



WordPlayers  
Theatre  
Company

**THE WORDPLAYERS PRESENTS**

# **FREAXY FRiDAY**

**A NEW MUSICAL**



**MAINSTAGE SEASON  
JULY 11 - 13, 2025**

# FREAKY FRIDAY: A NEW MUSICAL

FREAKY FRIDAY is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

## SEASON SPONSORS



Our current season is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number 21.027 awarded to Knox County by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and the Arts & Culture Alliance.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Appalachia Electronics CB Repair Shop, Hope Arnold, Leslie Arnold (Leslie Claire Photography), Steve Arnold, Melissa and Amber at the Clarence Brown Theatre, Jim & Leann Dickson, Erin Presbyterian Church, Claude Hardy, Caleb Leach, Bode Norman, Pellissippi State Community College, Trinity United Methodist Church, Will Trout, Jeni Weber, and Terry Weber

# FREAKY FRIDAY: A NEW MUSICAL

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

As I raise my three young children, I often find myself dancing between the roles of daughter and mother. When my son argues with me about why he has to practice the piano, I remember my mother's gentle patience in teaching a whiny young me to play. When my daughter begs to climb to the highest reaches of the tree in our front yard, I suddenly see the view of the tree from underneath the branches rather than the vistas I used to find at the top, and I am struck with the fear my mother must have felt as she trusted those little legs and scratchy branches to hold me. As I send my oldest off to a week of summer camp under the care of strangers, I remember how thrilled I felt as a kid in my cabin bunk and simultaneously wonder how my mother slept every night that I was away. We swap places every day, my children, my mother and me. And in the process my mother becomes more complex, more beautiful to me. I can see her quiet grief and the millions of ways she loved me without my knowing.

This production of Freaky Friday is for the mothers, the daughters, the parents, the children who have ever had trouble seeing each other through the messy tangles of grief and love.

*THE RAINCOAT* by Ada Limón

When the doctor suggested surgery and a brace for all my youngest years, my parents scrambled to take me to massage therapy, deep tissue work, osteopathy, and soon my crooked spine unspooled a bit, I could breathe again, and move more in a body unclouded by pain. My mom would tell me to sing songs to her the whole forty-five minute drive to Middle Two Rock Road and forty-five minutes back from physical therapy. She'd say, even my voice sounded unfettered by my spine afterward. So I sang and sang, because I thought she liked it. I never asked her what she gave up to drive me, or how her day was before this chore. Today, at her age, I was driving myself home from yet another spine appointment, singing along to some maudlin but solid song on the radio, and I saw a mom take her raincoat off and give it to her young daughter when a storm took over the afternoon. My god, I thought, my whole life I've been under her raincoat thinking it was somehow a marvel that I never got wet.

# FREAKY FRIDAY: A NEW MUSICAL

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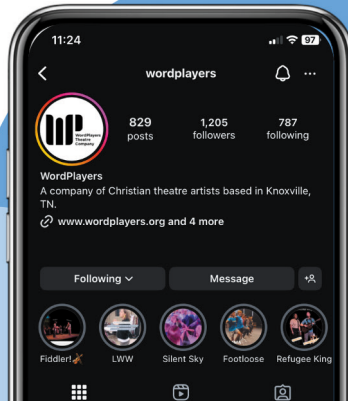


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# FREAKY FRIDAY: A NEW MUSICAL

## ACT I

Prologue.....	Ellie, Katherine
Just One Day.....	Company
The Hourglass.....	Ellie, Katherine
I Got This.....	Ellie, Gretchen, Hannah, Adam, Savannah, Parker, Wells, Students
What You Got.....	Katherine, Torrey, Danielle, Louis
Adam's Theme.....	Students
Oh, Biology.....	Ellie, Gretchen, Hannah, Adam, Savannah, Parker, Wells, Laurel, Savannah's Minions, Students
Vows.....	Katherine, Mike
Busted.....	Ellie, Katherine, Gretchen, Hannah, Adam, Savannah, Parker, Wells, Adam's Mom, Savannah's Mom, Gretchen's Mom, Wells' Dad, Parker's Dad
Adam's Theme.....	Katherine, Students
Adam... Adam.....	Katherine, Students
Somebody Has Got to Take the Blame.....	Ellie, Katherine, Dr. Ehrin, Mrs. Luckenbill, Señor O'Brien
Shoppin' With My Mom.....	Fletcher
Adam... Adam... (Reprise 1).....	Katherine, Students
I Got This (Reprise).....	Katherine
Watch Your Back!.....	Ellie, Gretchen, Hannah, Adam, Savannah, Parker, Wells, Laurel, Savannah's Minions, Students, Ms. Meyers
Watch Your Back! (Playoff).....	Ellie, Gretchen, Hannah, Adam, Savannah, Parker, Wells, Laurel, Savannah's Minions, Students, Ms. Meyers
Drivin' With My Mom.....	Fletcher
Parents Lie.....	Katherine
Just One Day (Reprise 1).....	Company

