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the musical



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the musical

ANASTASIA: THE MUSICAL

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Music by

STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Lyrics by

LYNN AHRENS

Inspired by

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX MOTION PICTURE BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH BUENA VISTA THEATRICAL

From the play by

MARCELLE MAURETTE AS ADAPTED BY GUY BOLTON

starring

**Whitney Armstrong Erica Baruth Jamie Copaken Johnny Dinh Phan
Nora Dixon Max Elmore Krista Eyster Sebastian Gonzalez-Layton
Jasmine Hall Bryson Kendall Maria Kennedy Delainey Mock Riley Moore
Tom Nelson Zach Newkirk Kay Noonan Delilah Pellow Caroline Petersma
Joell Ramsdell Rob Reeder Steven Scheffe Nicole Scheier
Mishi Schueller Eva Smith David Thompson MaryAnn Traxler Rosinski**

Music Director & Conductor

James Levy

Choreographer

Ann McCroskey

Costume Designer/Coordinator

Patricia Berning

Lighting Designer

Justin Dudzik

Sound Designer

Brady Rose

Hair & Makeup Designer

John Hollan

Props Designer/Coordinator

Frank Gentile

Scenic Designer

Kelly Harrod

Accompanist

Ben Wray

Stage Manager

Katie Blinn

Asst. Stage Managers

**Marlee Bell
Alisha Morris**

Fight Choreographer

Chris Gleeson

Asst. Costumer/Wardrobe Supervisor

Taylor Jo Zimmerman

Asst. Choreographer

Millie Bell

Production Assistant

Don Arnott

Associate Artistic Director

Guy Gardner

Production Manager

Sarah Saugier

Technical Director

David Powell

Directed by

Barb Nichols



Anastasia

the musical

June 14 - 22, 2024

CAST

Anya/Princess AnastasiaMaryAnn Traxler Rosinski
Dowager Empress Maria FeodorovnaErica Baruth
Countess Lily Malevsky-MalevitchKrista Eyler
Dmitry.....Bryson Kendall
Vlad PopovMishi Schueller
Gleb VaganovTom Nelson
Tsarina Alexandra/Marfa/EnsembleWhitney Armstrong
Young Anastasia/Swan Lake Ballet/EnsembleEva Smith
Tsar Nicholas II/Count Ipolitov/Swan Lake Ballet/EnsembleRob Reeder
Maria Romanov/Swan Lake Ballet/EnsembleDelainey Mock
Swan Lake Ballet/EnsembleSebastian Gonzalez-Layton
Little Anastasia/Alexi RomanovNora Dixon
Gorlinsky/Count Leopold/EnsembleJoell Ramsdell
Tatiana Romanov/Paulina/Swan Lake Ballet/EnsembleNicole Scheier
Olga Romanov/Odette in Swan Lake/EnsembleMaria Kennedy
Doorman/EnsembleJamie Copaken
Dunya/EnsembleJasmine Hall
Usher/EnsembleJohnny Dinh Phan
Swan Lake Ballet/Reporter/Ensemble Caroline Petersma
Reporters/EnsembleMax Elmore, Riley Moore, Zach Newkirk,
Kay Noonan, Delilah Pellow
Soldiers/EnsembleSteven Scheffe, David Thompson

ORCHESTRA

Keys I - Ben Wray • Keys II - Deana Wagoner
Reed I - Kaytee Dietrich • Reed II - Joe Gall • Reed III - James Barton
Violin I - Julia Davis • Violin II/Viola - Emily Winterburg
Cello - Lucas Roach • Bass - Devin Ellman
Trumpet - Lee Hake • Horn - Stacy Lendt
Trombone - Lee Finch • Drums/Percussion - Ben Ellman

Musical Numbers

ACT I

Prologue: Once Upon a December	The Dowager Empress & Little Anastasia
The Last Dance of Romanovs	Ensemble
A Rumor in St. Petersburg	Dmitry, Vlad & Ensemble
In My Dreams	Anya
The Rumors Never End	Gleb & Ensemble
Learn To Do It	Anya, Vlad & Dmitry
Learn To Do It: Reprise	Anya
The Neva Flows	Gleb & Anya
The Neva Flows: Reprise	Male Ensemble
My Petersburg	Dmitry & Anya
Once Upon A December	Anya & Ensemble
A Secret She Kept	Anya
Stay, I Pray You	Count Ipolitov, Anya, Dmitry, Vlad & Ensemble
We'll Go From There	Vlad, Anya, Dmitry & Ensemble
Traveling Sequence/Still	Gleb, Gorlinsky, Anya, Dmitry & Vlad
Journey to the Past	Anya

There will be one 15 minute intermission.

