

100 YEARS

OF  **ORLANDO
FAMILY
STAGE**

BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ

Based on the television special by

BILL MELENDEZ AND LEE MENDELSON

STAGE ADAPTATION BY

ERIC SCHAEFFER

BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH

ARTHUR WHITELAW AND

**RUBY PERSSON, AND TAMS, A
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SEASON PRESENTED BY

 **Advent Health**
for Children

WITH SUPPORT FROM

UNITED ARTS
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A CHARLIE BROWN Christmas LIVE ON STAGE

NOV 24 – DEC 23, 2025

THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED IN PART BY ORANGE COUNTY GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE ARTS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS PROGRAM.

100 YEARS OF CONNECTION



100 YEARS

OF  ORLANDO
FAMILY
STAGE

A CENTURY IN THE MAKING

It all began in 1926 with the Orlando Little Theatre, one of the city's first cultural institutions. Over the decades, the theatre grew and evolved, known as the Civic Theatres of Central Florida, then Orlando Repertory Theatre, always adapting to meet the needs of the Central Florida community it serves.

Today, as **Orlando Family Stage**, we continue that legacy as Florida's only professional theatre dedicated to young audiences, empowering young people to be **brave and empathetic** through the power of quality theatrical experiences.

Explore Centennial programs, special events, and ways to get involved: OrlandoFamilyStage.com/Centennial

Photo: The Christmas Story (1947)

Creative & Production Teams

Artistic Director: Jeffrey M. Revels

Executive Director: Chris Brown

CREATIVE TEAM

Additional 2025 Direction by Jeffrey M. Revels

Additional 2025 Choreography by Tara Jeanne Vallee

Associate Director & Associate Choreographer: Tara Jeanne Vallee

Music Direction and Supervision: Daniel Tenbusch

Orchestrations: Michael Andrew

Original Scenic Design: Adam Koch Assoc. LLC

Original Costume Design: Jeffrey Meek

Original Lighting Design: Pierce Stoneburner

Original Sound Design: Ben Shepler

Additional Prop Design: Tara Kromer

PRODUCTION CREW

Stage Manager: Stephanie Britton

Assistant Stage Manager: Olivia Perez

Scenic Charge Artist: Sarah Bender Allen

Costume Technicians: Wendy Cox, Gabs Gutierrez, Kathia Rodriguez,
Karina Rodriguez-Toledo

Wig Technician: Carmen Medina

Props Technician: Ollie Petershon

Electricians: Sophia Ayala, Alexis Connell, Jillian Ethridge, Zoe Henry,
Nova Ragen, Delta Russell

RUN CREW

Light Board Operator: Sophia Ayala

Sound Board Operator: Carter Heitkamp

Backstage Run Crew: Gabriel Manak, Leilani Navarro

Wardrobe Crew: Samantha Wolf

Spot Light Operators: Malik Bistoury, Chloe McElroy

Crew Swing: Sarah Tittlebaum

SPECIAL THANKS

Photography by Harry Aaron

CSK Creative

Headword!

NOTE TO AUDIENCE: The videotaping or audio and/or visual recording of this production is a violation of United States Copyright Law and an actionable federal offense.

