

**CAPITAL AREA SCHOOL  
FOR THE ARTS  
CHARTER SCHOOL**

# **Theatre Mid-Year**

**JANUARY 23, 2023  
WHITAKER CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND THE ARTS**

**9TH & 10TH GRADE THEATRE COMPANY  
11TH & 12TH GRADE THEATRE COMPANY**

# THE THIN LINE

## 11TH & 12TH GRADE PERFORMANCE

Welcome to the 11th and 12th Grade Mid-Year production: *The Thin Line*. Over the past two months, students have workshopped scenes exploring the theme of love. Through character development, text analysis, and theatre history, students have researched and selected advanced material ranging from the Elizabethan Era to Modern Contemporary. Tonight, students will lend their vessels to bring life to their characters and honor the world of the play. Thank you to the entire CASA community for all of their support!

### SELECTED SCENES

#### ***A Midsummer Night's Dream***

**by William Shakespeare**

Vivian Count as Demetrius

Ashika Dhaurali as Helena

#### ***Julius Caesar***

**by William Shakespeare**

Carmelo Alvarez as Marc Antony

#### ***The Rover***

**by Aphra Behn**

Sarah Minnich as Hellena

Ava-Grace Kaplan as Florinda

***Mrs. Warren's Profession***  
**by George Bernard Shaw**

Grace Hartman as Mrs. Warren

Kai Civello as Sir Crofts

***Pygmalion***

**by George Bernard Shaw**

Jonah Caudle as Higgins

Logan W. Uhrich as Eliza

***Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf***

**by Edward Albee**

Hannah Polosky as Honey

Griffin Kent as George

***Birdbath***

**by Leonard Melfi**

Sydney Smith as Velma

Camille Montgomery as Frankie

***Betrayal***

**by Harold Pinter**

Des Ryer as Emma

Emily Cruz as Robert

***Four Dogs and A Bone***

**by John Patrick Shanley**

Ren Engle as Victor

Riley O'Connor as Bradley

***Closer***

**by Patrick Marber**

Brenna Doty as Anna

Oli Nicotera as Alice

***Our Lady of 121st Street***

**by Stephen Adly Guirgis**

Darrell Meredith as Edwin

***Almost, Maine***

**by John Cariani**

Melody Carsey as Chad

Kate Murray as Randy

**ARTISTIC TEAM**

**Director:** Lauren Callen

**Assistant Director:** Des Ryer

**Assistant Director:** Ashika Dhaurali

**Stage Manager:** Griffin Kent

**CASA PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE REMINDERS**

Please silence your cell phones.

No flash photography. Our film department is recording this performance.

Please only polite applause for our performers.

Thank you!

# UPPERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Carmelo Alvarez**

Carmelo is a junior at CASA. He has been a part of the theatre program since the beginning of his sophomore year. In tonight's showcase, he is proud to appear as Marc Antony from Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. He is breaking out of his shell more this year and becoming more eager to perform in class. He would like to thank Ms. Callen for pushing him and encouraging him. Though some days he may fall, she continues to be there to push him to do his best. He would also like to thank his peers for being a big source of encouragement and inspiration to him in class.

### **Melody Carsey**

Melody is a junior at CASA who recently joined the class and is debuting in tonight's performance as Chad from *Almost, Maine*. She is eager to continue participating and learning in the CASA theatre class. The mid-year performance process provided Melody with many opportunities to expand her knowledge and skills, and encouraged her to take risks. She would like to thank her friends, family, and Ms. Callen for all of the support in theatre and life.

### **Jonah Caudle**

Jonah is enthused to be a senior in the CASA Theatre class and is historically a big mid-year fan. He admires his peers for the brilliant work and effort put into tonight's show which he is dedicating to Banjo, his dog.

### **Kai Civello**

Kai is a junior at CASA. For tonight's performance, he will be performing as George Crofts from *Mrs. Warren's Profession* by George Bernard Shaw. He is thankful for all the opportunities provided for him at this school, and is willing to expand his knowledge of theatre as a whole. He would like to thank his family, friends, and CASA for the support and the opportunity to perform in this show.

# UPPERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Vivian Count**

Vivian is a senior at CASA who's been a part of the theatre program since freshman year. She is performing a scene from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, playing Demetrius. Fun fact: Vivian actually did a scene from this famous Shakespeare play for her audition to CASA. Vivian wants to give a shout out to her silly little dog, June Bug (AKA Junie). Junie is an old lady at the age of 12 with half her set of teeth and her cute little sweaters. Also, she wants to give a shout-out to her mom for never doubting her on her complicated road to whether or not she wanted to continue in the theatre, and she supported her no matter what.

