

By John Glore

Based on the novel by Kate DiCamillo

Directed by Joshua Rashon Streeter

February 15 - March 9



AD)) March 1 & 8

visit wheelockfamilytheatre.org for more information

FLORA KNEW ULYSSES WAS SPECIAL BEFORE ANYONE ELSE DID - JUST LIKE A SAVVY REAL ESTATE AGENT CAN SPOT THE NEXT HOT PROPERTY BEFORE mgsgrouprealestate.com THE MARKET CATCHES ON.

At MGS Group Real Estate, we believe your agent should be your superhero and so, we truly have our finger on the pulse of the market. Our use of expert local knowledge and being "in the know" achieve results in the time frames that matter. When you work with us, you get the brain power, attention, strategic thinking, and vast and vetted resources of the entire brokerage. Our "family office" approach allows us to seamlessly connect the dots from Boston to the 'burbs! Add to that our elite customer service, and you've got a winning performance. And now, on with the show, and a big congratulations to Wheelock Family Theater and the entire cast and crew of Flora & Ulysses!



617-714-4544



BOSTON

BROOKLINE CAMBRIDGE NATICK

DOVER

NEEDHAM NEWTON

SUDBURY

WAYI AND WELLESLEY

WESTON

MMER CLASSES

Learn from professional actors and teaching artists to deepen your skills in a professional theatre environment!

Whether this is your 1st or 100th class, WFT is right for you! All experience levels welcome

BOOK NOW LIMITED AVAILABILITY REMAINS!

GRADES K-12

617-353-2994 WWW.WHEELOCKFAMILYTHEATRE.ORG





Tickets & Subscriptions (617)353-3001 Group Sales (617)353-1451 Classes (617)353-2994 Casting (617)353-1783 Contributions (617)353-3345

WFTtix@bu.edu WFTgroup@bu.edu WFTed@bu.edu WFTcast@bu.edu BBarclay@bu.edu



Boston University; Fenway Campus, 180 Riverway, Boston, MA 02215 www.wheelockfamilytheatre.org

February, 2025

A Note from the Executive Director

A warm welcome to Wheelock Family Theatre! Continuing our season-long celebration of the power of friendship, I'm excited to share with you the heartwarming and whimsical story of *Flora & Ulysses*.

Flora & Ulysses, adapted from Kate DiCamillo's Newbery Medal winning book, invites us into the world of 10-year-old self-proclaimed cynic and comic book obsessed Flora Belle Buckman. Flora's rather dull life is turned on its head when a squirrel obtains superpowers after a tragic run in with a vacuum cleaner. Flora and Ulysses (the squirrel) go on an adventure of a lifetime, ending with the realization that hope and true friendship can be found in the most unlikely of places.

Flora & Ulysses is a quintessential WFT production. The ensemble of performers features an all-star intergenerational cast, many of whom are making their WFT debut. The storytelling elements are smart and imaginative, a result of the playful collaboration of the design and creative team. Most importantly, the story is universal, following characters who grapple with life's many unexpected challenges and learn something in the process. In this case, audiences will take away that even in difficult times, there are moments of joy, growth, and healing.

I hope you will join us this spring for the final production of our 24/25 season, the Broadway musical *The Prom* and consider enrolling your student in one of our upcoming classes.

Thank you for making Wheelock Family Theatre your home for professional theatre for all ages.

With gratitude, Nick Vargas Executive Director, Wheelock Family Theatre

Wheelock Family Theatre Fund

Donations received now through April 30 will go directly to support our education programs. We anticipate receiving \$50,000 in scholarship requests for summer classes. Your gift will allow us to continue to make these life changing experiences available to all students.