**THERE WILL BE ONE FIFTEEN MINUTE INTERMISSION.**

## ACT II

Entr'acte.....	Orchestra
I'm Not Myself Today.....	Katherine, Ellie, Torrey, Mike, Ensemble
Women and Sandwiches.....	Adam, Fletcher
Bring My Baby (Brother) Home.....	Ellie, Officer Kowalski, Officer Sitz, Katherine, Mike, Adam, Fletcher
Adam's Theme.....	Ellie, Officer Sitz, Officer Kowalski, Katherine, Mike, Fletcher
Adam... Adam... (Reprise 2).....	Katherine, Students
Go.....	Adam, Ellie, Katherine, Mike, Torrey, Danielle, Fletcher, Gretchen, Hannah, Parker, Wells, Students
After All This and Everything.....	Katherine
No More Fear.....	Ellie
Transition to Wedding.....	Fletcher
The Other Hourglass.....	Ellie, Katherine
Today and Ev'ry Day.....	Company

# **FREAKY FRIDAY: A NEW MUSICAL**

## **CAST**

Ellie Blake - Charity Walton

Katherine Blake - Natalee McReynolds

Mike - Jimmy Sherrod

Fletcher Blake - Silas Randall

Adam - Jordan Hamilton

Savannah - Katherine Helveston

Wells, Louis - Tate Gilbert

Parker, Fish Vendor - Eli Solomon

Hannah - Madison Anderson

Gretchen - Destiny Garza-Altman

Laurel, Savannah's Minion - Alaina Duty

Torrey, Adam's Mom - Hailey Coburn

Grandma Helene, Mrs. Luckenbill, Mrs. Time - Jeni Lamm

Ms. Meyers, Officer Sitz, Gretchen's Mom, Florist - Sheryl Lawrence Howard

Danielle, Savannah's Mom - Elizabeth Plewniak

Dr. Ehrin, Officer Kowalski, Pastor Bruno, Security Guard - Len Causey

Mr. Blumen, Wells' Dad - Joe Jaynes

Grandpa Gordon, Señor O'Brien, Parker's Dad - Patrick Minton

Savannah's Minions - Winter Easterling, Griffin Gilbert, Colin Parrish, Alaina Duty

Teen Ensemble - Griffin Gilbert, Colin Parrish, Shon Seivers, Hayden Toon, Maddie Gravitte, Winter Easterling, Scarlett Love Reyna, Mia Burger

## **UNDERSTUDIES**

Ellie Blake - Katherine Helveston

Katherine Blake - Hailey Coburn

Mike - Len Causey

Fletcher Blake - Truett Coburn

Adam - Tate Gilbert

Savannah - Destiny Garza-Altman

Wells, Louis - Colin Parrish

Parker, Fish Vendor - Hayden Toon

Hannah - Scarlett Love Reyna

Gretchen - Winter Easterling

Danielle, Laurel, Savannah's Minion - Maddie Gravitte

Torrey, Adam's Mom - Elizabeth Plewniak

Grandma Helene - Elizabeth Plewniak

Mrs. Time - Elizabeth Plewniak

Ms. Meyers, Officer Sitz, Gretchen's Mom, Florist - Hailey Coburn

Dr. Ehrin, Officer Kowalski, Pastor Bruno, Security Guard - Hayden Toon

Mr. Blumen, Wells' Dad - Patrick Minton

Grandpa Gordon, Señor O'Brien, Parker's Dad - Joe Jaynes

# **FREAKY FRIDAY: A NEW MUSICAL**

## **ORCHESTRA**

Music Director/Keys 1/Conductor - Melony Dodson

Keys 2 - Brandon Coffey

Guitar - Greg Horne

Bass - Larry Vance

Drums - Vince Harris

Violin - Kim Barnes

Cello - Andy Bryenton

Reeds - Doug Rinaldo

Trumpet - Dan Maxwell

## **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Director - Amelia Peterson

Music Director - Melony Dodson

Choreographer - Ashley Williams

Stage Manager - Lucy Wright

Assistant Stage Managers - Anissa Dunaway, Shon Seivers

Scenic Design - Steve Krempasky

Sound Design and Sound Board Operator - Colton Berg

Lighting Design and Light Board Operator - Jon Chemay

Costume Design - Ariana Dotson

Projections Design & Installation - Elaina Przybyszewski

Properties Master - Madeleine Trout

Social Media - Xandria Cross

Light Board Operator - Caroline Alley

Projections Operator - Alyse Troutt

Deck Crew - Cece Hammond, Madeleine Trout, Sheri Lynn Younkin, Addison Pratt, Mayah Kelley

Dressers - Lilliana Bond, Lindy McCool

Follow Spot Operators - Sylvia Mitchell, Michaela McDonald

## **STAFF**

Ethan Norman, Artistic Director

Leslie Arnold, Managing Director

Joe Jaynes, Webmaster

Xandria Stavros, Social Media Coordinator

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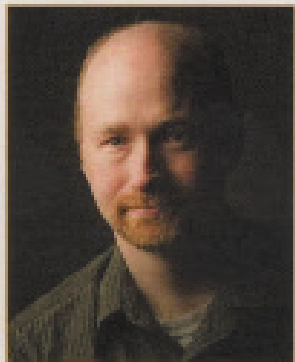
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**CAST & CREW OF FREAKY FRIDAY**

