# 2019-2020 Season Season Tickets On Sale Late August



This is sure to be the funniest murder mystery you have ever seen! The Author has retreated to an old mansion to write his novel. A weird electrical storm brings to life all the typical characters where they take over the story. Their comedic twists and turns, and, of course, the mandatory surprise ending, bring you an entertaining afternoon or evening of theater.

October 18-November 3, 2019



Little Women delivers a show filled with laughter, tears and a lifting of the spirit. The powerful score soars with the sounds of a young America finding its voice. Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, it weaves the story of herself, her family and sisters, and their experience growing up in Civil War America, personal discovery, heartache and hope – the sounds of a young America.

February 21- March 8, 2020

Brighton Beach Memoirs

A Comedy about family and Coming of Age

We celebrate Neil Simon, who died in 2018. It's a portrait of the writer as a young teen in 1937, living with his family in a crowded, lower middle-class Brooklyn walk-up. Dreaming of baseball and girls, Eugene must cope with his formidable mother, overworked father, and his worldly older brother. Throw in his widowed Aunt, her young (but rapidly maturing) daughters, and you have a recipe for family hilarity.

April 3-April 19, 2020



Based on the immortal MGM classic. The Wizard of OZ turns 80 years old this year! This main stage production is adapted from the full 1939 MGM film, with all the songs and characters loved by audiences for generations. Delight to the popular songs, including "Follow the Yellow Brick Road", "The Merry Old Land of Oz" and, of course, "Somewhere Over the Rainbow".

July 17-August 2, 2020





#### **Production Crew**

Director Jason Bortz Music Director Landon Wheeler Choreographer Jeff Teague **Production Manager** Maureen Peters **Technical Manager** Steve Gillespie Stage Manager Jennifer Frick **Brandon Hunter** Stage Crew Lead Sound Board Operator Matt Kaiser **Light Board Operator Brittany Foley** Music/FX Operator Juliana Wells **Spotlight Operators** Megan Fidler & Susan Gillespie Set Design/Set Construction Lee Basham **Props Mistress** Maureen Peters Costume Designer Katie Poplawski Costume Assistants Caleb Bortz, Lia Poplawski Makeup and Hair Design Ashley Campbell, Mackayla Chandler, Katie Frick, Susan Gillespie Beast Makeup Prosthetics & Wig Clarity Bortz Marketing & Sales Managers Andrea Faria, Susan Gillespie, Maureen Peters Peggy & Paul Schechter House Manager/Volunteer Coordinator Ana Roa Peggy Schechter **Box Office Manager** Headshots and Production Photos Anthony Bersamin Videographer Peter Beckett Landon Wheeler Logo Design Program Design Andrea Faria



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## Howard Ashman & Tim Rice

Book By
Linda Woolverton

#### **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Director	Jason Bortz
Music Director	Landon Wheeler
Choreographer	Jeff Teague
Set Designer	Lee Basham
Costume Designer	Katie Poplawski
Lighting Designer	Evan Carbone
Technical Director	Steve Gillespie
Stage Manager	Jennifer Frick
Production Manager	Maureen Peters

Disney's *Beauty and the Beast JR*. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International. 421 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10019

Special thanks to William Jessup University, El Dorado Musical Theatre, Lee Basham, Sam Peters, Nick Stone, Landon Wheeler, & Alan Wiltse, as well as our local Lincoln business video partners: The Book Cellar, Bayabelle Boutique, Caring Tree Children's Dentistry, Citizen Grind, Fieldhaven, FireStar Yoga, Fourk Kitchen, Gypsy Chic, Lincoln Live, Simply Nutrition, & Stone Fit

#### **Director's Note**

Youth theatre is awesome.

Some of the children you'll see onstage are participating for their very first time. Their lives have been changed forever by their experience—some have experienced the awe and wonder of playing their part, their eyes opened to the endless possibilities offered by becoming a fantastical character for a time.

Others have experienced sheer terror. And the exhilaration of conquering it.

I love youth theatre because I love pretend. And kids who have permission to pretend with everything they've got tend to "go after it" a bit differently than adults, who after untold years of being told "no" and "knowing better" are often a little less excited, a little more serious, and are a little further from joy than our younger selves. Their translations may not be as pristine—but I daresay they are often more honest. I like to teach students that the moment you cease to be so concerned with what others think of you is the moment you begin to discover yourselves.

