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YEARS
OF  **ORLANDO
FAMILY
STAGE**
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UCF

BY L. FRANK BAUM

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BACKGROUND MUSIC BY HERBERT STOTHART

DANCE AND VOCAL ARRANGEMENTS BY PETER HOWARD

ORCHESTRATION BY LARRY WILCOX

ADAPTED BY JOHN KANE FOR THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

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ADAPTATION AND SUPPORT MATERIALS FOR THE YOUTH EDITION
DEVELOPED BY ITHEATRICS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF
TIMOTHY ALLEN McDONALD

THE WIZARD of OZ

YOUTH EDITION

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



SEASON PRESENTED BY



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ORLANDO FAMILY STAGE

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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.

Julia Alvarez-Miller: Oz Dorothy
Levi Alves: Cyclone/Munchkin/Winkie
Arseniy Amelin: Munchkin/Ozian
Alaina Ames: Lullaby League/Jitterbug/Winged Monkey
Cordy Barker: Munchkins/Ozian/Crow
Piper Bartoszek: Lollipop Guild/Jitterbug/Winged Monkey
Elias Campbell: Munchkin/Ozian
Emme Campbell: Munchkin/Ozian/Crow
Emmerson Caitlyn: Lullaby League/Jitterbug/Winged Monkey
Michael Cespedes: Professor Marvel/Tree
Rae Cline: Tin Man
Quinn Cohen: Glinda/Jitterbug/Winged Monkey
Wyatt Ellis: Munchkin/Ozian/Crow
Liam Emerson-Matney: Zeke/Tree
Riley Feggins: Cyclone/Winkie/Munchkin/Crow
Marcella Ferguson: Lullaby League/Jitterbug/Winged Monkey
Vivian Ferguson: Munchkin/Ozian
Christina Fry: Cyclone/Munchkin/Winkie
Matthew Furbush: Nikko/Munchkin Barrister
MollyKate Gaither: Cyclone/Winkie/Munchkin/Crow
Clifford Goedken: Munchkin Mayor/Ozian
Fabiana Gómez: Aunt Em/Tree
Ellis Haddock: Uncle Henry/Tree
Emmy Hannan: Mrs. Gulch/Tree
Lucas Hicks: Scarecrow
Penny Hicks: Lollipop Guild/Jitterbug/Winged Monkey
Crosby Jurgensen: Munchkin Coroner/Guard
Beckett Kelty: Wizard of Oz/Munchkin
Lorilai MacMillan: Cyclone/Munchkin/Winkie
Faith Milensky: Cyclone/Munchkin/Winkie
Blythe Miller: Lollipop League/Jitterbug/Winged Monkey
Elliot Miller: Munchkin/Ozian
Emma Miller: Cyclone/Munchkin/Winkie
Penny Miller: Toto
Andy Otero-Hernández: Munchkin/Ozian/Crow
Francisco Pagán: Doorman/Munchkin/Ozian
Emery Popovich: Munchkin/Ozian
Teddy Pridemore: Hunk/Tree
Hillary Randolph: Wicked Witch
Andrea Rodstol: Cyclone/Munchkin/Winkie
Paloma Santana: Munchkin/Ozian
AJ Scarlato: Cyclone/Munchkin/Winkie
Phoenix Schlake: Kansas Dorothy/Tree
Austyn Thomas: Cowardly Lion
Pearl Tindell: Cyclone/Munchkin/Winkie
Norah Vleko: Munchkin/Ozian
Reese Webster: Hickory/Tree

Song List

Over The Rainbow	Dorothy
Munchkinland Musical Sequence	Glinda, Munchkins, Dorothy, Toto, Mayor, Coroner, Barrister, Lullaby League, Lollipop Guild
Yellow Brick Road	Mayor, Coroner, Munchkins
If I Only Had A Brain	Scarecrow, Dorothy
We're Off to See the Wizard Duet	Dorothy, Scarecrow, Crows
If I Only Had a Heart	Tin Man, Dorothy
We're Off to See the Wizard Trio	Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man
If I Only Had the Nerve	Lion, Tin Man, Scarecrow, Dorothy
Jitterbug	Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, Toto, Jitterbugs, Trees
Optimistic Voices	Ensemble
The Merry Old Land of Oz	Ozians
If I Were The King of the Forest	Lion, Scarecrow, Tin Man, Dorothy
Winkies March	Winkie Guards
Over the Rainbow (Reprise)	Dorothy, Aunt Em
Winkies March (Reprise)	Winkie Guards
Ding Dong! The Witch is Dead	Ensemble
Finale	Full Company

Cast Bios

Julia Alvarez-Miller

Julia is thrilled to be following the yellow brick road back to Orlando Family Stage! She is a seventh grader at Howard Middle School and has been engaged in local theater since she was four years old. Her most recent productions include *The Little Mermaid Jr.* as an ensemble member at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical* at Orlando Family Stage, where she played Beth. Julia is a proud member of the Quarter Notes at the Dr. Phillips Center and serves as Student Manager of her school's Thespian Troupe. She has been a part of the *Take it From the Top Theater Intensive* for two years and recently participated as a soloist. Julia thanks her vocal coach, Patricia Skowronek, as well as all her family and friends for their love and support.