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Amelia Peterson  
DIRECTOR



Melony Dodson  
MUSIC DIRECTOR



Ashley Beil  
CHOREOGRAPHER



Lucy Wright  
STAGE MANAGER



Natalee McReynolds  
KATHERINE BLAKE



Charity Walton  
ELLIE BLAKE



Destiny Joy Altman  
GRETCHEN/  
SAVANNAH US



Madison Anderson  
HANNAH



Mia Burger  
TEEN ENSEMBLE



Len Causey  
ENSEMBLE/MIKE US



Jon Chemay  
LIGHTING  
DIRECTOR



Hailey Coburn  
TORREY/ADAM'S  
MOM/US



Truett Coburn  
FLETCHER US



Ariana Dotson  
COSTUME  
DESIGNER

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 joyful evening celebrating our season and  
 honoring our talented theatre artists. It's a  
 wonderful opportunity to come together,  
 support the future of The WordPlayers, and  
 enjoy a night filled with community, laughter,  
 and inspiration.**

**CAST & CREW OF FREAKY FRIDAY**



Anissa Dunaway  
 ASST. STAGE  
 MANAGER



Alaina Duty  
 LAUREL/  
 SAVANNAH'S MINION



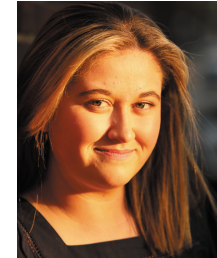
Winter Easterling  
 SAVANNAH'S MINION/  
 GRETCHEN US



Griffin Gilbert  
 SAVANNAH'S  
 MINION/ENSEMBLE



Tate Gilbert  
 WELLS/LOUIS/  
 ADAM US



Maddie Gravitte  
 ENSEMBLE/  
 LAUREL US



Jordan Hamilton  
 ADAM



Katherine Helveston  
 SAVANNAH/  
 ELLIE US



Sheryl Lawrence  
 Howard  
 MS. MEYES/ENSEMBLE



Joe Jaynes  
 MR. BLUMEN/WELL'S  
 DAD/US



Steve Krempasky  
 SCENIC  
 DESIGNER



Jeni Lamm  
 GRANDMA HELENE/  
 ENSEMBLE



Patrick Minton  
 GRANDPA GORDON/  
 ENSEMBLE/US



Colin Parrish  
 SAVANNAH'S MINION/  
 ENSEMBLE/US



Elizabeth Plewniak  
 DANIELLE/  
 SAVANNAH'S MOM/US



Elaina Przybyszewski  
 PROJECTIONS  
 DESIGNER

Special Thanks to  
***Anonymous***  
Sponsors of *Freaky Friday!*

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### CAST & CREW OF *FREAKY FRIDAY*



Silas Randall  
FLETCHER



Scarlett Love Reyna  
ENSEMBLE/  
HANNAH US



Shon Seivers  
ASST. STAGE  
MANAGER/ENSEMBLE



Jimmy Sherrod  
MIKE



Eli Solomon  
PARKER/FISH  
VENDOR



Hayden Toon  
TEEN ENSEMBLE/  
US



Madeline Trout  
PROPERTIES  
MANAGER

### CAST & CREW OF *FREAKY FRIDAY*

**Destiny Joy Altman (Gretchen, Understudy for Savannah)** (BFA, Musical Theatre – Shorter University) is grateful to perform with The WordPlayers. Favorite credits include George in *Godspell*, Woman 2 in *Songs for a New World*, Feste in *Twelfth Night*, and Abby in *Arsenic and Old Lace*. She has also lent her voice to multiple productions with *Misfits Audio*. Destiny extends heartfelt thanks to The WordPlayers for this opportunity, to her husband, J.C., for his constant support, and to the Lord for His unwavering faithfulness. Soli deo gloria!

**Madison Anderson (Hannah)** is excited to return for her fourth WordPlayers production. Prior to this, you may have seen her as Hodel in The WordPlayers' production of *Fiddler on the Roof* or as a part of the ensemble in The WordPlayers' *Footloose* and *Bright Star*. Madison has enjoyed getting to spend the summer diving into such a fun and heartfelt story alongside such talented company! Many thanks to Amelia, Melony, Ashley, Lucy, Shon, Anissa, and Ariana as well as fellow cast and crew for putting together such a wonderful production. Madison would also like to thank her friends, family, and voice teacher, Coke Morgan, for all their support and encouragement along the way. Enjoy the show!

**Ashley Beil (Choreographer)** is thrilled to be back with The WordPlayers this summer as Choreographer for *Freaky Friday!* She is a graduate of the University of Tennessee where she danced for BOSS Dance Company. After graduation, she began her career as the Director of the Performance Team at Revolution Dance. She would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work and dedication towards sharing this story!