I hope you shed the comfort of sensibility and are able to engage your imagination as these young performers have; you might know this story, but you've never seen their efforts in telling this "tale as old as time." The greatest gift you can give them is not only your attention, but your wonder, and awe, and heart.

Thanks for coming. Jason Bortz A Former Beast July 2019





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#### Cast

(In Order of Appearance)

Narrators	Asher Cox, Chloe Poplawski
Prince	Austin Walls
Old Woman / Enchantress	Tabitha Jones
Beast	Jackson Chandler
Belle	Mia Andreatta
Gaston	Jaden Dunmore
Lefou	Ben Fidler
Silly Girls	Maya DeVault, Aaliyah Hoy, Tabitha Jones Morgan Kazel, Adalyn Peters, Lia Poplawski
Maurice	Jackson Fidler
Cogsworth	
Lumiere	Amaralyn Ewey
Babette	Makayla Whitsell
Mrs. Potts	Clarity Bortz
Chip	Jackson Wheeler & Roxi Poplawski
Madame de la Grande Bou	che Jovi Faria
Monsieur D'Arque	Ryan Hunter

#### **Featured Dancers**

Maya DeVault, Christian Espinosa, Aaliyah Hoy, Kiera Hoy, Tabitha Jones (Dance Captain), Morgan Kazel, Kaitlyn Macleod, Jordyn Muma, Lia Poplawski (Dance Captain), Austin Walls

#### Ensemble

Claire Campbell, Ellie Campbell, Asher Cox, Natalie Cuellar, Leyla DeVault, Grace Fidler, Mary Fidler, Lexie Frick, Keira Hoy, Morgan Kazel, Lizzy Lewis, Kaitlyn MacLeod, Jordyn Muma, Ryland Peters, Chloe Poplawski, Roxi Poplawski, Madison Pote



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### Act One

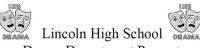
Belle	Belle, Gaston, Villagers
Belle (Reprise)	Belle, Silly Girls
Home	Belle
Home (Tag)	Mrs. Potts, Madame De La Grand Bouche
Gaston	Gaston, Lefou, Silly Girls, Villagers
Gaston (Reprise)	Gaston, Lefou

#### INTERMISSION

#### **Act Two**

Be Our Guest	Lumiere, Chip, Mrs. Potts, Servants
	Beast, Belle, Servants
Human Again	Servants
Beauty and the Beast	Mrs. Potts
The Mob Song	Gaston, Villagers
Home (Reprise)	Belle
Finale	Company







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Is the house really haunted, or has the children's governess lost touch with reality?

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#### **Cast Bios**



Mia Andreatta (Belle) is a 17 year old senior at Lincoln High School and has been performing and singing since the third grade. In addition to vocal performance, she also plays the piano and ukulele. Mia is very excited to be performing at the Lincoln Theatre Company as Belle. Her most recent credits include Twelve Angry Men, Pirates of Penzance, Night of the Living Dead, Witness for the Prosecution, and Once Upon a Mattress. She received the "Respondent's Choice" recognition for her performance at the Lenaea competition. Mia is also a member of the Select Choir in the Lincoln High School performing choir program. She is very thankful for the opportunity to be part of the LTC family.



Clarity Bortz (Mrs. Potts) is 17 and thrilled to be joining the cast of Beauty & the Beast Jr. as Mrs. Potts in her first show at Lincoln Theatre Company. Clarity's favorite previous roles include Patrice in 13, Gertrude McFuzz in Seussical, Cogsworth in Beauty & the Beast Jr., Rusty in Footloose, and a Lost Boy in Peter Pan, all at Stand Out Talent. She loves special effects makeup and is so excited to have done the Beast's makeup and prosthetics for this production. She hopes to work as a special effects makeup artist professionally in the future.



Claire Campbell (Ensemble) is a 9 year old 4th grader at Carlin Coppin who loves to perform. She has been on stage in Annie, Beauty & the Beast, 101 Dalmatians, The Grinch, Aladdin Jr., and Honk Jr. She loves spending time with her family, friends, dog and cat. She wants to be a comedic actress when she grows up because she loves to make people laugh! Outside of theater, Claire enjoys spending time with friends and family, eating ice cream and playing video games with Dad. She is very excited to get to perform among such great young actors.