MEET THE CAST OF FLORA & ULYSSES

In alphabetical order



Jack Baumrind



Eli Ditkoff



Livia Ketri



Brandon Lee



Cheryl McMahon*



Katie Pickett



Kayla Shimizu



Damon Singletary*



Millar Vigoda

* Member of Actors' Equity Association



Chris Stahl*

FLORA & ULYSSES

Adapted for the stage by John Glore Based on the book by Kate DiCamillo

Director Joshua Rashon Streeter

Composer/Sound Designer Mackenzie Adamick

> Costume Designer Nia Safarr Banks**

Production Stage Manager Shauwna Dias Grillo*

Puppet Designer Amanda Gibson

Props Designer/Scenic Charge Artist Saskia Martinez

> Lighting Designer Lawrence A. Ware

Assistant Stage Manager Becca Cottrell

THE CAST

In alphabetical order William Spiver Understudy William Spiver Flora Belle Buckman Understudy Ulysses. Ensemble Tootie Tickham/Rita/Dr. Meescham Understudy Ensemble Phyllis Buckman/Ernie George Buckman/Alfred T. Slipper/Mr. Klaus Ulvsses Understudy Flora Belle Buckman

Wardrobe Supervisor/Costume Shop Manager

Jack Baumrind Eli Ditkoff l ivia Ketri **Brandon Lee Chervl McMahon*** Katie Pickett Kavla Shimizu **Damon Singletary* Chris Stahl*** Millar Vigoda

The taking of photographs and use of video or audio recording devices is strictly forbidden.

Projections Designer

Justin Lahue

Scenic Designer

Danielle Delafuente

Associate Director

Daniel Begin

Assistant Stage Manager

Anika Navak

Please turn off all electronic devices. Please, no eating or drinking in the theatre.

Please ask the House Manager for individual sound enhancement devices.

Molly Bercutt Nate Morrissev Marissa Wolf Eliott Purcell Bekah Rudinec **Carolyn Saxon** Jeffrey Petersen, Phineas Rasmussen,

Jerry Wheelock Addie Pates, Amanda Pelletier, Dan Pooley, Issac Roussak, Lauren Squier, Han Taub, **Gwen Trueblood**

ACCESS TEAM

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director of Artistic Sign Language ASL Interpreters In-Show Audio Describer Pre-Show Audio Describer Captioning

Front of House Manager

Lead Carpenter

Carpenters

Flectricians

A1/Audio Engineer

Casting Supervisor

Production Electrician/A2

Takiyah "Taki" Harris Cassie Heath. Rainy Leigh Gamalia Pharms **Ruth Celia Kahn** Alyse Jessica Clinton, Formatter Neil Gustafson. Brian Masters



FLORA & ULYSSES

is presented

through special

arrangement with **Plays for New**

Audiences.

*Member of Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors & Stage Manager in the United States. WFT is operating under the terms of a Developing Theatre's Program of Actor's Equity Assoction. The contract used is a Letter of Agreement. **Member of United Scenic Artists 829

WHEELOCK FAMILY THEATRE AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY

In alphabetical order

STAFF

Asst. Dir. for Audience Services; ADA Coordinator Dir. of ED. & Community Engagement Social Media Assistant Asst. Dir. of Education & Community Engagement Technical Director Executive Director Production Manager Marketing & Communications Manager Jamie Aznive Jeri Hammond Lisa Joyce Marie Libbin Ben Lieberson Nick Vargas Steve Vieira Bonnie VosWinkel

EDUCATION PROGRAM FACULTY

Lindsay Albert, Esme Allen, Jamie Aznive, Steve Bergman, Danny Bolton, Matthew Brettschneider, Alex Brodsky-Benedetti, Jenn Butler, Corinne Calderbank, Alisa Cassola, Stephanie Charlton, Alyse Clinton, Amber Crossman, Laura DeGiacomo, Yasmeen Duncan, Maddie Finkelman, Moe Finnerty, Jon Goldberg, Lauren Grill, Katie Gustafson, David Jiles, Jr., Audrey Johnson, Bryan Landgren, Alex Leondedis, Jen Lewis, Sydney Lowry, Dev Luthra, Rachel Maddox, Saskia Martinez, Zachary McConnell, Lily Mittnight, Isabel Molettieri, Eva Murray, Anika Nayak, Jordan Oczkowksi, Meritt O'Keefe, Juanita Pearl, Matt Phillips, Josie Ross, Anna Riciutti, Emily Schmid, Miranda Slingluff, Han Taub, Annabel Wall, Fran Weinberg, Shira Weiss, Jennifer White, Mabel White, Thalia Wolff