Love you, Mom!

### **Emily Cruz**

Emily is a junior at CASA and has been in the theatre program since 9th grade. She started performing in theatre in 6th grade and has loved it ever since. She will be portraying the role of Robert from the play, *Betrayal*, by Harold Pinter. She is very grateful to her friends and family who have supported her and she is excited to perform for them tonight. She is also very grateful to have Ms. Callen as a teacher because she is amazing.

### **Ashika Dhaurali**

Shai is thrilled to make their debut performance at CASA playing Helena. Shai is currently a senior and is eager to contribute to CASA whenever and however they can. They would like to thank Ms. Callen for pushing them to be a better actor.

### **Brenna Doty**

Brenna is a senior at CASA that has been attending since her freshman year. She's ecstatic to be portraying Anna from the play, *Closer*, in her final mid-year! She has been in CASA productions such as *Alice in Wonderland* (White Rabbit), and *When Bad Things Happen to Good Actors* (Rebecca). Brenna would like to thank all her friends and family for always being supportive of her!

# UPPERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Ren Engle**

Ren is delighted to be portraying Victor from *Four Dogs and a Bone* for the 2022-23 Mid-Year! Ren has been attending CASA since their 10th grade year. Ren has participated in the CASA productions of *Alice in Wonderland* (Cheshire Cat), *No Exit* (Cradeau), *When Bad Things Happen to Good Actors* (Toto). Ren would like to give a shout-out to their friends and family for being so supportive and loving. They also would like to thank Toby, their little rascal of a dog. Love you, Pookie!

### **Grace Hartman**

Grace transferred to CASA in November 2021. She was involved in CASA's production of *The Addams Family* as a Saloon Girl Ancestor and is excited to play Mrs. Warren in the 2022-23 mid-year performance. Grace appreciates the opportunity to experiment with a type of character different from what she's used to because it allows her to test her range and gain perspective on the livelihood of someone much different than herself. She will be performing the character Mrs. Warren from the play, *Mrs. Warren's Profession* by George Bernard Shaw.

### **Ava-Grace Kaplan**

Ava-Grace is a junior at CASA. Tonight's performance will be her CASA debut as she plays Florinda in *The Rover*. She is so grateful to have this chance to share what she's learned from the mid-year process. She would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Callen for all of her support and encouragement, as well as her family and friends for hyping her up for tonight!

### **Griffin Kent**

Griffin is a senior at CASA who started in the creative writing program and is now in theatre. He debuted in CASA's production of *The Addams Family* as Cousin Itt and Pirate Ancestor. Playing George in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* has been very helpful for him becoming more comfortable on stage. Working as the Stage Manager for this production has been very insightful, as well.

# UPPERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Darrell Meredith**

Darrell is a senior at CASA. He's been in Theatre since 9th grade and is still growing strong. He has taken on various roles from playing a robot to playing a father. The role of Edwin has helped him understand the different layers of acting and to put 100% into everything he does to really go for it. Darrell is excited to continue to get better.

### **Sarah Minnich**

Sarah is a junior at CASA. She first attended the film program, but has since joined the theatre program. She has been featured in various musical roles including as the Cheshire Cat, Little Red Riding Hood, and Mary Poppins. She is currently the choreographer for *The Wizard of Oz* at her home school district's middle school. Tonight she will be portraying Hellena from the play, *The Rover*.

### **Camille Montgomery**

Camille is a junior at CASA, she has been attending CASA's theatre program since her freshman year. She is very excited to be performing in tonight's mid-year production. She will be portraying Frankie from the play, *Birdbath*. She has been on stage in past CASA productions including *The Addams Family* (Ancestor), *The Red Ticket* (Eloise) and *Tea Party* (Poppy). She would also like to give a special thanks to her theatre teacher, Ms. Callen, who has helped her grow as an actress and learn more about theatre.

### **Kate Murray**

Kate is a senior at CASA. She has been attending CASA since her freshman year and is delighted to be participating in her last mid-year performance. Kate has participated in previous CASA productions such as *FAME!* (Dance Ensemble), *Alice in Wonderland* (Alice/White Queen), and *No Exit* (Estelle). Kate would like to thank her parents and friends for supporting her throughout her four year journey at CASA. Ms. Callen—congratulations on your first mid-year! Here's to many more.

# UPPERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Oli Nicotera**

Oli is a junior at CASA. They have been in the theatre program at CASA since their freshman year in 2020. They will be portraying Alice from *Closer* in tonight's show and are very excited to show what they have been working on! They have been in several shows at CASA including *The Red Ticket* (Harry & Shark) and *Tea Party* (Turio), and you can see them in this year's spring musical, *RENT!* They have also been in shows at Open Stage such as *A Christmas Carol* (Apparition), *Rock Musical* (Dani), and *Heathers* (Principal Gowan). Oli would like to give a shout-out to Ms. Callen for being an amazing theatre teacher and helping them grow as an actor; they're excited to have her for the rest of the year and their senior year!

They would also like to shout-out their Mom for always supporting them.

### **Riley O'Connor**

Riley is jazzed to be playing the role of Bradley in her final mid-year production! She is a senior and has attended CASA since 2019. She's participated in several CASA productions, such as *The Addams Family* (Pugsley), *When Bad Things Happen to Good Actors* (Scarecrow), and the *2021 Spring Showcase* (Quasimodo). Catch her in CASA's upcoming production of *RENT!* Riley would like to shout-out Ms. Callen for being an icon, and her sister Brynne--remember to slay. In the wise words of RuPaul: "We're all born naked and the rest is drag."

### **Hannah Polosky**

Hannah is a junior at CASA. She is portraying Honey in a scene from *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*. This role has helped Hannah with theatre technique and working with more complex characters with adult themes. Hannah is so excited to showcase the progress she has made throughout the first half of the year. She is excited to keep learning and growing with the help of her peers and Ms. Callen for the rest of her time at CASA. Hannah wants to give a shout-out to her amazing, supportive mother who has always rooted for her, and also a big shout-out to her cat, Big Charles!

# UPPERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Des Ryer**

Desiree is a senior at CASA. She will be portraying Emma in *Betrayal*. She was last seen in the CASA and Weary Arts Group production of *The Addams Family* as the Groom Ancestor. Through the CASA Theatre Program, Des has learned how to better hone her own technique and is excited to bring it on her new adventures in the years after CASA. She would like to thank Ms. Callen for the opportunity to help direct this production.

### **Sydney Smith**

Sydney is a junior at CASA. She has been attending CASA since her freshmen year. She is thrilled to be portraying the role of Velma from the play, *Birdbath*, for her mid-year production. She is extremely grateful for the opportunities she has received from attending CASA. She would like to thank Ms. Callen, her theatre classmates, her friends, and her wonderful family!

### **Logan W. Uhrich**

Logan is a senior at CASA. He is very honored to be portraying the role of Eliza Doolittle from the play, *Pygmalion*, for his final mid-year production! He had transferred to the school in the middle of last year and it has been an incredibly enlightening and fulfilling experience. Shout-outs to his friends and family for always being by his side when he can't be there for himself; Ms. Callen for pushing him to be a better actor during every class; and Indy, his dog, for pushing him to be a better person by being a devious little gremlin creature who eats all his stuff. Love you all lots, and let's rock and roll!

## INTERMISSION

# BLACKOUT

## 9TH & 10TH GRADE PERFORMANCE

Welcome to the 9th and 10th Grade Mid-Year Production: *Blackout*. Over the past two months, students have workshopped scenes exploring the theme of conflict. Through learning and applying basic acting techniques and ensemble-building skills, students have selected material ranging from the Elizabethan Era to Modern Contemporary. Tonight, students will share their craft and process work to bring life to characters. Thank you to the entire CASA community for all of their support!

### SELECTED SCENES

#### *A Comedy of Errors*

**by William Shakespeare**

Dynasty Jackson as Adriana

Lucy Tibbs as Luciana

#### *Tartuffe*

**by Molière**

Kai Clements as Tartuffe

Rose Wentzel as Mariane

#### *The Drag*

**by Mae West**

Liam Dieterick as David

Nola Cusick as Dr. Richmond

***Agnes of God***  
**by John Pielmeier**

Brody Verlin as Dr. Livingstone  
Nora Sullivan as Agnes

***Pvt. Wars***  
**by James McLure**

Jupiter Martin as Gately  
Brayden Abel as Natwick  
Kairi O'Neil as Silvio

***Five Women Wearing the Same Dress***  
**by Alan Ball**

Bethany Shickley as Meredith  
Mayah Hodges as Frances

**ARTISTIC TEAM**

**Director:** Lauren Callen

**Assistant Director:** Nola Cusick

**CASA PERFORMANCE ETIQUETTE REMINDERS**

Please silence your cell phones.