Ellie Campbell (Ensemble) is an 11 year old 6th grader who is about to start her first year of middle school at GEMS. Her production history includes Annie, Honk, Jr., Once Upon a Time, 101 Dalmatians, and Aladdin Jr. Ellie loves spending time with her people, all things artistic and creative, and making slime. She enjoys practicing magic and contortion, playing piano, and making creative videos! She is very excited to get to perform in Beauty and the Beast Jr.!



Jackson Chandler (Beast), believe it or not, has never been in a show! He has been in choir for two years, and will be entering 11th grade in the fall. He is honored to have been chosen to play the Beast in his very first theatrical production. He loves Jekyll and Hyde, and also hopes to use his talents to become a voice over actor for movies and video games.

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Dianne Fix-Crow & Charles Crow

Vern Dexter Mike Doyle Hans Duerr RaeAnn Eckstrom Betsy Edwards Jeri Chase Ferris James Fisher Susan Gillespie Sandra & Rick Gonsalves Robin Haney

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Jamee & Darren Horning

Wendy-Jean Iannico

Carol Leone Carol Lewis Joan Logue Joshua Longo, D.C. Kathy & Rene Lopez Ernest & Janice Maag Linda & Todd Mackey

Ken Marlow Celeste Martella Barbara Mathot Nancy McCaddin James McElfresh Anne McMaster Michael Mechanick Gerald Mohlenbrok Gina Morse

Stephanie & Yogendra Narang Dorothy & Richard Pearl

Ronald Peck

Maureen & Sam Peters

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Linda ReinerVose Joan & Kenneth Reiss Claudette Rhoads Trisha Lerov Smith Gloria Stroemer Allan VanHorne MaryEllen & Keith Vogt Deborah Wegsteen Jackie Wilson

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Many thanks to the Lincoln Community Foundation for another generous grant to help us keep our theater equipment up to date! The LCF has provided significant funding every year for our lights, sound and projection equipment.



### We thank our donors over the past twelve months!

Donor List – 12 months ending June 1, 2019

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Asher Cox (Narrator/Ensemble) is 15 years old and a junior at Lincoln High School. Asher is involved in cross country, choir, and enjoys reading. playing video and board games, dubbing media, and math. He has performed in Elf the Musical Jr. at the Roseville Theatre Arts Academy. Asher aspires to be a voice actor, radio host, and have a future in video production.



Natalie Cueller (Ensemble) is 11 years old and is a 6th grader at Twelve Bridges Middle School. Natalie loves being on stage! She loves to sing, act, and dance. This is Natalie's 4th performance with LTC. She has also been in plays at both church and school. She hopes to one day either be on Broadway or the red carpet!



Leyla DeVault (Ensemble) is 10 years old and in the 5th grade at Orchard Ranch Elementary School. She loves gymnastics, dancing, singing, swimming, and drawing. Leyla loves sports and creating dance choreography. Leyla has been in The Wizard of Oz (Poppis/Munchkin/ Emerald City/Crow) and Willy Wonka (Veruca). She's very excited to be a part of the Beauty & the Beast Jr. cast. This is her first performance on a big stage and she hopes to get more exciting roles in the future.



Maya DeVault (Silly Girl/Featured Dancer) is an 8th grader at Chilton Middle School and is 12 years old. Singing, acting, dancing, and swimming are among her favorite hobbies. Maya has performed in The Sound of Music (Liesl), Peter Pan (Brave Girl), and takes acting classes. Maya hopes to be an ER nurse in the future, in addition to taking on bigger roles on stage.



Jaden Dunmore (Gaston) is 17 and is very excited to be playing Gaston. He's been involved in numerous short films and theatrical performances, such as The Addams Family Musical (Lucas Beineke), Jesus Christ Superstar (King Herod) and RANKED!, a new musical (Nate Hughes). His favorite show right now is Beetlejuice the Musical, and in the future he wants to pursue a film career in Los Angeles. Additional thanks go to his parents, Jason and Clarity Bortz, and Brayden Echols in helping him prepare for this role.