WORK STUDY STUDENTS AND INTERNS

Kyle Bunn, Kathleen Campbell, Maggie Cavanaugh, Ben Ciliberto, Matthew Cox, Damoya Compass, Sophie Cutler, Diego Cazorla-Garcia, Weston Danks, Gabi David, Ayanna Dunlop, Natalie Fadlon, Nili Fish-Bieler, Ann Flynn, Madison Forrest, Becky Gray, Lauren Grill, Jayden Huang, Alexis Hutchings, Jessica Jara, Alexander Johnson, Austin Kelly, Lauren Kelly, Frankie LaBelle, Aaron Lamm, Mary Mahoney, Cameron McDonough, Stephanie Mutuku, Arize Nwike, Merrit O'Keefe, Syndey O'Toole, Prince Okonny, Eden Ornstein, Natalie Ottaviano, William Owen, Taylor Paine, Nathan Persamperi, Sarah Pollock, Grace Rogers, Ceil Shandell, Skylar Sherman, Julia Smith, Margaret Smith, Benjamin Soares, Yasmin Tinaz, Emmaly Thompson, Ella Vogel, Delaney Walkes, Xifeng (Killian) Zhang

We wish to thank all the people who have joined us since the program went to press.

Land Acknowledgment

We, the Wheelock Family Theatre Team, would like to recognize that the land where Wheelock Family Theatre sits is the unceded homeland of the Massachusett people, whose name was appropriated by the Commonwealth, and their neighbors the Nipmuc and Wampanoag Peoples. We honor and respect Massachusett elders past, present and emerging as well as all indigenous peoples still connected to this land on which we gather.



WHO'S WHO CAST

JACK BAUMRIND (William Spiver) is excited to return to WFT to act in his first non-musical. He most recently performed as Boy Scrooge/ Ignorance (*A Christmas Carol*) at NSMT in Beverly, and Oliver (*Oliver!*) at APA in Orleans. His most favorite role has been Pugsley (*The Addams Family Musical*) at WFT. Other roles he enjoyed was Kurt Von Trapp at NSMT, Ralphie at CCTC/HJT in Harwich, and Olaf and Gavroche at Company Theater in Norwell. In 2023, Jack rehearsed and performed with the original cast of *Ragtime* at Broadway's Minskoff Theater for the 25th Reunion Concert. He is incredibly grateful to the entire WFT team for welcoming him back. @jackbaumrind

ELI DITKOFF (Understudy William Spiver) REGIONAL: Leopoldstadt (Huntington Theatre Company). COMMUNITY: Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Much Ado About Nothing, Willy Wonka, Romeo & Juliet KIDS! (Artbarn Theatre). Elijah has also performed at the Boston Children's Museum and numerous public and private schools in Boston and Brookline. He currently attends the Park School in Brookline, MA.

LIVIA KETRI (Flora Belle Buckman) is excited to make her mainstage WFT debut in the role of Flora. She is a 5th grader at The Meadowbrook School of Weston. Her past credits include Gabriella (*Disney's High School Musical Jr.*), Tin Man (*The Wizard of Oz*), Cinderella (*Rodger & Hammerstein's Cinderella*), among others. When not on the stage, Livie enjoys her voice and piano lessons and recitals at the Rivers Conservatory, playing soccer with Wellesley United, and spending time with friends. Livie would like to thank her mom, dad, extended family and her acting coach for their support and guidance.