ACT II

Paris Holds the Key	Vlad, Anya, Dmitry & Ensemble
Paris Holds the Key: Reprise	Anya
Close the Door	The Dowager Empress
Land of Yesterday	Countess Lily & Ensemble
The Countess and the Common Man	Vlad & Countess Lily
Land of Yesterday: Reprise	Gleb
A Nightmare	Romanov Children, Tsar & Tsarina
In a Crowd of Thousands	Dmitry & Anya
Arriving at the Ballet/Meant to Be	Vlad
Quartet at the Ballet	Anya, Dmitry, The Dowager Empress & Gleb
Everything to Win	Dmitry
Once Upon A December: Reprise	Anya & The Dowager Empress
The Press Conference	Countess Lily, Vlad & Ensemble
Everything to Win: Reprise	Anya & Gleb
Still/The Neva Flows: Reprise	Gleb, Anya & Ensemble
Finale	The Dowager Empress, Gleb & Ensemble

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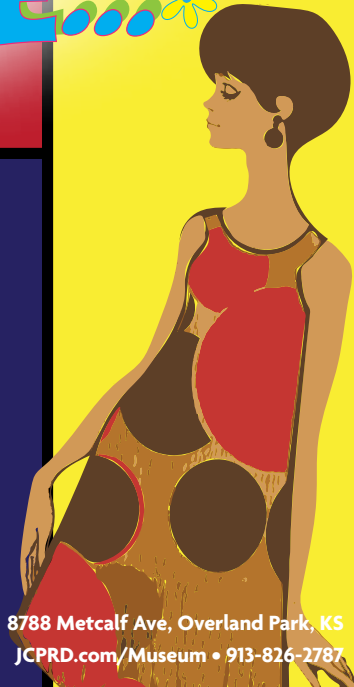


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Who's Who in the Cast

Whitney Armstrong (Tsarina Alexandra/Marfa/Ensemble)

Writing a bio is hard. There's so much a person can say! Just know this about Whitney...she loves it here. She loves it that YOU are here. She hopes you keep coming back again and again (and she hopes she's here, too). Enjoy this journey!

Erica Baruth (Dowager Empress Maria Feodorovna) is happy to be back at TIP! Last seen on stage in *A Gentleman's Guide To Love & Murder* and *The Prom* (both at The White Theatre), she is elated to be part of this talented cast!

Jamie Copaken (Doorman/Ensemble) navigated doors in *Noises Off* (Freddie) and *Funny Thing ... Forum* (Hero); and broke down symbolic doors in *Ragtime* (Tateh) and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour). 7th TIP show, including *Sweet Charity* (Oscar) and *Meet Me in St. Louis*.

Johnny Dinh Phan (Usher/Ensemble) is excited for his 4th TIP show! He is a recent KU Dance B.F.A. graduate and current first-year KU medical student. Credits include *A Chorus Line* (MTH), *Elf* (Padgett Productions), *White Christmas* (MTKC Pro), and *Underground* (Störling).

IG:@johnnydinhphan

Nora Dixon (Little Anastasia/Alexi Romanov) is excited for her 2nd Theatre in the Park show! Recent credits: *Meet Me in St. Louis* (Tootie)-TIP, *Fun Home* (Small Alison)-OCTA, *Elf* (Rudolph)-Coterie, *Ragtime:In Concert* (Little Girl)-Barn Players. Next-*Matilda* (Matilda) at MTW! Thanks family+friends!

Max Elmore (Reporters/Ensemble)

This is Max's first show at TIP, he couldn't be more excited! Max would like to thank his mom, dad, and sister for being so supportive of his hobby. He hopes you enjoy the show and come back for another!

Krista Eyler (Countess Lily Malevsky-Malevitch) Credits: Off-Broadway (Signature Theatre); New Theatre & Restaurant, KC Actors Theatre, Chestnut Fine Arts, MTH, Fishtank Theatre, White Theatre, KC Public, Barn Players. She is an Emmy-nominated composer, and is the kids' rock n' roller-Funky Mama. IG: @kristaeylerkc YouTube: Funky Mama Music Channel

Sebastian Gonzalez-Layton (Swan Lake Ballet/Ensemble) This is Sebastian's 2nd TIP show and he could not be more excited. He was last seen on the TIP stage last

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summer as Jeter in *Footloose*. He would like to thank his family, friends, and his awesome girlfriend Cate.