Christian Espinosa (Cogsworth/Featured Dancer) is a Sophomore at Western Sierra Collegiate Academy and is thrilled to be back on stage with his closest friends. He's excited to unwind the tick-tock complexities of Cogsworth for you in this show and knows you'll enjoy this talented cast. Previously Christian has appeared in *Oklahoma* (Will Parker) at WSCA, as well as *My Fair Lady* (Policeman/Dancer), *Aladdin Jr*. (Sultan), *The Miracle Worker* (James Keller), & *Oklahoma* (Ike) at LTC. He's very thankful for the encouragement the directors have provided. Thank you to his Mum, Ninny, theater mum, big Bubber, cousin, and his peeps for all their love and support during this show. Howdy!



Amaralyn Ewey (Lumiere) is thrilled to be in her first production with Lincoln Theatre Company. She is 15 years old and will be a Junior at Davis Senior High School this coming fall. Out of the 18 shows she's been in, her favorite roles include Sebastian in The Little Mermaid (Mainstage), Ursula in The Little Mermaid Jr., the Genie in Aladdin Jr. (Elly nominee), & Donkey in Shrek Jr. (Elly nominee). Amaralyn is in the Davis High School Jazz Choir, coaches swimming, and loves Star Wars, Disneyland, & Crocs. Amaralyn would like to thank Jason, Landon, & Jeff for casting her as Lumiere, and her parents for driving her back and forth to rehearsals. Now sit back, relax, and Be Our Guest as you enjoy the show.



Jovi Faria (Madam de la Grande Bouche) has been on the stage since she was seven years old. Her first role was in McLaughlin's Annie, Jr., followed by per first principal role as Asaka, Mother of the Earth in Once on this Island. She has been a cat, a mermaid, a Who, an infomercial salesman, an angsty teen, a turtle, and a shop owner. Her first lead role was in the original musical Comfyland, in a role that the author wrote just for her!



Ben Fidler (Lefou) is a fifth grader at Lincoln Crossing Elementary School. This is his third production with Lincoln Theatre Company. He is excited and grateful to have been given the honor of playing Lefou, and thanks the directors of this show for giving him an opportunity to take on his dream role. Ben sends a special thanks to Jaden (Gaston) for being a wonderful mentor to him during this production. In addition to acting, Ben enjoys playing the piano, golfing, and anything Harry Potter.



Grace Fidler (Ensemble) is an eighth grader at Twelve Bridges Middle School and has enjoyed being in the cast of Beauty and the Beast Jr. This is her sixth show with Lincoln Theatre Company, where her favorite role played has been that of Adella in The Little Mermaid. Outside of theatre, Grace enjoys playing piano and being a member of her school's volleyball team. Grace is thankful to LTC and the directors and producers of this show; she has had a wonderful theatre experience this summer.

# Application for the LTC Spotlighter Guild \*Founding Member\*

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### Message from the Board

Welcome to Lincoln Theatre Company and our youth production of Beauty and the Beast Jr. The Board of Directors sincerely hopes that you enjoy your time here and will plan to return again for our 6th season of live performing arts here in Lincoln. Our organization is working very hard to fulfill our duel mission: To bring high-quality, live performing arts to Lincoln and the surrounding regions, and to continue the renovation of the interior of this historic old building.

We are pleased to announce that Lincoln Theatre Company has purchased and received the ADA lift that we have been waiting for, and now we are moving forward with our plan for improving our stage and its function. This has been in the planning stages for over a year. Funded by grants and donations from businesses, organizations, many personal donations and some ticket sales, we are excited for this project to begin.

We are looking forward to another blockbuster season and hope that you will consider purchasing season tickets this year to ensure those great seats that you have come to enjoy. Tickets will be on sale at the end of August and a notice will go out to all patrons to remind you of this opportunity.

Our Spotlighter Guild is always looking for volunteers to help with projects, fundraising and our shows. Please take a moment to consider joining our Guild and becoming a part of our theatre family. Everyone is welcome and we hope you find Lincoln Theatre Company a fun and entertaining place to visit and join us in this journey of live performing arts in Lincoln.

Peggy Schechter, President Lincoln Theatre Company Board of Directors





Jackson Fidler (Maurice) is excited to make his performing debut with Lincoln Theatre Company. After many years of watching his siblings perform on stage, Jack decided to join them this summer in LTC's production of Beauty and the Beast Jr. He has thoroughly enjoyed the whole process of creating this production and improving his acting skills. In addition to his new love of acting, Jack is on the golf and cross country teams at Lincoln High School, where he is in the tenth grade.