BRANDON LEE (Understudy Ulysses, George Buckman/Alfred T. Slipper/Mr. Klaus) is a Quincy based actor, singer, and cat dad. Previous credits include *Sweeney Todd, Once Upon A Carnival* (Moonbox Productions), *Urinetown the Musical (Lyric Stage Boston), Next to Normal (Studio Thea*tre Worcester), *The Secret Garden, A Christmas Carol: The Musical Ghost Story, Mamma Mia!,*

Legally Blonde the Musical (NCCA Jean's Playhouse), The Marvelous Party (THT Rep), Godspell, Tarzan (Berkshire Theatre Group), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Pittsfield Shakespeare in the Park). Recent training: Nelson Studios, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company. Love to LO. brandonleeactor.com

CHERYL MCMAHON* (Tootie Tickham/Rita/Dr. Meescham) is delighted to return to WFT, having most recently appeared here in Hairspray. Back in 1982, WFT founders, Jane Staab and Sue Kosoff took a chance on Cheryl and cast her in It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's Superman, as Lois Lane, and that experience led to more than a dozen shows here. Other performances include those at the Huntington Theatre, Lyric Stage Boston, Speakeasy Stage Company, Greater Boston Stage Company, Goodspeed Opera House, New London Barn Theatre, and Hanover Repertory Company, where she recently played Amanda in The Glass Menagerie. For the last 30 years, during the holiday season, Cheryl can be found at North Shore Music Theatre, in the long-running production of A Christmas Carol.

KATIE PICKETT (Understudy Phyllis Buckman/ Ernie, Tootie Tickham/Rita/Dr. Meescham) WFT: Debut! Selected area credits include: Now. Here. This., Head Over Heels (Umbrella Stage Company), The Drowsy Chaperone (Lyric Stage Boston), Titanish. Clue, A Christmas Carol (Greater Boston Stage Company), Tall Tales from Blackburn Tavern (Gloucester Stage Company), 46 Plays for America's First Ladies. Into the Breeches!--Elliot Norton nomination (Hub Theatre Company), Lunch Bunch, Dance Nation (Apollinaire Theatre), Hot Star, Nebraska (Speakeasy Stage Company), Next to Normal (Arts After Hours), Falsettos (Hovey Players), and Company, Merrily We Roll Along, A New Brain, She Loves Me, Nine, Songs for a New World, The Pirates of Penzance, and Sweeney Todd (The Longwood Players).

KAYLA SHIMIZU (Phyllis Buckman/Ernie) Recent credits include A Christmas Carol (Commonwealth Shakespeare Project), La Cage aux Folles (Trinity Rep), Legally Blonde the Musical (Moonbox Productions), Preludes, Assassins (Lyric Stage Boston), Disney's The Little Mermaid, Oklahoma!, Pippin (Reagle Music Theatre), Natasha, Pierre, and the Great Comet of 1812 (The Wilbury

WHO'S WHO - Cast continued

Theatre Group). Kayla is a graduate of Emerson College. She is endlessly thankful for the support from her friends and family! IG: @kaylashimizu

DAMON SINGLETARY* (George/Alfred T. Slipper/Mr. Klaus) is a Boston-based actor, playwright, and director. He is thrilled to make his WFT debut! Some of his recent performances include A Christmas Carol and Birdy (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company); Network, The Minutes, The Colored Museum, Fences, and Head Over Heels (Umbrella Stage Company); A Raisin in the Sun (New Repertory Theatre); The Drowsy Chaperone, Sister Act, Fabulation Or, The Re-Education of Undine, and The Wiz (Lyric Stage Boston); Shakespeare in Love, and The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (SpeakEasy Stage Company); and Miss Holmes (Greater Boston Stage Company). A proud member of the Actors' Equity Association, Damon resides in Topsfield. MA with his wife Laurie, also an actor and playwright, whose support is invaluable.