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### CAST & CREW OF FREAKY FRIDAY

**Mia Burger (Teen ensemble/Lead dancer)** is delighted to be debuting with The Wordplayers. Some of her favorite musicals have been *Beauty and the Beast* (Les Filles De La Ville) and *Aladdin* (Jasmine) with Lighthouse Youth Theatre. She attended the CBT camp and has taken professional vocal coaching for the last three years. She would like to thank her family, her friends and the wonderful production team who put this magical show together.

**Melony Dodson (Music Director)**, originally from North Carolina, attended Appalachian State University, earning degrees in Piano Performance and Music Therapy and then attended the University of Tennessee, graduating in 2008 with a master's degree in Collaborative Piano, concentrating on vocal coaching and musical direction. Melony is the senior Classical announcer at Knoxville's NPR-affiliate Public Radio Station, WUOT 91.9FM, where she is host and producer of the Morning Concert, as well as UT Concert Hall. Additionally, she is a choral accompanist at the University of Tennessee and is a freelance music director and accompanist in the area. Ms. Dodson is passionate about discovering new music and promoting the works of women composers, and believes very much in the power of communicating authentically through music, ultimately making a difference in how we view the world and others around us. When not playing music, Melony can usually be found on a hiking trail in the Great Smoky Mountains. In March of 2022, she became a member of the "900-miler club", which means that she has hiked every trail in Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

**Len Causey (Dr. Ehrin. Officer Kowalski, Pastor Bruno, Security Guard, Hannah's Dad, Understudy for Mike)** is delighted to be working with The WordPlayers again after playing Lazar Wolf in last year's *Fiddler on the Roof*. He has previously worked locally with Appalachian Ballet Company in productions such as *The Nutcracker*. Favorite musical theatre credits include *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, *West Side Story*, and *Smoke on the Mountain*. Thank you to all my family and friends for your love, support, and patience.

**Jon Chemay (Lighting Designer)** is returning to light his twentieth?! WordPlayers production, his first being *The Secret Garden* many years ago. A UT graduate and former designer for the Bijou Theatre company, Jon has produced many, many shows in this space. Past WordPlayers favorites include *Big River!* (2016) and *Bright Star* (2019). Jon currently designs and teaches technical theatre at Roane State Community College in Harriman and has designed for many East Tennessee theatre and dance companies, including UT Opera Theatre (*Sweeney Todd* and *Susannah*), Maryville College (*9 to 5 The Musical*), Ballet Gloria (*What Child is This?*), and Roane County Children's Theatre (*Matilda Jr.* and *Seussical Jr.*). Jon recently returned to school and earned his Masters degree in Theatre.

**Hailey Coburn (Torrey, Adam's Mom, Understudy for Katherine/Ms. Meyers/ Officer Sitz/Gretchen's Mom)** is thrilled to be making her debut with The WordPlayers as well as introducing her son, Truett, to the stage! She was last seen in *9 to 5* (Ensemble) with TVP last summer. With degrees in Choral Music Education and Musical Theatre Performance, Hailey has an extensive background in both performance as well as teaching having directed numerous choirs, ensembles, and stage productions for nearly two decades. Favorite roles include "The Witch" from *Into the Woods*, "Kate" from *Kiss Me Kate*, and "Betty" from *White Christmas*. She is incredibly grateful for the unwavering support of her husband, Bo and daughter, Brielle who have poured out their love and encouragement during this process!

# Special Thanks to



Sponsors of *Freaky Friday*!



Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

**Truett Coburn (Understudy for Fletcher)** is excited to be a part of his very first musical alongside his Mom! His favorite part has been learning the lines and pretending to be a different person. Off stage, Truett enjoys playing the drums, gaming, and playing football. Truett would like to thank his Mom for her help preparing him, his Dad and sister for their support and encouragement, and The Word Players for this opportunity!

**Ariana Dotson (Costume Designer)** is beyond grateful to be working with The WordPlayers again. Since graduating from UTK with a major in Theatrical Tech and Design, she has worked with various theatre companies in the Knoxville area and gotten involved as a designer in Knoxville's sustainable fashion scene. This will be her fifth production doing costume design for The WordPlayers and she would like to thank her past mentors that have helped/encouraged her since graduation. Some past notable productions include, *SWEAT*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Blood at the Root*, *Trouble in Mind*, *HAIR*, *Twelfth Night*, *King Lear*, and *A Doll's House*. Ariana would also like to thank her family for their continued support of her work in the arts.

**Anissa Dunaway (Assistant Stage Manager)** is thrilled to be working on The WordPlayers production of *Freaky Friday* this summer! This is her third show with the WordPlayers, and she is glad to be back! Anissa previously worked as the stage manager for *Junie B. Jones in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells* and CAK's productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and she was assistant stage manager for *The Music Man*. She would like to thank Lucy and Ethan for giving her the opportunity to work with this incredible company.