@sebastian.ggl

Jasmine Hall (Dunya/Ensemble) is absolutely thrilled to be back at TIP! KC Credits include: *Rocky* (Adrien), *The Prom* (Kaylee), *White Christmas* (Ensemble) and *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel). She would like to thank her family and friends, Drew, the cast, crew, our talented designers, THAT BAND!, Barb, Ann, James, Katie, and you in the audience who continue to support live local theater. Stay jazzy! @thejasminehall

Bryson Kendall (Dmitry) is a Musical Theatre major at MidAmerica Nazarene University. Recent Roles include: Ren in *Footloose* at TIP, Mischa in *Ride the Cyclone* at ESU Summer Theatre, and SpongeBob in *The SpongeBob Musical* at TIP. He was also a 2024 National KCACTF Musical Theatre Intensive Finalist.

Maria Kennedy (Olga Romanov/Odette in Swan Lake/Ensemble) is a recent graduate of UMKC where she obtained her BFA in Dance Performance and Choreography. She loves performing almost as much as she loves her fluffy husky, and is excited to make her TIP debut this summer!

Delainey Mock (Maria Romanov/Ballet Trio/Ensemble) is thrilled to return to Theatre in the Park! She performed in *13* last summer, and recently played Mary Patrick/Tina in *Sister Act* at Olathe East HS where she is active in varsity dance, choir & theatre. She thanks her amazing production team, cast and family.

Riley Moore (Reporters/Ensemble) is thrilled to be a part of her third TIP show! Riley is 18 years old and a rising freshman at Roosevelt University. Her favorite roles: Patrice in *13*, Marcy Park in *Putnam* (SRPA). Follow @rilemoore on instagram!

Tom Nelson (Gleb Vaganov) is thrilled to grace the beautiful TIP stage once again. Recent TIP credits include Bob in *White Christmas*, Scarecrow in *Wizard of Oz*, and Cinderella's Prince/Wolf in *Into the Woods*. Tom is also the owner of Ellie Mental Health of Overland Park.

Zach Newkirk (Reporters/Ensemble) is thrilled to be in his second TIP show! He recently played Beadle Bamford in *Sweeney Todd* at KU, and was in *Footloose* at the Park last year. He would like to thank his family and the wonderful directing team.

Kay Noonan (Reporters/Teen Ensemble) is pleased to be back at Theatre in the Park for her 18th show! Thanks to Barb, Darren's chaise, a great team and her Russian and Parisian friends old and new. Wait, not old. Experienced.

Delilah Pellow (Reporters/Ensemble) credits at TIP include *Annie Warbucks*, *School of Rock* and *13 the Musical*. Delilah played Little Anastasia on Broadway and the First National Tour so this show means so much to her! "Wherever I go, you'll always be with me."

Caroline Petersma (Swan Lake Ballet/Reporter/Ensemble) is so excited to be back for her fourth show at TIP! TIP: *Matilda* (Alice), *Frozen Jr.* (Teen Elsa), *Freaky Friday* (Gretchen). Caroline would like to thank the directors, cast and crew, and her