Levi Alves

Levi, a nine-year-old homeschool student, loves making people laugh and smile. He is thrilled to join Orlando Family Stage in *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*. Outside of performing, Levi enjoys art, video games, and time with friends and family. He thanks Orlando Family Stage and his family for their encouragement and support.

Arseniy Amelin

Arseniy enjoys singing, creating, playing sports, and drawing. He loves making drum beats, mixing sounds, and performing. A creative and musical student, he finds joy in turning ideas into reality. Inspired by his mother, a professional musician who worked with a renowned children's group in Russia, he is excited to continue growing as a performer.

Alaina Ames

Alaina is a seventh grader at Park Maitland with a passion for acting, singing, and reading. She is excited to be back performing in her fifth production at Orlando Family Stage. She loves participating in all the performing arts offerings at her school and enjoys reading, visiting theme parks, and spending time with her family and friends. She is thrilled to perform in *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*, her grandmother's favorite musical.

Cordy Barker

Cordy is a fourth grader who loves the stage. She is a member of the Central Florida Dance Center Company and played Tiny Tim in *A Fringemas Carol*. She was also in a music video starring Drag Superstar Ginger Minj. She is excited to be part of this show and thanks her family for their support.

Piper Bartoszek

Piper is thrilled to act in her fourth Orlando Family Stage Youth Academy production! She loves her fellow castmates, family, friends, teachers, and her dog, Biscuit. Piper cannot wait to take the stage again and is already counting down the days until the next show. Break a leg, everyone!

Elias Campbell

Elias is thrilled to return to Orlando Family Stage for *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*! A sixth grader at Maitland Montessori, he plays trombone, enjoys video games, and sings with the Bach Festival Youth Choir. Elias loves performing and is excited to share the stage with his friends this season.

Emme Campbell

Emmeline is so excited to participate in her first Orlando Family Stage production! Emme is a third grader at Maitland Montessori who loves gymnastics and dancing, but she especially loves doing awesome trampoline tricks. She also plays violin, loves sharks, and sings with the Bach Festival Children's choir.

Emmerson Caitlyn

Emmerson is a seventh-grade homeschool student. She is thrilled to be participating in *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*, her fifth production with Orlando Family Stage! Emmerson's most notable roles to date are Gertrude McFuzz in *Seussical* and Teen Anastasia in *Anastasia*. When she is not on stage, Emmerson enjoys spending time with friends, traveling, going to concerts and theme parks, and watching movies with her mom and cat. Emmerson can not wait to perform for you!

Michael Cespedes

Michael is excited to return to Orlando Family Stage! A sixth grader at St. Luke's Lutheran School, his favorite previous roles at Orlando Family Stage include Cyrano in *Cyrano de Berger Shack* and Fregley in *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical*. He loves singing in the advanced choir at school, playing video games, and being on stage. He hopes you enjoy the show!

Rae Cline

Rae is excited to share his passion for performing with Orlando Family Stage. He feels most at home on stage and is dedicated to telling meaningful stories through the arts. Always eager to grow, Rae values feedback that helps refine his craft. His interests include acting, singing, and drawing.

Quinn Cohen

Quinn is excited to return for her eighth Orlando Family Stage production. Her favorite credits include Pearl in *The SpongeBob Musical*, Belle in *Disney's Descendants The Musical*, and Grace Bradley in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*. She has also performed in school productions as Anna in *Frozen Jr.* and Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*. Quinn thanks her family for their constant love and support.

Wyatt Ellis

Wyatt is an outgoing fourth grader at Brookshire Elementary. He enjoys running club, reading, math, playing with friends, and spending time with his brother Jett, sister Lucy, and their two cats. His passion for theater began at Orlando Family Stage in the summer of 2025, when he debuted as James in Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*

Cast Bios

Liam Emerson-Matney

Liam is excited to be in his first production with Orlando Family Stage. He has performed in many productions with CFCArts and Howard School of the Arts, including *Elf The Musical*, *Aladdin*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Winnie The Pooh*, *The Addams Family Musical*, and *Six The Musical*. When he is not performing on stage, he loves to play music (piano and trombone) and video games.

Riley Feggins

Nine-year-old Riley is a homeschool student who loves acting, dance, and gymnastics. She trains at Orlando Ballet School in ballet, jazz, and tap, and enjoys performing in theatre camps. Riley has won multiple gymnastics medals, earned a Girl Scout cookie award, and loves paddleboarding, painting, and traveling. She is excited to share her talents on stage.