**Alaina Duty (Laurel, Savannah's Minion)** is thrilled to be returning to the stage for her second WordPlayers production. She is currently pursuing a BA in Theatre Arts with a Musical Theater Emphasis at Lee University. Recent notable productions include *A Murder Is Announced*, *Scenes from Die Fledermaus*, *Down in the Valley*, *The Little Mermaid*, and *Mary Poppins*. She would like to extend gratitude to all of the professors and directors who have guided her, especially Dr. Delores Beery, Dr. Christine Williams, Dr. James Frost, and Rhonda Perry. She would also like to thank her parents, siblings, and friends for their support and love and God for giving her such amazing opportunities to tell stories and share His love.

**Winter Easterling (Teen Ensemble, Savannah's Minion Understudy for Gretchen)** is so excited to perform in her first show with The WordPlayers! She has previously performed in CBT's *A Christmas Carol*, Primary Players' *Cats*, and BCA's *The Little Mermaid*, *Newsies*, *Les Miserables*, *Descendants*, *Aristocats Kids*, and *Newsies Jr* for JTF 2025. Winter is 15 years old and going into 10th grade. When not on stage, she enjoys playing soccer, dancing, and tumbling. Colossians 3:23

**Jacob Fouche (Lighting Designer)** is a Lighting Designer from Knoxville, TN! He loves performing arts almost as much as he loves technology, giving him a unique passion for the behind-the-scenes magic that makes show production possible. To get away from all the constant chaos that is show production, his hobbies are rock climbing and backpacking, which helps to contrast the tech-heavy lifestyle.

**Griffin Gilbert (Savannah's Minion, Teen Ensemble)** is thrilled to be making his WordPlayers debut. He is a rising sophomore at West High School. He has been apart of several shows in the Knoxville area. In his most recent show, he was apart of West High School's production of *Cinderella* as the Prince (U/S) and featured ensemble. Griffin is so excited to share this wonderful show and its wonderful story.

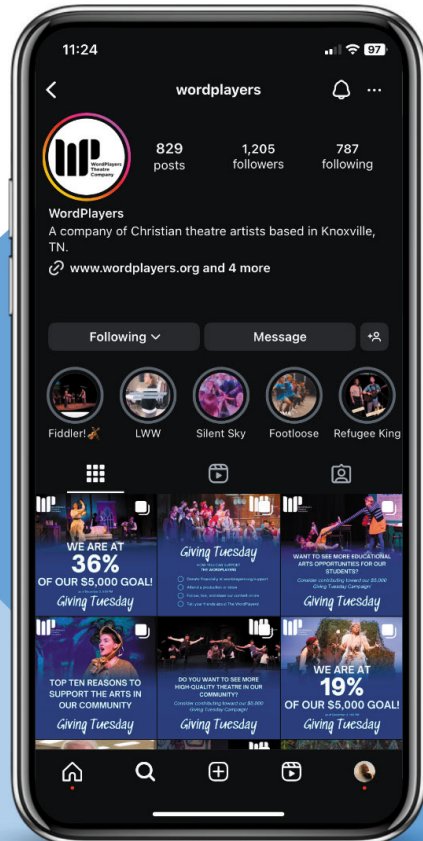
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## CAST & CREW OF FREAKY FRIDAY

He would like to thank Lucy Wright, Amelia Peterson, Ashley Williams, Anissa Dunaway, and Shon Seivers for giving him the opportunity to be apart of this wonderful show, and helping him out along the way.

**Tate Gilbert (Wells, Louis, Understudy for Adam)** is so excited about being a part of this amazing production of *Freaky Friday*. Tate has loved theatre since he was little and has had the privilege of doing musical theatre ever since sixth grade. He had the opportunity to join the cast of *Footloose* as his debut with The WordPlayers and has done many high school shows. He is a rising sophomore at James Madison University pursuing a BA in Musical Theater. Tate would like to thank his family and friends for all the support and he would also like to thank his directors Amelia and Melony, choreographer Ashley Williams, and Stage Manager Lucy for putting together an amazing production. All the Glory to God! Enjoy the show!!

**Maddie Gravitte (Teen Ensemble, Cater Waiter 1, Understudy for Laurel)** is so excited to be making her WordPlayers debut! As a recent grad from Maryville HS, she plans to attend UTK in the fall, majoring in Public Relations. Notable roles include: *CATS* (Alonzo), *Finding Nemo* (Bloat), *High School Musical* (Ms. Darbus), *Tuck Everlasting* (Nana), *Anastasia* (Dowager Empress), and most recently, *Our Town* (Stage Manager). She wishes to thank her friends and family for their continued support, and the creative team for this opportunity.

**Jordan Hamilton (Adam)** is thrilled to make his debut with The WordPlayers. His last musical performance was as Shrek in *Shrek: The Musical* at Bearden High School in 2021. Now, after a four-year hiatus, he's overjoyed to return to the stage. Jordan extends heartfelt thanks to his four supportive parents, his best friends, and his big brother for their constant encouragement—and to everyone at The WordPlayers for this incredible opportunity. He is especially grateful to his character, Adam, whose song "Go" helped him through a dark time. Jordan hopes his performance offers that same inspiration to anyone who may be struggling, and reminds them that sometimes the only way out of a dark place is to be your own light.

