this show to her Mom for allowing her to watch the movie hundreds of times, belting the songs in her living room. She sends love to her Beast, her husband Chris, and her Beauty, daughter Elora May.

Sue den Outer (Music Director) Sue is a graduate of Cornell University and an actuary with WTW. Favorite music director credits: *Bright Star* (MPO, 2024), *City of Angels* (MMT, 2024), *Ain't Misbehavin'* (MMT, 2023), *The Fantasticks* (Theater to Go, 2023), *Head Over Heels* (MMT, 2021) and *Secret Garden* (NAC, 2018). Favorite on stage credits: pianist in *33 Variations* (Kelsey, 2021), *The Last 5 Years* (MMT, 2021) and Olga in *Stage Door* (NAC, 2016). Sue is the principal pianist at UUC of Princeton and music director with Sock 'n' Buskin at Council Rock North HS. Sue is ecstatic to be part of this MPO production team. Enjoy our tale as old as time!!

Melissa Gaynor (Stage Manager) Melissa is de-light-ed to be a part of this production! Favorite past shows include *Something Rotten!*, *Nosies Off* (Perry Awards for Stage Management and Props), *Spelling Bee* (Perry and Kelsey Award nomination for Stage Management), *Frozen, Jr.*, *American Idiot*, *Leading Ladies*, *Bright Star*, and *White Christmas* (Perry nom for Stage Management). She is a member of the Stage Manager's Association (SMA) and a board member for MPO. Outside of theatre, Melissa works for TCNJ and is an avid Phillies fan. Thanks to the company for a fun experience. Much love to Kari, Emmy and the Idiots.

Luke Profy (Assistant Choreographer) Luke Profy received his M.A. in Secondary Education from Villanova University and his B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Pittsburgh with a Minor in

Dance having studied under Susan Gillis-Kruman, Jess Marino and Jil Stifel. He has performed professionally with the Pittsburgh dance company, The Blanket, in their presentation of Christopher Williams' *St. Ursula and the 10,000 Virgins* and worked on their production of Beth Gill's *Yolk & Grove*.. Luke currently teaches High School mathematics and statistics at Holy Ghost Prep in Bensalem, PA, where he also choreographs their musicals, most recently *Urinetown*, *Something Rotten!*, and *Singin' in the Rain*. In addition, Luke has taught at various dance studios in PA and NJ over the past 10 years with his students and choreography going on to win numerous top overall awards at regional and national competitions.

Judi Parrish (Lighting Design) Judi is a Senior Board Member with MPOnStage. With 55 years in community theatre, Judi has credits as a director, musical director, producer, stage manager, set designer, lighting designer, sound designer, and actress. Judi has 2 NJACT Perry awards with MPOnStage, one for acting (*The Drowsy Chaperone*), and one for scenic design (*Noises Off!*). She also has a NJACT Perry Award for sound design for *The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940* (Villagers Theatre). Other lighting credits with MPO include *Matilda*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*, *Something Rotten!*, *Scenery*, *Popcorn Falls*, *Fiddler On the Roof*, *City of Angels*, and *Around the World in 80 Days*. Judi has also directed *Bright Star*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Scenery* for MPO. Judi has a degree in Music Education, taught entertainment technology at Mercer County Community College, and is a member of the US Institute of Theatre Technology.

Daniel Adamy (Follow Spot) Daniel is very excited to be working with MPOnStage for their production of *Beauty and the Beast*. He has previously worked with Maurer Productions running sound effects for their production of *Bright Star*. Daniel is currently a student at MCCC studying audio engineering, and enjoys producing music in his free time.