CHRIS STAHL* (Ulysses) Recent theatre credits include: Two productions as LemmI (Indecent) at Perseverance Theatre and The Wilbury Theatre Group, Sebastian (Twelfth Night) Theatre Alaska, Alexei (Anna Karenina) Notch Theatre/The White Heron, John Hinckley Jr. (Assassins) The Gamm, Error (Song for a Future Generation) Williamstown Theatre Festival. Other theatres they have worked at include Lincoln Center. Theatre for a New Audience, The Flea, & Trinity Rep. Film/TV credits include The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel (Amazon). The Invisible Girl (BKE Productions). Upcoming roles in The Drama (a24) and The Provider (a713 productions). Adjunct Instructor at Dean College. MFA: Brown/Trinity Rep, BA: Fordham University. Interlochen graduate. They are the recipient of the National Youth Theatre award. He can't thank his friends and family enough for their constant support and love. For Olive, www.chrisstahl.org @chrismstahl

MILLAR VIGODA (Understudy Flora Belle Buckman) is thrilled to be making her WFT debut! Recent credits include Anastasia: The Musical (Weston Friendly Society), Once Upon A One More Time (Stagedoor Manor), and Tuck Everlasting (The Footlight Club). She would love thank WFT for this opportunity and everyone involved for making this show possible!

PRODUCTION & CREATIVE TEAM

MACKENZIE ADAMICK (Composer/Sound Designer) is a Boston-based Composer and Sound Designer. Her previous selected composition credits include The Winter's Tale. Macbeth- 2024 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Sound Design (CSC), and King Lear (Island Shakespeare Festival). Select design credits include Tartuffe (The Hub Theatre Company of Boston), A Midsummer Night's Dream (CSC), Summer 1976, A Christmas Carol, Outside Mullingar, The Mountaintop (Lean Ensemble Theater), How I Learned to Drive, As You Like It, Coriolanus, Let the Right One In (ASP). She has credits with the Contemporary American Theater Festival, Huntington Theatre Company, and Praxis Stage. Mackenzie holds an MFA in Sound Design from Boston University. Website: https://mackenzieadamick.com. Social media handles: @czechadamick

DANIEL BEGIN (Associate Director) is a director. educator, and a firm believer that "good theatre makes good people." He is a graduate of Emerson College and Merrimack College and currently is the Associate Education Director at Trinity Repertory Company. Favorite Directing Credits include: The Old Man and the Old Moon (Rogers Center for the Arts), Peter and the Starcatcher, James and the Giant Peach (The Young Company at Greater Boston Stage Company), and Assistant Director Credits include Jack and the Giant and Dames at Sea (Greater Boston Stage Company). Upcoming: Assistant Director of La Tempestad (Trinity Repertory Company). Thanks to everyone for making Daniel's WFT debut such an amazing experience! Break legs everyone!

BECCA COTTRELL (Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to return to WFT as Assistant Stage Manager for *Flora & Ulysses*! Recent credits include Production Stage Manager for *Did You Eat*? (CH-UANG Stage), Staff Stitcher at The Santa Fe Opera, and Assistant Wardrobe Supervisor for *The SpongeBob Musical* (Wheelock Family Theatre). Congratulations to this incredible team and thank you for all your hard work <3

DANIELLE DELAFUENTE (Scenic Designer) is a Chinese and Latina scenic designer and artisan based in New York. Her recent design credits include *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* (American Players Theatre), *Haunted* (Company One), *Driving in Circles* (BPT), and *The Crucible* (WCSU). Her recent associate design credits include *Henry VI*:

Parts 1 & 2 (The Old Globe), What Became of Us (Atlantic Stage 2), A Guide for the Homesick (Daryl Roth 2), and The Ghost of John McCain (Soho Playhouse). Website: danielledelafuente.com. Instagram: @ddelafuentedesign.

SHAUWNA DIAS GRILLO* (Production Stage Manager) is so glad to be back at WFT after stage managing The SpongeBob Musical, A Wrinkle in Time. Mr. Popper's Penguins and Make Way For Ducklings the Musical. Other AEA SM credits include: Noises Off (Lyric Stage Boston); Pride and Prejudice, Into the Breeches! (The Barnstormers Theatre); Lizzie, White Rabbit Red Rabbit (Umbrella Stage Company); Disney's The Little Mermaid (Reagle Music Theatre); Guys and Dolls, Beehive, Clue, Little Women, The Legend Of Sleepy Hollow, Popcorn Falls, Ain't Misbehavin, Miss Holmes Returns, Incident At Our Lady Of Perpetual Help, All Is Calm, and The 39 Steps (all with Greater Boston Stage Company). As ASM: West Side Story (Reagle Music Theatre), Miracle on 34th Street (GBSC).