Orlando Family Stage Staff

Artistic Director: Jeffrey M. Revels

Executive Director: Chris Brown

ADMINISTRATIVE

Sr. Director of Marketing

Zac Alfson

Sr. Director of Development

Emily Freeman

Sr. Director of Education

Jennifer Adams-Carrasquillo

Director of Arts-Based Learning

Stacie Perez

Director of the Youth Academy

Amanda Allen Payne

Director of MicheLee Puppets

Nic Parks

Education Office Manager

Bethany Post

Education Program Manager

Ximena Gonzalez

Accounting & Human Resources Manager

Drew Simonsen

Social Media Manager

Bailey Hill

Development Coordinator

Melissa Maldonado

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Sr. Director of Operations

Kyle Wiehe

Director of Patron Engagement

Natazsa Roby-Smith

Front of House Manager

Caroline Hull

Patron Services Manager

Tara Anderson

Facility Manager

Brian Groth

PRODUCTION

Sr. Director of Production

Carrie Kasten Smith

Company Manager

Calli Charlton-Moore

Director of Production Technology

Justin Harmon

Production Technology Manager

Stephen Jones

Props Manager

Tara Kromer

Director of Scenery

Sydney Padgett

Scene Shop Manager

Brett Davis

Director of Costumes

Alexandria Vazquez Myers

Costume Shop Manager

Mary Sienko

Scene Shop Coordinator

Chris Conte

Costume Technician

Kathia Rodriguez

The Cast



Pat Clark
Pig Pen



Lexi Lee Dares
Frieda
Vocal Captain



Lindsay Diaz
Violet/Swing
Dance Captain



Eli Hamilton
Shermy/
Charlie Brown Swing



Kevin Josué
Schroeder



Blake Rushing Mitchell
Charlie Brown



Brandon Santos
Linus



Rhyse Silvestro
Swing



Will Sippel
Snoopy



Chelsea Talmadge
Sally



Addison Ward
Lucy

Pat Clark | Pig-Pen

Pat offers this riddle: what is green, has wheels, and grows? While you ponder that, know he is happy to be at Orlando Family Stage for the holidays with this incredible cast and crew. Based in Central FL, this is his tenth show at Orlando Family Stage; maybe you saw *Goosebumps The Musical: Phantom of the Auditorium*, or *Junie B. Jones in BOO... and I Mean It!*, or how about *Tuck Everlasting*? Ooo, they were great. Past favorites at other theaters include *The Wedding Singer* (Robbie Hart), *The Pirates of Penzance* (Frederic), *Guys and Dolls* (Benny Southstreet), and *Speed-The-Plow* (Charlie Fox). Pat thanks his dream girl Katy and sons Zane and Rex for their love and support. The answer is grass (I was kidding about the wheels).

Lexi Lee Dares | Frieda

Lexi is so excited to be back at Orlando Family Stage! She is a graduate of Jacksonville University, graduating Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre. Currently, you can find her performing at the Orlando theme parks, including SeaWorld Orlando and Universal Orlando Resort. Previous credits include Margot in *Legally Blonde* and Ariel Moore in *Footloose*. During her time at Jacksonville University, Lexi could be seen as Carla Albanese in *Nine*, Actress 1 in *A... My Name Will Always Be Alice*, and the featured soloist in *Diastole: Songs for Inspiration in Turbulent Times*, which she was nominated for the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. She thanks everyone for visiting and hopes you enjoy the show! Happy holidays!

Lindsay Diaz | Violet/Swing/Dance Captain

Lindsay is thrilled to return to the cast of *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* for a second time. She has most recently been seen performing at Walt Disney World in a variety of roles, *The Jungle Book* with Modern Theatricals, and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical* here at Orlando Family Stage. A few of her favorite roles include Mouse/Young Frog in *A Year With Frog and Toad*, Ariel in *Footloose*, and Lucy in *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*. Lindsay thanks Orlando Family Stage for this exciting opportunity, as well as her husband Brian and son Milo for their support.

Eli Hamilton | Shermy/Charlie Brown Swing

Eli is an alumni of Marymount Manhattan College in NYC, BFA in Musical Theatre. He has performed in and produced numerous cabarets at venues such as Feinstein's/54 Below and others. Selected credits include Rocky in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Theater West End), Shrek in *Shrek The Musical* (Weston Playhouse), Hugo in *Tuck Everlasting* (Orlando Family Stage) and various ensemble roles throughout Central Florida and NYC. He thanks his Mom, Dad, Ariana Grande and his team at the GBM Agency. @elijahhamilton

Kevin Josué | Schroeder

Kevin is so excited to be celebrating Christmas at Orlando Family Stage! He was just recently in *Go, Dog. Go! · Ve Perro ¡Ve!* at Orlando Family Stage in the Pawsemble. His previous credits at Orlando Family Stage include the Youth Academy productions of *Mary Poppins* (Ensemble) and Disney's *The Little Mermaid* (Ensemble). Other favorite credits include Jaime in *The After Orlando Project* at Orlando Shakes and Ernst Ludwig in *Cabaret*. Kevin is the founder of Kevin Josué Music School, where he teaches private piano and voice lessons all around Orlando. He thanks his family, friends and his students for their continuous support! IG @kevin.josue