Marcella Ferguson

This is Marcella's second production with Orlando Family Stage. She appeared last year in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*. She has also performed as Ariel in Disney's *The Little Mermaid* and as Sandy in *Annie*. Marcella is a member of her school's Junior Thespian Troupe and, when not on stage, enjoys track and field, fostering dogs, and scuba diving.

Vivian Ferguson

This is Vivian's second production with Orlando Family Stage. Her first performance was last year in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*. She sings in her school chorus, takes dance classes, and recently began playing in her school orchestra!

Christina Fry

Christina is eleven years old and dreams of a future in musical theater. She loves singing, dancing, and acting, drawing inspiration from shows such as *Hairspray*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, and *Wicked*. Confident and joyful on stage, Christina values teamwork and thanks her family and teachers for their constant encouragement as she grows as a performer.

Matthew Furbush

Matthew is an eighth-grade student from Orlando, and this marks his first theater production with Orlando Family Stage. He has participated in several camps at Orlando Family Stage, most recently portraying the Grasshopper in Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach Jr.* With a deep love for the performing arts, Matthew is excited to continue his theater journey in high school. He dedicates this performance to his beloved Grammy, who was eagerly looking forward to seeing him perform for the first time. Matthew also wishes to express his gratitude to his parents for their unwavering love and support.

Cast Bios

MollyKate Gaither

MollyKate is thrilled to be back at her favorite theatre, where she loved being part of *Junie B. Jones The Musical Jr.*, *Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.*, and *Cyrano de Burger Shack*. She loves everything about musical theater and thanks all the people who have helped her along the way.

Clifford Goedken

Clifford is so excited to be back on stage at Orlando Family Stage! His past credits at Orlando Family Stage include *Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.* and *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.* He was also featured in Significant Productions' *Cabaret* as a recorded soloist.

Fabiana Gómez

Fabiana is ecstatic to be performing in *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*. This is her second show at Orlando Family Stage, having recently been a part of *Cyrano de Burger Shack*. Fabiana is in eighth grade, and she is very excited to end the year at Orlando Family Stage.

Ellis Haddock

Ellis is excited to participate in his third show at Orlando Family Stage! When Ellis is not talking in a fun accent (and making us laugh), he is playing trombone, riding his bike, rock climbing, or inventing something new.

Emmy Hannan

Emmy is an eighth-grade student at Audubon Park School. Emmy loves music, her friends and family, and all things theater. This is Emmy's seventh show at Orlando Family Stage, and she is excited to spend another fall show with her theater family!

Lucas Hicks

Lucas is excited to journey to Oz in his fourth Youth Academy production at Orlando Family Stage. Lucas is a thirteen-year-old who loves theater, reading, and strategy board games. Favorite credits: *Pickles (Cyrano de Burger Shack)*, *Pinocchio (Shrek Jr.)*, and *Crush (Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.)*. Lucas thanks all the people in his life who encourage, support, and love him for being the truest version of himself.

Penny Hicks

Penny is thrilled to skip down the yellow brick road with all her friends for her fourth production at Orlando Family Stage. She is an enthusiastic ten-year-old who eats, sleeps, and breathes musical theater. Favorite credits: *Nemo (Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.)*, *Gingy (Shrek Jr.)*, and *SpongeBob (The SpongeBob Musical Youth Edition)*. Penny thanks everyone who supports her love of theater and encourages her to follow her dreams.

Crosby Jurgensen

Crosby is in sixth grade and is thrilled to return to Orlando Family Stage for his fifth Youth Academy production! His performance credits include Charlie in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*, Gil in *Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.*, and ensemble roles in *Cyrano de Burger Shack* and *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.* He is excited to be in another show at his favorite place with his friends and big cousin Emily.

Cast Bios

Beckett Kelty

Beckett has been an active member of Orlando Family Stage for the past four years, performing in six productions and forming countless friendships along the way. When he is not on stage, he enjoys watching horror films, playing video games, biking or skateboarding, wake surfing, and laughing with friends. He proudly dedicates this performance to his loving family.

Lorilai MacMillan

Lorilai is ecstatic to be back for her fifth production at Orlando Family Stage! She has a passion for the arts and a great love for animals. Lorilai enjoys singing, dancing, and spending time with her family and friends. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Faith Milensky

Faith is thrilled to be in her second production with the Youth Academy at Orlando Family Stage! A fifth-grader at Park Maitland School, she loves Broadway musicals, volleyball, and hanging out with her friends. She thanks her parents, brothers, and grandparents for always cheering her on.

Blythe Miller

Blythe is happy to be a part of *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition* cast. Her previous experience includes *Matilda*, *Broadway Beat*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*, and *Cyrano de Burger Shack*. Blythe thanks her mom, dad, sisters, Yaya, and the Orlando Gifted Academy teachers who support her, especially Ms. Lineberry.

Elliot Miller

Elliot is so excited to be a part of *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*. She has previously performed in *Elves on Strike*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*, and *Cyrano de Burger Shack*. Elliot thanks her mom, dad, Yaya, her sisters, and all her Orlando Gifted Academy fans.