No flash photography. Our film department is recording this performance.

Please only polite applause for our performers.

Thank you!

# UNDERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Brayden Abel**

Brayden is a 10th grader at CASA. He is a huge fan of music and enjoys writing it. He is very happy to be here and excited to show what he's learned in the past few months. He was last seen as Jack Kelly in *Newsies*. He would like to thank his parents for always supporting him and Ms. Callen for pushing him to be his best.

### **Kai Clements**

Kai is a 10th grader at CASA. Outside of school, he enjoys listening to music, playing field hockey, and watching television. He has previously been in shows at the Allenberry Playhouse, including *13: The Musical*, *All Shook Up*, and *Once Upon A Mattress*. He would like to thank his teacher, Ms. Callen, for her suggestions and insights, as well as his scene partner, Rose Wentzel, for their hard work in their scene together.

### **Nola Cusick**

Nola is a 10th grade student at CASA. She is also a member of the "Silly Little Guys", a comedy improv group at school. Nola has previously been in shows with the Halifax Drama Club. Outside of school, she likes to write songs and play the ukulele. Nola would like to thank Liam for being an exceptional scene partner and Ms. Callen for helping her grow as an actor.

### **Liam Dieterick**

Liam is a 10th grade student at CASA. He has been at CASA in the theatre program since August 2021. Liam has previously been in over 30 shows through different programs such as Clear Space Theatre, Gamut, and Open Stage. Outside of school, he enjoys listening to metal music, singing, performing, playing instruments, and designing clothing. Liam hopes to attend the Fashion Institute of Technology for Fabric Styling after high school. Liam would like to thank his best friends, Moses and Daya, for always being there for him and being his biggest supporters; his parents for supporting his creative path his whole life; and his teacher, Ms. Callen, for pushing him to find new routes to explore within his acting.

# UNDERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Mayah Hodges**

Mayah is a 10th grade student at CASA. She's been at CASA and acting since 2021. Outside of school, she loves watching Netflix, listening to music, and playing story games like Life is Strange. In the future, she hopes to go to Portland State University to earn a PsyD in Clinical Psychology. She would like to thank her parents for helping her get into CASA. Mayah wants to thank her teacher, Ms. Callen, for being amazing and helping develop the scene into something great. Thank you for attending our production.

### **Dynasty Jackson**

Dynasty is a 10th grade student in the theatre program at CASA. Outside of school she enjoys reading books and can almost always be found talking about Taylor Swift and/or Timothee Chalamet. The Mid-Year process has been an amazing experience for Dynasty because not only did she gain more experience as an actor, but she also gained a friend in her scene partner, Lucy Tibbs. Dynasty would like to thank her best friends, Eliana, Liam, and Moses for being her biggest supporters; her mother and sister, for helping her get where she is today; and her teacher, Ms. Callen, for always pushing and encouraging her to be a better actor.

### **Jupiter Martin**

Jupiter is a 9th grader at CASA. They were last seen as Baby Bear in *Shrek the Musical* at Mechanicsburg Area Middle School. Jupiter would like to thank their Mom, Dad, and siblings for helping them get to where they are now; their friends Noam, Kairi, Sophia, Moss, Rory, and Addy for being their #1 supporters; as well as their theater teacher, Ms. Callen, for encouraging and teaching them how to grow as an actor. In the future, they hope to go to Barber School and be a successful barber and specialize in hair color. Jupiter hopes you enjoy their performance as Gately in the play, *Pvt. Wars!*

# UNDERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### **Kairi O'Neil**

Kairi is a 9th grader at CASA. She was last seen as Rapunzel in *Into the Woods*. Kairi would love to thank her friends and family for always being supportive of her choices in her career. In the future, she hopes to be a very successful actor on Broadway. She's happy to have worked with Jupiter and Brayden as scene partners, and wouldn't have traded them for the world. She hopes you enjoy her performance of Silvio in *Pvt. Wars*.

### **Beth Shickley**

Beth is super excited to be doing her second Mid-Year performance at CASA. She is a 10th grader with a fiery passion for theater, and was last seen in the musical production of *The Addams Family* at CASA. She enjoys acting, singing, and really bad dancing (in her own words).