AMANDA GIBSON (Puppet Designer) is an artist and craftsperson living and working in Worcester, Massachusetts. Utilizing her Bachelor's degree in Illustration, she has been working as a puppet maker and restorer as well as scenic builder in the world of theater. She also creates props, cosplays, portraiture, sculpture, and miniature illustrative dioramas. Storytelling has always been a driving force in Amanda's work and a major reason for her artistic pursuits. In addition to building puppets, Amanda also performs with them. She has puppeteered for multiple shows and events and her experience in puppet-use has helped inform her building skills.

TAKIYAH "TAKI" HARRIS (Director of Artistic Sign Language) is an artist, motivator, engaging speaker, and art educator. They have worked at various theaters (Arts Emerson, WFT, Open House Citizen Opera, A.R.T) to support American Sign Language interpreters for a year and a half. Taki is involved in the community arts in the Boston area, volunteering to work at the museums as ASL tours and provide art workshops. I am grateful to have a fantastic ASL interpreter team to work with WFT.

CASSIE HEATH (ASL Interpreter) is honored to be a part of the WFT's *Flora & Ulysses* interpreting team! Cassie graduated from Texas State University in 2019 with a BA in Theatre and went on to receive her certificate in ASL Interpretation with high honors from Northern Essex Community College in 2023. Her previous work with WFT includes *Mr. Popper's Penguins, A Wrinkle in Time,* and *A Year with Frog & Toad.* She could not be more grateful to the ASL team for making it a wonderful debut experience. Many thanks to Taki, Rainy, WFT, and her amazingly supportive family, friends, and mentors!

WFT

RUTH CELIA KAHN (Pre-Show Audio Describer) is passionate about the convergence of arts, equity, inclusion, disability, and accessibility. As an audio describer for more than 20 years, Ruth has been privileged to describe the on-stage action of theater performances live for blind and visually impaired patrons for productions at WFT, Huntington Theatre, ArtsEmerson, Broadway in Boston, Moonbox, Harvard Dance Center, the Boston Dance Alliance, SpeakEasy, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, Axis Dance, and The Weston Playhouse in Vermont. Ruth collaborated with Our Space Our Place and the Tony Williams Dance Studio at a virtual, week-long workshop for blind and visually impaired participants. Her mornings are spent audio describing at WGBH in Boston and she is thrilled to be audio describing with Gamalia Pharms and WFT!

JUSTIN LAHUE (Projections Designer) is thrilled to be returning to WFT after designing scenery and projections for Clue with the Teen Ensemble in 2022. He is a Boston based theatre artist and filmmaker with a BA in theatre from Suffolk University. Previous collaborations include work with Westport Country Playhouse, CSC, Speakeasy Stage, Boston Conservatory, Northeastern University, Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, Hub Theatre Company, Harbor Stage Company, Firehouse Center for the Arts, Seacoast Repertory Theatre, The Tank (NYC), and New Hampshire Theatre Project. He is the recipient of a 2022 BroadwayWorld Boston award (best professional scenic design for Straight White Men), as well as a 2022 Cannes Film Award and regional Emmy nomination in art direction for the feature film Not on This Night. www.justinlahue.com.

RAINY LEIGH (ASL interpreter) is delighted to be making their theater interpreting debut with WFT. They have been involved with Open Doors Theater as a backstage and choreography interpreter for many seasons. Theater combines their passions for exploring the range of human emotions and interpreting ASL. They look forward to

WHO'S WHO - Production and Creative Team continued

being more involved in the theater community!