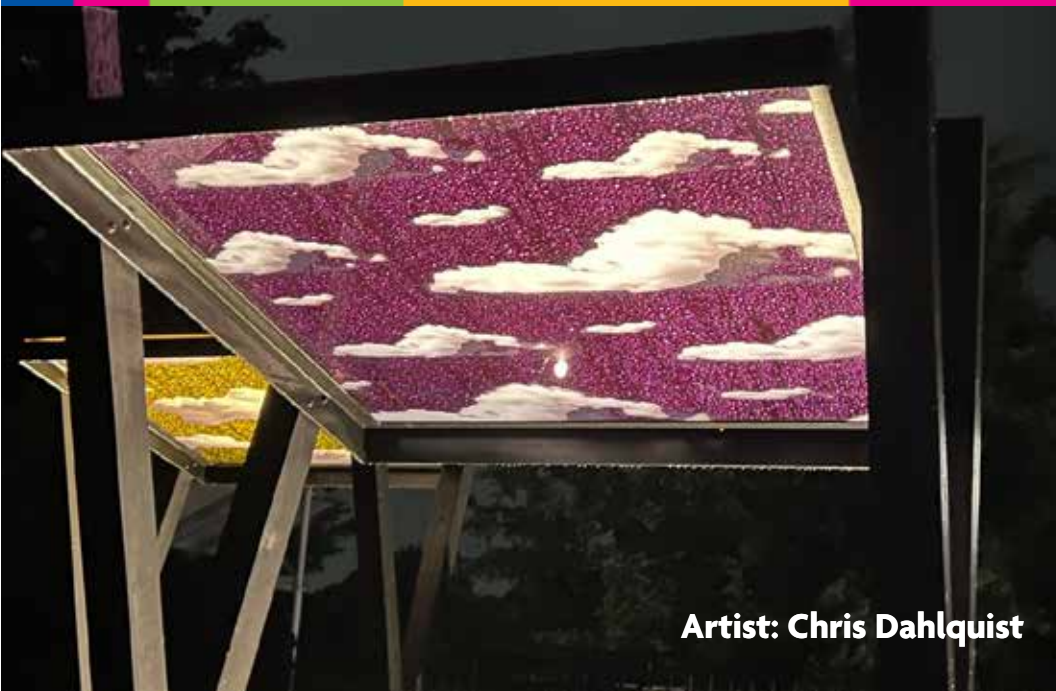


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family for their continued support.

Joell Ramsdell (Gorlinsky/Count Leopold/Ensemble) is excited to return to the TIP stage. Previous roles at TIP include: Bill (*Mamma Mia*), Mr. Wormwood (*Matilda*), Emcee (*Cabaret*), Nicely-Nicely (*Guys and Dolls*), Cornelius (*Hello, Dolly!*) and The Cat in the Hat (*Seussical*).

Rob Reeder (Tsar Nicholas II/Count Ipolitov/ Swan Ballet/Ensemble) was last seen on the TIP stage in *Something Rotten* (2022) and *Mamma Mia* (2021). This is Rob's twentieth show at the Park.

Steven Scheffe (Soldier/Ensemble) is thrilled to be returning to Theatre in the Park after a multi-year hiatus, having previously been in *Spamalot* (Ensemble), *Secret Garden* (Fakir), and *Tom Sawyer* (Ben Rogers). As an IT Manager by day, he loves the opportunity to perform for you all!

Nicole Scheier (Tatiana Romanov/ Ballet Trio/Ensemble) is thrilled to be back on stage for her 17th TIP show. She is currently the Speech/Drama teacher at OTMS. Her next big adventure will make its debut this Winter... Baby's first show! Love to Zach, family, Miller Marley, & StageworX.

Mishi Schueller (Vlad Popov) is so thankful for this opportunity, his third show at Theatre in the Park, and first ever with facial hair. Favorite roles include Don Lockwood in *Singin' in the Rain*, Bobby in *Crazy for You*, Tony in WSS, father to Bo & Nora, and husband to Megan. He's also proud to go a full season without striking out as a 2024 BV Adult League (slow pitch) Softball Champ.

Eva Smith (Young Anastasia/Paulina/ Ballet Trio/Ensemble) is 17 years old and will be a freshman at the University of Tulsa next year. This is Eva's 6th show with TIP and she is so excited! She has danced at Miller Marley for 15 years and is a Miller Marley Entertainer. Enjoy the show!

David Thompson (Soldier/Ensemble) is back at TIP for his 18th production! Favorite TIP roles: John (*Peter Pan*), Cowardly Lion (*Wizard of Oz*), Willard (*Footloose*), Emmitt (*Legally Blonde*), Sebastian (*Little Mermaid*), Brian (*Avenue Q*), Dave (*Full Monty*). David's FAVORITE role is husband to Celia, and dad to Tenley and Piper!

MaryAnn Traxler Rosinski (Anya/ Princess Anastasia) Credits include: MTH (*Godspell*, *A Chorus Line*, *It's A Wonderful Life*), Starlight Theatre (*Legally Blonde*), The Coterie (*The SpongeBob Musical*), TIP (*Meet Me In St Louis*), The J (*Kinky Boots*), Carnival Cruise Line, RWS GLOBAL, American Idol 14. "To my home, my love, and family - I wouldn't be complete without you."

Who's Who in the Orchestra

James Barton (Reed III) is a KCKCC student studying Jazz Saxophone and Woodwinds. Previously he played with LiveJazzKC High School All Stars and has played at popular jazz venues around town such as the Blue Room, Gem Theater, and the Kauffman Center.