Emma Miller

Emma loves being on stage and performing in many capacities. She starred as Cruella De Vil in *Disney's Descendants The Musical* and has also appeared in *Frankie Builds Androids*, *Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.*, and *Shrek Jr.* In addition to performing, Emma plays piano and percussion in her middle school's music program.

Penny Miller

Penelope loves dancing and singing. She has starred as Frankie in *Frankie Builds Androids* and as Nemo in *Disney's Finding Nemo Jr.* She also appeared as young Anna in her school's production of *Frozen Jr.* and enjoys playing the piano.

Cast Bios

Andy Otero-Hernández

Andy is very excited to be a part of *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition* at Orlando Family Stage! He is a dedicated young actor who loves performing on stage, dancing, and singing. Outside of rehearsal, he can be found reading his favorite books, drawing, making up plays with his sister, and hanging out with friends.

Francisco Pagán

Frankie returns to the stage for his third production with Orlando Family Stage, and he could not be more excited! With a love for storytelling and a passion for the stage, this ten-year-old lights up every scene with his amazing castmates by his side. Offstage, he enjoys video gaming, sketching, and spending time with family and friends. Thank you for supporting young artists like Frankie!

Emery Popovich

Emery is excited to make her Orlando Family Stage debut in *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*! She enjoys acting, singing, and dancing, and has participated in school and community performances. Emery is grateful to her family and teachers for their support and looks forward to sharing the magic of this timeless story with the audience.

Teddy Pridemore

Teddy, an eighth grader at Orlando Gifted Academy, is a numismatist, chess player, National Junior Honor Society member, Quiz Bowler, and collector of coins, books, and fossils. His many Orlando Family Stage credits include *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical*, *Disney's Descendants The Musical*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.*, and *Camelot and Camelittle*. Teddy hopes to keep dancing through this play while avoiding any falling houses and wishing the Wizard's best to his fellow castmates!

Hillary Randolph

Hillary is thrilled to be in *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition* and excited to be back with her "family" at Orlando Family Stage! She thanks her parents, grandparents, and her pets for their ongoing support. Hillary enjoys playing the clarinet and saxophone in Howard Middle School's Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band. When she is not on stage, she can be found on the volleyball court at the Downtown YMCA. She is grateful for the incredible staff and volunteers at Orlando Family Stage for always making her feel at home in this wonderful theater. There's no place like home!

Andrea Rodstol

Andrea is so excited to be part of *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*! This marks her second production with Orlando Family Stage, and she is loving every moment. She dreams of one day performing on Broadway, and also loves animals, art, and hanging out with friends. Andrea thanks her family for always supporting her as she strives to achieve her dreams.

Cast Bios

Paloma Santana

This will be Paloma's fourth performance with Orlando Family Stage. Previous Orlando Family Stage Youth Academy productions include *Cyrano de Burger Shack*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*, and *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.* Recently, she played Mad Cat in Impact Theater's Spring production of *The Aristocats*. Other theatre credits include *Frozen Jr.* with CFCArts and *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* at Orlando Shakes. Her love for performing stems from dance, but Paloma also loves singing, drawing, swimming, and piano. She thanks her family and friends for their support.

AJ Scarlato

This is AJ's sixth production with Orlando Family Stage. Some of his favorite moments include performing in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical* and operating the spotlight for *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical* with the Design & Tech Academy this past summer. AJ loves sharing the stage with friends and recently appeared in *Cyrano de Burger Shack* last spring.

Phoenix Schlake

Phoenix is so excited to return for her fourth year at Orlando Family Stage! As a musical theater student at Millennium Middle School, she is so excited to share her love for the stage with all of her fans. She thanks all of her friends and family for their forever support!

Austyn Thomas

This will be Austyn's second production with Orlando Family Stage. His first Orlando Family Stage production was *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical*. He started his career as a puppeteer in several performances and moved on to theater performances in his school. Austyn is also an award-winning orator. He has been playing piano for the past five years and has loved every minute of it. Austyn thanks his family for always supporting him on this fantastic journey!

Pearl Tindell

Lilyanne "Pearl" made her musical debut with Orlando Family Stage as Yvette in *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical*. She is a long-standing member of the Opera Orlando Youth Company and a competitive horse rider with Silver Saddles, where she has performed the National Anthem for the Silver Spurs Rodeo. She loves being part of Orlando Family Stage!

Norah Vleko

Norah is a vibrant fourth grader from Winter Garden with a passion for the performing arts. Her credits include *Cyrano de Burger Shack* (Orlando Family Stage), *Hamilton* and *Wicked* (YSMT Summer Camp), *The Little Mermaid* (Garden Theater), and *The Granny Awards*. She also performs dance and aerial silks with Gymnastics Olympics and plays the flute. Trained in ballet, jazz, and aerial silks, Norah dreams of starring in musicals and sharing her love of performance with audiences everywhere.