Blake Rushing Mitchell | Charlie Brown

Blake is thrilled to be returning to Orlando Family Stage for *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage*, reprising this special role after appearing in last year's production. Recent credits include *Forever Plaid* (Francis) at Winter Park Playhouse, *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour/Orin U/S) at the Garden Theatre, *My Fair Lady* (Quartet/Freddy U/S) at Red Mountain Theatre Company, *A Christmas Carol* (Bob Cratchit), and the world premiere of *The Ghosts of Gatsby* (Scott). He can also be found occasionally wearing yellow and twirling napkins in *The Hoop-Dee-Do Revue* at Walt Disney World. Blake holds a BM in Voice from Samford University and an MM in Contemporary Commercial Music Voice Pedagogy from Shenandoah Conservatory. In addition to performing, Blake is an active voice teacher, music director, and composer/arranger. He thanks his family and friends for their unending support! I Peter 4:10-11

Brandon Santos | Linus

Brandon is thrilled to be making his Orlando Family Stage debut and playing this loveable character again! Originally from Orlando, he currently resides in New York City and is very happy to be home for the holidays bringing these classic "Peanuts" characters to life! Regional credits include *Into The Woods* (Jack), *A Chorus Line* (Mike), *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (Drifter), *Cinderella* (Prince Christopher), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Linus), and *Bare: A Pop Opera* (Lucas). National Tour credit: *A Christmas Carol* (Ensemble). He thanks his incredible loving family and friends for their continued love and support and he hopes you enjoy the show!

Rhyse Silvestro | Swing

Rhyse is thrilled to be returning to Orlando Family Stage. You may have seen him in *Seussical the Musical*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical*, and most recently *Goosebumps The Musical: Phantom of the Auditorium*, here at Orlando Family Stage. Other performances include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Orlando Shakes); Percy Jackson in *The Lightning Thief*; J. Finch in *Puffs*; and Hank/Virgil, Ricky, and Noel in *Ride the Cyclone* (Theatre South Playhouse). You may have also caught him working at The Holy Land Experience or heard him in the Disney EPCOT Forever fireworks show. Rhyse thanks his family and friends for their continued support.

Will Sippel | Snoopy

Will returns to *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* after appearing as Linus in last year's production! Other appearances at Orlando Family Stage include TheaterWorksUSA's *Dog Man: The Musical* (Petey), TheaterWorksUSA's *The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System* (Arnold), and *The SpongeBob Musical* (Old Man Jenkins/Electric Skate). Other professional credits include *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* (Pigeon), *Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812* (Andrey/Bolkonsky), *American Psycho: The Musical* (Luis), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Orin/Everyone Else), and *Phantasmagoria* (Fionn). He is also a playwright, credits including *We Begin in a Tavern*, a Patron's Pick at the 2023 Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival. Written works available at New Play Exchange. Always thankful for the limitless support of his wife, Caroline.

Chelsea Talmadge | Sally

Chelsea is thrilled to return to Orlando Family Stage—and to the role of Sally Brown—for the second time in *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage*. She is best known for her recurring guest role as Carol in *Stranger Things* (seasons 1 and 2). Other stage credits include originating the role of Junie B. Jones in the world premiere of *Junie B. Jones in BOO... and I Mean It!*; as well as *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical* (Manny/Claire), *Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells* (Junie B.), *Flip* (Mallory; Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival Patron's Pick), *Pinkalicious The Musical* (Alison), *Anne Frank and Me* (Anne Frank), and *Urinetown: The Musical* (Little Sally). Film and television credits include *Doctor Sleep* (Supporting), *Still the King* (Recurring Guest Star), *Halt and Catch Fire* (Recurring Co-Star), and *Mercy Street* (Recurring Co-Star). Special thanks to Orlando Family Stage and Gershwin Entertainment for making this holiday season all the more nutty!

Cast Bios

Addison Ward | Lucy

Addison is so excited to be returning to *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* as the Christmas Queen herself Lucy. Previous credits include Ocean/Constance (*Ride the Cyclone*), Dori/Dina/Shulie (*Schoolhouse Rock Live! Tour*), 11/Nancy (*Stranger Sings: The Parody Musical*), Ringtail in the award-winning Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival show *Fosgate: Ferret Loan Officer*, and Little Red (*Into the Woods*). By day you can find her singing with frogs and going to a famous witch school at Universal Orlando Resort. She trains with Sarah-Lee Dobbs.