Jo Wymer (Assistant Stage Manager) Is excited to be the assistant Stage Manager of *Beauty and the Beast* and it is her first MPO show. Recent Stage Management Credits: Asbury Park Theater Company—*I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Production Stage Manager), *Always Patsy Cline* (Production Stage Manager). Phoenix Productions at the Count Basie Center for the Arts—*The Prom* (Production Stage Manager), *Guys and Dolls* (Production Stage Manager), *Evil Dead: The Musical 2022 and 2023* (Production Stage Manager). Jo is two-time AMA award winner and two-time Grammy nominee for her original music written for TV and Film. Jo is the 2023 Emerging Teaching Artist award winner recognized by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for 2023. Much love to Dan, Hudson and Saydee. @jowymermusic or jowwymer.com

Anthony Wurtz (Costume Design) Anthony is very excited to be working with MPO again. He has been costuming for 10 years in PA and NJ and has worked on many shows at Kelsey Theatre including *Sordid Lives*, *City of Angels*, *Around the World in 80 Days*, and *Boy from Oz* and *Beauty and the Beast* for which he won a Kelsey Award for Best Costumes. He has been nominated for his costumes at the Perry Awards many times. Along with He has performed in the past in many productions such as *Cats*, *The Wedding Singer*, and *Rocky Horror Show*, just to name a few. He hopes that this journey into the magical world is just as magical as last time. He would like to thank his better half Brian and his family and friends for all their love and support.

Christina Parke (Wigs/Hair) Christina has spent more time on stage than behind the curtain at the Kelsey but is excited to spend as much time in the theatre as she can. Her backstage credits include MPO's production "Bright Star" earlier this year and she is thrilled to add "Beauty and the Beast" to her resume. Most recently she has appeared onstage as M'lynn Eatenton in the Yardley Players production of *Steel Magnolias*. Other credits include Lady Markby in Shakespear70's production of "An Ideal Husband" and Lady Clapham in MPO's Production of "Something Rotten".

Jeff Cantor (Master Carpenter) Jeff's exposure to theater began years ago with a brief stint as stage manager for two high school productions. Then came a long hiatus until a friend introduced him to community theater in 2003 with Pierot Productions staging of *Noises Off!* in which he assisted with the set construction and got hooked. In 2006 while helping with a production of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, Jeff joined the board of directors of Maurer Productions OnStage (MPO) as Master Carpenter. In the ensuing years, he has worked on over fifty productions for MPO as well as various other community theater and school drama groups with over forty-five master carpenter credits and over fifteen set design credits. In addition, Jeff has stage managed four shows including MPO's production of *AIDA* and worked on running crew or as effects coordinator on over a dozen more. His work has been nominated for three Perry Awards in set design (one win for MPO's *Noises Off* in 2019) and six other Perry Award nominations for Outstanding Production including three winners: *Around the World in 80 Days* (2016), *AIDA* (2012), and *Driving Miss Daisy* (2008), all with Maurer Productions. Jeff would like to thank John Maurer of Maurer Productions OnStage for his mentorship in set design and construction; Marilyn Stoddard and the rest of the drama program staff at West Windsor Plainsboro High School South for their support and dedication to theater; and his wife Michelle for her love, patience, and understanding.

Noah Schwartz (Sound) Noah Schwartz is very excited to be working as the sound engineer on *Beauty and the Beast*. He has worked as a sound engineer and designer for theatre, live music, and corporate events. He has worked on productions such as MPO's *Bright Star*, the Mercer County Community College Theater and Dance Program's production of *RENT*, Tomato Patch's *Legally Blonde Jr.*, and Liberty Lake Day Camp's *Matilda Jr.* and *James and the Giant Peach Jr.* He is currently working towards a Music and Music Technology degree at Mercer County Community College. Noah would also like to thank all of his mentors and teachers that helped him reach this point for their wonderful support.

KELSEY THEATRE
MAURER PRODUCTIONS ONSTAGE
PRESENTS

A vintage typewriter sits on a wooden desk. A sign is placed behind the typewriter with the words "DEATH" in black and "TRAP" in red. An arrow is stuck into the typewriter's carriage. To the right of the typewriter is a glass of red wine. In the foreground, there are some papers and a pen.

DEATH
TRAP

BY IRA LEVIN

DIRECTED BY: JOHN M. MAURER



APRIL 4, 11, 12 - 8:00PM

APRIL 6, 12, 13 - 2:00PM