Cast Bios

Reese Webster

Reese is excited to return to Orlando Family Stage for this production of *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*. This is Reese's fourth production at Orlando Family Stage. Other recent roles include Nadia in *Cyrano de Berger Shack* and Grace Farrell in *Annie Jr.* Reese thanks her parents and the wonderful staff at Orlando Family Stage for giving her the opportunity to grow and learn.

Production Team Bios

Jennifer Adams-Carrasquillo | Sr. Director of Education

Jennifer is the Senior Director of Education at Orlando Family Stage and a theatre artist committed to empowering young artists and audiences. A graduate of the University of Central Florida's MFA program in Theatre for Young Audiences, Jennifer currently leads the Orlando Family Stage Education team in programs that tackle Early Childhood Literacy, Arts Integration, Theatre for the Very Young, Theatre for Social Change, Dual Language Learning, Theatre Camps and Classes, and quality arts experiences for students O-18. She has served as a director, choreographer, teaching artist and program manager in a variety of theatres, high schools, and community service organizations including the Springer Opera House, Rose of Athens Theatre, Dramatic English: Hong Kong, Arts Works, ArtsBridge America, Lexington Children's Theatre, Kluge Community Learning Center, and First Stage. At Orlando Family Stage, Jennifer directed *Yo, Ho, Ho! Let's Go!*, *The SpongeBob Musical (Youth Edition)*, *Disney's Descendants The Musical*, *Junie B. Jones The Musical Jr.*, *Magic Tree House: A Ghost Tale for Mr. Dickens Jr.*, *Camp Omigosh, Vote?*, *The Big One-Oh Online Edition*, *Li'l Abner*, *The K of D*, *Ghosts in the Machine*, *Christmas is Here Again*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *James and the Giant Peach Jr.* Past work includes *Bambi*, *The Little Engine that Could* (Springer Opera House), *Five Little Monkeys*, *Maul of the Dead*, *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, and *Argonautika* (First Stage). Jennifer is also a playwright with her work on *Pickle Chiffon Pie*; *Yo, Ho, Ho! Let's Go!*; and *Dinosaur Dance Party* featured at Orlando Family Stage.

Sarah Bender Allen | Scenic Designer/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.

Production Team Bios

Ryan Arnold | Assistant Director / Puppet Captain

Ryan is a first-year Theatre for Young Audiences graduate student at the University of Central Florida. He is excited to be assistant directing *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*, his first directing credit! Ryan has done numerous shows in the Central Florida area with Theatre at St. Luke's, a part of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, as well as several shows with Encore performing arts. He is thankful to Orlando Family Stage for the opportunity to be a part of this production.

Phoenix Connick | Production Assistant

Phoenix is a freshman in the BFA Stage Management program at the University of Central Florida. This is his first production with Orlando Family Stage and UCF. Previous credits include *Evita* (Production Stage Manager) and *Elf The Musical* (Production Stage Manager) at Montverde Academy.

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.

Xander Dillman-Meyers | Sound Board Operator

Xander is an experienced audio tech and musician who has worked on shows across the country. He recently was an audio tech at EPCOT. When he is not behind a board or in a booth you could see him playing violin at Epic Universe or singing on the Blues Brothers stage at Universal Orlando Resort.

Reyann Epps | Lighting Programmer/Light Board Operator

Rey is a freelance designer/programmer around the Orlando area. She recently graduated with her BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from the University of Central Florida. She has been working with Orlando Family Stage for over a year now. Some notable shows have been *Goosebumps The Musical: Phantom of the Auditorium* (Associate Designer), *P.Nokio: A Hip-Hop Musical* (Associate Designer), *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical* (Programmer), and *Go, Dog. Go! · Ve Perro ¡Ve!* (Programmer). Some other shows outside of Orlando Family Stage include *Imogen Says Nothing* (Lighting Designer) at Theatre UCF, *Hair* (Programmer) and *V-Bar* (Associate Designer) at the Renaissance Theatre Company.

Jaz Griffiths | Stage Manager

Jaz is a third-year student in UCF's BFA Stage Management program. They have previously served as a Production Assistant for *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.*; Stage Manager for *UCF Celebrates the Arts* (2024/2025); and Wardrobe Supervisor for *RENT*. Jaz is thrilled to be the Production Stage Manager for *The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition*, a show that holds a special place in their heart. They have loved bringing this production to life alongside such a talented team.

Production Team Bios

Jovi Haddock | Run Crew

Jovi is fourteen years old and has had a passion for the stage since she was little. Haddock brings a vibrant imagination and contagious enthusiasm to the stage and is grateful to be a part of the longstanding tradition of creative excellence at Orlando Family Stage.