**Katherine Helveston (Savannah, Understudy for Ellie)** is thrilled to make her debut with The WordPlayers in this production of *Freaky Friday*. She was most recently seen as Hucklebee in *The Fantasticks* with The Palace Players. Other favorite roles include *Jane Eyre* (Jane Eyre), *Live By the Sea* (Hannah), *Little Women* (Marmee), and *Every Brilliant Thing* (Narrator)—all performed during her time at Carson-Newman University, where she earned her Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance with a minor in Theater. She is deeply grateful to her husband and family for their unwavering love and support—and above all, to God, for the joy and purpose she finds in storytelling.

**Sheryl Lawrence Howard (Ms. Meyers, Officer Sitz, Gretchen's Mom, Florist)** is pleased to be doing her eleventh production with The WordPlayers -- whether it is an on-stage character, music directing, or pit playing. Mrs. Howard has been blessed to play amazing female characters for The WordPlayers such as Emma Goldman in *Ragtime*, Sally Brown in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, Martha in *Secret Garden*, Mrs. Fairfax in *Jane Eyre*, Florence Foster Jenkins in *Souvenir*, and now Ms. Meyers in *Freaky Friday* where she gets to call teen students losers and fakers. It doesn't get any better. Special thanks to the artistic staff - Amelia, Melony and Lucy for letting Mrs. Howard out of the pit. And of course, thanks to Mike and the beagles (Gatsby and ZuZu) for their constant unconditional love and support.

**Joe Jaynes (Mr. Blumen, Wells' Dad, Understudy for Grandpa Gordon and**

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For More Information on Partnership Opportunities, Contact Managing Director Leslie Arnold at [leslie@wordplayers.org](mailto:leslie@wordplayers.org)

## CAST & CREW OF FREAKY FRIDAY

**Señor O'Brien**) has appeared in 60+ stage, TV, and film productions. He is thrilled to be back at the Bijou for *Freaky Friday*. Summer just would not be complete without a WordPlayers musical! Thanks Amelia, Melony, Lucy, and fellow cast & crew for making this production so satisfying! Thanks to each and every audience member for sharing our love of live theater. And thank you, Kim for your love, understanding, and support during the long days and nights that theater demands.

**Stephen F. Krempasky (Scenic Designer)** is the Executive Director of the Farragut Business Alliance; promoting retailers, restaurants and service providers in the Town of Farragut. Additionally, he is President of MASSKUS Productions, a special events consulting agency. During his career, Steve has over 360 theatrical and corporate stage credits. He recently designed Bearden High School's *Hamlet*, and Hardin Valley Academy's premiere of *Big Fish*. He is delighted to work with The WordPlayers' again after this past December's *Junie B. in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells*. He is a "Fellow" of the American Association of Community Theatre with over 40 years of service to the organization.

**Jeni Lamm (Grandma Helene, Mrs. Luckenbill, Mrs. Time)** is thrilled to be back onstage with her favorite theatre company! Jeni is one of the founders of The WordPlayers and served as its Managing Director until her retirement in 2023. She enjoys creating characters and being part of telling a good story on stage or screen. In addition to acting, Jeni enjoys singing, volunteering for her church and other nonprofits, hiking, and traveling. She wishes to thank you for your support and hopes you enjoy the production!

**Natalee Louise McReynolds (Katherine Blake)** holds her BM & MM in Vocal Performance. Her experience extends to directing, music directing, accompanying, and teaching drama, acting, movement, and yoga in several cities and states. In addition to teaching voice at Pellissippi State Community College, where she received a "Student Choice Award" for her instruction, Natalee owns and teaches at The Louise School of Music. Professional show credits include: Irene Malloy (*Hello, Dolly!*) and Lily (*The Secret Garden*) with The WordPlayers, Elsa Shrader (*The Sound of Music*) at the Wintergreen Resort in Virginia, Jenny (*Company*) at the Virginia Theatre Festival, and Johanna (*Sweeney Todd*) with the Clarence Brown Theatre. Natalee enjoys doing yoga and spending time with her husband, their two bio boys, and their two foster kids. \*If you're looking for a sign to foster a child, this is it\*

**Patrick Minton (Grandpa Gordon, Señor O'Brien, Parker's Dad / Understudy for Mr. Blumen, Wells' Dad, Pastor Bruno)** is thoroughly excited to be back on stage with The WordPlayers! Most recently Patrick could be seen in Marble City Opera's production of *Il Tabarro* and Knoxville Opera's production of *Falstaff*. He is also the music director at Colonial Heights UMC in South Knoxville and is a librarian at the University of Tennessee. Patrick would like to thank his wife Lisa and kiddo Henry for supporting him and being his biggest fans and all of the folks at The WordPlayers for allowing him to be a part of this super-fun show!