Julia Davis (Violin I) is thrilled to make her return to the Theatre in the Park orchestra after a 7 year absence! Favorite past shows include *Ragtime* and *Peter Pan*. By day, she works as

a dialysis social worker. Thank you Ethan for all your love and support!

Kaytee Dietrich (Reed I) Kaytee loves playing in musicals and has played in over 200 productions with around 55 of those at TIP. She received a Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance from The University of Kansas. In her spare time she plays computer games and reads.

Ben Ellman (Drums/Percussion) is a junior at Lee's Summit High School. Ben plays the drum set in the marching band and also in the jazz band. Ben's been playing the drums since he was two years old. "Music is what I like to do most"

Devin Ellman (Bass) is a graduate of Lee's Summit High School. He is a tech and runs sound for the marching band and drum line. He has been playing bass guitar for 11 years. He has played this show before when he was in high school and is looking forward to playing with a new group of musicians.

Lee Finch (Trombone) received a music degree from Henderson State and an MS from Florida Tech. Since retirement he has been an actor and vocal/instrumental musician in many KC Metro Musicals. Love to his wife and family for their support.

Joe Gall (Reed II) is happy to be returning to Theatre in the Park for another great show. Joe would like to thank his family for their continued love and support.

Lee Hake (Trumpet) Lee Hake, veteran of 120+ musical productions, is proud to be your trumpeter. Lee's accomplishments are trumpeter for three time Emmy Award winning Steve and Kathy Show as well as

2024 Bronze Metal winner at North America Brass Band Association Cornet Soloist competition.

Stacy Lendt (Horn) Stacy Lendt, a cornerstone of the Kansas City music scene, blends years of community leadership and private teaching, shaping her into a revered figure in music education. As president of the Kansas City Horn Club, she fosters horn players' passion through performances and programs. Stacy's diverse experiences, from performing with various ensembles to serving on music boards, enrich her teaching philosophy, emphasizing both achievement and enjoyment in music education.

Lucas Roach (Cello) is a cellist currently studying under Leonid Shukaev at Wichita State University. This is his second time performing in the pit orchestra with TIP and

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he is ecstatic to continue working with them! He thanks all the people supporting him for these opportunities.

Deana Wagoner (Keys II) is a busy pit musician, performing with theatre companies around the metro. An alumni of UMKC Conservatory of Music, she also performs with area orchestras and Canto Chorale sacred music ensemble. She especially enjoys creating special synthesized sounds for theatre.

Emily Winterburg (Violin II/Viola) Her fourth season with TIP, violist Emily Winterburg is excited to be back for such an amazing show. Outside of the park, Emily performs with the Topeka Symphony Orchestra and other surrounding ensembles.

Ben Wray (Accompanist/Keys I) This is Ben's second show at TIP. He teaches music in the Blue Valley District at two elementary schools, Aspen Grove and Stilwell. He plays freelance jazz in the KC area, have played for shows at the White Theater and music directed for several community theater groups. He sings and plays on the worship team at Radiant Church. He is happily married, has three amazing kids, and a grandchild coming in September! (www.benwraymusic.com)

Who's Who on the Production Team

Don Arnott (Production Assistant) Retired and enjoying every minute! He is Executive Director of Stageworx, a Not for Profit Theatre camp. It has been a pleasure to work with Barb, the entire staff and an incredibly talented Band. Shout out

to Katie, Alisha and Marlee! What a Stage Management Team! Other Stage Management credits include *School of Rock*, *Disney's Frozen Jr.*, *Once the Musical*, *Rent*, *Peter Pan*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Beautiful*, *The Carol King Musical*, *Let It Be*, *Tick, Tick, Boom* and *Ragtime*. Love you, Babe! I hope you enjoy the show!

Marlee Bell (Asst. Stage Manager) is thrilled to be back at the Park for another summer! Previous TIP credits include: *Spamalot* and *Beauty & the Beast* (2017) - Assistant Choreographer, *Descendants* (2022) - Assistant Stage Manager. Marlee grew up spending her summers at TIP watching the shows, which makes being a part of them now a dream come true. She would like to thank Barb, James, the incredible stage management team we have, her family and her friends for the continuous love and support.

Millie Bell (Asst. Choreographer) has grown up on the park stage and is filled with gratitude for the opportunity to be surrounded by such an incredible cast and production team. You may find her dancing and choreographing all around the KC metro area. She'd like to thank her family for their constant love and support - especially Michael for his literal support while partnering- as well as her families at Miller Marley and Olathe East.