SASKIA MARTINEZ (Props Designer) is a Boston-based scene designer and scenic artist. In addition to teaching at WFT, their WFT credits include *A Year with Frog and Toad, The SpongeBob Musical, A Wrinkle in Time, The Addams Family,* and *Little Women: The Broadway Musical.* Boston area credits: *Emma, Romeo and Juliet, King Hedley II, Taming of the Shrew, As You Like It, Coriolanus* (ASP), *Lemons..., Twelfth Night* (Brandeis University), *HER/alive.un.dead* (Guerilla Opera). Regional scenic artist credits include the Huntington Theatre and South Coast Repertory Theatre. They are a graduate of Boston University. See their work at saskiamartinez.com.

ANIKA NAYAK (Assistant Stage Manager) is so glad to be back with WFT! As a Boston-based stage manager and teaching artist, some of her most recent credits include *A Year with Frog and Toad, The Spongebob Musical, Alice By Heart* (WFT), *MONKEY, A Kung Fu Puppet Parable* (White Snake Projects), *Once Upon a Carnival* (Moonbox Productions), as well as international projects including Anikaya Dance Theatre's Conference of the Birds.

GAMALIA PHARMS (In-Show Audio Describer) is a Boston actor/singer who is delighted to be a part of the audio description team for Flora and Ulysses at WFT! A proud member of AEA since 1986, she has performed in regional theaters up and down the East Coast (including WFT), and has a BFA from the Boston Conservatory of Music. Gamalia has worked on audio description for the A.R.T., Arts Emerson, Huntington Theatre, and here at WFT! You may have seen her onstage at WFT in Little Women the Musical, Mary Poppins, Hairspray, or in Disney's Beauty and the Beast! Gamalia has sung with the Joyful Voices of Inspiration gospel choir, and The Colleges of the Fenway Jazz Band, and has recorded and performed live with the Circle Round podcast!

NIA SAFARR BANKS** (Costume Designer) is a Costume Designer and Educator. Her design work has been seen in various productions, including Hamlet (American Shakespeare Center), Fences (Shakespeare and Company), and Self Portraits [Deluxe] (The Bushwick Starr). She received her Master of Fine Arts in Costume Design from Boston University in 2023, and her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2019. She has been nominated for two Richmond Critic Awards for her outstanding work in Costume Design, for both *An Octoroon* (2019) and *A Christmas Kaddish* (2022). Her upcoming credits include *Macbeth* (Cincinnati Shakespeare Company) and *FAT HAM* (Virginia Stage Company).

JOSHUA RASHON STREETER (Director) is an Assistant Professor of Theatre Education at Emerson College. As a theatre-maker, Joshua loves to make work that is aesthetically and narratively driven - playing with light, objects, movement, and music. He was a 2021 finalist in the Reimagine: New Plays in TYA initiative. Additionally, Joshua has directed Old Jake's Skirts (Emerson College), Edward Tulane (Emerson College), Freedom to Fly (Muhlenberg College), in addition writing *Birds of a Feather* produced by Arts on the Horizon. His teaching focuses on critical pedagogy, K-16 pre-service and in-service education, drama and theatre education, and Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA)/Theatre for the Very Young (TVY). Joshua's scholarship analyzes the pedagogies used in rehearsals and classrooms and considers the relationship between process and product in a creative experience.

LAWRENCE A. WARE (Lighting Designer) is an MFA candidate at The University of South Carolina in Theatre with an emphasis in Lighting Design. He holds a degree from The University of Arizona in Theatre Production; Design and Technology with an emphasis in Lighting Designer, Recently he was credited as the Lighting Designer for *The Spongebob Musical* (WFT), *Cymbeline* (College of the Holy Cross), *Madeline's Christmas* (Dreamland Nantucket), *The Legend of Georgia McBride* (Players Ring), and assistant lighting Designer for *Ragtime* (Baystreet Theatre). He wants to thank his family, his wonderful girlfriend Katelyn, and audiences supporting art in our community. Visit his website at lawlightingdesigns.myportfolio.com

*Member of Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors & Stage Managers in the United States. WFT@BU is operating under the terms of a Developing Theatre's Program of Actor's Equity Association. The contract used is a Letter of Agreement. **Member of United Scenic Artist 829.