@addison.w.actress

Production Team Bios

Gershwin Entertainment | Producer

Gershwin Entertainment is a diversified theatrical production and marketing agency founded by industry veteran Todd Gershwin. Gershwin Entertainment specializes in producing live events and theatrical stage shows, with a focus in family entertainment. Gershwin has developed and produced successful theatrical productions, concerts, and tours for numerous iconic brands. Touring projects have included *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage*, *American Girl Live*, *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer the Musical*, Tony Award winning Broadway hit musical *Million Dollar Quartet*, *American Rhapsody*, *Here to Stay*, and *A Night With Janis Joplin*. Gershwin's projects have played at numerous leading venues throughout North America including Madison Square Garden, the Hollywood Bowl, Ravinia, Wolftrap, Arena Stage, the Pasadena Playhouse, and Broadway theaters such as the Marriott Marquis, the Lyceum, and the Palace.

Sarah Bender Allen | Scenic Charge Artist

Sarah is an Orlando native with a BFA in Studio Art from Florida State University. She began working in theater in 2017 as a volunteer scenic painter for Central Florida Community Arts and the Props Intern at Orlando Family Stage. Since then, she has worked as a scenic charge artist, scenic designer, and prop designer for several Orlando theaters over the last eight years. Sarah is thrilled to be involved in another season at Orlando Family Stage after designing the set for *Junie B. Jones in BOO... and I Mean It!*, and designing props for *Dragons Love Tacos: The Musical* during the 2024-2025 season. She also enjoys being able to share her work with her three sons, Keith, James, and William.

Michael Andrew | Music Producer/Orchestrations

Michael has composed and produced music for many theatrical productions and for films including: *Heart Breakers*, *Inglorious Bastards*, and the Aaron Sorkin biopic, *Being the Ricardos*. He was the headline singer and bandleader at the world-famous Rainbow Room atop Rockefeller Center in New York City where he entertained audiences nightly and hosted a live Radio Broadcast, *LIVE FROM THE RAINBOW ROOM*. He was the band-leader and singer at Merv Griffin's Coconut Club in The Beverly Hilton in California. While on Larry King Live, Merv called Michael Andrew "one of the great singers of all time." Michael performs often as a guest artist with symphonic orchestras across the country and with his own orchestras, *SWINGERHEAD* and *THE ATOMIC BIG BAND*. He portrayed the title character in the world premiere of *The Nutty Professor* musical, directed by the late Jerry Lewis with score by Marvin Hamlisch and Rupert Holmes. He appears often in Central Florida at festivals, events, and venues including Judson's Live in the Dr. Phillips Center. michaelandrew.com

Sophia Ayala | Light Board Operator

Sophia attended Valencia College and received her AS in Film Production Technology in 2023. She has previously worked at Orlando Family Stage as part of the Run Crew for *Dragons Love Tacos* and as Light Board Operator for *Go, Dog. Go! · Ve Perro ¡Ve!*. Working as Light Board Operator for *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage*, a family favorite, is a most welcomed way to round off her first year working in theatre!

Malik Bistrouty | Spot Light Operator

Malik is a graduate from Full Sail University with an MA in Entertainment Business. He participated in his high school tech club assisting with lighting setups and stage operation for productions such as *The Addams Family* and *The Music Man*. In his pastime, Malik enjoys art, cosplay, and making animations for YouTube. He is grateful to his mentors and Orlando Family Stage for experience and helping him learn and grow.

Stephanie Britton | Stage Manager

Stephanie is excited to be back with the Orlando Family Stage team as a recent transfer to the Orlando area from Houston, TX. Previous credits include: Orlando Family Stage, Assistant Stage Manager for *Go, Dog. Go! · Ve Perro ¡Ve!*; Theatre Under the Stars, Stage Manager for *Les Mis (All State Musical)*, *The Ugly Xmas Sweater Musical*, and *TUTS A Celebration of Houston Stories and Songs*; Theatre Under the Stars, Assistant Stage Manager for *In the Heights*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Disney's Newsies*, *Sweeney Todd*, *RENT*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Secret of My Success*, *South Pacific*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *Rock of Ages*, *Spring Awakening*, *Seussical the Musical*, *Ragtime*, *Mamma Mia*; A.D. Players, Stage Manager for *Driving Miss Daisy*; A.D. Players, Production Assistant for *Apollo 8*, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, and *Miracle on 34th Street*; Stages Repertory Theatre, Stage Manager for *The Ultimate Christmas Show (abridged)*, *The Revisionist*, *Panto Cinderella*, and *Woody Sez*. BFA: University of Houston School of Theatre & Dance ('16). She thanks her loving friends and family for all of their support and love!