Danny Hansen | Choreographer

Danny has followed his passion for the arts all over the map - Idaho, South Korea, California, Mexico, and New York to name a few. He recently closed a dazzling production of *Hairspray* out west as Director/Choreographer. Last fall, he received a "Best Supporting Actor" award in Palm Springs, CA, for his role as the rope-slinging, toe-tapping Will Parker in *Oklahoma!*. His years as a professional performer, dance captain, and choreographer have brought him some truly wonderful experiences – and he is delighted to add working at Orlando Family Stage to that list. It has been a truly magical trip to Oz.

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.

Aanya Holsinger | Assistant Stage Manager

Aanya is a sophomore in the BFA Stage Management program at the University of Central Florida. This production marks her Orlando Family Stage debut. Her past Theatre UCF credits include *The Drolls* (Production Stage Manager) and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Production Assistant).

Production Team Bios

Michelle Jimenez | Assistant Director

Michelle is currently a MA Graduate Theatre Studies student at the University of Central Florida. She holds her BFA in Theatre from Florida Gulf Coast University. This is her second time making the journey to the merry old land of Oz, after assistant directing the production previously at Palmetto Ridge High School in 2023. Her previous credits include Ensemble in *Man of La Mancha* and Marian in *Sweet and Sad*, as well as a Movement Instructor at Arts Bonita (Bonita Springs, FL), Kindergarten Instructor at TNP (Naples, FL) and Assistant Directing/Choreographing *La Comedia of Errors*. She is very grateful to Orlando Family Stage and UCF for the opportunity to be a part of bringing this show to life, and thanks the amazingly talented cast and crew for all of their hard work and dedication! She also thanks her friends and family for all of their love and support and hopes you enjoy the show!

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.

Madison Kent | Run Crew

Madison is looking forward to returning for another production at Orlando Family Stage. This will be her fourth season working on a Youth Academy production, and she is excited for the new people she will meet along the way.

Tara Kromer | Props Designer

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

Production Team Bios

Jay Marion | Assistant Choreographer

Jay studied dance at the Mississippi School of the Arts and the University of Southern Mississippi. Jay has performed in numerous productions and parades at Universal Studios, SeaWorld Entertainment, and Insomniac Entertainment's EDC Orlando. Currently, Jay can be seen performing in *Festival of the Lion King* and the *Festival of Fantasy Parade* at Walt Disney World Resort. In addition to performing, Jay serves as a judge and workshop host for District 9 Thespians. Recently, Jay graduated with a BA in Legal Studies from the University of Massachusetts and plans to pursue a legal career in arts advocacy. This marks Jay's fifth year with Orlando Family Stage and third Youth Academy production. Jay is passionate about teaching and choreographing for the rising theatre stars of Orlando Family Stage.

Alyssa Marrero | Sound Designer

Alyssa is a sound designer and technician based in Orlando, FL. Alyssa holds a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from the University of Central Florida. Some of her favorite credits include: *Go, Dog. Go! · Ve Perro ¡Ve!* (Sound Designer) and *Cyrano de Burger Shack* (Sound Designer) at Orlando Family Stage; *Cabaret* (AI) at Orlando Shakes; and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Sound Designer) and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (Assistant Sound Designer) at Theatre UCF. She was also recently the Sound Design Fellow for the Alicia Keys musical *Hell's Kitchen* First National Tour. Alyssa thanks Orlando Family Stage for giving her the opportunity to grow as a designer and for always being an amazing place to work! AlyssaCMSound.com

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!

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.

Production Team Bios

Nic Parks | Puppet Designer

his is Nic's second year as the Director of MicheLee Puppets here at Orlando Family Stage. *Dinosaur Dance Party* and *Puppet Play Day: Peter Rabbit* are some of the latest Orlando Family Stage productions to have his puppets invade the stage, showing a wide range of puppetry from the colossal to the miniscule. Nic is a 2018 graduate of the University of Connecticut's puppetry program earning him a Bachelor's Degree in Puppet Arts. His work has been seen in commercials, tv pilots, parades, theme parks, and stages of all sizes. He hopes to dazzle and amaze Orlando Family Stage's audiences for many years to come.

Ajani Randall | Run Crew

Ajani is a tenth-grader at Dr. Phillips High School, where he is enrolled in the TV/Film magnet program. An aspiring film director and producer, Ajani won the Aspiring Star award in Film at Dr. Phillip's annual Film Fest. Past Orlando Family Stage productions include *Diary of a Wimpy Kid The Musical* and *The SpongeBob Musical*.

Abigail Reeves | Production Assistant

Abigail is a first-year transfer student in the BFA Stage Management program at the University of Central Florida. This is her first production with Orlando Family Stage! Her previous credits include *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (Production Stage Manager) and *Vanities the Musical* (Production Stage Manager) at Brevard College.

Amelia Restrepo-Torres | Run Crew

Amelia is thirteen years old, comes from a Colombian household, and has been extremely artistically inclined since she was a little kid. She has been told she has a very unconventional way of thinking and a curious personality. She embraces a bit of social awkwardness and might seem introverted, but she really enjoys being around other people.