> Flora & Ulysses Student Matinees are supported in part by

M&TBank

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you to our generous individual donors whose gifts have supported intergenerational, accessible, and inclusive theatre. Together, we raise our artistic excellence while keeping tuition and ticket prices affordable. Live theatre transforms lives!

Foundational Donors

Individual Donors Jaewon Ahn

AbbVie. Inc. Combined Jewish Philanthropies Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund Lucy's Legacy Foundation M&T Charitable Foundation Mass Cultural Council MGS Group Real Estate Schwab Charitable Fund The Blackbaud Giving Fund

Denotes Member of the Wheelock Family Theatre Advisory Board * Denotes Sustaining Donor

List reflects donations made between July 1, 2024 and January 24, 2025 of \$10 or more.

Paul Naif Akoury Mary Ames Anonymous Jamie Aznive Charles G. Baldwin *# Daniel Berger Steven & Natasha Bouley Nathan Cohen Carmen S. Cox Suarez Sean & Susan C. Daley Dean Denniston Robert W. Doane Jack Eldon Sherri Lynn Ettinger Maia Ettinger Sarah Fader * Priscilla Fales * Judith L Eleischman Gene S. Friedman Ellie Friedland * Maggie Gold Seelig # Myles Gordon Todd Gordon Karen L. Grossman Neil E. Gustafson Jeri L. Hammond

Persis Hamilton Steven Harris Charles Jabour Liveda Johnson # Adrian Ketri Susan Kosoff *# Stephen Kraffmiller Daniel LaChance Shelagh Leahy # Troy Lemay Ann Marie & Terrance McCarthy Gregory & Patricia McCarthy Steve & Tammy Smith Zoe G. Nadal Greg Nash Anne H. Newton Joanne O'Donnell Heidi Oh Timothy O'Hayre Sarah O'Neil Bonnie M. Page William E. Peed Charlotte L. Peed Younga Pi Nira Pollock Vineet Ranjan Prabhu Nancy Reed

Frederick L. Ruberg Suzanne E. Ricco Sharon L. Rich Henry Romanovsky Janis Romanovsky Jeremy Sandler Carolyn Saxon-Ruccio Andrei E. Ruckenstein Rudina Seseri # Debbie & Robert Sewell Zoe Sherman Hillel & Maria Sims Jane Staab *# Jeremy Stahlin Martha Stearns Sabina Steede Jody Steiner Kimberly Truong Dave & Cathy Vargas Jerry Wheelock # Elizabeth Wheelock-Wood Harvev Young # Dencil Wilmot Chris Zendig

WFT

Wheelock Family Theatre would like to thank The Peabody Foundation and The Susan Kosoff Legacy Fund for their generous support of WFT's commitment to providing an accessible theatre space for all through the handrail project.

ADVISORY BOARD

Charles G. Baldwin, Gracie Brakeman, Maggie Gold Seelig, Mikhail Higgins, Liveda Johnson, Susan Kosoff, Shelagh Leahy, Holly Oh, Myran Parker-Brass, Rudina Seseri, Jane Staab, Jerry Wheelock, Harvey Young

SPECIAL THANKS

John Eldridge, Taylor Ness, Kiran Raza, Actors' Shakespeare Project, The Calderwood Pavillion. Think Outside the Vox, Brandeis University, Franklin Romero & the Fenway BU Facilities Team, BU School of Theatre Scene Shop, Sanjeev Joshi & the Fenway Campus Mailroom Staff, College of Fine Arts Staff and Faculty.







Here.

ctively



- Project-based learning giving 5th through 12th graders the skills to ask and answer their questions about the world
- Interdisciplinary courses that inspire creative connectionmaking and original research
- A joyful, diverse, economically accessible community where student ideas and interests matter
- Cocated in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood of Boston with easy access to the Orange Line and field trips throughout the city and beyond

www.meridianacademy.org