Brett Davis | Scene Shop Manager

Brett is a new member of the Orlando Family Stage production family, recently joining as the Scene Shop Manager! He is excited to create immersive worlds for audiences to get lost in. Having been a scenic artist in both theatres and theme parks, he enjoys using his skills to help bring the stage to life! Brett has been attending productions at Orlando Family Stage since he was a child and is thrilled to continue making the magic happen for his community and the next generation.

Chloe McElroy | Spot Light Operator

A *Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* is Chloe's first production serving as Spot Light Operator with Orlando Family Stage.

Justin Harmon | Director of Production Technology

Justin has been working as a technician since he was 17! He graduated Valencia College in 2017 with an AS degree in Entertainment Design and Technology and freelanced as a lighting/audio/video technician for many years and venues like concerts, festivals, and clubs like the Vanguard. Justin also has a strong carpentry background where he worked as the Assistant Technical Director at the Garden Theater (he met his wife there too!). Since 2022, Justin has been at Orlando Family Stage leading the production technology department and could not be happier. In his spare time, Justin bowls in a league at Oviedo Bowling Center and plays video games with friends. He also loves stuffing his face with sushi and k-bbq with his wife, Gabs.

Carter Heitkamp | Sound Board Operator

Carter is very excited to be the Sound Board Operator for *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* again this year! He has been a part of the Orlando Family Stage crew for *Go, Dog. Go! · Ve Perro ¡Ve!*, *Junie B. Jones in BOO... and I Mean It!*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage*, *Dragons Love Tacos: The Musical*, and *Dinosaur Dance Party*, and so is happy to be back!

Stephen Jones | Production Technology Manager

Stephen previously served as Resident Sound Designer at the Renaissance Theatre Company from its opening through November 2022. Credits there include: *Nosferatu* (years 1 and 2), *La Medea*, and *Lenox Ave*. He has also worked with the local theatre company, Phoenix Tears Production, for whom he directed their 2022 Fringe production and 2023 remount of *The Witches*, an original audio drama. He began at Orlando Family Stage in October 2023, serving as the Sound Board Operator for *Click, Clack, BOO! A Tricky Treat*, and then as Sound Designer for *Disney's Finding Nemo Jr*. Stephen started his career in TYA, working as a company actor, sound designer, and teaching artist at the Arkansas Arts Center Children's Theatre from 2016-2020.

Tara Kromer | Props Manager

Tara earned her MFA at UCF in 2015, where her research was focused on Directing and Sound Design. She holds a BA in Theatre from UNC Greensboro, and is a member of AEA and an associate member of SDC. Her work has taken her to venues including Orlando Shakes, Orlando Family Stage, Theater West End, UCF, Osceola Arts, The Ensemble Company at Penguin Point, Orlando International Fringe Theatre Festival, Seaside Music Theatre, Athens Theatre, and the Hippodrome (Florida); Steppenwolf, Congo Square, Chicago Shakes (Chicago, IL); New York Stage and Film, Potsdam Music Theatre, and the Hangar Theatre (New York). For Orlando Family Stage, Tara directed *Dragons Love Tacos: The Musical*, *The Lightning Thief*, *Vote?*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *Miracle in Bedford Falls*, *A Year With Frog and Toad*, *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical*, and *The Giver*. She has designed the props and puppets for over 50 productions for Orlando Family Stage. www.tarakromer.com

Gabriel Manak | Backstage Run Crew

Gabriel is thrilled to be back with Orlando Family Stage after recently serving as Spot Light Operator for *Goosebumps The Musical: Phantom of the Auditorium*. During his time at Rockwall High School in Rockwall, Texas, he was actively involved in theater and a member of the International Thespian Society. Gabriel previously worked on *The Outsiders* as part of the set crew and *Mamma Mia!* as Assistant Stage Manager. Gabriel is a recent high school graduate and thanks Orlando Family Stage for giving him this amazing opportunity!