**Colin Parrish (Teen Ensemble, Savannah's Minion, Understudy for Wells, Louis Mr. Time/Security Guard)** is thrilled to have his debut at The WordPlayers musical, *Freaky Friday*! He has spent the past few years finishing up his high school career as well as fitting in as many shows as possible into his schedule. You may have seen him as Vlad in Primary Player's *Anastasia*. Or even as Mr. Fox in Oak Ridge Playhouse's *Fantastic Mr. Fox*. Colin is very excited to learn such incredible skills from this great program. He would love to thank his friends and family for always

supporting his theatre goals and career.

**Amelia Peterson (Director)** is a visual storyteller drawn to playful movement, rich text, and story-driven narratives. Local directing credits include: *The Burn Vote* (River & Rail Theatre - 2024), *A Christmas Carol* (Clarence Brown Theatre - 2022), *Every Brilliant Thing* (River & Rail Theatre Co. - 2017), and *The Unusual Tale of Mary & Joseph's Baby* (River & Rail Theatre Co. - 2016, 2017, 2018). New York City: *Long, Long Ago* (Firebone Theatre Company - 2013); *The Importance of Being Earnest* (The King's College - 2013); *Morbid Poetry* (Incubator Arts Project - 2012); APT 3E Director's Lab Series with Molly Beach Murphy (2011 - 2013). Washington, D.C.: Kennedy Center's Page to Stage Festival; Inkwell Theatre's Showcase Reading Series. Los Angeles: Invited guest performance of *Locust* at the CalArts "Arts in the One World Conference" led by Erik Ehn (2008). International: *The Holy O* (DC Fringe Festival, Omaha Fringe Festival, Vancouver Fringe Festival - 2023). Film credits include: *Ghostlight* (co-director), and *Whippoorwill* (screenwriter). Amelia received a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Theatre Studies at Southern Methodist University where she studied directing under Stan Wojewodski and movement under Bill Lengfelder. Amelia resides in Knoxville, Tennessee where she is a co-founder of River & Rail Theatre Company as well as a mother, birth doula, and writer. She is deeply grateful to Leann Dickson and The WordPlayers for entrusting her with this show and welcoming her into the beautiful community of artists they have cultivated in Knoxville.

**Elizabeth Plewniak (Danielle, Savannah's Mom, Understudy for Grandma Helene/Torrey/Adam's Mom)** is grateful to make her WordPlayers debut with such a spirited cast! Off stage she loves spending time with her own Freaky little Family: Zeke, Lily, Knox, Freeman, and Tess. \*With special affection for her dear husband Mike for his faithful love and leadership. Elizabeth enjoys supporting the thriving arts community in Knoxville. And she rejoices in the God of the Universe! The Creative One who continues to express His heart through flesh and blood humans made to reflect His glory. May YOU experience His presence in this theatre today and be freshly inspired to love those He has hand-picked for your life!

**Elaina Przybyszewski (Projections Designer)** is very grateful and excited to be working with The WordPlayers for the first time. She is an undergraduate Theatre Major at the University of Tennessee with a concentration in theatre design and technology. Some of her recent notable productions include *The Giver*, *Kinky Boots*, and *The Play That Goes Wrong* at the Clarence Brown Theatre and the University of Tennessee Opera Theatre's *Dialogues des Carmélites*. She would like to thank Amelia Peterson, Ethan Norman, Sophie Smrcka, and Joe Payne for this huge opportunity to grow in her theatre career. She would also like to thank her family and friends for giving her all of their love and support to pursue her ambitions.

**Silas Randall (Fletcher)** is honored and excited to be in his first production with The WordPlayers! He is a rising seventh grader at CC West Knoxville. He has been in several productions with Roots and Wings Theater Company, his favorite being *As You Wish* (Vizzini). He was also in *The Music Man* (Winthrop) and *Mary Poppins* (Michael) at Bearden High School, *The Little Mermaid* (Flounder) with the Palace Players and *Oliver!* (Youth Ensemble) and *Matilda* (Bruce) with Broadway Center for the Arts. There are so many significant people that have made his theater dreams possible, and he is very thankful!

**Scarlett Love Reyna (Teen Ensemble, Cater Waiter 4, Understudy for Hannah)** is honored to be a part of The WordPlayer's production of *Freaky Friday!* She has



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## CAST & CREW OF FREAKY FRIDAY

appeared in *Cinderella*, *Legally Blonde*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Les Miserables*, *The Sound of Music*, *Annie*, *The Addams Family*, and has traveled to NYC to participate in a new upcoming Broadway Jr. show. She wants to thank her family, friends, and even strangers for their endless support and encouragement for her passions.

**Shon Seivers (Assistant Stage Manager, Teen Ensemble, Cater Waiter 3)** is transferring as a Junior to Middle Tennessee State University in the fall and comes excited to participate in *Freaky Friday*. He is a performance major looking to achieve his Bachelor's of Science in Theater at MTSU. He has performed in productions at Pellissippi before including *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind*, *Antigone* (Haimon), *King Lear* (King of France) and *Peter and the Wolf* (Peter) as well as *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Junie B. Jones: Jingle Bells Batman Smells* (U/S for Herb, José, Sheldon) with The WordPlayers. Shon hopes to further his craft as an actor and is grateful to work with The WordPlayers for this wonderful production!