Mary Fidler (Ensemble) is a fourth grader at Lincoln Crossing Elementary. She is thrilled to be on stage in her fourth Lincoln Theatre Company production. She has enjoyed spending the summer with her older siblings, and is thankful for the opportunity to grow in her preforming skills. Outside of theatre, Mary loves doing gymnastics and playing the piano.



Lexie Frick (Ensemble) is going into the 6th grade at Twelve Bridges Middle School. She is thrilled to be back on Lincoln Theatre Company's stage. She was previously seen here as Percy in The Miracle Worker and Carpet in Aladdin, Jr. Most recently Lexie performed as Teen Fiona and Peter Pan in Shrek, Jr. at McLaughlin. Lexie loves performing, reading, and spending time alone. She hopes you enjoy the show.



Aaliyah Hoy (Silly Girl/Featured Dancer) is 13 years-old and entering 8th grade at Western Sierra Collegiate Academy. Beauty and the Beast is her first Lincoln Theatre Company show. Most recently, Aaliyah was cast as a Featured Dancer in her school production of Oklahoma and enjoyed developing choreography for part of the show. Aaliyah has previously appeared with Christian Youth Theatre in productions of Seussical Jr. (Who Citizen), Footloose (Jody), & Tuck Everlasting (Young Mae and Featured Dancer). Aaliyah also studied ballet, jazz, and tap at the Conservatory of Dance where she was cast in productions of Swan Lake and Don Quixote. In her spare time Aaliyah enjoys singing, playing the piano, dancing and choreography, hoping one day to choreograph a musical production.



Kiera Hoy (Featured Dancer/Ensemble) is 12 years-old and entering 7th grade at Western Sierra Collegiate Academy. Although she is participating in her first Lincoln Theater Company production as a Featured Dancer, she earned her first theatrical role at age 9 when she was cast as Marta in Western Sierra Collegiate Academy's musical production of The Sound of Music. Keira has previously appeared with Christian Youth Theatre in productions of Seussical Jr. (Wickersham), Footloose (Townsperson), and Tuck Everlasting (Carnie). Keira studied ballet, jazz, and tap at the Conservatory of Dance and gymnastics at Flip-2-It. In her spare time, Keira enjoys singing just about anything and playing the piano.



Ryan Hunter (Monsieur d'Arque) is in the 11th grade at Visions in Education and is 16 years old. Ryan loves the theater, jet skiing, knee boarding, drawing, riding dirt bikes, and playing video games. While this is Ryan's first show on stage, he loves Dear Evan Hansen, The Greatest Showman, Wicked, and Hamilton. In the future he wants to pick up singing lessons and piano lessons.



Tabitha Jones (Enchantress/Silly Girl/Featured Dancer) just graduated from Lincoln High School and plans to go to Sierra College in the fall to major in music and become a voice teacher. She has done musical theater since the age of 6 and hopes to keep doing so for the rest of her life. She's been in The Little Mermaid (Ariel), Oklahoma (Ado Annie), and Aladdin Jr. (Isir/Featured Dancer). At Lincoln High School she was in Once Upon a Mattress (Lady Larkin). Music and theatre have been a huge part of her life and she's grateful for the opportunities to keep doing what she loves.



Morgan Kazel (Featured Dancer/Ensemble) is 13 years old and will be entering Whitney High School as a freshman this year. Morgan is part of the Northern California Children's Choir, plays volleyball, and is part of the Whitney High School Drama program. She was in Roseville Community Theater's Madagascar Jr. and was part of the NCCC London Choir Tour. Morgan loves reading, art, singing, and volleyball. She would like to be a top anesthesiologist and attend UCLA Medical School.



Lizzy Lewis (Ensemble) is a 12 year old 7th grader at MMCA. She loves animals and volunteers her time fostering kittens. She also enjoys reading & drawing. Lizzy has performed in numerous plays for the Lincoln Theatre Company including Annie Jr., Bye Bye Birdie, Oklahoma, Music Man, & Aladdin Jr. In 2018, Lizzy received the Lincoln Theatre Company 2018 Youth Scholarship "Achievement" award and used the award money towards vocal lessons with both Tamraloo Music and Professional Voice. Lizzy hopes to continue performing for the Lincoln Theatre Company for years to come and hopes to get a lead role in the future.