Production Team Bios

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 spectacles 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.

Vivianette Rivera-Rodriguez | Wardrobe Crew

Vivianette is a third-year transfer in the BFA Stage Management program at UCF. Her previous credits include *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical* for Orlando Family Stage (Assistant Stage Manager), *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* for UCF Celebrates the Arts (Production Assistant), and UCF Pegasus Playlab's *Daring to Dream* (Assistant Stage Manager).

Mary Sienko | Costume Designer/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.

Production Team Bios

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!

Robby Stamper | Music Director

NEW YORK CITY: The Julliard School, *The Lion King* on Broadway, Camp Broadway, Brooklyn Academy of Music, Disney Theatrical Productions, City Center Encores. ORLANDO: Walt Disney World, Orlando Family Stage, Mad Cow Theatre, Garden Theatre, Disney Cruise Lines, Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, Central Florida Community Arts. COMPOSER: *Helen on 86th Street*, *The Order of Things* (Eugene O'Neill NMTC Semi-finalist), *Mother of the Year* (The York Theater), *It's About Time* (The Duplex; Off-Broadway Alliance Mentorship Project). AWARDS: Dramatist Guild Fellowship Award, Manhattan Association of Cabaret Song of the Year, BMI Musical Theatre Composer Workshop Alumni. www.robbystamper.com.

Kylee Taylor | Lighting Designer

Kylee is a lighting designer and sound engineer from Orlando, Florida. She currently works as a Technical Production Coordinator for The Imagination House and as a Technical Director for Quantum Leap Productions. Past lighting design credits include *Disenchanted!* (National Tour); *Lizzie!* with Florida Theatrical Association; *Winnie's Rock Cauldron Cabaret* at the Dr. Phillips Center; and *Sunday in the Park with George* with Central Florida Vocal Arts. She thanks her fiancé, Carston, along with her friends and family for their support.

Sage Tokach | Director

Sage is delighted to return to Orlando Family Stage for a story that was such a large part of her Kansas childhood. Sage graduated from the University of Central Florida's Theatre for Young Audiences program in 2022 and spent three years as the Director of Education at the New London Barn Playhouse in New Hampshire before returning to UCF as a professor this fall. Previously at Orlando Family Stage, she directed *Pickle Chiffon Pie* with the Youth Academy and taught several performance workshops and classes, including an outdoor program in partnership with Leu Gardens. Outside of Orlando, Sage has worked as a teaching artist and director with organizations across the country, including Maples Repertory Theatre, Missoula Children's Theatre, and the state parks system. In any project, Sage is interested in creating a learning space where students of all ages are encouraged to explore, share ideas, and ask challenging questions.

Production Team Bios

Aurora Ulrich | Assistant Stage Manager

Aurora is a sophomore in the BFA Stage Management program at the University of Central Florida. This production marks her *Orlando Family Stage* debut. Her past Theatre UCF credits include *Visiting Hours* (Stage Manager) and *UCF Celebrates the Arts* (Stage Manager).

Author Bios

L. Frank Baum

Lyman Frank Baum (May 15, 1856 – May 6, 1919) was an American author of children's books, best known for writing *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, published in 1900. One of the most successful novels in American literature, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* sold out instantly, became a cultural sensation, and sold over three million copies before entering the public domain in 1956. Baum wrote thirteen novel sequels, nine other fantasy novels, and a host of other works, including 83 short stories, over 200 poems, and 55 novels. He made numerous attempts to bring his works to the stage and screen. Baum's writings remarkably anticipated innovations including television, augmented reality, laptop computers (*The Master Key*), wireless telephones (*Tik-Tok of Oz*), women in high-risk, action-heavy occupations (*Mary Louise in the Country*), and the ubiquity of advertising on clothing (*Aunt Jane's Nieces at Work*).

Harold Arlen

Harold Arlen (1905-1986) wrote some of the greatest hits from the 30's and 40's, including the entire score to the classic movie *The Wizard of Oz*. Songs such as "Over the Rainbow," "Get Happy," "Stormy Weather," "It's Only a Paper Moon," "I've Got the World on a String" and "Last Night When We Were Young" are just some of the standards that live on today and have distinguished Harold Arlen as one of the Great American Composers of the 20th Century.

Born and bred in New York, Harold Arlen began his career as an accompanist in vaudeville and appeared occasionally as a band vocalist on records, often singing his own compositions. During his career he wrote over 500 songs, including "Let's Fall in Love," "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea" and "I Love a Parade" (all with lyrics by Ted Koehler). Arlen had a long and productive partnership with Johnny Mercer with many resulting hits, including "That Old Black Magic," "Blues in the Night," "Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive" and "One For My Baby (and One More for the Road)."