Jeffrey Meek | Original Costume Design

Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma: Resident Costume Designer. Regional: Ohio Light Opera – over 50 productions, including *Lady Kate* (World Premiere), *Regrets Only* (World Premiere), *The Arcadians* (U.S. Premiere), and *The Grande Duke* (U.S. Premiere); Evan Bernardin Productions – *Merry Christmas*, *Charlie Brown* (National Tour); Tulsa Opera – 2003–2004 Seasons; Casa Mañana Playhouse – *Annie*, *Disney's High School Musical*, *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*; Stage One – *I Do! I Do!*, *Are We There Yet?* (World Premiere), *Swing!*; Eastman School of Music – three seasons; Triad Theatre – *Kids in America*; Colossal Studios – *Family Pirate Adventure*; Adventure Theatre – *James and the Giant Peach* (Helen Hayes Nomination); OKC Philharmonic – 15 years of *A Very Merry Pops*; Reduxion Theatre – seven seasons, including *Hair*, *Cabaret*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Romeo and Juliet*; Carpenter Square Theatre – *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Mauritius*; Oklahoma Children's Theatre – *To Kill a Mockingbird*; Jewel Box Theatre – *Bus Stop*, *Leading Ladies*, *37 Postcards*, *Nunsense II: The Second Coming*, *Suite Surrender*, *South Pacific*. Film: *Fingerprints*, *Pearl*, *Agenda*.

Production Team Bios

Alexandria Vazquez Myers | Director of Costumes

Alexandria is thrilled to be serving as the Director of Costumes at Orlando Family Stage! Born and raised in Orlando, Alexandria received her BA in Costume Design/Tech from Rollins College and her MFA in Costume Design/Tech from West Virginia University. Alexandria has designed productions at both educational institutions as well as in the community and professionally throughout the Eastern US, previously serving as the Costume Shop Manager/Resident Designer for the Florida Repertory Theatre. Recent design work includes costumes for *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and guest designs at Rollins College and the Children's Theatre of Charlotte. She sends thanks to her husband and familia for their continuous support and looks forward to a fantastic season!

Leilani Navarro | Backstage Run Crew

A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage is Leilani's second production with Orlando Family Stage.

Sydney Padgett | Director of Scenery

Sydney is excited to join the Orlando Family Stage family as the Director of Scenery. She earned her AS in Live Entertainment Design and Production at Orlando's Valencia College, where she stuck around after graduation to design theatre and film sets for the School of Arts and Entertainment. Her favorite past projects include creating the sets for *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, *American Idiot*, and *YAGA*. Sydney is thrilled to serve and inspire Orlando's youth at Orlando Family Stage, and thanks her colleagues for making her feel so welcome.

Olivia Perez | Assistant Stage Manager

Olivia has worked as a Production Stage Manager for With Love Productions on *In the Heights*, where she demonstrated keeping a level head in an ever-changing environment. She has also worked as a Production Assistant, Assistant Stage Manager, and Stage Manager with Orlando Family Stage, most recently on *Go, Dog. Go! - Ve Perro ¡Ve!*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*, and *The SpongeBob Musical*, where she was able to strengthen her knowledge in working with youth. Having these experiences has taught her how to be versatile in fast moving circumstances while still maintaining the integrity of the show for guests. She is an aspiring Walt Disney World Entertainment Manager.

Jeffrey M. Revels | Artistic Director

Jeff has directed many productions at Orlando Family Stage including *Click, Clack, BOO! A Tricky Treat*; *The SpongeBob Musical*; *Pete The Cat*; *How I Became a Pirate*; *Junie B. Jones Is Not A Crook*; *Judy Moody & Stink: The Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad Treasure Hunt*; *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*; *Rock The Presidents*; *Harry Connick, Jr.'s The Happy Elf*; and *Orphie and the Book of Heroes*. He directed Florida tours of *The Amazing Adventures of Dr. Wonderful (and Her Dog!)* and *Katie Couric's The Brand New Kid*. Jeff recently did some writing and consulting for Universal Orlando, Dollywood, and Dolly Parton. He wrote/co-directed large-scale stage spectaculars for the city of Manaus, Brazil, and wrote/directed digital films seen daily at Okada Resort in Manila, Philippines. Jeff received the Alumni Professional Achievement Award from Winthrop University and was spotlighted by the Orlando Sentinel as one of Central Florida's Most Fascinating People and one of Ten People Who Make Orlando A Better Place To Live. He also received a Distinguished Career award from Florida Theatre Conference. He serves on many arts committees and panels including for the National Endowment for the Arts and BroadwayCon. He served as Executive Producer for the *Orlando Citrus Parade* and as writer for the *National Cherry Blossom Festival Celebration & Parade*, *Nashville Christmas Spectacular*, *National Memorial Day Parade*, *American Valor: A Tribute To Our Military*, and the *Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade*, all nationally syndicated. Jeff is the founder of Conway Cares, an initiative that provides food for 150+ schoolchildren each week that are struggling with food insecurity. In 2015, the City of Orlando proclaimed "Jeff Revels Day" to honor his work.