Patricia Berning (Costume Designer/Coordinator) is thrilled to be working on this amazing show! *Anastasia* is Patricia's eleventh Park show. She wants to thank Barb for entrusting her to this beautiful period piece - her favorite type of show to

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costume! She also wants to thank her wonderful husband Mike for putting up with all of her crazy late night hours and a constant shower of glitter everywhere.

Katie Blinn (Stage Manager) is excited to be back at Theatre in the Park. By day she works as an Activity Assistant at a retirement community. Her technical theater credits include, The Barn Players, Leawood Stage Co., OCTA, Musical Theater Heritage and The New Theater change over. From the bottom of my heart, thank you to my family, friends, Barb, Don, Guy, Sarah, and to the Anastasia Staff. Enjoy the show!!!

Frank Gentile (Props Designer/Coordinator) Prop-master / Scenic Design / Construction and Gun wrangler (armor) regularly assists local theatrical productions in community theater and in schools. Frank loves the challenge of creating special effects for people and has fun along the way. When not in local theater he is on staff as a Churchwide Production Manager, in Tech Arts for Church of the Resurrection guiding and serving over 100 volunteers and a handful of staff. Favorite artist: Michelangelo.

Chris Gleeson (Fight Choreographer) studied Stage Combat at Avila

University under the guidance of Bill Warren and Martin English, which led to an opportunity to choreograph and perform fight scenes for the Green Show at the Shakespeare Festival here in Kansas City. Some past TIP shows he worked on include *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and *The Wiz*. Thanks to my family: Katie, Riley and Isabella for all their love and support.

James Levy (Music Director/Conductor) is excited to be back at TIP! TIP Music Directing Credits: *Footloose* (2023), *Descendants* (2022), *Half Time* (2021), *Frozen Jr.* (2019), *The Wizard of OZ* (2019), *In The Heights* (2018), *High School Musical 1&2* (2018), *Avenue Q* (2018), *The Happy Elf* (2017/2018), *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (2016). James teaches in the Blue Valley School District and also serves as the Artistic Director of the non-profit organization KC A Cappella. Thank you to the amazing cast and crew for their hard work as well as his family and friends for their support.

Ann McCroskey (Choreographer) This is Ann's 21 st TIP show! She's an instructor at Miller Marley School of Dance and Voice where she directs the Entertainers and Disney Troupe. Thanks to Barb for including me on your team! Loved doing this show



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with her daughter, Nicole, Nephews, David & Mishi and Brother-in-Law, Don. Thanks to Millie, Rob, Nicole and Shirley for your help! Love to Richard for his support!

Alisha Morris (Asst. Stage Manager) is an 11th year National Board Certified Theatre Educator. She had the privilege of starting the theatre program at Olathe West in 2017 and still serves as the teacher & director of all theatre activities. This is her 4th TIP show (2 shows acting back in the day and 2 shows on the SM team). Many thanks to Willie, the friends, the fam, and all the OW Theatre kids!

Barb Nichols (Director) is happy to be back at Theatre in the Park. She has directed at numerous Kansas City theatres but got her start at TIP in 1988 directing *Oklahoma!* Other TIP shows include *1776*, *Evita*, *Beauty & The Beast*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Spamalot*. She would like to give special thanks to Demmaree Carns, past TIP Artistic Producer, for giving her a chance all those years ago.

Taylor Jo Zimmerman (Asst. Costumer /Wardrobe Supervisor) is excited to be working on her third show with Theatre in the Park. Taylor holds a BFA from Avila and an MFA from KU in theatre design. Previous credits include costume designing for *Spinning Trees*, *Ride the Cyclone* & *Once on this Island* and Whim Productions *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove*. In her free time Taylor enjoys reading, playing video games and loving on her dog Storey. Many thanks to Patricia and Barb!

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Opening Night, JUNE 14, 2024

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Hannah Willard
Lighting InternsSkyler Henry,
Kaitlynn Hurt, Wlla Minnich
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CarpentersSara Baird, Katie Bauman,
Aaron Griffin, Corwin Magee Bower,
Jakson Pennington, Eric Van Horn,
Liam Wood
Turnover Crew LeadsMichelle Nelson,
Eric Van Horn
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Makenna Daniels, Megan Nichols,
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