Kaitlyn MacLeod (Featured Dancer/Ensemble) will be an 8th grader at Twelve Bridges Middle School this fall. She has enjoyed performing in Lincoln Theatre Company's productions of Aladdin Jr. as the Apple Vendor and a Featured Dancer, and The Little Mermaid, as a Gull. She was also a member of the LTC Junior Choristers. Kaitlyn has also appeared in The Nutcracker, King Of The Jungle, and Annie with Come Dance With Me. Kaitlyn loves singing, dancing, acting, and drawing, and she plays French horn in her school's Advanced Band. She loves being a part of the Lincoln Theatre Company family and is so happy to be a part of the Beauty and the Beast Jr. production this summer!



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Jordyn Muma (Featured Dancer/Ensemble) will be going into the 10th grace at LHS in the fall. She enjoys painting, singing, dancing, drawing, baking, playing board and video games, and Go Kart racing. Her theater experience includes Chef Louis in "The Little Mermaid", Gertie in "Oklahoma!", Genie in "Aladdin Jr." and 4 school plays during her elementary school years. Her accolades include "Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Youth Musical" for her performance as Genie in "Aladdin Jr." Her biggest dream is to be on Broadway, as she's been singing and dancing since she could walk and talk. Being on stage in the spotlight makes her the happiest, and will always be her home away from home.



Adalyn Peters (Silly Girl) is a 7th grade honors student at Twelve Bridges Middle School. Adalyn is blessed to be able to share her love of acting and singing with all of you. Most recently Adalyn was seen in My Fair Lady (Flower Girl), as well as Aladdin Jr. (Attendant), The Miracle Worker (Alice), Oklahoma (Vivian), and The Music Man (Ensemble). Her hobbies include soccer, piano/voice, and Girl Scouts, plus she's is an avid reader, novice artist, and lover of furries. Addy wants to thank Jason and Landon for their encouragement in being even sillier than normal. As always, a special thank you to her parents & friends for their love and support, and to you, the audience, for coming to see these shows! OwO!



Ryland Peters (Ensemble) will be a 5th grader at Twelve Bridges Elementary School this year. Ryland made his theatre debut last year in Aladdin Jr., and is loving being back on stage again in B&B Jr. Ryland loves baseball, is an avid video gamer, a Fortnite fanatic, and this boy-o is ALWAYS on the move with a beat in his head and a dance move to bust out! Floss like a Boss! Ryland aspires to be a world famous YouTuber. He is thankful to Jason, Landon, and Jeff for helping him improve his skills. Ryland hopes you enjoy this awesome show!



Chloe Poplawski (Ensemble) is an 11 year old 6th grader at Maria Montessori Charter Academy. Her hobbies include art, nature, cooking, astronomy, and her pet rabbit "Lilo". Chloe has been performing in theater since the age of 5, including shows such as Peter Pan, Mary Poppins, Alice in Wonderland, Suessical, Aristocats Jr. Her future aspirations include a career in a science related field. Chloe is really excited about being in Beauty and the Beast Jr. with LTC!



Lia Poplawski (Silly Girl/Featured Dancer) is going to be a junior at Whitney High School this upcoming school year. Along with theatre, she enjoys camping and going to the lake during the summer. She has been doing theatre since she was 4, and hopes to continue developing her skills. She would like to thank everyone for this amazing opportunity to work with so many talented people.



Roxi Poplawski (Chip/Ensemble) is a 9 year old 4th grader at Maria Montessori Charter Academy. She enjoys math, science, and history along with gymnastics, hanging out with her friends, and her hamster "Biscuit". She has been performing in theater since the age of 3, including shows such as Peter Pan, Mary Poppins, Alice in Wonderland, and Seussical. Roxi would love to become a dog trainer! This is Roxi's first show with LTC and she is having a great time making new friends!



Madison Pote (Ensemble) is a 7th grader at Rocklin Academy Gateway and is 12 years old. She loves piano, choir, ice hockey, and is part of the associated student body (spirit community) at her school. Madison's favorite musical is The Sound of Music. She loves music and hopes to be an actress someday. She is looking forward to her debut stage performance in Beauty & the Beast Jr.



Austin Walls (Prince/Featured Dancer) just finished the 10th grade at Lincoln High school and is thrilled and proud to be playing the role of the Prince, in his first ever Lincoln Theatre Company production. Austin is no stranger to performing and has for 5 years, but normally with his Trumpet in hand. He plans to continue playing his trumpet, but now hopes to add theatre to his resume in future productions. Austin wants to thank Jason, Landon and Jeff for "taking a chance on a guy like me" and for their hard work in making this show amazing. He also wants to thank his family for all their support and encouragement.