Ben Shepler | Original Sound Design

Ben is a sound designer, engineer and composer for theater and film on numerous productions across the country. Shepler was awarded "Best Music" by the Orlando Independent Filmmakers for *Entrance* (2020) and *The Ranger* (2021). Last season, Ben sound designed *P.Nokio: A Hip-Hop Musical* and *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* for Orlando Family Stage. This year saw the release of *Aquatunes: Songs from the Florida Aquarium* – a fun and educational album he produced and engineered (play it for your kids—they will be hooked!) – and next year, his song "On the Long Way Down" by Paulsen-Shepler will be heard in theaters everywhere in the film, *Tow*, starring Rose Byrne. Check out more of his work at benshepler.com.

Mary Sienko | Costume Shop Manager

Mary has had a lifelong love of theatrical costumes and cosplay. She is a graduate of the Savannah College of Art and Design with a BFA in Fashion Design. After working on costumes for local theaters in Georgia and interning in the Orlando Family Stage Costume Shop in 2019-2020, she is thrilled to call Orlando Family Stage home. She will always be grateful to her wonderful parents for supporting her creative endeavors.

Carrie Kasten Smith | Sr. Director of Production

Carrie started at Orlando Family Stage two decades ago as the Stage Management Intern. Since then, she has served as a stage manager, production manager, and coordinator for Orlando Family Stage's internship program, sensory-friendly performances, and Design & Tech Academy (2015-2017) before landing as the Sr. Director of Production. She holds a BFA in Theatre with a concentration in Stage Management from the University of Central Florida and occasionally works with students interested in stage management at Lake Highland Preparatory School. Carrie believes in Orlando Family Stage's mission with all her heart and cannot wait to see the amazing things we accomplish within the next twenty years!

Pierce Stoneburner | Original Lighting Design

Pierce is a lighting designer based in Washington, DC. He is excited for his return performance with Orlando Family Stage! His recent credits include *The American Five* at Ford's Theatre, *American Girl Live in Concert* with Gershwin Entertainment, *Paperbacks and Life Jackets* at 4615 Theatre, *Aleko* and *Les Contes d'Offenbach* at Bel Cantanti Opera, *The Addams Family Musical* at St. Albans, and four years as lighting designer for ICONS Dance Institute. He is a graduate of Southwestern University in Georgetown, TX. Pierce currently serves as the Production Manager at Washington Improv Theater, the Lead Electrician at Mosaic Theater, and several other venues in the DC region. www.stoneburner.lighting

Daniel Tenbusch | Music Direction and Supervision

Daniel has his Bachelors of Music in Jazz Piano Performance from Florida State University, and his Master of Arts in Music from University of Central Florida. Daniel has toured nationally and internationally as a pianist with the *Glenn Miller Orchestra*. Daniel also played piano for many years with the *Les Demerle Quartet* for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines. Daniel's own jazz group, *Creek*, performs throughout the Southeast alongside vocalist Kristen Warren, performing at venues such as Judson's Live in Orlando and Rudy's Jazz Room in Nashville. Also locally and throughout the Southeast, Daniel is an in-demand pianist, keyboardist, and organist, performing with The Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, Thomas Milovac, Ryan Devlin, and many more. In musical theatre, Daniel toured with *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* in 2024 as Music Director/Schroeder and is thrilled to be returning to the show in the same role, also serving as Music Supervisor for both the touring and Orlando Family Stage productions. Daniel recently music directed *Beetlejuice Jr.* for Ocala Civic Theatre's Summer Arts for All program.