**Jimmy Sherrod (Mike)** is excited to be back onstage with The WordPlayers! He most recently appeared in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Yussel) with The WordPlayers and *The Sound of Music* (Max) at the Oak Ridge Playhouse. Other productions include *Bright Star* (Jimmy Ray), *Jane Eyre* (Vicar/Mr. Eshton) and *Little Women* (Professor Bhaer) with The WordPlayers as well as *Sister Act* (Joey) at the Oak Ridge Playhouse. Jimmy is the pastor at Central United Methodist Church in the 4th and Gill Community of Knoxville. He is married to Lesli and they have two children, Henry and Catherine.

**Eli Solomon (Parker, Fish Vendor)** is so grateful to join The WordPlayers for his third mainstage production in *Freaky Friday*. Eli is a recent graduate from Bearden High School, taking a key role in their theater department as well as many other groups across the Knoxville community. His most recent credits include *Hamlet* as Hamlet, *Mary Poppins* as Bert, and *The Little Mermaid* as Prince Eric. You also might've seen Eli take the stage on Broadway following his Jimmy Award nomination for Outstanding Lead Actor at the Marquee Awards. No matter what stage Eli is performing on, he is perpetually grateful for the mentors, directors, friends, and family who gave him the opportunities to do so.

**Hayden Toon (Teen Ensemble, Understudy for Parker, Dr. Ehrin, Officer Kowalski)** is so happy to be returning to The WordPlayers after performing last summer in *Fiddler on the Roof*. He would like to thank his parents and his siblings - Harrison, Madelyn, and Grace - for constantly supporting his goals and doing the dishes at home while he is out late at night performing around Knoxville. Other recent credits include: *Our Town*, *The Fantasticks*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Into the Woods*, *The Little Mermaid*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Tom Sawyer*. Hayden recently graduated Farragut High School and will be pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre at Kent State University in the fall. Go Golden Flashes!

**Madeleine Trout (Properties Master)** is thrilled to be working with The WordPlayers for the third time on *Freaky Friday*. Most recently, she stage managed her first show, *Too Much Light Makes The Baby Go Blind*, at Pellissippi State, and assistant stage managed *Stuck Elevator* at Knoxville Opera. She is currently receiving her A.F.A. in Design/Tech at Pellissippi State. She would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work, as well as her wonderful family and best friend Kate for always believing in her.

**Charity Walton (Ellie Blake)** is SO excited to making her WordPlayers debut as Ellie

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## CAST & CREW OF FREAKY FRIDAY

Blake! This May she graduated from Flagler College with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts with a Music Minor. Last summer Charity toured with Missoula Children's Theatre sharing the story of *Sleeping Beauty The Musical* across the East coast, and is so excited to spend this summer in Knoxville, TN!! Other recent credits include *Little Women* (Meg March), *Noises Off* (Brooke Ashton), *If/Then* (Kate) and *Disenchanted* (Sleeping Beauty). Charity would like to thank all her friends and family for their continuous support, and a special thank you to her best friend, AND *Freaky Friday* stage manager, Lucy Wright for an amazing summer! @charityjwalton

**Lucy Wright (Stage Manager)** is thrilled to return for another summer show with The WordPlayers. Lucy graduated from Flagler College in St. Augustine, FL in 2023 with a BA in Theatre Arts, focusing in Stage Management and Direction. There she stage managed over a dozen productions, her favorites being *The Old Man and The Old Moon* and *Cinderella*. She began working with The WordPlayers in 2019 as an assistant stage manager for *Bright Star* and most recently worked with them directing *Junie B. in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells* this past December. She would thank a thousand people if she could, but special thank you to her friends and family for all of their support including her grandma and best friend: Bird, her mentors: Leann Dickson, David Ratliff, Kip Taisey, Paul Denayer, and her classic summer crew: Joe Jaynes, Tate Gilbert, Eli Solomon, Anissa Dunaway, Shon Seivers, and Ashley Williams. She would like to give a special shout out to her best friend, Charity Walton, who she got to live with all summer for this show. She is so grateful for all of them and all of you for being here and hopes you enjoy the show as much as she enjoyed working on it.



# UPCOMING EVENTS!

## ***FREAKY FRIDAY***

Performances July 11 - 13 at the Historic Bijou Theatre  
*For tickets, visit [wordplayers.org](http://wordplayers.org)*

## ***ANNUAL CAST PARTY***

Saturday, August 16 from 5 - 8 PM  
St. Gregory the Great Auditorium

We warmly welcome sponsors, donors, patrons, and all theatre enthusiasts to join us for a joyful evening celebrating our season and honoring our talented theatre artists. It's a wonderful opportunity to come together, support the future of The WordPlayers, and enjoy a night filled with community, laughter, and inspiration.

*For tickets & more info, visit [wordplayers.org](http://wordplayers.org)*

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