### **Nora Sullivan**

Nora is in 10th grade at CASA and is very excited to perform in this show. This is her 3rd performance at CASA, and was previously a performer at Orangemite Studios, where she performed in three of Shakespeare's plays. She also participates frequently at The Harrisburg Improv Theater. Nora would like to thank Lily Compton for always giving her opportunities to grow her skill in film acting. She would also like to thank Lily's family for always supporting her, as well as her family and friends. She would like to thank Brody Verlin for being an amazing scene partner and being so lovely to work with. She would like to thank Ms. Callen and the whole theatre class for being so accepting and helpful throughout her learning progress.

# UNDERCLASSMEN COMPANY

## ACTOR BIOS

### Lucy Tibbs

Lucy is thrilled to have the opportunity to show what she has learned throughout her first semester at CASA! She is a 9th grade student with a passion for theatre. She was last seen on stage in *Cinderella* at the Hershey Area Playhouse. Outside of school, she enjoys singing and playing with her two dogs—Phineas and Dexter. Lucy would like to thank Daya for being an amazing scene partner, her family for always supporting her, and Ms. Callen for always making the theatre classroom feel like a second home.

### Brody Verlin

Brody is a 10th grader at CASA. This is his 18th performance on stage and 3rd performance with CASA. The last show he was a part of was with Orangemite Studios as Laertes in *Hamlet*. Brody is thrilled to have had the opportunity to explore Dr. Livingstone's character for this showcase, and he hopes you enjoy his scene from *Agnes of God*! Big thanks to Nora for being an excellent scene partner, and to Sal for being a wonderful and supportive boyfriend!

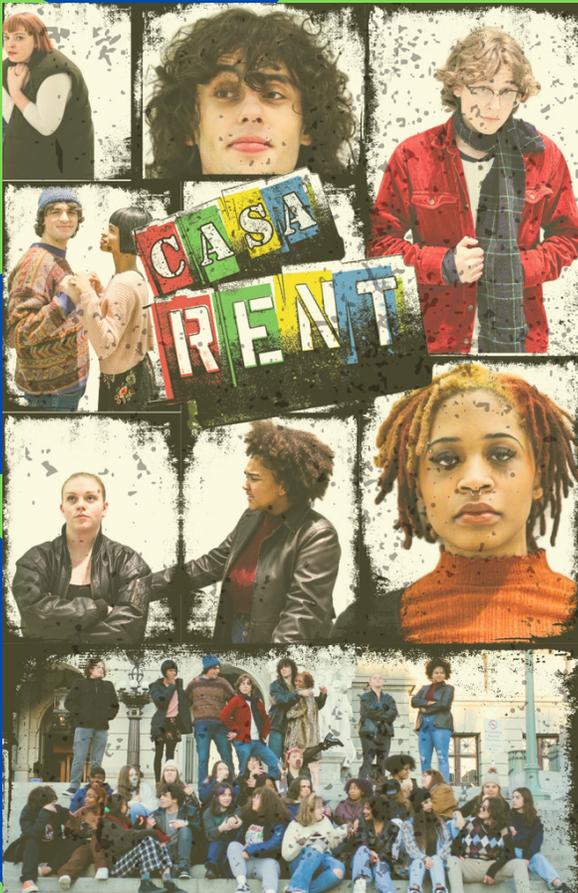
### Rose Wentzel

Rose is a 10th grade student at CASA. She comes to CASA from Susquenita School District. This is her second year at CASA. Rose will be playing Mariane from *Tartuffe*.



# SPECIAL THANKS

**CASA Charter School Board of Trustees**  
**CASA Charter School Foundation**  
**CASA Administration, Faculty, and Staff**  
**Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts**  
**Jen Paul, Event Management**  
**Matt Mitra, Lighting Designer**  
**Mike Furst, Sound Designer**  
**Monique Johnson, Backstage Director**  
**Mick Corman, Film Production**



Tickets for our spring musical,  
*RENT*, are now on sale!

**March 24 at 7:00 p.m.**

**March 25 at 7:00 p.m.**

**March 26 at 3:00 p.m.**

All performances will be on  
stage at the Whitaker Center.

[Purchase your tickets HERE!](#)

# CASA FACULTY & STAFF

## ADMINISTRATION

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Michelle Shellenberger	Administrative Assistant

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