Sarah Tittlebaum | Crew Swing

Sarah is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University, where she earned her BFA in Stage Management. During her time at Penn State, she stage managed a diverse range of productions including *Strange Snow*, *The Boyfriend*, *The Rivals*, *Blues for an Alabama Sky*, and *A Year With Frog and Toad*. Professionally, Sarah has stage managed *New Year's Eve* at Citizens Bank Theatre and *Queer Diaries Goes to Fringe*. Her experience also includes assistant stage management credits on *Amadeus* at Mad Cow Theatre and *Drip*. In addition to her work backstage, Sarah has contributed to audience services as a Front of House Usher for *Blue Man Group* at Universal Orlando.

Tara Jeanne Vallee

Associate Director/Choreographer & Additional 2025 Choreography

Tara Jeanne has created for the Broadway stage in *Cirque Dreams Jungle Fantasy*, as well as shows Off Broadway, aboard cruise ships, on television, National Tours, prestigious regional theatres and on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry. As Director/Choreographer (select credits): *Cabaret* (Orlando Shakes), *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, *Waitress* (Arts Center of Coastal Carolina), *The Little Mermaid* (Argyle Theatre), *Mary Poppins* (Olney Theatre Center), *Elf*, *Annie*, *Bring It On* (Dr. Phillips Center), *Kinky Boots*, *The Producers* (PA Shakes), *Pippin*, *On the Town*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* (Orlando Family Stage and National Tour), and *School of Rock*. Tara Jeanne has also creatively developed and directed shows for Cedar Fair Entertainment, Virgin Voyages, and is on staff as a Choreographer for Walt Disney World Live Entertainment. In the DC area, she has garnered 4 Helen Hayes Award nominations for Outstanding Choreography. www.tarajeannevallee.com

Samantha Wolf | Wardrobe Crew

Samantha is so excited to be back again for *Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage*! She just finished wardrobe for *Go, Dog. Go! · Ve Perro ¡Ve!* Last season she worked as Wardrobe Crew for *P.Nokio: A Hip-Hop Musical*, *Junie B. Jones in BOO... and I Mean It!*, and *A Charlie Brown Christmas: Live On Stage* (Orlando Family Stage). She previously worked on wardrobe for Disney's *Newsies* (at the formally known Orlando Repertory Theatre). She assistant directed *Wind in the Willows* and worked on *Annie Jr.* as a teaching assistant (CFCArts). Previous stage management credits include *Matilda*, *Frozen Jr.*, and *Into The Woods* (Little Radical Theatrics), *The Lion*, *the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Saint Luke's in New York City) and more. Samantha is thrilled to be given the opportunity to come back to Orlando Family Stage. She thanks her family for all their support and loves them all so much!



ORLANDO FAMILY STAGE

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QUESTIONS FOR THE RIDE HOME

- 1 Which character do you relate to the most? Why? What words describe that character?
- 2 At the beginning of the show, Charlie Brown says he does not understand Christmas. Do you think he understands it better at the end of the show? How would you explain Christmas to someone like Charlie Brown?
- 3 Commercialization means to exploit or manage something to make a profit. What other holidays are commercialized? What is lost when people commercialize things?
- 4 Linus says that the tree Charlie Brown got 'just needed a little love.' What have you made better by giving a little love? What are some no-cost things that you can give to others during the holiday season, and the rest of the year?
Presented by Florida Blue as part of Orlando Family Stage's "Enrichment Program," generously sponsored for the 24/25 season.



NUTRITION FACTS

One Full Serving Per Show

Amounts Per Show

*Topics may overlap, so percentages do not necessarily equal 100%

Performance Time

75 Minutes

Story Morals*

% of Story Focus Per Topic

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| True Meaning of Christmas | 100% |
| Helping Your Friends | 95% |
| Hope & Happiness | 95% |

Ingredients List

Christmas Carols, Christmas Trees, Decorations, Ice Skating, Christmas Cards, Dancing Trees, Snowballs, Fantasies, Christmas Spirit, Therapy Sessions, Christmas Play, Shepherds, Angels, Baby Jesus, Christmas Magic

Show Genre

Musical

Pre-Show Activities

Beginning 60 Minutes Before Show

Lobby Scavenger Hunt

Themed Concessions

Crafts With Take-Home Creations

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