Jackson Wheeler (Chip) is so excited to be participating in his first show ever! He loves playing Chip because of how happy Chip is all the time. He is seven years old, and will be a second grader at Foskett Ranch Elementary this year. He plays baseball, does Hip Hop dance, and especially loves Pokémon, science, and space. He wants to be an astronaut when he grows up. Jackson wants to thank the cast for being such great friends!



Mikayla Whitsell (Babette) will be a sophomore this upcoming year at Roseville High School. She has appeared in A Midsummer Night's Dream as Hippolyta at RTAA, Silly Girl in Beauty and the Beast at Rocklin Community Theatre, and a Bird Girl for Suessical at Buljan Middle School. She is grateful for everything she has learned and achieved throughout every show she has done, and aspires to perform in many more shows in the future. She is honored and excited to be apart of the hardworking and talented cast of this show and hopes to be apart of many more of LTC's productions.

#### **Artistic Staff**



Jason Bortz (Director) is excited to be directing Beauty & the Beast Jr. having just directed LTC's Steel Magnolias for sold-out audiences. Prior to that, Jason was on a three-year directing hiatus, during which time he traveled to 22 states, Germany and Netherlands for a film project. He is cautiously optimistic that the time away did more good then harm. Jason has spent is life onstage and behind/in front of the camera on many projects; favorite stage roles include the title role(s) in *Jekyll and Hyde: The Musical*, "Dan" in *Next to Normal*, "Mercutio" in *Romeo and Juliet*, "Mozart" in *Amadeus* and "Judas" in *Jesus Christ Superstar*.

An award-winning writer, director and filmmaker and SAG/AFTRA actor, his film credits can be found on IMDb.com. Jason also co-founded the Capital Film Arts Alliance in Sacramento; when not on stage acting or filming, he offers private classes and workshops in the local area. He is grateful to God, to his children Caleb and Clarity, and working with such a killer production team.

Social media: @JasonBortz/Twitter, bortzjason/instagram.



Jeff Teague (Choreographer) has worked in many areas of the performing arts but has found choreography to be his true passion. He is the resident choreographer for Lincoln Theater Company, Placer Pops Chorale and Davis Senior High School Choirs. Jeff has Choreographed/Directed with companies throughout California. Favorite productions include CHICAGO (Inland Valley Repertory-Outstanding Production of a Musical and Best Choreography-LA Stage and Screen), RAGTIME (Diablo Light Opera Company/Shelly Award Best Choreography) starring James Monroe Iglehart, HAIR, AIDA and EVITA (Alameda Civic Light Opera), and DAMN

YANKEES (Contra Costa Music Theater-Shelly Nomination For Best Choreography). He was Executive/Artistic Director at ACLO and Associate Artistic Director at IVRT. Jeff also taught at the Westlake School of Performing Arts in Palo Alto, Lamorinda Theater Arts Academy in Lafayette, and currently teaches at Woodland Opera House. As a performer he worked at the Curtain Call Dinner Theater, toured with the Young Americans and danced at Disneyland. He has performed in productions of No, No, Nanette (LaMirada CLO) starring Susan Egan, Babes (RK Productions) starring Stephanie Block, Pajama Game (California Music Theater) starring Pat Harrington and Mary Jo Catlett and The Man Who Came To Dinner (IVRT) starring Nedra Volz. Other favorite roles include The Snake, Balleader and Narrator in The Apple Tree and Scarecrow in The Wizard of Oz.

https://m.facebook.com/JeffTeagueDirectorChoreographer/
Jeff is also the Project Coordinator for Uplift People of Elk Grove, a non profit that helps individuals and families break the cycle of poverty. https://upliftelkgrove.org



Landon Wheeler (Music Director) is thrilled to be music directing Lincoln Theatre Company's *Beauty & the Beast*, where she recently starred as Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*. She was recently seen as "Kate Dennis" with LTC's *Love Sex and the IRS*. She has also been seen around Lincoln in her recurring role as mom to her five cute kids. Landon has a degree from Brigham Young University in Theatre Arts. Some of her favorite theatre experiences include directing *Rabbit Hole* and serving as the Artistic Director for the Experimental Theatre Club in Provo, UT.