His Broadway musicals include *Bloomer Girl*, *St. Louis Woman*, *House of Flowers*, *Jamaica* and *Saratoga*. Films include *The Singing Kid* (1936), *Star Spangled Rhythm* (1942), *The Petty Girl* (1950), *My Blue Heaven* (1950), *The Farmer Takes a Wife* (1953), and *Gay Purr-ee* (1962).

Harold Arlen (Cont'd)

With Ira Gershwin he wrote the songs for 1954's *A Star is Born*, starring Judy Garland, including the Oscar-nominated "The Man That Got Away." Arlen won an Academy Award for the song "Over the Rainbow," voted the 20th century's No. 1 song by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

E. Y. Harburg

One of America's greatest lyricists for stage and screen, Yip Harburg (1896-1981) was the son of poor Russian-Jewish immigrants and attended CCNY. Also a book writer (usually with Fred Saily), director, and poet, Harburg wrote lyrics for more than 550 songs, including "It's Only A Paper Moon" (with Harold Arlen), "April in Paris" (with Vernon Duke) and "Brother, Can You Spare A Dime?" (with Jay Gorney). His landmark musicals were *Bloomer Girl* (with Arlen) and *Finian's Rainbow*. Yip was the final editor and wrote lyrics and continuity for the universally loved film *The Wizard of Oz*.

Herbert Stothart

Herbert Stothart (1885-1949) was nominated for nine Oscars and won for Best Original Score for his work on the 1939 film of *The Wizard of Oz*. As a young man, he studied music in Europe and at the University of Wisconsin, where he also taught. He worked as a musical director for Arthur Hammerstein and later began writing music for the producer's nephew, Oscar Hammerstein II, including some for the operetta *Rose Marie*. In 1929, he was signed to a contract by Louis B. Mayer; he spent the last 20 years of his life at MGM studios working on films, including *Rose Marie*, *A Night at the Opera*, *Anna Karenina*, *David Copperfield*, *Madame Curie*, *Idiot's Delight*, *Northwest Passage*, *Mrs. Miniver*, *Mutiny on the Bounty*, *National Velvet* and *What Every Woman Knows*.

Peter Howard

Peter Howard (1927-2008) was an American musical theater arranger, conductor and pianist. Howard served as either music director or dance music arranger for 38 Broadway shows, including *Chicago*; *Fosse*; *Carnival*; *The Sound of Music*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *1776*; *Annie*; *Baby*; *My One and Only*; *Barnum*; *The Tap Dance Kid*; *Swinging on a Star*; and *Crazy for You*. His movie work includes *Stepping Out*, *Zelig*, *Mame*, *Annie* and *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*. A number of his songs have been heard on *Sesame Street*. For many years, he toured the United States and Europe in his one-man show, *Peter Howard's Broadway or Crazy for Musicals*.

Larry Wilcox

Larry Wilcox (1935-1993) orchestrated over 25 Broadway shows and tours, including *The Yearling*, *The Three Musketeers*, *Singin' in the Rain* and *Aspects of Love*. He arranged and conducted recordings for the Boston Pops, the Milwaukee Symphony, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Paul Simon, Tony Bennett, Shirley MacLaine, and Dionne Warwick. Mr. Wilcox also arranged nightclub acts for Judy Garland, Liza Minnelli and Ann-Margret, among others.

John Kane

John Kane is an accomplished British actor and writer. An associate actor with the Royal Shakespeare Company, Kane played Puck in Peter Brook's acclaimed production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, alongside Ben Kingsley, Alan Howard and Frances de la Tour, before turning to comedy script writing. He began writing for Terry Scott's sketch show *Scott On*, before taking over the reins on a project for Terry Scott and comic actress June Whitfield, which began as *Happy Ever After* and later turned into the longer-running series *Terry and June*, for which he wrote the entire first series and much of the subsequent run. His TV acting credits include Tommy in the 1974 Doctor Who serial *Planet of the Spiders*.

Kane also created sitcoms *Me and My Girl* (1984–88) with Richard O'Sullivan and Tim Brooke-Taylor, *All in Good Faith* (1985–88) with Richard Briers and Aztec drama *The Feathered Serpent* (1976–78). He also wrote for, among others, *Never the Twain*, *Smuggler*, and *Rings on Their Fingers*, and he wrote the "Six Napoleons" episode of *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, with Jeremy Brett in the title role.

Turning to the stage, Kane wrote the RSC's adaptation of *The Wizard of Oz*, the West End Cole Porter tribute *A Swell Party* and the words and music in 2005 for *The Canterville Ghost* at the Southwark Playhouse. He also wrote the television film *The Vamp* starring Shelley Winters, children's cartoon *Britt Allcroft's Magic Adventures of Mumfie*, and won a CableACE Award for his screenplay *Daisies in December*, starring Joss Ackland. He collaborated with composer David Bass on a children's opera *Kids Court*, which was premiered in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 2007 by the North Cambridge Family Opera Company. He continues to write and act on both stage and screen.



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